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THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1904.

TOBACCO.

Elsewhere we publish an excellent article from the *Hindu* of Madras on this subject. Every word in it is applicable with double force to the Jaffna District where tobacco is the staple industry and mainstay of the people. Great industry and perseverance are shown here in the cultivation of tobacco. There is also vast area of land in the Northern and North-Cen-

tral Provinces along the Railway line that could very profitably be brought under tobacco cultivation. But owing to the primitive methods employed in the cultivation of tobacco and curing the leaf, the market for this tobacco is confined to this Island and to the Native State of Travancore, outside the limits of Ceylon. If finer varieties of tobacco be cultivated upon improved methods, if curing be done to suit foreign markets, and if our cigars be also manufactured to suit European tastes, not only would there be a larger consumption of country-grown tobacco but also a very considerable export of it to foreign countries.

The only market outside Ceylon is, as we have shown above, is Travancore. There was a time when the only tobacco consumed in that State was the Jaffna product. It had no rival till a few years back. If the supply of Jaffna tobacco ran short, the remaining quantity would then fetch fabulous prices. If the merchants were obliged to purchase tobacco here at enhanced price, owing to shortness of the crop, they were at that time sure of selling it in Travancore without loss, as there was no fear of competition by tobacco of any other country. But these are things of the past. Jaffna tobacco is being gradually ousted from the Travancore market by the competition of the Coimbatore tobacco, which being a stuff of inferior quality is sold very cheap—in fact at half the price of the Jaffna tobacco. The people of Travancore also who had acquired a taste for Jaffna tobacco and preferred it to its rival have now begun to consume a large quantity of the latter, chiefly on account of its cheapness. Our tobacco will still be consumed in larger quantity in Travancore, if it can be sold at a moderate price. But local demands and local conditions, as it is the case this year, tempt the merchants to purchase tobacco here at an enhanced price, and they are forced to fix the selling price in Travancore at high rates. This affords an excellent opportunity for Coimbatore tobacco to make headway to the detriment of the Jaffna rival. Experience has proved that Jaffna tobacco cannot be sold in that Native State much above the price of the Coimbatore tobacco, whatever shortage there may be in the outturn of the crop here, and whatever high price the merchants might be induced to pay in purchasing it locally. The cost of cultivation has, however, risen so high in Jaffna, that this tobacco cannot bear to be sold in that market for any reduced price. The consequence is decrease annually of the consumption of our tobacco in Travancore and corresponding increase of its rival. If the present state of affairs were to continue for some years longer the outlook for this industry in Jaffna will be very bad indeed. The importance of this industry to Jaffna will be seen from the fact that the value of the tobacco annually exported to Travancore alone

from Jaffna is about 10 lakhs of rupees.

The success of this industry, therefore, depends on improved methods of cultivation and curing tobacco, to suit European markets. The people themselves will not effect the improvement, unless the Government, by the appointment of an expert, teach them how to do it. Mr. Levers, the Government Agent of this Province, has in successive annual reports pleaded the cause of these cultivators and advocated the necessity of appointing an expert to teach improved methods of cultivating and curing tobacco in this Province. But to no purpose. In highly civilized and self-governing countries themselves the introduction of agricultural improvements are effected at the instance of the Government, and large amount is set apart, out of public revenue, for that purpose. Even in Ceylon there are so many scientists and experts appointed by the Government to help the European Planters in successfully carrying on the cultivation of the products of their industry in Ceylon. It is only the ignorant, poor, and helpless native cultivators of this Island who are left to stew in their own juice in the matter of cultivating their fields and gardens.

LOCAL & GENERAL

The Weather—The absence of rain is seriously felt here. This year is a perfect contrast to last year in regard to rainfall. In 1903 we had one or two heavy showers of rain almost every summer month, but this year it is one prolonged drought since January last, except for one or two drizzling showers which fell in the interval. Cattle suffer greatly for want of fodder, and mortality among them is great. The price of straw has almost doubled. The fields remain unploughed and unsown.

The Government Agent—We understand that Mr. R. W. Levers will arrive in Jaffna in November next and resume duties as Government Agent.

Verification—A verification of cash, stamps &c took place at the Jaffna Kachcheri on the 22nd Inst by Mr. Clementi Smith, District Engineer, and M. Caralasingam Modr. Registrar of Lands, Jaffna.

The Jaffna Commercial Corporation—The annual meeting of the shareholders of this Company was held in the Registered office on Thursday the 25th Instant at 4 P. M. Mr. T. C. Changarapillai J. P., Crown Proctor, presided. The annual report having been taken as read and a dividend of 15 per cent declared, the Directors for the ensuing year were elected. At the meeting of the new Directors held after the close of the general meeting Mr. William Mather and Mr. Proctor S. T. Arnold were re-elected Managing Director and Secretary respectively. Messrs V. Casipillai and Tambiah Cooke, Proctors, in addition to the Managing Director, were re-appointed a Committee to recommend loans, and Messrs S. Valupillai and A. Sapapathy were re-appointed verifiers of stores and cash during the year respectively. We congratulate the Company on its sound and flourishing condition.

Sudden death—We hear that a woman at Chunnakam suddenly took ill and died last week on hearing that her husband who was employed at Kwala Lumpur was murdered there by one of her relations.

Manippai Post Office Defalcation case—The case in which Mr. Hanibalsz of the Manippai Post Office stands charged with having misappropriated Rs 1341 from the above Post Office has been inquired into in the Police Court, Jaffna, and the proceedings forwarded to the Attorney General.

Inquiry about Malarial fever in Jaffna—The Government has sent Dr. A. J. Chal-

malarial fever prevailing in Jaffna in rainy and dewy seasons. He will remain here for two weeks and then go to Batticaloa to make similar inquiry.

Proctors Examination—Of the 29 gentlemen who have passed the Proctors final examination, 6 are Tamils, of whom two, Messrs Arulambalam and Thambiyah, are old students of the Hindu College. The former is a brother of Mr. Proctor Kanagasabai and the latter is a son of the late Mr. Mailvaganam, Government Storekeeper, Jaffna. We congratulate these gentlemen on their success.

A Case against the Police—Mr. Dutton, Police Magistrate of Jaffna, was engaged on the 25th Instant in inquiring into a charge of assault against a Police Sergeant and Constable. The Complainant was a Moorman who was arrested and taken by a Constable from the Court premises to the Police Station for making noise and quarrelling with another Moorman outside the Court house. As soon as the Complainant was taken to the Station several Moormen came up to the Court and took a Proctor saying that he was being assaulted by the Police and that he must be released on bail. We understand that the complainant was examined on his release from the Police Station by Dr. Santiago and a certificate was granted by the Doctor to the effect that he bore marks of blows on his back. The Magistrate, however, disbelieved the story of the prosecution and acquitted the accused. The complainant and another Moorman who were charged by the Police with creating a disturbance outside the Court House were convicted and fined Rs 15 each. We understand that both the Police and the Moormen suppressed an important fact connected with these cases. It appears that the Constable ordered the Moorman not to talk loud, but finding that his order was not obeyed he dealt a blow with his baton on the Moorman which felled the Thambiyah's hat. This enraged the latter and the Police Constable was in return given more than one blow by the infuriated Moorman. It was after that the Moorman was taken into Police custody.

A Lecture at the Vivekananda School—Swami Juananda who has recently arrived here from Colombo delivered a lecture on Bhakti on the 23rd Instant at the Jaffna Vivekananda School before a large and appreciative audience.

Medical—Dr. Chittambalam, Medical Officer, Vavania, has been transferred to Kangesanturai and Dr. M. Vettivelu from Mihintale succeeds Dr. Chittambalam at Vavania.

Mr. Ward going to Fiji—Mr. Ward of the P. W. D. Ceylon is appointed as Commissioner of Lands and Works in Fiji and will leave on the 9th September along with the Lieutenant-Governor.

LAW EXAMINATION RESULTS.

FINAL

G. E. Abeysekere passes out first. He is an old boy of St. Thomas' College. The others who have passed are L. de Alvis, R. G. de Livera, T. G. S. Jayasinghe, E. W. Munasinghe, T. B. Ranawana, O. A. Jaysekere, C. H. Markus, R. Ramasamy, Charles E. Perera, R. R. de Soysa, J. A. Perera, K. Arulambalam, W. Herat, J. P. F. Dassanaike, G. L. Coorey, M. Tambiyah, J. P. Samarasinghe, G. A. Wickramasinghe, H. de Livera, W. de Saram, D. Dabrera, F. R. A. Perera, G. W. Prins, A. C. Muttumaru, S. Van Cuylenburg, C. M. Niles, G. Homer, and M. Potger.

THE WAR.

London, August 21—A Japanese destroyer sailed at full speed into Shanghai harbour today, followed by the American destroyer "Chauncey," and anchored off the cosmopolitan dock where the Russian cruiser "Askold" is.

Reuter at Tokio says the Japanese Government has

issued a statement justifying the seizure of the "Rechtelni," which was the aggressor in the fight preceding its capture. The statement reviews the whole question of Chinese neutrality and maintains that the "Rechtelni," by entering Chifu, committed a breach of neutrality and, in view of the peculiar position of China in this war, entitled Japan to regard Chifu as a belligerent port. "It is impossible to allow Russians to regard Chinese ports as harbours of refuge whence nothing is to prevent them issuing forth to attack Japan."

Reuter at Tokio wires that the Japanese cruisers "Chitose" and "Tsuushima" defeated the "Novik" and forced her on shore at Karsadook on Saturday.

Reuter at Chifu wires today that it is reported that the Japanese have captured Fort "25" one mile north of Golden Hill. The Russian garrison is estimated at 23,000.

The Japanese plans contemplate a three days assault and they expect to triumph on the third day. They have sufficient force to maintain the assaulting columns at sixty thousand men throughout.

A junk from Miaotao Islands reports that those on board yesterday observed five Japanese warships pursuing two Russian ships going east.

Bombay, August 22—The Japanese Consul received the following last night:—The "Novik" en route to Vladivostok, was sunk by our cruisers at Karsakoff, Saghalien, on 21st, details are not yet reported.

The following was received this morning:—The Captain of the "Chitose" reports the "Chitose" and "Tsuushima" attacked the "Novik" in Karsakoff on the afternoon of 20th and the morning of the 21st. The "Novik" was heavily damaged and stranded, partly sinking. The "Tsuushima"'s coal bunker was hit, but has already been repaired. There was no other damage and not a single casualty on our side.

London, August 20—The Tsar has telegraphed to General Stoessel that he is convinced that the garrison will uphold the glory of Russian arms by unbounded bravery.

Reuter, wiring from Shanghai, says the Taotai has ordered the destroyer "Grosovi" to leave at noon today and the "Askold" at noon tomorrow, or disarm.

Reuter, wiring from Tokio, says that Japanese occupied An-shan-chau on the 19th. The Russians retreated in the direction of Mukden.

Reuter's wiring from St. Petersburg, states that a Ukase has been issued summoning to the Colours all the Reserve Officers throughout the Empire.

London, August 21—Reuter wiring from Chifu, states that the firing was very heavy at Port Arthur yesterday evening.

The Commander of the Japanese destroyer, who boarded the steamer "Pe-chi-li," off Liao-ti-shan, stated that a grand assault was made today.

London, August 22—Reuter, wiring from Shanghai, says the Consuls have decided at their meeting to refer the question of the warships to Peking and that the work on the "Askold" is to be suspended for 48 hours.

Reuter wires from Chifu today that the Japanese swept the Russians from Pigeon Bay and captured the Northernmost Fort of the Western line of inner defences. The Russian Artillery prevents the Japanese occupying the Fort or Pigeon Bay.

The "Novik" was sinking when beached. The Japanese had no casualties and the damage done to them was insignificant.

A daily Chronicle telegram from Chifu says that Prince Admiral Ukhtomski, who succeeded Admiral Wittger, reports from Port Arthur that the Pallada has fifteen holes made in her on the 10th and the Retvisan eleven. Fifteen torpedo tubes were destroyed in various vessels. There were 330 wounded. The number of killed is not stated.

A despatch from General Stoessel, dated 16th inst, says:—The Japanese made a two days' attack on the Louisa Bay positions. All the positions were, however, retained. The enemy's losses were heaviest. The demand to surrender was received today and, of course, rejected. The troops are in excellent condition and fighting heroically.

A floating dock, proceeding from St. Petersburg to Libau, was broken in two and totally lost.

Reuter at Shanghai says the "Chauncey" anchored between the Japanese destroyer and the dock, the "Askold's" dock, which is British property.

A Durban steamer reports that an unknown warship, believed to be Russian, was off Cape St. Francis on Thursday.

The cruiser Tere'z and two torpedoboats passed the Great Belt yesterday en route to the Red Sea to search merchantmen.

London, August 23—A proclamation has been issued at Malta, forbidding the coaling of belligerent ships proceeding to the seat of war or anywhere on the line of route with the object of intercepting neutral ships on suspicion of carrying contraband. The Times understands it will be issued in all British Dependencies.

It is officially stated at St. Petersburg that the Japanese bombarded Korsatovsk yesterday. The damage done was terrific.

Reuter, wiring from Shanghai, says the Naval Court, investigating the case of the British steamer Hipsang torpedoed by the Russian destroyer near Pigeon Bay on the 16 ult, holds that the Hipsang was sunk without just cause and reason. The Court draws the attention of the Board of Trade and Foreign Office thereto.

—Admiral Ukhtomsky reports that the returned vessels lost 155 killed.

A Daily News telegram from Berlin states that the German Consul at Shanghai has been instructed not to interfere in regard to the Chinese neutrality.

The Russophil journal Kreuz Zeitung admits that the Japanese demands at Shanghai are perfectly just.

It is stated that the cruiser seen off Cape St. Francis is (not?) the Smolensk, but possibly one of the converted German liners.

The appearance of a Russian cruiser on the Cape route has evoked renewed protest in the press. The Times, in view of Russia's formal undertakings in reference to the Volunteer cruisers, says that if the cruiser is really the Smolensk the question has relapsed to an acute stage, demanding prompt and vigorous treatment.

London, August 20—The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce has forwarded to Lord Lansdowne a resolution, earnestly hoping that arrangements will be speedily

ly concluded to remedy the grave detriment to British Commerce resulting from Russia's contraband proceedings. The cooperation of all other Chambers is solicited.

London, August. 24—There is much dissatisfaction at St. Petersburg over the Malta proclamation regarding coaling. The *Novoe Vremya* describes it as an act of hostility to Russia since it cannot possibly affect Japan.

Reuter, wiring from Chifu, says that Port Arthur refugees agree that the Japanese, after severe fighting on the 21st, occupied the Eastern fort and destroyed two forts at Chaochanks (sic) within the eastern fortifications. There is scarcely a building in Port Arthur not damaged.

The assaults on Port Arthur continue and details received at Chifu, while confusing, indicate that the Japanese are slowly advancing.

Reuter's correspondent at Shanghai says the time fixed for the disarmament or departure of Russian warships has passed without compliance. The Japanese squadron is still outside the harbour awaiting developments.

Admiral Wirenins informed a correspondent of the Paris paper that owing to injuries received, the *Asold Groszovoi* and *Diana* will be dismantled.

Reuter's correspondent at Durban says it is believed the *Smolensk* is looking for the British steamer *Ormsley* from New York for Fusan with railway material. The *Ormsley* left Durban on Sunday.

Reuter, wiring from Tokio, says that it is officially stated that the *Sevastopole* emerging from Port Arthur on Tuesday struck a mine and listed and had to be towed to Port Arthur.—The *Central Observer*.

TOBACCO.

The development of indigenous industries of India is now the rage of the country, and anxious minds are eagerly enquiring as to what is going to be done in the matter. But the subject is still within the range of discussion and has not yet emerged into the practical stage. India possesses vast resources, many of which could be made to yield abundance of wealth without great efforts and without much capital, were sufficient enterprise forthcoming. Recently we pointed out what a great promise there is for the future of the country in the study of agriculture and in the expansion of trade in beeswax. We may point to another source of trade equally promising, and which deserves immediate attention of our countrymen. We refer to tobacco cultivation and tobacco curing for purposes of trade. Experts have asserted times without number that tobacco has become the staple product of several countries whose nations have found in its cultivation, manufacture, and trade the means of their support, the source of their affluence and wealth. The United States, Brazil, West Indian Islands, Japan, and Java have all benefited by the expansion of tobacco trade. India with its greater opportunities and chances of success is still behind-hand and cannot compete even with less favoured countries, and has to stand at the bottom of the list of tobacco-producing countries. Nothing but lack of enterprise could be held accountable for this lamentable state of things. If instead of scrambling for appointments in Government service, our educated young men could be got to turn their attention to the industrial development of the country, and if the savings and hoarded money of our well-to-do classes could be utilised for the benefit of the country instead of being invested in Government securities, Savings Banks and English firms, what a great stimulus would be given to the industrial progress of our mother land. Unfortunately, a serious process of exploitation is at work in all directions, our local productions are languishing, and the imports of foreign articles are increasing by leaps and bounds. To increase our local productions, to stop foreign imports and to turn ourselves into exporters, these are the ideals we have to set before us. Can we realise the ideals? The answer is, we can. At any rate, we can safely say that in tobacco we have a source of wealth at hand. Tobacco industry can easily be established, for tobacco cultivation is finding favour with our ryots, it is grown widely, and it is used widely by the people. What is needed to be done is to place its cultivation and curing on a scientific basis, on a par with the system in vogue in other countries. Both the cultivation and curing are at present confined to primitive methods, and the stagnation of tobacco trade is largely due to the scanty application of manure and to bad curing and to bad preparation of the tobacco leaf for the market. To some extent, tobacco has engaged the attention of our cultivators and traders from its extensive use in the country, for we may note incidentally that those who use snuff and those who smoke are every day on the increase, and the results of the past years in this trade hold out promises of great expansion in the future. The statistics of trade show that the value of tobacco imported into India from foreign countries has risen from Rs. 10,19,720 in 1887-8 to Rs. 23,27,790 in 1897-8, while the rise in the export of Indian tobacco to foreign countries is from Rs. 13,1,460 to Rs. 16,60,610 dur-

ing the same period. The increase of imports is 167 per cent. and it is only 26 per cent. in regard to exports. The large importation of manufactured tobacco chiefly in the shape of cigars and cheroots which find favour with the Europeans and the well-to-do sections of the population has somewhat damped the ardour for increased area being brought under tobacco. We find that the cultivated area under tobacco has decreased from 11,74,581 acres in 1894-95 to 9,52,245 acres in 1901-02. But so far as Madras is concerned, it is showing an increase in the area of tobacco cultivation, for from 108,516 acres it has risen to 121,321 acres during the same period and in 1902-03, it rose further to 132,000 acres. The decline in the cultivated area is marked in the Northern parts of India, and Bengal which was ahead of all the Provinces in India is fast losing its ground and making way for the foreign stuff. In our Presidency, Kistna and Coimbatore which together contribute to 55,000 acres of tobacco cultivation are struggling hard to maintain their position. There is no doubt that the establishment of cigar factories in important centres of Southern India has contributed to the above results, and the fact that Trichinopoly and Dindigul have acquired a recognised status in the smoking world, and that the cheroots made at these places are finding large sales, is an indication that the Madras ryots are keeping up the level of the quality of the leaf and its adaptability to the cheroot-making. The best grown tobacco may be spoiled by bad curing and an ill-cured tobacco will make but a poor cigar. The success of the industry depends first on the way in which cultivation is improved and second on the way in which curing is bettered. The ryots or the cigar traders cannot rest on their oars if they want to compete with foreign goods even in their own markets, if not in foreign markets, and their traditional knowledge of cultivation and curing could help them but little in their competition. They have to learn and assimilate scientific methods, in the careful selection of seeds, in the skilful application of manure, and in the art of curing. But the chances of the ryots getting any information on these points are so remote in these days when educated men are turning their attention to bread and butter earning Government service and diffusion of any scientific knowledge of agriculture is left to stray publication of pamphlets by Government and to discussions in newspapers, either knowledge not filtering down to the mass of cultivators. It is an irony of fate that the College of Agriculture maintained at the general tax-payers' cost should prove of little use to the agriculturists, and that all the men trained should be let loose on the very class of people whose lot they were intended to improve, by being provided in Government Service as Revenue Inspectors and made to prey on the ryots. It is an awful truth that none of them have turned practical agriculturists and solved the problem of the agricultural development of the country. The College has not justified its existence and is not likely to do it if the existing system of providing appointments in Government service instead of lands and money to cultivate and promote model farms in all important centres should continue.

Tobacco grows well and luxuriantly in soils that are rich in potash, but sandy soils with a moderate mixture of clay and organic matter will not altogether be unsuitable. The delta of Kistna is said to contain a good proportion of potash and this is said to peculiarly favour the growth of tobacco. In this district, more than 24,000 acres are grown with tobacco, but in Coimbatore where the tobacco cultivation is even wider, the soils are enriched by the organic vegetable matter infiltrated from the Nilgiri and Anamalai Hills. The large proportion of lime and salts in the soil greatly aid the cultivation of tobacco. Tobacco as its name is popularly believed to imply, is a weed that exhilarates but does not inebriate, and it is not unusual that the users of tobacco are seen to suffer from the narcotic effects of the weed after a deliberate smoke or a hearty chewing, but the quality of the tobacco leaf is always judged by that which give it a peculiar flavour. Potash would seem to impart to the leaf this flavour and it follows that the treatment of the plant by manurial application is an important condition of growing good tobacco. Our Indian tobacco has fallen short of the standard of quality by which the West Indian, Brazilian and other tobaccos are judged and it is due partly to indifferent manuring and partly to seeds of inferior sorts. The excessive presence of alkaline chlorides which confers certain saltiness not only on the tobacco but also on the smoke of the weed, would seem to reduce the quality of tobacco; and this is perhaps why it is our Coimbatore tobacco which are grown on

soils which contain lime and salt are more used in local consumption by Mahomedans of Malabar and parts of Vaniyambadi, Ambur and Gudiyattam, than for export to foreign countries. The quality would seem to depend in proportion as chlorides decrease and potash increases, and in a country like Coimbatore where wood ashes, the cheapest kind of potash available should be had in abundance for free use, there is no reason why the country should not produce the best kind of tobacco. It is also a fact that some of the best grown tobacco is spoiled by bad curing. The chief defect lies in excessive exposure to the sun after cutting the leaves and in throwing them in heaps on the ground as soon as cut.

—The Hindu.

A GRAVE CHARGE AGAINST WESLEYANS IN INDIA.

The Rev. J. Findlater has exposed in the "Times" what looks like a grave scandal in the Wesleyan church in India. A Wesleyan minister himself, he charges the officials of the Church with dishonesty in increasing the revenues of that body by illegal profits from Indian travelling allowances. The Indian Government, it would seem, allows travelling expenses to chaplains, but it explicitly forbids them to charge at a higher rate than the amount actually spent, so making the allowance a source of profit. Yet in face of this condition of the Government, Mr. Findlater declares that the chaplains of the Wesleyan Church have regularly worked on a system of travelling by a lower class and charging the Government with first class accommodation. By this means they have been able to make a profit year by year amounting to several hundreds of pounds sterling. In some cases even, the ministers have converted the money to their own use. Some have arranged, he states, unnecessary journeys to out-stations in order to increase the income of their circuits, and the Wesleyan authorities have connived at the practice by permitting them to record the receipts under colourless headings, such as " sundries," "other items," or "additional receipts," thus completely concealing the true source. In view of these explicit charges, Mr. Findlater does well to demand a fair and impartial inquiry into the whole unsavoury matter. The Rev. J. H. Rigg, Clerical Treasurer, of the Wesleyan Conference has replied, also in the columns of the "Times," promising that the matter shall receive the attention of the annual Conference which is now sitting in Sheffield. Meanwhile, until the result is known, criticism must be reserved. The charges brought forward by Mr. Findlater are so grave that judgment must only be delivered after due consideration. It is not as if these charges were brought against a lay organization—even then they would be serious enough—but they are made by a teacher of religion against his own religious body. It is hardly needful to say that the true influence of Wesleyanism in India is on its trial, and it is to be hoped that the Sheffield Conference will deal with the matter openly and with unflinching courage.

—The A. B. Patrika.

PRO-JAPANESE SENTIMENT SHOULD BE FOSTERED.

The yeast of Japanese success is gradually working upon the conservatism of English thought towards India and the Eastern nations. In all quarters it is having effects which vary according to the point of view of the individuals affected. To Indians it is an evangel of hope; to a small knot of Englishmen it foretells trouble and disturbance in the near future; among the great majority it exercises a healthy influence, tending slowly to replace the old contempt or indifference with a kindlier and saner feeling. Curious examples of this action crop up here and there in newspapers and in conversation. For example, in the "Spectator" there is a letter from an Anglo-Indian dealing with Indian public opinion on the Russo-Japanese war. The writer has a narrow mind which is typically balanced on the bias of nationality and soaked in the prejudice of colour. He remarks naively that "it is a little ludicrous to take the Baboo class as representative of India or their sentiments as consolidating a serious public opinion." He speaks of the treacherous and uncertain peoples of the East; he jibes at the "mistaken idea of the Baboo that he and the Japanese have many points of similarity;" sneers that "the average native of India is not a person capable of quixotic devotion to the dominant power." In a word, he is probably the manner of man who despises the Congress and has not the slightest sympathy with the legitimate aspirations of the educated Indian. A little while ago he would no more have thought of considering Indian opinion than of advocating the claims of Indians for wider employment

Government. But the Japanese successes have wrought changes even in his mind. The phrases I have quoted show that he still speaks his old language, but he has learned additions to his vocabulary. He considers that Indian feeling on the war ought not to be disregarded in England although he still believes it to be held by a small—'ludicrously' unrepresentative—minority of a 'treacherous and uncertain' people. He refuses also to be carried off his feet by the alarmist party which has been joined even by Sir Alfred Lyall. On the subject of this attempted 'scare' which, happily, Englishmen decline to credit, he writes as follows:

"Native feeling in India is enthusiastically pro-Japanese. And herein some people find a new menace. A Japanese victory would, we have seen, afford the first example of a wholly Asiatic defeating a Western Power. The result, it is said, would be to unsettle the native mind, to resurrect decently buried tendencies, to create unrest throughout India. Political prophecying though justifiable in the stable conditions of Western politics, becomes in Asia a futile pastime. But this fear gains some support from the attitude of the native Press. In pointing the moral of the Japanese victories those newspapers continually proclaim a parallel between Japan and the various provinces of India. Japan, they say, rose suddenly from obscurity, entirely through the development of a national sentiment. Only let the people of India unite, let them foster the growth of a national sentiment, and no man can say where they will stop. Such teaching, however, need cause no apprehension. It refers chiefly to provincial patriotism, which cannot well be overdeveloped. By all means let India develop a local patriotism which, genuine, will confirm, rather than weaken, her loyalty to the Crown. That way alone lies the true Imperial unity, which is not pure sameness, but unity in difference. In the event of a Japanese victory, there may possibly be a certain amount of temporary unrest; but anything in the nature of a dangerous combination is, so far as can be seen at present, very far indeed from the sphere of practical politics. The pro-Japanese sentiment is a thing to be fostered, not discouraged. If only it would rouse India to a faint emulation of the zeal and industry of Japan, that were a consummation to be sought by both governed and governing."

I quote the passage in full, since its judicial tone is highly significant in view of the earlier opinions expressed in the same letter. It shows that some Anglo-Indians, even of the contemptuous type, refuse to be stampeded by Mr. Henry Norman or Sir Alfred Lyall, and it also shows that the idea of Indian regeneration is beginning to work even upon that most intractable material—the average retired Anglo-Indian in England.

LORD CURZON ON INDIA.

The Guildhall speech of Lord Curzon, delivered on July 20th, in reply to the Lord Mayor of London, is of the usual type. It is full of fervid eloquence, but there is very little in it which is correct, from the Indian standpoint of view, or for which the Indian can feel grateful to him. We freely admit that there are some lofty sentiments in the address; but they were uttered more to produce effect than to benefit humanity. For instance, His Lordship says that "India was the first love, and throughout the last seventeen years it has been the main love of my political life." Every Indian ought to thank Lord Curzon for having spoken of his unfortunate country in this affectionate term. Yet, it seems, this ardent love of his Lordship for India is something like the feeling entertained by the milk-man for his cattle. The latter loves his milch cow and gives it a bundle of hay to keep its body and life together, not that he cares a straw whether it lives or dies, but, because, it yields him a good quantity of milk to enable him to live in comfort. In thus characterizing his Lordship's love for India as selfish, we do him no injustice; for he himself, possibly unconsciously, admits it in the beginning of his speech why India is so dear to him.

In short, England, says Lord Curzon would have been nowhere if it had not India to help her. India is an excellent training ground for the English army. India pays the money; and England trains her soldiers, and makes costly military experiments at its expense. Is not the arrangement beautiful, and should not every Englishman love India? That is the reason why India has such strong attraction for Lord Curzon. And his Lordship describes in eloquent terms the benefits which the English people have received at the hands of India.

But for the help of India, says Lord Curzon, Natal or the Peking Legation would not have been saved. India is also the land of coolies. It is with the Indian coolie labour that the English exploit the plantations equally of Demerara and Natal. India, again, is likewise the place where the surplus population of England find employment, where officers are trained to irrigate Egypt and dam the Nile, where forest officers are educated to tap the resources of Central Afri-

ca, and where surveyors are available "to explore all the hidden places of the earth."

And, above all, if England were ever engaged in an international war, it is the Indian frontier where the chief battles would be fought. We think, it is now quite plain why India aroused the first political love in the breast of Lord Curzon. He loves India, not that he has any attachment for its people; but, because, it serves the interests of England in a magnificent manner. India, in short, is a country which was created for the benefit of the English nation, and hence his Lordship could not help loving it so warmly.

Let us quote a few more noble utterances from the speech of Lord Curzon. What is the basis of British rule in India? He answers the question thus:

"The basis is not military force, it is not civil authority, it is not prestige, though all these are part of it. If our rule is to last in India it must rest on a more solid basis. It must depend on the eternal moralities of righteousness and justice."

He is not content with merely expressing these sublime sentiments. He takes care to make it plain that he is in terrible earnest as the following sentences indicate:—

"This I can assure you, is no mere phrase of the conventicle. The matter is too serious on the lips of a Governor-General of India for that. Unless we can persuade the millions of India that we will give to them absolute justice as between man and man, equality before the law, freedom from tyranny and injustice and oppression, then your Empire will not touch their hearts and will fade away."

The rules laid down above for the government of India are golden in their character. That is exactly the way to establish the British Empire in India upon a permanent basis. Strangely enough, though Lord Curzon has governed this country for nearly six years, he seems to be yet not aware that the rules, which he recommends for the permanence of the British Government in India, have been honoured more in the breach than in the observance, even by his Lordship himself. Nay, he goes further. He says that never was India more wisely governed than it has been by its present rulers. He does not even stop here, but presents the following brilliant picture before his English audience:—

"I believe we have it in our power to wield the people of India to a unity beyond anything they have dreamed of and to give them blessings greater than any they now enjoy."

Yes, this is possible if the golden rules, laid down by Lord Curzon in the above, are followed; that is to say, if righteousness and justice guide the actions of the ruling authorities. But can Lord Curzon say honestly that he himself or his predecessors followed the principles at all while governing the three hundred millions in India? On the other hand, is it not true that these principles have been often trampled down by every responsible ruler of India? We never question their good intentions. We sincerely believe that, every Viceroy, when he comes to India, takes the noble resolve that he will govern the people on the lines of justice and righteousness. But, in the end, he finds, thought he may not acknowledge it, that the people of India have made very little progress under his rule; on the other hand, if the people were to be believed, they were perhaps getting worse and worse under every succeeding Viceroy. Lord Curzon may not admit it but any honest Indian will tell him, if he cares to ask him, that the Indians were far better off twenty-five years ago than they are now, and that they have rarely experienced the disastrous effects of so many retrograde measures in rapid succession as they have done under the Viceroyalty of his Lordship.

Lord Curzon talks of "absolute justice as between man and man, equality before the law, freedom from oppression, etc." Are not these mere cant? An Englishman is the same human being, coming from the same common Father, as an Indian is. Yet, in the event of a collision between an Englishman and an Indian, "absolute justice" is never meted out—the latter invariably goes to the wall. And we can cite Lord Curzon himself to bear witness to this fact. If there is equality before the law in India, how is it that the Europeans have got one set of criminal laws for themselves and the Indians another? Not only this; the laws are administered in such a way, as a rule, that the European offender is let off, or, if convicted, gets very little punishment, while conviction and ferocious sentences are almost always the lot of the Indian. As for the oppression, is Lord Curzon really not aware how the District Magistrates, of course with honourable exceptions, treat even the highest of our people as if they were no better than sheep? Indeed, the police and magisterial rule hangs like a sword of Democles over the people and is taking away all manliness from them.

Let us now present the other side of the picture, and let Lord Curzon dispute its correctness if he can. There is no country in the world so poor as India, and yet there is no country where administration is so costly. There is no country in the world, except India, which has to remit 30 crores of rupees to a foreign land annually without receiving any adequate return for the same. There is no country in the world, except India, whose people have been so thoroughly ostracised from the higher grades of the public services of their country and which services have been filled from the top to the bottom with princely-paid foreigners. There is no country in the world, except India, where the people have not only to learn but master a foreign and difficult language to be able to hold even petty appointments in their land of

birth. There is no country in the world, except India, whose people have been completely disarmed, and who are excluded from the military service. There is no country in the world where the police and the Magistrates wield such irresistible powers as their confreres in India do. And there is no country in the world which is defended by mercenaries imported from a foreign country at enormous costs as India is.

And it is thus that, not only is famine chronic here but Lord Curzon had to administer the greatest famine of the century which, to quote his own words, "would wring blood from stone," and it is thus that the plague, though in its seventh year, is yet "defying analysis, defeating the utmost efforts of medical skill and administrative energy," inscrutable in its origin, merciless in its ravages, sweeping off, as official records show, very often tens of thousands in a week. No country on the face of the globe has ever presented such unique and sad spectacle; and India would have not been an exception if the "eternal moralities of justice and righteousness" had guided the rulers of this country.

—The A. B. Patrika.

Important Notice.

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THE MANAGER,
"HINDU ORGAN"
Jaffna.

"ORDER NISI"

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary }
Jurisdiction } No. 1556
Class II

In the Matter of the Estate of the late
Suppar Katirkamar of Meesalai

D ceased.
Teyvanaippillai widow of Katirkamar of Meesalai
Petitioner

Vs
Sitamparappillai Veluppillai of Meesalai
Respondent

This matter of the Petition of Teyvanaippillai widow of Katirkamar of Meesalai praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Suppar Katirkamar coming on for disposal before H. R. Freeman Esquire District Judge, on the 3rd day of August 1904 in the presence of Messrs. Casippillai & Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 2nd day of August 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 Respondent or any other person shall on or before the 15th day of September 1904 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 3rd day of August 1904
Signed. H. R. FREEMAN
District Judge.

"ORDER NISI"

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary }
Jurisdiction } No. 1559

In the Matter of the Estate of the late
Kartigesar Murugesoo of Vannarpannai East
Deceased

Ponnu widow of Murugesoo of Vannarpannai East
Petitioner

Vs
1. Kartigesoo Kantayah and
2. Kartigesoo Ilayatampi of Vannarpannai East
Respondents

This matter of the Petition of Ponnu widow of Murugesoo praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Kartigesar Murugesoo coming on for disposal before H. R. Freeman Esquire District Judge, on the 12th day of August 1904 in the presence of Messrs. Casippillai & Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 12th day of August 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 6th day of September 1904 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 12th day of August 1904
Sgd. H. R. FREEMAN
District Judge.