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ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 11, 1889.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.)

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY.

JL. XXVIII-NO. 45.

JAFFNA, MONDAY DECEMBER 11, 1818.

PRICE 5 CENTS

NOTICE.

The Hindu Organ. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION. (Payable in Advance.) Tam. Ed. Eng. Ed. Both Ed. Bs. Ots. Rs. Ots. A.O. A.O.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFENA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 8295.

I.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late
Meenachchippillai wife of Kanapathiar
Nagalingam of Vaddukkoddai West
Deceased.

Arumugam Kartikesu of Vaddukkoddai West

Vs.
Kanapathiar Nagalingam of Vaddukkoddai West
Vallianmai widow of Vairamuttu
Kantappu of Moolay
Kartigesar Kathiravelu and his wife
Achohippillai of Vaddukkoddai West
Vairamuttu Arumugam of Vaddukkoddai Esst and wife
Muntanchi of Do.
Muntanchi of Do.

Mustachchi of Do Murugar Kathiravelu of Vaddukkod-dai West. Kanapatippillai Tampu of Batticaloa Nagamuttar Saravanamuttu and his wife

wife

10. Amappillai of Vaddukkoddai West

11. Chellachchi daughter of Kanapatippillai of Do

12. Ponnamma daughter of Kanapatippillai of Do and

13. Kartigesar Sabapatippillai of Do.

The 11th and 12th Respondents are minors appearing by their Guardianad-litem the 18th Respondent.

Respondents

ad-litem the 18th Respondent
Respondents.
This matter of the Petition of Arumugam Kartikesa of Vaddukkoddsi West, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovensmed deceased, Meenachchippillal wife of Kanapathiar Nagaingam, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris Esqu., District Judge, on November 16, 1916, in the presence of Mr. A. Modlr. Veluppillal, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated September 8, 1916, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is one of the heirs of the said intestate, and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him, nuless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before December 12, 1916, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Peiris,

November 20, 1916.



Che bindu Organ.

JAPPEA. MONDAY. DECEMBER 11. 1916

THE POLITICAL CRISIS IN ENGLAND.

Britain is undergoing one of the greatest political crises which has ever taken place in the British Empire. The Cealiton Government with Mr. Asquith, one of the greatest statemen Britain has ever seen, as Premier, has tendered its resigna-tion, and Mr. Lloyd George is forming another Coalition Government. It was hardly thought that the Asquith Govern-ment composed of matured and well-tried talents of all parties in Britain would be talents of all parties in Britain would be displaced by another, at any rate before the termination of the present terrible war. But it is the unexpected that happens. That Government has done all it could most successfully by vindicating linearistical by protecting Britains tional instice. by protecting Britains tional instice. it could most successfully by vindicating international justice, by protecting British interests in all parts of the world, by rendering all parts of the British Empire immune from the attack of the enemy, and by thwasting the plans and ambitions of an unscrupulous, but most powerful and well organised foe. That the Germans did not succeed in becoming the masters of Eu ope and for the matter of that of the world has been due to the foresight of Mr. Asquith and his colleagues, especially Sir Edward (now Lord) Grey. If Britain had not declared war and joined France and Russia in this titanic struggle, these two countries would have long ago become vassals of the cenhave long ago become vasuals of the central powers, and Germany would be biding her time to turn her arms against Britain at a convenient opportunity biding her time to turn her arms against Britain at a convenient opportunity Not only all the destars of Germany have been frustrated, but so a finds herself on account of British interfered in an awkward position fully realising that in spite of momentary triumps here and there, her fate is sealed and that the time of retributive justice will soon come for all the enormities she has committed and as still committing in defiance of all laws of civilized warfare. of civilized warfare

of civilized warfare.

It is the Asquith Government which has within two years increased the British army from a few hundred thousand to five million soldiers who are now proving more than a match to the Gormans. It is that Government which has also organised the navy and kept it in such a pitch of efficiency as to maintain the

traditional position of Britain as the mistress of the seas. It is on account of the supremacy, of the Navy even the remotest parts of the Ravy even the remotest parts of the Empire enjoy perfect safety undisturbed by the horrors of the wer. England was not adequately prepared before the war. But the Government of Mr. Asquith has done all it could to cope with the situation and Britain has made her power felt by the enemy who is new ready to sue for peace by surrendering all the remitteries he have recovered. ready to sue for peace by surrendering all the territories he has conquered. Hu-manly speaking no other Government could have done better under such trying circumstances and there is no cause for alarm and the consequent political crisis which has been created.

But there have been in the Cabinet itself and in the country some ardent spirits forming a powerful and influential section who think that the war should be prosecuted more vigorously and that to do it the War Council should be a smaller holy invested with absolute powers and do it the War Council should be a smaller body, invested with absolute powers, and that Mr. Asquith, the Premier, should be no member of it. Finding himself unable to accept these conditions, Mr. Asquith with the whole Cabinet has resigned, and Mr. Lloyd George is engaged in the task of forming a Government. There can be no doubt that a new Cabinet with Mr. Lloyd George as Premier will soon be installed in office, with Mr. Bonar Law, Sir Edward Carson and other Unionists as colleagues, besides repre-Bonar Law, Sir Edward Carson and other Unionists as colleagues, besides representatives of Labour and other sections. The new Premier, who occupied so many prominent positions in the Asquith Governments before the war and after the war and was War Secretary at the time of the resignation of the Cabinet, succeeding to that most important office the late Lord Kitchener, was the best hated man of the Unionists, on account of his revolutionary Budgets as Chancellor of the Exchequor, his attacks on the House of Lords, and his strong and pronounced views on the Irish Home Rule question. He is now the idol of that party and has proved himself an indispensable personproved himself an indispensable personage in British politics. Though he was once considered a Little Englander, on account of his opposition to the Boer war, yet the present war has shown him to be the embodiment of William Pitt of the Napoleanic wars. He was designated as a future Liberal Premier, but few thought that he would displace Mr. Asquith, so scon and in the manner it has been done.

There can be no doubt that Mr. Lloyd George's Government will bring the war to a speedy and triumphant termination, crushing German military power and c neluding a lasting peace to the benefit of humanity and the world at large. Although there may be difference of envise. of humanity and the world at large. Although the remay be differences of cp nion as to the expediency of a change of Government at this critical period, yet every Briton and every British subject would not only do everything in his power to prosecute the war to achieve the object the world have which it was undertaken but should be a which it was undertaken but should be a product the war to achieve the object prosecute the war to achieve the object for which it was undertaken but should pray to God to bring it to a speedy termination resulting in the success of British

NOTES & COMMENTS.

Mr. Ratna Mailvaganam, Advocate, son of the late Mr. A. Mailvaganam, J. P. &

U. P. M., who was commonly known as the "Laird of Co-THE MANIAGARSHIP OF VALIGAMAM EAST.

Valigamam East. known as the "Laird of Copay," has been appointed Maniagar of Valigamam East in succession to the late Mr. A. Kanagasabai, on the recommendation of our Government Agent. We congratulate Mr. Mailvaganam on his appointment to a post for which he is eminently qualified and the people of Valigamam East on securing the services, as Chief Headman, of a gentleman of spotless character, ancestral influence, and of other qualities which will make him a successful and popular official. We have no doubt, knowing him intimately for several years, that he will prove himself an exemplary Chief Headman and justify the choice of the Government This is the first instance of an Advocate being appointed as Maniagar in this District and the new departure in the appointment of a gentleman of character and influence and belonging to one of the highest Tamil families cannot but prove a success. When this Maniagarshy fell vacant the local press unanimously recommended Mr. Mailvaganam for the post, and we are glad that he has been appointed by Government.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER.—Rain is very much wanted for the paddy erop. Fields have not been flooded yet and the crop will be a great failure.

Ourselves.—Mr. A Sapapathy who was ill for some weeks and who on his recovery went to Colombo to give evidence before the Local Government Commission, has returned to Jaffna. For about two months he has not been in editorial charge of the paper and resumes its control from today.

Grant-in-aid Training Schools and VerMacular Teachers' Certificate Examinations, 1916—The names of the successful
candidates at the above examinations are
published in the last Gazette. It is noteworthy that no Tamil candidate has passed
the Second Class Teachers' Certificate Examination either this year or last year. Only
two males and one female bave passed the
Third Class Teachers' Certificate Examination this year. tion this year.

VILLAGE SCHOOL COMMITTEES.—The Maniagar of Valigamam West has notified that meetings of the inhabitants of the sub-divisions of Valikamam West will be held at the following places for the election of Village School Committees for the respective sub-divisions:—At Manipay Hindu College on 22nd Dec. at 4 P. M., at Jaffns College on 23rd Dec. at 4 P. M., at Victoria College on 29th Dec. at 10 A. M., at Mathakal Anglo-Vernacular School on 29th Dec. at 4 P. M. It is hoped that gentlemen interested in Vernacular Education will attend in large numbers and e'ect suitable gentlemen to serve in the Committees.

District School Committees Larger Larger

the Committees.

DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE, JAFFNA—
His Excellency the Governor has been pleased
under section 6 (d) of Ordinance No 8 of
1907, to nominate the following gentlemen to
be Members of the District School Committee, Jaffna, for a period of three years
for m January 1, 1917;—Rev. G. J. Trimmer,
Ver/ Rev. Father J. B. Poulain, Rev. J.
Backus, Mr. A. A. Ward, Mr. A. Sapapathy
and C. M. Sinnaiyah Mudaliyar.

Backus, Mr A. A Ward, Mr. A. Sapapathy and O M. Sinnaiyah Mudaliyar.

Dinner To Mr. W. A. Weerakoon.—
The Jaffna Bar entertained Mr. W. A. Weerakoon.
The toast of Magistrate, on Thureday night last at dinner, at the Jaffna Rest House, on the eve of his departure to Ratapaura. Mr. Homer Vanniasingham, Advocate, presided.
The toast of the guest of the evening was proposed by Mr. Advocate W. Duraiswamy, in a brilliant and feeling speech in the course of which he referred to the great satisfaction the departing Magistrate had given to the members of the Bar and to the public as Magistrate and Commissioner. While preserving the dignity of the Bench, he was jealous of the rights and privileges of the Bar. Courteous to suitors, he dispensed even handed justice Fearless and independent, he brought to bear on his work a calm and dispassionate judgment. In conclusion he said, that Jaffna is being deprived of a straight gentleman and an ideal judge. Mr. Weer koon, who was visibly moved, replied appropriately, and thanked the members of the Bar for their cooperation and assistance and hoped that the relations which existed between him and the members of the Bar would continue to exist between his successor and them. Mr. Pieris, District Judge, in a happy and felicitous speech proposed the toast of the Bar to which Mr. Advocate Niles replied in a foreible speech thacking Mr. Pieris for his kind observations with regard to the legal practitioners in Jaffna. Mr. Proctor Chrysostom in a humormer was proposed the coast of the sale of the morney was proposed to the control of the sale of the morney was proposed to the control of the sale of the morney was proposed to the legal practitioners in Jaffna. Mr. Proctor Chrysostom in a humorney was proposed to the sale of the sale of the sale of speach thacking Mr. Pieris for his kind observations with regard to the legal practitioners in Jaffus. Mr. Proctor Chrysostom in a humorous vein proposed the toast of the Chairman to which Mr. Vanniasingham replied, and finished off by presenting Mr. Weerakoon with a souvenir of the occasion. About forty members of the Bar sat, and great convivality prevailed. The party broke up late at night.

THE NEERVELY SAIVAPRAKASA VIDYASALAI, THE NEBRYELY SAIVAPBAKASA VIDYASALAI, O B A.—was formed on Saturday night last at a general meeting of the Old Boys of the Vidyasalai. Mr. N. Selvadurai, B A., Principal, Jaffna Hindu College presided and explained in a neat speech in Tamil the usefulness of such an Association. Mr. V. T. Sambandhan and Mr. S. T. Sithamperapiliai of the Jaffna Hindu College also spoke on the occasion.

PERSONAL — Mr. K. Sivaprakasam, Head Clerk, Kachcheri, Mullaittivu, has come to Jaffna on leave and is staying at his residence at Vannarponnai West.

—Mr. R. Kanagasundram, Asst. Inspector of Schools, arrived from Colombo yesterday morning for assisting in the supervision of the Cambridge School Examinations in the Jaffna centre which begins today.

Jaffna centre which begins today.

MATRIMONIAL —As announced by us in a previous issue, the marriage of Mr. S Navaratnam, the only son of Mudaliar S Sabaretnam, J P. Deputy Fiscal, Jaffna, with his cousin Srimathi Ratna Ammal was celebrated with much colat on Saturday night last. The clite of Jaffna was present on the occasion and at the receptions held at the bridgercom's residence, testifying to the popularity of the Mudaliar. We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Navaratnam and wish them lorg life, happiness and prosperity.

—The marriage of Miss Ratnamma Krish-

ness and prosperity.

—The marriage of Miss Ratnamma Krishmapil'al, edest daughter of the late Mr A O Krishnapillai, Head Clerk of the Batticsloa Kachcheri, and granddaughter of the late Dr. M. Covington, Colonial Surgeon, Eastern Province, will Mr. J. J. Nalliah, of Irupalai, Jafina, who is a Government Surveyor in Kuala Lumpur, was solemnised in Eattication on the 4th instant in the presence of a large and respectable gathering of filends and relations. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Nalligh all happiness and prosperity.

ELEMENTARY SCROOL-LEAVING CERTIFICAL EXAMINATION, OCTOBER, 1916—The naho of the candidates who have passed the abeau examination are published in the life of the

Gazette.
The Fourth Condress of Literary Ass Ciations — Mr. Leigh Smith, Principal of th Training College has kindly consented preside at the evening session of the cor-gress, and to deliver the presidential addres

gress, and to deliver the presidential address,
THE GAMPOLA PERABERA.—Mr. T B Elike.
Wela, Basnayaka Nilame, of Wallahagoda
Davala, has issued invitations for the Gampola Perahera, at 2 30 p m on the 10th inst.,
in honour of the Diyakapana Geremony which
is to be held after an interval of several
years. His Excellency the Governor has accepted an invitation to be present on the
occasion.

occasion.

INDIAN LABOUR COMMISSIONERS.—Mr. N. E. Majoribanks, of the Indian Civil Service, and the Hon. Mr. Ahmed Tambi Marakkayar, who have been studying the conditions of Indian labour in Ceylon in connection with a Madras Government scheme to replace indentured labour in other Colonies, have nearly concluded their mission. They are in Colombo just now after visiting a number of estates in Dimbula, Kandy, Kurunegalle, Ratnapura, the Kelani Valley and Kalutara. On Thursday evening last they visited the headquarters of the Ceylon Social Service League at Maradana and had a conference with Sir P. Arunachajam (President of the League) and Mr. C. H. Z. Fernando, (Hony, Secretary) on the sthject of labour conditions in Ceylon.

KANDY TAMILS' LITERARY ASSOCIATION.—

KANDY TAMILE' LITEBARY ASSOCIATION.—
The weekly meeting of the above Association was held at the Tamil Home, Kandy, on Saturday the 2nd instant with Mr. S. Sivagnasaundram in the chair. Modlr. Socialitial was enrolled as a member. The chief business for the day was a debate. Mr C Jnanaprakasam proposed that war is more benefical to a country than peace, and Mr. P Kandiah opposed. Meesra S Nagaratnam, V Kathirithamby, S Sabaratnam, S Subramaniam, V Nadarajah, A Vijayaratnam, A Sebastiampillai, M Ramalingam and Masters S Selvaratnam and S Ariyaratnam also contributed towards the discussion. When the subject was put to the vote, the opposition carried the day. —Cor. KANDY TAMILS' LITERARY ASSOCIATION

Opposition carried the day.

THE AVANASHI BRAHADAMERA SAIVA SABHA (COIMBATORE DISTRICT)—The second anniversary commerced on the 1st instant. Mahamahopadyaye Swaminatha Aiyar arrived by mail escorted in procession. In the morning, there were performed abishekam and prayer for British success. The proceedings commerced at 10 A. M., with a welcome address, which the Secretary Gurukkal read. Different distinguished pandits were present. The audience numbered a thousand.

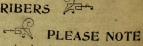
A BOOKING CLEEK DROPS, DRAD.—A seed.

read. Different distinguished pandits were present. The audience numbered a thousand.

A Booking Cleek Drops Drad — A sad fatality occurred at the Fort Railway Station about 1 P M on Wednesday last when Mr. W P A de Alwis, booking clerk, fell dead while taking his breakfast. The deceased, who joined the Railway as a booking clerk four years ago, was transferred to Colombo from Talaimannar five mouths ago, owing to it health. He contracted malarial fever while in the North, and had bean in poor health since then. He was on three week's sick leave, and returned to his duties at the Fort only three days ago.

Obituary — We deeply regret to record the death of Mr. M Arunasalam of "Arunasala Vasa", Manipay, which occurred at his residence last week. He was generally known as "Thanneerpanthal Arunasalam of Manipay". He was a charitable and unassuming gentleman. He leaves behind three sons and one daughter. Mr. M A Tampoe and Chelliah of Messrs M A Tampoe & Bros, Colombo, and Mr. Sarayacamuttoo of the Agricultural Department, F. M. S. are the sons of the deceased. The funeral took place on Thursday last and was largely attended. Our condoiences to the bereaved.

SUBSCRIBERS Z



The annual subscription to the "Hindu Organ" is payable before 31st December of each year—July to June. Subscribers who have not paid their subscriptions yet for the current year (July 1916-June 1917) are earnestly requested to remit their dues before.

31st December 1916.

We are obliged, owing to unavoidable circumstances caused by the War, to cease forwarding the Paper to such of our subscribers who fail to remit their subscriptions before the aforesaid date.

THE MANAGER,
"Hindu Organ."

THE RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

The following appears in the last Gazette:

It is hereby notified that the following alterations have been made in the designations of offices in Schedule A of the list of pensionable appointments:—

TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT.
The designation Traffic Superintendent has been altered to Traffic Manager.

Tar Indiana A. J. 1. 15 Fe lin Storin tendent has been altered to Assistant Traffic Manager

Manager.

The designation Additional Assistant Traffic Superintendent has been altered to Additional Assistant Traffic Manager.

BACK TO HINDUISM.

Tookin Kahan Chandra Varma, President, Shudin Abha, Madras, received the following

Egmore, Nov. 22.

Less and Dear Sir: I repeat that I made a mindke in embracing Obristianity. You have preached me the sublimity and beauty of our ancestral religion. I am convinced of the truth of the Vaidic Dharms. I want to be purified. Kindly do the needful Your affectionate brother in God, Raja Ram

THE CEREMONY.

THE CEBEMONY.

There will be a Shuddhi ceremony at the Progressive Union School Hall, to morrow, at 9 a M Mr. Rajaram, son of Mr. Rajaratham Mudaliyar, a student of the Christian College, who was recently converted by the S P G Mission, as requested the Sabha to reconvert him into the Vaidic faith He is the subject of Sunday's Shuddhi. Pandit A Somanatha Rao will officiate. Mr. M Narasimham, B A, B L, L T, will preside at the function. The public are cordially invited to attend.

—The A. B. Patrika, Dec. 5

THE FUTURE OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE ASSURED.

TO BE RE-ESTABLISHED ON ITS OLD FOOTING. TRAINING COLLEGE SCHOOL TO BE AMALGAMATED

TRAINING COLLEGE SCHOOL TO BE ANALGAMATED.

It is announced that be Training College inglish School, having been amalgamated with the Royal College, will from next term be known as the Royal College, and will be under the charge of the Principal of the Royal college, to whom all communications on the ubject of the school, should be addressed.

This means that the future of the Royal College, bout which there has been much uncertainty, as been assured, the present announcement being a direct result of the deputation headed by Mr. Dornhorst, which waited on the Director of dudation recently to ascertain, what the intended ones of Government were regading the Royal ollege.

announcement that the Royal College is to The announcement that the Royal College is to be retained and rua in its original form will be velcomed by all "old boys" of that historic institution. Its scope, in fact will be extended, as it is to embrace education from the kindergarten stage. Thus all the classes now of the present Training College will be merged into the Royal College, with only this difference that the lower classes will continue to be housed in the present Training College premises, only some of the senior forms being removed to the Royal College building. Whether, however, the Royal College will always continue to be located in the present building is another matter; for we understand that the decision of Government to re-establish the Royal College on its old footing does not mean that the University scheme has been given up.

THE UNIVERSITY SCHEME,

The University Scheme,

The University Scheme is still under consideration, and there is little doubt that with such an energetic official as Mr. Decham at the lead of the Education Department a decision as regards this long contemplated scheme will be arrived at soon and an announcement made in the near future. The matter, of course, cannot be hurried through, as it involves a large expenditure, with which Government in the present state of affairs cannot be expected to burden itself without due consideration.

The Training College.

As recards the Training College, it will continue

The Training College, it will continue for the object for which it was originally intended, and Mr. Leigh Smith and his assistant, Mr. Harding, will have enough to do in locking after something like 160 training students. This scheme of training teachers was, as will be remembered, inaugurated by Mr. S. M. Burrows, and we understand that Mr. Denham is very keen on this department of education, the new Director having very properly realised the great importance of turning out competent school masters. Happily the Colony is fortunate in having a principal of Mr. Leigh Smith's high qualifications to carry out this good work, and by the new arrangement he will have more time to devote to the training of teachers. The popularity of this later scheme is evidenced by the fact, we learn, that since Mr. Leigh Smith came out two years ago the number of school teachers in training has been augmented by about 60 — The Ceylonese.

SIR K. G. GUPTA ON INDIAN REFORMS.

Sir Krishna Gevinda Gupts who arrived in Culcutta comes to this country after an absence of about four years in England being in February 1913.

Shortly after his arrivai in Calcutta a press representative called on Sir Krishna. Interviewed on many of the pressing problems of the hour, he said he came to his country this time with a mesage of hope. The one noticeable feature in the course of the whole interview was that Sir Krishna was optimistic and hopeful but not very enthusiastic or certain, with regard to the realization of Indian aspirations.

Asked whether the change in the angle of vision was real, substantial and likely to be permanent, he said that though nothing material had been done till now to indicate the change in the angle of vision, he was sure that there had been a real and decided change in the attitude of the British public towards India as was evident from the increased interest taken of late in Indian affeirs and from the increased number of people who took such interest. There was now a large and influential body of public opinion in England was that the loyalty of Indian princes and people in the sloyalty of Indian princes and people in the sloyalty of Indian princes and people in the period of the Empire's greatest crisis, and the blood of her soldiers shed in the battlede of

F. ance and Flanders entitled the sons of I dis to greater administrative privileges and to a real and effective voice in the administration of their country. He felt sure that in the re adjustment to be made after the war was over. India might be sure of the help, sympathy and support of a large body of English friends.

to be made after the war was over. India might be sure of the help, sympathy and support of a large body of English friends.

Asked whether the Colonials also were similarly disposed towards Indians at the present moment, he said that individual Colonists in high places were really sympathetic but personally speaking, he was very suspicious of the attitude of the Colonists as a body. Asked whether he met Lord Hardinge before he left England, he said he did and added that Lord Hardinge spoke to him on thusiastically of the Indian people and of the immense services rendered to the Empire by India. Lord Hardinge was generally in sympathy with Indian aspirations.

Asked whether the memorandum of reform submitted by the 19 elected members of the Imperial Legislative Council, was received favourably at Home, he said he did not know much about the memorandum except the fact that a scheme of reform had been submitted—and this he came to know from a telegram published in the "Times." He knew this much, that there was some correspondence going on between the Secretary of Shate and the Government of India. He hoped that some substantial reforms would be granted after the conclusion of peace. It would indeed be disactous if no reforms were forthcoming. His idea was that the Legislative Councils would be enlarged and their powers and privileges increased. It was also probable that commissions—in the Army would be thrown open to Indians and greater facilities afforded to enter into the public varvices. Asked to express an opinion on the position of the Secretary of State's Council and the indian substantial resolutions of the Congress and Muslim League urging it abolition, he said he was almost sure that the Council would not be abolished,—as long as Ludia had not any kind of parliamentary Government.

most sure that the Council would not be abolished,
—as long at India had not any kind of parliamentary Government.

What India would get after the war depended largely on the strength and influence of the agitation carried on by United Indis. It was essential that a joint deputation of Congress and Moslem Lasgue representatives should ge to England backed by enough funds to carry on a vigorous agitation. If that was done, he was sure some permanent result could be achieved. Asked whether he was in favour of the view prevailing in some quarters that a deputation should be sent immediately to keep the British public in touch with our aspirations from now, Sir Krishna Gupta said he did not think so. The British public were too fully occupied with the war at present to have any time left to devote to Indian affairs. So it would be more profitable if the deputation were sent immediately after the war was over. He paid a tribute to the excellent service rendered by the British Congress Committee and observed that with increased financial support, the committee would be able to increase the scope of their work and usefulness.

Asked about the Home Rule movement in India to thought that it was somewhat premature. In

and usefulness.

Asked about the Home Rule movement in India he thought that it was somewhat premature. In the first place just at the present time many influential Englishmen did not like the phrase "Home Rule." In regard to any question of Home Rule it would be necessary that India should first learn to defend herself. The way to Home Rule should be prepared through a series of progressive reforms. In the meanwhile they must have a definite declaration of policy from Government that self government is our ultimate goal.

goal.

Asked about his personal movements, he said his present intention was to go back to England after 4 or 5 months. His idea was that he would be able to do better service to his country from England than from India. He believed that as readjustment after the war would be made in England, he would be more useful there than in this country. He might attend the Congress if his health permitted him to go to Incknow.

—The Hindu.

-The Hindu.

DR. GILBERT SLATER ON THE SUPERIORITY OF ANCIENT TAMIL CIVILIZATION.

DR. GILBERT SLATER ON THE SUPERIORITY OF ANCIENT TAMIL CIVILIZATION.

On the evening of the 2nd instant at the Madura College Hall before a very large audience and under the auspices of the Madura Economic Association, Dr. Gilbert Slater, University Professor of Economics, delivered an instructive lecture on "The meaning of the City". Mr. G. F. Paddison, I. C. S., Collector of Madura, presided. The learned Professor in the course of his address congratulated the members on having successfully started the work of the Madura Economic Association and wished it all success in its future career. He said that his object that evening was to say something about the aim and goal of all their economic thought and enquiry and that the object of the Association was to make the most and the best of the City of Madura. He would speak to them quite generally about the ideal of a city, what it stood for and what its purpose was in the scheme of creation. What made him to choose that subject was the impression made upon his mind during his last visit to Madura in April last. He was strongly impressed with its ancient renown, culture and civilization. How ancient they were he could not tell them, but he had from time to time been making curious speculations upon the subject. He had tried to get some sort of understanding of the Tamil language, He did not need to tell them that while he was impressed on the one hand of the extraordinary subtlety and the high levellogic in what was expressed by that language. Also, he tried to get some understanding of the Tamil poetry and he had been struck by the fact that Tamil poetry was entirely distinct from Sanskrit poetry and that it was more elaborate in its forms and possessed a higher level of culture than the ancient Sanskrit poetry. And quite recently it came to his knowledge that the remarkable similarities between the Dravidian culvilization came from Habylon but Babylonian civilization came from the Dravidian Civilization came from the Dravidian in Free was an extraordinary interes

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. NATHAN IN REPLY.

MR. NATHAN IN REPLY.

Sir,

I hope that Mr. Nathan will not stray from the main point which he, inspired by the most correct good manners and good breeding, has thought necessary to bring to the notice of the world. Let him take up his original letter to the Star and read it once again. His first four sentences in it convey the idea that the Jaffnesse had before their inter-course with the Christian Missionaries no idea of 'honesty of purpose and honesty of action, and the few that are honest now are so, not because their honesty has been native with them, but because they have been 'haught' honesty by the Christian Missionaries. This statement of Mr. Nathan, leads to two inferences (1) all Jaffness were once dishonest including the anesstors of those who are now said to be honest; (2) that even among the few who have been 'taught' honesty by the Christian Missionaries some may have been dishonest before they were "taught" their honesty.

To which class of people does Mr. Nathan belong?

I do not want to say anything against anybody

"taught" their honesty.

To which class of people does Mr. Nathan belong?

I do not want to say anything against anybody on mere suspicion and hearsay. I have never hesitated to bring flegrant wrongs and injustices to public notice whenever they were based, to the best of my knowledge, on direct and ample evidence. Now I have no evidence to say that to the best of my knowledge there is any school in Jaffaa which is sullying public truets. It is to be presumed, however, that Mr. Nathan speaks on fleathead, direct evidence. Let him come out with it will be to slowing his "manhood". My enonymity need he no bat to his bringing three public light the flagrant wrongs he says he has discovered in certain quarters.

Laws evist controlling Christian Church property. What is Mr. Nathan s inference organized the existence of such laws? I as it that 'traunch and devous' Christians are robbing the Churches of their property?

Mr. Nathan having been "taught" manners by Christian Missionaries exhibits them in a curious way. If to slander almost a whole community to show good manners in an eminent degree. If there are Hindus who resent what appear to them to be his vulgar impudence, then such people will no doubt appear to Mr. Nathan to be discourted out.

ous.

But of one thing I shall assure him. The Hindu community has no eagerness to learn either 'honesty' or 'good manuers' from Mr. Nathau. Let him enjoy his own paculiar possessions himself.

A Hindu.

[In our foot-note to the communica-In our foot-note to the communication of "A Hindu" which appeared in the "Hindu Orgra" of the 27th ultimo we asked the "Morning Star" Correspondent Mr. S.A. Nathan to state "what he is and what he was" meaning thereby his position in society, so that the public may know what value to attach to his views and opinions as to men and things in Jaff 1a. He, however, twists our requests to mean that we asked him to state his religious belief and evades answering our plain query. He is quite new to Jaffina public life and it is for him, if he is to be taken seriously, to introduce himself by public life and it is for him, if he is to be taken sericusly, to introduce himself by saying what he was and what he is. We put the words "S. A. Nathan" then within inverted commas without a "Mr." not being certain then whether they were a pseudonym or a real name. We make the amends now. Mr. Nathan will however oblige us by making some displosures. ever oblige us by making some disclosures about himself. Ed. H. O]

THE CASTE SYSTEM AND THE ANCIENT TAMILS.

THE CASTE SYSTEM AND THE ANCIENT TAMILS.

Sir,

It is really gratifying to note that the above subject is engaging the attention of persons interested in the study of the history of the ancient Tamils. The absence of a real history of this most interesting people has been the cause of many a seeker after truth stumbling upon theories as unreal as the mirage of an African desert; but their earnest efforts in this line have brought to light many facts of ancient Tamil history which make it easier for their successors to follow up the track, and discarding their crockednesses born of personal bias and prejudice, to construct a real history of the people. It must be admitted that one of the greatest temptations to arriva at wrong conclusions in this matter has been the question of Aryan civilization versus Dravidian civilization which is unnecessarily dragged into it. Another point that adds to the complication is the caste system over the merits of which opinion seems to be divided. Leaving these tempting pitfalls aside, the seeker after truth must direct his course straight towards the facts, brought to light in the materials available.

The contributions of Mr. Sabaratina Mudaliyar on the Religion of the ancient Tamils which appear in your valuable journal from time to time are remarkable additions to the liferature on the subject. His views on certain questions based on sound materials though they are, have not yet become correct among the English eduosated classes whose ideas have been nurtured by already existing literature of an entirely different type, and have naturally called forth criticism from Pundit S. Mylvaganam who contributes a long article on the subject of the caste system and the ancient Tamils in your issue of the 27th November, 1916. As the object of the criticism from Pundit S. Mylvaganam who contributes a long article on the subject of the caste system and the ancient Tamils in your issue of the growth of religious literature appeals to bring the truths of religion within easy reach of the p

our Pundit speaks of the Brahmanical principle whatsver that easy mean, of keeping the Vedax away from the Sudras. It the injunctions of the law givers have provoked han I feer they have been misunderstood. The practice of memoning Adikaris (i. e. persons quaffield) for the sandy of any work on literature or on religion is and has been followed for a long time and is due not any jealously that none but the Adikaris should try to understand it but to the, anxiety that they should not misunderstandings of religious truths may lead to serious evils so much so that sever penalties have been imposed by some law giver for the breach of this Adikari rule. However, the religious truths of the Vedas nearer the thorseligious truths of the Vedas nearer the ras and not to keep them away from them this is only by the way. The main quarraised by the Pundit is 'whether the vedic and the fourfold distinction of Brahmans, Kariya, Valsya and Sudra were in vogue among a Dravidians, before these people were admit into the fold of the Aryans. This alleged dam is some the fold of the Aryans. This alleged dam is some the fold of the Aryans and being separated from them have become to be considered a different people owing to lapse of time. But this point need not detain us as it is too important to be dealt with under the subject of this article. The main argument of our critic against the existence of the fourfold divisions of Society among the Ancient Tamils, appears to be that the ancient authors divided the Tamil lands into the tamil and into four or five divisions and the people inhabiting them into as many or more classes. It is true that these divisions of lands and their inhabitants are mentioned in ancient Tamill, the existence of the main fourfold divisions Society. It is the existence, for example, of divisions such as Up country people, Low country people, Kandyens & Indies of the Aryans and the people inhabition the fourfold in the people inhabition of the same and the towners, in Marutha Nilam there were none else but h men and salt manufacturers. Where it room to the other elements of a co or tioned life? Does not Theikappiar in pressly mention the fourfold division Society and is it not more presser to say fourfold divisions were distributed as lands named as Mullai, Kurinchi, M. Neithal and Palai.

Neithal and Palai.

Further the gram natical works which mention the divisions or lands and their inhabitants were not intended to serve the purpose of a geography or history of the present day. They are literary works of poetical merits and the divisions, Again, Puram, Thinai, and the numerous subdivisions of Thurai were intended to classify literary compositions rather than the actual lands and peoples though these were adapted with modifications for the poets purpose. The difficulty of the historian who wants to collect and collaborate the facts of histor, from such poetical works is greatly increased by the fact that the dramatic art and literature also come wishin the purriew of such works and this gives the poet freedom enough to travel beyond hi-torial data. Generally in such works more facts are implied than are directly mentioned. Not only is the existence of the furas pointed out before but he also gives us to understand by implication that the Tamils were so divided.

The critic makes out that there were interman

fold divisions directly mentioned by Tholkappiar as pointed out before but he also gives us to understand by implication that the Tamila were so divided.

The critic makes out that there were intermaringe among the people of the different Nilams, and that the Gandarva form of marriage was prevalent; though this will not at all affect the point at issue, it may be said with truth that there were intermarriages among the fourfold divisions as well as evidenced by the numerous sub-castes that were formed in course of time, with the provision that a woman should not be married to one of a lower grade of society. To say that the Gandarva marriage was prevalent is not to express the fact. It is only one of the eight kinds of marriage that were prevalent and was considered of medicore merit; and the fact that this was not considered by accient law givers as praiseworthy as Beamys marriage is proof positive if the opinions of great men bear any relation to contemporary state of sflars, that the latter form of marriage was the most prevalent one. The prominence given in literature to Gandarva is due to the fact that it is more sentimental than all other forms of marriage and is therefore more adapted for dramatic literature.

To say that the Aryan ceremonial rites or marriages were a later macouncion is another wrong inference drawn from verses 144 and 145 of Tholkappiam. The two verses bearing on the point quoted by the Pundit are

144. Gundant grant and cundary marriage marriages were a later macouncion is another wrong inference drawn from verses 144 and 145 of Tholkappiam. The two verses bearing on the point quoted by the Pundit are

145. Gundant grant and cundary mentioned in the previous verse which makes out that all had the same rites were for the first time introduced for the Gigari, and GunGarn mentioned in the previous verse which makes out that all had the same rites previous to the differentiation Nacholinarkiniar the reputed commentator is of the same opinion as is evident from his notes on this verse, and

had descanded from those had descanded from those their duties. Thus it would seem their duties. Thus it would seem to the ancient Tamils.

I refrain from referring to the Volfic rites that were in vogue among the Ancient Tamils at the were in vogue among the Ancient Tamils at the Yours faithfully, Your faithfully, M. THANGIAN,

The War.

THE POLITICAL CRISIS.

London, Dec. 5.

The Press Association announces that Mr Asuith remains Prime Minister. It is believed he in consultation with Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. or Law, and will settle all differences with few sof office but a smaller and powerful War will not enter the Ministry or the War will not enter the Ministry or the War high will consist of Messrs. Asquith, Boand Lloyd George. It is supposed Mr. Naw will take the Admiralty and Mr. Balge Colonial Office.

e King has summoned Mr. Bonar Law. London, Dec. 5. London, De

7r. Lloyd George has resigned. Official).—Mr. Asquith has tendered his resig-

Official).—Mr. Asquith has tendered his resignion.

The Westminister Gazette announces that Mr. squith has definitely declined a proposal to form War Oouncil, of which he is not a member. The next move remains for Mr. Lloyd George. It is understood Viscount Grey and most of the principal members of the Cabinet support Mr. Asquith. The Westminister Gazette adds that Mr. Lloyd George demanded a smaller War Council with practically unlimited powers, the Premier to be excluded and only have the right to veto decisions. Mr. Asquith approved of a smaller War Council, but heid the Premier must be Chairman thereof. He would rather resign than submit te any other arrangement. Mr. Asquith's decision is final.

London, Dec. 6.

London, Dec. 6.

The Court Circular states that the King has accepted Mr. Asquith's resignation.

The resignation of Mr. Asquith and the summoning of Mr. Bonar Eaw is the sensation of the Clubs. There is little disposition to criticise it from the partisan standpoint and it is generally hoped Mr. Bonar Law will be able to form a ctrong united Government which will command the support of the majority of the Commons regardless of pre-War ties. It is understood the Unionist ministers after consulting Mr. Bonar Law intimated to Mr. Asquith that the changes in the proposed War Council were unacceptable. It is too early to discuss the probable personnel of the Cabinet which will be based on consultations between Mr. Bonar Law and his Unionist colleagues but it is believed Mr. Lloyd George is willing to serve. Other Liberals are regarded as likely office to Mr. Lloyd George is willing to serve.

London, Dec. 6.

Mr. Lloyd George is forming a Government.

Mr. Lloyd George was summoned at 4 30 by the King, who has summoned a general meeting of the Ministers at Buckingham Palace this afternoon. Mr. Lloyd George hitherto has had no private audience. All the Ministers attended the Palace. Only Mr. Asquith, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Balfour, Mr. Bonar Law and Mr. Henderson were present at the Conference presided over by the King and lasting upwards of an hour-end-a-half. Nothing definite has transpired.

The Westminster Gazette says that Mr. Bonar Law has declined to form a Cabinet, finding himself unable to undertake the task of the Premiership.

Mr. Bonar Law's refusal is confirmed. It is expected that Mr. Lloyd George will be summoned.

Mr. Bonar Law's refusal is confirmed. It is expected that Mr. Lloyd George, will be summoned.

There were many conferences of Ministers yesterday. Prior to the announcement of the resignations Mr. Bonar Law conferred with his Unionis colleagues of which Lord Curson acted as messenger to the conference between Mr. Asquit and the Liberal Ministers. It is stated that the Unionists in view of Mr. Lloyd George's resignation told Mr. Asquith they would resign thiese Government did so. It is generally assumed the new Government will be predominantly Unionist, though Mr. Bonar Law may attempt to keep the Coalition in existence. Messer Samuel and Montagu are the only Liberals mentioned as likely to join. The Dxily Nows indeed declares that the new Government will contain no Liberal except Mr. Lloyd George though the Liberals will supsupport it patrictically. The papers agree that whosver is the new Premier he will find it difficult so command a majority in the Commons, not merely because of Mr. Asquith's hold on the latter, but the acute antagenism of the Labourities to Mr. Lloyd George. Unionist papers are confident that in the event of an election the new National Government would secure a great victory, but the general feeling is that an election is unthinkable during the War.

Lord Derby in a speech declared that especially as regards man power, Government had not a service grip of the position. He indicated that Mr. Lloyd George's proposal was a small. War Committee sitting daily with full powers. When Mr. Asquith was unable to preside Mr. Lloyd George would preside. Mr. Asquith hat there has been the for some time between Mr. Lloyd George would preside. Mr. Asquith hat there has been the some time between Mr. Lloyd George would preside.

The Daily Chronicle says that there has been issues ion for some time between Mr. Lloyd sorge, Sir E. Carson and the Irish leaders with view to an Irish settlement based on the procests made by Sir E. Carson for the establishment of Home Rule and a Parliament for the hole of Ireland, the Protestants receiving propriate a representation, Ulster to be included to the hole of the Authority of the Carson imposed a condition that the Nationalists would agree to conscription in the events of a settlement. Some of the Lationalists will join Mr. Lloyd George's Government is which Sir E. Carson will be a leading needed.

THE LABOUR VIEW.

London, Dec. 5.

Mr. G. J. Wardle, M. P., Chairman of the Lacour Party, interviewed, declared the whole party necessaredly supported. Ar. A equith. The Lacourtees generally believed the crisis ought not a have arison. They were quite propagate to see amaller War Council, but thought it should not excomplished by the means which had been doubted. He recognised than Mr. Lloyd George in great drying force, but felb in a crisis of this and the proposal to overthrow the Premier was improper and an unsupportable policy.

Mr. Bonar Law Cooperating.

London, Dec. 6.

London, Dec. 6.

George is forming a Government with Mr. Bonar Law's co operation.

Sir E. Carson's Denial.

Sir E Carson has sent a message to Belfast that the proposals attributed to him for a settlement of the Irish question are wishout foundation.

PARLIAMENT'S SHORTEST MEETING

PARLIAMENT'S SHORTEST MEETING.
London, Dec. 7.
The Commons have met and immediately adjourned till Dec. 12th. The sitting was the shortest on record. Although announced it would be formal the House was crowded. The only occupants of the Treasury Bench were the Liberal, and Unionist Whips. No ex Minister was present. Both Sir E. Carson and Mr. Winston Churchill were absent. From the front Opposition Beach Mr. Gulland moved the adjournment. Members laughing and cheering went into the Lobby to discuss the situation.

LABOUR PARTY TO JOIN.

The formation of Mr. 'Lloyd George's Cabinet progressing satisfactorily though there is no kelihood of the submission of the list to the ing tonicht.

King tonight.

(Official).—The Labour Party has decided by a majority to participate in the new Government. It has also passed a resolution of its earnest hope that Government will endeavour to settle the Irish question.

MR. ASQUITH DECLINES PEERAGE.

The Morning Post says that Mr. Asquith has received a letter from the King thanking him for his great services and offering him a peerage and the Order of the Garter. The paper adds that Mr. Asquith declined the honours.

GERMAN PRESS OFFICE.

Amsterdam.—In discussing Mr. Asquith's resignation the Koelnische Volkszeitung remarks "If the strong men of England now come into power, this culy will please us for we hope decision will come all the carlier." The Cologne Gazette sees in Mr. Lloyd George the man of the hour. It says that so long as the England of Mr. Lloyd George is unconquered England will remain unconquered. PREMIERSHIP ACCEPTED.
London, Dec. 7.

The Court Circular says Mr. Lloyd George had an audience with the King and has accepted the Premiership.

SIR HERBERT SAMUEL DECLINEC.

Sir Herbert Samuel Declinec.

London, Dec. 8,

Sir Herbert Samuel has declined the invitation of Mr. Lloyd George to join the Government. It is authorisatively stated that Mr. Asquith and his colleagues will fully co operate with the Government, similarly as Mr. Bonar Law did at the beginning of the War. It is understood Mr. Henderson will have a seat on the War Council and Mr. Barnes an important post in the Cabinet. Minor posts will be filled with Labourites. The fact that labour is the pivot of the Government has aroused expectations of the nationalisation of the railways, shipping and mines. Mr. Lloyd George has received many congratulations, including the Australian Fremier's Hughes and Holman.

FORECASTS OF ITS COMPOSITION

Forecasts of its Composition.

London, Dec. 8.

It is thought that Lord Derby or Lord Milner will go to the War Office, more probably the former, that Mr. Balfour will go to the Colonial Office, Mr. Bonar Low to the Admiralty, and Sir Edward Carson without a portfolio to devote himself to the War Committee and Sir E. Montagu to remain on munitions. It is reported that Mr. Lloyd George told the Labourites he will be the real Labour Minister presiding over the new Labour Department which will take over inter alia the whole labour work of the Board of Trade under the Munitions Act, also the Government control of shipping and coal-mining for the duration of the War. The pensions Minister will be a Labourite.

About 200 Members of Parliament were present at the Liberal private meeting at the Reform Club at noon. Mr. Asquith was ovated and Mr. Church-ill attended and was cheered.

Mr. Asquith in a patriotic speech was frequently applauded. He emphasized the necessity of strenuously supporting the Government for the purpose of winning the War. The meeting unanimously expressed its determination to support the Government in any steps it might take to presecute the War with vigor and determination. Mr. Asquith stated Mr. Balfour would be Foreign Secretary, and Lord Robt. Cecil remain Under Secretary.

Secretary, and Lord Robt Cecil remain Under Secretary.

Mr. Asquith said there had been a carefully engineered campaign against Viscount Grey and hitneslf, but he acquitted Mr. Lloyd George or any member of the Government of complicity therein. He received Mr. Lloyd George's proposals for a smaller War Council on Dec. 1st and repised the same day that the Fremier must preside over such a body. Mr. Lloyd George did not agree, and the Unionist Ministers intimated that unless Mr. Asquith resigned they would resign. Mr. Asquith appealed to Mr. Bonar Law 19 remain. Mr. Asquith wrots to Mr. Lloyd George on Dec. 4th he was not prepared to remain in the Cabinet as a spectator. He cutlined certain proposals which Mr. Llyod George accepted such control of the Mr. Council. Mr. Asquith consulted his friends who felt the differences regarding the Premier presiding at the War Council and the personel of the Council were irreconcileable so he resigned. Mr. Asquith declined to join the new Government because he felt he would be a scurce of weekness. The attacks on him would continue and it would be better if he gave independent support outside.

THE GRECIAN SITUATION.

THE GRECIAN SITUATION.

London, Dec. 6.

Athens.—Telegrams state that the Allied troops walked into a trap on Dec. 1st. When they marched to the positions which it had previously been notified to the Grecks that they would occupy they found themselves surrounded by 25,006 Grecks. Before a shot was fired parleying was in progress, when a Greck machine gun suddenly opened on the Southern side. Fighting spread to the Fastward quarter where the Grecks "machine guned" Zupplon building from the Palace gardens, which admiral Fournet and the officers were

stricing a the steps. 250 Billish matines, reinforced by 150 Frenchmen, have been quartered
at Zapplion for a month past. The surrender or
annihilation of the Zapplion garrison after an armistice was concluded was prevented by a French
battleship accurately dropping a few shells close
to the Palace. The British casualties were 8
killed and 40 wounded. Previously 100 French
marines, South of the City, refusing to surrender,
cut a way through with the bayonet. Only 30
reached the shore 1,000 Ventzelists were imprisoned in Saturday's reign of terror.

The British Minister at Athens telegraphs that
the city is quiet, but energetic steps are being
taken to ensure the safety of the British.

ROYALIST MOVEMENT SPREADING.

London, Dec. 7.

Paris.—Athens telegrams state that the French Colony has gone to the Piraeus. Arrests of Venizelists continue and Liberal newspapers do not appear. Strong bodies of Royalists are establishing cordons in the streets. The Allied Ministers are not communicating with the Cabinet. The authorities are encouraging anti-Venizelist movements in several Provincial towns. London, Dec. 7.

ALLIES AT THE PIRAEUS.

Latest news from Athens shows that the Allie entirely occupy Pirsus and are reinforced b contingents of Cretans. The Royalists have cu the telegraphs and telephones from the Pirsus t

It is rumoured in the Marine Insurance Market that Greek steamers in a port anywhere in the world controlled by the Allies are allowed to

REIGN OF TERROR CONTINUES.

London, Dec. 7

The Provisional Government at Salouika tele-graphs that refugees state that terror reigns in Atbens. Ten thousand inhabitants fied to Gerath-lni. Others took refuge at the Piraus. Hundreds of Venizelists, including many prominent people were mal-treated and imprisoned.

FRIGHTFUL EXCESSES BY ROYALIST TROOPS. London, Dec. 7.

Athens.—Information from Volo says that the Royalists committed frightful excesses at Larissa and pillaged the shops, similarly at Trikala, where French officers were imprisoned.

BLOCKADE OF GREECE FROM YESTERDAY.

London, Dec. 7.

Paris.—It is officially announced that the blockade of Greece will begin tomorrow.

THE BALKANS.

London, Dec. 6. The capture of Tirgovista brings the Gsrmans to the outskirts of the Roumanian oil fields.

London, Dec. 7.

A Sarbian official despatch records violent Ar-tillery and Infantry activity on the whole front. We carried strongly fortified and tenaciously de-fended heights North-East of Budimirci. A fairly large number of prisoners and booty was captured.

London, Dec. 6.

A Russian communique says:—The enemy were successful in the direction of Tirgovistes—Ploesti and the region of Dokanesty on the Titu-Bukharest railway, where the Roumanians were compelled to retire in consequence of the piercing of their front. Enemy attacks in other sectors were beaten back.

BUKHAREST EVACUATED.

London, Dec. 8.
Paris.—A telegram from Petrograd states that
the Roumanians have evacuated Bukharest and Ploesti.
An Important Serbian Success.
London, J

Reuter's correspondent at the Serbian Head-quarters says the latest Serbian success is im-portant. They captured a whole series of strong-ly fortified positions including the summit of Grunishte, which is of great strategic importance, for it threatens Sokol. If the latter falls the en-tire Moglen region will be freed from the enemy.

RUSSIAN SUCCESS.

A Berlin official report admits a Russian suc-

BRITISH ARMOURED CARS IN DOBRUDJA.

Petrograd.—British armoured care fought three actions in Dobrudja. It was reported that Commander Locker Lampson was wounded but this has proved to be erroneous. Six petty officers are missing and are believed to be prisoners. None of the cars were lost.

Figure France.

FIERCE FIGHTING AGAINST SERBIANS.

London, Dec. 8.

London, Dec. 8.

A Serbian communique records hard fighting on the whole front. The enemy was reinforced and made several attempts to recapture the lost positions North of Grunista. All the attacks were repulsed with heavy enemy losses. Fighting continues,

BUKHAREST GUNS SAVED.

Petrograd.—All the guns of the forts of Bukha-rest were saved. The Roumanian Army intact retired most orderly.

The Influence of Bukharest.

Lordon, Dec 7.

Amsterdam.—The Telegraph says the fall of Bukharast will have a very small influence on the general course of events as the West front is still the decisive theatre.

STEAMERS SUNK.

London, Dec. 5.

The following steamers have been sunk:—"Moeraki," and "King Bleddyn" (British), "Yrsa" (Danish), "Demitrios Inglessis" (Greek), "Brichblinie" and "Bossi" (Norwegian). Five of the crew of the sunken Japanese steamer "Nogata Maru" were killed by gun fire and five were wounded.

Christiania.—242 Norwegian ships have been sunk since the beginning of the War including 98 in the last three months.

London, Dec. 6.

The steamers "Palacine" (British), "Pallas" (Russian), "Draupner" (Norwegian) have been sunk.

The French gunboat "Surprise," the ship "Kangaron" and the British steamer "Dacia" have been torpedoed. It is officially aunounced that the death-roll is 34, of which many were members of the gunboat's crew.

Itondon, Dec. 7.

The sinking is announced of the steamers "Fofo" (Greek), "Urbitarte" (Spanish.)

The sinking of the steamers "Julian Bebto" (Spanish), "Nexos" (Danish), "Alla" (Norwegian), and the schooner "Aus" (Russian) is reported.
Christiania.—It is officially stated 19 Norwegian vessels of a tonnage of 32.993 were lost in Nevember.

PASSENGER SERVICES TO BE REDUCED ON INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Calcutta, Dec. 8.

In view of the practical impossibility of obtaining sufficient supplies of railway material from England where the full time of workshops is taken up in manufacture of munifons of Wan, it has become necessary to restrict ain services in this country, in order to reduce the demands for materials required for the maintenance of locomotives and rolling stock. It is believed that less public inconvenience will be caused by curtalling passenger train services than would be the case were carriage of minerals and goods be interfered with, and at a conference between the Railway Board and the Agents of the Railways a reduction of passenger train services has been decided on.

WHEAT SPECULATION IN INDIA.

Calcutta, Dec. 8.

Calcutta, Dec. 8.

The following official communique has been issued:—The attention of the Government of India having been drawn to the great increase of speculation in wheat in Northern India and to the holding up of stocks and the consequent inflation of prices, if the present state of affairs continues it may be necessary to take drastic action to deal with the situation.

THE SUBMARINE WAR.

London, Dec. 7.

London, Dec. 7.

New York.—A submarine on Nov. 22nd shelled and sank without warning the American steamer "John Lambert." The shelling continued while the crew were boarding the boats.

FRENCH BATTLESHIP BELIEVED LOST.

Paris (official).—The battleship "Suffren" which is feared she is a total loss.

THE CARLO THE CANADIAN CASUALTIES.

Toronto.—It is officially announced that the Canadian essualties are 65,660 including 10,888 killed, 5,400 died.

USE OF COPPER PROHIBITED.

The Minister of Munitions prohibits the use of copper in manufacture, and the sale and purchase of copper outside the United Kingdom. It requires manufacturers to deliver returns of their stocks of unwrought copper.

IMFORT OF COLUMN

IMPORT OF GOLD AND JEWELLERY RESTRICTED.

London, Dec. 7.

A Proclamation prohibits the importation of gold in any form except to the Bank of England, and all jewellery and silver manufactures except watches.

-The Ceylon Observer.

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