

# The Hindu Organ

(THE CHEAPEST WEEKLY IN CEYLON)

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

VOL. XVI.

JAFFNA: WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 8TH 1905

NO. 32

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## THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1905.

## THE SEASON OUT-LOOK.

There can now be no doubt that the crop in Jaffna this year is a great failure—such a failure as has never been known in the life-time of any person living. The failure of the winter rains this time was unprecedented and the sowing took place more than a month after the usual season. The young plants came up very well, but they were at times either eaten away by the insect called Arakkoddian or fell a prey to want of rain. The rains that fell in December and in the first week of last month, however, revived them to some extent, and hopes were entertained of realizing a partial crop, sufficient at least for seed paddy, if there be rains either in the latter part of January or the beginning of this month. But no rains have fallen here for more than a month, and the result is the withering of the paddy and varago plants in almost all parts of the District past all hopes of yielding a crop. It is a pitiful sight to see the plants blunted in growth and in process of dying either before they are in ears or after ears have come out but without any grain in them. The out-look is, therefore, very gloomy, and the authorities should be on the look-out to afford relief to the people who are expected to suffer the consequence of this disastrous and unprecedented failure of crops in the Jaffna District.

We do not think actual famine such as now and again prevails in parts of India following the failure of crops, will occur in a place like Jaffna. But there are places in the District also whose inhabitants depend almost entirely for their sustenance upon the crops they grow, and their failure is sure to cause great distress among them. We refer to such places as the Islands, the Vannies, and Poonaryn, where great despondency now prevails as to the fate that awaits the people and their cattle in consequence of the failure of their crops.

Even in the Peninsula of Jaffna considerable distress will be caused by the failure of the crops. Not only the paddy crop but also the Varago crop is almost a total failure. There are people who can afford to buy imported rice for their consumption, but there is a large number who depend greatly on their paddy and varago crop for their sustenance. Even if the people could succeed in getting through this crisis without serious consequences, great apprehension is felt on account of

the impending scarcity of fodder and straw for the cattle, which cannot be imported here so easily as food grains are imported from other parts of the Island and India. The cattle will, therefore, suffer greater hardships than man, as a result of the present failure of the crops.

The present gloomy state of affairs in Jaffna is intensified by the fact that there is an equally bad failure of crops in a large area in South India on which we mainly depend for our food supply. This has the effect of gradually increasing the price of food grains both in India and Jaffna. It was at one time expected that large quantity of paddy would be imported and stored here from Burmah, sufficient for the wants of the people throughout the year, as large number of vessels was sent there for paddy by the Chetties here. But some of these vessels are now under orders to land their paddy at some South Indian ports, Nagapatam, Thondi, Paumban, &c, where under existing circumstances the Chetties find it more profitable to sell it than in Jaffna. This is another source of great anxiety to the people here.

In whatever way we view it, the out-look is very gloomy and is one fraught with very great anxiety. It behoves the Government to take timely measures to prevent actual distress among His Majesty's subjects, by the opening of relief works, if such a measure becomes necessary, and by the remission of the fresh increase in the road tax which has unfortunately been imposed this year, at the instance of the Provincial Road Committee. It is a sad coincidence that the increase of this tax should take place in an year which threatens to be one of exceptional scarcity and distress. It was never expected at the time this increase was recommended and sanctioned that such failure of crop as has now taken place will occur. But we have every confidence that Mr. J. P. Lewis, the acting Government Agent, will take into his serious consideration the present situation and do the needful.

The interpellation in the Madras Legislative Council on the 27th ultimo and the reply of Government which we publish in another column will throw a good deal of light on the crop prospects in that presidency and on the measures adopted by that Government to prevent famine and distress there and to mitigate their severity.

## THE LOW COUNTRY SINHALESE SEAT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

This seat is shortly to fall vacant by the operation of the Five Years Rule. It appears that the Hon'ble Mr. S. C. Obeyasekara, is the nominee of the vast majority of this community for re-appointment for another term of five years. Mr. James Pieris, Advocate, is the rival candidate for the Seat, having been put forward by one section of the community. The candidature of Mr. Obeya-



sekera, however, has the support of all sections of the Sinhalese, throughout the Island. He has proved himself such an ideal and useful member that his re-appointment would be hailed with satisfaction, not only by the community which he now so worthily represents, but also by the Tamils in general, in whose name we have some right to speak in regard to this question. The Five Years Rule is intended only to exclude a Member who would prove unworthy of the confidence imposed on him by the Government and the public, and not to apply in the case of a well-tryed and popular Representative. When the Tamil Seat last fell vacant, there were candidates who were fully competent to fill it and who had large amount of popular support. But the Five Years Rule did not apply then, and the Hon'ble Dr. Rockwood was re-appointed. We see no reason why the same policy cannot be pursued in the case of the Sinhalese Seat, more especially as the re-appointment of Mr. Obeyasekera will give great satisfaction to the vast majority of the Sinhalese, and to other communities in the Island whose interests also have always been safeguarded by him.

## 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 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.

## LOCAL & GENERAL

**The Northern Railway**—It is said that the work in connection with this Railway will be completed before the end of next month and that the whole line will be opened for traffic in June next.

**The Superintendent of Police**—Mr. H. L. Dowbiggin, the Superintendent of Police, who was stationed here for some months, has left for Colombo on promotion, and his successor Mr. J. J. Bowes, Assistant Superintendent of Police, has arrived and assumed duties. It is only right to say that during Mr. Dowbiggin's time new life and energy were infused among the Police here, and, though at one time they were the means of creating some dissatisfaction among the people, yet latterly the Police behaved much better and he leaves the force in a state of great efficiency and discipline.

**The Government Agent**—Mr. Lewis accompanied by Mrs. Lewis left here yesterday for Marichchukaddi and will be away from Jaffna till the close of the Pearl Fishery.

**Mr. Proctor V. Casipillai**—This gentleman who has been confined to his house with an attack of pleurisy for the last three weeks is now, we are glad to say, convalescent and will be able in a few days to attend to his duties.

**Matrimonial**—Mr. Arumugam Mathiparanam of Navaly was married on the 6th inst. in Colombo to Miss Paramasundary Ammal, daughter of Mr. Mathavarayar Supiramaniam, Broker, Spinning and Weaving Company, Colombo, and brother of Mr. M. Karalasingam Mudaliyar, Registrar of Lands, Jaffna. We wish the newly married couple long life happiness and prosperity.

**Dr. Spittel**—This gentleman who has been appointed Medical Officer at the Pearl Fishery arrived here yesterday from Colombo on his way to Marichchukaddi.

**The Pearl Fishery**—The officers connected with the Fishery leave here for Marichchukaddi on the 14th Instant. The Government is a gainer by about Rs15,000 by the temporary buildings there having been done on contract, tenders having been called for. We understand that the works have been already completed by the contractor who undertook to do them for Rs14,000 or so. There is now a large influx of Arabs in Jaffna to go to Marichchukaddi as divers.

**The S. S. "Jaffna"**—The case on account of this boat between Messrs. Walker Sons and Co. and the Jaffna Steam Navigation Company is fixed for trial on the 7th proximo in the District Court of Colombo. Mr. Edmund Walker who travelled round the Island by the last trip of the Lady Havelock and arrived in Jaffna on the 1st Instant had a conference on the morning of that day with the Directors of the Jaffna Company on the subject of an amicable settlement of the case. But we understand no settlement was arrived at and the case will go on for trial.

**Central College, Colombo**—We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the Calendar of this College for 1905. It contains various useful informations not only about this College but also about educational affairs in Ceylon in general.

**Young Jaffna**—Jaffnese will be particularly glad to hear that among the undergraduates of the Madras University for 1904 is to be found one of their own countrymen, Mr. A. Kanakasabai of Mallakam, who took Sanskrit for his optional language. This, we believe, is the first instance where a Jaffnese and that a Non-Brahmin has studied Sanskrit for any University Examination. He is a nephew of Mr. V. Kanakasabai Pillai, Supdt. of Post Offices, and author of the recently published book, "The Tamils Eighteen Hundred Years ago" and a brother-in-law of Mr. K. Vaidyalingam Pillai, Personal Assistant to the Postmaster-General, Madras. The young man, we hear, intends to take up the B. A. course with Sanskrit for his optional language. We wish him every success in the study of this ancient and sacred language of ours which, we are sure, will profit him immensely, difficult as it is.

—Cor.

**Birthday Celebration of Swami Vivekananda**—The nativity of the Swami fell in the 27th January and adopting Indian precedents, the Manipal Vivekananda Society celebrated the day with special functions. Several of the Committee Members were entertained at dinner at noon by one of them at his residence. The public celebration commenced at about 2. p. m., at the South Manipal Vernacular School by the singing of a Sanskrit prayer from the Ramayana by the Gramophone which was interpreted by Srmat R. Muttuswamy Karukkal of Tellipalai who presided on the occasion. A party of Musicians played at intervals and devotional songs were sung by several to the accompaniment of the Lily Flute. Hindustanee songs, verses from the Vedas and Band recitals were given by the gramophone. The chief function of the day was the delivery of an address by Mr. V. Ramalingam, Vice President of the Society on the life and work of the Swami. The lecturer dwelt on the attributes of great teachers, the uplifting influences of their lives and concluded with an interesting account of the Swami's career. Messrs. V. Mudaliyar Muttuvelupillai and M. Sivapragasam, the wellknown merchant, kindly presided at the Lily Flute. At 6. p. m., the meeting closed with Devaram, and distribution of betel, Sandanam, &c.

The society now numbers many members and the contributions received will enable the promoters to carry on the work with efficiency.—Cor.

## THE PULOLY WEST GIRLS' VERNACULAR SCHOOL POINT PEDRO.

This institution, which has been started twelve years ago by Mr. A. A. Chithamparapillay and has been recently placed by the Government in the list of aided schools, is the first of its type under native management. The first Government Examination will take place in March next. The large-hearted Manager, who has already under his management a Government Grant-in-aid School for boys in the same locality, perceiving the necessity of a similar one for the girls, has opened this, side by side with the other. The school has been lodged in a decent house put up for the purpose, and much appreciated by the Inspectors. For these twelve years, the school prospered under his steady and able management, and it is our fervent wish that its future history may be one of advancement and prosperity. It is highly commendable to see that he has, for a period of twelve years, conducted this school single-handed, notwithstanding the various difficulties, that generally beset private undertakings of this nature. His perseverance, generosity, and patience, in working up this school to the present condition, besides being admirable, are worthy of imitation by the Hindus of Jaffna. We congratulate the Manager on the success he has achieved, and pray to God to confer more blessings upon the School.—Cor.

## TOTAL ABSTINENCE OR TEMPERANCE?

To The Editor of the

Hindu Organ

Dear Sir,

All this while I was under the impression that religiously and socially in Jaffna the Mahomedans and Hindus can only lay any claim to total abstinence, or advocate the adoption of total abstinence and the rest including the Christians to temperance alone. But to my great surprise the Christians are now very busy over the matter of total abstinence. I have come across a notice signed by Mr. Edward Mather (who is a Christian) in the name of the "Jaffna Total Abstinence Society" calling a meeting to be held on the 1st Instant in the Central College Hall—a building belonging to a sect of Christian Missionary body.

Of course, I, as a Hindu, will hail the day when all Jaffna totally abstains from spirituous liquor. But what I propose to discuss here is whether Christians have any claim to espouse the cause of total abstinence. Is not total abstinence diametrically opposed to Christian view both religiously and socially, for, it is said in the Scriptures that Christians are bound by their religion to use bread and wine at Lord's Supper as an outward and visible sign of inward and spiritual grace? Vide Matthew XXVI. 26-28. Socially Christ, the saviour, himself finding that wine in the marriage feast in Cana of Galilee ran short, converted water into wine and ordered it to be served among the guests. Vide St. John's Gospel chapter II verse I-II.

In certain quarters I have heard it urged that wine is a non-intoxicant and can be used, but it does not appear so on reference to the Christian Scriptures and Dictionaries. In support of my contention that wine is an intoxicant I beg to quote from Genesis chapter IX verse 24: "Noah awoke from his wine." What is the meaning of this passage? I leave it to the gentle reader to make his own interpretation. The main question is whether would it be consistent with one to be a Christian and a total abstainer at the same time?

Does not the present action of our Christian friends appear to militate against the cardinal principles of the Scriptures? For, if any one takes the pledge of total abstinence, he cannot afterwards partake of Lord's Supper which contains wine, however small it may be. And as a natural consequence it seems that one cannot be both Christian and total abstainer at the same time.

Such being the case I am unable to reconcile the two coincidences and hence I have thought it proper to clear the doubt through you.

Yours truly

A Hindu.

## IMPENDING SCARCITY IN INDIA.

The Hon'ble G. Srinivasa Rao Avargal:—

(a) Is it a fact that want of rain has been felt all over the presidency? Has the drought prevailing been so severe as to necessitate the organization of relief measure?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to note that encouragement to the sinking and construction of wells on private lands, both wet and dry, will be of great protective and productive value and order it to be given a place among proposed relief works?

(c) Will the Government be further pleased to direct the withholding of the collection of Government kists wherever there may be a complete failure of crops?

(d) Will it at all events, be the pleasure of Government to order the postponement of the collection of the first instalment of kists and thereby grant relief to the suffering ryot?



The Hon'ble Mr. Atkinson:—

X. As other Honourable Members are asking similar questions with regard to the state of the season, it will be convenient at this stage to make a general reply.

The rainfall in and up to November has been generally deficient except in the Circars, the West Coast districts and on the Hills. The deficiency has been most marked in Cuddapah, Nellore, Chingleput and Kurnool. At the beginning of December the Government directed the Settlement Commissioner to visit the affected districts and particularly those in the Deccan, Central and Carnatic groups. The Settlement Commissioner has accordingly visited the districts of Chingleput, Coimbatore, South Arcot, Salem, Trichinopoly, North Arcot, Anantapur, Bellary, Nellore, Kurnool and Cuddapah. His reports show that though there will no doubt be a considerable failure of crop both wet and dry in most of the districts which he inspected, it is unlikely that it will be necessary to organise any measures of famine relief in the strict sense of the term.

The physical condition of the people shows no deterioration so far, and the labouring classes generally are not complaining of dearth of labour. Nor are there any signs of an increase in crime or of the other usual accompaniments of prevalent distress, while during the current month prices have been steady or have shown a tendency to fall. The Government are, however, keeping a vigilant watch over the condition of the country and, should necessity arise, there will be no delay in the application of measures of relief. As regards the collection of land revenue assessment, it is probable that remission of wet assessment will be necessary on a scale more or less extensive throughout the area where the rains have been short. The grant of dry remissions however will be generally unnecessary.

The attention of the Collectors of the affected districts has been specially drawn to the instructions embodied in the Standing Orders on the subject of exceptional remission and they are taking the initiative in inspection without waiting for the receipt of written applications.

Collectors are also suspending collections in cases where it is practically certain that remission will ultimately be granted.

In Cuddappah a general postponement of the collection of the first two kists has been ordered on all rain-fed lands in seven taluks, and in Kurnool, the Collection of the first three kists on dry lands other than those protected by wells has been postponed till March in the Markapur taluk and in various parts of six other taluks. In parts of two taluks in Bellary the January kist has been postponed till March. Similar postponements will be sanctioned by the Board of Revenue where necessary.

With regard to the Honourable Member's question about wells, the Government are aware of their productive and protective value and have frequently called attention to the importance of encouraging their construction by private enterprise by the liberal grant of loans. They are, however, not suitable as relief works.

—The Hindu.

## THE WAR.

London, January, 28.—General Kuropatkin states that the Japanese counter attack was repulsed, and the Russians, after a desperate fight, entered the large and strongly entrenched village of Sandepu, at seven in the evening of the 25th. During the day a hundred Japanese were made prisoners. General Kuropatkin says: We resumed the offensive on the 26th and occupied the enemy's entrenchments at Sha-ho-pu. Attempts made to dislodge us were repulsed. The Japanese were reattacking the Sandepu positions at four in the afternoon. Reuter, from Tokio, wires that Marshal Oyama reports that the Russian army Corps on the right banks of the Han-ho advanced on the 25th and was attacked by the Japanese on the 26th. The Russians were defeated at Chen-chiek-pao. Fighting is proceeding at Tukontai. General Sakharoff wires on the 27th that the Russians continued the attack at Sandepu with the object of demolishing the principal Japanese redoubt. The Cavalry put to flight several columns of the Japanese from Tukontai, capturing fifty prisoners. It is stated at St. Petersburg that the Russians had a thousand casualties in the attack on Sandepu.

A hundred thousand strikers, both at Warsaw and Lodz, owing to the closing of the bakeries at Warsaw are almost breadless.

London, January, 29.—Marshal Oyama reports that as a result of Saturday's fighting, the Russians at Heikuntai and Lintiaokon retreated to the right bank of the Eunho and the Japanese captured 500 Russians.

General Sakharoff telegraphs that after occupying on the 26th the greater part of Sandepu, the Russians encountered a strong redoubt with a triple row of artificial obstacles, and seeing the impossibility of carrying redoubt without previous bombardment, he evacuated Sandepu where it was impossible to remain without risking defeat. He violently bombarded Sandepu, and the redoubt on the 27th and 28th.

Reuter, wires from Mukden that the Japanese have fallen back and the Russian cavalry have advanced, their lines ten miles. Firing was continued on the right flank on the 27th but does not seem to have developed in the centre or the eastern flank, and ceased altogether on the 28th.

Advices from St. Petersburg, today, state that General Mitchenko has been wounded in the leg but remains at the front.

London, January, 30.

A despatch from General Gripenberg shows that the Japanese vigorously attacked the Russians and that General Kondratovich has been wounded.

Reuter, with Kuroki, says that after driving the Russians across the Eunho, the Japanese bombard-

ed the whole line. The Russian reply was feeble.

The Japanese estimate their losses in the recent fighting at 5,000 and the Russian losses at 10,000.

Sir Charles Hardinge has sent a military attache to investigate the reported attacks on the British Consul-General Murray and Pro-Consul Mucukain at Warsaw by the soldiery.

Disturbances at Warsaw were renewed today, 160 being killed and wounded.

The troops at Libau have been reinforced, as the situation there is worse.

London, January, 31.—Reuter at Tokio says the loss of Heikuntai so weakens the Russian position that probably it will compel a material change of front in that neighbourhood. The Japanese now occupy Heikuntai and are holding strong Russian works. It is impossible to build new works owing to the frost.

The Japanese have found at least 1,200 Russian dead since the fighting on the 25th. The Russian admit the loss was about 10,000.

The Japanese have captured the British steamer 'Wye' field with a contraband cargo off Hokkaido.

General Sakharoff estimates the Japanese prisoners at over 300.

London, February, 1.—A Daily Telegraph despatch from Tokio says the Russian casualties from the 25th to the 29th are now estimated at 36,000 to 42,000 and the Japanese at 7,000.

The Police at St. Petersburg yesterday surprised a meeting of strikers in a tavern and fired on them wounding 4 and killing a girl.

A supplementary official statement states that 96 were killed on the 22nd ult. at St. Petersburg and 333 wounded, of whom 32 have since died. The total wounded at Warsaw is variously estimated at from 500 to 1,200, but the former is most probable. There are still occasional exchanges of shots in the suburbs.

Gen. Kuropatkin, wiring on the 31st, says Sandepu is ignited, which is the result of the Russian cannonade, compelling the Japanese partially to evacuate it. The Japanese attacks on the neighbouring villages and passes have been repulsed.

The Grand Duke Vladimir, who was interviewed today, said the Government could not allow 140,000 men to march to the Winter Palace as they would have sacked it and afterwards the whole city. The workmen were the tools of anarchist plotters and looters; unfortunately the innocent suffered with the guilty and 126 had been killed and several hundred wounded. The Grand Duke ridiculed the idea of a Constitution which would lead to the ruin and the disintegration of Russia; but he admitted the necessity of reforms, enabling people to present their needs and grievances direct to the Tsar.

The Tsar today will receive a deputation of workmen at Tsarskoeselo.

The deputation which waited on the Tsar today numbered 34, and was accompanied by M. Kokortseff and M. Trepoft. The Tsar said the lamentable incidents, whose deplorable consequences were the inevitable result of disorder, were due to the workmen permitting themselves to be misled by traitors. Strikes and demonstrations constantly resulted in disorders, which must be always repressed by the troops. He recognised that the workmen's life was not easy, but they must be patient. It was a crime to come in a crowd to declare their needs to him. He promised measures to ameliorate their lot and to assure the legal examination of their demands, and concluded: I pardon your transgression. Return to work and do your duty.

An attempt was made to assassinate the Chief of Police at Odessa today. He was wounded by a revolver shot. The assailant was arrested.

—The Ceylon Observer.

## SRI RAMAKRISHNA'S TEACHINGS

### ADVAITA

Every being is Narayana. Man or animal, sage or knave, nay, the whole universe, is Narayana, the Supreme Spirit.

The master said: 'Everything that exists is God.' The pupil understood it literally, but not in the true spirit. While he was passing through a street, he met with an elephant. The driver (mahant) shouted from his high place, 'Move away, move away!' The pupil argued in his mind, 'Why should I move away? I am God and so is the elephant. What fear has God of Himself?' Thinking thus he did not move. At last the elephant took him up by his trunk, and dashed him aside. He was severely hurt, and going back to his master, he related the whole adventure. The master said, 'All right, you are God. The elephant is God also, but God in the shape of the elephant-driver was also warning you from above. Why did you not pay heed to his warning?'—

An itinerant Sadhu came once to the Kali temple of Rani Rasmony, and seeing a dog eating the remains of a feast, he went up to him and said, 'Brother, how is it that thou eatest alone, without giving me a share?' So saying, he began to eat along with the dog. The people of the place naturally thought him mad, but when standing before the temple of the Goddess, he began to chant forth some hymns in praise of Kali, the temple seemed to shake through the fervour of his devotion. Then the people knew him to be a great Sadhu. The true Sadhus roam about like children or mad men, in dirty clothes and various other disguises.

KNOWLEDGE leads to unity, and ignorance to diversity.

You can do whatever you like after making Advaita knowledge your own.

Q. God is infinite, the creature or Jiva a finite being. How then can the finite grasp the Infinite?

A. The Jiva is like doll of salt trying to fathom the depths of the ocean. In doing so the salt doll is dissolved into the sea and lost. Similarly the Jiva, in trying to measure God, loses his individual egoism and becomes one with Him.

As lead dissolves in mercury, so the individual soul melts away, losing its limitations, when it falls into the ocean of Brahman.

—Awakened India.

## THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

ADDRESS OF SIR HENRY COTTON.

(Continued from our last issue.)

### THE FUTILITY OF REACTION.

This quotation is a long one, but it is fraught with wisdom, and it is needless to say that, during the twenty years which have since elapsed, the conditions mentioned by Lord Cromer have developed with increasing rapidity. It is not within the power of any man to obstruct the tide of progress otherwise than for a time, by a policy of reaction. The period of Lord Ripon, and of his Finance Minister, who is now Lord Cromer, has been well described as the Golden Age of Indian reformers, when the aspirations of the people were encouraged, education and local self-government were fostered, and the foundations of Indian nationality were firmly laid. The natural trend of official opinion has been to assert itself in a reactionary outburst against this development, disparaging the vantage ground acquired in the past. We are told that the salvation of India is not to be sought on the field of politics at the present stage of her development, that there are many other fields of usefulness and power which lie around the citadel of politics, and that when these fields are occupied the entrance to real political life will be easy, natural, and safe. We read in the columns of the *Times*: "We must whirly retrace our steps and devote our energies to educating the Indians in character and common sense. Then, and not till then, can we put them out into the polytechnic of local self government." We must wait, forsooth, for a working reality "until generations and generations of really educated Indians have come and gone." We are told that the weakness and limitations of the newly educated classes are now more clearly perceived, and that the complexities of the problems of Oriental politics are more distinctly realised. These are the commonplaces of reaction. They are the arguments of Mr. Noodle in his fatuous oration by Sydney Smith. But it is not by indulgence in such vague generalities that the current of advance can be stemmed. Of what avail is it to disparage Burke and Macaulay and Bright, Ripon, Cromer, and Elphinstone? You cannot withstand the flowing tide. Temporary spasms of reaction are inevitable. They pass away like footprints on the sand, and we need not trouble ourselves too much with vexations aberrations from the path of progress. They will be quickly forgotten. I have seen signs among you of depression, and have noticed a tendency to submit with resignation to the policy of a regime which affords no encouragement to your aspirations. I am not surprised at these symptoms, but assuredly you have little cause for giving way to a sense of despondency. It is not reserved to any human agency to set back the dial of time. The result of reaction is always to galvanise into fresh life. Be vigilant, therefore, be hopeful; be of good cheer and of a gladsome countenance. Relax not your efforts, for the waves of progress are irresistibly dashing against the breakwater of prejudice, and even now the day is dawning which Macaulay declared would be the proudest day of England's history.

### THE IDEAL OF INDIA'S FUTURE.

Let us accustom ourselves to the conception which the realisation of a national spirit in India involves. The present form of British administration cannot survive the fulfilment of those national tendencies which the British Government itself has brought into existence. But India is bound to England as England is to India. England has incurred liabilities not lightly to be set aside, and she should no more break from her past than should India break from the traditions of her history. It was lately declared by a high authority that he could not conceive of a time as remotely possible in which it would be either practicable or desirable that Great Britain should take her hand from the Indian plough. But such is not my conception of India's future. An abrupt retreat would, indeed, be advocated by no one, and the process of reconstruction



cannot be effected otherwise than by slow and gradual means. Many years must elapse before we can expect the consummation of a reconstructive policy. But it is a policy which we should always keep before our eyes. Indian patriots look back on their past with a just sense of pride, and they know that India will again take her own rank among the nations of the East. They are striving for the attainment of this ideal which, however it may be delayed or marred in execution, is sure in the event.

Autonomy is the keynote of England's true relations with her great Colonies. It is the key note also of India's destiny. It is more than this: it is the destiny of the world. The tendency of Empire in the civilised world is in the direction of compact autonomous States which are federated together and attached by common motives and self-interest to a central power. You have already local legislatures, in which a certain measure of representation has been granted to the Indian people. A small concession has been made in this direction, but it is wholly inadequate to meet growing demands. In the cautious and gradual development of representation, in the increase of your power and influence in India itself, involving the ultimate extension of autonomy, we shall find the appropriate and natural prize and legitimate goal for Indian aspirations. It was the dream of John Bright, and he indulged in no mere mystic prophecy when he foresaw that India would fulfil her ultimate destinies by a process of evolution, out of which she would emerge, not through force or violence as an independent State, or torn from the Mother Country, or abandoned to England's enemies, but as a federated portion of the dominion of the great British Empire. The idea of an Indian patriot is the establishment of a federation of free and separate States, the United States of India, placed on a fraternal footing with the self-governing Colonies, each with its own local autonomy, cemented together under the aegis of Great Britain. That is a forecast of a future, dim and distant though it be, the gradual realisation of which it is the privilege of Government to regulate, and the aim and hope and aspiration of the Indian people to attain.

This is our ideal of India's future. The process of reconstruction should be always before our eyes. Changes may, and should gradual but they must come, and we should prepare ourselves for their realisation. Statesmanship consists in foreseeing, and we are all of us the better for the exercise of forethought. Familiarise yourselves, therefore, with a conception of India's future which gathers as it grows, and insensibly attracts into the political evolution all other great problems of economic and social reform which are awaiting solution.

What is your economic problem? It is the poverty of your people. No one who considers the economic condition of India can doubt that one of its greatest evils is to be found in the fact that the great mass of the people are dependent upon the cultivation of the soil. The establishment of large industries capitalised by Englishmen affords but a poor compensation for the variety of indigenous industries once spread through the country, in India supplying England with its raw products and dependent upon the West of all its more important manufactures, is not a condition of affairs which an Indian patriot can contemplate with equanimity. I may be allowed to appropriate the words which have been uttered by your distinguished Viceroy in another connection. "There is no spectacle which finds less favour in my eyes than that of a cluster of Europeans settling down upon a foreign country and sucking from it the moisture which ought to give sustenance to its own people." India is the field where British capital is invested, but all the interest that is reaped therefrom passes to the pocket of the investor, and he takes it to England. This is a part of the economic drain which has been sneered at as a "copy-book fallacy" and as "a foolish and dangerous illusion." But how can it be denied that it would be vastly more beneficial to India if the wealth produced in the country were spent in the country? India is poor and there are those who believe that in consequence of its political conditions it is becoming poorer; but the ambition of your people is to take their place among other nations in the future federation of the world. Your opposition to the exploitation of your country by foreigners is based upon a conviction that this exploitation is a real obstacle to your progress and you do not need to be assured by me that the prosperity of your country depends on the diminution of its economic drain and on the conservation of its resources for ultimate development by indigenous agency. I am glad to recognise the growing tendency of Indians to

help themselves. The death of Mr. Tata was an irreparable loss, but there are others, stimulated by his example, who will strive to take his place. The Industrial Exhibitions in connection with the annual meetings of our Congress are a satisfactory evidence of the tendency of which I speak. The difficulties are immense, for the essential difficulty always hinges on the disagreeable truth that there can be no revival of Indian industry without some displacement of British industry. But the first steps have been taken, and a start made by Indian capitalists. The beginnings are small, very small at present, but like the little could on bigger than a man's hand they may grow and swell with a full promise of abundance. It rests with you to see that the present impetus does not flag or dissipate itself in idle words.

#### THE PROBLEM OF WESTERN INFLUENCES ON THE EAST.

Look at Japan! The force which has made Japan what she is is an absorbing patriotism derived from, and dependent on, her national existence. It is based on collective action which independence alone can give. What an inspiration is afforded by the character of these Eastern Islanders! What an example have they not set to the East of the power of a patriotic spirit! The conditions in India do not point to any early renaissance such as we have witnessed in Japan. But the changes that are taking place among you are as remarkable in their social, moral and religious relations as in their political and economic aspects, and your nascent nationalism is the magnet which holds together the solvent influences of Western civilisation let loose on the simple society of the East. Under the immediate effect of these influences, your old organisations are crumbling up, and you have entered upon a long period of transition preparatory to the establishment of a new order. The result of English education has been to break the continuity of centuries, and the problem now is to bridge over the period of disorder with the least disturbance. Official interference was unavoidable in the first instance—in no other way could a beginning have been made; but the educational movement in India now stands in need of no such stimulus. It is in matters of education more than any other that the people of the country have become ripe for self-government. Systematic education is already falling into the hands of private enterprise. The time has come for the Government to transfer its educational endowment to the custody of those who have been educated through them. The present system of University education should be reconstituted on a representative basis. A policy which proposes to knit together still tighter the bonds of official control is absolutely retrograde. It has been condemned by every section of Indian opinion; and though it may temporarily prevail it will be as evanescent as it is unsound. It is only through the educated members of your own community that it will be possible to guide your countrymen at large so as to ensure that the changes which are being wrought by contact with the West shall be effected without danger and in a healthy manner. It is reserved for you to link the present with the past and to introduce modifications with due regard to the antecedents which always most powerfully affect the environment in which you are placed. The problem of grafting Western ideas on to an Oriental stock is now ready for solution in the only way in which a successful solution is possible by means of Orientals who, having thoroughly imputed with a knowledge of Western civilisation, have at the same time not lost sight of the traditions of their past.

#### THE KEYNOTE OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

I will not dwell on the constitutional modifications, the administrative changes, which were foreshadowed by Lord Cromer twenty years ago. You will dilate on many of these in the discussion of the resolutions which it will be my duty to submit for the approval of this Congress. These resolutions will be transmitted by me for the consideration of the Government of India. We cannot tell what consideration they may there receive. A bureaucratic Government is not likely to under-estimate the value of any administrative reform which it puts forward of its own initiative or the urgency of the call for its introduction. But when the proposed reforms are pressed on them from outside and affect their own constitution, we need have no apprehension of undue haste or injudicious eagerness to accept them. Of this at least we are conscious, that our proposals are worthy of consideration, for they bear the hall mark of Indian public opinion and will be endorsed by the organs of your educated countrymen throughout the length and breadth of India. The keynote of administrative reform is the gradual substitution of Indian for

European official agency. This is the one end towards which you are concentrating your efforts and the concession of this demand is the only means of satisfying the most reasonable of your legitimate aspirations. Lord Ripon justly urged on behalf of his scheme of local self-government that it would be an instrument of political education. And it may be as truly said that if we desire to eventually establish an independent Government we can only do so by training the people to a sense of self-help and self-reliance through familiarity with the details as well as the principles of executive administration. We pray that our rulers may be endowed with this desire. It is no unworthy aim that we hold out to them for fulfilment. It is a title to glory all their own that they found a great people sunk in the lowest depths of subjection, and have so ruled them as to make them desirous of all the privileges of citizenship. But however great may be their energy and activity in working through an official agency, it counts as dross if they lack the higher genius of educating the people by making them work for themselves, of evoking their powers by affording them opportunities for their exercise, and of raising them from a condition of mere passive subjection to a capacity for the discharge of higher responsibilities. A nation is the best administered which can manage its own concerns with the least aid from Government; and no system of administration can be progressive or beneficial which crushes out the self-reliance of the people and blights their legitimate aspirations to realise their destiny through their own exertions.

(To be continued.)

## NOTICE.

### "ORDER NISI"

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary }  
Jurisdiction } No. 1595  
Class I

In the Matter of the Estate of the late  
Amirthavally wife of Saravanamuttu of Maddavil.

Deceased.  
Suppiramaniam Saravanamuttu of Maddavil  
Petitioner

Vs

1. Aiyathurai Nadarasa and his wife  
2. Annamma of Colombuturai and  
3. Ampalavanar Ramalingam of do

Respondents

This matter of the Petition of Suppiramaniam Saravanamuttu praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Amirthavally wife of Saravanamuttu coming on for disposal before H. R. Freeman Esquire District Judge, on the 17th day of January 1905 in the presence of Messrs. Gaspipillai & Gaspipillai Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 16th day of January 1905 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful husband 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 21st day of February 1905 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 17th day of January 1905

Signed, H. R. FREEMAN  
District Judge.

### "ORDER NISI."

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary }  
Jurisdiction } No. 1593

In the Matter of the Estate of the late  
Vettivelu Saravanamuttu of Puloly West

Deceased.  
Vettivelu Kanakasapai of Puloly West  
Petitioner.

Vs

Saravanamuttu Senthivelpillai of Puloly West  
Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Vettivelu Kanakasapai praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Vettivelu Saravanamuttu coming on for disposal before H. R. Freeman Esquire District Judge, on the 12th day of January 1905 in the presence of Mr. V. Gaspipillai Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 8th day of January 1905 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the creditor 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 8th day of February 1905 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 12th day of January 1905

Signed, H. R. FREEMAN  
District Judge.