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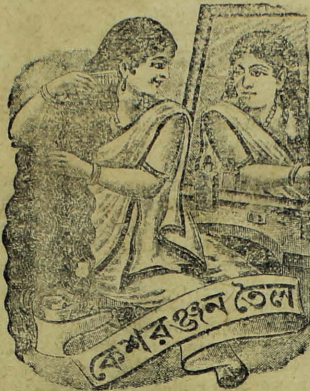
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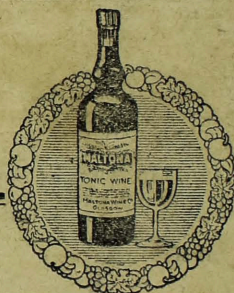
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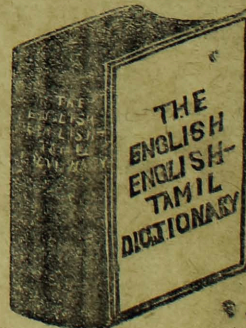
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# Hindu Organ.

HA, MONDAY, JULY 3, 1916

THE QUARANTINE REGULATIONS  
OF THE CEYLON GOVERNMENT.

In our last article on this subject we dealt with it in its general aspects, reserving our remarks on some of our own recent personal experiences to this issue. When we returned to Jaffa in February

though we had not a Pass from the Chairman of the Plague Committee, yet Dr. Leembruggen, the Medical Officer then in charge of the Mandapam Camp, allowed us and our servant to proceed on our journey to Ceylon without any interruption or detention.

On the day we started for India this time—5th ultimo,—we applied through the Government Agent, to the Chairman, Plague Committee, for a Pass to allow us and our servant to return to Jaffoa without detention at Mandapam and without requiring us to deposit Rs. 50 and that Pass was received by us during our sojourn in India. It was an order to the Medical Officer in charge of the Mandapam Camp to allow us and our servant, who was also named, to pass over to Ceylon, provided we are healthy and not from an infected area. We remained in India for only a week and that in a place which was, as far as we ascertained, absolutely free from plague or any other infectious or contagious disease at that time. On our return journey we arrived at the Mandapam Station on the 15th ultimo at about 3 P.M. The Medical Officers then appeared on the scene and began to examine the first and second class passengers, Dr. Fernando, the Chief Medical Officer, from one end, and his assistant one Dr. Samarasinghe from the other. Unfortunately it was the assistant Medical Officer who had to deal with us. We produced the Pass for ourselves and our servant, a boy of 13 years who was quite clean and decently dressed, feeling confident that in terms of the instructions contained in that Pass, there would be no difficulty in both of us being allowed by that train to proceed on our journey. But the Assistant Medical Officer said to our great surprise and indignation that we could proceed leaving the servant boy behind to go to the Camp to be disinfected. We argued with him that both of us had

gone together to India, remained together there, and were returning together, and that the Pass from the Chairman of the Plague Committee requiring that both of us should be allowed to cross over to Ceylon provided we were healthy and not from an infected area, there was no reason for the servant being accorded different treatment. We further told him that the servant being a small boy who could not find his way to Jaffna alone, we would be obliged to go with him to the Camp and take him back when the period of his detention was over. But that officer was inexorable. He told us that, under no circumstances, would the boy be allowed to accompany us. He assumed the tone of one who was the master of the situation against whose decision there was no appeal. Our chagrine and disappointment knew no bounds. We were determined if the boy who is a devoted servant was detained, to go with him to the Camp which is situated at a distance of about two miles from the Station to share his trials, although we had wired home to expect us the next morning at Jaffna. Having heard that the Doctor who had thus dealt with us was a subordinate and that the Chief Medical Officer was the person who was examining the passengers from the other end, we ran up to him, as it was nearly time for the train to start, and submitted our servant's case to him. Some one who had known us told the Doctor what position we held in Jaffna. He asked where we were coming from. We said: "from Kallidai-ariyichy." "In what District it is, he asked." We replied: "In the Tinnavelly District," and added further that it was a place free from any infectious or contagious diseases, to which he said that he had his own informations in regard to the health of each District from the Government. At this time Dr. Samarasinghe came to his chief and informed him of his order in regard to our servant. But Dr. Fernando, to our great relief and agreeable surprise, gave a Pass for ourselves and our servant to proceed on our journey, and we were able to arrive in Jaffna the next morning, the 16th ultimo, as we had expected to do.

Dr. Fernando, who is we believe a Burgher gentleman, impressed us as a considerate and courteous Medical Officer, but the tone and air of his Assistant were those of a superior personage. These Doctors are invested with very great and unlimited discretionary powers in a lonely and out of the way place, which are at times exercised arbitrarily, without consulting the feelings and conveniences of the unfortunate passengers. It is, therefore, time that some of the harsh measures enforced at Mandapam were removed or relaxed.

If a passenger is fortunate enough to return to Ceylon without being quarantined at Mandapam, he has his troubles in store after his arrival in the Island. We were ordered by the Doctor at Mandapam to report ourselves with our servant daily to the Medical Officer in Jaffna for sixteen days, and this reporting terminated only on the 1st instant. A printed notice was given to us as soon as the Pass to proceed was granted, warning us that failure on the part of passengers to report themselves as ordered would make them liable to a fine of Rs 1000 or six months' rigorous imprisonment. One can realise from the above the pains and penalties attached to a trip to and from India, which was done till about 17 years ago, from time immemorial, without any restrictions and without productive of any injurious effects. When one who is armed with a Pass from the Chairman of the Plague Committee and exempted from detention at the Camp and from payment of a deposit of Rs. 50/ has to suffer so much, we can better imagine the sufferings and hardships of those who are quarantined, disinfected, vaccinated or required to make a deposit before being allowed to proceed on their journey to Ceylon. It is curious that our trip to and from India took us eleven days. But the reporting period here on our return was 16 days. It is also strange that when the Indian Government allows even passengers from plague infected Colombo to enter India without any quarantine, the Indian passengers to this Island even from non-infected areas should be subjected to so many restrictions and penalties. Though there are daily reports of cases of plague occurring in Colombo, yet for good and sufficient reasons passengers from Colombo to other parts of the Island are not quarantined. Why cannot the same policy with some degree of restrictions, be carried out in case of passengers from South India? From a return published in the Indian papers we learn that for the week ending on 10th June, the plague mortality in the whole of India

containing a population of 315 millions was 33 of which 9 occurred in the Madras Presidency. Compare this with the number of plague cases during that period in the city of Colombo, containing a population of 250,000.

As we said in our last article, our Government is actuated with the highest and best of motives, and according to its lights, in the best interests of the Island in enforcing these quarantine regulations at Mandapam. But there are so many things sometimes overdone with benevolent intentions, but in ignorance of the real hardships, inconveniences and loss which those measures entail on His Majesty's subjects in Ceylon and India, not to speak of the abuses which they give rise to. It is, therefore, to be hoped that a settlement will be come to with the Indian Government which will put an end to unnecessary hardships now endured by passengers travelling from India to Ceylon, without interfering with necessary and reasonable precautions to safeguard the health of this Island.

**NOTES & COMMENTS.**

Of all arrangements made by the Ceylon Government for the convenience of

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to safeguard their interests, the not the least important among them, is the appointment of a Ceylon Representative. He travels from Talaimannar to Mandapam and back to the former place daily by the train and his presence is a check on petty Indian Government officers preying on these passengers under various pretexts in the train and on board the steam boat between Talaimannar and Danushkodi. He also serves as a guide and friend and is of immense service to them. It is to be hoped that this arrangement will be continued. Mr. V. Somasunderam, a brother of Mr. V. Ramalingam, Proctor, S. C., Jaffna, is the Ceylon Representative now on this railway, who performs his duties with great acceptance.

The discussion on the Firearms Ordinance at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th ultimo provoked again the powerlessness of public opinion in Ceylon to effect any radical modification in Government measures when the Government are determined to carry them out. Every Member representing Ceylonese communities, barring the Mohamedan Member who remained silent, spoke against the Bill. The Hon. Mr. H. Creasy, with his characteristic love of justice, lead the opposition. Though the Attorney General seemed disposed to allow some reductions in the rates of licensing fees when the Bill comes before the Committee, yet on many other matters of objectionable nature, in the Bill, he was not disposed to yield. One of the chief popular objections against the Bill is, that it places large discretionary powers in the hands of officials in the matter of issuing licenses. If the licensing fees are very much reduced so that it may not act as a hardship in the case of the poor cultivators and others requiring guns for the protection of their person and property, and if the qualification for possessing gun is clearly defined so as not to place one's right at the discretion of any official, much of the obnoxious features of the Bill may be eliminated. We hope the Government will be more conciliatory when the Bill comes up for discussion before the Committee.

It is gratifying to note that in some of the Native States of India, they have succeeded in reducing the consumption of intoxicating drinks.

chiefly through excise reforms. According to the Excise Administration Report of Mysore there was a decided fall in consumption under arrack, the figures for which stood at 377,164 gallons for the years 1914-15 against 466,107 gallons for the previous year. It is further pointed out that the number of shops for the sale of intoxicating drinks was reduced by 56 during the year and by 896 during the preceding 10 years. Though there was a reduction in consumption and in the number of liquor shops, yet the excise revenue of the state rose by about 3 million rupees owing to enhancement of the still head duty. In the State of Baroda, they have succeeded in introducing a system of local option under which liquor shops are not permitted when 60 per cent of the inhabitants of the locality are opposed to them. This

has resulted in great benefit to the people. In Travancore, it is stated that within the last seven years the number of liquor shops has been reduced from 7,050 to 2,273, a decrease of nearly 68 per cent. The noble example of personal abstinence set by His Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor and the precedence set by the leading European Governments in passing prohibitory laws which have brought undoubted benefits, have had some effect in India. But the effect in Ceylon is indeed disappointing.

Mr. R. Chelvadurai Proctor in a letter to the "Ceylon Observer" of the 27th ult. draws a scheme for

villages in suitable centres in the Vanni districts as an effective means to facilitate the speedy colonization of these parts by inhabitants from the surrounding congested districts. The scheme is to be based mainly on the old communal system adapted to modern conditions and improved by the adoption of some desirable elements in the Western systems of socialism and industrialism. The Ceylon Agricultural Society may purchase from the Crown an irrigable area of nearly 5,000 miles for a village site. The site may be cleared, paddy fields formed and provisions made for medical, sanitary and educational wants. Settlers will be invited to occupy the village, tenant farmers and village servants. Rents will be nominal and may be paid in small shares of the produce. Industries will be directed to follow the lines of co-partnership of labour and capital. The new village will have self-government in communal affairs. To avoid overcrowding the maximum limit of families in the village will be fixed. On the question of will it pay it is expected the colony will give a fair return on the capital invested. The communal ownership of property and industries, though ethically and economically sound, may not in the present day commend itself to colonists. Barring this one feature, the scheme is one worthy of trial. We have ourselves advocated for a similar scheme in some of our previous issues. Such schemes for opening model townships and villages as pioneer settlements to facilitate colonization have been found to succeed in India and other places. The "Ceylon Observer" in commenting on this scheme observes, "We are afraid, however, the project will not receive much attention during the continuance of the War; but the scheme has many novel features which might well be considered at the present time." We doubt the appropriateness of our contemporary's remark in this connection. One of the most striking results of the War has been the revival of activities throughout all parts of the Empire towards the extension of agriculture and other industries, thus making the empire self-sufficient and self-reliant in these respects. The "Hindu" of the 27th ultimo gives particulars of the Bill introduced by Lord Selborne into the House of Lords to provide for the acquisition and management of land by the state for experimental small holding colonies. The Bill gives power to the Board of Agriculture during the war and for 12 months afterwards to acquire land or providing experimental small holding colonies up to 6,000 acres. While there is striking activity in this direction in all other parts of the Empire, Ceylon is the only place which remains inert and unprogressive in the midst of this worldwide activity.

**LOCAL & GENERAL.**

THE SUPREME COURT.—We understand that there are already six cases on the calendar for trial at the sessions of the Supreme Court which will commence here on the 10th instant. It is likely one or two more cases will be added.

**SMALL-POX.**—Some cases of small-pox have occurred at Koddadi in the immediate vicinity of the Infectious Diseases Hospital of which one or two have proved fatal. There are now 20 contacts removed to the Hospital. The Infectious Diseases Hospital is so close to one of the most thickly populated parts of the Town that it is a source of danger to public health. The sooner it is removed to a suitable locality in a lonely place the better. The present site could be sold for a price which will more than cover the cost of building a new Infectious Diseases Hospital.

POSTAL.—Mr. C. Tambipillai, Postmaster of Vaddukoddai is on one month's leave and Mr. S. M. Hubert is acting for him.

—Mr. S. Sandrasegram, Asst. Postmaster, Vaddukoddai, has been transferred to Ratle as Postmaster.



**Deaths.** Sunthoram of the Ratoapura Post Office has been appointed Asst. Postmaster, Vaddukodai.

**Fire.**—On Saturday noon last four cadjan sheds used as "Eating Houses" on the South of the Grand Bazaar and on the West of the new buildings, were burnt to ashes. On the same day the house of Vytialingam, Blacksmith and Carriage-builder in Vannarponnai West, was also at day time burnt down. The loss here is estimated at Rs. 1,000. Both fires were the result of accidents.

**PERSONAL.**—Mr. C. Sinnappoo of the P W D, Demodura, has come to Jaffna on a month's leave and is staying at his residence at Sandilipay.

—Mr. P. Valupillai of the Treasury, Taiping, has been transferred to Treasury, Kuita and is promoted as clerk, Class I.

—Mr. A. Pourampalam of Bukit Blimbing, Kuala Selangor, has obtained two months leave and will shortly arrive in Jaffna. He is a brother of Mr. A. Sithamparanathan Pillai, Notary Public, Vaddukodai.

**MATRIMONIAL.**—The engagement of Mr. T. Kasipillai, Proctor S. C. with Parosothy Ammal, daughter of Mr. R. Subramaniam, Registrar of Marriages, Births and Deaths of Chavakachcheri, is announced and the marriage will take place shortly. The parties belong to respectable families in Chavakachcheri.

**GENEROUS OFFER FROM AN INDIAN GENTLEMAN.**—An Indian gentleman of considerable wealth has offered to provide Colombo with a building to house a Library provided the Colombo Library will amalgamate with the Pettah Library and the Government grants a site for the purpose. In view of this offer, the Committee of the Colombo Library met on the 30th ultimo to arrive at a decision on the matter. It is understood the offer will be accepted as the Pettah Library is now without a habitat, its present site being required in connection with the Grain Shed Scheme.

**A NEW BARRISTER.**—It is announced that Mr. Peri Sundaram, Barrister-at-Law, Gray's Inn and of Emmanuel College Cambridge has passed the Law Tripos in the second class. Mr. Sundaram expects to return to Ceylon in September.

**LORD KITCHENER'S ESTATE.**—Lord Kitchener's Estate was sworn at £171,420. The bulk of his property is bequeathed to his nephew Henry Kitchener. His swords of honor and other gifts from public bodies devolve as heirlooms in the settled estates.

**MR. E. B. DENHAM ON EDUCATION.**—Mr. E. B. Denham, the new Director of Education delivered his first public speech on the 30th ultimo, at the Training Colony, Peradeniya, where a new woman's vernacular normal training department was opened by Lady Bertram. The Hon. Mr. C. S. Vaughan presided at the function. Rev. Gibson who is the Principal of the Colony read a report of the work done. Mr. Denham's speech on the occasion was a masterly production in its style, and thoughts. The speech was made effective with apt quotations from Eastern and Western literature.

**OPRIUM AND NATIVE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.**—New rules in regard to sale of opium to Vedaralas are published in the last Government Gazette. Application for registration as a Vedarala must be made to the nearest Kachechery and certificates of registration will be issued to those Vedaralas who are approved by the Provincial or District Board formed under Sec. 16 of the Ordinance.

**WORK OF THE SIKHS.**—Presiding at a lecture by the Sirdar Daljitsingh to the Indian Section of the Society of Arts on "Sikhs," Mr. Chamberlain dwelt on the Indians' services to the war and paid a tribute to the part played by the Sikhs. He said they had taken 400 out of 1,300 decorations awarded to the Indian army, including the Victoria Cross, 6 Military Crosses, 2 Indian Orders of Merit of the first class, and 119 of the second class. He gave details of two instances of Sikh bravery—one in Gallipoli, where the 14th Sikhs suffered several losses, and the other in France, where Lieutenant Smith of the 15th Ludhiana Sikhs earned the Victoria Cross in May, 1915.—(Reuter Via Bombay, July 1st)

**RELEASE OF RIOT PRISONERS.**—Three more riot prisoners convicted by Court Martial in August, for treason, and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment, have been released on the orders of H. E. the Governor. They are three brothers:—Messrs John, Simon and Henry Sennanayake of Ambepussa.

**THE SHACKLETON EXPEDITION.**—London, June 28. Buenos Aires.—Sir E. Shackleton has telegraphed from the Falklands asking for the despatch of the Argentine steamer "Uruguay" which rescued the Swedish expedition in 1903. The "Uruguay" however, is in an unserviceable condition, and no other suitable vessel is available. To render help at this season also is impossible. Wellington.—The "Aurora" has been docked at Port Chalmers. It has been decided that Stenhouse leads the party for the relief of the McInnes party left at Cape Royds.

# THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 28.

## FIREARMS ORDINANCE.

### MR. RAMANATHAN'S REMARKS.

Hon. Mr. Ramanathan—made a lengthy speech. He said he had listened to the observations from his friends and which left him little to say. He went on to deal at length with the licensing law and changes in the past and eventually referred to the Departmental Committee who drew up the new Draft Ordinance. That Committee consisted of the Government Agent, Western Province, Mr. Fraser, the Inspector General of Police, Mr. H. L. Dowling and Mr. Stevenson. They proposed this Ordinance and their report consisted mostly of what was contained in the Ordinance. They had not considered the policy and they had not given reasons for their Bill. The whole report was based on the statement that in their opinion the existing Ordinance was worthy of re-arrangement. Words of that kind would not mean a substantial alteration of the law which made a fearful attack on the privileges given to gun owners by the law. Yet so it was. Without any rhyme or reason the Committee, having suggested the most stringent provisions—provisions much more stringent than any they were used to—had got the Attorney-General, whose kindness to his official colleagues passed all description, to work out that Ordinance. Why they had introduced that Ordinance, which was unanimously opposed by Unofficial Members, was not clear. The Attorney-General said that the Ordinance was certainly not intended to disarm the people, but the fact was that the people had already been disarmed and that the scale of fees propounded to the Council made for disarmament. It was clear that the people were in no way disloyal to the Crown and that they were the most loyal people in the British Empire. It had not been said anywhere that there should be disarmament through fear that the people would arm themselves against Government or to fire on each other. The only reason why they possessed guns was because they were an agricultural community interested in maintaining their crops and preventing the loss of their lives and property. The Attorney-General had said that that was a privilege they had to pay for, a privilege to defend one's life and property? Whoever heard of that right as a privilege? Whoever heard that such a right, an absolute right, an inherent right, which every subject in the British Empire possessed by reason of his birth, should be paid for, if it were allowed to be exercised? That theory was altogether unsound. The Attorney-General had tried to make out a case on behalf of his clients who had sought the help of the Council to carry out their pet schemes and follies and he had put forward an argument that would not stand for a single moment. It was not a privilege—it was the right of every British subject to defend his life and property against the depredations or attacks of other people or of animals. Why then were license fees introduced? It was only to pay for the machinery which has to be prepared by the Government to procure the registration of guns. The Attorney-General was completely wrong. He regretted to have to say that the arguments put forward day after day in previous years to support unjust legislation were absolutely iniquitous and rotten to the core. The Attorney-General had stated that the possession of guns was on an extremely large scale. That again was an argument which would not stand analysis. Luckily for them Government had placed before the Council very frankly a return which had enabled him to make a few remarks. There was a difference between the possession of guns on the part of inhabitants of places like Colombo and the possession of guns by persons resident in villages. In Colombo, they had the Police and the Magistracy and important officers to help the people with regard to the protection of their lives and property. When last year General Malcolm suddenly determined on making a house-to-house search for weapons and put a cordon of soldiers round the Pettah, the busiest part of the city—and made soldiers and officers enter every house for dangerous weapons which were supposed to be there and which were going to be used against the Europeans and the Government, what did he find? Nothing but a few pistols, crowbars, kitchen utensils, manoties, agricultural implements. There were no more than two or three old guns in the whole of the town which contained a population of nearly 250,000. But the villagers needed protection, they need, must defend their lives and property because the Government of the country left that duty to them and had arranged only for the establishment of Courts at distant centres to which they must carry their complaints after wrongs had been perpetrated on them. The case of the village was quite different from that of the town. The General again with his set of special Commissioners and assistants and his army of Punjabis had made a house-to-house search for the guns that were going to subvert the British Government in Ceylon. What did they find? They found only 34,591 guns in all the affected provinces. There was no mistake about it, each Special Commissioner and his army of Punjabis and headmen, etc., had been to every village to ferret out the guns in each house and under compulsion and threats the people made haste to produce all the guns. There were only some 85,000 for nearly 4 millions of people! Ceylon was not like England, where land was possessed by aristocrats and large landowners. It was more like France where land was possessed by numerous small owners of land, each owning a little plot here and there; only some 35,000 guns were found to protect thousand and thousands of acres of property belonging to the lands of separate landowners. The Attorney-General, who always uses superlatives, said that number was extremely large. Did he mean what he said or did he swallow everything that was told him? The Government Agent was anxious to keep the peace of the country. He (the speaker) sympathized with him. The Government Agent had distinguished himself for arriving at most unjust conclusions and he wanted his colleagues to take what he said as gospel truth. The Ordinance was the outcome of a serious mistake and misapprehension both of the feelings of the people and of the facts prevailing in the country. The Ordinance, therefore, was wholly unnecessary. The old Ordinance was tinkered in 1906 and again tinkered with in 1908; it was proposed to tinker with it again. Fortunately for the country they had a Governor who had come with an open mind. There was ample control already. As regards the manufacture of guns, there was the unpaid police

in villages who could watch over the manufacture in some way. He hoped that His Excellency would give them the same privilege which they had hitherto enjoyed and would have that Bill left in abeyance. They did not want that Ordinance and he trusted that in view of the unanimous unofficial opposition the Ordinance would be dropped. —The Ceylon Observer, June 29.

## ABUSING INDIA.

The West Coast Spectator recalls a story which the late Mr. A. Subba Rao told. During his stay in Mandaville, U S A, he casually dropped in at a much-advertised missionary meeting. The audience was composed of old maids, saintly widows and emotional misses and ostentatiously charitable society women. A venerable looking missionary, who had retired from India was addressing the meeting. What was he saying? He drew a horrid picture of Hindu mothers throwing their children to crocodiles in the Ganges, of human sacrifices at the Kali temple in Kalighat and of priests leading a life of debauchery, surrounded by wives and daughters of rich Hindus! Mr. Subba Rao could not brook the criminal insult heaped on his countrymen and countrywomen; his indignation was up. He got permission to speak as one born and brought up in India, and vehemently repudiated the statements. The Lord's servant, whose eloquence had made the saints and sickly sentimentalists assembled in the hall to raise their eyes up to heaven with horrified looks, was crest-fallen and beat a hasty retreat, to the laughter of the audience he had tried to bamboozle.

Indian Patriot.

## KAJANG, F. M. S.

Kajang one of the few important districts in the state of Selangor has had no English educational facilities for several years. Though this need has long been felt no action was taken till recently when a "Board of Trustees" was appointed at a public meeting of the residents of this town, most of whom are rich Chinese.

We are now confident Kajang can in the near future boast of a decent public school through the untiring efforts of Mr. Solomon Arulampalam, the Secretary of the Board, who has some experience in matters educational as the owner of a high school in Araly Jaffna, and founder of another school in Gopeng, Perak.

—Cor.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### RELIGIOUS TOLERATION AND UNION.

Sir,

If we Christians, Hindus and Roman Catholics have at heart the promotion of co-operation among us, we should refrain from controversies which are likely to spoil the good relations that grow among us. The ill-spent time and wasted energy of many in sowing seeds of discord, religious prejudice and such kindred vices can be used to advantage in establishing good relations among us and thus helping to present us as a "United Tamil community" to the world.

"Religion" is the embodiment of all that is good and pure, but alas to some it becomes a curse. Under the guise of religion they utter and write things which could not be tolerated. By the by, it is very curious and lamentable that many of the whims and fancies of these men at times find room in some of the respected Newspapers of Jaffna. Unless these kinds of petty jealousies are nipped in the bud, there is very little hope whether we could exist as a Tamil Nation—if I am permitted to use the word nation—in the true sense of the word.

Let us pray to God as we like, either in a church or temple, either standing, sitting or with eyes shut, but let not these formalities or technicalities be construed to create social distinctions and disunion.

It is a great pride and consolation to see, but for occasional very little differences, that the Catholics, Hindus and Christians here, live at peace and mix very freely. Is it not high time for many of our Jaffna folks to follow the example of their exiled sons?

Boycott is a strong word, yet we should not boycott but forget and forgive one another's weaknesses.

With apologies to bona fide Hindus, Catholics and Christians,  
Kuala Lumpur, Yours truly,  
June 1916. "PRO PATRIA."

## MALAYA LETTER.

**POPULAR SCENES.**—THE VILLAGE BARBER SHOP.—Retnam succeeded his father in the ownership and management of a hair dressing business. "The Twilight Hair Dressing Saloon"—First class Hair-cutting and shaving—From Madras was the sign painted for Retnam by the village artist and hung outside the premises, while two wooden poles painted in screw fashion in alternating lines of red and white and blue were projecting outside from the verandah. The establishment consisted of two mirrors, two barber chairs, a hair clipper, an old stool, a couple of razors, a few bottles supposed to contain fragrant hair lotions, a powder bowl, a puff, a shaving brush, a dog, and

Retnam himself. A Chinese "Kran" (clerk) was his usual morning customer and Retnam had to exert himself but little to get his ten cents. During the day he cooked his food and attended to any customers that might require his services, otherwise he was free. Amant, the syce, would go and comb the hair on his (Amant's) head, pull out a few from his chin, take a few drops of lavender stretch himself before the mirror and go away. Muniandy, the carter, would drop in for a chat and help himself to anything that might be handy. In the middle of the day Retnam would sit down and have his customary forty-winks while the shop looked after itself. By night fall a flickering lamp would advertise Retnam's "Twilight". Shortly the village assembly would meet under Retnam's roof. Cook, coolie and carter, syce, servant and sweeper, the next door abohy, corner house contractor would be all there, would engage in a game of cards—one man balance himself on the arm of one of the chairs, another on the window sill, a third would press himself against the door, and the fourth in the other chair. The others would usually engage in chatter, public scandal punctuated with hints to the card players. Karuppayee's elopement with Abdul Kader or some such interesting topic would be discussed in all its aspects in addition to current events. You get into the place for a shave and find the whole place packed. Retnam at once sees business and handles his weapon while somebody takes his place at the game. You stand there hoping somebody would vacate a chair. The man on the arm is too busy with his game, the one in the chair is too comfortable. When you are nearly seized with disgust and prepare to beat a retreat you are recognised and a chair is vacated whose occupant pursues his game standing. You sit down and have a few knocks on your face with the brush, for only the wooden part of this weapon now remains. A few cuts which Retnam promptly covers with a pinch of powder, a splash of some dirty looking fluid, a dirty towel, a few more knocks with the bald powder pump and you stump out a ten cent piece. And Retnam prospers.

MY MAIL BAG.—"My dear L., I have been rather careless about writing to you these few weeks. I am sure you are anxious about my marriage affair. The girl and I are now on tolerably friendly terms, and whenever we meet we have plenty to talk about. But you see I can't be frequenting her place, for it is hard to break through long established precedents in this matter. You ask me the probable date of my wedding and that of my ("our") return to Malaya. I am not going to be so easily coaxed into a marriage however much I may like the girl. Marriage is but once in a life time, so let me get round it all the joys and pleasures obtainable. I mean to do it thus—that is to arrange to have a period of courting extending over to months in the least during which we may both grow to love and adore and cherish each other. I am not the fellow to go and hurriedly get coupled to a girl who may not like me at all—Not I! When I make these arrangements I shall let you know, but you won't hear anything about the progress of my courtship, for I think I do it, on an original style and do not like others to copy my style. (You should patent this course in courtship, Henry). I say, you might very well have omitted the post card album affair when you sent my letter to the press. Ta Ta.

Yours as ever

Henry".

**NOTES AT RANDOM.**—Recently an English Engineer in the Siam Government service was dismissed for moral insult to the State Soldiers. A couple of unwell soldiers one day sought shade under the house of this Engineer but the latter promptly ejected them with a few kicks. The Ministry of War heard this and had the Engineer dismissed on the ground that he had offered a "moral insult" to the King's soldiers, and issued a communique informing foreigners of the unbecoming conduct of some of them. "You will reap what you sow, and you cannot expect our soldiers to remember every foreigner's face and distinguish those who treat us nicely from those who do not" ended the communique. The dismissed engineer has since been reinstated.

There is a significant paragraph in the report of the Selangor Ceylon Tamils' Association. They requested the Government for a Hindu holiday and the Government asked them the names of the important Hindu festivals. On being given two such the authorities replied that they could not increase the number of existing holidays—and this after long consideration. Here is Red Tape if you like, but why so extravagant a use in these times of War!

"French Moral at Verdun" says a headline. It does not speak well of their qualities at other places!

When we read that "the enemy's attacks were repulsed with heavy losses" many wonder on which side the losses were. The statement is about as clear as the Dentist's which read "Extraction Painless". At least one dentist explained that it was painless to him!

Henry's decision to withhold his progress in courtship from the Press must be a sad blow to the world. He is afraid others in his situation might pick up a few wrinkles if he gave out his plans, but we may rely on him to publish them in book form when he has got through the course himself!

"Mallous" of the "Catholic Guardian" would do better in the French front against the Western Huns, what with his armoury of spleen, strong phrases etc. He is being mis-spent in Paessyoor!

The "Eastern Huns" may well ignore Mallous's lessons on patriotism. By the way is he sure of the word "Kelaptomania"!

Singapore, LANKA,  
28th June 1916.



## TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

## The War.

## TURKISH ATTACKS REPULSED AT TREBIZOND.

London, June 26. The Turks repeated their night attacks in the Plantas Divisil region of Trebizond and were repulsed.

In Mesopotamia the Turks stormed the sectors of the Russian positions of Revanduz and were ejected with the bayonet. The Turkish offensives in the Bagdad direction were easily stopped, the losses heavily.

## TURCO-ROUMANIAN COMMERCIAL TREATY.

London, June 26. Bukharest.—The idea of a Turco-Roumanian commercial Agreement has been abandoned.

## THE REVOLT OF ISLAM.

London, June 26. Cairo.—The Grand Sheriff of Mecca has given the command of an Army each to his three eldest sons and destroyed the stations along a hundred miles of the Hedjaz Railway to prevent the enemy sending reinforcements.

London, June 27.

Cairo.—It appears that the Grand Sherif raised three Armies, the commands of which he gave to his three eldest sons, the first besieging Medina. The second occupied Taif, taking prisoner most of the garrison; the third captured Jeddah with the Garrison and a battery of field-guns, quick-fiers and rifles and much ammunition. The Sherif's followers cut the telegraphs and uprooted the Hedjaz Railway and destroyed the stations for 150 kilometers Northward, to prevent the sending of reinforcements. It is related that when Enver Pash visited Hedjaz the Sherif told him that he was an ignorant youth who had dragged Turkey to destruction.

## NO MESOPOTAMIA INFORMATION.

London, June 27. In the Commons Mr. Tennant said it was undesirable in the public interest to give further details as to Mesopotamia for the present.

## BRITISH STEAMER SUNK.

London, June 27. The British steamer "Canford Chine" has been sunk. The crew were landed at Cromer.

## STARVATION REPRISALS.

London, June 26. In the Commons Lord Robert Cecil stated that an American official report showed that the Germans had reduced the food supplies of British prisoners at Ruhleben by half the necessary amount. Government had consequently proposed to Germany an exchange of British prisoners at Ruhleben for the same number of German civilian prisoners in England. If the Germans did not accept the proposal in a week, they would consider steps regarding the rations of German civilian prisoners in England (loud cheers).

## AUSTRALIA BUYS WHEAT TONNAGE.

London, June 27. In view of the difficulties of shipping Australia's record harvest, Mr. Hughes has bought fifteen 2,005-ton cargo steamers at a cost of £150,000 sterling each, which will be run by the Commonwealth and known as the Commonwealth Government Line and managed in London.

## U. S. A. AND MEXICO.

Washington.—The situation is very grave. President Wilson yesterday conferred with the leaders of Congress. Subsequently Senator Stone, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was of opinion that [War?] was virtually certain. NO U. S. A. PROGRESSIVE CANDIDATE.

London, June 27. Chicago.—The Convention has decided not to nominate a Progressive candidate.

GERMAN VESSELS ON BELGIAN COAST BOMBED.

London, June 27. Paris.—A communique reports that three of our armed aeroplanes fired 65 shells on German vessels on the Belgian coast.

## FRENCH LINER'S ESCAPE FROM SUBMARINE.

London, June 27. Marseilles.—The French steamer "Fourel" has been sunk in the Mediterranean. The French liner "Ville de Madrid" from Algiers was long pursued and shelled by a submarine, but escaped by going at full speed and zig-zagging.

## GREEK GENERAL DEMOBILISATION.

London, June 23. Athens.—The decree for general demobilisation has been signed by the King in order to ensure regularity of demobilisation. It is necessary to keep a certain force under arms for a period not exceeding two months. Preference will be given to the classes which have served least.

## MOHAMMEDAN APPROVAL OF THE ARABIAN MOVEMENT.

London, June 28. Cairo.—The feeling of the Ulama and the students of the mosque El Azhar, which is the real barometer of Moslem sentiment, is very sympathetic in the Mecca movement. Syrians and Mesopotamians are co-operating wholeheartedly with the Grand Sherif. The General attitude of the educated Egyptians is that of the Egyptian Azharites.

## GERMAN INTRIGUES IN AMERICA.

London, June 27. In the House of Commons Sir Edward Grey said representations had been made to America regarding the pro-German attempts to blow up allied ships in American ports.

## IRISH PARTY ACCEPTS MR. LLOYD GEORGE'S PROPOSALS.

London, June 28. At Dublin a meeting of the Irish Party under the presidency of Mr. Redmond resolved, with the exception of two dissentients, on expressing their

deep gratitude for the self sacrifice of the Ulster Nationalists in consenting to temporary exclusion and looking forward to an early establishment of a united and self-governed nation, declaring that Mr. Lloyd George's proposals should be accepted as the best means to that end.

## A UNIONIST CONFERENCE.

London, June 28. Lords Middleton and Salisbury attended the Unionist Conference at the Colonial Office, presided over by Mr. Bonar Law, to discuss the Irish proposals. A meeting of the whole Unionist Party on the same subject will be held on Wednesday.

## BUDGET AMENDMENTS.

London, June 28. Mr. McKenna has accepted an amendment to the Finance Bill, authorising Municipalities like London and Manchester to issue securities in the United States free of taxation. This is expected to further steady exchange.

## THEIR MAJESTIES AT ALDERSHOT.

London, June 28. Their Majesties are at Aldershot.

## MEXICAN RUSES TO HAMPER AMERICAN NAVAL OPERATIONS.

Washington.—The Navy Department has warned ships to beware of light houses in Mexican waters, some of which had been extinguished and the lights on others being altered in order to hamper American Naval operations.

## U. S. A. PRESIDENCY.

London, June 28. New York.—Mr. Hughes's views regarding the German propagandists are indicated in a telegram to the Progressive Committee in Chicago, thanking them for their support and condemning the policy of President Wilson and denouncing the use of American soil as a base for alien intrigues and conspiracies and for fomenting disorders in the interest of any foreign nation.

## GERMANY DISILLUSIONED.

Allahabad, June 28. Pioneer special cables state:—Major Moraht, writing in the *Berliner Tageblatt*, says: "It is obvious that Russian strategy on their left wing is serving political interests. Our enemy's main desire is to influence Roumania. The Russians will probably endeavour to advance to the Carpathians and, if possible, to penetrate into Transylvania. This is a question of proportionate strength. Major Moraht admits that hopes of Russia's exhaustion have failed and consoles himself with contemplation of Russian losses, which he estimates at a quarter of a million."

## WHAT GERMANY MUST WATCH.

Allahabad, June 28. The *Schlesischer Volks Zeitung* declares there is too much talk about the Russian menace, and expresses the conviction that the danger exists rather on the English front. England, it writes, has resources of her own much greater than we generally imagine. There is reason to fear a great push is now imminent and that it will all be attempted on a gigantic scale. Our Military Chiefs would be well advised to keep their brightest eye, not on the Eastern but on the Western front. If we were caught napping there, the consequences could not easily be foreseen.

## REINFORCING THE CROWN PRINCE'S ARMY.

Allahabad, June 28. [The *Daily Telegraph's* Paris correspondent quotes a German who asserts that the attacks on Verdun have reached an intensity which it is impossible to exceed. He adds that not a man has been withdrawn from the Crown Prince's Army. On the contrary, he has been reinforced with more heavy Artillery than ever, including guns, brought from Metz which have been massed on the right bank of the Meuse.

## ROUMANIAN QUEEN AND FAMILY IN BERLIN.

Allahabad, June 28. The *Daily Express* correspondent at Zurich mentions news from Bucharest that the Queen, with her family, has left for Berlin.

## CASEMENT SENTENCED TO DEATH.

London, June 29. Casement has been found guilty.

London, June 29. Casement has been sentenced to death.

## RUSSIANS TAKE OVER 10,000 PRISONERS.

London, June 29. Petrograd.—The Russians yesterday took prisoner 221 officers and 20,285 men on the Southern front.

## THE FRENCH FRONT.

The French communique states that a German attack North-West of Thiaumont was stopped by our curtain of fire and machine-gun fire with considerable losses.

## ANOTHER TURKISH DEFEAT.

London, June 29. The Russians in the Caucasus have defeated the Turks South of Lake Urumia and in the direction of Bagdad, causing them to retire.

## THE REVOLT OF ISLAM.

London, June 29. In the Lords Lord Crewe emphasized that it had always been Government's view that the Holy Places of Arabia and Mesopotamia must be secured under Moslem control. It seemed likely that the Sherif's revolt would render it far easier to encourage a renewal of the pilgrimages.

London, June 28. In the Lords Lord Cromer emphasized the importance of the Sherif's rising. Lord Crewe said that as soon as the Turkish Government was under German control and ceased to truly represent Islamism the possibility of the rising was obvious. Recent events should not surprise true Moslems.

## THE SUBMARINE DANGER.

London, June 30. The diminution of submarine dangers is indicated by the reduction of the Liverpool Marine Insurance rates, War risks, to one per cent.

## MESOPOTAMIA MEDICAL MUDDLE.

London, June 28.

In the Commons Mr. Chamberlain deprecated the assertion that Sergeant-General Babbie was responsible for the medical arrangements in Mesopotamia. He stated that Sir W. A. Sykes was acting under the orders of the Raj.

## GREEK DISLOYALISTS BUSY.

London, June 28.

Athens.—The Gounarist press is spreading malevolent rumours in the hope of causing reaction.

## THE DECLARATION OF LONDON.

London, June 28.

In the Commons Lord Robert Cecil announced that Great Britain and France had decided not to continue the partial enforcement of the Declaration of London. It was hoped that the other Allies would concur.

London, June 28.

In the Commons Lord Robert Cecil said the Order in Council adopting modifications of the Declaration of London would be withdrawn. A joint statement would be issued explaining the reasons. Various minor matters connected with the blockade would also be discussed at the Conference in Paris at which a decision would be made in view of the utmost co-ordination of the operations of the Allies. Mr. Asquith hoped to make a statement early next week on the steps Government intended to take on the resolutions of the Economic Conference.

## THE IRISH QUESTION.

London, June 29.

It is announced that the Unionist meeting has been postponed till next week owing to the desire of Government to further consider the Irish proposals. Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George received a deputation of Unionists of South and South-West Ireland opposing the scheme.

## SHARP U. S. A. NOTE TO AUSTRIA.

London, June 29.

Washington.—Prolonged negotiations between America and Austria regarding the attack by an Austrian submarine in the Mediterranean on the steamer "Petrolite" have culminated in a sharp American Note to Austria describing the attack as a deliberate insult to the flag of the United States and a violation of the rights of American citizens, and demanding a prompt apology, punishment of the submarine Commander and payment of an indemnity.

## NO WAR FOR U. S. A.

London, June 29.

Washington.—The immediate danger of War is averted by the relief of the American prisoners taken at Carrizal.

—The Ceylon Observer.

## NOTICE.

The Old Boys of the Jaffna Hindu College are requested to send in their names with their present addresses and the years they left College, either to the Principal, or to the Secretary of the Jaffna Hindu College Old Boys' Association, on or before the 15th July, 1916, as such information is required for insertion in the revised College Calendar.

Kandarmadam, V. CHINNATAMBY,  
Jaffna,  
20th May, 1916. Hony. Secretary,  
J. H. C. O. B. A.

## Vijaya Seelam

An interesting Tamil Novel by C. W. Chinnappa Pillai, author of "Veerasingan Kathai" and "Uthirapasa" is published, and can be had at Sree Shammuganatha Press, Vannarponnai, and C. W. Chinnappa Pillay's Van-East.

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