

The Hindu Organ

(THE CHEAPEST WEEKLY IN CEYLON)

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY!

VOL XVI.

JAFFNA: WEDNESDAY JANUARY 18TH 1905

NO. 29

NOTICE.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION TO THE HINDU ORGAN.

Tam: Ed: Eng: Ed: Both Ed:

Rs-Cts. Rs-Cts. Rs-Cts.

Jaffna Town per annum	1-50	8-00	4-00
Outstations and India	2-00	4-00	5-50
Straits Settlements	2-25	4-50	6-25
Single Copy	10 Cents.		

RATES OF ADVERTISEMENT.

		Rs. Cts.
For one Column	Yearly	60-00
do	Half Yearly	35-00
do	Quarterly	20-00
For 1/2 Column	Yearly	35-00
do	Half Yearly	20-00
do	Quarterly	12-50
For 1/4 Column	Yearly	20-00
do	Half Yearly	12-50
do	Quarterly	7-50
First Insertion	Single line	10 Cents.
Subsequent insertions	do	5 do.

THE WONDER OF THE CENTURY
A BARGAIN! A BARGAIN!!
AN UNPRECEDENTED OFFER
NEVER DREAMT OFF!
DO NOT MISS THIS RARE CHANCE.

I. Silver wrist Watch Rs 12.

The world renowned perfect time keeper, keeps 30 hours time, Silver open case, keyless, small size, very strong and beautiful in appearance, Guaranteed for 7 years. Silver wrist watch with silver neck chain and strap complete, cost Rs. 16.

II. Excellent Time keeper (Silver) Medium size Rs. 12 with fancy silver chain cost Rs. 17.

III. Roscope nickle with nickle chain Rs. 8.

IV. Music Time Piece 3 years quarantine Rs. 8.

V. Do without music 1/2 hour and one hour Rs. 7.

Grand free distribution of Prize.

If exceed 1/4 Doz of any watch or Time Piece they will get one Roscope watch as a gratis.

Novelty to buyers! cheapest market!

Why be without a Style pen worth Rs. 2, do 2nd sort Rs. 1-50, 3rd sort cts. 40.

Fresh Stock! Reduction in Price!

Patent dating stamp with Ent. Paid, Acc't with ink, Pad, Tinbox Rs. 1-50. 1/4 Doz Rs. 4.

Silk Handkerchief cost Rs. 1. 1/4 Doz 2-50.

Playing card with gold gilt Re. 1. 1/4 Doz 2-50.

"Rose Bud" Fitted with

9. Imitation Diamond electric gold Ring Re. 1.

3. Imitation Diamond Ring cost Re 1.

1. Imitation Diamond Ring cost Re 1.

do Nose Screw Re 1. do Bulaku Rs. 2.

do Earing Rs. 4, do for females Rs. 6.

German silver snuff Box Re 1-50

do Pannir Chembu, Pala, Thattu, Rs. 8.

do Shirt Button Re 1. gold gilt Rs. 3.

do Pure Silver Rs. 4. do pearl Re 1.

Parliament Bank note paper Beam C. 75.

T. C. Sivasankara Moodr. Merchant
Choolai, Madras.
N. B. Several agents wanted to circulate
My Notices.
Illustrated Tamil List on Application
15 per cent to the Merchants.
In ordering please mention this paper.

PITH TURBANS.

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



Pith Turbans and Turbans manufactured by us, which have always been much appreciated by our customers

for their excellent shape and style;—

White muslin	Rs 2-50
White muslin laced	" 4-50
Silk of different pattern	" 6-00
Madura koddadi	" 8 00
Benares	" 9-00
Benares richly laced	" 12-00
Madura koddadi	" 12-00
check and spot	" 18-00

M. NALLIAH & SONS

CHAPEL STREET
JAFFNA.

KESHARANJAN OIL. THE KING OF HAIR OILS.

The world famed Keshranjan Oil of Kaviraj N. N. Sen, Calcutta may be had here at Re 1-20 a bottle.

M. NALLIAH & SONS

CHAPEL STREET
Jaffna.

GRAMAPHONE FOR SALE

SECOND HAND—RS. 475.

First class make, with two Sounders. One Sounder when worked in dead of night would produce sound which could be heard at 1/4 a mile distance. The other at 1/2 mile.

With it there are 30 big records (10 inches) of German, American, English, Hindoostani, and Mohamedan tunes, 47 small records (6 in.) of English, Hindoostani and Chinese tunes and over 1500 pins.

A PREMIER BICYCLE FOR SALE

SECOND HAND—RS. 165.

In good condition. Free wheel, double brake, lamp, bell, Dunlop tyres &c.

The above will be in view from the 15th January 1905.

We have also for sale most of the publications of Messrs A. M. & J. Fergusons—Directory for 1905, Ceylon in 1903. Guide to Anuradhapura. Guide to Colombo and Gardening in Ceylon and a lot of others.

S. BAGUNATH & CO

Booksellers, Stationers
&c &c
Jaffna.

PITH TURBANS.

Imported direct from a well-known Madras Firm—Turbans of white and red Koddadi, Cashmere, Rose and red Sattin silk, Poona silk, white and Blue silk &c &c &c.

Style and elegance unrivalled. We offer to give at a lower figure than any other firm in Jaffna.

Orders to be accompanied with head measurement.

THE ORIENTAL STORES

GRAND BAZAAR
JAFFNA.



THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1905.

QUARANTINE REGULATIONS.

It is now six years since Quarantine Regulations were enforced in the Jaffna District preventing the landing of passengers from India in any of the ports of this District, except via Colombo. We have times without number pointed out, in these columns, the hardships, inconveniences, and loss which the people have suffered and still suffer owing to these vexatious regulations. They were first introduced by our Government with the best of intentions, and the public also bore them patiently considering them to be a temporary measure. But finding that it is sought to make these regulations permanent in Jaffna, the people have more than once memorialised the Government on the subject, praying for their relaxation or removal. The arguments of the memorialists were so cogent and unanswerable that Government have been obliged to promise the granting of their prayer. In November 1903 a reply was received from the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary promising to open the ports of Kankesanur and Kayts alternatively during the South-West and North-East Monsoons respectively, as soon as certain arrangements were perfected in regard to disinfection. Nothing having been done for five months after that reply was received, a further communication was addressed to Government in April last requesting them to fulfil their promise in regard to the relaxation of the Regulations without further delay. The Government were again pleased to inform the Memorialists some months back that only the Port of Kayts would be opened for passenger and goods traffic from India and that the only delay in doing so was in regard to the perfection of the disinfection arrangements. About six months have again elapsed.

sed since the last promise was made, but no steps have yet been taken to carry it out.

Indeed, the ways of our Government are at times inexplicable, and their action in this case is very tantalizing. Is it credible that the Ceylon Government which have carried on two Pearl Fisheries and are going to carry on a third, admitting under some safeguards, thousands of passengers from all parts of India, have been unable all this time to perfect the arrangements required in the Jaffna port in regard to disinfection? Rightly or wrongly—wrongly we think—an impression prevails here among the people that the Quarantine Regulations are being continued, not so much in their interest as in the interest of the shipping Companies which are benefitted by the existing state of things. It is surely an anomaly and injustice that the people of Jaffna alone, who are more closely connected with South India by ties of race, religion, and commerce, than the people of any other part of this Island, should be denied direct communication with India which is only about 40 miles from this Peninsula, except by the long and the very expensive route via Colombo.

There is direct communication between South India and the ports of Trincomalie and Batticaloa by native vessels which, in favourable weather, run between those places in two or three days. Again Indian passengers are allowed to get on board the colonial steamers at Paumban and they mix freely with hundreds of passengers from Colombo to Jaffna and land at Trincomalie or Batticaloa without any evil effects on the health of Jaffna, Trincomalie, or Batticaloa. Again experience has proved at two successive Pearl Fisheries that Indian passengers could be landed from even infected parts of India in any part of Ceylon under some proper safeguards, without detriment to the health of the Island. The strangest part of this affair yet remains to be told. Even in Jaffna coolies required for the Railway and other Government works are landed direct from India after a certain period of quarantine. But the restriction is in regard only to ordinary passengers, composed mostly of respectable merchants, officials, tourists, and pilgrims, who come almost exclusively from such parts of South India as are free from plague.

It would thus be seen that the exceptional treatment which Jaffna receives at the hands of Government in the matter of Plague regulations is without any rhyme or reason. It becomes the duty of His Excellency Sir Henry Blake who had had considerable experience of plague regulations in HongKong and who has already expressed his opinion that plague will not thrive in a climate like that of Ceylon, to inquire why those regulations are still enforced in this District alone and why it takes such a long time to open at least one port here, as undertaken to be done in 1903 and again in 1904.

The tantalizing policy of Government has kept several people in Jaffna and in South India in a state of suspense. We know of persons here who are waiting to go to India, and of Jaffnese officials in India who have delayed their return to their native country with their families, till after the promised removal or relaxation of the Quarantine Regulations. It is only persons who have had experience of returning to Jaffna from India, under the existing regulations, know the hazards, hardships, and inconveniences suffered, not to speak of the very heavy expenses involved, in the trip via Colombo. The Government would,

therefore, do well either to open a port without further delay for the landing of passengers from India, or to intimate to the public that, for reasons best known to the authorities, Jaffna will be permanently excluded from direct communication with its neighbour and mother country.

THE CEYLON DINNER.

The annual Dinner of the Ceylon students in England took place in London on the 22nd ultimo. Mr. Alfred Mc. G. C. Tampoe presided, and there was a good muster of guests and students. Sir Edward Noel Walker, a former Lieutenant Governor of Ceylon proposed "Prosperity to Ceylon" in a long and interesting speech, and in coupling the toast with the name of the President said:—

Mr. Tampoe was the son of a distinguished public officer of Ceylon, whose modest usefulness he had had the opportunity of observing before he left Ceylon four years ago. Mr. Tampoe did not stand only however, on the ground of being his father's son. He stood very high on his own ground. (applause.) It was only six years since Mr. Tampoe carried off the Ceylon Government scholarship, which had been held also by at least two others in the room. In 1900 he gained an exhibition at Clare College, Cambridge, and in the following year another one. In 1902 he was second senior Optime, that was, 24th in the Mathematical Tripos, in 1903 he gained 3rd class honours in the Natural Science Tripos: and this year he had passed into the Indian Civil Service, taking the first place in the two branches of natural science. This was a record of which Mr. Tampoe might be proud and which promised a life of usefulness to him.

We give below Mr. Tampoe's reply which is characterised by noble sentiments and becoming modesty. He said:—

The little he had been able to do in his examinations he was fully and firmly convinced could be done by the average Ceylon school-boy with an average amount of hard work. Whatever he might have accomplished he trusted that future scholars from Ceylon would do better. A second class in an honours examination at Cambridge was not a performance of high merit when contrasted with the fact that their fellow-countrymen—gentlemen from India—almost found it easy to gain the top position and not only to get a first-class but to be first in the University and that not in their second or third years but even in their first year. The Ceylon men ought to see to it that they came some-where nearer to the positions achieved by their friends from India. To his mind the reason why Ceylon men had not done so well was that most of the men went to the Universities—the good men—to take up either mathematics or classics. Good as were the schools in Ceylon, in these two subjects they were far and away behind the English Public schools. The men who took up science did not go to Cambridge. There were some of the men from Ceylon who had done best. He might mention Mr. Zilwa and Mr. Mack, who studied at University College, London. He would like to remind Ceylon parents and the heads of Colleges, that a student who intended to become a bona-fide member of the University could go up to Cambridge and attend lectures for a whole year before he entered the University, without counting terms, and he thus had an opportunity of making good the great disadvantage under which he suffered by the want of good teachers at the schools in Ceylon. He wished, further, that some of the heads of Colleges in Ceylon would impress upon their pupils that classics and mathematics were not the only subjects worth studying. Science was every bit as important, and more so. The mathematical training to be obtained in Ceylon, was very poor, and Ceylon students thus started in England so far behind the English men who were up at Cambridge that they really could not get degrees worthy of Government scholars. He wished that the speech which Mr. Lucian de Zilwa made two years ago could be circulated broadcast throughout Ceylon, with a view to converting more people to the study of science, especially biology. Mr. de Zilwa made one convert by his speech, and that was himself (the Chairman). He had never studied biology before, but Mr. de Zilwa's forcible remarks set him (the Chairman) thinking, and within the year he had become a very passionate student of that science, and he had never regretted the fact. It was his great desire to see more students in Ceylon take up the same subject, because they were very well off for the animals etc., necessary for laboratory work. Why should they not get good masters from England to teach biology in Ceylon. He hoped they would excuse him for talking "shop," but he really felt that a second class at Cambridge was not worthy of Ceylon especially as the students from India had done so extraordinary well. He did not know whether he ought to apologise for having sold his services to a foreign Government. (Laughter). There was only one vacancy in Ceylon and though he tried his best to get it, he

did not succeed. A high Government official, was kind enough to tell him that he would be much better off a few hundred miles away from Ceylon, so it appeared that he was leaving Ceylon for its good and his own. (Laughter). It was a good idea that no subordinate Civil Service examinations should be held for in his opinion it was in the power of every man from Ceylon who came to England to get directly into the direct Civil Service. (Applause).

Our Subscribers in Arrears.

Will kindly note that the XVth Volume of our paper has closed and it is more than 6 months since the XVIIth 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.

LOCAL & GENERAL

Hindu College—This College reopened on the 16th Instant after the Thai-Pongal holidays.

Disturbance in the Grand Bazaar—On the 11th Instant when the new renter of the Jaffna Grand Bazaar and his men were standing in front of one of the buildings of the Bazar, collecting the rent, some one threw a bottle filled with sand which fell on one of the renter's men and wounded him seriously. The Jaffna Maniagar also was on the spot. The culprit was not found out at the time. But a case, we hear, has been instituted against some people who are suspected to have done it.

Supreme Court—There are only six cases on the calendar for trial in the sessions that commence here on the 25th Instant. The Chief Justice is expected to preside.

Jaffna Customs—In consequence of the death of Mr. Francis, 2nd Clerk, Jaffna Customs, Mr. S. T. Chittampalam, Shroff of the Point Pedro Customs, has been transferred as 2nd Clerk Jaffna Customs. He was an Extra clerk for about two years at the Colombo Customs after passing the Calcutta Entrance Examination. He is the younger son of Mr. A. Subramanier, retired sub-Collector and brother of Dr. S. Arumugam, Resident Surgeon of the F. N. S. Hospital, Jaffna.

Mr. A. Sinnacutty who is an F. A. of the Calcutta University and who was doing work at the Colombo Customs as an Extra Clerk succeeds Mr. Chittampalam as Shroff Point Pedro Customs. He is the son of Mr. Arumugam retired sub-Collector of Vavitturai and an old boy of Hindu College.

Kerosine Oil—We understand that Mr. A. M. Chittampalam, the well-known Broker and merchant, has been appointed Agent at Jaffna of the Victoria Kerosine Oil belonging to the Burmah Oil Company. We welcome this new venture, as a rival to the existing Company is very much required here to keep down the price of this useful article. A salesman of the Bulk Petroleum Store was last week fined Rs 80 by the Police Magistrate of Jaffna for

ling kerosine oil adulterated with water.

Water Pump—Mr. S. T. Thomas of Mayavilan who has recently returned from the Straits on leave has, with a view of reducing labour and facilitating irrigation, imported into Jaffna from London a new type of Pump called "Noria", or Bucket Pump. The Pump is adapted for well irrigation in the Peninsula and may be worked by one or two men, or bullocks according to the quantity of water to be raised. The Pump was fitted up in the Church Garden at Vayamban and was in view on Friday the 13th Instant. The Government Agent honoured the occasion with his presence and a large number of leading men were present in response to the invitation of Mr. Thomas.

Pearl Fishery—Appointments in connection with the ensuing Pearl Fishery were made in the Kachcheri on the 7th and 9th Instant. Preference was given to those who were employed last year. The late Mr. Veerasingha Udaiyar—deeply regret to have to record the death of Mr. Veerasingam, retired Udaiyar Neervali, which occurred last week at the ripe age of 85 years. He belonged to a respectable family in Jaffna and served Government for fifty years, and was a favourite Headman of the late Mr. Dyke. He was also a Tamil scholar, poet, dramatist, and a native physician. He was very popular among his countrymen. He married a niece of the late Ankara Panditar, the well-known Sanskrit scholar, and was also uncle of the late Mr. Proctor Muttucumaru of Colombo. He leaves behind a daughter, and four sons, of whom Mr. Harichandra, Law-student, is the eldest. We offer our condolence to the relations who bemoan his loss.

Mr. P. Arunachalam the District Judge of Kurunegalla who is now in England has obtained an extension of leave for three months and it is said he will return to the island in April.

The closing of the Trincomalee Dockyard—This Dockyard which has been in existence for 98 years has been suddenly closed by order of the naval authorities in England. It is said even the Governor of this colony was not informed of it, and he did not learn of it from the newspapers of the Island. No one knows why this has been so suddenly done. Trincomalee will lose its importance now and thousands will be thrown out of employment. A panic has been caused in the city by this intelligence.

Matrimonial—A marriage has been arranged and will shortly take place between Miss Ramanathan, second daughter of the Solicitor-General, and Mr. M. Soosundram, a son of the late Mr. P. Muttucumaru, Proctor.

Important Notice

As we are given to understand that Mr. S. S. Vytilingam who was once connected with this Paper as its Travelling Agent has left Jaffna for Straits Settlements, we would like to invite the attention of our subscribers to the Notice published by us in the September and October issues of our Paper last year about the discontinuance of his services as travelling agent of the Hindu Organ.

Our subscribers are warned not to make any payments to him but to remit all money directly to the Manager.

No receipts signed by him will be accepted by us.

THE MANAGER
HINDU ORGAN.

HINDU COLLEGE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

Pursuant to notice issued by the Principal of the Jaffna Hindu College a meeting of the old boys of the institution was held on Monday the 9th inst. in the College Hall to consider the desirability of forming an Old Boys Association and of starting a Hindu College Magazine.

On the motion of Mr. T. Mailvaganam (proctor) seconded by Mr. E. Kandiah (teacher) Mr. N. Selvadurai Pillai, the principal of the College, was proposed to the chair.

On the motion of Mr. C. K. Swaminathan (professor H. C.) seconded by Dr. S. Thambypillai L. M. S., Mr. T. Mailvaganam was appointed Secretary of the meeting.

The Secretary read the following telegram from Mr. C. P. Ramalpillai Proctor, Colombo.

"Old boys numbering 28 at meeting yesterday at short notice resolved authorizing me to express their sincere loyalty to their Alma Mater and express hearty cooperation in the cause and warmest congratulations to their beloved Principal and their brethren assembled on the proudest day in the History of their Alma Mater."

He also read telegrams from Messrs. C. Subramaniam, V. Modr. Saravanamuttu, S. Arumugam and S. Canagaratnam, expressing their desire to cooperate in the cause and wishing success to the movement.

The chairman in an eloquent speech explained the necessity that exists for the formation of an Old Boys' Association and of starting a Hindu College Magazine in connection with it.

The following Resolutions were then unanimously passed:—

Resolution I. Proposed by Mr. C. K. Swaminathan seconded by Dr. S. Thambypillai L. M. S.

"That a Jaffna Hindu College Old Boys' Association be formed to promote a cooperative feeling among the old boys and to foster a feeling of love and attachment towards their Alma Mater and to further the best interests and welfare of the College."

Resolution II. Proposed by Mr. T. Mailvaganam and seconded by Mr. M. Selvadurai (surveyor)

"That for linking by ties of love and loyalty the Old Boys' Association to their Alma Mater, to record the progress of the old boys and to further sound education in the College, a Hindu College Magazine be started in connection with the Old Boys' Association."

Resolution III. Proposed by Mr. S. Veeravagoo, Notary Public, and seconded by Mr. T. Thambypillai, teacher H. C.

"That a committee consisting of Messrs.

A. Arumugam.	V. Sangarapillai.
M. Arumugam.	M. Selvadurai.
S. Arumugam.	V. Selvadurai.
C. Arulampalam.	K. Sidamparapillai.
K. Arulampalam.	V. Sinnatamby.
A. Candavanam.	O. Sivapragasam.
K. Chelliah.	O. Sivapragasam.
P. Chinnappah Iyer.	K. Sivapragasam.
M. S. Elyatamby.	S. Sivapragasam.
C. G. Hanibald.	S. Sivapragasam.
E. Kandiah.	R. S. Sivagurunadar.
S. Kandiah.	G. Subramaniam.
S. Kanagaratnam.	K. Subramaniam.
T. Mailvaganam.	M. Subramaniam.
M. S. Maragan.	R. S. Subramaniam.
E. Nagalingam.	V. Subramaniam.
M. Nagalingam.	V. Subramaniam.
T. Nagalingam.	O. K. Swaminadar.
C. Perampillai.	M. Thambypillai.
K. Ponnuswamy.	S. Thambypillai.
V. Ponnuswamy.	T. Thambypillai.
N. Ponniah.	V. Thamby.
K. Rajanayagam.	S. Thillainadar.
K. Ratnasingham.	A. Thuraiappah.
J. T. Sadasiva Iyer.	S. Thuraiappah.
V. Modr. Saravanamuttu.	V. Modr. Vadiyeln.
S. Thuraiappah.	K. Veeravagu.
T. N. Velupulle.	R. Visuvalingam.
S. Veeravagu.	S. Vyalingam.
V. Visuvalingam.	

with power to add to their number be formed to draft the constitution of the Association and to carry out the object of the meeting."

The meeting came to a close with a vote of thanks to the chair proposed by Mr. M. Selvadurai (surveyor) and seconded by Mr. E. Kandiah (Teacher).

WANTED.

A Teacher holding 2nd or 3rd class certificate. Salary according to efficiency. For terms, Apply to:—

THE MANAGER
ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL
KANDARODAI
JAFFNA.

THE WAR.

London, January, 6.—Sakharoff reports that Russian patrols damaged the railway embankment and roamed up the telegraphs for six miles north of Haicheng. A Japanese engine was derailed.

The battleships in Port Arthur have not yet been officially inspected, but it is believed their hoists blowing up before capitulation only damaged the upper parts, which it is hoped can be repaired.

Reuter's agent before Port Arthur wires today that all the Russian regulars have marched out and are proceeding to Dalny. A Japanese contingent has entered the city to preserve order. Japanese sailors are removing the mines and Japanese hulks at the entrance to the harbour. All the forts have now been transferred.

The loss of Admiral Rozhdestvensky's flagship the *Kniaz Suvaroff* is absolutely denied at St. Petersburg.

Reuter at Tokio wires that General Stoessel has given his parole and returns to Russia via Nagaoki.

Generals Nogi and Stoessel had two hours' conference at Port Arthur yesterday and proposed to distribute the sick and wounded among hospitals at Chinese ports.

London January 7th.—Reuter's Tokio correspondent says the blockade of Liao-tung has been raised, but only Japanese Government vessels are allowed to enter Port Arthur at present.

The Emperor has issued a rescript thanking General Nogi and the 3rd Army and Admiral Togo, and his fleet for the capture of Port Arthur.

During the conference between General Nogi and General Stoessel the latter praised the accuracy of the Japanese artillery and offered General Nogi his charger which General Nogi accepted on behalf of the army, who he said, would always treat it with the greatest kindness out of respect for the brave general.

London, January, 8.—Coal contracts are being signed on the Continent to supply third Baltic Squadron.

A monster banquet is being arranged at St. Petersburg to protest against the Bureaucracy.

London, January, 9.—The transfer of prisoners at Port Arthur has been completed. Fifty per cent of Russian officers were given their parole. The remainder, including Generals Fock and Smynoff, prefer to be imprisoned in Japan.

Reuter wires from Tokio that the Japanese intend to establish a Naval Station at Port Arthur and that Vice-Admiral Shibayama will probably be placed in charge. The military administration will retain only a small garrison. Twelve Naval attaches have visited Port Arthur and inspected the remains of the Russian Fleet.

The wave of popular emotion at first caused at St. Petersburg by the surrender of Port Arthur has already subsided. Christmas has created a diversion and the public are joyously celebrating it at the theatres, music halls, restaurants and taverns. On the other hand a solemn funeral service to those who have fallen at Port Arthur, at the Isaac and Kazan Cathedrals, was poorly attended.

A telegram from Tokio, says it is proposed shortly to float a fourth domestic war loan on the same conditions as the third.

London, January, 10.—Reuter wiring from Port Arthur on the 6th says:—5,000 of the garrison marched from Pigeon Bay fifteen miles to Changlingtau railway station and thence were entrained for Dalny. Some pathetic scenes were witnessed. The Japanese have already repaired the railway and changed the gauge to Port Arthur which trains will enter in a few days.

London, January 12.—General Nogi reports that 543 guns were captured at Port Arthur, 82,670 shells, 30,000 kilograms of powder and 2,286,800 rounds of rifle ammunition.

The North Sea Enquiry Commission has completed its rules of procedure. The Agents' steamers will be read at the first sitting on the 18th inst. The examination of witnesses, the presentation of the Agents' conclusions and the final announcement of the Commission's conclusions will also be public. The sittings at which the Commissioners deliberate will be secret.

Botrovo's squadron leaves Suez to-morrow. The subscription to a new Russian loan opened at Berlin and closed immediately. Applications were unusually large.

London, January, 13.—Botrovo's supplementary squadron has left Suez.

Reuter at Tokio says an official report, dated 12th inst., states that the Japanese cavalry on Wednesday morning encountered 4 Russian squadrons southwest of Liaoyang, whom they repulsed with heavy losses, after a four hours' fight. 2,000 Russian Cavalry attacked Nichwan the same afternoon; the Japanese retired but were subsequently reinforced and drove off the enemy, whom they are still pursuing.

London, January 9.—The North Sea Enquiry Commission met today and a plurality (majority) decided to admit press representatives. Admiral Fournier was re-elected President, Admiral Spanu withdrawing in Admiral Fournier's favour.

Reuter at St. Petersburg wires that the following ships leave Libau between the 28th January and 2nd February to join Admiral Rozhdestvensky's fleet:—The Battleship *Imperator Nicholas*, the coast defence ironclads General Admiral *Apresin* Admiral *Sinyavin*, Admiral *Ushakov*, and the cruiser *Vladimir Monomach*.

(See Supplement)

Reuter at Port Arthur says Captain Tannoda, who took Stoessel the Mikado's message desiring that the garrison should be well treated, had a long conversation with Stoessel who enquired where Kurapatkin was. Tannoda replied he was at Shabo. Stoessel was incredulous, and said he had not heard of Kurapatkin since 6th October. Stoessel was amazed on hearing that the Baltic Fleet had only reached the Cape of Good Hope.

Reuter, at Tokio, says the Navy Department regrets the misunderstanding between the Andromeda and the Commander of Port Arthur, who acted upon general instructions. The Andromeda returned to Wei-hai-wei before the grateful acceptance of aid had arrived from Tokio.

London, January 10.—Admiral Botrovosky's squadron has reached Port Said.

London, January 11.—Reuter's correspondent at Mauritius wires that it is rumoured the Japanese Fleet has arrived at Diego Garcia. Admiral Rozhdestvenski was informed on the 2nd instant, that the Japanese Fleet had proceeded to meet the Baltic Squadron. The Russians have therefore redoubled their vigilance. Admiral Rozhdestvenski's Aide-de-Camp has been interviewed at Tamatave on the 3rd instant and said the Baltic squadron would require a month to cross the Indian Ocean.

London, January 10.—Large batches of prisoners from Port Arthur are daily arriving in Japan.

The North Sea Enquiry Commission again discussed procedure today privately.

Reuter at Tokio says according to an official statement the mine-clearing vessels hitherto have destroyed 395 mines in a radius of 40 miles at Port Arthur.

London, January 11.—Admiral Botrovosky's squadron has entered the Suez Canal.

Admiral Skrydloff has left Vladivostok for St Petersburg.

The Kaiser, in asking the Tsar's and the Mikado's assent to bestow the Order of Merit on Generals Stoessel and Nogi, respectively, telegraphed to the Tsar: The defence of Port Arthur will ever be an example to soldiers of all nations. The hero commanding your faithful camps is admired by the whole world and especially by my army and myself. I am conferring the same honour on his brave opponent. His Majesty telegraphed to the Mikado: The siege of Port Arthur has shown General Nogi to be a brave and prudent commander, whose heroic deeds and those of his troops will ever be admired by all soldiers and especially by myself and my army. His brave opponent is receiving the same distinction.

The Tsar has replied that he highly appreciated the sympathy of the Kaiser and his army. General Stoessel had gallantly done his duty to the end at the head of a brave garrison.

The Mikado replied: I am much obliged for Your Majesty's admiration of the capture of Port Arthur and assent with pleasure to Your Majesty's kind wish to confer on General Nogi the highest distinction of the Prussian Army.

—The Ceylon Observer.

THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

MR. SAMUEL SMITH'S IMPRESSIONS.

Mr. Samuel Smith, M. P., who attended the sittings of the Congress writes to the *Times of India* as follows:—

Perhaps you would allow me as an old friend of India to make some remarks upon the Congress which has come to a close. I was the only British Member of Parliament present. It may interest your readers to hear the impressions it made on me. They say the bystander sees most of the game. I have no bias, either for or against this movement, and I am bound to testify that I was favourably impressed by what I heard and saw. Ten thousand people or there about met together day by day with perfect order. I never saw an assembly better conducted in Great Britain or any other country. The speaking was on a high level. A few of the speeches would have been admired, if delivered in the British Parliament, and upon the whole a tone of moderation prevailed throughout the assembly. It is true that the criticism of Government was rather severe—I think too much so—but that is common to "the Opposition" in all countries, and a considerable discount must be allowed which the Indian people themselves would be the first to make. Had the Congress to govern India, it would discover the enormous difficulty of the task, and would begin to wonder how successful the British Government had been. Yet it would be foolish for us to shut our eyes to the growing discontent of certain sections of Indian opinion. The Congress movement springs out of the education which England has given to India. It is the reflection of our own political teaching. We have supplied them with the weapons which they are using against us. We must be surprised if they employ criticisms which they have learnt at the fountain of British liberty.

The fact is, we are slowly creating an Indian nation. True, this only applies at present to the small section of politically trained natives. But these men are the natural leaders of the community, and are regarded as such by the dumb ignorant masses. A thousand delegates have been freely elected from all parts of India. They have met in this 20th Congress to formulate their demands and the Government of this country and British public opinion should meet them with great respect. I was struck

with the substantial loyalty to British rule that prevailed the assembly. I scarcely believe that any man of that great assembly really wished to overturn the Government of this country. They know that a strong and impartial Government stands between India and anarchy, and that the powerful arm of the British Empire is needed to save India from a host of hungry and predatory nations. But they also feel quite legitimately that the people of India are entitled to a growing share in the administration of their own country. Some of them are men of the first class ability and sterling patriotism, and they naturally wish to see such men raised to important office in the country. One would say as a practical suggestion that first class Indian subjects should be more freely employed in the administration of this country. There should be no absolute barrier against them, except in a few of the chief executive offices of the country. Of course they recognise themselves that only men of thorough loyalty to the Government can be put in commanding positions. That goes without saying. For no Government in an Asiatic country can preserve law and order which has not a strong executive able to put down lawlessness whenever it occurs. No executive in Asia could rule any country, if it had to get the assent of a deliberative assembly and justify its action in each particular case. A certain element of autocracy, or if you like to call it so, paternal Government, is essential to success in all Asiatic countries. But the great thing required in India is that the Government should be in close touch with the best Indian opinion. That can only be done by having the leaders of Indian opinion close to those in authority, and that there shall be easy and familiar intercourse between them.

THE BRANCH RAILWAY TO MANNAR: ITS VITAL IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY.

The more this project is considered, the greater the importance it assumes. Our friends in Uva, in Sabragamuwa and in the Negombo-Chilaw Puttalam districts will pardon us if we declare that, in the interests of the whole Planting community and of the Colony at large, it is the most important, and even most urgent, bit of Railway Extension that can be pressed on the attention of the Ceylon Government and Secretary of State at this time. We should like to see the Planters' Association and Chamber of Commerce pass special resolutions to back up the action already taken in the Legislative Council. We are convinced that the flow of Cooly Immigrants into this island and the Labour Supply for private employers as well as official departments can never be placed on a continuously ample, regular and stable footing until the old and favourite cooly route is re-established, with the additional and very special advantages which Railway communication to Panuben on the one side and from Mannar on the other, would afford. The fact is that the planters in Ceylon ought to have begun to agitate for this Mannar Branch Railway from the date on which it was announced that the South Indian Railway Company had carried their line Southwards towards the coast facing Rameswaram. But the feeling was, of course that there was no need to agitate until the Northern Railway approached completion. We believe it is generally acknowledged that the Tamil Cooly has never regarded the Tuticorin route with favour or affection; while his spouse and children dislike and often dread it. In the face of this feeling, it is wonderful how the immigration has kept up. But with the Northern route closed, the cooly had to make a virtue of necessity; and with all the additional official and artificial aids afforded him at Tataparai, Tuticorin, Colombo, and Ragama, he realised he was being well cared for at least; but all the same his heart (and especially that of Maenatchie) is all for the Panuben-Mannar line of immigration, if only it could be opened in an equally complete form; and there is, practically, only this 40 miles of a cheap broadgauge extension required to make the route far more convenient, comfortable and popular than its rival ever can be. But the planters are by no means the only parties with a deep interest in this project; for, if ever our Northern and North-Central regions are to be developed it must be through a large access to cooly immigration, and, indeed, the permanent settlement within its bounds of population from over-crowded districts of India. Without more labour than is at present available, it is quite impossible for pioneering in land cultivation to be taken up on any considerable or satisfactory scale. Nothing but isolated, spasmodic experiments can be expected alongside the Northern Railway un-

til the Mannar Branch is open and coolies galore rush over with a glad heart over what is to them the easiest and most popular line of travel. We would, with the utmost earnestness, press this view on Governor Blake and his advisers, as well as on our rulers in the Colonial Office, in the hope that the required survey of the route (from near Vavuniya to Mannar, if the best) may be compassed at an early date. We began by apologising to friends whose precedent claims for Railway communication have, to a great extent, been officially acknowledged. But in reality, there is no need. For, if the Loan spoken of by the Governor is sanctioned to the full amount, we are sanguine enough to believe that it could cover the cost of the other sections of extension, or light Railway, in addition to the £160,000 to £180,000 sterling, which it is simply reckoned should provide a branch line after the style adopted on the Northern Railway. The Mannar country is equally flat and easy for Railway Engineers, we are told and the need of any bridge or other work of magnitude can be avoided. In that case, why should the Home or local authorities hesitate about a supplementary bit of Railway which may be said to be indispensable to the financial success of the great undertaking of nearly 200 miles of Railway now about completed? Is the Mannar Branch not "a little one"? Will it not indeed—to quote a favourite expression with Governor Sir Wm. Gregory be very much "a case of spoiling the ship for the sake of a ha'p'orth of tar" to put off the addition the all important 40 miles of cheap line required to reach Mannar? We do not dwell today on the great advantage, administratively, of this branch Railway to Government in connection with the Giant's Tank and other restored irrigation works, as well as in respect of the economical and progressive management of our Pearl Oyster Fisheries and Culture. We base an urgent appeal on the one vital and even, in the case of Ceylon, magical word "Labour"! Long long ago, it was realised by all who studied the economic development and condition of this Colony, that the one indispensable element was a full and steadily continuous flow of cooly immigrants from Southern India. Given an ample Labour Supply and Sir Henry Blake will find the work of the Agricultural Society prosper and extend very rapidly in respect of a variety of new products; and still more His Excellency will find application coming in, from responsible parties, to take up land in our now unoccupied North-Central and Northern territory. But without "labour" the case is hopeless; and the most potent means of including an abundant and steady flow of immigrants is, in our opinion, to be found all this time in the Survey and Construction of the Branch Line of Railway from Vavuniya (or thereabouts) to Mannar. Let the Government—and all Officials and Unofficials concerned—ever remember that each immigrant landing in Ceylon adds to the general revenue and trade, as well as strengthens the developing power of capital and industry.

—The Ceylon Observer.

NOTICE.

"ORDER NISI"

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary } No. 1584

Jurisdiction }
Class II } In the Matter of the Estate of the late
Sinnappillai daughter of Thampiah of Vedattalpalai

Deceased.
Venasittamp Arunasalam of Vedattalpalai
Petitioner

Vs
Manikkar Thampiah of Karampakam Respondent

This matter of the Petition of Venasittamp Arunasalam praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased Sinnappillai daughter of Thampiah coming on for disposal before H. R. Freeman Esquire District Judge, on the 12th day of December 1904 in the presence of Messrs. Casipillai & Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 6th day of November 1904 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the guardian of the minor heir of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall on or, before the 24th day of January 1905 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 12th day of December 1904

Signed. H. R. FREEMAN
District Judge.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY S. KANDIAPILLAI
FOR THE PROPRIETORS AT THE SAIYAPPAKAMA
PRESS, JAFFNA.