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(REGISTERED AT THE G. P. O. AS A NEWSPAPER.)

ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 18, 1889.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

VOL. XXII—NO. 21.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 23, 1910.

PRICE 10 CENTS.

NOTICE.

The Hindu Organ.

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	Tam: Ed.	Eng: Ed.	Both Ed:
	Rs. Cts.	Rs. Cts.	Rs. Cts.
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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 2867.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Meenadehy wife of Kantappu Arumugam of Karadive East ... Deceased.

Kantappu Arumugam of Karadive East
Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Arunassalam Vissuvanatar and 2. wife Visaladhy of Karadive East ... Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Kantappu Arumugam of Karadive East, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased, Meenadehy wife of Kantappu Arumugam, coming on for disposal before R. N. Thaine, Esq., District Judge, on November 7, 1910, in the presence of Mr. S. Kandiyya, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated November 7, 1910, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the 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 Respondents or any other person shall, on or before November 23, 1910, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

November 7, 1910.

R. N. Thaine,
District Judge.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 2861.

CL I.

In the Matter of the Estate of Vairavanatar Sitamparappillai of Vaddukkoddai in Jaffna late of Kuala Lumpur, in Straits Settlements ... Deceased.

Santirasegarar Visuvanathapillai of Vaddukkoddai West ... Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Teyvanappillai widow of Sitamparappillai of Vaddukkoddai and Minor.
2. Sitamparappillai Vairavanatar of Vaddukkoddai minor appearing by his Guardian ad litem the 1st Respondent.

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of Santirasegarar Visuvanathapillai of Vaddukkoddai West, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased, Vairavanatar Sitamparappillai, coming on for disposal before R. N. Thaine, Esq., District Judge, on November 9, 1910, in the presence of Mr. A. Modir, Velupillai, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated October 17, 1910, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is a 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 Respondents or any other person shall, on or before November 25, 1910, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

November 9, 1910.

R. N. Thaine,
District Judge.

NOTICE.

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of Atchevaly, Jaffna, beg to thank their friends and relations for the telegrams and letters of condolence sent to them on their recent sad bereavement of Miss Sivapakkiam Sinniah.



The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1910.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Within one year of the last General Election there will be another election in the beginning of next month. This is the result of the failure of the Veto

ference. It is difficult to say on whom the responsibility for the failure of the Conference rests. But one thing is certain that but for the extremists on both sides the Conference would have come to a satisfactory settlement of the difficulty in regard to the powers of the Lords, and the new election would not have been rendered necessary till, at any rate, after the Coronation of His Majesty the King, in June next.

The Conservatives have committed one blunder after another, in their desperate efforts to uphold the ancient privileges and powers of the Lords. But events have proved that it is not in their power to do so. The greatest blunder the Lords ever committed was their rejection of the Budget of last year, which had been passed by the Commons, arrogating to themselves a power over the finances of the State, contrary to the spirit of the constitution. This was followed by an appeal to the country which returned the Liberals to power, but with a diminished majority—a majority which has been at the mercy of the Irish Nationalists. The significance of the last election, however, was a direct answer by the majority of the people of the British Isles against the pretensions of the House of Lords. They were obliged after that election to pass the very same Budget rejected by them only a few months back with but slight modifications, and also to admit the necessity of the Upper House undergoing radical reforms, with reduced numbers and privileges. If the Lords had not rejected the Budget of last year, the question of their reforms and curtailment of their powers as a legislative body would not have come to the forefront as a vital question at issue at the present moment.

Again the Conservatives are playing a desperate and dangerous game in not having come to a compromise at the Veto Conference, and in forcing the Government to dissolve Parliament and appeal to the country. If the result of this appeal be the return of the Liberals to power, the fate of the House of Lords is sealed. Although the very existence of that House may not be at stake, yet it will be a second Chamber shorn of its former glory, powers and privileges. Even if the Conservatives come into power, they cannot prevent radical reforms being effected in the constitution and privileges of that body. It is the unexpected that always happens. The result of the impending election cannot be now foretold. But if some of the latest bye-elections be a criterion of the state of public feeling in the country the Liberals are sure to win at the polls. In that case the Conservatives and the Lords will be obliged to assent to all the proposals rejected by them at the Conference.

If the Liberals be returned to power as the result of the next General Election, not only the House of Lords will be mended, if not ended, but Ireland will secure Home Rule for which she has been struggling for centuries, and there will be an all-round Home Rule and federation of the whole Empire. It should be the fervent prayer of the people of India and Ceylon that the present Government should continue to be in power in England for their own benefit and political advancement. The important reforms introduced recently into India are due to the Liberals being in power, and the privileges, small as they are, now conferred on the Ceylonese would not have been conceded to us if the Conservatives be in power. In India we would have heard nothing but repression and martial law, during the time of grave unrest of the last two years or so, if the destinies of the Empire were in the hands of the Imperialists who form the bulk of the Conservative party. It is because a Liberal Government has been in power, while lawlessness is repressed with a strong hand, all reasonable concessions to public demands have been granted. Parliament will be dissolved on the 28th instant and the elections will be over on 17th proximo.

INDIA AND HER NEW VICEROY.

Lord Hardinge of Penshurst has arrived in India and assumed charge of his onerous duties as Viceroy and Governor-General of that great Dependency of the British Empire, relieving Lord Minto, who has given over charge of the Government to his successor and leaves for England today amidst the general regret of the teeming millions of His Majesty's Indian subjects. The retiring Viceroy will live in Indian history as one of the greatest Viceroys who ever ruled over India. Al-

though his lot was cast in a most troublous time and at a time of very great unrest in the country, yet he showed cool courage in facing dangers and putting down anarchy and lawlessness while at the same time he sympathetically considered and conceded all reasonable demands of the people. His departure is, therefore, generally regretted from one end of India to the other. After Lord Ripon, Lord Minto is the Viceroy who left India amidst the general regret of the Indians and whose services are universally appreciated by them.

The new Viceroy, to judge from his utterances just before he left England, has impressed the world as one who is determined to follow in the footsteps of his immediate predecessor. We quote the following from his speech at the dinner given by the Harrow Association at the Savoy Hotel:—

I have already referred to the impressions of duty and responsibility that are acquired during school and College life, of which the value cannot be unduly exaggerated. I think it will not be disputed when I say that it is upon the highest conception by the British nation of their duty and responsibility towards India that the whole structure of British administration in India has been founded ever since the affairs of the East India Company were taken over by the British Government. We have in the past and present endeavoured to govern India for the benefit of India and our Indian fellow-subjects, and we are doing a work in Asia such as has never been attempted by any other nation. (Cheers.) We have recognized our duty and responsibility towards India by our efforts to promote the progress and to improve the material condition of the people, while maintaining the *pax Britannica*, without undue interference with their religions and prejudices. It can never be said of the British Government, as was said by Canning of the Dutch, that they were fond of giving too little and asking too much. We have given India of our best, and all that we ask for in return is loyalty and progress. (Cheers.) I see no reason to doubt the loyalty of the great masses in India, and there can be no question whatever as to the progressive development of the Indian people. The recent reforms introduced by Lord Morley are conclusive proof of intellectual progress in India, and should have a pacifying and conciliatory effect.

One hears and reads in the Press a good deal on the subject of unrest in India. Although there have been dastardly crimes during the last two or three years that seem so entirely foreign to the nature and natural temperament of our Indian fellow-subjects, it is difficult to imagine that such wicked crimes, of which the origin is still somewhat obscure, could be more than the benighted action of a misguided few, for the recent and spontaneous outburst of loyalty and devotion to the Crown on the death of our great and deeply-regretted King was striking evidence of the intense loyalty of the vast majority of the Indian people. (Cheers.) I may be wrong but I am full of hope that the unrest in India will disappear under the influence of sympathy and kindness combined with firmness, and that it will give place to a period of calm and of prosperous commercial and agricultural expansion. (Cheers.)

In a few days' time I shall be leaving these shores for a nominal term of five years in India. I imagine that the period of the hardest work of my life is before me. Whether it be possible during such a period for a man to take any permanent impression may be a question open to discussion, but I cannot help thinking that a limitation of the term of office of Viceroy was a provision, for there must also be a limit to the powers of endurance of the continual strain that is inevitable and inherent to the office. I hope that it is not unnatural that I should feel some diffidence as to my ability to fulfil adequately the duties and responsibilities that have been confided to me and to grapple with the stupendous problems that will confront me at every turn, but I think that I can have no higher ideal than to endeavour to follow in the footsteps of my distinguished Harrowian predecessors, amongst whom occur the illustrious names of Hastings, Wellesley, and Dalhousie. (Cheers.) It would be presumptuous on my part to imagine for an instant that I could ever aspire to distinction such as theirs, but, although I cannot hope to add any thing to the lustre of our Alma Mater, it will be my honest endeavour to do nothing to detract from it, and always to be true to the honour of Harrow, our great and dearly cherished school, with the certain knowledge that I can absolutely rely on the sympathy and confidence of my Harrow school-fellows and friends. (Cheers.) My lords and gentlemen, I thank you again most warmly for your great kindness and encouragement on what will ever be to me a memorable evening. (Loud Cheers.)

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER.—Rains continue to fall here since Saturday last.

THE DISTRICT COURT.—Mr. R. N. Thaine, District Judge, Jaffna, is likely to be appointed Commissioner of Requests, Colombo, and Mr. M. S. Pinto is to succeed Mr. Thaine at Jaffna.

HOME FOR CONSUMPTIVES.—It is reported that the proposed Home for Consumptives will be established in the Naval Commissioner's House at Trincomalee.

THE NORTH CEYLON EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.—The Annual general meeting of this Association was held at the Central College Hall on Friday the 18th instant at 5 p. m. The Rev. G. G. Brown, the Principal of the Jaffna College presided. There was a fairly good attendance.

RETIREMENT OF THE ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. H. L. Crawford, C. M. G., Acting Colonial Secretary of Ceylon, retires from service in January next on the return of Sir Hugh Clifford, K. C. M. G.

RENEWAL OF THE ACTS OF APPOINTMENT TO THE HEADMEN.—Mr. Freeman, the Government Agent, has introduced a salutary innovation in connection with the periodical renewal of the acts of appointment to the Headmen. He caused proclamations to be made by beat of tom-tom in the country that the occasion would be availed of by him to receive complaints from the people on the day appointed against any Headmen to whom the acts are to be renewed. Yesterday the acts of appointment of the Headmen of the Jaffna division were renewed, after the people were asked in the case of each if they had any complaints against him. This cannot fail to have a salutary effect on the misdoings of the Headmen.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE CROWN PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF GERMANY.—Their Imperial Highnesses the Crown Prince and Princess of Germany arrived in Colombo on Sunday last, having come on a visit to the Island. His Excellency the Governor gave a dinner party at the Queen's House, Colombo, on Sunday night in honour of their Imperial Highnesses who will stay for three weeks in Ceylon.

THE SURVEY DEPARTMENT.—The following changes have been made in the Survey Department:—Mr. W. C. S. Ingles to become Deputy Surveyor-General, Mr. H. O. Barnard, Assistant Surveyor-General, and Mr. A. J. Wicwar, Superintendent of Application Surveys.

THE MANNAR RAILWAY.—The railroad from Mannar to Talaimannar has been almost completed, and rails have been laid for about two miles on the Mannar side. It is hoped to run ballast trains from Talaimannar to Mannar by the beginning of next year, so as to facilitate transport of bridge materials which are at present lying at Talaimannar. In the meantime preparations are being made to commence the construction of the two bridges across the channel. —Observer.

THE BADULLA RAILWAY.—His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henry McCallum, G. C. M. G., has recommended to the Secretary of State for the Colonies to sanction the extension of the Railway from Bandarawella to Badulla.

NEW CADETS FOR THE CEYLON CIVIL SERVICE.—The following gentlemen have been appointed Cadets for the Ceylon Civil Service by the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—Messrs. W. T. Stace, C. H. Collins, H. Monck Mason Moore, R. M. M. Worsley, and A. H. Pinder.

THE KING-EMPEROR'S VISIT TO INDIA.—Earl Crewe, Secretary of State for India, has announced that His Majesty the King-Emperor hopes to visit India accompanied by Her Majesty the Queen to hold the Coronation Durbar at Delhi on January 1st, 1912.

THE NEW VICEROY OF INDIA.—Lord Hardinge of Penshurst, the new Viceroy of India, landed at the Apollo Bunder, Bombay on the 18th inst. An address of welcome was read by the Municipal Council of Bombay, to which His Excellency feelingly replied that he will do all he can to maintain the policy initiated by Lord Minto.

PERSONAL.—Babu Aurobinda Ghose, whose whereabouts were not known for some time, owing to a warrant issued against him in connection with an article written in his paper and alleged to be seditious, has written a letter to the "Madras Hindu" that he is staying at Pondichery. The High Court of Calcutta has now held that the article in question is not seditious and acquitted the printer who was convicted and sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

—Mr. A. Barnabas, Federal Clerk of Works, Kuala Lumpur, has come to Karadive on long leave, with his family. Mr. Barnabas is the only gentleman who passed the Senior Grade P. W. D. Examination which was held in Kuala Lumpur a few years ago, and is in receipt of £ 300 per annum.

—Mr. K. Kudditamby has passed the Pleaders' Final Examination in Rangoon, coming second in order of merit.

—Mr. K. Valupillai, Chief Clerk, Municipal Gas Works, Singapore, who was here on leave, left for Colombo on Saturday last en route to Singapore.

—It is said that Mrs. Lowther wife of the Speaker of the House of Commons, who is in a delicate state of health, has been ordered to pass the Winter in Ceylon and will arrive in the Island next month accompanied by her son and daughter.

—We regret to learn that Mr. V. Vinasitambay, Udayar of Vannarponnai West, has been called upon by the Government Agent to resign his office. He is a headman of amiable and charitable qualities.

—Mr. T. Muttuccumar of the P. W. D., Colombo, has passed out as an Inspector in the recent Departmental examination.

—Mr. K. Muttuccoomaru who was for many years Postmaster of Jagra in Kvala Langat, and a cousin of Mr. S. Navaratnam, Chief Clerk, P. W. D., K. Lumpur, retires on a well-earned pension at the end of this month.

—Mr. Anan Leo, the well-known Astrologer of London, has arrived in Colombo on his way to India to attend the Theosophical Society's Annual Convention at Madras, in Christmas week.

—Mr. T. G. Jayawardene, District Engineer, P. W. D., who is in charge of Government Buildings, Colombo, will shortly resign his connection with the Department.

JUDICIAL CHANGES IN THE NORTH.—We understand that Mr. Weeragoon, Police Magistrate of Pt. Pedro, will be appointed Itinerating Police Magistrate of Kurunagalla, and that Mr. R. W. Allegaon of Kays will succeed Mr. Weeragoon at Pt. Pedro, when the new arrangements come into force on 1st January 1911.

OBITUARY.—We deeply regret to record the death of Mr. S. J. Kantappah, Procurator, Batticaloa, which took place last week in the 37th year of his age.

—It is our sad duty to record the untimely death of Mr. M. Arumugam, which occurred last night, at his residence at Vannarpannai West, of a carbuncle. He was the eldest son of the late Mr. Murugusar and was employed as an Overseer under the F. M. S. Government. He contributed to the Hindu College Permanent Fund when the Deputation visited the F. M. S. and rendered great service by securing other contributors. He leaves behind two brothers Messrs. Ponnambalam and Somasundaram who are now in the F. M. S., and hisaged mother, to whom his loss. We tender our heartfelt condolence to his relations and friends.

—The death is announced in England of Mr. G. E. Worthington an ex-Ceylon Civil servant who was for many years District Judge of Jaffna. The deceased gentleman who was in receipt of pension for 19 years died at the ripe old age of 74 years.

THE AMALGAMATION OF JAFFNA KAYTS COURTS.

PROTEST MEETING AT KARATIVE.

Pursuant to a notice by printed circulars a public meeting of the people of the Islands division, Jaffna, was held on the 19th instant at Pillay Madam situated at Karative side of the Port of Kayts. The gathering was large and composed of educated men, landed proprietors, merchants, farmers and others, because the proposed amalgamation of the Jaffna Kayts Courts took the people by surprise and alarm and was felt as a common calamity. Mr. Allen Abraham B. A., Professor, Jaffna College, was moved and seconded to the chair, and Mr. S. Canapathippillai, Landed Proprietor, was appointed, Secretary. The Chairman in a lucid speech explained the object of the meeting describing in vivid terms the inconvenience, hardships, and miscarriage of justice which would result from disturbing an arrangement which has been existing for about 100 years and pointed out that the boon of a Resident Judicial Officer was granted to the Islands division when the population was about 5000 and it is far more necessary now when the population has increased about 10 fold. The Chairman then called for resolutions expressing the sense of the meeting in the following order. The first resolution protesting against amalgamation of the Jaffna Kayts Courts was moved by Mr. A. Barnabas, Federal Clerk of Works in an able speech and seconded by Notary Tillaiampalam and supported by Mr. Sivaguru Valupillai, Landed Proprietor. The second resolution that a Memorial should be sent to His Excellency the Governor setting forth the hardships into which the Island people would be put by the proposed amalgamation, was moved by Mr. A. Clough, Surveyor, in an eloquent speech, seconded by Mr. Samuel Rice, Head Master, English school, and supported by Mr. N. Sayampoo, Teacher, Sivite English School. The third resolution for a committee to draft and send a Memorial to His Excellency the Governor was moved by Mr. D. Sappapathy, Head Master, Mission School, and was seconded by Mr. William Paramu, Renter, and was supported by Mr. A. Sappapathy of the Mission School. The said committee was to consist of Messrs. Allen Abraham, S. Canapathippillai, A. Clough, A. Barnabas, S. Rice, S. Thomaspillai, N. Sayampoo, and others whom they may add to their number. Remarks deploring over the hardships that would result from the proposed amalgamation were made by Notaries Sangarapillai and Arunasalam, Mr. Tillaiampalam, Head Master, Sivite school and others. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

—Cor.

*KAMALAMBAL.

We are requested to publish the following "foreword to third edition", which we gladly do, concerning the merit of this work:—

In presenting this third and revised edition of "KAMALAMBAL" to the public, the Editor finds his whole thought and existence so absorbed in the Ideal presented and the ultimate realization achieved, that he knows not what to say but to let it go out on its silent mission to quicken the heart's emotions and enlarge the life-experiences of those who read it with faith and discrimination. But an attempt has been made to give a distorted account of the Ideal presented by the immortal author of "KAMALAMBAL" under cover of giving a life-sketch of the author, which seems more designed to ring the peals of his so-called patrons than present the Ideal of his life in its undimmed light and splendour. The discriminating reader should learn to catch the life of the author of "KAMALAMBAL" in this his master-piece, in which he has put his life and soul, writing it as a means of Self-Expression, when he was himself going through the master-process of Spiritual Conversion.

KAMALAMBAL, in brief, is the supremest expression of his soul, the presentation in its every-day aspects of the ancient and eternal Ideal of India—the immortal and ever present SIVA who dwells in the Great Heart of Her Children and Her Race, swaying their hearts and moving their passions in the midst of the trials and tribulations of their every day life. Reading it over again and diving deep into the significance of the story in its minutest details, and its plan as a whole,—as a conscientious Editor is bound to do,—he finds it as fresh and interesting to-day from his higher standpoint of view, as when he first handled the hastily scribbled but deeply thought-out manuscript which was placed in his hands as an absolute gift to make what one can out of it. Nay more! the mellowing influence of time and memory have combined to make it more inspiring to-day. Besides, the spiritual conversion and actual experiences of the Editor have enabled him to test and to appreciate fully the noble and highly successful attempt of the Author to present the indescribable experiences of the Spirit in a garb so attractive and yet so true to life!

Indeed the artistic excellence of his presentation is so full that the superficial reader, as the Author himself apprehends, is sure to miss the Author's aim of inculcating some great truth or principle of life, unless he is ever on the alert to identify himself with the subject completely and unreservedly. The attainment required is so perfect that it is virtually amounts to practising Yoga-Samyama or the highly cultivated mental processes of Dharana-dhyana samadhi combined in one all-absorbing attention to the subject in hand. Truth to tell, the task of editing and revising the work has been to the Editor, a veritable living of the life therein depicted over again and a spiritual exercise of the highest order, which carried him through all the stages of Yoga-samadhi to the ultimate goal of Sahaja samadhi with which the book ends and which alone can and will satisfy the ever-aspiring Soul and give it Rest, achieving for it the glory of Nishkarma-siddhi!

As a loving tribute to the Noble Spirit of the Author, who while going through the Mahalaya stage of Yoga lost control over his body and let it go to rack and ruin, the Editor,—having gone through a similar experience,—has thought fit to add at the end of the work three extracts in Tamil which contain the quintessence of Kevala-kumbhaka or Dahara-vidya, of Kevala-sunga or Mahalaya Darshanam, and a soulful prayer by a Siddha living the Karapattan-life (i. e., calling merely to spiritualise matter), for that "Akhanda-Lakshyath-ceta Sahajamubhavam," which the hero and heroine so well and deservingly worked for and achieved in the end.

I now place the work at the Holy Feet of Devi as a love-offering of Her Children and let it go out in Her Holy Name on its peaceful mission of saving souls from dense ignorance by letting the light of Her Grace enter into the cave of their hearts by the highly chastening experiences of every-day life.

Lalitayya, Mysapore.
The Mahalaya, Oct. 1910. C. V. S.

P. S.—The thoughtful reader should see the "announcement" appearing at the foot of page 148 in this edition and send up his name and address for registration to the D. K. Agency.

*Professor P. Sundaram Pillai, a no mean judge of Tamil literature thus wrote concerning the merit of the work in 1896:—"I hope you will be encouraged similarly to reprint other articles from your extremely useful and popular Magazine, some of which, as, for instance, Kamalambal, are such as will do honour to a first class Magazine of the kind in Europe."

THE THANGODAI SAIVA VIDYASALAI, KARATIVE.

On the 24th ultimo was celebrated with much enthusiasm the inauguration or Grihaprasnam of the above Vidyasalai.

The institution owes its birth to the labours of Mr. Phelps among the people here, and Messrs. P. Shanmugam, Vidan of the place and Manager of the school, E. Thambiah Pillay, K. Vaitilingam and others who founded it on 26th February last have been conducting it ably since then. The need of a proper building for pupils having been felt, the people have heartily co-operated in bringing a good one into existence.

In an auspicious hour, the pupils and the masters of the school with most of the prominent men of the place entered the building together. After remaining there for some time they separated only to reassemble in the evening at six. The hall was full, and after being treated for some time to Mangala Vadyam, (music) they had the pleasure of listening to a long and eloquent speech from Mr. Damotharampillai, Editor, "Gnana Siddhi" on "Saivism". This was followed by an interesting report of the history of the School, and by speeches from Messrs. Sivapathasantharam, Head Master, Victoria College, Chulipuram, E. K. SivaSubramanya

Iyer, Head Master, T. S. M. N. Vidyasalai, and Chellappah, Manager, Victoria College, which were all listened to with rapt attention.

With the distribution of Panspiti the interesting function was brought to a close.

—Cor.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE EDUCATED CEYLONESE SEAT.

The Editor,
"Hindu Organ".

Dear Sir,

I think I am not wrong in supposing that those who have entered into a campaign of vilification against Mr. Ramanathan are in effect vilifying the large number of Educated Ceylonese who will have a voice in the selection of one to represent them in the Reformed Council, and who are responsible for having drawn Mr. Ramanathan out of the secluded life which he meant to lead during the rest of his existence. It is an open secret that he meant to bid final adieu to politics, and make himself useful to his countrymen by directing his energies in a sphere which will be more pleasant to him, and in which he thought he could do more of substantial good to his country. As is well-known man is a creature of circumstances. He being one whose heart is filled with devotion to his country, heard the persistent voice of a very large number of his countrymen, appealing to him and making him understand in unmistakable terms that the interest of his country necessitated his return to the old field, however distasteful that may be to him personally, and he, in response to that earnest appeal, consented to walk back and serve the country in the political arena. Those who can take a dispassionate view of the motive that has actuated him to aspire to the Seat will see that the cruel calumny that is directed against him in the shape of sinister and dark insinuations are utterly uncalled for, and will certainly rebound to the discredit of those malicious persons from whom they originate. A certain newspaper and its satellites give vent to their wrath by saying so many things that are inconsistent with truth against him. They allege that he, being an old man should keep himself in the background, and afford opportunities to younger men to serve the country. What was the age of that illustrious grand old man of England, Gladstone, when he was the Prime Minister of England? No younger man in the liberal camp could have been persuaded to take the reins during the lifetime of that venerable, and world-famed politician. What was the age of Mr. Dadabhai Nauroji when he represented in the British Parliament one of the constituencies in England? Why then condemn one who is only fifty-eight years old on the ground of senility? What is Mr. Ramanathan's age when compared with the ages of many of the cabinet ministers in England. If some think that calumny can have the effect of making Mr. Ramanathan withdraw from the field and make the coast clear for the others let them by all means try it, but I am sceptical about its success. In the whole course of my experience I have not known a single instance in which calumny advanced anyone's cause. To give the reader an idea of the nature of the arguments adduced in the course of the discussion I will give a typical one. In one of the leading articles in a very recent issue of the "Morning Leader" the Editor asks, "If all this galaxy of legal talent could not protect the legislation of the past decade from the grotesque multitude of 'amending' ordinances what guarantee is there that another group of lawyers will do better?" I think this carries its own refutation. If the presence of four practising unofficial lawyers could not have minimized the necessity for the "amending" ordinance what will be the chaotic condition in which the statutes will be found if the Council that legislates is manned solely by individuals who have absolutely no knowledge of the fundamental principles of law? Can any one argue, what is the use of an army of qualified doctors in Colombo when some diseases baffle their treatment and carry away hundreds of victims; and the medical charge of Colombo can safely be entrusted to a body of ordinary men with only the Principal Civil Medical Officer at the head. To legislate you must have lawyers just as you want doctors to diagnose a disease notwithstanding the old saying that doctors differ in opinion in the way clocks differ in keeping time. Are these arguments intended to convince the Educated Ceylonese, or are they intended to please some one? If the former I doubt that they will have the desired effect? If the latter let us have some more of them as we can enjoy a little fun occasionally. I wait to see what and what new methods of argument we will be initiated into before the election campaign is over. We would have had an enormous number of them had the attempt of Mr. Everts to introduce a certain foreign element into the Ceylonese constituency through the instrumentality of the Ceylon National Association, succeeded but that body could not have seen its way to make the attempt a success. Constituted with one from the Himalayas, one from Goa, one from Dondra Head, one from Point Pedro, and one from Komari Point will the Ceylonese constituency be anything short of a veritable Ceylonese pandemonium?

Nov. 20, 1910.

C. Muttiah

PUTTALAM.

WHAT THE PEOPLE SAY.

That the people of Puttalam are rather jolly after the recent rains.

That the cocoanut planters were, the first to welcome the showers.

That the salt cultivators on the other hand are on the alert to bid good-bye to their enemy, But—

That this is beyond any apprehension at this season.

That the different Colombo Editors are very busy over their respective X'mas Numbers.

That in fact handy supplements are expected to turn out this time.

That Price Competitions lend additional beauty to Christmas Volumes.

That the "Hindu Organ" should appear as a semi-weekly on its XXIII birth-day; and

That the "Indu Sathana" might be elevated to the place of the former.

That want of funds cannot be an excuse for these promotions.

That the topic of the day is, P. Ramanathan and the Educated Ceylonese Seat.

That Dr. H. M. Fernando's only qualification, is his position in the Low Country Products Association as President for 1910.

That this will not satisfy the many supporters of Mr. Ramanathan.

That if there is anybody supporting H. M. F., he must have been hypnotised.

That it is not unlikely that a prominent Journalist in Colombo might also be under this influence. But—

That the firm conviction of anybody and everybody is that Mr. Ramanathan will be returned to the Council by an overwhelming majority.

That the chief thing requisite in a bachelor here is, "style" mounted on white horse.

That the absence of this maximum is the consequence of terrible curse from the damsel in the matrimonial market.

That it is left to the people of the place alone to draw the comparison of both.

That it is a pity the moral and social state of the place should remain stationary.

13th November 1910. —Cor.

EXTRACT.

"THE OBLIGATIONS OF ELECTORS AND OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVE".

MR. RAMANATHAN'S LECTURE AT KANDY.

(Continued from our last issue.)

Bearing in mind the indisputable fact that citizenship is a most powerful instrument for the formation of high character and the development of capacities and sympathies of the noblest kind, let us consider the duties of citizens in their two-fold division of electors and the elected.

As a citizen is in partnership with the king in the great work of governing the country wisely and well, it is the duty of a citizen to prepare himself for this work. He should not as before, waste his time in useless and frivolous pursuits. He should read the biographies of the great men of the world, and force his mind to accustom itself to persevere daily in good work, inspired by noble ideas. He should seek the society of the more thoughtful elders of the people and discuss with them the problems of the day. He should learn to consider things without prejudice, and so train his judgment to form correct opinions upon sound data.

Accurate information, right thought and prompt action are essential to every citizen, as indeed to every man who has any duty to perform. But as a citizen is concerned with the affairs of a much larger body of persons than in a family or private business, his duties in regard to the collection of information and weighing of facts and opinions, are necessarily heavier and more responsible. In the family and in private business it is usual to be partial, that is, to be guided by one's own feelings, called likes and dislikes, or by the likes and dislikes of others. But in public matters, which relate to the welfare of the people as a body, our minds should not be allowed to be tilted up or down by our feelings, or the feelings of particular individuals. A well-balanced judgment, that is, an intellect not swayed by emotion or passion, is absolutely necessary for the right performance of the duties of a citizen. He must be determined to act "without fear or favour," as the English judicial expression goes. The meaning of this expression is little understood even among lawyers. To act without fear is not to be influenced by the fear of losing a friend, or relation, prestige or money; nor by the fear of being ridiculed by half-witted people; nor by the fear of opposition on the part of existing enemies, or of enemies to come. To act without favour is not to be influenced by one's personal affection for friends or relations, or by their importunities, or by the offers of money or other reward for abstaining from duty. The safety of the people ought to be the supreme obligation of a citizen. (Loud cheers.) The Romans expressed this doctrine of civic life by the maxim, "Salus populi suprema lex." They considered it ignoble to lie loitering at home and to be fooling in the city. Their public spirit was

so earnest that they felt it sweet to die for their country. "Dulce est pro patria mori." In Cicero's oration against Cataline appears the reason for this inspiring creed. He said the fatherland was the common parent of all of us, "Patria est communis omnium nostrum parens." The sum total of all homes in the country, and the whole of the happiness and works and aspirations of the people as a body, are greater than the joys and interests of any single family in the land. (Applause.) So, wives and daughters buckled on the armour to their husbands and fathers, and sent them to the battle-field, restraining their grief as much as possible. Most assuredly in every civilised country life is willingly sacrificed for the sake of maintaining the welfare of the country. What then shall we say of a citizen who prefers a single friend, or a clique, or caste of friends, to the whole country? In the performance of a public duty, private feelings should be cast aside. A citizen sitting in judgment as a juror is bound to judge well and truly, without fear or favour. So, when there are several persons willing to accept the responsibility of a seat in parliament or the Legislative Council, it is the duty of a citizen to dismiss considerations of private friendship, and choose that man who would look after the interests of the public in the ablest manner and with the most single-minded devotion. (Applause.) For the return of such a representative, he should work with might and main explaining to his fellow citizens the dangers of a self-seeker or partisan, an inexperienced or inefficient man trying to be their representative. The citizen should act in concert with others who are of the same opinion. All good citizens should join together and keep out of council men given to intrigues, or secret and underhand practices, or men who are irresolute, timid or wanting in strength of character, or hesitating in speech. (Cheers.) They should labour hard to choose as their representative a frank, fearless and ready man, who could meet an enemy and fight a good fight at a moment's notice. They should not choose men with weakness and fluttering hearts to represent the people. (Cheers.) Men who could be won over by smiles and seemingly hearty shakes of hand should have no place in the national Council. Only those who are staunch to the people's cause and gifted with a strong and analytical mind and the power of clear statement even under general excitement should be chosen as trustees of public affairs. (Applause.)

It is the duty of citizens also to be responsive to each other in all good works. Indifference or deadness towards honest effort at social amelioration will breed deadness in some and hatred and revenge in others. Citizens should not hang back or sit on the fence, when appealed to for help in good work. During recent years, the fear of failure and of ridicule has made virtues shame-faced. People even in high places are ashamed to do what is right and proper. The fear of spoiling one's reputation has bred a brittle respectability among many able men, whose usefulness to the public would have been effective except for this prudery and over-sensitiveness. They are a drag upon all high aspirations. (Cheers.)

Worse than this shame-facedness, arising from an excessive self-consciousness, is racial calousness and racial contempt. During the past fifteen or twenty years, I have observed with the greatest regret that British journalists in Ceylon have lost their usual interest in and sympathy with the Ceylonese.

There was a time when the "Observer" and the "Times" were universally recognised as pro-native. One of the saddest of social transformations of the present generation is the casting down of the illumining ideas of fraternity, equality, and liberty of human beings established by the French and American revolutionists of the past century, and the setting up of the idols of colour, racial superiority and brute force. It is now the creed of many Britishers that if a man does not possess a white skin, combined with muscular strength and European descent, he must be an inferior being, and consequently not fitted to govern themselves or be entrusted with high office; a convenient doctrine, formulated for making the whole world a fine preserve for the educated, but poor sons of Great Britain and Ireland; an irreligious and wholly unchristian doctrine, for those who teach it have forgotten the truth that St. Paul taught that God is the one Father of all nations, and that the blood that flows in the veins of every man is identically the same. How stupid of some people that they mistake the pigment of the skin of man for the man himself, how blind that they do not see, as we in the East see, that the dark pigment of the skin often disintegrates and leaves the skin patchy white at first, and then full white in the course of two or three years how inconsistent that they should forget their objections to the dark skin and price dark timber like ebony and mahogany, and dark minerals like platinum and bronze!

It is absurd in the highest degree to exaggerate the value of colour, of physical strength, and underrate moral and spiritual forces upon which the greatness of humanity depends. These moral and spiritual forces are manifested in the mind, and physical strength is manifested in the body. It may require five persons to hold down a demented man and forty persons a Bengal tiger. Does the greatness of physical power make us worship a mad man or a tiger, or a bundle of dynamite, or a current of electricity? If we consider

the mind in the human body as the chief functionary in it, what significance is there in the colour of the body. The body and the colour of the skin are flesh which "profiteth nothing". Therefore, our European fellow citizens should sympathise with us forgetting colour and racial descent, and actively help us in all our efforts to improve ourselves individually and collectively. If they do not, it will be a violation of the duties of citizenship and it will lead to very undesirable complications. The King, the British parliament, the ministers of the King, and thousands of other noble spirits in fair England are doing their best to just towards the native inhabitants of this and other countries of the British Empire and it will be a source of great joy to those philanthropists and to us if our European fellow citizens, including editors of newspapers, will be actuated by the same liberal spirit and the same cordial sympathy.

One word more as regards the duties of electors. They should take care to go to the polling-booths early on the day of election, and patiently wait till their votes are duly registered. All their efforts bear fruit on the day of election, and if they are not present at the poll, their previous labours would go to naught. The electorate of the Educated Ceylonese member is as large as Ceylon. Its area covers 25,000 square miles. It is obviously impossible for the comparatively few captains of the campaign to convey voters in every part of the Island from their houses to the polling-booth. The largest electorate in England is the country, and the average area of the country seems to be about fifty square miles. Those who are interested in returning a country member need not work beyond a radius of twenty-five miles. But Ceylon, divided into about eighteen divisions for the purpose of polling, gives as much as 1,400 for each polling district, which is much too large to be managed by the captains all in one and the same day. It is therefore the duty of every voter to carry himself to the poll without waiting for help as regards transport from the captains. (Cheers.)

To turn now to the qualifications and duties of those who are worthy to represent the electors in Council, the education of a would-be representative must be much wider than that of the average elector. In addition to the usual course of studies prosecuted in a high class college, he should be well up in social science, political economy, statistics, jurisprudence, constitutional law, and general principles of law and legislation. For effective service in a Council that deals constantly with the rights and duties of men, with finance and statistics of all kinds, and with the making and unmaking of laws, the particular subjects I have named will be found most useful. "It is amusing," says Sir William Blackstone, "that to the science of legislation, the noblest of all sciences, no preliminary method of instruction is looked upon as requisite."

Apprenticeships are held necessary to almost every art, commercial or mechanical; a long course of reading and study must form the divine, the physician, the practical professor of the laws; but many a man of superior fortune thinks himself born a legislator. The great Roman orator Cicero, however, was of a different opinion. It is necessary, he said, for a senator to be thoroughly acquainted with the constitution, and this, he declared, was a subject of the most extensive nature, a matter of wide knowledge and deep reflection, without which no senator can possibly be fit for his office."

It is for the sake of being able to serve the country in the House of Commons and out of it that so many youths flock in England to those legal universities of high renown called the Inns of Court. A careful study of the social, legal, and political sciences open up the mind wonderfully. Wrong and mistaken motives, combined with selfishness, jealousy and other passions contract the mind to such an extent that its usefulness is much curtailed. It is universally considered a great disgrace to have a narrow mind. It mars the whole beauty of life, and robs life of its greatest joys. A narrow mind thinks in a crooked tortuous way, because it cannot see beyond its nose, and resorts to sloping tactics in order to gain its selfish ends. A sound knowledge of ethics and law gives the mind standards of right thought. If the mind is trained to think, not according to the likes and dislikes of the body. But according to law, it becomes liberal, that is free from its bondage to corruption. A broad-minded lawyer who loves to be frank and fair, despising underhand methods, and who loves to work for the people ungrudgingly rather than work in the Law Court for fees paid, will be a great acquisition to the Council especially if he has the courage of his convictions and the ability to speak. A wide experience of the world and abundant knowledge of local conditions of life are also necessary. Without these qualifications, it would be impossible to make an impression on his colleagues, official and unofficial. A comprehensive grasp of the situation and of the particular points at issue is absolutely necessary.

A man may speak by the yard in Council, but if he does not clear up the difficulties of opponents, or strengthen the convictions of supporters, he might as well be lying down in his house. The great point is to understand exactly the details of the question for debate in Council. It generally has a literature of its own, all new or connected with past records. In my legislative experience

of about eighteen years (1879-1890), I found almost invariably that unofficial M. L. C.'s were unprepared for effective discussion, either through remissness or press of other engagements, or want of papers. Having found the deficiencies of my unofficial brethren, I thought it my duty to apprise them in time of the details of all complicated subjects, giving them the results of my study and reflection. We used to assign to each other the different parts of the play in our side, and were thus able to meet the unofficial members with courage. Sir Arthur Gordon (now Lord Stanmore), who was one of our strongest Governors, found our union so telling that he said publicly that the influence of the six unofficial members acting in concert was out of all proportion to their numerical strength.

Such is the power of judicious criticism on the measures of the Government. In the British Parliament there are always two or more parties watching each other: one party "in power," that is holding all the high executive offices of State, and the other parties "in opposition" as they say.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain in one of his speeches delivered at Birmingham in 1883, said, "An opposition has two very distinct and very vital functions to discharge in this country. The first is criticism, honest, fair, judicious criticism, and the second is by its bearing and conduct, as an opposition to show that it is fit for power, when power shall come."

Now, the Legislative Council of Ceylon, consisting of official and unofficial members, was undoubtedly intended to give the Governor the benefit of their advice and criticism. That Council is not the Governor's but His Majesty the King's, as we know from several State papers laid on the table of the Council. Neither officials nor unofficials should simply say "Aye, Aye" to all that the Governor says. If they do so they will cease to be his advisers and critics: they will be his flatterers and of course betrayers of the trust reposed on them by the King for the benefit of the country. There can be no criticism without analysis, that is, undoing the whole into its different parts and examining each part separately, commenting on its usefulness, strength or weakness, and suggesting desirable modifications or the entire abandonment of the whole. It is absolutely useless to send a man into Council who does not possess analytical and synthetical powers to a pronounced extent. Only practical men of light and leading, having a talent for the successful handling of public affairs, should be entrusted with the duty of representation. Without capacity to give a push and healthy turn to political measures, no man should come forward as a candidate for parliamentary honours. The London "Times" said in August, 1883, on the subject of leaders in English politics: "The demeanour of the Conservative leaders in the Commons has been negatively correct, but though that entitles them to be considered model members of parliament, it hardly fulfils the public conception of capacity to direct public affairs... On the other hand, whatever may be the shortcomings of the liberals, they at least have been accustomed to affairs, possessed of ideas, and figuring in the mind of the nation as active forces. If they are not highly popular, they at least have escaped that worst of political misfortunes, to be regarded with good humoured indifference."

The lesson we learn from English politics is that we would expose ourselves to a great misfortune if we sent into our council men whose actions there create in us a feeling of indifference or deadness. The actions of our representatives in Council should call forth our warmest interest in public affairs, and develop in us a lively sense of satisfaction that the right thing has been done at the right time and in the right manner to preserve the well being of the country. (Loud cheers.)

A representative can do more good work in the sub-committees than in the full meetings of the Council, provided that he has taken the trouble to study all the available papers on the subject and thought it out before meeting his colleagues in the sub-committee.

Some Colonial Secretaries, imbued with a high sense of honour and fairness, readily hand the whole file of papers to the unofficial member who wants it, but other secretaries, caring more for victory than honor weed the file of tell-tale papers before handing it over. This is hard to bear, it does not promote confidence in the Government of the day.

Things become harder still if in sub-committee where discussions should be of the freest kind, officials are not as communicative as they ought to be for the reason that officials and unofficials alike are the ministers of the King, appointed to guide the Governor wisely and well. Nothing conduces so much to the honour of the Governor and Colonial Secretary as a genuine desire on their part to court the advice of unofficials at the earliest opportunity, before submitting the papers to the consideration of the Secretary of State. It is a farce to seek their advice, after the Governor has managed to obtain the sanction of the Secretary of State. The tongue of the official members of the Legislative Council must be held after such a contingency. They should not speak, much less vote against the measure, in case they disapprove of it; and the unofficial members, if they cared to speak, would feel like those who whip

dead horses. The Governor who comes into Council with a measure already sanctioned, without the Secretary of State having heard the public or the press or the representatives of the people, is surely misusing the Legislative Council, for it has been well pointed out by an Englishman that:—

"It produces the impression upon the public mind that the members are at liberty to vote as they please, whereas in fact their hands are more tied than ever, and acts go forward as if they had received the confirmation of all the members, or a majority of those present."

This misuse of the Legislative Council by some of our Governors is worthy of the consideration of the reformed Legislative Council, and of the citizens of the Island. (Loud cheers.)

The Governors who approach the Legislative Council after pocketing the Secretary of State no doubt believe conscientiously that the information they have received from the Government Agents, Assistant Agents, and the Chief Headmen together with the opinions of the members of the Executive Council are sufficient to determine their own views, and justify them in inducing the Secretary of State to give his sanction. But such Governors do not know the peculiar conditions of Eastern countries where the people are in the habit of saying what their superiors would like to hear.

If they re-signed their official positions, and mixed with the headmen and the people in familiar terms, they would see in what a world of illusions they had been living as officials. This is what Mr. William Taylor of the Bengal Civil Service who was the Commissioner of Patna, says in his book, called "Thirtyeight Years in India," as to how much he was mistaken during the whole period of his official life:—

"When a public officer in high position in India descends from his pedestal and enters on the lower stage of ordinary unofficial existence, he passes, in one sense at least, from darkness into light. During his official elevation, his eyes were dimmed, his senses clouded by a thick veil, which, unknown to himself, was spread before him and presented every object in a false or distorted aspect. Flattering himself that in conversation, or by inquiry, he ascertains the genuine sentiments of the natives who approach him, he, in fact, takes in little but the smooth sentences of studied adulation or perverted facts. When, however, he cast off his official role, the veil is removed, and if his vocation brings him into confidential relation with the people, he is astonished to find how widely the real sentiments and genuine views of his visitors or associates differ from the manufactured opinion which he had in his higher sphere accepted as the truth."

Those who know the country best, here and in India, bear testimony to what this Civilian has written. Our Assistant Agents and Government Agents, so long as they remain officials, will never know the real sentiments and genuine views of their informers, and the Governor who depends on his agents and Durbar chiefs alone, will never know how grievously he was mistaken and how unsuspectingly he misled the Secretary of State. If the Governor descends from his pedestal and enters on the lower stage of ordinary unofficial existence, then will he pass from darkness to light; then will he know how much better he might have governed the country if he had counted the advice of the unofficial members of the Legislative Council before addressing the Secretary of State.

There have been Governors who have allowed our constitution to work according to the lines prescribed by its founders. The safety of the country depends not upon the readiness of the Governor to assume responsibility for every measure and scheme which he has pressed on the Secretary of State, but on the harmony of his views with those of the Executive and the Legislative Councils, ordained by the King to advise him and to help him in the Government of the country. The words of that sagacious Governor, Sir Henry Ward, who ruled the Island between 1855 and 1860, are worth remembering:—

"In the peculiar circumstances of Ceylon, with great capabilities still undeveloped, and a growing demand for material prosperity, as the condition of planting and mercantile success, it is upon the agreement between the Councils and the Governor for the time being that the progress of the Colony depends."

Now, I think I have sufficiently detained you. You have listened to me with the greatest patience. Wherever I have been, this has been a distinctive feature. People do not look at their watches, but simply watch my face and movements. I see every face sparkling with enthusiasm, and that is enough consolation for me for all the trouble I have taken. If by my labours I make some of you to rise from selfishness or self-love to patriotic love, and from neighbourly love to philanthropy and Godly love, I shall have lived sufficiently. (Loud cheers.) I thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for giving me a hearing in this encouraging manner. Your willingness to hear and your effort to do good will find fruition in your own hearts and in the community generally. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

—The "Ceylon Independent."