

Hindu Organ

(THE CHEAPEST WEEKLY IN CEYLON)

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY!

VOL XVI.

JAFFNA: WEDNESDAY JANUARY 4TH 1905

NO. 27

PITH TURBANS.

We beg to announce that we are now selling at a reduced rate Madras



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D. Muttuswamy	do	5-50
N. Senathiraja Udaiar	Kondavil	10-00
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J. H. Dickson	Tellippalai	52
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T. Karakasigam	do	7-50



THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1905.

THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

The twentieth session of the Indian National Congress was held in Bombay commencing on the 26th ultimo and continuing for the two following days. This session is a remarkable one for the reason that it was presided over by a retired Anglo-Indian high official—Sir Henry Cotton, K. C. S. I.—who retired only two years ago from the Chief Commissionership of Assam and who was not appointed Lieutenant Governor of Bengal owing to his pronounced pro-Indian sympathies. It was also remarkable for the

hearty and enthusiastic "send off" given in England to Sir Henry Cotton and Sir William Wedderburn, Bart, who attended the Congress as delegate of the British Committee by a large number of English sympathisers with the Congress cause.

In our opinion the growing sympathy with the Congress cause in England as shown on the occasion of the Banquet given at the Westminster Palace Hotel in honour of those two ex-officials, prior to the departure to Bombay, is a more important factor in the success of the movement than anything done in India itself. Among the distinguished English men who were present and spoke in support of the Congress were the Right Honourable Leonard Courtney, Mr. T. Lough M. P., Mr. Frederick Harrison, and Mr. C. J. O. Donnell, who is himself a retired Indian Civilian. The following gentlemen, among others, wrote letters of apology regretting their absence and sympathising with the aims of the Congress, viz, Lord Hobhouse, Sir George Bidwood, K. C. I. E., Mr. T. R. Buchanan M. P., Mr. W. P. Byles, Sir Charles Dilke M. P., Dr. Farquharson, M. P., Colonel Hanna, Mr. George Harwood M. P., Sir Robert Head, Bart., Mr. A. O. Hume C. B., Mr. H. M. Hyndman, Mr. J. A. Jacoby, M. P., Mr. Herbert Lewis M. P., Mr. Hugh C. F. Lutterell, Mr. Morgan Lloyd, M. P., Mr. J. M. Maclean, Mr. Ernest Parke, Mr. J. H. Reynolds, Mr. Herbert Roberts, M. P., Mr. C. E. Schwann, M. P., Mr. Donald Smeaton C. S. I., Mr. Robinson Souttar and the Hon. Philip Stanhope M. P. These are all gentlemen of great prominence in England and any movement which has enlisted their sympathy and support cannot fail to succeed in attaining its object.

Surely our bretheren and fellow subjects in India have not striven in vain during these twenty years since the Congress movement was started, to ameliorate their condition under the British rule. They have not only secured a reform of the Legislative Councils and other notable reforms but are sure before long with the co-operation and support of powerful English friends to see most of the Congress programme carried out.

We hope in our next issue to publish a summary of the proceedings of the Congress.

"NO MARKS NO PROCESS" CASE.

We publish in another column the judgment of Mr. J. R. Wienman, acting District Judge of Colombo, in this sensational case. It will be seen that Mr. Namasivayam, the Plaintiff, is awarded a damage of Rs 25 for the slap and kick which he received from Mr. T. S. Thorpe, the Defendant in this case. Although the amount awarded as damages is a disappointingly small sum, considering the circumstances of the case, yet it is a satisfaction that the Defendant who was be-

yond the reach of the criminal courts of the Island has been reached through this civil action, and has been obliged to answer to the charge made against him and to pay a penalty for his wrongful and illegal act.

The acting District Judge's arguments if carried to their logical conclusions should have resulted in the Plaintiff's case being dismissed. He finds that it was not a cowardly assault. "The assault was a trivial one, intended neither to cause pain nor bring disgrace. The Plaintiff was in short treated like a lazy boy who was required to be hurried up." The learned D. J. further says: "I must at once say that actions of this kind ought to be discouraged, if every man in the Island who has been assaulted in any manner however trivial the assault may be, is permitted to come to and claim damages for physical and intellectual suffering, our courts will be flooded with a class of most undesirable and pettifogging litigation." We are curious to know why then any damages at all were awarded to the Plaintiff in this case with costs?

If a European employe of a Firm, taking advantage of his superior position, and greater physical strength, assaults and kicks a fellow employe of the same firm who happens to be a "native", without sufficient cause or provocation in the presence of several persons, it is not a cowardly assault, according to the finding of Mr. Judge Wienman, nor is it intended to cause pain or bring disgrace!

The District Judge also seems to be not aware of the peculiar circumstances under which this civil action was instituted. Otherwise he would not have indulged in the remark about the necessity of discouraging civil actions for assault. He must know that if the Plaintiff had received justice in the criminal Courts, he would not have brought this action.

We must, however, give credit to the District Judge who is a Ceylonese and an acting official to boot, for having after the orders of the Police Magistrates of Colombo and the acting Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in connection with the criminal charge preferred by the Plaintiff, awarded even this small amount of damages against the defendant who is a European.

LOCAL & GENERAL

The Weather—Partial showers of rain fell on the 2nd and 3rd Instant.

Jaffna Hindu College—A meeting of the "Old Boys" of the Jaffna Hindu College will be held in the College Hall on Monday the 9th January 1905 at 4 p. m., to consider the desirability of forming an Old Boys Association and of starting a "Hindu College Magazine" in connection with it.

Personal—Mr. Coomarasamy, the well-known Tamil scholar and Poet of Chunnagam who was seriously ill for the last few days, is, we are glad to learn, improving towards recovery.

Supreme Court—The first Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court for the year 1905 will commence here on the 21st Instant.

The Superintendent of Police—Mr. Dowbiggin goes to Colombo on promotion and Mr. Godfrey who is expected here shortly succeeds him.

Wayside Stoppages—From the 1st of this month the train stops at Tellipalai and Kokuvil for a few minutes for the convenience of passengers who wish to travel by rail from these places. While we welcome this as a move in the right direction, we have no hesitation in saying that it will not be a success, for the reason that the fare is not for the actual distance travelled. We find from the new-time-table that the 3rd class fare from Kokuvil to Jaffna, a distance of about two miles, is 16 cents, the rate between Chunnakam and Jaffna. We do not think that anyone will pay this rate and travel by railway. Till the port of Kankasanturai is re-opened in March and the tobacco season commences in May there will be also very few who will travel from Kokuvil by railway. The case will, however, be different after the whole line is opened to Colombo.

Kerosine Oil—There was a dearth of Kerosine Oil in Jaffna for sometime and the people suffered much inconvenience by it. We saw many people going to the Petroleum Bulk with tins and bottles and returning disappointed. The expected consignment of oil has at last come and we hope that similar failure of the supply will not take place in future.

CAUGHT IN HIS OWN TRAP—Our readers will be much interested in the following Christmas incident: On the night of the 29th ultimo at about 9 P. M. Mr. M. Nalliah the head of the enterprising firm of Messers Nalliah and sons, Jaffna, received a telegram from Nawalapitiya from Rasaratnam stating that his brother was seriously ill at Nawalapitiya and requesting him to remit Rupees eighty five by wire before nine next morning to pay the Doctor's bill. The telegram also stated that the sender was waiting at the Post Office for the money. Mr. Nalliah thought that his two sons Thuraiatnam and Rasaratnam who are now law students at Colombo had gone to Nawalapitiya for the holidays, that Thuraiatnam had suddenly fallen ill, and that Rasaratnam had wired for the money. As the address was wrongly mentioned as M. Nalliah sons & Co. Mr. Nalliah suspected and at once despatched an urgent telegram to Mr. M. S. Ramalingam Interpreter Mudaliar of the Supreme Court, with whom his two sons were staying enquiring whether his sons were in Colombo or elsewhere. In reply Thuraiatnam wired that he and his brother Rasaratnam were in Colombo and enjoying good health. Mr. Nalliah then made out that the telegram from Nawalapitiya was a false and forged one and informed in the morning the Postmaster-General by wire of the circumstances and requested him to take steps to arrest the delinquent. In the meantime he sent another telegram to Nawalapitiya addressed to Rasaratnam informing him that the money will be remitted by 8 O'clock P. m. the same evening and enquiring about the present state of his brother's health. In reply a wire was received stating that it was impossible to manage without the 85 Rupees and that his brother was improving a little and that he was waiting at the Post Office for the money. While so waiting at the Post Office and enquiring about the money the impostor was arrested by the Post Master of Nawalapitiya under instructions from the Postmaster-General and given into Police custody. The Government has taken proceedings against the man.

Police—Mr. H. A. Bell, Inspector of Police, Jaffna, has gone to Colombo on a short holiday.

The Northern Railway—The Railway from the North across the big bridge over the Galkandamaduoaya which marks the boundary between the Northern and North-Central Provinces was opened on the 28th Ultimo.

Personal—Mr. A. Thuraiappa, Manager of the Batticaloa branch of the Jaffna Commercial Corporation Ltd, arrived here yesterday by the last trip of the S. S. "Lady Havelock."

Theft—On the Thiruvathirai festival day a young girl belonging to a respectable family at Vannarponnai who went to the Sivan Temple accompanied by her

father was robbed of a Jewel which she had been wearing on her head. The Jewel, we hear, is worth about Rs 75.

Calendar—We have received from Dr. Gopinath Crusbuji Kshatriya of Bombay copies of his Calendar for the years 1905 and 1906. It is a neat wall calendar with advertisement of the Doctor's medicines.

NEWS OF MR. R. W. IEVERS.

Writing to a Colombo resident from Edinburgh, Dec. 4th, Mr. R. W. Ievers says:—"I am here in the above beautiful city for the last two months 'under a Doctor'—about the 14th I have consulted in the past 18 months! However he (Gulland) seems to have quite got hold of my case and is treating me on the 'open air' system under which I am certainly being bettered. I am, of course, to continue it for some months and he expects to have me quite fit for duty about April. Fancy a tropical resident of 80 years' standing being put to live out of doors in such a climate and to endure icecold water bathing.

I have seen Sir Archibald Lawrie frequently, looking remarkably well and happy. Dunlop (late C. O. S.) lives here and is generally to be found at the new Club. I have also met Mrs. Lorimer, Mr. im Thurn's mother and Mrs. Mearns (nee Miss Twynam of Jaffna) who lives in Edinburgh—also Mrs. St. George, widow of Col. St. George wellknown in Ceylon and Gibson of Haputale.

I expect to return with our youngest daughter who has recently taken honours in Horticulture at Swanley College in Kent. —The Ceylon Observer.

Our Subscribers in Arrears.

Will kindly note that the XVth Volume of our paper has closed and it is more than 5 months since the XVth Volume commenced. Still we regret to note that many of those subscribers who are in arrears, have not yet made up their minds to settle their accounts. Although we waited for a sufficiently long time, expecting settlement, we were sadly disappointed much against our wish. We had therefore to hand over our accounts to our Proctors, who have commenced to issue "Letters of Demand" to our defaulting subscribers. Steps have also been taken to sue some of our very bad pay masters.

Our local and outstation subscribers are, therefore, requested to take note of the above and promptly pay up their arrears; and thus save us from the unpleasantness of taking legal steps against them.

THE MANAGER
HINDU ORGAN.

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE.

Jaffna December 17, 1904 at 2. p. m.

Present

The Chairman
The District Engineer, Jaffna
C. Stranterbergh Esqr.
A. Sapapathy Esqr. and
The Secretary.

Proceedings and Resolutions—under Markets Ordinance.

I. Read and approved proceedings of last meeting.

II. Considered conditions of lease of markets as approved provisionally.

Resolved that the same be approved with two additional conditions.

III. Considered the question of appointment of market keepers.

Resolved that the present market keepers be not kept on except Udaiars who are to be paid Rs 5- a month, and that the sweepers be discontinued. Markets to be kept clean by the lessees.

IV. The chairman moved that Rs 100 ,, be voted towards construction of a culvert at Grand Bazaar on condition that the other Rs 100-,, is paid by Mr. Vallipuram as agreed to by him.

Resolved that Rs 100-,, be voted.

V. Considered the question of voting money to meet the expense of firing the time gun.

Resolved that the Committee declines to vote the money.

VI. Considered the question of repairing the clock in clock tower.

Resolved that Messrs. Orr and Sons be requested to send a man to examine the clock and estimate cost of repair.

Sigd. W. T. Southorn
Secretary D. R. C.

MORTOR-CYCLE RIDE ACROSS THE ISLAND.

Our readers, we presume, have read with pleasure the Herculean feats performed by Mr. Doudney, recorded in the evening edition of the "Ceylon Times" of the 15th Instant. He has just now completed the last of his five trips across the Island on a Mortor-cycle. He spanned 250 miles (the distance from Batticaloa to Colombo) in about 16½ hrs. This trip of his has undoubtedly proved that the mortor-cycle is a very reliable and useful machine for men of business, who will otherwise have to undergo much expense and trouble and to pleasure-seekers. The importance of his trip does not end here. He complains bitterly of the cattle and pariah dog nuisance and suggests the enforcement of the dog-license throughout the Island as a remedy. We certainly think that this will be one of the last things for the Council to deliberate upon during the next session. But we do not see by what manner of means the Council can persuade themselves to enforce the dog-license throughout the Island. Mr. Doudney, perhaps, as he informs us was 'crawling through the villages' on his noisy mortor-cycle and this, naturally, kindled the curiosity of the dogs, which he is kind enough to qualify as 'pariah.' This indeed is no matter for excitement and it is a pity that Mr. Doudney's anger was worked to such a high pitch that he is determined on seeing the 'dog-license enforced throughout the Island even at the expense of the heads of two or more Government Agents! We really pity them, whoever they be. Mr. Doudney seems to include in the category of 'Pariah' all the dogs without a collar on and thinks that these are only worth the skin with which they are clothed and the money they can bring the treasury.

Far from these are the uses of the 'pariah dog' to the villager. It defends the villager from the attacks of wild animals, of thieves, of robbers and hunts for him the game and is as it were the real friend of the villagers in times of danger and need, which seem not unfrequent when we consider their mode and habit of living. Unlike most dogs in towns which are as expensive as useless and are too good for anything else but to look at and pat a bit, the 'village pariahs' are as inexpensive as useful. Should Mr. Doudney succeed in enforcing the dog-license throughout the Island we cannot imagine the deplorable state of the villager without a shudder. The poor villager who lives from hand to mouth and finds at times unable to support his family cannot conveniently afford to pay his dog tax. The dog is seized and destroyed without giving its owner any means to protect him from the attacks of wild beasts and, in short, to take its place.

We see clearly that from the cyclists' point of view the enforcement of the dog-license throughout the Island will give them more freedom from nervous strain. But how many cyclists are there who go touring through the villages, sometimes 'creeping and sometimes at walking-pace', not many we are sure, considering the vast majority of Non-cyclists. If the dog-license be enforced throughout the Island, it will mean that the influential and over-whelming number of villagers' safety would be left out of consideration. We would remind all those who are seriously thinking of supporting the dog-license that the dog, being an animal, does not like man, participate in reason, therefore it is no wonder that he shows curiosity over a gentleman 'crawling through the villages' on a mortor-cycle. A villager would surely have been astonished at this spectacle. The dog being not up-to-date cannot distinguish a man on a Mortor-cycle from an antelope.

It is for the Lieutenant Governor to see whether he should in favour of a handful, stray, tourists or of the vast majority of the villagers on whom the material prosperity of the Island depends in a more or less degree.

Let us hope that Mr. Doudney will be able to report better on the behaviour of the village 'pariah' towards him on his return from the next trip which we look forward with great pleasure.

M. S. E.
Colombo.
17th Decr. 1904.

THE WAR.

London December 24th—Reuter's Nagasaki correspondent says that it is reported at Dalny that the Russians have offered to surrender Port Arthur, provided the garrison and ships are returned to Russia. The Japanese declined.

Reuter's Tokio correspondent says the storming of Koyangshuku was preceded by a heavy bombardment against the Koyangshuku, Sungshushan and Erlangshan forts. After the Japanese captured the heights, the Russians concentrated a heavy fire thereon from the Tayangku and Yabustni forts—also, in a determined manner, attacking the heights, throwing hand-grenades but they failed to drive out the Japanese. Despite the bombardment the Japanese succeeded in building up defensive works on the heights and counter-bombarded, setting fire to Port Tayangku.

The colliers Yeddo and Cloverley for Mozambique, with 10,000 tons of coal discharged their cargoes at Port Said. A German steamer is taking a part thereof to an unknown destination.

The Times Pekin correspondent says that the Chinese on the 23rd inst. seized, at Fengtai Station near Pekin, 3,000,000 rounds of Russian rifle ammunition, consigned to a Russian firm at Tientsin, and evidently destined for Port Arthur. It was concealed in bales of wool and brought on camels from Kalgan.

Reuter's Tokio correspondent says the besiegers at Port Arthur stormed and held the heights east of Koyangshuku. Prisoners reported that General Kondrachenko and Ilma were killed, and General Fock wounded.

London December 25th—Admiral Togo announces the withdrawal of the majority of the fleet from Port Arthur.

Reuter wires from Tokio today that the besiegers at Port Arthur occupied Taliuchiatem, and officially announce the fall of the whole Russian advanced positions fronting the Japanese right.

London December 26th—Reuter wiring from Tokio yesterday, says Tokio is again a great military camp, a repetition of the scenes of last spring. Thousands of recruits and reservists are assembled, who are drilling and equipping preparatory to going on the field of service. The barracks are filled, and soldiers are billeted throughout the city. The general military preparations are enormous. It is proposed to give Marshall Oyama a rough total of half-a-million men, with a heavy increase in artillery, beside providing for the defence of Formosa and the Southern Islands in anticipation of the Baltic Squadron attempting to form a base there.

London December 26th—The latest Japanese successes at Port Arthur indicate that the Japanese are endeavouring to isolate Lisotshian promontory.

The steamer Manshu Maru has left Japan for Port Arthur with 10 foreign attaches and representatives of the Diet on board, beside press representatives.

London December 27th—The Tzar has issued a decree, declaring that in conjunction with the undeviating maintenance and inviolability of the fundamental laws of the Empire, it is the duty of Government to meet any change in the needs of the people which proved nature, even though it involve essential innovation in legislation. He directs his Ministers to consider the means and possibility of introducing various administrative reforms and report to him as soon as possible. These will not involve any practical change in the system of Government. The proposal includes (1) bringing the peasant laws into conformity with general legislation (2) measures to ensure the application of the law for all alike, (3) establishing legal responsibility for arbitrary acts, (4) ensuring the independence of the courts, (5) the extension of the powers of local institutions and measures to make them more representative, (6) The revision of the exceptional law against enemies of public order, the introduction whereof involved a grave extension of discretionary powers to administrative authorities, (7) The revision of religious restrictions, (8) The revision of disabilities of natives of certain territories, (9) The revision of the press laws, enabling the press to fulfil its mission worthily, interpreting the reasonable strivings for Russia's advantage.

A Government communique declares that the reform movement initiated by the Zemstvos is alien to the Russian people, which remains true to the old state organisation hallowed by centuries. The authors are working for the benefit, not of Russia but her enemies. The Government must oppose any anti-Governmental meeting. State servants specially will be held responsible for any contraventions of the law in this respect. It also calls upon the Press to contribute towards the tranquillisation of society.

A Russian journal, in an outspoken article, says the time has passed for silence regarding the State and Navy; and that the task imposed upon Rozhdestvinsky is superhuman, and that the vessels destined for his reinforcement, now at Kronstadt and Libau, are dangerously defective.

London December 29th—A further casualty list published at Tokio gives 49 Japanese officers killed and 58 wounded. This, coupled with yesterday's list indicates the severity of the losses in the rank and file.

Reuter's correspondent with the besiegers wires that the Japanese captured Ehrlungshan Fort with 1,000 casualties. Seven dynamite mines were exploded at ten yesterday morning and made breaches in the front wall through which a large body of troops charged under cover of a tremendous bombardment and captured the first line of guns. A bitter fight ensued, resulting in the capture of the fort at night. The garrison of 500 (then?) escaped.

Reuter wires from Tokio that the Japanese occupied the entire fort of Ehrlungshan yesterday.

London December 31st—A Daily Telegraph message from Chifu says a messenger arrived from Dalny states that the Russians have abandoned the new town of Port Arthur which was destroyed by the Japanese fire. The Japanese are unable to occupy the new town for fear of mines.

—The Ceylon Observer.

THE NAMASIVAYAM—THORPE CASE.

PLAINTIFF GETS JUDGMENT.

FOR TWENTY-FIVE DUKKES.

Mr. J. R. Weinman, District Judge, delivered judgment yesterday in the Namasivayam-Thorpe case, which came on for trial before His Honor on Monday. The full text of the judgment is as follows:—

The plaintiff is a young man, just past 21 years, who up to the 15th of September last, was employed under Walker, Scott, & Co. as assistant storekeeper on a salary of Rs. 20 a month. He was in charge of the tool stores and his duty was to issue such tools as were required by the Engineer and workmen. The defendant is Chief Engineer of the establishment and has been so for about seven years. On the morning of the 15th September, the defendant went up to the plaintiff's stores and asked him for a big spanner. The plaintiff got all the spanners laid out and asked the defendant if he wanted any of a

particular size. The defendant replied that he wanted a six and half inch spanner. The plaintiff said he had none of that size. The defendant, then, who was apparently in a hurry, asked the plaintiff to look for one at a particular spot which he indicated and simultaneously

RAPPED HIM OVER HIS HEAD

and as he turned round, gave him a kick on his posterior. The defendant says that as the plaintiff was very slow over the search, he lost his temper and gave him the kick to hurry him up. I shall assume this to be so. The defendant does not justify the assault. He admits that the act was a thoughtless one. It cannot be too clearly laid down that no master is justified in law in assaulting his servant, however humble his position may be for any fault. Provocation may be a palliation of, but it cannot be a defence to the assault. The plaintiff, later in the same day, left the office and never went back. On the following day, he preferred a charge against the defendant for assault in the Police Court of Colombo, of which the defendant's brother was the Magistrate. The Magistrate

RECORDED THE EVIDENCE

of the plaintiff and sent the proceedings on to Mr. Helling's the Additional Police Magistrate with a record by him, which might well have been omitted, that he does not issue process unless the alleged assault is sufficiently severe as to have at least some marks. Mr. Helling's refused process, not on the ground that there were no marks, but on the ground that the harm caused, if any was exceedingly slight. He acted under section 88 of the Penal Code which provides that "nothing is an offence by reason that it causes...any harm, if that harm is so slight that no person of ordinary sense and temper would complain of such harm." The plaintiff thereupon applied for a rule nisi upon Mr. Helling's to show cause why a writ of mandamus should not issue on him to compel him to issue process against the defendant. This was refused by the Acting Chief Justice. Thereafter, this action was instituted in which the plaintiff claims Rs. 1,000 damages for

WRONGFUL ASSAULT

resulting in injury to his person, credit and reputation. The facts are all admitted. It is also conceded that the defendant was not actuated by any malice or ill-will towards the plaintiff. He acted without the slightest premeditation, on the spur of the moment in a flash of irritation and temper, and I do not believe that he had the slightest intention or thought of causing pain or bringing disgrace on the plaintiff. It was said that the defendant used to knock about his subordinates, but it appears that though he had been about seven years in the firm, and always had between 300 and 400 workmen under him, only one other case of assault could be charged to him. He admits that he, sometime ago, kicked a coolie down a staircase. Then it was said that it was a cowardly assault. I certainly do not think so. The assault

WAS A TRIVIAL ONE

intended neither to cause pain nor bring disgrace. The plaintiff was in short, treated like a lazy boy who was required to be hurried up. It cannot, on the evidence, be denied that the defendant did beat and assault the plaintiff. However trivial the assault was there could be no question as to the assault, and that a person should feel himself insulted if kicked in the presence of his coolies—though only two of them is perfectly natural. But what damages did the plaintiff suffer by such assault? Plaintiff's Counsel quoted a case from Austin page 901 in which the Supreme Court awarded £7.10 damages for a case of assault in which the man had the top knot of his hair cut off and was made thereby the subject of ridicule and shame among his friends and relations. This was in 1846 and I can well believe that seventy years ago in the town of Jaffna, orthodox Hindoo, with his top knot off, did become

A SUBJECT OF RIDICULE,

and the damages awarded in the case were not excessive. No special damages have been claimed or proved. Manifestly, the cost of the abortive proceedings in the Criminal Court could not be claimed, in that, rightly or wrongly, the plaintiff's charge against the defendant was not entertained there. Plaintiff's Counsel asked for exemplary damages. I should have considered the question of exemplary damages if there was the slightest evidence or indication that the defendant was a hard task master, in the habit of bullying and beating the men under him. There is not the slightest indication of this. No special damage being proved the Court is asked to give general damage. I must at once say that actions of this kind

OUGHT TO BE DISCOURAGED.

If every man in the Island who has been assaulted in any manner however trivial the ass-

ault may be, is permitted to come into Court and claimed damages for physical and intellectual suffering, our Courts will be flooded with a class of most undesirable and petty fogging litigation. I do not believe that the plaintiff's physical pain lasted for half an hour as he says. But there is the natural indignity he suffered in consequence of the nature of the assault. He is entitled to some damages and I give him Rs. 25 with costs in that class, as in the Court of Requests.

—The Ceylon Independent

THE CONGRESS INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION IN BOMBAY.

Lord Lamington, the popular Governor of Bombay, opened the Industrial Exhibition organized under the auspices of the Twentieth Indian National Congress, in the presence of a brilliant gathering on Saturday last. All the arrangements had not been completed owing to the shortness of time. Probably, if the Exhibition had been opened a little later as was done in Madras last year, the Hon'ble Mr. D. Vithaldas Thackersey, the Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, would not have had to apologise for the incompleteness of the arrangements. However, this initial incompleteness will not detract from the success of the Exhibition which, from all accounts, is fully assured. The Committee has received support and encouragement from all parts of India, particularly from the ruling Princes. The task of organising an Industrial Exhibition is great, as we found last time in Madras. The support of the Government and of the ruling Princes is invaluable; but without great powers of organisation on the part of the Committee and great and sustained efforts, it is not possible to hold a successful Exhibition. The members of the Bombay Committee are to be congratulated on the organising power they have shown and on their remarkable success, to both of which Lord Lamington bore unstinted testimony. His Excellency acknowledged the great skill in organisation by means of which the articles and objects of the Exhibition had been collected; and he rejoiced that so much enterprise, originality and power of organisation had been shown in equipping the Exhibition. We have yet no idea of the extent, grandeur and magnificence of the Show; but from the very appreciative and enthusiastic terms in which Lord Lamington referred to it and from the excellent account furnished by Mr. Vithaldas Thackersey, there can be very little doubt that it is one which fully comes up to the expectations of all those who take a sympathetic interest in it. To us it is highly gratifying to think that the Exhibition which was first begun at Calcutta in 1901, and repeated at every successive Congress, has received new stimulus and development every year, and that it promises to become a permanent itinerant institution following the Congress to its appointed place every year. It is apparent to all that the Exhibition that was held in Madras has wonderfully stimulated public interest in Indian industries and manufactures; and not a few enterprising men have set upon intend to set up new business in indigenous industrial products. The soaps manufactured in the Bengal Soap Manufactory, the Parai soaps and the delicious biscuits manufactured in Bombay, the scented oils and like indigenous products are all being increasingly put into the Indian market; and we have no doubt that if the present tendency is not discouraged by unforeseen adverse influences, there is a future for Indian manufactures and industries even in the face of the inroads of Manchester and Sheffield.

The history and traditions of India encourage the hope that the time may come when we may hope to see a revival of the dead and decadent industries of India which had a glorious past and it was not without a certain amount of confidence in the future as well as pride in the past that Mr. Vithaldas referred to the old, renowned industries of India and to the possibilities of future enterprise and development. He recalled the glorious productions of the country in the past such as the carved wood work, the designs, the colours and the textures of its carpets and shawls, admired for many centuries and accepted as patterns for imitation by the skilled artificers of Europe, the wonderful textures sent forth from the looms of Dacca to adorn the noblest beauties of the Court of the Imperial Caesars, the elaborate stone-carving of Central India, Rajputana and Gagerat, the embossed silver work of Cutch and Agra, the microscopic painting of Delhi and Lahore, the carvings in sandalwood and the inlaid work of Multan. The survey is, by no means, complete or comprehensive; but it sufficiently shows that if a people with a past can be sure of a future, we are justified in looking forward with hope to a splendid

