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(THE CHEAPEST WEEKLY IN CEYLON)
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NO. 36.

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THE MANAGER

NOTICE.

The following arrangement, which will take effect from 15th March, 1900, is published for general information.

Registration of births.

Information of births occurring throughout the town of Jaffna, will be received daily from 7 to 10 A. M. and 3 to 5 P. M. by the Registrar of Births and Deaths, Jaffna town, only at his Office at Temple Villa in Nallur.

Registration of deaths.

Information of deaths occurring in Vannarponnai East and West, and Karayoor including 'Pettah', will be received by the Deputy Registrar of deaths, Jaffna town, at his Office at 'Taliopot house' near the S. N. S. Hospital from 5 to 10 A. M. and after night fall, and at his station at 'Achehukudavalavu' in Vannarponnai West (near the Chetty Street Wesleyan Mission English School) from 3.30 to 5, P. M. daily.

Information of deaths occurring in the town of Jaffna (except Vannarponnai and Karayoor) will be received by the Registrar or his Deputy, at all hours, at the office of the Registrar in Nallur and at the station of the Registrar at the Jaffna Kancheri, from 1 to 2.30 P. M. daily.

J. H. Leak
For R. W. Levers,
Prov. Registrar.

Prov. Registrar's Office
Jaffna, 12th March 1900

NOTICE.

TO THE DEAF—A rich Lady, cured of her Deafness and Noise in the Head by Dr. Nicholson's Artificer Ear Drops, gave £1,000 to his Institute, so that deaf people unable to procure the Ear Drops may have them free. Apply to Department The Institute, "Longcott," Gunnersbury, London, W., England



THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY MARCH 14, 1900

The Acting Attorney-Generalship.

The impending departure of Mr. Layard, on six months' leave of absence, has revived the question of his *locum tenens*. Every time Mr. Layard went on leave, attempts were made by Mr. Ramanathan's enemies to prejudice the Government against him, and to deprive him of the right of becoming acting Attorney-General of the Colony, for which he had, as he has now, the highest claim by reason of his official position as Solicitor-General, his great abilities, and his training and brilliant career as an unofficial member of the Legislative Council. But the Government of Ceylon, first under Sir Arthur Havelock, and then under His Excellency Sir J. West Ridgeway, rising superior to race prejudice, and seeing through the machinations of his enemies and rivals, twice appointed Mr. Ramanathan as acting Attorney-General; and it cannot be denied that he performed the duties of that high office with very great acceptance to the Government and the public. His detractors are now once more in arms against him, championed by the Editor of the *Ceylon Observer* who was at one time the warmest of Mr. Ramanathan's supporters and admirers, but who has, for some years past, for reasons well-known in Ceylon, become the bitterest of the Solicitor-General's critics, and has

him. The relations between the Editor of the *Observer* and Mr. Ramanathan became so strained some years back that the latter was obliged to seek redress in court by the institution of the famous libel case against the *Observer*—*Ramanathan vs. Fergusons*. Since then, we do not remember to have ever read a good word of Mr. Ramanathan in the columns of the *Observer*, either as an unofficial member of the Legislative Council, or as an official, although by common consent he was one of the most brilliant and successful members, of Council, and has performed his official duties ably and honestly, beyond all cavil and fault-finding. We bring these facts to show that the deliverances of the *Observer* in regard to Mr. Ramanathan are not of a disinterested character as they appear to be on the surface.

We have the highest regard generally for the opinions and utterances of our daily contemporary, and appreciate fully the services which he has rendered to the land of his adoption. But he has, as other human beings, his likes and dislikes, sympathies and antipathies, which he alone knows how to make felt by others.

The *Observer* has already devoted two editorials on the subject, in its issues of the 24th ultimo and 3rd Instant, strongly urging the Government not to appoint Mr. Ramanathan as acting Attorney-General, "untill" as he says "the clouds roll by and before he has received a favourable verdict from the highest tribunal in the Island", in respect to some cases with which he is said to have been connected and which are now pending in appeal. It was a correspondent of that paper, "*Fiat Justitia*," that set the ball rolling in regard to the controversy in the *Observer*. The falsity of his statements has been so well exposed by our contemporary of the *Ceylon Independent* that we were tempted to quote the *Independent* article in our last issue. The *Observer* and its correspondent—we will treat them as one person, as the Editor endorses the statements of his correspondent, and as the sentiments of the two productions resemble each other very much, which we attribute to a common and implacable hatred of the Tamil Solicitor-General—said that Mr. Ramanathan should not be appointed acting Attorney-General, "at least until he has fully cleared himself from the direct charges and the serious imputations made against him in connection with the long-drawn Dickland and Badabedde cases." The *Independent* pointedly denied that there were charges grave or otherwise pending against Mr. Ramanathan, and challenged the *Observer* and its correspondent to "specify clearly in black and white what those 'grave' charges are." But how has that challenge been met? *Fiat Justitia* writes in the *Observer* of the 2nd Instant: "I have no time to turn up the cases in court in which Mr. Ramanathan's name is mixed up, but if he or his friends like and you give me leave, I will be glad to give you a full synopsis." The Editor adds the following footnote—"We cannot find room for anything very long."

Does this not look not only dramatic but very strange and perverse? The correspondent has time to indite malicious letters and to make serious imputations against a high official, but has no time to specify what those charges are; and the Editor, who should have, if he was actuated by the purest and the best of motives in giving publicity to the letter of *Fiat Justitia*, insisted on his correspondent complying with the demand of the *Independent*, comes to the rescue of his correspondent and tells him in effect, not to take up the challenge. The *Independent* in another leaderette of the 3rd Instant exposed these evasive tactics and repeated its challenge. But *Fiat Justitia* disappears

and the Editor of the *Observer* whose motto also is *Fiat Justitia* becomes much excited and repeats in his issue of the 3rd Instant in a dictatorial tone the statements made by the correspondent, that "if he (Mr. Ramanathan) is ever to act again, it must be only after he has cleared himself fully and honourably from the grave charges and imputations under which he has been content to lie for months past." He calls the defence of the *Independent* "dishonest", as if honesty was his sole monopoly, and his attacks on Mr. Ramanathan were actuated by the highest and purest of motives. He points out that those charges and imputations are contained in the pages of the *Ceylon Native Opinion* and in the speeches of Lord Stanley of Alderley in the House of Lords.

If the Editor of the *Observer* is a careful reader of the *Native Opinion*, as we believe he is, he would have found that it was not Mr. Ramanathan alone against whom "grave charges and imputations" have been made by that print, but even gentlemen holding higher offices in the Colony have not been spared by that paper. We ask our contemporary to say if he has not read all or any of the very serious imputations of the *Native Opinion* against Sir Noel Walker, the Lieutenant Governor, not to speak of other officials in the Colony. If he has not, we beg of our contemporary to read a resume of the charges in the *Native Opinion* of the 2nd Instant. Again, Lord Stanley's inquiries and speeches in the Lords did not affect Mr. Ramanathan alone, but condemned even higher officials, including His Excellency the Governor and Justice Lawrie. He even brought a direct and specific charge against Mr. Lawrie who was then acting as Chief Justice of the Colony.

Did the *Observer* then call, or has it ever called, upon Sir E. Noel Walker, even when he was appointed acting Governor, to clear himself of the charges preferred against him by the *Native Opinion*. Or does our contemporary think that the imputations made against Mr. Lawrie as a Judge of the Supreme Court by Lord Stanley are not so serious as those made by him against Mr. Ramanathan? Why does he, then, insist on Mr. Ramanathan alone, among the officials attacked by the *Native Opinion* and by Lord Stanley, clearing himself of those charges and imputations before he is appointed acting Attorney-General, while the Editor has no objection whatever to the other officials who have been lying under similar imputations from the same quarter occupying higher official positions in the Colony? Is it because Sir Noel Walker and Mr. Lawrie are the Editor's own countrymen and Mr. Ramanathan is a native Tamil who has the misfortune of not being in the good graces of the *Observer*? Or is the acting Attorney-General alone, as the *Observer* says, "should, like Caesar's wife, be above suspicion"?

It is with the greatest diffidence and reluctance we have been obliged to drag in the names of these two highly respected officials of Government in this connection. Our object is simply to expose the questionable tactics of Mr. Ramanathan's enemies, and to show that the insinuations and imputations against Mr. Ramanathan are as false as those made against these two highly respected and popular officials by the *Native Opinion* and Lord Stanley of Alderley.

As we have already said the enemies of the Solicitor-General dare not say anything against his abilities and honesty as an official in the midst of so much attempts on their part to blacken his character. There he is beyond all cavil and fault finding. It is in connection with some lawsuits to which he is no party, but in which he is interested, as anybody under similar circumstances would be, worthless allegations have been made in the quarters already referred to. This formed the subject of a question in the House of

Lords by the peer above alluded to, who expressly stated that his question in respect to Mr. Ramanathan was based on the articles in the 'Native Opinion,' and the Secretary of State called for an explanation through the Colonial Government. We have reasons to believe that the explanation sent by Mr. Ramanathan has been accepted by the Secretary of State as very satisfactory. We do not think that even the Lord Chancellor of England would sit with folded hands and allow his estates to be plundered and misappropriated by others, simply because he holds the highest official position connected with the administration of justice.

The 'Observer' magnifies this into "grave charges pending against Mr. Ramanathan," and calls upon the Government to appoint as acting Attorney-General its own nominee, Mr. Wendt, following "the precedent set by Sir Arthur Gordon when he selected Mr. Grenier to act for Mr. Fleming." Our contemporary does not, however, forget to mention that "great injustice was done to Mr. Ferdinands on that occasion." He studiously suppresses the circumstances under which Mr. Ferdinands was superseded. Charges were preferred against the then Solicitor-General's Department presided over by Mr. Ferdinands, and Sir Arthur Gordon, who, unlike the present Governor, was said to have lent his ears to cliques and factions, acted, as we also think, most unjustly in superseding Mr. Ferdinands. The Home Government did not evidently fall in with the views of Sir Arthur Gordon, as Mr. Ferdinands was appointed District Judge of Colombo soon after his supersession by Mr. Grenier. It goes without saying that Mr. Ferdinands would have adorned the Bench of the Supreme Court had he lived longer. In many of his appointments, Sir Arthur Gordon surprised the public. Juniors were promoted over seniors, seniors were debarred promotion. Protests were said to have been made by many a public servant against Sir Arthur Gordon's action. Is the action of that Governor to be taken as a precedent? If the supersession of the then Solicitor-General was a great injustice, in spite of the Observer's mighty influence used on his behalf, would it be just now to overlook the claims of Mr. Ramanathan, who had twice before acted as Attorney-General with very great acceptance and against whom there is no charge pending, as we have shown above, except idle calumnies from which no man can be free in Ceylon. In the case of Mr. Ferdinands, his conduct as a public servant was impugned though undeservedly; but even the worst of Mr. Ramanathan's enemies has not called in question his honesty as a public official. Again, the parallel between Mr. Grenier and Mr. Wendt is far fetched. The former was appointed acting Attorney-General in preference to Mr. Ferdinands who was only a Ceylon Advocate after he (Mr. Grenier) had twice acted as a Judge of the Supreme Court and after he had returned from England as a Barrister. Mr. Wendt, however, in spite of his acknowledged abilities as a lawyer, was not a success in Council and has not given proofs of his efficiency as an official, although he acted for a short time as Solicitor-General, not to speak of the fact that he is not an English Barrister to be the leader of the profession in Ceylon. To supersede Mr. Ramanathan by Mr. Wendt, or not to give the acting Attorney-Generalship to the former, would be the cruelest of injustices ever perpetrated in Ceylon, to which His Excellency Sir J. West Ridgeway, we feel sure, will not be a party. There is not the slightest reason to suppose that His Excellency Sir J. West Ridgeway, who has hitherto held the balance evenly between competing interests will depart from the policy hitherto pursued by him.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

The Weather—A refreshing shower of rain fell in some parts of the District on Saturday night in Vadamarachy, and parts of Valligamo East Valligamo North, and the Islands. No rain, however, has fallen in Jaffna town, and its Suburbs.

Harvesting—The farmers are now busy thrashing their paddy crop which is a partial failure in several places.

Tobacco—The plants are coming up very well in every part of the District and it is expected that the outturn will be larger than last year.

The Government Agent—Rumour has it that Mr. S. M. Burrows, the Director of Public Instruction, will be the *locum tenens* of Mr. Ievers

when the latter goes on leave. It is also believed that Mr. Fisher who acted here for the Government Agent in 1897 with very great acceptance will be again appointed acting Government Agent N. P.

The Trincomalee Kachcheri—Mr. Saravammattu of the Audit Office, Colombo, has been appointed second Clerk of this Kachcheri, in the place of Mr. Philips, deceased.

The "Dravida Kokila"—We have received the first number of this paper which is an Anglo-Tamil tri-monthly, printed at the 'Jaffna Vivekananda Press'. We wish our new contemporary a successful and prosperous career in the field of journalism. This makes the seventh newspaper in this Peninsula—three weeklies, one tri-monthly, two fortnightlies, and one monthly. The fact that there are so many newspapers in Jaffna is an index of her intellectual activity. We are specially pleased with the advent of our contemporary, as we hope to find in it a faithful ally in all the work that lies before us as journalists—as exponents of public opinion in Jaffna and as guardians of the rights and interests of the public here.

A New Proctor—Mr. A. Canagaretnam, a nephew of Mr. Proctor Casipillai and brother of Mr. Proctor Cathiravelu has returned to Jaffna after having been admitted a Proctor of the District Court, by the last trip of the "Haeatace". We wish him success in the practice of his profession which he will commence to do from next week.

Proctors' Final Examination—Of the six candidates who have just passed this Examination, and whose names appear elsewhere four are Tamils. Mr. D. Muttasamy is the only son of the late Mr. Daraisamy Proctor of the Supreme Court, and grandson of the late Ediramaanasingha Mudaliyar who at one time represented the Tamils in the Legislative Council. Mr. W. S. Strong is, we believe, a son of Kandappa Mudaliyar, Shroff of the Puttalam Kachcheri. Mr. A. Canagasabai, is a nephew of the retired Chief Mudaliyar of the Batticaloa Kachcheri. Mr. M. Assaipillai is a son of Mr. S. Assaipillai, the well-known coach contractor and merchant. We congratulate these gentlemen on their success.

COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION.

At a meeting to-day the following results were declared:—

Proctors' Preliminary.

(19 candidates). G. F. Ganaratne, S. Van Cuylenburg, H. de Livera, W. A. Muttucumara, A. de Silva, A. E. Wijemane.

Proctors' Intermediate.

(14 candidates) R. Attygalle, (Scholarship) J. A. Keegel, M. G. Sallay, G. H. Keegel, J. Zoysa, S. A. Martin, R. B. Gooneratne, S. R. Wijemane, O. de Livera.

Proctors' Final.—(17 candidates) C. E. Koch D. Muttasamy, A. Abeywardene, W. S. Strong, A. Canagasaby, M. Assaipillai.

The Council passed a resolution placing on record its appreciation of the late Mr. Dumbleton's services as a Law Lecturer and its sense of the loss to the Profession and the Council by his death.

The appointment of a Law Lecturer in Mr. Dumbleton's room—there being 6 or 7 candidates—was left in the hands of the Hon. Mr. Justice Lawrie.

—The Examiner March 8,

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

The last "Gazette" contains an Ordinance to further amend the Ceylon Penal Code in which it is provided:—

In sections 480, 481 and 482 of the principal Ordinance there shall be substituted for the words "simple imprisonment," wherever the same may occur, the words "imprisonment of either description."

In column 7 of Schedule 2 of "The Criminal Procedure Code, 1898" the words "imprisonment of either description" shall be inserted for the words "simple imprisonment" as applying to each of the sections 480, 481 and 482 of the principal Ordinance.

The sections referred to are as follows:—

480. Whoever defames another shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

481. Whoever prints or engraves any matter, knowing or having good reason to believe that such matter is defamatory of any person, shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

482. Whoever sells or offers for sale any printed or engraved substance containing defamatory matter knowing that it contains such matter, shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE ADDRESS PRESENTED TO MR. S. M. BURROWS BY THE "TAMIL SANGAM."

We the members of the "Jaffna Tamil Sangam" and the Tamil community beg to offer you a hearty welcome on this your first visit to Jaffna, the celebrated Tamil land of the ancient Lanka.

The interest that you take in matters literary in oriental literature has been a source of great encouragement to the members of the "Tamil Sangam" and they hailed with exceeding satisfaction your appointment as the Head of the Instruction Department.

It may be well known to you that Tamil is one of the few oriental languages that are noted for their purity and elegance of style and that of all the Tamil lands both in India and Ceylon, Jaffna is the only place where the purity of the language is preserved in its true form.

There was a time when the language was cultivated on strictly scientific principles under the patronage of the Pandyan Kings, and the then Tamil Sangams of historic fame were Institutes established by the said Kings to promote and safeguard the interests of literature.

But with the advent of foreign invasions the language has gradually decayed and its present condition is indeed very pitiable. Works on Astronomy, Medicine, Natural Philosophy and other sciences are becoming obsolete and extinct, foreign words and phrases find their way freely into the language and degenerate it and the noted purity and sweetness of the language have greatly deteriorated. It is no exaggeration to say that not one in a thousand of the present day Tamils can write the language with any amount of correctness and the Tamil of the enlightened Members of the Society may be found amply saturated with English sentiments and diction and it is no wonder that along with their language their habits and manners and their mode of life in general have all taken a European form.

The state of the language would have been very much worse if not for the indefatigable efforts of the late illustrious Arumukha Navalar who, by establishing schools at different centres and by publishing and editing many of the ancient Tamil classical works, materially arrested the downfall of the language at a very opportune time. This gentleman of no ordinary fame and renown, had planned a scheme for establishing a Sangam to restore the purity of the language and it was on the lines laid down by him, the present Jaffna Sangam was started and is being conducted.

The Sangam has been in existence for the last two years and we have been holding examinations and awarding prizes to successful candidates.

The object of the Sangam is as follows:—(1) to revive the old classical and scientific Tamil literature and to print and publish portions of it for the benefit of the Tamil lands (2) to publish cheap Tamil translations of useful Scientific works in English and other languages with a view of placing them within easy reach of the average Tamil student and adapting them for the requirements of Higher Education in Tamil. (3) to encourage the editing and publishing of Tamil works suited to the present times (4) to systematize and to bring to a footing of dignity the learning of Tamil and (5) to concentrate and centralize the talents and energies of the Tamil scholars scattered throughout the Tamil land with the object of creating a union and brotherhood among them.

It is well known to you that our Sangam will not command the respect of our countrymen unless it is recognized by Government.

We therefore beg, that this Government recognition may be granted to us and that for the present the following privileges, which in our opinion are not too many or too much, may be conferred on our Sangam.

1. That the candidates who come out successful in our examinations may be exempted from the Government Teachers' Certificate examination and that a Bala Pandita be declared to be eligible as the head master of a village Primary school, a Bharati to be eligible as the head master of a Middle school and a Pandita to be eligible as the head master of Boarding and Training schools and Pandits to Govt. Civilians.

2. That the certificates issued by us to the passed candidates may be registered in your office.

3. That any standard Tamil work intended to be used hereafter in Tamil schools, may be submitted with your authority for the approval of the Sangam in order to preserve the purity of the Tamil language.

These are the privileges which we venture to ask from you at present and we hope that you will be kindly pleased to grant us our prayer and confer a lasting boon on the Tamil community.

We are exceedingly thankful to the Government Agent of the province (R. W. Ievers Esq.) for having graced this meeting by his presence to-day and thus publicly evidenced his sympathy with the efforts of the Sangam, which is purely a literary and undenominational Institution, and we are proud to mention that the inauguration of this Sangam was during the period of his Administration.

Wishing you and Mrs. Burrows long life and happiness,

Jaffna, 28th February 1900
We beg to remain,
Sir,
Yours Truly,

NOTICE OF SALE.

Under instructions from the administrator, the undersigned will sell by public auction.

- 1. On Saturday and Monday the 10th and the 12th March 1900. The well made and well kept Household furniture in Ebony, Satinwood, Jack &c, belonging to the estate of the late Miss Mary Saverimuttu at the "Chevalier Lodge"
2. On Saturday the 17th March 1900. All that well built and commodious House and premises, situated at Karayoor on the Main Street and popularly known as the "Chevalier Lodge."
3 All that cocoanut garden situated at Cheviaterru near the Jaffna Kachebery commonly known by the name of "Modliar Narikunduvalavu" in Extent 105 Lachams V. C.

For further particulars apply to G. A. TISSEVERASINGHE Auctioneer and Commission Agent "Singha Villa" Chapel Street JAFFNA.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF BADULLA. ORDER NISI

No. 163

Ordinance 7 of 1871

- 1. Theivanai Amman Kovil
2. Manikka Pillaiyar Kovil
3. Muthulinga Swami Kovil
4. Pattini Amman Kovil
5. Manikka Pillaiyar Kovil
6. Kanda Swami Kovil, and of the lands and Tenements appertaining thereto

This matter coming up for disposal before R. B. Helling's Esquire District Judge of Badulla, on the 19th day of February 1900, in the presence of Mr. Proctor B. A. Folger on the part of the petitioner Srimat Narayana Puri Swami of Rameswaram and the affidavit of Narayana Swami Pancham Ram dated the 16th day of January 1900 and of Srimat Narayana Puri Swami dated the 2nd day of February 1900 having been read.

It is ordered that the said Srimat Narayana Puri Swami who is a Sannyasi and a Paramparawa Sikiya, of Sri Bhagavan Dattatreya Swami, and a Member of one of the ten sects of Dasanamis be and he is hereby nominated and appointed trustee and manager of the temples abovesaid, unless any person or persons interested in the matter shall on or before the 17th day of March 1900 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 19th day of February 1900. Signed/R. B. HELLING. District Judge.

The Fiscal of Uva is hereby directed to affix this Order Nisi in the temple at Kataragam and in the 2 Hindu Temples in Badulla Town.

R. B. HELLINGS D. J.

வகுளை மீ ய்வதிருக்க கோடு.

நீதி செயல்படும் கட்டளைப் பத்திரம்.

இல. ௭௬௩.

- ௧. தெய்வநாடு அம்மன் கோவில்.
௨. மாணிக்கப் பிள்ளையார் கோவில், அல்லது சனிசார கோவில்.
௩. முத்திலிங்கசுவாமி கோவில்.
௪. பத்தினி அம்மன் கோவில்.
௫. மாணிக்கப் பிள்ளையார் கோவில்.
௬. கந்தசுவாமி கோவில்.

என்று சொல்லப்பட்ட தீர்ப்பு கோல்களின் டரா பரிப்புக்காரியத்தண்ப்பற்றி.

இந்தக் காரியம் வரு. ௧௯௦௦ ஆண்டு யார் யார் ௧௬-ம் நாளன்று வகுளைப் பகுதிக்கு வந்திருக்கிறார்... (Detailed legal notice text in Tamil)

R B HELLINGS

கல்முனை மீ ய்வதிருக்க கோடு... பகுதிக்காரியம்.

NOTICE.

Is hereby given that the following Jewels pledged with Chantbamal Deviditta, Pawn Broker carrying on business as such at Main Street Jaffna will be sold by public auction on the 24th day of April 1900.

Table with columns: Pledge, Date of Pledge, Number of Pledge, Name of Pawner. Lists various gold jewelry items and their owners.

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E. Human Superintendent.

Technical College Colombo, 20th February 1900.

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