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JAFFNA, FRIDAY JULY 9, 1971

✕

William Nevins

Alias

Muttucumarar Sidambarapillai

(1820 - 1889)

By

V. MUTTUCUMARASWAMY B. A.

A luminary of the Batticotta Seminary, William Nevins, alias Muttucumarar Sidambarapillai, was an outstanding personality of the 19th century. He was an Educationist, a Grammarian, a Lexicographer, a Logician, a Mathematician, and a Poet - a versatile genius

Birth and Parentage

Sidambarapillai was born at Sanguveli, the village lying between Manipay and Uduvil. Sanguveli is a corrupt form of Sangaveli. Sangaveli owes its name to the fact that it was gifted to the Tamil Academy at Nallur by the Tamil Kings of Nallur in the 19th Century.

His father was Muttucumarar or Muttucumaraswampillai. He was his father's fifth son.

Education

He was educated first at the Vaddukuddai High School until 12. When he was 12 years old in 1832 he joined the Batticotta Seminary. This Seminary was conducted on the lines of a Greek Academy and the course lasted eight years. In this Academy among other subjects taught were logic, astronomy, grammar, mathematics, Tamil literature, Sanskrit and Religion. The lecturers had both Western and Eastern concepts of education.

Education in Colonial Ceylon

According to the observations of the American Mission, by emphasising the teaching of English they aimed at providing "young natives... with a literary and scientific education". In the opinion of the Mission it was only through an English education that "the treasures of European sciences and literature" could be laid before the rising generations. Furthermore, it was thought that by having "a large number of English scholars" in the country, the more important works of English could be translated and a great mass of people "could be enlightened" through such knowledge. Thus the American Mission as a matter of policy emphasised the teaching of English in their schools.

Teacher

He left the Seminary in 1840 and secured a place as an Assistant Teacher at the English School at Manipay. It was possible that the school started by Mr. P. S. Page, the first educationist in English at Manipay; it formed the nucleus of the Manipay Memorial School. He was there from 1840 - 1846. After 1846 he joined as an Instructor in the Batticotta Seminary and he was there till 1856.

At Madras

After 1856 Williams Nevins went over to Madras. There he assisted Dr. Winslow, in editing his Tamil Dictionary. We find a refer-

THE MALADY OF THE CENTURY

BY NALINIKANTA GUPTA

What is the malady of our age? It is that man has lost touch with his soul. There were ages no doubt in the past, dark periods, when man's soul retired into the back ground, was obscured or veiled; but only today there seems to have occurred a definite cleavage, a clear sundering. Man no longer drags the lengthening chain that tied him, in spite of everything, to his divine essence; he has cut it clean and let himself adrift.

The Eternal Enemy appeared and spread out before our enchanted eyes the panorama of earth's riches and glories, not merely riches of comfort and pleasure and well-being, but glories of power and knowledge. We could not resist this time; we hurled ourselves headlong into the valley of temptation, delivering, as the price of the bargain, our soul. Now we are masters of many fields, our knowledge and power extend over an immense variety of regions uncharted till now. Even like Vishnu, the Dwarf, our consciousness has covered with its three strides the entire

creation, barring that alone where soul resides.

Our mind, our life, and our body have become today far more conscious and consciously powerful - each has found itself and is big with its own proper value. But what was familiarly known as the mind of the mind, the life of the life, the body of the body has vanished and all it meant. The pith has been taken out, we are now playing with the empty stalk; the secret thread on which the pearls of life movements were strung has been removed and they lie about scattered and disjointed. We have enriched our possessions, we have made ourselves more complex and multiple in our becoming; the telescope and the microscope, in the physical world, and a subtler sense in the mind also, have extended the expanse of our consciousness. But with all that and in our haste to be busy about too many things, we have forgotten and left out of account the one thing needful.

We have sought to increase our consciousness, but away from the centre of consciousness so what

we have actually gained is not an increase, in the sense of the growth or elevation of consciousness, but an accumulation of consciousnesses, that is to say, many forms and external powers or applications of consciousness. A multiplicity of varied and independent movements of consciousness that jostle and hurt and limit one another, because they are not organized round a fundamental unity, forms the personality of the modern man, which is therefore tending to become on the whole more and more ill-balanced and neurasthenic and attitude-nizing in comparison with the simpler and less equivocal temperament that mankind had in the past. And a good part of the catholicity or liberalism or toleration that appears to be more in evidence in the present-day human consciousness, is to be attributed not so much to the sense of unity, or identity, that is the natural and inevitable outcome of a real growth in consciousness, but rather to the doubt and indecision and hesitation, to the agnosticism and dilettantism and cynicism of a pluralistic consciousness.

Out away from the soul, from the central fount of its being, the human consciousness has been, as it were, desiccated and pulverized; it has been thrown wholly upon its multifarious external movements and bears the appearance of a thirsty shifting expanse of desert sands.

II

Indeed a peculiar aridity has invaded the modern consciousness; the sap has dried that once made life fresh and green and glad. It is not that we are turned away from life; on the contrary we are attached to it more than ever, - but the attachment has come upon us like a morbid hunger.

ence to this in the Preface to the Dictionary. It was during his stay at Madras (1856 - 1860) that he supervised over the studies of his son Samuel Nevins Pillai. His son passed out the B. A. in Arts, second in the examination in 1862. He also got through his B. L. and practised as a Vakil in Madras. But whom the Gods love die young. He died prematurely.

Williams Nevins was a teacher of Mathematics, to many pupils including Europeans who had a high regard for him. Kumaraswamy Pulavar describes him as one who possessed an intellect as sharp as a file.

Sidambarapillai showed a special aptitude for Logic, Mathematics, and Grammar besides English and Tamil. He had a tenacious memory and he was noted for his solid knowledge.

Head Master

On the resignation of Samuel Grenier William Nevins, alias Muttucumarar Sidambarapillai, was appointed Head Master of Wesleyan Central School, Jaffna. He filled this post with

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued on page 6)

THOUGHTS TO BE
TREASURED

உன்னால் உன்னைக் காண்பது
அல்லால் என் அறிவாற்
காணப்போமோ

It is possible for me to realize Thee by my intelligence unless it be through Thee (Thy Grace)?
(Thayamanavar)



சுருதிமேல் குறையுள்ள நன்மைகள்
நாசமாகியே நான் அறிவோம்
சுருதிமேல் நான் அறிவோம்
நாசமாகியே நான் அறிவோம்

Hindu Organ

FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1971

TEMPLE FESTIVALS
AND TRANSPORT
FACILITIES

The High Festivals at the ancient Amman Temple at Nainativu have just ended in a note of perfect satisfaction. The gatherings at these Festivals, significantly at the Car Festival and Water Cutting ceremony, were unduly big. However, the Administrative Authorities rose equal to the occasion and were able to help the pilgrims and devotees reach the Temple and return to their homes after worshipping without being subjected to inconvenience and hardship.

Situated as it is in the mid seas in the island-studded stretch of the Palk Strait, hallowed Nainativu has the privilege of being protected by wind-controlled waters all around. But the journeys to and fro by boats and sailing vessels always seem risky and even romantic. The South West Monsoon suddenly would turn sensational and the rising moon would often induce tides to become tumultuous. Hence the extent of the responsibility of the authorities to keep the surging crowds clear of risks by controlling the boat service and preventing practical run of unseaworthy vessels overloaded with impatient passengers. The arrangements

under the supervision of the Government Agent and the Superintendent of Police, Jaffna were significantly superb. The transport of passengers by road and by sea was orderly, regular and safe. Here was a situation in which all concerned were co-operative in their efforts to avoid accidents and mishaps.

We would like to suggest that this type of arrangement might be used as a model for all occasions where crowds congregate in their thousands and are tempted to rush forward to seek early transport. The queue system and the strict application of the rules of traffic under the direct guidance of superior officers would ensure the maintenance of a regulated movement of passengers in an orderly manner. Such control of traffic can be made applicable to all occasions when crowds throng from all corners of the Island. Safe travel will be conducive to solemn worship. The devotees themselves must demand from the authorities the provision of disciplined and regulated flow of traffic. The Authorities will be only too glad to acknowledge the co-operative spirit of the public by formulating a safe service.

More Money For
Thiruketheeswaram
Temple RestorationJaffna Hindus to
Collect Two Lakhs

At a largely attended meeting of Jaffna Hindus held recently (June 29th) at the Navalai Hall, Jaffna, it was resolved unanimously to take vigorous steps to restore the Iswara Sivan Kovil at Thiruketheeswaram to its pristine glory.

A strong Action Committee with Mr. T. Murugesampillai, Additional Government Agent, Jaffna, as President, Mr. S. Ambikakpakan as Secretary, Mr. S. Sithamparampillai as Treasurer, Mr. R. Sathithanandam as Assistant Secretary, and with other important personages as members was elected to collect the two lakhs to enable completion of the restoration work of this shrine in a year.

The Malaya Chapter of the Thiruketheeswaram Temple Restoration Society has undertaken to defray the whole cost of restoring the Gowri Ambal

Appointed to
Development Council
Vaddukoddai

Mr. N. Nadarajah, a prominent religious & social worker of Vaddukoddai, has been appointed as a Member of the Divisional Development Council for the Vaddukoddai Village Council area with effect from July 8, 1971.

He is also the President of the Vaddukoddai Bus Travellers' Association, Member of the Board of Directors of the Co-operative Hospital Society, Ltd., Moolai, and also Member of the Friend in Need Society Jaffna.

He is an Old Boy of Jaffna Hindu College, Jaffna College and Jaffna Central College and has been in Government Service in various Departments for the last 30 years.

Shrine at Thiruketheeswaram.

More Thiruketheeswaram
Chapters to be Formed

The Working Committee of the Thiruketheeswaram Temple Restoration Society at its Meeting held at Saraswathy Hall, Bambalapitiya, on 3rd July, decided to continue forming Chapters in all other important towns to collect funds for Restoration work. On the 22nd July, the Trincomalee Chapter will be inaugurated, on the 30th the Vavuniya Chapter will be inaugurated, on 6th August, the Chapter at Batticaloa will be formed, on 15th August the Chapter at Nuwara Eliya will be started and on the 22nd August, the Chapter at Kandy will be formed, while Chapters at Panadura, Kalutara, Galle and other important towns will follow to enable Hindus in these places to actively participate in the restoration of this ancient Hindu Temple. The laying of the Foundation stones has been finally fixed for the auspicious time of 6.05 a.m. on Friday, the 27th August, which happens to be the sixth Anniversary of the death of Sir Kandiah Vaidyanathan, a Past President of the Thiruketheeswaram Temple Restoration Society. Special travel arrangements from Colombo to Thiruketheeswaram for the ceremony and back are in the hands of the Hon. Secretary of the Colombo South Chapter who could be contacted for any further particulars on telephone: 82126.

William Nevins.....

(From page 51)

distinction for twenty-six years from 1860-1886. But by the end of 1886 he wanted to be independent and resigned from this position.

Founder of Schools

He started a school of his own in 2nd Cross Street, Jaffna and carried on this school for some time 1887-1888. Later, he left this and founded the Native Town High School in 1889.

Before his death in the latter part of 1889, Sidamparapillai handed this school to Advocate Nagalingam who was a leading figure of the Saiva Paripalana Sabhai which was founded in 1889 and which had undertaken to give the Saiva Youth a higher education in English; he in turn handed this to the Saiva Paripalana Sabai.

It has been mentioned that some time before his death Muttucumarar Sidamparampillai had studied Saiva Siddhanta and Vedanta. Perhaps his mind dwelt on the services that he could do to the 90 percent of the people who were Saivites, when he decided to hand over the institution that he had founded to a pillar of the Saivite faith, Advocate Nagalingam, who was a staunch patron of his own school.

His Legacy

William Nevins, alias Muttucumarar Sidamparampillai was a man of many sided talents. Once before we have mentioned about his prodigious memory. He was a good mathematician, who had original ideas, of solving problems by short methods; he was a purist; he wanted to substitute certain other words for 9, 90 - other than the words now in use; "thundu" for "nine" (unpathu) etc.

Author

He wrote the Elements of Logic in Tamil - "Niyaya Ilakkanum" - in two parts in 1850, the first part of which deals with Principles of Logic as enunciated by western scholars, especially Mill; and the second part, with those as enunciated by "Sivagnana Siddhiyar" - (Thamil Alavai) - a Saivite theological work of the 13th century. Thus he combined the Eastern and Western forms - a quintessence of the best from each.

His selections from Tamil Literature was a compilation of selected passages from Maha-Bharata and Ramayana - made for those who do not have the time and mind to read these in their original texts.

His "Essentials of Tamil Grammar" (Tamil Viyakarana) was published in three parts in 1886 out of the rules of the extant Grammar in Tamil. The last part dealing with syntax (Over to page 8)

ORDER NISI
DECLARING WILL
PROVED ETC.IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNATestamentary Jurisdiction
No. 274/TIn the matter of the Last
Will and Testament of
the late Kathiripillai
Chelliah of Evina, PunnalakkaddavanDeceased
Thangachchipillai widow
of Kathiripillai Chelliah
of Evina, PunnalakkaddavanVs Petitioner
1 Chelliah Sivagnan, and
2 Chelliah Selvamnam,
both of Evina, PunnalakkaddavanRespondents
This matter coming on
for disposal before A.
Vythilingam Esquire, District Judge of Jaffna, on the 29th day of March, 1971 in the presence of Mr. A. Thanabalanagum and his Assistant Mr. S.

Sithamparamathan, Proctors on the part of the petitioner, and the affidavit of the petitioner dated 19th March, 1971, and affidavit of the Notary and the witnesses dated 20th March, 1971, having been read.

It is ordered that the Will of Kathiripillai Chelliah of Evina, Punnalakkaddavan deceased, dated the 20th day of August, 1969 and numbered 19824 attested by S. Visuvalingam, Notary Public be and the same is hereby declared, proved unless the respondents or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 19th day of July 1971 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Jaffna, This 29th day
of March, 1971.

Sgd. A. Vythilingam
District Judge, Jaffna

Drawn by
A. Thanabalanagum
Proctor for Petitioner
60 9 & 16

The Malady of the Century

(Continued from page 5)
And so we have the lust for life, but know not the joy of life. We lay an inordinate stress upon the body, upon what is external and superficial, upon the matter of life, and suffer from a simultaneous recoil and disgust for it. Human nature has been rent in twain and life has lost its unity of rhythm.

The old world had no experience of this self division. It had a frank and full joy in things of life, even in their most material forms. And when it turned away from life, it did so in the same spirit, of joy and frankness and wholeness. There was not this immixture, this Hamletian "to be or not to be"—an unregenerate, barbaric life impulse "sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought" that troubles the modern consciousness.

In old days, while we enjoyed life we were not without the taste for life. We were youthful and in full possession of the *dharma* of youth. And when we left the world and life we cherished no regret; we did it wholeheartedly.

We were young; and our movements were whole and entire. It may be said that was an age of unthinking innocence; but in the attempt to gain the arid richness of an old-age consciousness, we have lost the simplicity, the spontaneity and the integrality of our non-age. Yes, we have eaten of the fruit of knowledge and our youth is the price that we have paid. With our present nature, we not merely enjoy, but we want to know that we enjoy; we cannot do a thing unless in the very act we weigh and dissect and scrutinize the object and ourselves too, into the bargain.

This knowledge, or rather, this curiosity does not arise from any depth of our being; it is the product of the meddlesome superficial brain mind. We have become self conscious; a vigilant self-consciousness is now the invariable coefficient of all our movements, but it is a self-consciousness that has deviated into mere mental introspection and intellectual analysis. It was the soul's consciousness, although perhaps more often from behind the veil, that once inspired and enlivened human nature in its youth; and life was after all a thing of beauty and joy—for the soul is the one *Rasa* of existence. We have deposed the Divine King;

an anarchy now reigns in human nature which has become the battle-ground of qualities and forces that are, if not always more crude, at least, invariably crooked and perverse. We live and move in the cold and blighting, and withal shallow, glare of the brain-mind.

II

We of the modern age know many things—perhaps too many; and we yearn and strive to know yet more. We are never content with the knowledge that we have at the moment; our mind is always restive to leave beyond its immediate ken, thinking always that the secret of existence is to be found in what escapes its scrutiny, in what lies just outside the limits of what we happen to know. We are never sure of our knowledge. We are rich in curiosity, subtle in guessing; but always there lacks the sense of assurance and achievement. A certain unrest or malaise pursues our activities, something that lives to our most perfect creation, the impress of an experiment, of what is tentative, transitional, temporary.

The ancients, on the contrary, knew not many things—not so many as we know; but what they knew they knew well, they were sure of their knowledge. Their creations were not perhaps on the whole as rich and varied and subtle—even in a certain sense as deep as those of modern humanity, but they were finished and completed things, net and dear and full of power. The simple unambiguous virile line that we find in Kalidasa or in the Ajanta, in Homer or in the Parthenon, no longer comes out of the hands of a modern artist. Our delight is in the complexity and turbidity of the composition; we are not satisfied with richness only. We require a certain tortuousness and tangledness in the movement. We love the intermingling of many tints, the play of light dying away into haze and mist and obscurity, of shades that blur the sharpness of the contour. Our preoccupation in Art, is now to create the impression of the many in its all-round simultaneity of forms and movements. The ancients were more simple and modest; they were satisfied with expressing one thing at a time and that simply done.

(To be continued)

ORDER NISI

In The District Court Of
Jaffna

Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 2722/T

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Thampu Kailayapillai of Sangilian Veethy, Nallur Jaffna

Deceased
Parameswary widow of Thampu Kailayapillai of 14, Sangilian Veethy, Nallur, Jaffna

Minor 1 Kailayapillai Esawarathas,
2 Kailayapillai Sathiyathas,
3 Suvanthini daughter of Thampu Kailayapillai, all of Nallur, Jaffna
4 Thampu Suntharalingam of Sangaththansai Chavakachcheri

Respondents
This matter coming on for disposal before A. Vythilingam, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 12th day of April 1971 in the presence of Mr. S. Visuvalingam Proctor on the part of the petitioner abovenamed and the Petitioner and affidavit of the petitioner dated 15th April 1971 having been read.

It is ordered that the Petitioner be and she is hereby entitled, as widow of the deceased abovenamed to have Letters of administration to the above Estate issued to her accordingly, unless the respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons shall on or before the 26th day of July, 1971 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the 4th Respondent abovenamed be and he is hereby appointed Guardian ad litem over the Minors the 1st to 3rd Respondents abovenamed to represent them in this action unless the respondents or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 26th day of July, 1971 show cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

And it is further ordered that the 4th Respondent abovenamed do produce the 1st to 3rd Respondents before Court at 10. a.m. on the abovesaid date (24-7-1971)

This 12th day of April, 1971
Drawn by
Sgd. S. Visuvalingam
Proctor for Peter.

(Sgd.) A. Vythilingam
District Judge, Jaffna

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 2631

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Ponnammah wife of Saravananamuttu Ratnam of Kopay South

Deceased Testate
Saravananamuttu Ratnam of Kopay South

Vs. Petitioner
1 Swaminathan Kandiah
2 Swaminathan Sinnahamby both of Kopay South

Respondents
This matter coming on for disposal before M. Ismail Esquire District Judge, Jaffna on the 18th day of August 1970 in the presence of Mr. C. Subramaniam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner together with his petition and the affidavit of the Notary Public and the attest-

ing witnesses having been read

It is ordered that the Last Will and Testament of the said Ponnammah wife of Saravananamuttu Ratnam of Kopay South deceased dated the thirtieth day of November 1969 numbered 3816 be and the same is hereby declared proved unless the Respondents shall, on or before the 18th day of October 1970 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

It is declared further that the said Saravananamuttu Ratnam of Kopay South the petitioner is the Executor named in the Will and that he is entitled to have Probate of the same issued to him accordingly unless the respondents or other shall on or before the 18th day of October 1971 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Date to show cause is extended to 31-8-71
Jaffna this 18th day of August 1970.

A. Vythilingam
District Judge

Drawn by
C. Subramaniam
Proctor for Petitioner
29 9 & 18

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
POINT PEDRO

No. 994/Testy

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of Vairavipillai Murugesu of Puloly South

Deceased
1 Murugesu Nadarajah
2 Murugesu Krishnapillai
3 Chelliah Ponnampalam all of Puloly South

Vs. Petitioners
1 Sinnachy widow of Murugesu
2 Thampoe Veluppillai and wife
3 Rajaluxmy

Minor 4 Murugesu Tharmalingam
5 Murugesu Yogaluxmy
6 Murugesu Sellammah
7 Murugesu Chandrakumary all of do

Respondents
This matter coming on for disposal before T. J. Rajaratnam Esquire District Judge Point Pedro on the 7th day of June 1971 in the presence of Mr. N. A. Rajaratnam Proctor on the part of the Petitioners and affidavits of the Petitioner dated 31-3-1971 and affidavit of the Notary and attesting witnesses having been read.

It is ordered that the Last Will No. 598 and Codicil No. 600 of Vairavipillai Murugesu dated 18-1-1969 and 24-7-1969 respectively and now deposited in court be and the same is hereby declared proved unless the respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 26th day of July, 1971 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the 1-3 petitioners are the executors named in the said Last Will and Codicil and that they are entitled to have Probate of the same issued to them accordingly.

It is further ordered that the 1st respondent be and she is hereby appointed guardian ad litem over the 4 to 7 Respondents for the purpose of representing them in this proceedings unless the res-

Nallur Kandaswamy
Temple
Annual Festival—1971

TRAFFIC NOTICE

The following roads will be closed for all vehicular traffic 27-7-71 and 23-8-71 (both days inclusive) in connection with the above festival.

1. That section of the Point Pedro Road, between Arasady junction and the 2nd Mile Post.
2. That section of the Temple Road between Pandarakulam Lane and Somasundram Lane.
3. That Section of Chetty Road from Point Pedro Road to Chetty Lane.

NOTE:

Bona-fide residents of the area, who use their private vehicles for travelling and all officials visiting the area on duty by vehicles will be issued with Special Traffic Permits at the Temporary Police Station near Kandaswamy Kovil at Nallur from the evening of 26-7-71

DEVIATION TRAFFIC

Drivers of all Vehicular traffic are requested to use the following deviations:-

1. Navalar Road—Nallur Cross Road deviation when proceeding from the direction of Jaffna towards Kopay or in the opposite direction.
2. Wyman Road—Navalar Road-Nallur Cross Road deviation when proceeding along Arasady Road towards Kopay or in the opposite direction. Also the following "One Way" traffic will operate Wyman Road from North to South, Arasady Road—West to East (from Palaly Road to Point Pedro Road).

PARKING OF VEHICLES

For the convenience of the Pilgrims four vehicle parks will be arranged at the following places and all drivers of vehicles are requested to use them for parking their vehicles.

1. At the Amman Temple grounds, for traffic approaching Kandaswamy Temple via Arasady Road.
2. At Kailasapillaiyar Temple grounds for traffic approaching from the South.
3. At Muthuraisanthai Market grounds for traffic approaching from the direction of Kopay.
4. At Tinnevely Sivan Kovil grounds for traffic approaching from Palaly Road/Tinnevely.

J. V. B. Perera
Asst. Supt. of Police Jaffna
Police Office,
Jaffna, 8th July 1971.
95 9

pondents abovenamed or any other persons interested shall on or before the 26th day of July 1971 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the 1st respondent do produce the 4 to 7 minor respondents in court on the 26th day of July 1971 and in default attachment will issue against the 1st respondent.

This 7th day of June 1971
Sgd T. J. Rajaratnam
District Judge

Drawn by
N. A. Rajaratnam
Proctor for Petitioner
28 9 & 16

William Nevins.....

(Continued from page 6)

shows how clear his definition of terms was and how his selections of illustrations have been drawn from a vast range of Tamil literature.

His English-Tamil Dictionary, is valuable in view of his clear and original definitions of modern scientific terms. A copy of this is found in the Jaffna College Library. This was not published.

He was also a poet, of no mean order. His eulogy on the death of his son, Samuel Nevins Pillai, is lost. He is said to have composed in his teens a poem on a dead bird.

Golden Jubilee

Sidambarapillai's service to education for a period of fifty years, had been noted and acclaimed by the general public. When his Golden Jubilee Celebrations was celebrated in 1889 at Oddumadam, Vannarponnai he was taken in procession with music and fireworks and he was presented with an address and special songs composed for the occasion were sung.

He died on March 18 1889 in Jaffna.

He was a man of sterling qualities and simple habits. He used to walk from Vaddukoddai, his house, to the Wesleyan Central School a distance of seven miles, five days in the week. On the way many students followed him, and he discussed many a difficult question with them.

If by posterity one would like to judge Muttucumar Sidambarapillai, he left a host of intellectuals as his successors. His son Nevins Selvadurai was Principal of Jaffna Hindu College from 1892 to 1925, with a break when he served as Vice Principal, Trinity College, Kandy in the early part of the century. From 1926-1925, when the writer was a student, Nevins Selvadurai was Principal. He firmly believed in getting his pupils to write a simple elegant style. He was a great disciplinarian. It was the days of the rod; he did not spare anybody who refused to toe the line in maintaining the order of the school.

The Jaffna Hindu College prepared students for the F.A. and B.A. the Calcutta University and later during the writer's days, it prepared students for the Cambridge Junior and Senior Examinations.

Nevins Selvadurai was elected to the State Council that met after the Donoughmore Recommendations were introduced. He was a gifted speaker. He was a J. P.

One of William Nevins' nephews, Raju Watson, an old pupil of Central College, Jaffna and later St. Thomas College, Colombo, was Inspector of Schools and later Assistant Inspector of Schools. One of his sons-in-law was R. R. Bredkenridge - Inspector of Schools.

William Nevins was a Guru of Thamotharampillai and Mottotambipillai who will form the subject matter of biographies in this series.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

No. T. 2729

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Sinniah Perampalam of Myliddy Coast Deceased

Vallipuram Ramasamy of Myliddy Coast, Myliddy Vs. Petitioner

- 1 Sivahamy widow of Sinniah Perampalam
- 2 Vadivelu Selliah and wife
- 3 Nagapillai, and
- 4 Sellam widow of Thevarajah all of Myliddy Coast, Myliddy Respondents

This matter coming on for disposal before A. Vythilingam Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on this 28th day of April, 1971 in the presence of Mr. A. Kumaraguru, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner Notary and witnesses having been read,

It is ordered that the Last Will and Testament bearing No. 869 dated 25th day of February, 1969 and attested by T. Ariyanayagam Notary Public the original of which has been produced and is now deposited in this case be declared proved and that the said petitioner as the executor named in the said Will be entitled to have probate of the same issued to her accordingly unless the respondents or any other person or persons interested shall appear before this Court on the 28th day of July, 1971 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 28th day of April 1971
Sgd. A. Vaithilingam
District Judge, Jaffna

Drawn by
Sgd. A. Kumaraguru
Proctor for Petitioner
54 2 & 9

to obtain Letters of Administration, and that Letters of Administration be issued to the petitioner as widow of the deceased, unless the respondents or any other persons interested, shall appear before this Court on or before the 25th day of July 1971 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 11th day of June 1971

Sgd. T. J. Rajaratnam
District Judge,

52 2 & 9

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 2652

In the matter of the Intestate estate of the late Ponnas Selladurai Petitioner Constable No. 7050 of Atchuvely late of Yatiyantota

Deceased

Sivamany widow of Ponnas Selladurai of Atchuvely North

Vs. Petitioner

Minor 1 Kamalatha daughter of Ponnas Selladurai

2 Marjula daughter of Ponnas Selladurai

3 Sinnappu Peopathy all of Atchuvely North, Atchuvely

Respondents

This matter coming on for disposal before A. Vythilingam Esquire, District Judge Jaffna on the 3rd day of December 1970 in the presence of Mr. A. T. Duraisappah, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the Petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the Petitioner as the widow of the deceased abovenamed is entitled to have Letters of Administration issued to her as the lawful widow of the

abovenamed deceased and such Letters of Administration have been issued to her unless the Respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons shall apply before this Court on or before the 28th day of February 1971 and show cause to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the 3rd Respondent abovenamed be appointed as Guardian of the estate over the 1st and 2nd Respondents abovenamed.

It is further ordered that the Petitioner abovenamed do produce the said minors in Court on the 28th day of February 1971.

This 3rd day of December 1970.

Sgd. A. Vythilingam
District Judge, Jaffna

Drawn by
Sgd. A. T. Duraisappah
Proctor for Petitioner

28-2-71

Time to show cause is extended till 31-3-71

Sgd. A. Vaithilingam
District Judge Jaffna

31-3-71

Time to show cause is extended till 26-5-71

Sgd. A. Vythilingam
District Judge Jaffna

26-5-71

Time to show cause is extended till 26-7-71

Sgd. A. Vythilingam
District Judge Jaffna

55 2 & 9

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Editor: B. N. SIVAPRAKASAM

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
POINT PEDRO

Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 995 T

In the matter of the intestate estate and effects of the late Velu Ratnam of Karanavai North

Deceased
Ponnammah widow of Velu Ratnam of Karanavai North

Vs. Petitioner

Sivakolanthu wife of Vallipuram Somasun-

daram of Karanavai North Respondent

This matter coming on for disposal before T. J. Rajaratnam, Esquire District Judge, Point Pedro on the 11th day of June 1971 in the presence of Mr. P. Kanapathipillai Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that the Petitioner be and he is hereby declared entitled