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(THE CHEAPEST WEEKLY IN CEYLON)

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NO. 17

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Private offers will also be entertained before the date of sale by Mr. V. Casipillai, Proctor and Notary Public, Jaffna, from whom other particulars can also be known.

P. VAITTIYALINGAM

Auctioneer

Vannarpannai East.

24th October 1904.

மாணிப்பாய்க் கோவிற்பற்று நவாலியிறையிலிருக்கும் தனியந்தனை பரப்பு நெல். இம். அசு-கால் மாணுக்கையும் கிழக்கு மாணுக்கையும் பரப்பு நெல். இம். எரு மாகிய இவ்விரு பிறிவுகளையும் கொள்விலைகாற்றின் வசதிக்கேற்ற இரண்டு துண்டாக அல்லது ஒன்றாக கக0௪-௭௭0 கார்த்திகைமாதம் சுந்திகதி செல்வாய்க்கிழமை பிற்பகல் ௨-மணியளவில் பிரசித்த ஏலத்தில் விற்கப்படும்.

விற்பனைத் திகதிக்குமுன் கைக்கிழாகத் தீர்த்துக்கொள்ளப் பிரியமுள்ளவர்களும் இன்னும் குறித்த விற்பனையையிட்டு வேண்டியகுறிப்புக்களை அறிய விருப்பமுள்ளவர்களும், சுப்பிரீம்கோட் பெப்ரிகிராசியாரும் பிரசித்த நொத்தாரசியாகிய மெஸ். வி. காசிப்பிள்ளையவர்களிடம் வந்தறிந்து தீர்த்துக் கொள்ளலாம்.

கக0௪-௭௭0 } பொ. வைத்தியலிங்கம்.
இப்பசியம் } வெந்திஸ்மேஸ்தர்
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THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1904.

THE IMPENDING VACANCIES IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Three unofficial seats in the Legislative Council will shortly fall vacant by the effluxion of time—the Low Country Sinhalese, Kandyan, and the Burgher Seats.

It is not only the communities whom they represent but the whole population of the Island are interested in those seats being worthily filled. Mr. Obeyesekera the sitting Sinhalese Member, has proved himself an ideal Representative, as Mr. Hallugalla is a worthy member representing the Kandyans in spite of the fact that he holds an appointment under Government.

Mr. Obeyesekera has all the requisite qualifications for a successful and useful member, being a gentleman of high family connection, ancestral influence, public spirit, and independent means. To these must be added his experience as a Legislator for the last five years. It, therefore, goes without saying that his re-appointment for a term of another five years would be acceptable not only to a large and influential section of the Sinhalese, but also to the Ceylonese in general. But there are other aspirants for the Seat whose claims are also to be considered, more especially as the Low Country Sinhalese have only one Member in Council. The five years Rule has been interpreted to mean that a new Member should be appointed at the end of every five years in order to give a chance to other persons who are qualified to represent their community in Council. The re-appointment, however, of Dr. Rockwood as Tamil Member, although there were half-a-dozen other highly qualified persons as candidates for the Seat, establishes the claims of Mr. Obeyesekera for re-appointment. If this cannot be done the appointment of Mr. Hector Jayawardene, Advocate of the Supreme Court, who is the scion of a distinguished family, and is a gentleman of great abilities, independence, and ample means, would, we doubt not, give great satisfaction to the public.

In regard to the Kandian Seat, we think, a departure should be made by appointing to this Seat a gentleman who is not in Government employ, if one is available. If, however, such a person competent to be a Legislator is not to be found among the Kandians the practice of appointing an official to represent that community in Council would be adhered to.

By common consent, Mr. Van Langenberg will, we believe, be nominated for the Burgher Seat, in succession to Mr. F. C. Loos. He has acted with acceptance as Burgher Member during the absence of Mr. Loos; and, failing Mr. Dornhorst, there cannot be a more competent person among the Burghers than Mr. VanLangenberg to represent them in the Legislative Council.

RACE FEELING IN INDIA.

Elsewhere we publish an interesting article from the Amrita Bazar Patrika of Calcutta on this subject. It will be seen that in India race feeling runs very high and that the Europeans treat the Indians very contemptuously and in a very high-handed manner. In courts of justice also in cases where Europeans are accused and Indians are complainants miscarriages of justice are of frequent occurrence. Happily we in Ceylon have fared better. But, judging from the Namasi-vayam case and the result of the Bandara-walla murder case, the Europeans in Ceylon also are trying to copy the example of their brethren in India. Viceroy after Viceroy have done their duty in protecting the Indian subjects from the violence of Europeans. Lord Curzon has done much in that direction and has courted certain amount of unpopularity among his own countrymen. It is not in the power of even the Viceroy of India to interfere with courts of justice and get criminals deservedly punished in cases of miscarriages of justice. But they have never hesitated to express in Minutes their sense of disapproval of results of notorious cases in which miscarriages of justice have taken place. Will the Government of His Excellency Sir Henry Blake similarly record their disapproval of the treatment Mr. T. Namasi-vayam has received at the hands not only of Mr. Engineer Thorpe but also of judicial tribunals in Ceylon, and thus discourage the idea among some Europeans that "natives" could be slapped and kicked by them with impunity?

LOCAL & GENERAL

Hindu College Jaffna—The Grant-in-aid Examination of this College commences today.

The Salt Rent—The salt rent of the Jaffna District for 1905 was sold on the 14th Instant to R. M. M. S. T. Raman Chetty, the renter of this year, for Rs 50, 5 0 which is a decrease of Rs 3000 compared with the rent of 1904. The Government reserves to itself the right of issuing salt to those engaged in curing fish and tanning leather in the District. Hence the decrease.

The Secret Science Case—It will be within the recollection of our readers that Mr. K. Velupillai of Vasavilan, Editor and Proprietor of the Jaffna Native Public Opinion was, about a year ago, fined Rs 150 by Mr. T. M. Tampo, Police Magistrate of Jaffna, for printing and publishing a pamphlet called Regasianool (Secret Science) which was held to be an obscene publication. The accused took an appeal to the Supreme Court, and the case was argued before Mr. Justice Wendt about eight months ago. Though the judgment of His Lordship was awaited with very great interest by the public, yet the decision of the Supreme Court was not delivered till the 19th Instant. His Lordship

affirms the Judgment of the Police Magistrate.

Obituary—We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. I. Velupillai, Surveyor, which took place at his residence at Batticotta a few days ago. He was a brother of the late Mr. Ilanthalaivasingha Ragunatha Mudr., Maniagar of Valigamo West, and uncle of the present Maniagar, Mr. I. Mudaliyar Tillainather. Mr. Velupillai acted as Maniagar of Valigamo West during the illness of his brother. He was a quiet and assuming gentleman. We tender our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved friends and relations who bemoan his loss.

The Supreme Court—The Hon Mr. Wendt one of the Puisne Justices of the Supreme Court has obtained nine months leave to proceed to England to recruit his health, and Mr. Grenier, the District Judge of Colombo, acts for him. Mr. Grenier himself was about to go on leave to England, but as the Government offered him the post he accepted it giving up the idea of going to England for the present. Mr. J. R. Wienman, Advocate, has been appointed acting District Judge of Colombo.

The Road Tax—At a meeting of the Provincial Road Committee held on the 15th Instant it was resolved to raise this tax in the Jaffna District from Re 1. to Re 1-25.

The Jaffna Kachchhari—Mr. W. Southern who has been appointed to act as Office Assistant to the Government Agent, Jaffna, during the absence on leave of Mr. J. Scott, arrives here today.

The Bioscope Company—The entertainments in the Upstairs Hall of the Hindu College on Monday night the 24th Instant in aid of the College fund was a decided success. The Hall was packed to its utmost capacity, all available seats being occupied. It is believed that the proceeds of the entertainment cannot be below Rs 500. The shows were excellent and much appreciated by those present. Among those present were several leading men of Jaffna.

A Tamil Wedding in High Life—Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Tampo have issued invitation for the wedding of their daughter Miss. Florence Nallamma with Mr. T. N. Valupillai, Proctor, on Wednesday the 2nd proximo at 3 P. M. The ceremony will take place at St. Peter's Church, Esplanade Road, Jaffna.

The Northern Railway—The line between Kurunagalla and Annuradhapura will be opened to the public on the 1st proximo. There will be no ceremony in connection with the event and for the present there will be only one train each way. There will be travelling booking Offices for getting tickets and a brake van will be utilised for the purpose. We are curious to know why a similar system has not been introduced in the working of the line between Kankasanturai and Pallai.

Manipay Post Office defalcation case—This case was tried in the District Court, Jaffna, on the 19th instant and the accused Hanibalsz was on the following day convicted and sentenced to six months rigorous imprisonment. An appeal has been taken and the accused is out on bail.

The Chief Justice—The Hon. Sir C. P. Layard Chief Justice who went home on leave arrived in the Island on the 21st ultimo. His eldest son who accompanied him will act as his Private Secretary.

THE REPORT OF THE NORTHERN PROVINCE BY MR. J. P. LEWIS.

(continued from our last issue.)

XI—NEW TRACTS FOR CULTIVATION.

Two hundred and fifty-five acres fit for paddy cultivation were sold in 1903. In the Jaffna peninsula there is Crown land fit for paddy cultivation in the divisions of Vadamaradchi East and Pachchilappali. Paddy lands in the neighbourhood of the centres of population are being converted into compounds, gardens, and coconut plantations. On the mainland there will be plenty in the Karachchi division on the completion of the Karachchi irrigation scheme, which will irrigate 20,000 acres, of which 15,000 belong to the Crown. The negotiations for the sale of 3,000 acres at Parantan were continued during the year, but the Company is now going to confine itself to 1,000 at least to begin with. 282 acres fit for coconut cultivation were sold during the year. Land for this purpose is available in the two divisions named, and would sell if made more accessible by road.

In Delft, out of the 11,500 acres which the island comprises, about 2,570 are under dry grain cultivation, 1,115 under palmyra, and 4,700 acres are pasture land. There are about 2,000 acres of land available for cultivation outside the horse plains. The soil is well suited for coconut and paddy cultivation.

XII—CHENA CULTIVATION.

No permits were issued during the year either at the Jaffna or Mannar Kachcheries. 110 permits were issued at the Mullaittivu Kachcheri, but these

were all for clearing tank beds. In 1902 154 were issued at Mullaittivu.

XIII—CATTLE.

The following is a statement of cattle in the Jaffna District:—

Black cattle	160,204
Buffaloes	3,793
Sheep	76,066
Goats	56,458

As the total population is 300,851, this gives 54 horned cattle and 44 sheep and goats to every one hundred inhabitants.

There was an outbreak of hoof-and-mouth disease among the coach bulls at Vavuniya in January, but it does not appear to have been of a virulent type, and only two of the animals died.

A disease supposed to be murrain broke out among the cattle of Tunukai in November, and out of 26 cattle attacked 19 died. It then disappeared. In both cases the Stock Inspector visited the places where the cattle were affected and took measures to stamp out the disease.

Owing to the unusual distribution of abundant rain throughout the year there was a good supply of both grass and water, and the cattle generally, and even in Delft, had a good time. In Delft the numbers were—

Black cattle	5,506
Buffaloes	137
Sheep	3,087
Goats	2,184

Taking the population of Delft at 4,000, this makes the proportion in Delft 141 horned cattle to every 100 inhabitants and 132 sheep and goats. Notwithstanding the excess of cattle, only 150 black cattle and 8 buffaloes were exported from Delft in 1903, but the number of sheep sold to Jaffna and Pattalam traders were considerable—800 goats and 2,860 sheep.

Cattle in large numbers are annually taken for pasture upon licenses issued at the Kachcheri from the Jaffna peninsula to the extensive plains of Tanukkal, the Vanni, and the Mannar Districts, where they roam about in the village clearings and the neighbourhood of the villages, with the result that, after few weeks of this visitation, these get into a very dirty state. It is not reasonable to expect the villagers to clean up the villages during and after it. I therefore propose in future to require the cattle owners to pay a fee of five cents per head of cattle for each license and to devote the proceeds to this purpose.

The regulation of cattle keeping in Delft also is very desirable. At present, though owned by the people, they can hardly be said to be kept by them. The result is they have increased in numbers beyond the capacity of the island for feeding them, have degenerated in size and condition, and have become more or less wild, so that in the plains the mere sight of a human being (native or European) sends them scampering. Yet the bulls are hardy and have a reputation for working well. When a cow calves it is caught and brought to the owner's compound to be milked, and is tethered to one less wild. It is so wild that it cannot be milked into a pot or chatty, which would be broken, but a section of bamboo does duty for a milk pail. When the supply of milk begins to diminish, cow and calf are turned loose and return to the plains. A Gansabawa rule requires the calf to be branded at eighteen months old. It generally gets away before the performance of that operation and before the owner realizes that it has gone. Boys are therefore sent to band the calves in the plains, and this they do, when they have caught them, with the juice of the "saturakalli" (*Euphorbia antiquorum*), which is said to leave as marked an impression as a hot iron. The owners otherwise remain indifferent to the existence of the calves for about four years, when, if the owners happen to want them, the bulls are caught and castrated and the cows are caught only if they happen to be in calf. Often the owner cannot find his quondam calf, and if it is found it has already been branded by some one else; it is in every other respect *fera naturae*. The other man, who has succeeded in branding some one else's calf after the lapse of some years, gives information to the Vidane, claims the animal, and has it registered in his name, in which it has already been branded. The rules for branding must be strictly enforced.

The cattle also require to be properly tended, compelled to graze in hards, and folded at night in a field or garden, so that a man can always have his cattle to hand when he wants them. At present when people from the other islands where cattle are scarce, such as Punkudativu and Nainativu, go over to Delft to buy cattle, they have sometimes to wait for three weeks while the Delft cattle owner finds and catches his cattle, and during this period they are entertained at the expense of the seller. It does not occur to the Delft man that this expenditure on feeding the buyer virtually reduces the price he gets for the animal.

The folding of cattle at night in gardens and fields would also help to manure the latter. There are immense quantities of cowdung in Delft, of which no use is made as manure, and the cost of transporting it elsewhere for that purpose would be prohibitive, otherwise it would long ago have been used for this purpose in the peninsula and the other islands. I have heard, however, of one boatload being despatched, to Jaffna.

The irrigation rules require that "all black cattle,

sheep, and goats shall be herded during the day and folded during the night outside the fields, and that all buffaloes shall have wooden bulls attached to their necks," but these rules are not in force in Delft. Similar rules should be introduced there.

Tunukkai at one period of the year being wholly given up to cattle, the Tunukkai people have become cattle experts. There is a practice prevalent among them of catching wild buffaloes (not an easy task), branding them, and then letting them go. Two or three years afterwards they claim them as tame buffaloes which have escaped from their fold.

(to be continued)

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE

Jaffna September 24, 1904 at 2 p. M.

Present

The Chairman
The District Engineer
C. Strantenbergh Esqr.
A. Sapapathy Esqr. and
The Secretary.

Proceedings and Resolutions
(under Road Ordinance.)

I Read and approved proceeding of last meeting.

II Resolved that bill for Rs. 86-49 for re-building the drain on Chunnakam-Pattur road and for raising the road be approved.

III Read papers re cement pipes for Pt. Pedro cross roads.

Resolved that the papers be referred to the District Engineer for his opinion and advice.

IV Read papers re-culvert on Drainage channel road in Pt. Pedro.

Resolved that the Superintendent Minor Works be asked to prepare an estimate for repairing the whole bridge with palmyrah beams.

V Read letter No. 163 of 9th September 1904 from the Superintendent Minor Works re-supplementary upkeep estimates for Rs. 1081-50 for Minor roads.

Resolved that the supplementary estimates be sanctioned on the understanding that no supplementary estimates of the same kind will be considered next year.

VI Resolved that estimate for Rs. 269-00 for building wall along a portion of Tellipalai Kadduvan road be sanctioned.

Sigd. John Scott.

Secretary D. R. C.

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE.

Jaffna September 24, 1904 at 2. p. m.

Present

The Chairman
The District Engineer
C. Strantenbergh Esqr.
A. Sapapathy Esqr. and
The Secretary.

Proceedings and resolutions
(under Markets Ordinance.)

I Read and approved proceedings of last meeting.

II Read papers re-repairs to the floor of Chunnakam market.

Resolved that the Superintendent Minor Works be directed to revise the estimate according to the District Engineer's suggestions for half the market only.

III Laid on the table

(a) Estimate for Rs. 354-25 for railings to Point Pedro market.

Resolved that the matter lie over till next year.

(b) Estimate for 94-00 for railings to Chavakachcheri market.

Resolved that the estimate be sanctioned.

IV Resolved that Messrs Orr & Sons Colombo be written to, to ascertain if they can send a man to overhaul the tower clock and if so, what the cost would be,

Sigd. John Scott

Secretary D. R. C.

THE WAR.

London, October. 17—Rentea in a message from Tokio last evening says Oyama designates the whole engagement since the 10th inst. as the battle of Shaho. The fighting has ceased in the right and centre armies, and continues before the left.

Reuter with the Russian Western Army wires on the 15th inst. that six days fighting, exceeding in ferocity that Liaoyang, has resulted in the Russians' continued retirement. The Japanese are now driving a wedge into the Russian centre. The terrific bombardment caused a heavy storm of rain and hail. The battlefield became an impassable morass in which both armies stuck.

Reuter wiring from Mukden on 15th says hostilities practically ceased yesterday. The men are exhausted and food is insufficient. Every available gun and man was used in the battle.

The Daily Telegraph says:—Has the Tsar no minister to tell him the bitter truth that the Japan must make peace? The Daily Chronicle says has shown that she is still more than a match of the enemy in generalship and fighting spirit. The Standard says the series of victories is due to the higher fighting power of the Japanese.

London, October. 16—The Russians are still fighting doggedly, but every despatch shows more clearly the decisiveness of the victory of the Japanese, who not only defeated the Russians but are pursuing them in every direction. Beside guns the Japanese

have captured a quantity of munitions and countless rifles and accoutrements. The Japanese losses are far less than the Russian.

Twenty-eight Russian warships have passed Dornholm en route to the Far East.

The awful carnage that has taken place has produced the deepest impression at Tokio where there is no elation. Diplomats there are asking whether the opportunity for peaceful representation has not now arrived.

Reuter's correspondent at Mukden wires today that there was a lull yesterday, but the battle was resumed today ten miles South-West of Mukden. It is now certain, the correspondent adds, that Kuro-patkin will be able to extricate his army though he has lost 30,000.

Being interviewed just before the battle, Kuro-patkin highly extolled the bravery of the Japanese, who he said faithfully observed the rules of war. In this respect he said it was the most pleasant war in which he had been engaged.

London, October. 17—General Sakharoff reports that the Russians, after the desperate fighting yesterday, drove the Japanese from the hill on the southern bank of the Shaho, capturing twelve guns.

Reuter at Tokio wires today that the Russian fiercely assailed Oku's left yesterday and made six counter attack which were all successfully repulsed. They were advancing at sunset to the seventh attack. The Russian losses were heavy.

Reuter wires from Mukden today that the battle continued throughout last night and was especially heavy at midnight. The Russian retain their positions along the Shaho. The eastern army is now helping the western.

Japan is placing large orders for army winter clothing with South to Scotland manufactures.

Baron Hayashi, who was interviewed by Reuter today, said it was not for Japan to judge if the time had come to discuss peace. That, he said, rests with the Tsar. There was nothing to prevent continuous fighting through the winter. The next point of real importance would be the taking of Tieling and then here would be nothing to prevent a Japanese advance on Harbin.

The Baltic Squadron coaled today. Three steamers are in the Great Belt.

London, October. 19—Upwards of 500,000 tons of Welsh coal and quantities of patent fuel will be shipped to the Mediterranean. West Africa and the Cape during October, November and December on Russian account. Order, with are mainly through the Hamburg American line are divided among a dozen firms all represented at Cardiff.

Reuter Wiring from Mukden on the 17th says the bitterness and tenacity of the fighting alone the line of Shaho may be regarded as intimately connected with the position of the Eastern Army of which little news is obtainable. There is every prospect of further fierce fighting.

—The Ceylon Observer.

THE TAPIOCA PLANT.

An important and instructive Yellow book of the Government of India has just been published. It relates to the history cultivation and uses of the Tapioca plant in this country and elsewhere. This plant is American in its origin, and is believed to have been introduced into this country by the early Portuguese settlers. The plant is grown in Assam and Bengal in gardens, in parts of Nepal, and in the United Provinces. It is also grown all down the East Coast up to Cape Comorin and up the West Coast at least as far as Goa in gardens. In Travancore, Pondicherry and Cuddalore it is grown in fields. In the Tamil districts it is commonly known as Mara valli kilangu (மரவள்ளிக்கிழங்கு) and on the Malabar Coast as Marachini and Kappa kilangu. Chinamen are the chief cultivators of the plant at Tavoy. The roots are eaten cooked. At Cuddalore and Pondicherry the root is always sold cooked. "From Pondicherry and Cuddalore," says Sir George Watt, "cultivation of Manihot (this is the Latin name) extends through Tanjore practically to Tinnevely and Travancore. It is interesting to note what is being done in different places with this plant and what can be made out of it. The leaves of some races of Manihot are eaten as a vegetable. This is especially so in Java. Cattle seem to eat them readily without harm. But the leaves of some races are reported to be poisonous to cattle. Brazilian arrowroot is starch washed out of the root and Tapioca is the same slightly altered. The Yellow book before us contains a description of the process of making arrowroot in Brazil. In the middle of the century the exports of arrowroot from Brazil were very considerable. In 1871, these exports were valued at £26,050, three-fifths of which went to Great Britain. The export subsequently decreased but again increased till in the last decade it stood again at about the same value. The Tapioca industry of the Straits Settlements has had a good deal more than half a century of success, chiefly in the hands of Chinamen. Chinamen easily obtained grants of Government forest land at a very low rental, the idea of the Government being to bring this land under permanent cultivation. The lessees cleared off the forests and planted Tapioca. For three years they continued cropping the land and then the soil being worn out, managed to transfer it to other parties who finding it no longer fertile let it

go back to scrub and so ultimately to forest. The tubers produced weighted from 10 to 25 lbs. at the end of eighteen months when they were dug. Pearl Tapioca was a common industry in the Straits Settlements between the years 1862-1870. Exports of the annual value of £41,453 were made in those years; and in the five succeeding years they increased to £73,713 a year. The export of Pearl Tapioca from Singapore in 1903 was 316,800 cwt. The Tapioca industry of the United States is quite a new one. In 1888 it did not at all exist. Only in Florida certain planters were in the habit of making their own starch from the root. The Agricultural Chemist to the United States reporting upon the plant in 1894 wrote:—"Cassava can be cultivated with safety and profit in the greater part of the Peninsula of Florida, and probably also in Southern Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas; it will yield with fair treatment on the sandy soils from 4 to 5 tons (8,960-11,200 lbs.) per acre. It will give when properly manufactured 20-25 per cent. of the weight of the fresh root in starch of high grade. An excellent article of tapioca can be prepared from the starch. Glucose can be prepared directly from the starch and more profitably from the pulp of the peeled root. The plant furnishes an excellent human food and cattle food, deficient, however, in nitrogen. It would make a well-balanced ration for cattle with one-fourth of cotton seed oil cake." The Tapioca industry is also carried on in the West Indies. In Martinique small proprietors have mills moved by bullocks or by water power for rasping the Cassava roots and means for making starch or Cassava meal. Mauritius and Reunion have tried Tapioca manufacture and so has New Caledonia. The sections of the book relating to the food value of products of manihot, and to Cassava as a cattle food are far the most interesting. A section is devoted to the cultivation of the plant also. The cost of cultivation is stated in this country to be no more than that of cotton. In this Presidency, with irrigation the crop is planted in December or January, but without irrigation in the end of July or beginning of August. The roots come to the markets from the irrigated lands in November. There is no reason why the plant and the roots should not be put in this country to all the numerous uses to which it is put in other countries. The reporter on Economic Products to the Government of India has done a great service by bringing all the available information in regard to this plant and its uses in a compact form. —Hindu.

THE RACE-FEELING IN INDIA.

We said sometime ago that if the British Empire were ever to come to grief it would be through the arrogance of irresponsible Englishmen, who have nothing at stake. There is no profit nor credit in treating the Indians with rudeness. It is oftentimes due to mere wantonness. It has come to this that there are Englishmen who without being ashamed of their brutality, pride themselves upon it.

Let us refer to the two stories referred to above by Sir Henry Cotton. One was that a Rajah, a guest of the Viceroy, while returning home from a State ceremony at Agra, was compelled by a subaltern, who was in the same carriage with His Highness, to shampoo his feet. The other was that, when a late Chief Justice asked the secretary of a Club to permit an Indian friend of his to attend the officers' dinner, the former got an amusing (?) reply.

One of the reasons which led the subaltern to ask the Rajah, the Viceroy's guest at the Agra Darbar, to take off his boots and shampoo his feet, was that he wanted to be the author of a very great joke, which would make him a hero in the eyes of those among whom he moved. He has no doubt told that story to many of his friends to their infinite amusement. In the same manner, we venture to hope that the motive, which led the secretary of the club to tell his Lordship, that his Indian friend could only be permitted to attend the dinner of the officers if he, like other natives, (meaning no doubt the khansamas) would take off his shoes and attend upon the table, was not pure brutality. The proposal of the Chief Justice so upset him that he evidently lost temper and managed to say something very hard in return.

Let not the reader forget the well-known fact that, it is not respectable on the part of Europeans to show sympathy for the Indians; that an official with sympathy for the Indians is regarded as a weak-minded man; and that, that European does not lose in the public estimation of his countrymen generally here who is found maltreating one, who is only a "native."

Similar to the incident mentioned above in which a subaltern and a secretary of the Club

figured as heroes. may be mentioned the exploits of one Mr. Deputy Commissioner Harrison of the Panjab, who had shaved one side of the beard of a Musselman, both for his own fun and the punishment of the offender, and for which he was dismissed the service. Till the day of his punishment, Mr. Harrison was no doubt the hero of many social gatherings, detailing all the circumstances of the good joke which convulsed the company with laughter.

"But such instances are rare" is likely to be explained by some of those of the European community who do not approve of such brutal proceedings. But is not contempt, on the part of Europeans, for the Indian, universal, from the highest to the lowest? And is not want of sympathy for the Indians a general rule among the Europeans? That being the case some Europeans, brutal in instinct but imaginative, will ask an Indian nobleman to shampoo his feet, and some equally brutally disposed but less imaginative will grievously hurt or murder him.

"Yet the mal-treatment of Indians by Europeans must be an exception and not the general rule," would say an Englishman who does not approve of the brutal conduct of his countrymen.

The Fuller minute, that is to say, the minute recorded by Lord Lytton referring to the case of Mr. Fuller who was fined Rs 30 for having kicked his syce to death, has, we believe, not been forgotten in India. In that minute, No. 1098 J. Simla, the 7th July, 1876, Lord Lytton alluded to the cowardly practice of killing the inoffensive natives of India, and condemned the policy of dealing with such offenders lightly, in these memorable words:

"The Governor-General in Council would take this opportunity of expressing his abhorrence of the practice, instances of which occasionally come to light, of European masters treating their native servants in a manner in which they would not treat men of their own race. This practice is all the more cowardly, because those who are least able to retaliate injury or insult have the strongest claim upon the forbearance and protection of their employers. But bad as it is from every point of view, it is made worse by the fact known to all residents in India, that Asiatics are subject to internal disease which often renders fatal to life even slight external shock. The Governor-General in Council considers that the habit of resorting to blows on every trifling provocation should be visited by adequate legal penalties, and that those who indulge in it should reflect that they may be put to jeopardy for a serious crime.

Another minute was issued by the Government of Lord Ripon, which was signed by the Viceroy and by some members of his Council. This minute was founded upon the case of Mr. Webb, who, on a Sunday night, the 10th April, 1884,—the Christian Sabbath day,—dragged a young shrieking coolie-girl into his cabin, and violated her chastity almost in the presence of her husband and father, the girl screaming out all the while these words: "O mother, my abdomen is bursting with excruciating pain." Seven days after, she died from the effects of the outrage. Webb was let off with a fine of Rs 100 only!

In the Webb minute, Lord Ripon remarked that, "it is difficult to exaggerate the mischief which is done by such a case as this." Yes, every one of these cases leaves an indelible mark upon the minds of the people, to efface which require several decades and no small amount of energy on the part of our rulers.

The same Englishman may again urge that Fuller was an exception, and so was Webb. If that be so, why would the Government of Lord Lytton call the maltreatment of the Indians a cowardly "practice"? Besides the nominal punishment inflicted for the murder,—the fine of Rupees 30,—proves that "native" life is not valued by even British Judges at more than 30 or 40 shillings per head, and, therefore, the murder of an Indian by a European does not create much stir among the Europeans here.

We have thus two Governments, of Lords Lytton and Ripon, condemning the cowardly practice of non-official Europeans, and the still more cowardly murderers with a light punishment. In our own day, Lord Curzon revived the practice of protecting in various ways the lives of the Indians from brutal Europeans. The case of the Rangoon soldiers as well as that of the 9th Lancers, the Bain case, and the frequent military circulars shew that the Curzon Government, too, is fully aware of the practice, which was condemned by Lord Lytton in 1879. The way that the Indians are oppressed by "Police rule," and punished severely, shew the same thing; namely, a want of sympathy on the part of the rulers towards the ruled. The way to shine under the Government is to shew a strong hand, and what that means we need not explain.

Of course there are many Englishmen here

who are not brutal, but are in possession of the highest and finest sentiments. But what of that? They have with very few exceptions yet no sympathy for the Indians, while they have the full measure of contempt for them. The brutal European shews it in a more tangible way; but the cultured European adopts a more ethereal, though equally effective, one, of shewing his contempt. These highly cultured Englishmen will not associate themselves with anything that is brutal, but yet they cannot help betraying their contempt for the Indians. The brutal European will ask a Rajah to shampoo his feet, but a highly cultured Englishman will ask the Rajah to trample his cherished opinions, or take the consequence.

If the Indian agitates he is told that he is getting up spurious demonstrations. If he condemns a Government measure, he is told that he is a fool to do it. If his country joins in uttering a protest, it is not heeded, as the bark of a stray dog is not. The contempt for the Indian is universal among Europeans, only the rude will insult the "native" by kicking him, while the cultured will not insult him in the brutal way but by treating him as an animal who ought to have no feelings, interests, or opinions of his own.

—The A. B. Patrika.

THE TWENTIETH NATIONAL CONGRESS

SIR HENRY COTTON, K. C. S. I., we have the pleasure to announce, has been invited, and has consented, to be President of the Indian National Congress, which meets in Bombay in the last week of December next. It goes without saying that, whether from the Indian or from the English point of view, no happier choice could have been made. There have, indeed, been those who have contended that the President of the Indian National Congress should always be an Indian. But the rule has never been adopted, and it is therefore eminently fitting that Sir Henry Cotton's name should be added to the brief roll of distinguished Englishmen who have been held worthy of this honour—the greatest honour, without doubt, which it is in the power of the Indian people to bestow upon any man. There is no post in this country which can be usefully compared with it, but there would be a tolerably exact parallel if a Liberal majority in the House of Commons selected their own Prime Minister. And, though Sir Henry Cotton is not an Indian, he is probably as good an Indian as it is possible for an Englishman to be. It is 59 years ago since Sir Henry (whose birth day, by the way, was last Tuesday) was born at Combaconum, in the Madras Presidency. Ever since the middle of the eighteenth century his family has been closely associated with India. His great grandfather, his grandfather, and his father before him, were all engaged in the public service in India, where his own son followed him eleven years ago; and Sir Henry Cotton, in his notable work on "New India, or India in Transition," reflects with pride that he is, as it were, an hereditary member of the administration. But he is also something more. Unhappily, a man can be a member, and a hereditary member, of the administration in India without obtaining or deserving that public confidence and gratitude which are the first of the qualifications for appointment to the unique office of President of the National Congress. Of Sir Henry Cotton, however, it may be said without hyperbole that from the time of his arrival in Bengal 37 years ago he devoted himself to that service of the Government. The results of that long and diligent labour are well known. He lost the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, and won the hearts of the Indian people. As the Maharaja of Darbhanga put it at Gauhati, "Sir Henry Cotton knows us, and we know him, and there is a bond between us which neither time nor space can loosen or sever." When Lord Curzon prevented Sir Henry from becoming Lieutenant-Governor, the inventor of the Delhi Darbar probably did not suspect that he was giving the National Congress one of its most distinguished Presidents. Lord Curzon's action was inexcusable. But it may be doubted whether Sir Henry Cotton's friends, both in India and at home, ought not to be a little grateful to a weak Viceroy. For nobody knows what effect the Lieutenant-Governorship might have had upon Sir Henry's health, and it is obviously a far bigger and better thing to be President.

Sir H. Cotton's acceptance of the office of President is all the more a matter for congratulation as the National Congress of next December will be an assembly of exceptional importance. It is not a small matter that the Congress, whose early decease has from the first been annually predicted by prophets who

fear and therefore dislike it, should have attained to its Twentieth Session. It is still more important that the movement of which it is the chief manifestation should have gained immeasurably in force and volume until it represents to-day the practically unanimous will of educated India—the natural leaders of the Indian people. What the objects and reasons of that movement are can be ascertained nowhere better than in Sir H. Cotton's book, to which we have just referred. The reader may there learn what are the actual practical measures which public needs and public opinion in India require, and what is the most hopeful mode of obtaining them. The essence of the matter is that India has to work very largely through opinion in the United Kingdom, which alone, as things now stand, is able to exercise the requisite pressure upon the bureaucratic and self-centred administrators of that country. It is for this reason that a National Congress held just now is peculiarly important. Nobody unless it be Mr. Chamberlain, knows precisely when a General Election will take place. But everybody knows that it cannot be much longer delayed, and in all probability the interval between the Twentieth and the twenty-first Congress will see the expulsion of the present Government, the formation of another, the appointment of a Liberal Secretary of State for India and the beginning of a period during which it is reasonable to expect not only the undoing of many of the mistakes committed during ten dark years of reaction but also some definite advance in the work of reconstruction. In order that this period may be rendered fruitful—the first period of hope of which for ten years the party of progress has been able to catch a gleam—much will need to be done. assuredly one of the first and most important things is that the Indian National Congress should clearly and emphatically put forward its proposals, muster and inspire its forces, and make all necessary preparations for an epoch-making campaign. It is fortunate, indeed, at such a time, that the statesman who will preside over its deliberations will unite the experience of a retired Anglo-Indian official with the influence of a trusted Indian leader, and both with the opportunities of an English candidate tolerably certain to be elected to the new House of Commons.

That the leaders of the National Congress are fully alive to the peculiar importance of the occasion is quite clear. It was for that reason that they invited to take part in the deliberations of the forthcoming Congress four gentlemen whose names will always be associated with the origin, the growth, and the mingled triumphs and defeats of perhaps the most important political movement in the British Empire. Unfortunately, Mr. A. O. Hume, Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, and Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji have been prevented—the first two by illhealth, and Mr. Naoroji by great pressure of work in London—from accepting the invitation of the Reception Committee. The invitation has, however, been accepted by Sir William Wedderburn, the Chairman of the British Committee of the Indian National Congress, and we are extremely glad to be able to say that he will be one of those who will give Sir Henry Cotton their support at the memorable Twentieth Session. This is neither the time nor the place to speak of Sir William Wedderburn's services on behalf of India. Suffice it to say that his exceptional knowledge of the Bombay Presidency, and his unrivalled familiarity with the details of Indian political work in the United Kingdom, constitute resources which will be of the utmost value at such a time. In these circumstances, though there will not be the unique political demonstration which we should have witnessed if Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, and Mr. Hume had also been able to be present, there is nevertheless ample reason for looking forward to the Bombay Congress, and its probable results with assured confidence. After all, hope is one of the best parts of man's equipment for any great enterprise, and, while the prospects of progress now appear bright and encouraging, there are incidents and aspects even of the past, or passing, period of reaction which it is possible to contemplate without misgiving. India, indeed, has suffered, and suffered severely, at the hands of the most reactionary Administrations of modern times, and their subordinates. But it may be doubted whether her party of progress, handicapped as it is by distance and by lack of the suffrage, has been buffeted more outrageously than the party of peace, of retrenchment, of temperance, and of public education at home. Besides, though "what's done we partly can compute," we "know not what's resisted." We trust that wise counsels and a reasonably sanguine temper will control the decisions at Bombay.

—India.