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## THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1904.

HIS EXCELLENCY  
THE GOVERNOR  
AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE.

The speech which His Excellency Sir Henry Blake delivered on the 12th Instant, which we quote elsewhere, on the occasion of distributing Prizes to the successful students of the Royal College is a most brilliant performance of its kind. Sir West Ridgeway performed the same function more than once in the same Col-

lege and delivered long and brilliant speeches. But they were more or less declarations and defence of his policy in regard to education and general administration of the Colony. Sir Henry's speech however, on this occasion, while it is a great success as a rhetorical performance and abounds with rich humour, is full of sound and practical advice to the students which had never before been given so effectively by any previous Governor of Ceylon. It was Sir Arthur Havelock who advised the students of this College that the observance of his three P. S. was a sure road to success in life. The present Governor has given another great advice, which is worthy of adoption by students and youngmen everywhere. "And this" says His Excellency, "brings up to the bed-rock on which we must stand, if we are to aim at this great ideal, and what is that bed-rock formed of?... That rock is formed of Honour, of Truth, of Temperance, and of Honesty. The boy who is trained in these moral principles will never be a disgrace to his family". These are words which should be enshrined in the hearts of all men, whether young or old.

The most important part of His Excellency's speech were his words, condemning the mad craving of the educated Ceylonese to be, as he aptly puts it, "a clerk or a doctor or a proctor or a lawyer or a loafer", and commending to their attention the study of agricultural science and the pursuit of agriculture as a career to educated young men. His advice on this subject is worthy of very serious notice by every Ceylonese who has the welfare of his countrymen at heart.

### THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT

Mr John Kotelawala has approached His Excellency the Governor and has obtained his Excellency's views on this subject as the correspondence published elsewhere would show. The movement has the Governor's warm sympathy, but His Excellency deprecates the use of force in its furtherance.

We have no doubt that the cry raised in certain quarters that force and violence disgrace the proceedings of the promoters of the movement is the invention of the enemy—the arrack distillers and arrack renters, who are now destined to lose considerably in the business—with the view to discredit the movement. If what they say against the movement be true, why has not a single prosecution been yet successfully carried out in the Western or the Southern Province against those who use physical force?

As far as we can gauge the feelings of men of light and leading in Jaffna the present Temperance Movement has their heartiest sympathy, and we hope it will not be long before active steps will be adopted also here to arrest the progress drunkenness is now making among the people of this District.

## LOCAL &amp; GENERAL

**Defalcation in the Manipay Post Office**—We hear that there is a deficit of Rs 800 in the Manipay Post Office and that investigation is going on.

**A lecture**—A lecture on vegetarianism in connection with the Y.M.H.A., Jaffna, was delivered in the Hindu College Hall, on Thursday evening at 6-30 P. M. by Mr. E. Chelliah, a teacher in the College. Mr. Karalapillai, Head clerk Newara Eliya Kachcheri, occupied the chair. The lecturer ably dwelt on the subject. He adduced various reasons to show that man belongs to the herbivorous class of animals and that vegetable food was most suitable to him. At the close of the lecture, Mr. S. Kandiah, Proctor, Mr. Muttukumaru Head Clerk Land Registrar's Office, Jaffna, Mr. T. Thampipilly teacher Hindu College, Mr. Asaipillai, Proctor, Mr. T. K. Swamicather Professor Hindu College and Mr. A. Cathiravalu Proctor made remarks. The Chairman having summed up the debate Mr. Advocate A. Kanagasaby proposed a vote of thanks to the chair which brought the meeting to a close.

**Personal**—Mr. A. Naganather Shroff of the Newara Eliya branch of the National Bank of India has arrived here by the last trip of the "Lady Gordon" and is now residing at Copay his native place.

**A Marriage in High Life**—The marriage of Miss Tilagambaal, the eldest daughter of Dr. M. Sinnatamby, Second Physician of the General Hospital, Colombo, and Public Analyst, with her cousin Mr. T. Selladurai, was celebrated, with great demonstrations of pomp and joy, on Saturday the 20th Instant in the house of the bride at Anaicotta, according to Hindu rites, in the presence of a large and respectable gathering of friends and relations from different parts of Jaffna. The Pandal in which the guests assembled and the nuptial ceremonies were performed, was a model of its kind and was very tastefully decorated and illuminated. It was about 10 P. M. when the ceremonies were over. Dr. Sinnatamby was unremitting in his attention to those present and everybody went away highly pleased with the hospitality shown to him. The festivities continued for four days, guests arriving every day from all parts of the Peninsula in response to the invitation of the Doctor. We wish the newly married couple long life, happiness, and prosperity.

**Accidental death**—A youngman of the climber caste accidentally fell from a palmyrah tree last week at Achuveli and died immediately.

**The Tamil Member**—The Hon'ble Dr. Rookwood the Tamil Member of the Legislative Council has returned to Ceylon after an absence of about six months in England.

**Accidents by Gunpowder**—Two men from different villages in the Jaffna District had their arms amputated in the Hospital on Wednesday and Thursday last having met with serious accidents while engaged in grinding gunpowder.

**Murder**—A murder was committed at Myliddy on Friday last. In a scuffle between two fishers, the son-in-law stabbed the father-in-law in the heart and caused instantaneous death. The culprit has been arrested we understand.

**Coconut planting**—Mr. D. P. Tampoe who has started coconut planting on a large scale in the Chilaw district has just purchased in addition to his Estates at Marawilla, the well-known Estate "Sittawana" for Rs 45000 from Mr. James Bett the Kelaney Valley planter. Mr. Tampoe has also purchased large acreage of bare lands in the adjoining districts for Jaffna tobacco cultivation. We wish him all success in the new enterprise; and in the opening of a fresh sphere for Jaffna labour. —Cor.

**ParamaKurusamy's Samathy**—A public meeting was held in the Hindu College Hall, Jaffna on the 21st instant under the presidency of Mr. Advocate Kanagasaby for the purpose of appointing a committee to apply for the creation of a ParamaKurusamy trust by which the properties of the Swamy in Jaffna may be vested on the Temple built upon his Samathy and the ParamaKurusamy Madam at Matale. There were present Sri Kulanthivelu Swamy, Mr. A. Kanagasaby, Chairman, Srimat K. Sapapathy Kurukal, Mr. S. T. M. Pasupathy Chettyar Mr. M. Sithamparanather, Mr. M. Karalasingam Secretary, and many others. After an influential body of men was appointed as a committee the meeting came to a close.

**Customs**—Hon'ble Mr. W. H. Jackson, the Principal Collector of Customs accompanied by Mr. C. Suntheram of the Colombo Customs, inspected the Pt. Pedro Customs and he was quite satisfied with all he saw and inspected. It is a pity that some of the leading merchants did not come forward at that time to lay before him some of the wants of the port and particularly the extension of the Jetty a little seaward to enable the landing of cargoes from several boats at a time.

Mr. A. Cadiravelu from Valvettiturai is now in charge of this port as Sub Collector in the place of Mr. N. Savarimuttu who is transferred to Kankasanturai

It is rumoured that Mr. S. T. Chittampalam, Shroff and Landing Waiter of the Pt. Pedro port, is shortly to be transferred to the Customs, Kaits, which is now considered to be the first port in the Northern province and the third port in the Island in point of revenue

Mr. V. Mudaliyar Culandaivelu of Pt. Pedro has been appointed a sub agent to the Standard life insurance company for Point Pedro and Valvettiturai.—Cor.

## THE HINDU COLLEGE FOOT-BALL CLUB.

The following is a copy of the minutes of a meeting of the newly formed Hindu college foot ball club, held on the evening of the 18th instant:—

Proposed by K. Ambalavaner and seconded by S. Rada-Krishna. Raja that Mr. V. Mudaliyar Veyagasu be voted to the chair. Carried nem con.

Proposed by P. Nagarajah and seconded by S. G. Watson and carried unanimously that K. Ambalavaner be elected the Secretary of the club.

Proposed by S. Rada-Krishna-Rajah and seconded by P. Nagarajah and carried that V. A. Kulantbaivelu be elected treasurer of the club

Proposed by S. G. Watson and seconded by K. Ambalavaner and carried unanimously that S. Rada-Krishna-Rajah be elected captain of the club.

Proposed by A. Tiru-navukarasu and seconded by K. Sambander and carried that F. Alexander be elected Vice-captain of the club.

Proposed by K. Ambalavaner and seconded by S. Rada-Krishna-Rajah and carried unanimously that Mr. N. Selvadurai Pillai B. A. be elected patron of the club.

Proposed by K. Ambalavaner and seconded by P. Nagarajah and carried unanimously that V. Mudaliyar: Veyagasu be elected President of the club.

Proposed by K. Ambalavaner and seconded by P. Nagarajah and carried unanimously that a committee of 9 persons including the captain, Vice-captain, secretary and Treasurer be formed to frame rules and to manage the affairs of the club.

Proposed by P. Nagarajah and Seconded by S. G. Watson and carried that A. Tirunavukarasu be elected one of the committee members.

Proposed by K. Ambalavaner and seconded by S. Rada-Krishna-Rajah and car-

ried that P. Nagarajah be elected one of the committee members.

Proposed by S. Ponnusamy and seconded by T. Chelliah and carried that V. Tamothampillai be elected one of the committee members.

Proposed by K. Ambalavaner and seconded by S. Rada Krishna-Rajah and carried unanimously that S. G. Watson be elected one of the committee members.

Proposed by P. Nagarajah and seconded by K. Ambalavaner and carried that K. Sangarapillai be elected one of the committee members.

Proposed by K. Ambalavaner and seconded by V. A. Kulantbaivelu and carried that every member of the club should pay a subscription of ten cents per month.

A vote of thanks proposed to the chair by K. Ambalavaner and seconded by S. Rada-Krishna-Rajah brought the business of the meeting to a close.

We wish the club every success —Cor

## POINT PEDRO.

Swami Gnananda and Swami Sathananda Paramahansa arrived at Kangesanturai by the Lady Gordon on the sixth instant. They were landed and taken to Mr. Arambamoorthy's Chatram at Maviddapuram, where they stayed about a week. The great Car Festival at Maviddapuram and the Keerimalai spring water, among other things, greatly attracted the attention of the Swamies. During their stay at the Chatram, there were large crowds of people both morning and evening to see and hear the Swamies.

On the evening of the following Friday Mr. A. S. Arambamoorthy brought them to Point Pedro, where the Swamies were cordially received and led to the Pillayar Temple Vasantha Mandapam, the place where religious preaching is regularly conducted every Friday in the week, under the name of Siva Siddhantha Sabhai. The Mandapam was fully occupied with the elite of Point Pedro who had come there to hear what the Hindu Sannyasins were going to say. As expected the Swamies were clad in the usual Sannyasin dress with Uruthirakka Malai round their neck.

Swami Gnanandha then addressed the audience in English on Hinduism. He mainly dwelt on Bhakti to God and divided it into two parts, one as Preparatory Bhakti and the other as Para Bhakti. The Preparatory Bhakti, he said, was devotion or intense love to God. When a man gets it, he loves all, hates none, he becomes satisfied for ever, while Para Bhakti he said was supreme Devotion to God. When this higher form of Bhakti is attained, then all forms vanish, rituals fly away, books are superseded, images, temples, churches, religions, sects, countries and nationalities and all such little limitations and bondages fall off by their own nature.

Lastly the Swami sang in Bengali, one of the most favourite songs of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa Deva, with great feeling to the accompaniment of the Lily Flute harmonium, which he plays with great skill. The meaning of the staza runs as follows:—"Probably I may have come to this world by mistaking the way, or else, why do I not find the end of the way. The more I walk, the more I find the endless way before me. I cannot resist tears when I think where my own place is, and where I am walking to. I find no one to show me the way. O Mother Divine, come and show me the way or take me on your lap.

Proctor, Mr. S. Subramaniam, on behalf of those present thanked the Swami in feeling terms. Bramba Sri Muttuswamy Kurukkal then thanked the Swami in Sanscrit and brought the meeting to a close.

On the following day Swami Vinkobar, a Thiagi, whose spiritual attainment appears to be of a very high order, came and joined three Sannyasins. These three Sathoos were photographed by Mr. S. K. Lawton who specially came here for the purpose.

On the morning of the fourteenth instant they left for Jaffna where a grand reception awaited them.—Cor.

## THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.

## THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW.

MR. JOHN KOTELAWALA'S CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE GOVERNOR'S P. S.

THE EDITOR, *Ceylon Independent*.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to forward the enclosed for publication in your paper for the information of

the general public.

JOHN KOTELAWALA.

Colombo, Aug. 14, 1904.

Correspondence referred to.

Colombo, 8th Aug. 1904.

The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, Colombo.

SIR,—I have the honour to request that you will be pleased to bring to the notice of His Excellency the Governor that there is an impression among some people that the Government does not view with favour their joining or encouraging the Temperance Societies that are now being formed. Such an impression, I need hardly say, tends to retard the progress of the movement.

As I am interested in the movement, holding important offices in several temperance societies. I beg respectfully to enquire whether there is any ground for such an impression.

I am Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Sgd.) JOHN KOTELAWALA.

Queen's House, Colombo, Aug. 12th 1904.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, and I am directed to inform you that while any temperance movement has His Excellency the Governor's warm sympathy, such movement must be fostered by moral suasion only.

The Government will not permit any attempt to interfere by physical force with the full liberty of action that is the right of every British subject.

I am Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant  
(Sgd.) HERSHELL.  
To John Kotelawala Esq.,  
Colombo.

Colombo, 14th Aug., 1904.

The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, Colombo.

SIR,—While thanking you for your letter of the 12th instant, I beg you will assure His Excellency the Governor that the temperance movement is being fostered solely by moral suasion, and, as far as I am aware, no temperance society has sanctioned the use of physical force.

I am Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant  
(Sgd.) JOHN KOTELAWALA.  
—Independent.

## THE WAR.

LONDON, AUGUST 13. Details of the naval battle off Port Arthur are still most obscure, but it seems that there has been a general running fight, the Russians steering for neutral ports with the Japanese at their heels. The "Pobieda," "Retvizan," and "Tsarevitch" are badly damaged. Admiral Witgert, on board the "Tsarevitch" was killed. The "Pallada" has disappeared. It is believed the "Bayan" has not left Port Arthur. A small Japanese squadron is waiting to intercept colliers from Tsingtau taking coals to the Russians at Saddle Islands. The "Askold" claims to remain at Shanghai owing to her unseaworthiness.

BOMBAY, 24 AUGUST. The Japanese Consul at Bombay has received the following:—Admiral Togo reports that of six Russian battleships engaged in the battle of the 10th five are believed to be seriously damaged. The "Pobieda" has both masts broken and her big guns ceased working. The "Retvizan" apparently suffered most, owing to our concentrated shells at a distance of 3,500 metres. The damages to the enemy's cruisers are probably less serious. The "Bayan" did not emerge from Port Arthur. Our damages are already temporarily repaired.

Bombay, August 14.—The Japanese Consul at Bombay has received the following this morning:—According to a telegram from Chefoo two Russian destroyers were stranded about 20 miles east of Weihaiwei on the 11th instant.

The Japanese Consul at Bombay received the following this afternoon:—The Commander of Takeshiki naval station reports our fleet wirelessly telegraphed to him that the Vladivostock squadron was sighted on the fourteenth at 5-10 in the morning from Takeshiki. The subsequently reported naval battle is now being fought.

London, August 14.—Reuter wires from Chifu yesterday that Admiral Matussevitch has succumbed to his wounds in hospital at Tsingtau. The "Tsarevitch" has moved closer into the harbour in consequence of the demand of the Japanese that the Russians should come out and fight.

The German Cruisers at Tsingtau are cleared for action.

The vivid despatch sent before his death by Admiral Matussevitch relates how the Russian fleet broke out from Port Arthur. The "Tsarevitch" was so badly damaged in the prolonged fighting on the 10th that she was unable to keep company with the rest of the squadron and was attacked at night-fall by Japanese torpedo boats. At day-break she found herself off Tsingtau where she took refuge.

According to a statement of the Japanese Navy Department the "Rechtelni" was attacked in consequence of remaining undismantled. The Russians positively asserted she was disarmed.

London, August 15.—Reuter wires from Tokio today that the Japanese fleet sighted the Vladivostock squadron at five o'clock this morning in the Korean Straits.

An engagement was begun fifty minutes later, resulting in the sinking of the "Rurik." The cruisers "Rossia" and "Gromoboi" escaped northwards severely damaged.

London, August 14.—Reuter wires from Wei-hai-wei that the Russian destroyer "Boorni" has been beached and blown up on the shantung promontory. Sixty-three officers and men have arrived at Wei-hai-wei on foot.

Count Lamsdorff has requested the French Government to lodge a strong protest through the French Minister at Tokio on behalf of Russia against a breach of China's neutrality in connection with the capture of the "Rechtelni."

The Russian Minister at Peking has also been instructed to protest against and warn China of the serious consequences which the permission of a breach of neutrality may entail.

London, August 15.—A naval force participated in the general attack on port Arthur. Junks report that the Japanese have already occupied the Laotishan hills and Sushiyen, three miles northward of the fortress.

The Japanese on the night of the 10th during a heavy rainstorm attacked the entire front from the Wolf Mountain to Takushan and were also repulsed. The Fortress has been bombarded for days.

The viceroy Alexeieff reports that the Japanese are besieging Port Arthur in immense force. After a 15 hours' battle they occupied the mountains of Takushan and Laotishan on the night of the 9th.

Reuter at Chifu says the report of Admiral Matussevitch's death is premature. He is still alive.

Reuter from Chifu wires that it is stated that a general attack on Port Arthur began this morning at four o'clock.

Reuter at Tokio says Admiral Kamimura's fight with the Vladivostock squadron occurred twenty miles from Ulsan. The Japanese saved 450 men of the Rurik's crew. During the fight the Rossia and Gromoboi caught fire several times.

It is semi-officially announced at Berlin that the Russian warships at Kiaochau have been ordered to dismantle as they are unable to put to sea within the prescribed time.

The Askold lost fifteen killed and fifty wounded, and was pierced by nearly two hundred shells. The Taotai of Shanghai notified the Askold and Gromoboi to leave in twenty-four hours. They demanded time to repair.

Admiral Togo's squadron was practically uninjured. The battleship Mikasa suffered most but remains in the fighting line. The total Japanese casualties were 197. Admiral Kamimura's casualties were slight.

The Russian cruiser Novik was not injured and none were killed on board. She called and left Tsingtau on Friday morning, and was sighted on Saturday between Shanghai and Nagasaki.

Reuter wires from Tsingtau that the Tsarevitch bore the brunt of the fighting and was terribly punished. She lost fifteen killed and forty-five wounded.

A telegram from Tsingtau says that the flags of the Tsarevitch and three other Russian warships have been hauled down in the presence of the German Governor.

The Japanese official account states that the Japanese officer boarding the "Rechtelni" found she was not disarmed, and while conferring with the commander the latter was heard directing the crew to blow up the vessel, and then knocked the Japanese officer overboard. The fore magazine exploded, killing and wounding fifteen. The Japanese vessel then seized the crew.

London August 16.—It is officially stated at St. Petersburg that the losses of the garrison at Port Arthur between the 8th and 10th inst. were 255 killed and 1,588 wounded and 84 missing.

London August 17.—Reuter wires from Liaoyang that the army is inactive owing to the heavy rains which have carried away bridges.

The Russian cruiser Ural formerly the German liner Kaiserin Maria Theresia, has stopped a British collier west of the Straits of Gibraltar. The commander stated that he is in search of 200 steamers carrying contraband for transhipment at Mediterranean ports.

Admiral Kamimura's casualties in the last fight were 110.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio states that the Mikado's offer to allow non-combatants to leave Port Arthur, coupled with the demand for the surrender of the garrison, was delivered to the Commandant yesterday and a reply is expected today.

London August 18.—General Kuropatkin reports that the rains are everywhere and the situation is unchanged. The Chunchases are increasingly active.

A Russian cruiser circled round the Orient liner Oroya off St. Vincent, but did not challenge her.

Another collier for Marseilles has been similarly stopped. This interference with purely local traffic has redoubled the indignation felt regarding Russian proceedings and the papers have strong articles on the subject.

Reuter at Chifu, says that since the occupation of Sushiyen, mentioned on the 15th, the Japanese have not pushed on over a mile, and are now beyond Palingohing which is two miles from Port Arthur city.

—The Ceylon Observer.

### ROYAL COLLEGE PRIZE-GIVING.

His Excellency the Governor, then rising amid applause, said: Ladies and gentlemen, and students of the Royal College: I have listened with interest to the Report of Mr. Walker, and I think that, with regard to the first part of it, we must extend our sympathy to him for all the inconveniences that have been suffered in consequence of the various changes in the staff. But he is to be congratulated on the successful efforts of the gentlemen who have been acting for the absent members. I looked at the last annual Report of the Education Department, and I find that in the last Senior and Junior Cambridge Examinations, leaving out the Royal College and taking all the students from all the schools who went up for the examination, the percentage of passes of those who went up was 43.8. Taking all the other schools besides this Royal College, which sent up ten boys and over, the percentage was 52.1, while the percentage from the Royal College was 34.5 (Applause.) In the junior in the same way, I find that, taking

all colleges besides the Royal College, the percentage is 34.1, taking all other Colleges who sent 10 and over, 44 and the Royal College was 52.1. (Applause)

THIS IS SATISFACTORY

so far, but I am not prepared to accept the result merely of a literary examination as a test of the educational work of any institution. For, while these examinations are, perhaps, the only way by which we can manage in open competition, the fact remains that they leave out of consideration the most important work of the master, and they give, to my mind, undue value to the cultivation of memory. We must remember that the cultivation of our memory is but the sharpening of one of the tools by which we are in future to carve out our career. The memorising of the thoughts of others can not be called an education in its fullest sense; and true education means the cultivation of the power of thinking, of weighing, of judging, of deciding, and, after you have decided, then your success will depend upon energy and patience, and above all, of perseverance.

I was struck some time ago by reading a very terse statement made by some gentleman in Australia who said what ought to be, and what is our aim?" and he answered:

"OUR AIM IS OUR HIGHEST POSSIBILITIES."

And this brings us to the bed-rock on which we must stand if we are to aim at this great ideal and what is that bed-rock formed of? I am speaking now to you the students of this College. That rock is formed of Honour, of Truth, of Temperance and of Honesty. (Applause.) The boy who is trained in these moral principles will never be a discredit to his family. (Applause.) And without such moral training and without that education of his moral fibre, mere instruction is nothing more than a frothy danger. Among the prizes that were given to-day I see one—a prize by Mr. Thorburn, given to the boy who showed himself the most meritorious and persevering worker, entirely apart from the question of prize or no prize. That I consider to be a most thoughtful and most valuable prize, because it is conceivable that the worst institution in the whole Island might possess amongst its students one—the most brilliant to be found in the Colony, just as you might find a magnificent rocket sent out with a perfectly useless parcel. For this young man, F. A. Gunasekera, who got this prize—

I PREDICT SUCCESS

whatever career may be his in the future. (Applause.)

And now that we come to speak of careers I want to ask all these young boys and young men—the youths of this Colony—what careers they look forward to. So far as I can gather since I came to the Island, every young man, who is taught English looks forward to and tries to be a clerk or a doctor or a proctor or a lawyer, or a loafer. (Laughter.) I was looking the other day into this last annual Report and I found that among the fifty-four subjects that were given for the Senior and Junior Cambridge Examinations there were only three subjects in which neither a Senior or a Junior class came forward. Not one. And one of these subjects was Agricultural Science. Now I want to know what is the reason of it. Is it that you all think the other professions are finer and that you are ashamed of Agriculture? Who are the leading men in the Island? Who are the men who have the largest stakes in the Colony? Who are the men who have come across the seas to win from the soil—and that, remember, is

THE MOTHER OF ALL WEALTH

to win the reward of Agricultural Science well applied, and who are now reaping the reward of their labour from fields that your fathers knew not how to cultivate?—the agriculturists. and I say this now to you, and I hope that you and the other youths in this Colony will ponder over it, because, if you will turn to the soil, the Government are prepared to give you every assistance in that education—that technical education—that will fit you for it, and you will find within your reach the simplest, the happiest, the freest and the most independent life known to mankind. (Prolonged applause.)

I congratulate the College upon its Cadet Corps, by the Guard of Honour of which I was received to-day. I looked very closely at them, and I found them turn out clean, well-dressed, steady, smart and soldier-like, (Applause.) No one could desire to see a better Cadet Corps, as far as they went, (applause), and I congratulate the College upon what I heard for the first time to-day from Mr. Walker, namely that the Cadet Corps has been in active service and have actually stormed the Galle Face Hotel. (Laughter.) I am afraid you were

A LITTLE PREMATURE

in your action, because if you waited for Race

Week you would have captured a great prize there Mr. Walker has not told us anything of the operations by which you approached the Hotel, on that occasion, but I hope in your approach you did not sap the foundations of the sea wall. I will not say anything more about that, because I am afraid the Municipal Council will not like to hear of it. (Renewed laughter.) As far as I have seen, the Cadet Corps is a credit to the Colony.

I do not remember that there is anything else in the Report of Mr. Walker that calls for observation from me. Mr. Walker complains that a member of the Cadet Corps can only enter the Volunteer Force as a raw recruit. Well, I can only say that the young men I saw to-day can never be raw recruits, every man must enter as a recruit but there is

NO ADJUTANT IN EXISTENCE

who will not be only too anxious to put him in the Company as soon as he sees that he is fit. Therefore, don't let that prevent you from joining the Volunteers.

I am sorry for the trouble of Mr. Walker over the boys who will not come to school when weddings and birthdays and other attractions keep them away. I think I had better tell you now at once what my own view is—that you ought not to keep away from school on any wedding-day except your own. (Laughter.) And as for remaining away for a shower of rain, well, the boy who cannot come to school owing to a shower ought to go to a bed and remain there for the entire South-West Monsoon. (Renewed laughter.)

And now I come to the lurid descriptions of the surroundings by Mr. Walker, which really are very terrible. When he says that the school has room for only fifteen boarders, I sympathise with him with all my heart, because I have no doubt that without the constant supervision of respected masters, the boys of Ceylon cannot be trained up in that moral fibre that is

OF VITAL IMPORTANCE

to this Colony; but when I remember what we have been told in the last pages of the Report that you are living in darkness; that you are enwrapped in gloomy surroundings; that you are crowded in the laboratory and flooded out by the South-West monsoon; pelted with tiles, battered by falling branches; deafened by trams and trains, tickled to death by lake flies (laughter) and buried in dust—I can only be thankful that so many of you are present here to-day. (Renewed laughter.)

And now ladies and gentlemen, and students of the Royal College, again I congratulate you upon your success as evidenced by the examination. I think the School deserves great credit, because I know that you are working under disabilities, Mr. Walker speaks of the necessity for removing this College elsewhere. I agree with him. There are a great many things that I want to see done and I shall be very glad when the days come when I can assist in the removal of this College to another place, because I see that it is very difficult for the work to be carried on. But it needs money. There is nothing in the world more delightful than spending other peoples' money, but unfortunately I have got to find out whether other people have got the money to spare, and when I find that out it will be spent by me with great freedom and by millions, if necessary.

I congratulate you, Mr. Walker and I hope that the work of the ensuing year will secure for this College the same eminence in the examinations that it has enjoyed during the past. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

—The Ceylon Independent.

A RUSSIAN VIEW OF THE TSAR.

HIS MISTAKEN POLICY.

The following is from the *Times* of the 14th ultimo:—

The July number of the *Quarterly Review*, published to-day, contains a striking article of Nicholas II., which is written, we are told in a footnote, by a Russian official in high position. The article takes up what to English readers will be the novel position that the Tsar himself, and not his Ministers, is actually as well as nominally responsible for the mistakes in domestic and foreign policy which have been made during the reign. In reproducing some of the statements made in support of this view we do not assume any responsibility for their accuracy, though the fact that the article appears in the *Quarterly Review* is evidence that the writer is a responsible person. The writer begins with an account of the bad impression made by the Tsar at his first public interview with the State Council, and after describing his meeting with the representatives of the Zemstvos a few days later, in which, with an assumption of severity, he met their expression of hope that his confidence might not be confined to the bureaucracy with a command to them to put away chimerical notions, says:—

Between those two public appearances of Nicholas

II. lay that short period of suggestion during which the impressionable youth had been made not so much to believe as to feel that he was God's lieutenant, the earthly counterpart of his divine Master. From that time forward His Majesty has been filled with a spirit of self-exaltation which has gone on gaining strength, in accordance with the psychological law that pride usurps as much space as servility is ready to yield. Nikolai Alexandrovitch soon began to look upon himself as the centre of the world, the peacemaker of mankind, the torch-bearer of civilisation among the "yellow" and other "barbarous" races, and the dispenser of almost every blessing to his own happy people. Taking seriously this his imaginary mission, he has meddled continuously and directly in every affair of State, domestic and foreign, thwarting the course of justice, undermining legality, impoverishing his subjects, boasting his fervent love of peace, and yet plunging his tax-burdened people into the horrors of a sanguinary and needless war.

The article then goes on to point out that the Tsar has been unfortunate in his choice of advisers. M. Sipiaguine, the Minister of Public Instruction, who was assassinated on the 14th April, 1904, was "intellectually Boeotian, but socially agreeable"; he was a courtier who flattered the Tsar and oppressed the people. M. de Plehve is described as an official who is tolerably instructed, possesses an intricate acquaintance with the seamy side of human nature, knows how to touch deftly the right cords of sentiment, prejudice, or passion, and can keep his head in the most alarming crisis. M. de Witte's fall is attributed to his unwillingness to play the courtier:—

He not only spoke freely to Nicholas II., but refused to change his opinion in accordance with the Emperor's desires. He also declined to dupe the foreign Powers "Your Majesty pledged your word to evacuate Manchuria, and the world believed you. Russia will now lose all credit and perhaps not even gain Manchuria if it please Your Majesty to break that pledge. War also will follow, and we sorely need peace. Besides, Manchuria is useless to us. Therefore I cannot be a party to this policy". Thus plainly spoke the Finance Minister, heedless of courtly phraseology. "Witte is a haughty dictator, who gives himself the air of an Emperor." So spoke the courtiers among themselves, and to his Majesty through the Grand Dukes. And the autocrat, wrathful that a subject should oppose his wishes and refuse to co-operate with him in professing to work for peace while provoking war, dismissed him.

The following comments are made on the Tsar's conduct of public business:—

He is ever struggling with phantoms, fighting with windmills, conversing with saints, or consulting the spirits of the dead. But of the means at hand for helping his people or letting them help themselves never avails himself. Books he has long ago ceased to read, and sound advice he is incapable of listening to. His Ministers he receives with great formality and dismisses with haughty condescension. They are often kept in the dark about matters which it behoves them to know thoroughly and early. Thus, shortly after the present war had begun, a number of dignitaries and officials gathered round General Kuropatkin one day and asked him how things were going on. With a malicious twinkle in his eye the War Minister replied; "Like yourselves, I know only what is published. The war is Alexeieff's business, not mine." When three Ministers implored the Tsar to evacuate Manchuria and safeguard the peace of the world he answered: "I shall keep the peace and my own counsel as well." To one of the Grand Dukes, who on the day before the rupture with Japan, vaguely hinted at the possibility of war, the Emperor said: "Leave that to me. Japan will never fight. My reign will be an era of peace to the end." . . .

In his study he is generally busy signing replies to addresses of loyalty, or writing comments on the various reports presented by Ministers, Governors, and other officials. He is encouraged by his courtiers to believe that all these replies and comments are priceless; for even such trivial remarks "I am very glad" "God grant it may be so" are published in large type in the newspaper placed over in the manuscript and carefully preserved in the archives like the relics of a saint. But the most interesting are never published and of these there is a choice collection. There is one. A report of the negotiations respecting the warship *Manchur* was recently laid before him by Count Lamsdorff. The tenor of it was that the Chinese authorities had summoned the *Manchur* to quit the neutral harbour of Shanghai at the repeated and urgent request of the Japanese Consul there. On the margin of that Report His Majesty penned the memorable words: "The Japanese Consul is a scoundrel."

The Tsar is represented as being subject to the baleful influence of the Grand Dukes, of whom the writer says:—

They paint their plans in the hues of his own dreams, present him with motives which appeal to his prejudices, and always open their attack by gross flattery. They are consequently more than a match for poor "Nickie," as they call him; and their influence over him is pernicious. . . . Perhaps the most influential of all is the Grand Duke Alexander Mikhalovitch who has for a considerable time been the alter *ega* of His Majesty. This grand ducal ring is the Russian governing syndicate unlimited; and no Minister could withstand it for a month. It is able to thwart his plans in their primary stage, to discredit them in the Tsar's eyes during the discussion, or to have been cancelled after the Emperor has sanctioned

them. Obviously Russia has more autocrats than one. The indictment is summed up in the following passage:—

Yet, undoubtedly, the power of the autocracy could be employed to further the cause of humanity enlightenment, and justice, if such were the will of him who wields it. A single word from the Tsar would cause a profound change to come over the condition of the country and the sentiments of his people. The responsibility for his acts cannot be laid upon the shoulders of His Ministers, whose advice he refrains from seeking in the most dangerous crisis of his reign. It was not his Ministers who prompted him to break the promise he had given to evacuate Manchuria; they entreated him to keep it. It was not they who proposed that he should curtail the power for good still left to such institutions as the Council of the Empire, the Committee of Ministers, and the governing Senate. It was not they who impelled him to make the monarchy ridiculous by seeking wisdom in the evocation of spirits and strength in the canonisation of saints. It was not they who urged him to break up the Finnish nation by a series of iniquitous measures worthy of an Oriental despot of ancient Babylon or Persia; on the contrary they assured him in clear and not always courtly phraseology that justice and statesmanship required him to stay his hand. It was not his official advisers who suggested that he should despoil the Armenian Church of its property and endowments, while leaving all other religious communities in the possession of theirs, and should punish with bullets and cold steel the zealous members of that Church who protested in the name of their religion and conscience. Almost all his Ministers united for once in warning him that this was an act of wanton spoliation, and in conjuring him to abandon or modify his scheme. But deaf to their arguments, he insisted on having his own way.

"ORDER NISI"

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary

No. 1554

Jurisdiction

Class I

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Chellamma wife of Chuppiramaniar Casippillai of Kokkuvil

Deceased.

Vallipuram Thampoe of Araly East

Petitioners

Vs

Chuppiramaniar Casippillai of Kokkuvil

Respondent

This matter of the Petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Chellamma wife of Chuppiramaniar Casippillai coming on for disposal before H. R. Freeman Esquire District Judge, on the 27th day of July 1904 in the presence of Mr. S. Sittampalam Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 25th day of July 1904 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the sole heir 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 29th day of August 1904 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 27th day of July 1904

Signed. H. R. FREEMAN

District Judge.

"ORDER NISI"

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary

No. 1555

Jurisdiction

Class I.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Vairavanathar Ilayatampi of Ports Novo in Southern India.

Deceased

Chinnappillai widow of Vairavanathar Ilayatampi of Mallakam

Petitioner

Vs

1. Vairavanathar Chinnattampi
2. Vairavanathar Seenivasagam
3. Vairavanathar Saravanamutta all of Mallakam

Respondents

This matter of the Petition of Chinnappillai widow of Vairavanathar Ilayatampi of Mallakam praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Vairavanathar Ilayatampi coming on for disposal before H. R. Freeman Esquire District Judge, on the 27th day of July 1904 in the presence of Messrs. Casippillai & Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 26th day of July 1904 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful widow of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Intestate issued to her unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or, before the 29th day of August 1904 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 27th day of July 1904

Sigd. H. R. FREEMAN

District Judge.