

# The Hindu Organ

(THE CHEAPEST WEEKLY IN CEYLON)

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

VOL XV.

JAFFNA: WEDNESDAY JUNE 15TH 1904

NO. 48

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THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 1904.

## THE ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERALSHIP.

The impending departure of the Hon'ble  
Mr. A. G. Lascelles, the Attorney-General  
of this Colony, on six months leave of ab-  
sence in August next, has revived the  
question of who will be his *locum tenens*.  
It has afforded another opportunity to the  
Anglo-Ceylonese press and the ill-wishers  
of the Tamil Solicitor-General to show  
their racial hatred and personal animosity  
against him.

In all parts of the British Empire it is  
the Solicitor-General who succeeds or acts  
for the Attorney-General. In Ceylon too  
such was generally the practice till recent-

ly, the present Solicitor-General also ac-  
ting with very great acceptance as  
Attorney-General on three different occa-  
sions. We well remember the hue and cry  
made in certain quarters when Mr. Rama-  
nathan was for the first time appointed by  
Sir Arthur Havelock to act for the Attor-  
ney-General. The racial hatred of those  
persons was such that it was seriously pro-  
posed at that time to give the acting  
appointment either to Mr. Withers who  
was then a Judge of the Supreme Court,  
or to Mr. D. F. Browne who was District  
Judge of Colombo, as the only way of  
preventing a Tamil from filling even  
though temporarily that high and respon-  
sible office. But Sir Arthur Havelock was  
not a Governor to listen to any specious  
arguments of the anti-native section of the  
European community of Ceylon, and Mr.  
Ramanathan got the acting appointment  
as the first native to fill that office. In Sir  
West Ridgeway, however, they had a  
Governor after their own heart. Sir West  
Ridgeway, although he was obliged to ap-  
point the Solicitor-General as acting At-  
torney-General in the earlier part of his  
Administration, yet, yielding to the cla-  
mour of the Anglo-Ceylonese press, passed  
him over when the Attorney-Generalship  
temporarily fell vacant during the latter  
part of his Government.

There can be little doubt that Mr. Ra-  
manathan did not receive fair or just treat-  
ment at the hands of Sir West Ridgeway.  
After explaining by a press *communiqué*  
published in the Colombo papers the cir-  
cumstances under which the Solicitor-  
General was not at the time appointed to  
act as Attorney-General and admitting by  
the same *communiqué* the claims of the  
former to act for the latter on future oc-  
casions, Sir West deliberately insulted Mr.  
Ramanathan, without assigning any rea-  
son for so doing, by appointing Mr. Crown  
Counsel Templer to act as Attorney-Gen-  
eral over the head of the Solicitor General,  
when the temporary vacancy last occurred.  
It was then said that Mr. Ramanathan  
gave great offence to the then Governor  
by going over to England to protest against  
the appointment by His Excellency of Mr.  
Wendt as a Puisne Judge of the Supreme  
Court. This is sufficient to show that Sir  
West Ridgeway was never consistent or  
just in his actions in regard to Mr. Rama-  
nathan, and that he behaved more like an  
autocrat than a just and impartial Repre-  
sentative of the Sovereign.

Again, Mr. Ramanathan has been, since  
he was last passed over in favour of Mr.  
Templer, made a King's Counsel in com-  
pany with the Attorney-General, in recog-  
nition of his official position and forensic  
abilities. Surely, if the claims of the Soli-  
citor-General were originally overlooked  
for good and sufficient reasons in favour  
of others to act as Attorney-General, the  
Governor would not have caused the *com-  
muniqué* above referred to published; and  
if there had been any slur on his character  
as an official, a lawyer, or a gentleman, the  
K. C. ship would not have been conferred  
on him so lately by His Majesty.

It is, indeed, not only an injustice to

Mr. Ramanathan but also an anomaly, if  
the Solicitor-General of the Colony should  
not be considered competent or qualified  
to act for his chief. The *Ceylon Observer*  
of the 25th Ultimo, in meeting this argu-  
ment says: "We have never known to be  
seriously argued that two blacks make one  
white or that the toleration of one blunder  
justifies the commission of a bigger".  
Our contemporary's argument cannot be a  
cogent or apt one in the case of an official  
who has been, as shown above, by a press  
*communiqué*, exonerated from all blame by  
the Governor who passed him over when  
the Attorney-Generalship temporarily fell  
vacant; and who has since been made  
a King's Counsel—a distinction conferred  
only on men of high character and in the  
forefront of the legal profession in the  
British Empire.

The Tamils of Ceylon look to His Excell-  
ency Sir Henry Blake to rectify the wrongs  
which his predecessor had done to the  
foremost member of their race in this  
Island. It was hoped by them that the  
vacancy in the Supreme Court Bench con-  
sequent on the Chief Justice's departure  
on leave would have been given to him by  
His Excellency. But we have heard it  
said that the acting Puisne Judgeship was  
not given to him as he was to act for the  
Attorney-General when the latter goes on  
leave in August next.

## CEYLON CUSTOMS.

(continued from our last issue.)

Of Ceylon imports Arms and Amunition  
contributed to the Customs revenue in 1903  
Rs 84,478-9 as against Rs 57,652-19 in the  
previous year. The increase was princi-  
pally due to larger imports of dynamite  
which paid a duty of Rs 9,352-45, com-  
pared with Rs 2,656-50 in 1902. Cotton  
goods, twists, and thread show a total value  
of Rs 6,182,762-16, and the duty on the  
quantity cleared amounted to Rs 245,795-80  
which gives a decrease in duty of Rs  
15,098-64, compared with 1902. Of Cotton  
goods of the value of Rs 6,182,762-80 im-  
ported into Ceylon, the United Kingdom  
sent goods of the value of Rs 3,587,218-61,  
British Colonies Rs 2,054,659-96, and  
Foreign countries Rs 540,883-59. Coal,  
Coke, and Patent Fuel imported in 1903 a-  
mounted to 516,339 tons, against 532,159  
tons in 1902. The quantity imported into  
Colombo alone amounted to 499,014 tons.  
The quantity of Kerosine oil imported was  
2,761,605 gallons of the value of Rs  
1,054,328-54 and the duty recovered was  
Rs 709,390-37. The following is a state-  
ment of rice cleared for home consump-  
tion for 7 years:—

	Bushels.
1897	8,723,750
1898	9,018,320
1899	9,178,405
1900	9,592,323
1901	8,951,650
1902	8,873,871
1903 ... 5,524,513 cwt. 0 qr. 12 lb. =	9,519,161

Total for Seven Years ... 63,857,480

The duty collected on rice amounted to  
Rs 2,762,584-17, and on other grain of all



sorts to Rs 316,836-17, making in all Rs 3,079,420-86.

There was a decrease of Rs. 156,122-06 in the value of live stock imported compared with 1902. The number of cattle fell from 29,232 to 21,392, of sheep and goats from 103,806 to 90,991, and of horses imported from 469 to 431.

Metals and Metalware imported in 1903 were of the value of Rs. 4,183,943-15 against Rs. 4,065,801-3.

Manures of all kinds show an increase in quantity of 8,615 tons and in value of Rs. 617,227-65, the total quantity being 26,932 tons and value Rs. 1,933,791. Spirits of all kinds show an increase in value of Rs. 118,615-66, the quantity imported being 210,421 gallons, of the value of Rs. 1,140,389-48 against 183,600 gallons of the value of Rs. 1,021,773-82 in the previous year. We learn from this report that the revenue from this source has more than doubled since 1895, due principally to an increase in the consumption of gin and brandy. It is not at all gratifying to see this decided increase not only in the consumption of country made arrack but also of imported and more costly spirits.

Wines of all kinds also show an increase of Rs. 29,789-50 in value and an increase of Rs. 2,768-61 in duty, the total quantity entered for home consumption in 1903 being 58,938 gallons of the value of Rs. 323,558-79, against 57,971 gallons in 1902 of the value of Rs. 293,739-29.

There was an increase in the quantity of sugar imported in 1903 compared with the previous year, the quantity imported being 223,863 cwt, as against 218,122 in 1902 and the duty paid being respectively Rs. 621,361 and Rs. 609,607.

Silk manufactures of the value of Rs. 577,308 were imported into the Island compared with Rs. 533,286 in 1902.

Woolen manufactures imported in 1903 were of the value of Rs. 495,781 as against Rs. 422,583 in 1902.

(to be continued)

## LOCAL & GENERAL

**The Weather**—After very hard blowing of the South-west wind for a few days there is now a lull, increasing the severity of the heat. Rain is very much wanted, in the interest of man, beast, and vegetation.

**The Government Agent**—Mr. Lewis has returned from circuit to Chavakachcheri and Point Pedro. He leaves again today for Thunukai and is expected to return to Jaffna about the 26th Instant.

**The Jaffna District Court**—A Defendant in a civil case was on Friday last fined Rs 2-50 by the District Judge for chewing betel in court and was also made to go among the spectators in court and cry out that he was fined for chewing betel in court.

**The Jaffna Agricultural Company**—A meeting of the Directors of this Company was called on the 6th instant to consider certain queries made by the Government concerning the application of the Company to purchase land at Paranthan.

**Y. M. H. A.**—A Learned and interesting lecture on Religion was delivered in Tamil on the 6th Instant in the Hindu College Hall in connection with the Young Men's Hindu Association, by Mr. Thamothearampillai, Preacher of the Jaffna Vivekananda Society.

**The Vannarponnai Riot Case**—After the evidence of Dr. Santiago was recorded on the 9th Instant, the proceedings in this case have been forwarded to the Attorney-General.

**The Kankesanturai Toll**—We learn from the "Times of Ceylon" of the 9th Instant that on the representation of the Hon'ble Mr. Aserappa, acting Tamil Member, the Government has decided to remove this new levy.

**The District Judge of Kurunagalla**—Mr. Arunachalam District Judge of Kurunagalla, leaves for England next month, says the "Independent", on six months leave and it is not improbable that Mr. A. de A. Seneviratne, District Judge of Batticaloa, will be appointed to succeed him.

**S. S. Jaffna**—This little steamer belonging to The Jaffna Steam Navigation Company continues to run between Rameswaram and Thanukodi. Walker Sons and Co have instituted a case in the Colombo District Court against the Jaffna Steam Navigation Company claiming Rs 13000, being value of extra articles alleged to have been supplied by them in fitting the Steamer and the cost of its repair. The Defendants have filed their answer through Mr. Arther Alvis their Proctor denying the claims of the Plaintiffs and claiming in reconvention Rs 40,000, being damages sustained by them owing to bad fitting of the Steamer and the delay in completing it. Mr. A.M. Chittambalam has gone to Colombo on behalf of The Jaffna Company in connection with this case.

**The Calendar of Jaffna College**—We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of this publication which is full of useful informations about this College.

**Calcutta Examination Results**—The results of these Examinations as far as Jaffna is concerned are very disappointing this year, especially in regard to the Entrance Examination. Out of 93 students who presented themselves from here for this Examination only 23 passed. The number that presented for the F. A. was 33, of which 25 has come off successful. One student passed the B. A. Examination out of two presented from Jaffna College. Of those who appeared from Hindu College 5 passed the F. A. Examination and only 1 the Entrance.

**His Excellency the Governor**—His Excellency Sir Henry Blake accompanied by Lady Blake and staff are now on a visit to Uva Province.

**The New Colonial Secretary of Ceylon**—Mr. A. M. Ashmore, formerly of the Ceylon Civil Service and now Colonial Secretary of British Guiana has been appointed Colonial Secretary of Ceylon in succession to Mr. Thurn appointed Governor of Fiji. Mr. Ashmore was Police Magistrate of Jaffna in 1880 and severed his connection with Ceylon in 1894.

**Rule issued on "The Ceylon Independent"**—The supreme Court, it is stated, has decided on issuing a rule on the Editor and publisher of "The Ceylon Independent" to show cause why they should not be punished for contempt of court for having given publicity to the second count in the indictment against Fidelis V. Pereira, the Editor of the "Ceylon Native Opinion" in the libel action against him by Mr. Felix R. Dias, the Additional District Judge of Colombo.

—Ceylon Independent.

## PROVINCIAL ROAD COMMITTEE.

Jaffna 4th June 1904 at 2-30 p. m.

Present

The Chairman  
T. M. Tampoo Esqr.  
S. Sabaratnam Mudr. and  
The Secretary.

Proceedings and resolutions.

- I. Read and approved proceedings of last meeting.
- II. Read petition from Jaffna resthouse keeper for increase of pay to him or to his cooly.  
Resolved that an increase of Rs. 2-50 be paid to the cooly.
- III. Read proceedings of a meeting of the D. R. C., Mannar received with Chairman's covering letter No. 33 of 17/20 May 1904.  
Resolved that the same be approved.
- IV. Laid on the table file of papers re encroachments on Olunkai and Bank shall street in Karaiur for authority to issue notices under section 88 of ord; No. 10 of 1861.  
Resolved that Notices be issued under section 88 of ord. No. 10 of 1861 on encroachers 1, 2, 3, 4. and a plan be forwarded to the Roman Catholic Mission showing encroachments.
- V. Laid on the table proceedings of a Meeting of D. R. C., Mullaattivu, received with Chairman's covering letter No. 26 of 15th April 1904 circulated and approved by the Members of the P. R. C., N. P.
- VI. Read papers retats for Point-Pedro Rest House.  
Resolved that an estimate for Rs. 49.88 plus charge for freight by boat to Pt. Pedro be sanctioned for 8 rattan tats.

VII. Laid on the table papers re encroachments on the lane from Pt. Pedro-Valuvettyturai road to Puloly for authority to issue Notice under section 88 of Ord. No. 10 of 1861.

Resolved that a survey be first made.

VIII. Considered pension of the Rest House Keeper of Kaits.

Resolved that he be allowed a pension of Rs. 5 a month.

J. SCOTT.  
Secretary P. R. C.

## IMAGE WORSHIP.

An Essay on the above subject was read at the Vivekananda Reading Hall, Kuala Lumpur, on the 15th May, by Mr. R. Sathasivam, before a large audience. The essayist dwelt at great length on the important points as to the origin and beneficial effects of image worship in uplifting the conditions of humanity. Briefly, the chief points are the following:—God is a supreme being beyond our conception, still, in order that the Atman may have a hold on him He adopted three forms Viz:—Arupa, Rubarupa and Rupa. The soul exerts its powers through the medium of a body it is endowed with, as for instance, if it is in an animal body it will shew the nature of an animal, and if it takes a human body it acts as a man in proportion to the stage of its mental, moral and spiritual training. Therefore, it is to be deduced that the soul is imperceptible without a body. The soul being so it cannot grasp the nature of Brahman without in any way associating his attributes with a form or forms he knows in experience. Further every imagination has an Image formed; whatever high attainments one may possess he cannot conceive any thing so well as he would be able to do with the help of an image, at least until he recognises the existence of God within himself, of which he has a very feeble notion at present. It is to obviate this difficulty God has given us a Religion and the Rishis who are the depositories of Divine knowledge have unfolded the spiritual powers and shewed different paths for the salvation of humanity from the mire of ignorance, towards higher realms of truth and universal love.

He brought several instances to shew that image worship is an essential condition in training our minds higher and higher. It is spiritual worship that is required of us which in turn depends on the mental faculties one possesses. A child's mind is blank as it ought to be, and in its training and development its environment plays a great part. Man grasps different laws of nature in proportion to the stage he is in, though they all agree in their main points they are understood in different ways. A gymnast or a circus player has many accessories during his course of study, as auxiliaries in his training and when he has perfected it he no longer requires them, but on that account he cannot condemn the course he adopted. Similarly a student should study first rudiments of arithmetic and elementary principles of science before he advances. Likewise symbolisation has been introduced for the finite soul to adore the infinite God and thereby free itself from the bondage in which it is. It enables one to centralise his thoughts which are so much scattered now and their effects are scarcely known to the mass of ignorant people. But the Mahatmas who are developed souls have supernatural powers such as those exhibited in mesmerism, clairvoyance, thought-transference etc. These subjects are too subtle for our comprehension but the effects of Rishis during their trance afford ample proofs of same. Thus concentration of the mind is intended to gradually understand the higher aspects of a Religion. In the mean time it should be stated that God is not to be loved for mercenary purposes, but as we love a rose flower so must we love Him, which is apparently called Bhakti or devotion. The necessity of a Guru or a Divine personal teacher to expound the secret doctrines which are incomprehensible to an ordinary mortal is admitted by all Religionists. Without any of these forms there is no way for the man to understand the glory of God, who is beyond the range of speech and thought. Therefore, it is nothing but natural, reasonable, and logical that we must adore such Avatars with veneration and follow in their footsteps. Though it is Hinduism which strongly enforces Image Worship on a very scientific basis nevertheless it exists universally in one form or other. No one can deny this undisputed fact. There are some sects who would denounce the very word symbolisation with much abhorrence as if it was productive of all evils, but if they would think a little deeper they would confess their fallacy. Are not those men perpetuating the memories of the dead by monuments and annual ceremonies similar to those performed by the Hindus and known as Sraddham? Are not the places of worship held holy? How are



the Scriptures of a Religion kept from other books? Don't they adore the great and powerful men on earth? Are these not symbolisation? Thus it is evident Image worship is based on science and it is needless to say that Hindu philosophy is a magnet to the enlightened men of the West who were very much longing for spirituality and they find in it ample for their spiritual want. The Hindu Religion is abounding with facts where Image Worship having admirable influence over its followers.

Messrs. N. Nadarajah, S. Velupillai, G. Seenuvasagam and some others made remarks on the subject in Tamil. Messrs. Velupillai and Seenuvasagam spoke on the importance of celebrating the anniversaries of our Saints as a mark of cherishing true Bhakti, quoting several examples. He said that while God is infinite He is at the same time simple to his devotees. He also fully referred to the beneficial effects of Gura Pujahs. Mr. Velupillai then moved that Sekkilar Nayanar's Gura Pujah be performed to which all present unanimously agreed. Grand preparations are going on to celebrate it in the shed at the Temple land next Friday. The ceremonies will be conducted by Srimat Murugesa Swamigal, a Hindu Devotee to whom reference was made in one of my previous notes. At the same evening Thiruvathavooradygal Puranam will be read, as this Saint's history will undoubtedly impress the hearers on the necessity of charitable Institutions, etc., and as it has a bearing on the subject matter in hand. Notices are being issued broadcast and should they only keep up their present zeal the Pujah would be a great success.

We have a Hindu Library called Vivekananda Reading Hall, to improve our Religious status, and an Association to guard our national prestige. What is required further of our public spirited gentlemen is to maintain them in an efficient condition and to make the necessary arrangements for the building of a Madam preparatory to the erection of a Temple. No national movement is possible without its being based on Religion, more particularly so with the Hindus, as our social customs are connected with our Religion. As gentlemen of position and wealth however have undertaken this new movement it goes without saying that they are not going to rest without bringing it to a satisfactory end.

Pundit Saravanamuttu Pillai who presided on the occasion made an able and impressive speech justifying Image Worship by citing the following Sutram from Siva Guana Botham:

செம்மலர்நோன்றான்சேரவொட்டா  
அம்மலர்க்குழியுன்பொருமேரீஇ,  
மாலறநேயமலிந்தவரவேடமு  
மாலயந்தானுமரின்னத்தொழுமே.

Murugesa Swamigal reviewed his own life and stated how he became a recluse. The Meeting terminated at about 10 P. M. with the singing of Devarams etc.

Cor:—

Kuala Lumpur,  
18th May 1904.

## THE ALLEGED LIBEL ON A CEYLON JUDGE. THE CASE AGAINST THE "CEYLON NATIVE OPINION."

AN UNFORTUNATE NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION.

JURY DISCHARGED AND TRIAL POSTPONED FOR FOUR MONTHS.

On this case coming up before his Lordship Mr. Justice Middleton yesterday.

Adv. Mr. C. B. ELLIOTT said that before His Lordship proceeded with the trial of the Case, there was a certain matter which he would wish to press upon His Lordship's attention. He had conferred with his learned friend on the matter, and both his learned friend and himself were agreed that it would be more desirable in every way if His Lordship would deal with the matter in Chambers, rather than that it should be brought before him in open Court. Would his Lordship see him and his learned friend in Chambers?

HIS LORDSHIP: If you wish it—Yes.

Mr. ELLIOTT: My friend agrees with me that that would be desirable.

HIS LORDSHIP: Before we go on with the trial?

Mr. ELLIOTT: Yes my Lord immediately.

HIS LORDSHIP thereupon retired to his Chambers, where he was joined by Messrs. Elliott and Pereira. A few minutes later Mr. Felix Dias was sent for by His Lordship, and the Conference lasted a good fifteen minutes, at the end of which time His Lordship returned to the Bench.

HIS LORDSHIP (finding that Messrs. Elliott and Pereira had not returned) Where are the Counsel appearing in the case?

Both gentlemen came in a moment later and Mr. ELLIOTT said that he was sorry that, under the circumstances which he had disclosed to His Lordship in Chambers, it seemed to him to be quite im-

possible to go on with the case. He did not doubt that the jury were perfectly free from any bias, but in view of the fact that the indictment was published in a newspaper, setting out a previous conviction of the accused, which was no part of the proceedings whatever, he must ask his Lordship to discharge the present jury and let the case be tried by another panel, and that the trial do stand over for some time.

HIS LORDSHIP (to Mr. Pereira): Do you accept that?

Mr. PEREIRA: My Lord, the application, I must confess, is a reasonable one. The publication was utterly unjustified, and I must leave the matter entirely in your Lordship's hands.

HIS LORDSHIP: Have I the power of discharging the jury?

Mr. PEREIRA: The only question is whether the accused will really benefit by his case being tried by another jury.

HIS LORDSHIP: The matter complained of has been published all over the Island, and will be known to everybody. If there is a lapse of time perhaps people will forget about it.

Mr. ELLIOTT asked that the trial do stand over, for the next sessions.

Mr. PEREIRA pointed out that, on the other hand, instead of its being forgotten, it might perhaps be emphasized by those proceedings in Court that day.

Mr. ELLIOTT: It is no fault of ours, my Lord, that this thing has happened. It is a most lamentable thing in every way. We cannot possibly get on under the circumstances, my Lord.

HIS LORDSHIP: Under what section do you make your application?

Mr. ELLIOTT: There is no section of the Code that I am aware of, my Lord, which contemplates a case like this.

Mr. PEREIRA: In England, my Lord, I think that, in cases of this kind, where comments are made by the Press on trials that are proceeding before a Judge and jury—I speak subject to correction—I don't think it is usual to discharge the jury in such a case, but to punish the wrongdoer.

HIS LORDSHIP: That's another question to be considered at some other time. At the present moment I am on the question as to whether the trial should proceed.

Mr. PEREIRA: That, of course, is entirely in your Lordship's discretion, and I do not wish in any way to influence your Lordship's decision. I am sure Mr. Dias and myself are both anxious that the trial should be as fair as it possibly can be, against the accused, and that he should be in no way prejudiced. If your Lordship thinks that the jury should be discharged, and if the Law provides it, I have not the slightest objection.

HIS LORDSHIP: "If the Law provides"—there's the difficulty. I do not know whether it does.

Mr. ELLIOTT mentioned section 250 of the Code, and went on to observe that the present case was certainly one that was not provided for by the Code.

HIS LORDSHIP: There is another section, providing for the case of a juror being ill. Where is that section?

Mr. ELLIOTT: Section 229, my Lord.

HIS LORDSHIP (looking at section): There, you see, the judge may discharge a jury and a new jury may be summoned—if a juror absents himself.

Mr. ELLIOTT: Well my Lord, perhaps, I might say this: Unless the case is going to stand over for a considerable time, the impression that has been produced upon all future special jurymen will be almost as strong as that produced on this jury to-day. Counsel went on to say that he did not wish to throw anything in the way of the Court, and if his Lordship thought that the position of the accused would not be improved in any way they had better get on with the trial.

HIS LORDSHIP: I really cannot say. Now it is fresh in everybody's mind. The only possibility is that by a lapse of time everybody will have forgotten it.

Mr. PEREIRA: There is a possible way out of the difficulty. If your Lordship thinks that the accused has been prejudiced by the publication of this indictment in the *Independent*, I am prepared to allow the Attorney-General to exercise the power that is vested in him to withdraw the case from this jury, and—

HIS LORDSHIP: Certainly. There is a possibility—and a strong possibility—that the prisoner will be prejudiced very much in his defence by the publication of this second part of the indictment.

Mr. PEREIRA: In view of that expression of opinion, my Lord, I would ask permission to withdraw the case from this jury, and that the case be taken up before another jury hereafter.

HIS LORDSHIP (smiling): The application is made, I take it, by Counsel for the defendant, supported by Counsel for the prosecution; but even then, does that give me the authority? I think it does myself. I am inclined to think that there is the power for the Judge to withdraw a case from the jury. His Lordship, was heard to remark that what he was anxious to prevent was a miscarriage of justice. If Counsel agreed, he would withdraw the case, and order it to be tried by another special jury at some future date.

Mr. ELLIOTT: But if it is to be at the next sessions, which I understand begin immediately, it will be clearly no good.

HIS LORDSHIP: Not next session?

Mr. PEREIRA mentioned Section 230 of the Code.

Mr. ELLIOTT: I ask, my Lord, that the case be postponed at least six months, otherwise it will go before the session next month, and that's far too soon.

HIS LORDSHIP: When will be the next session?

Mr. DRIEBERG (Crown Counsel): I believe it is to be postponed, my Lord. We are not going to have it in July. We are going to postpone the next session till September, I understand.

Mr. ELLIOTT pointed out that July would be certain-

ly too soon. September or October would be a reasonable time. Say six months or four months. Otherwise he might be going from a bad position even to a worse one, because he would have been able to address the jury on the point. He therefore asked His Lordship to postpone it for six months.

HIS LORDSHIP could not see his way to postpone it for six months.

Mr. ELLIOTT: Say October, my Lord.

HIS LORDSHIP (to Mr. DRIEBERG): Will there be any sessions current in October?

Mr. DRIEBERG: I think so, my Lord.

Mr. PEREIRA: The only thing is this, my Lord. The matter is one which Mr. Dias is anxious should be decided as soon as possible.

HIS LORDSHIP: I can well understand that.

Mr. PEREIRA: And I am afraid I shall not be here for many months. It is not likely, if the case is postponed for long, that I shall be here to conduct it.

Mr. ELLIOTT: My learned friend has put his views so fully that his successor has only got to repeat those views. (Laughter).

HIS LORDSHIP: That I am afraid, won't do.

Mr. PEREIRA: A long postponement would put the prosecution to some inconvenience: that's the only thing.

HIS LORDSHIP: It is a very great inconvenience to everybody, and all brought about by this newspaper.

Mr. PEREIRA: Mr. Dias is a person occupying a high judicial position in Colombo.

HIS LORDSHIP: I think October will be the best month.

Mr. PEREIRA: I have no objection to the case being taken up at the tail end of the next sessions. If as Mr. DRIEBERG says, the next sessions is to begin in September, the tail end will suit. If you fixed for the sessions in October, the probability is that there will be no session in October.

HIS LORDSHIP: I might adjourn it to be taken up at the end of the next sessions.

Mr. ELLIOTT: Will your Lordship make an order till October or as soon hereafter?

HIS LORDSHIP: I don't think I can make it quite so indefinite.

Mr. ELLIOTT: October is a reasonable time, my Lord.

HIS LORDSHIP: But I don't like to fix an exact date.

Mr. ELLIOTT: Mr. Dias is, no doubt, inconvenienced, and I quite appreciate it. But I don't think what he feels is anything like my client's feelings—a charge hanging over a man's head.

HIS LORDSHIP: It is merely a question of our adjourning sufficiently long so that people may forget.

Mr. PEREIRA said that if the case was adjourned for the next session, and if the next session were to begin at the end of next month, he would not press the case.

HIS LORDSHIP: I'll adjourn it till the end of the next sessions, on the understanding that it is not to be taken up till the end of October.

Addressing the jury His Lordship went on to say that a publication had been made—an unwarranted publication—in a newspaper in Colombo, which had published certain facts contained in the second count of the indictment which it had no right to publish, and which were calculated to prejudicially affect the jury. He thought himself it was a count which was never read to a jury until after the original count had been adjudicated upon. It was calculated to prejudicially affect the trial of the accused at their hands. Under the circumstances, he thought it was his duty, in the interests of justice, and in order that the prisoner might not suffer, to withdraw the case and to discharge them, and to order that the prisoner be tried by another jury at the next sessions, but on the understanding that the trial do not take place before the end of October.

HIS LORDSHIP discharged the jurors with the thanks of the Island, and the prosecutor and the prisoner, with their respective Counsel, withdrew.

—The Ceylon Independent.

## THE WAR.

London June 6th—All correspondents at St. Petersburg unite in affirming that General Kuropatkin ordered the southward movement to relieve Port Arthur.

Some critics suggest that this unanimity is intentional, and intended to conceal the general retreat northward which a strong rearguard is demonstratively covering.

Reuter's correspondent at Tientsin says that the Russians have evacuated Sin-min-ting and the vicinity.

The news has reached St. Petersburg that General Kuropatkin and staff have gone on the railway to a point between Hai-cheng and Tachichao, sixty versts, south of Liao-yang.

London June 7th—St. Petersburg telegrams state, that General Kuropatkin reports that a five hours' fight took place on the 3rd instant at Khotsiaputse eighteen miles west of Fenghuangcheng.

The Japanese, attempting to advance from a fortified position, were repelled by Cossacks assisted by some field guns.

Sixteen Cossacks were wounded.

The Ozar has ordered the mobilisation of the First Army Corps which includes St. Petersburg district.

Bombay June 6th—The following telegram has been received by the Japanese Consul in Bombay:—

"Admiral Togo reports that the destroyer flotilla, while engaged in blockading Port Arthur, at 7.40 p. m. on the 4th instant witnessed an enemy's gunboat of the 'Gilyak' type blown up and sunk in front of Cheng-tanhan, probably by our mines. Another Russian gunboat and destroyers and steam launches that appeared to have been engaged in clearing the mines outside Port Arthur, hastily fled inside.

Bombay June 7th—The Japanese Consul at Bombay received the following this afternoon:—Admiral Togo reports that clearing operations in Talienwan are satis-



factorily progressing despite the rough sea; 41 mines were discovered and exploded between the 3rd and 6th instant. A Chinaman who formally served the enemy as pilot is now usefully employed by us. One safe way was discovered rendering shallow ships navigable.

London June 7th—Eitel, the special correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph," who was in a juck near Yinkaw, has been shot dead by Chinese troops.

Brindle, the correspondent of the "Daily Mail" who accompanied him, escaped.

Naval experts are convinced that the Baltic Fleet, whose date of departure is being constantly deferred, will never reach the Pacific even if it starts.

Admiral Togo has succeeded in clearing the mines at Ta-lien-wan sufficiently to make a channel practicable.

London June 8th—Besides the Russian gunboat which was blown up on the 4th instant in Port Arthur Roadstead while searching for mines, it is stated at Tokio that a Russian gunboat of a similar type was destroyed about the same time, one mile off the shore.

The rule will be made returnable for Monday next.

London June 8th—"Reuter" wires from Tokio that four Japanese gunboats made a reconnaissance off Port Arthur on Monday night and were exposed to a severe cannonade.

One gunboat was hit eight times and was somewhat damaged.

One of the crew was killed and two were wounded.

The Chifu junks report continuous firing between Dalny and Port Arthur for several days.

The Japanese warships are making Dalny their headquarters.

Admiral Alexieff reports that the torpedo boat destroyers struck some rocks at Port Arthur on the night of the 29th ultimo and sank.

The crew were saved.

London June 9th—"Reuter" wires from Chifu that fifty junks, laden with Chinese, left Port Arthur, yesterday morning, with the permission of the Russian authorities and are now arriving here.

They report that a battle has been raging for four days within ten miles of Port Arthur, the whole garrison participating.

Only three large ships and a number of small ones remain in the harbour of Port Arthur.

—Ceylon Independent.

### A TRIBUTE TO INDIAN WOMEN AND THEIR HOMES.

Some very interesting speeches were made at the annual meeting of the National Indian Association, held this week at the Imperial Institute. As education is one of the chief aims of the Association, it was only likely that its progress among the women of India should form one of the important topics referred to at the meeting. When I say that Mrs. Flora Annie Steel presided over the meeting, you may be sure that she made a very interesting speech. She spoke of the extreme beauty of the Hindu ideal division of life—the period of learning, the period of activity, and the period of reflection. She emphasised the need of forming a suitable system of education for women in India. It would not do, she said, to make the mistakes there that have been made, and are recognised to have been made, in England. English women, by our social system, are often left to fight their own battles, and the struggle for existence is very severe. Mrs. Steel said that in London alone there were 14,000 women earning a livelihood on wages that were miserably inadequate to supply them with barest necessities. If education and book learning made them forget that they were women first and B. A.'s afterwards, there was something wrong with the system. In dealing with the education of Indian women, she begged that consideration might be given to choosing what was best for them and not merely handing on a system which, in its working, left much to be desired in England. Mrs. Steel returned to the charge of administering a rebuke to those English ladies who spend a long time in India and make no effort to understand the language of the people among whom their lot is cast. Intercourse with Indian women is much helped by being able to speak with them in their own language.

But Mrs. Steel was not the only one to pay tribute to the Indian people. Dr. Pollen, C. E. in his genial Irish way, spoke of the elevating influence of woman in the home. The spot of progress and education is the home. Is there, he asked, this elevating influence of woman in the homes of India? Answering his own question he declared that he knew something of Indian homes, he knew men of high character, occupying distinguished positions, who owed much to the gracious ways of the households in which they had been brought up and the high moral tone that had been imparted to them. The influence of woman in the home is great in India as elsewhere. He mentioned the names of Mrs. Steel and Miss Manning as showing what Englishwomen may do for the women of India and added that the woman who has had the greatest influence in all households in India although unknown personally, is the late Queen Victoria. Referring to the purdah system, Dr. Pollen said that it would die hard, because young girls looked forward to following in the footsteps of their mothers, much

as English girls anticipate the day when they will wear long dresses and do their hair up. It is by bringing knowledge within the reach of those behind the purdah that progress alone can be made. The men of India ought to feel the responsibility of providing for their wives and daughters the same educational advantages they have found available. A special interest was given to the meeting by an admirably delivered speech of a young Parsi lady, Miss C. Vakeel. There was much to be done, she urged, in spreading education among Indian women particularly in the country districts. The Parsis, as a people had been the first to avail themselves of the advantages of education for women, and a number of Parsi women had distinguished themselves in various ways. Although proud of the accomplished deeds of her own people Miss Vakeel said that friendly rivalry should be encouraged in educational matters, and success would be acclaimed irrespective of nationality. Miss Vakeel received a most sympathetic and enthusiastic welcome. The formal business of the meeting dealt with the report for the year, and the recognition of the work of the Association in England as well as in India. Special mention was made of the prizes offered for essays under the auspices of the Bombay Branch of the Association, and of the very successful result of the new departure. To Miss Manning the warmest thanks of the meeting were according for her unfailing and untiring devotion to the work of the Association.

—London Correspondent The A B Patrika.

### RUSSIAN REVOLUTIONARIES.

The following is a translation of one of the specimens of the kind of leaflets which the Russian and Polish revolutionary "aliens" are printing in the towns of Russia. This precious effusion was issued by "The Central Committee of the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party."

WHAT THE RUSSIAN SOLDIER HAS TO DIE FOR.

"Firstly, in order that the Russian Czar, who gets a yearly salary at 10 millions of roubles and is the owner of the best estates in the Crimea, the Caucasus, Siberia, Oural and Turkestan—might get hold of some more land in Manchuria and Corea.

"Secondly, that the Czar's Government, which ruins a population of 130 millions, might be able to ruin another 20 millions of loyal subjects.

"Thirdly, that the orthodox priests, who are despoiling 80 millions of people of the orthodox faith, and persecuting 50 millions of people believing in other creeds, might be able to ask for more subsidy for conversion by force of fresh millions of people of another creed.

"Fourthly, that the Russian noblemen might get new appointments in the police, justice, excise, customs, railway and in other branches of the services.

"Fifthly, that the contractors, factory owners and bankers might be able to arrange profitable undertakings in the newly acquired provinces by means of the Government's money, i.e., the people's.

"Sixthly, to procure new estates and give them away to dissipated land owners and leave the hungry people without land and bread as before.

"Seventhly, to prepare new places of exile for the workmen and peasants who are rebelling against their oppressors, when there will be no more place in the Sakhalin and Irkutsk prisons.

"Eighthly, that when the soldiers, and even Tartars, come to refusing to shoot down their fellow-workmen and peasants, upon the orders of their superiors, they may still be a reserve of new Korean and Manchurian soldiers to do this murderous work.

"Ninthly, in order to enrich all the various vampires who may profit by the military operations.

"Tenthly, that in remuneration for all his sufferings in war the Russian soldier may afterwards as before be fed on foul food, tortured with many years' service, beaten and abused by all kinds of superiors and that he might for any trifle be sent to the special correctionary military battalions with all their well-known horrors.

"In order that the Russian soldier might go to die with resignation for the sake of all the above alluring promises he will be told that he has to go to war for his native 'country,' to defend his 'faith' to serve the 'Throne' and to cover with glory the 'Russian people'.

'Yes, indeed! The ruin of the fatherland' they call it glorious war; the procuring of new incomes for the parasitic priests, the defence of the faith; the acquiring of new titles, orders and ribbons by the Russian Generals and the murdering and plundering of peaceable Chinese and Japanese hardworking men,—these they call the honour and glory of the Russian people!

"The Russian soldier serves no one else but the Czar and the pack of his sneaking hirelings. The Throne wants a war because it is only for the glory of this same Throne, founded on human skeletons, and flourishing through the misery of the people at large, that Russian soldier is now sent out to fight and die in the Far East."

—The Hindu

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

ORDER NISI

Testamentary

No. 1523

Jurisdiction

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Vallipuram Murukesu of Vannarponnai East

Deceased

Tamotharampillai Saravanamuttu of Vannarponnai East

Petitioner

Vs

1. Tamotharampillai Sinniah and wife
2. Meenadchippillai of Vannarponnai East

Respondents

This matter of the Petition of Tamotharampillai Saravanamuttu, the abovenamed Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Vallipuram Murukesu coming on for disposal before H. R. Freeman Esquire District Judge, on the 23rd day of May 1904 in the presence of Mr. S. Kandayya Proctor on the part of the Petitioner, and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 19th day of May 1904 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the son-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 Respondents or any other person shall on or, before the 29th day of June 1904 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 23rd day of May 1904

Sgd. H. R. FREEMAN  
District Judge.

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

ORDER NISI

Testamentary

No. 1499

Jurisdiction

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Padaiveerasinkam Appukkuddy of Madduvil South

Deceased.

Appukkuddy Thambiah of Madduvil South

Petitioner

Vs.

1. Kathirassipillai widow of Appukkuddy and
2. Appukkuddy Ramauathar both of Madduvil South

Respondents

This matter of the Petition of Appukkuddy Thambiah the abovenamed Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Padaiveerasinkam Appukkuddy coming on for disposal before T. B. Russell Esqr. District Judge, on the 12th day of April 1904 in the presence of Mr. V. Coomaraswamy Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 7th day of April 1904 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the son of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or, before the 6th day of May 1904 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 12th day of April 1904

Sgd. T. B. RUSSELL  
District Judge  
Time to, show cause extended to 30th June 1904  
(Sgd) H. R. FREEMAN  
District Judge.

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

ORDER NISI.

Testamentary

No. 1516

Jurisdiction

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Parupathy wife of Ramalinkam Kandasamy of Chulipuram

Deceased.

Ramalinkam Kandasamy of Chulipuram

Petitioner.

Vs

Ramalinkam Muthaliththamby of Chulipuram

Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Ramalinkam Kandasamy of Chulipuram praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Parupathy wife of Kandasamy coming on for disposal before H. R. Freeman Esquire, District Judge, on the 6th day of May 1904 in the presence of Mr. S. Kathirasu Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 28th day of April 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 Respondent or any other person shall on or, before the 20th day of June 1904 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 6th day of May 1904

Sgd. H. R. FREEMAN  
District Judge.