

The Hindu Organ.

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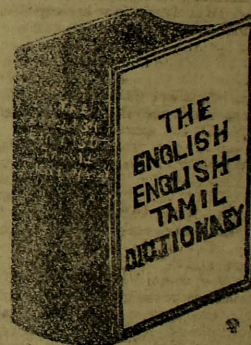
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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3879.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Sinnachchy wife of Kandar Penniah of Columbuturai

Deceased.

Kandar Vaitthianathan of Columbuturai

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Manikkam wife of Kandiah of Columbuturai
2. Thillainayaki widow of Sivasivapillai of do.
3. Kandar Penniah of do.
4. Sammandar Kandiah of do.

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Kandar Vaitthianathan, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Sinnachchy wife of Kandar Penniah, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris, Esq., District Judge, on February 15, 1917, in the presence of Mr. K. Somasundaram, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the said Petitioner, dated January 18, 1917, having been read: It is ordered that the Petitioner is the father of the intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration do issue to him accordingly, unless the Respondents above-named or any other person shall, on or before March 22, 1917, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Pieris,
District Judge.

February 28, 1917.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3385.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Venasitambay Mututambay of Navatkuly

Deceased.

1. Kasir Sellappah and wife
2. Basammah both of Navatkuly

Petitioners.

Vs.

Ponnu widow of Venasitambay Mututambay of Navatkuly

Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Kasir Sellappah and wife Basammah both of Navatkuly, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Venasitambay Mututambay of Navatkuly, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris, Esq., District Judge, on March 1, 1917, in the presence of Mr. E. Murekasepillai, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated February 27, 1917, having been read: It is declared that the 2nd Petitioner is an heir of the said intestate, and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to them unless the Respondent or any other person shall, on or before March 27, 1917, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Pieris,
District Judge.

March 6, 1917.

SHIPMENT OF TIMBER AND SLEEPERS.

Tenders are invited for the shipment of timber and sleepers from Trincomalee, Arugam Bay, Mylankatachchi and Batticaloa to Kakesanturai and Colombo to reach the Office of the Hon'ble, the Controller of Revenue not later than midday on Tuesday April 3, 1917, in terms of notice appearing in Government Gazette No. 6358 of 9th March, 1917.

Further information may be obtained at the Divisional Forest Office, Batticaloa, and at the Sub-Divisional Forest Office, Trincomalee.

H. F. TOMALIN,
Conservator of Forests.

Office of the Conservator of Forests,
Kandy, 8th March, 1917.

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The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1917.

A CO-OPERATIVE STORE FOR JAFFNA.

It is well known to all the people of Jaffna, and pretty keenly felt by them, that as practically the entire trade in the necessities of life is in the hands of Chetties and other Indians, they have to pay high prices for the things they buy. These high prices include huge profits to the traders which mean just so much wealth continuously flowing out of the country without any recouping factor commensurate to the undue drainage. Another disadvantage arising from our depending for our food supplies on strangers is that we have to purchase the food stuffs they supply us without our having the opportunity of choosing according to our varied tastes and requirements. The traders who come to this country from India are thus able to dictate to us not only the prices at which we must buy the things indispensable for our existence but also the quality of the supplies. The two disadvantages we have mentioned, especially the first, deserve the earnest consideration of all interested in the welfare of our people.

We think that the only effectual remedy for the disadvantages is to be found in the immediate establishment of a Co-operative Store for Jaffna under efficient and careful management to be followed by branches in all parts of the country. If we have a really well managed Co-operative Store to supply us with at least only food stuffs to begin with, it will be an excellent means of minimising the constant loss of wealth to which this country is subjected and supplying us with things of suitable quality at moderate prices. Surely the people of this country are not destined to live for ever for the material gain of others sharper and more enterprising. And we feel strongly that it is the duty of those of us who are truly patriotic and public-spirited to band ourselves together and open a Co-operative Store for Jaffna.

Though Co-operative Societies have existed in this country for some time, yet there seems to be an erroneous idea prevalent even among those who ought to know better that the co-operative movement is intended only for poor farmers, petty traders and impecunious carpenters, potters and others of similar occupations. Admitting that the poor villager, who is prone to get into the clutches of the avaricious and merciless money lender, is the one to whom Co-operative Societies will do the highest good, it must be pointed out that well-to-do farmers, lawyers, doctors, teachers, Government servants and landed proprietors also will be greatly benefited if they avail themselves of the beneficent help of the co-operative movement. The establishment of a Co-operative Store will be a truly philanthropic enterprise fraught with great possibilities for Jaffna. The war in Europe should not deter us from establishing the store at the present time as our dealings will be with India, and there is every likelihood that the store will afford us at least some help during these hard times, which may become harder still for us. We need not say that the store should be conducted in accordance with the best principles which have always characterised the co-operative movement and made it a true blessing to the numerous countries both in the East and the West, where it has been so widely and wisely adopted. It must be a source of great encouragement to those interested in the movement that the Government will give every facility to start and carry on the work and will

also help it by lending money at a low interest to be repaid in small instalments. The Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society of Madras with its branches all over the city doing immense good to its members, serves as an excellent example to us of the usefulness of the institution. A few men burning with the zeal of doing good to their country and possessing high character, integrity, prudence and capacity for business are needed to take the lead in the matter, and we are glad that such men are not wanting among our people. Our earnest hope is that the suggestion we have made will receive the whole-hearted attention of our countrymen and be given effect to without loss of time.

THE RELIGION OF THE ANCIENT TAMILS.

(By S. Sabaratna Mudaliyar.)

PART SECOND.

CHAPTER XXIX.

MEANS OF REALIZATION.

Realization of truth being the ultimate goal of the Religion of the Tamils, I will now proceed to inquire into the means provided by that religion for the attainment of the goal. As I have explained elsewhere, the object of God in placing us in this material plane is to enable us step by step to realize the truth, and to finally qualify us for the enjoyment of the heavenly bliss. We are covered by the veil of *anava mala*, and in our normal condition, our intelligence lies fully dormant. We are, therefore, given an astral and a gross body, furnished with senses and sense organs, through which our intelligence is excited and we are animated and urged on to action. Action is necessary for experience, and experience is necessary for realization. When we act, we enjoy the Grace of God that impels us to action, and the experience we gain by our action enlightens us and enables us to enjoy the Grace of God more and more. In fact our enjoyment of the Grace is in proportion to our enlightenment, and this enlightenment is in proportion to the removal of the veil of ignorance or *Pasa* that obstructs our view. By our actions, we are enabled to enjoy the Grace of God to the extent of our existing enlightenment, and by such enjoyment, our enlightenment expands and our *mala* power is weakened—and we are enabled to enjoy more of the Grace of God. And when we are finally enabled to enjoy the Grace of God to the full extent of our capacity, our *mala* power is rendered wholly ineffective—and we are then said to be in a position to enjoy the Divine eternal Bliss.

The Grace of God permeates the whole universe, and we are brought in contact with this Grace in three different ways, or in the three different planes of the material plane, the intellectual plane and the spiritual plane. When we are brought in contact with the material plane, we enjoy the Grace of God that permeates that plane, unconsciously and indirectly. Even this enjoyment contributes in the long run to the removal of our *mala* power. The more our *mala* power is removed, the more are we enabled to enjoy the Grace of God, and the more direct are we brought in contact with it. When we advance in the material plane, we are enabled to enjoy the Grace in the intellectual plane; and when we are advanced in this plane, we enjoy the Grace again in the spiritual plane. The religion of the Tamils calls these three different planes by the names of *Sudda Mayai*, *Asudda Mayai* and *Prakiritti Mayai* or *Sivatatva*, *Vidyatatva* and *Anmatatva*. In the *Anmatatva*, the souls only enjoy the Grace externally, through the material world and with the help of their senses which excites only their feeling—a blind feeling. This is the experience of the souls in the mineral, the vegetable and the animal kingdoms. Even here, their enjoyment is of different grades. Some of them enjoy the world—and through that world, the Grace—with one sense, some with two, some with three &c. &c. according to their respective capacity. And when they get gradually developed in their capacity, they attain, a stage in which they can enjoy the Grace intellectually. They are then given a human form and they are made to enjoy the Grace in the plane of *knowing* as well. Feeling of course plays its own part in all the three planes. In the material plane it is wholly a blind feeling. In the intellectual plane it is partly blind. And in the spiritual plane alone it is known as right feeling, which assumes the form of pure love that accrues as a result of true knowledge. When souls are advanced in the intellectual plane, and realize the importance of love, they are enabled to enjoy

the Grace in the spiritual plane, and acquire the capacity of realization or true *Gnanam*.

The various rites and ceremonies prescribed by the religion are actions that are intended to quicken our progress towards the spiritual plane, as that progress depends largely on our actions as I have already explained. The four paths of *Sariat*, *Kiritai*, *Yogam* and *Gnanam* are gradatory steps for the realization of truth, and we enjoy the Grace of God more and more as we proceed along these paths. The more we enjoy the Grace of God, the more are we released from the bondage of our ignorance or *mala* power, and the more are we enabled to realize the truth. In the path of *Sariat* we devote our energy in the external service of God, and here we may be said to enjoy the Grace of God indirectly or, as it were, in the third person. In the path of *Kiritai*, we render internal services, and we are, as it were, in the presence of God and enjoy His Grace more directly or in the second person. In the path of *Yogam*, we concentrate our attention on the form of God and enjoy the Grace within ourselves in our mental plane—and this may be said to be our enjoyment of Grace still more directly or in the first person. And when we are in the path of *Gnanam*, we lose all our personality, realize the supreme truth in the form of genuine love, and get ourselves absorbed in that truth. In the first three paths, we enjoy the Grace of God by our actions, while in the last path, there is a deadlock to all our actions, and we resign ourselves into the fulness of God. Our actions in the first three paths not only create in us a yearning after truth and augments our love towards God, but throw a good deal of light on the truth that we seek to realize, as these actions are all symbolic of our subsequent realization in the spiritual plane. The actions are all intended as *Bavanais* or symbols of truths in the spiritual plane, and I will speak of this symbolism in my next.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE NIGHT MAIL.—We understand that Government has decided to put back the night mail alternating with the day train i. e. one day the night mail and the next the day train. This is a provisional arrangement to see what the result will be. We are grateful for this measure of relief from the present difficulties. The new arrangement will come into force soon.

STAMPED 5 CENTS ENVELOPE.—An announcement in the Post Office Daily List, shows that owing to failure of supplies, the issue of these Stamped Envelopes has ceased temporarily.

NEW POLICE SUB INSPECTORS.—Twenty-one candidates for Police Sub Inspector appointments presented themselves on Tuesday at the Police Training School, Colombo, for an examination, both written and oral. The examination commenced at 8 A. M., and lasted till 3 P. M., with only adjournment for breakfast. The candidates were later in the day taken to the Maradana Police Headquarters to be examined by the Police doctor Messrs J. H. Daniel and G. F. Forrest, Deputy Inspector General of Police, supervised the examination.

THE CEYLON SUGAR INDUSTRY.—About 180 tons of sugar have been turned out since the Ceylon Sugar Refractories started on the 15th of last month. About 15,000 gallons of alcohol have already been sent to Colombo. Samples of the new arrack have been sent to the rosters, who have given it their general approval. Mr. R. E. S. de Soysa, the largest of the renters, holding the rents of Colombo and the Central Province, has congratulated Mr. Weigel on the result, and will be a big buyer.

PERSONAL.—Mr. V. S. Vallipuram of Nakladeniya Group, who was on a pilgrimage to South India, has returned to his station.

—Mr. K. Manickavasagar of the Survey Department, Alor Star, Kodak, has come to Jaffna on 4 months' leave and is staying at Mathakal.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT CHANGES.—Consequent on the retirement of Mr. Leonard Shipton, Superintendent of surveys, North Western Province, Mr. A. J. Stronach, Superintendent of Surveys, North Central Province, takes up duties at Kurunegala. Mr. F. L. Baker, Senior Assistant Superintendent of Surveys, succeeds Mr. Stronach, while Mr. O. W. F. Wavell succeeds Mr. Baker as Assistant Superintendent of the Northern Province Surveys.

A COLOMBO FIRE.—Six rows of cadjan cooly lines holding 500 coolies were burned down on the 6th inst. Two children were burnt to death and most of the coolies lost all their belongings. The sheds were located on the reclamation near the new Fort Station. The coolies are temporarily housed in the old Petah station.

BRANCH OF PRIGUE RULES.—Mr. E. Bennett, Second Engineer of a steamer, was charged at the Joint Police Court, Colombo with leaving his ship when in quarantine, without a permit. Accused got a month's simple.

A SEND OFF—Mr S Sreenivasagam, Chief Clerk, Land Office, Raub was entertained to dinner on the eve of his departure to Jaffna on long leave by Messrs. A. Ampikaipakar, Chief Draftsman, Survey Office, M. Kandiak, Clerk, Forest Office, K. Vaidyanatham, Clerk, Land Office, and S. Nadarajah, Clerk, District Office on the 23rd of February, 1917. A large and representative gathering were present at the function. There was a conviviality prevailing among the assembly owing to the grand musical entertainment (vocal and instrumental). The function came to a close after a series of speeches, made by some of those present, on the sterling qualities and amiable character of Mr. S. Sreenivasagam. —Cor.

Y. M. H. A., COPAY.—A "Sangeetha Katha-prasangam" on the "Life of St. Somastramayanar" was delivered by Nagalinga Swamy at the Saraswati Girls School Hall on Friday the 9th instant. The Swami, in the course of his lecture, dealt with the evils of sending Hindu young men to institutions established by foreign religions, the sublimity of Siva-Theodha (initiation), the importance of Vespoothi (Sacred ash) and the degenerating effects of meat diet. He exhorted the audience to walk in the footsteps of their forefathers and the path outlined to them by sacred Vedas and other scriptures. The audience dispersed at a very late hour—the Secretary thanking the Swami for his appealing and enlightened discourse and the audience for their kind presence. —Cor.

Y. M. H. A., SANDILIPAY.—A public lecture on "Ideals" was delivered by Mr. P. Sabapathipillai B. A. L. T. on Saturday the 4th instant, at about 6 P. M., in the Vaniakethana Vidyasalai Hall, with Mr. K. Somasundaram B. A., in the chair. The lecturer dwelt at length on the resultant evil of the materialistic ideals of the West as contrasted with the spiritual ideal of the Hindus. He said true and permanent good would result by sticking to the old Hindu ideals. The lecture being over, Mr. S. Chinnadurai, at the request of the President gave a gist of the lecture in Tamil. With a few remarks from the chair and a vote of thanks to the lecturer and the President, the proceedings came to a close at about 9 P. M. —Cor.

THEFT AT MATALE POST OFFICE.—A theft of Rs. 77 03 was committed on the 6th (night) from a table drawer at the Post Office. On the 7th (morning) Mr. K. Vallupule, M. O. clerk, asked the Postmaster for the duplicate key to the drawer of his table, where was kept the Money Order collections, alleging he lost his key the previous evening. When the Postmaster unlocked the drawer in the presence of Vallupule and others, Rs. 77 03 kept there was found missing. Vallupule said he told Mr. Amarasekera, relieving night clerk, of the loss, of the key and asked him to keep an eye on his table. This, clerk Amarasekera denied. Foot-prints were found on the table in the morning, which a peon had wiped away. The matter is with the Police.—Matale Cor.—The Ceylon Observer.

SEVEN SONS INTERNED.—Colombo, March 13.—The Civil and Military Gazette says that for political reasons seven sons of the late Sardar Mahomed Ayub Khan, son of the late Amir Abdur Rahman of Kabul, who have been living in Lahore for many years past, have been interned and placed in the custody of the Military authorities in Lahore fort.

TEA EXPORT RESTRICTED.—An imperial order published last week reads as follows: "His Majesty's Government having decided upon a drastic reduction of the amount of tea that may be exported into the United Kingdom, His Excellency the Governor has issued a proclamation prohibiting, as from the 10th day of March, 1917, the exportation from Ceylon of tea consigned to the United Kingdom in respect of which a license for exportation has not been obtained. Licenses will be issued by the Principal Collector of Customs on the recommendation of the Chamber of Commerce."

A CONCESSION TO BUDDHISTS.—For some time Buddhists have been seeking to have the rugs with the design of a dagoba used in railway carriages discontinued or the design obliterated, alleging that the dagoba being sacred to Buddhists should not be trodden under foot. This has now been granted according to a letter from the Colonial Secretary dated 26th Feb. and addressed to a Colombo Buddhist Society.

OBITUARY.—We deeply regret to have to record the death of Mr. K. Nakanathar, late Notary Public, at his residence at Kaithady on the 8th instant after a brief illness. He belonged to a respectable and influential family at Kaithady. He leaves behind four sons, viz. Messrs. Visuvanathar, Manar (P. M. S. Pensioner), Ponnaiyah, Post Master, Pallai, and Ramalingam, Ex-cise Clerk, Jaffna. Kaithachi, to bemoan his loss. Our condolences with the bereaved family.

THE JAFFNA ASSOCIATION.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Jaffna Central College Hall on Thursday, the 22nd instant at 4.30 P. M.

BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of the Secretaries' Report and the Treasurer's Balance Sheet.
2. Election of Office Bearers.
3. Mr. G. C. Tambayah to move a vote of congratulation to Hon. Sir A. Kanagasabai on his

elevation to the Knighthood.

4. Mr. A. Canagaratnam to move a resolution on Council Reform.

5. Mr. C. Arulambalam to move a resolution on the suggested income tax.

6. Mr. W. D. Niles to move a resolution on the disadvantages of discontinuing the system of Crown Land sales.

G. C. TAMBAYAH,
C. ARULAMBALAM,
Secretaries.

SIR RABINDRANATH TAGORE IN AMERICA.

A PRESENTATION FROM YALE UNIVERSITY.

Sri Rabindranath Tagore, who is still in the United States, recently visited New Haven (Conn), where he was presented with the Yale Bicentennial Medal. In making the presentation the President of the University said:

Apart from its share in the debt which the West owes the East, Yale acknowledges special obligation to India which it can never repay. To your country our scholars are indebted for a large source of their inspiration. For three-quarters of a century the classics of India have been taught in these halls and the Sanskrit studies of W. D. Whitney are one of the brightest ornaments in Yale's scholastic crown. To your country we owe our local habitation and our name. Two centuries ago the Collegiate School of the Colony of Connecticut was firmly established in New Haven by the gifts of Governor Yale of Fort St. George; and the fortune which enabled him to make these gifts was acquired perhaps not scrupulously, in the Indian Peninsula. In recognition of these obligations and many others. I have the honour to present you, as a memorial of your visit, with the Yale Bicentennial Medal. We welcome you as one of the great brotherhood of seekers for light and truth; we honour you as one to whom it has been given to help thousands—yes, millions in that search. —The Ceylonese.

POWER OF RIGHT THINKING.

(BY ORISON SWEET MARDEN.)

The consciousness that we are one with the Infinite Source of all things; that there is no separation between us and the power that made us and sustains us is a perpetual health current which can heal all diseases and maintain us in health.

This one great mind which pervades the universe originates every flower pattern, every tree, every animal, every living thing. It is through this same mind, the force back of the flesh, that we have health, happiness, prosperity, everything which makes a poised, beautiful, successful life.

We are all conscious that there is something in us that makes for wholeness, completeness, which is ever trying to keep us in health; ever tending to ideals which we may have lost in our groping in the dark of ignorance or dissipation.

How quickly this healing, renewing, recreating something within us tries to bring us back to the normal again, no matter how we may have been injured, whether by an accident, by disregarding the laws of health, or by dissipation.

Health, longevity, efficiency, and happiness all largely depend upon what we call nerve tone. This in turn is largely dependent upon the mental attitude.

Whatever causes mental depression, discomfort or discord, exhausts the force in the cells of the brain and nervous system generally, and tends to lower the vitality of the whole body.

It uses its resisting power, it exhausts the physical energy and, as a consequence, cuts down by a large percentage the efficiency of the whole mental and physical life. We are beginning to find that health is as dependent upon the quality of our thoughts as upon the quality of our food.

Upon the degree in which we maintain our unity with the principle or force back of the flesh will our physical and mental vigor depend. Right thinking is a part of right living, healthful living. Even though, for example, we should have a perfectly scientific diet and take it in a most healthful manner, the result would be seriously modified by our mental condition.

Physicians are discovering that we are mental creatures, that mind is the origin and the basis of everything; that the body is an objectified expression of mind, and that harmony or discord, health or disease depend upon the condition of the mind.

In diagnosing diseases physicians inquire into the mental conditions which might have induced the disorder. "Have you worried about anything?" "Have you had any special trouble of late?" "Is your mind disturbed about anything?" "Do you sleep well?" "Are you worried over business affairs?"

Mental depressions, caused by fear, worry, shock, or the explosive passions, jealousy, envy, hatred, produce correspondingly bodily disorders. During great "business" depressions, financial panics, for instance, it has been noticed that there is a very great increase in certain diseases, especially of the kidneys, the stomach, the digestive organs, the liver, the heart, and the brain.

These organs are peculiarly sensitive to the mental attitude. They respond quickly to harmony or discord. A happy state of mind means a healthy liver, healthy digestive organs, healthy kidneys. Unhappiness, mental discord, or depression, on the other hand, are accompanied by corresponding trouble in the bodily organs.

A London physician tells us that he has watched tuberculosis spring into terrible activity in persons who are mentally depressed. His statement is verified by the large percentage of insane patients who died of tuberculosis; also the bones of the mentally deranged become so brittle as the result of the impairment of the bone cells from their mental depression that they are very easily fractured.

A physician tells of a case of chronic facial neuralgia in which the sufferer remained free for 16 months, but that after the shock of seeing a fellow workman killed by a falling board, the neuralgia became worse than ever. He declares that a fit of anger will bring on neuralgia.

Physicians are agreed that fearful expectation of the development of some fatal disease predisposes to such disease, as in the case of small pox,

scarlet fever, influenza, and especially brain troubles, as in fear of hereditary insanity.

According to a London physician, if one inquires into the history of many cases of cancer of the stomach and intestines, and prolonged worry have led to malignant disease.

Whatever impairs mental power, impairs the cell life all through the body. All vicious emotions, worry, fear, chronic anxiety, jealousy, hatred, revenge, so poison the cells of the nervous system as to seriously interfere with and impair the processes of all the bodily organs.

Their functions are impaired, their vitality depleted and just there is the origin of disease; in the impaired cell life, the persistent lowering of the vitality of the individual cells, the cutting off of nutrition, the lessening of the disease resisting power of the cells.

As there is a certain amount of intelligence in the cells of every part of the body, and as all of the cells which compose the body are so closely related, so intimately tied together, that whatever effects one affects all, we can see how anything that affects the brain cells would be communicated to every part of the body.

When a certain brain center is diseased, for instance, or is afflicted by the pressure of some abnormal growth or some injury to the skull, there is a corresponding loss of physical function. It may be a loss of speech, a loss of memory, or some other faculty or power.

It is known that paralysis is often caused by defective nerve centers which prevent the proper transmission of the vitalizing nerve impulses. When these nerve cells are so affected the muscles to which they run often begin to waste because they are not revitalized by the continuous nerve impulses which carry life, force, and vigor.

Worry is insidious, and it spreads over the brain like a leaven. The constant dwelling upon any idea which becomes an obsession tends to destroy the mental balance; but to perpetually dwell upon a vicious idea, a worry, hatred, or revenge idea, often ruins the brain cells beyond repair so that the individual never becomes normal again.

The brain is really the nutritive center of life, and whatever disturbs it disturbs the nutrition of the body by impairing digestion, because the gastric fluids become poor, deficient, and so affect the digestion of food. The transformation of the nutriment into various tissues is imperfect, and consequently the brain cells and all others will be imperfect, and of course will perform correspondingly imperfect functions.

Now, if every cell in the body has more or less intelligence, and thoughts are a resultant not only of the action of the brain cells, but of that of all the cells in the body, then we can see that thinking health into any organs whose cells are beginning to become diseased would naturally tend to restore them to their normal condition.

Indeed, mental influence is really the secret of the benefit received at noted watering places and other health resorts, the mental influence of the expectation of a cure is more potent than the waters or the other medicines, remedies and treatment.

—Health and Happiness.

VEGETABLE DIET BEST.

(BY C. W. LEADBEATER.)

The vegetarian is one who abstains from eating flesh food; some of them use such animal products as are obtained without destroying the life of the animal, as eggs, milk, butter and cheese; others restrict themselves to fruit and nuts; others to such food as can be eaten uncooked; others take no food which grows underground, such as potatoes, turnips, carrots, etc. Vegetarian diet is the purest and best, because vegetables contain more nutriment than an equal amount of dead flesh. This will sound surprising to many people, because they believe that they cannot exist unless they defile themselves with flesh, and this delusion is so widely spread that it is difficult to awaken the average man from it.

It must be understood that this is not a question of habit, or prejudice. The food elements necessary to the body, proteins or nitrogenous food, carbohydrates, hydrocarbons or fats and salts, exist to a greater extent in vegetables than they do in dead flesh. It should be remembered that dead flesh can never be wholesome because decay commences at the moment when the creature is killed, and products are formed in this process of retrograde change which are poisonous. In the scriptures of the Hindu only three diseases existed, one of which was old age; but when people began to eat flesh, 78 new diseases had arisen. The idea that disease might come from the devouring of corpses has been recognized for thousands of years.

Man is not naturally carnivorous, and flesh food is not suited to him. Men are stronger and better on a vegetarian diet. I know that people say: "You will be weak if you do not eat flesh," which is untrue.

The eating of dead bodies leads to indulgence in drink, increases animal passion in man, prepares the way for habits of intemperance, and the more flesh consumed the more serious is the danger of alcoholism.

Let us think of the moral and unselfish considerations connected with flesh eating. Does it not seem a terrible thing—the killing of animals and of causing degradation in others. If you yourself had to use the knife or the pole-ax to slaughter the animal before you could feed upon its flesh you would realize the sickening nature of the task and would refuse to perform it.

It is clear that a man's duty with regard to himself is to develop his body as far as possible, to make it a finished instrument for the use of the soul, but the first step towards this high aim is that the soul itself shall learn to control the lower bodies, so that there shall be in them no thought or feeling except those which the soul allows.

The body should be in the highest condition of efficiency, pure and clean and free from taint; and it is obvious that this can never be so long as man absorbs into the physical shell undesirable constituents. Even the physical body and its sense perceptions can never be at their best unless the food is true to it.

Anyone who adopts the vegetarian diet will begin to notice that his sense of taste and smell is keener than it was when he fed upon flesh, and that he is able to discern a delicate difference of flavor in foods which before he had thought of as tasteless, such as rice and wheat.

—Ib d

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MORNING STAR AND ITS "PHILO OPHY AND PRACTICE".

Dear Sir,

Modern civilization, for which Christian Propagandists try to take the credit, has no doubt affected India, and its evil results have shown themselves in many ways. In the words of Swami Vivekananda, "the ocean of intoxicant liquor and the mountain of meat" that are imported to India speak for themselves. Perhaps the Christian propagandists would like to go in for a share in this progress as well. There are of course Indians who have swallowed the Christian pills and who are intoxicated with ideas of modern civilization. Poor Indians! their sight has been dazzled by the blaze of modern civilization, and they do not for a moment realize how dangerous their clamours are. It may be that these clamours are partly due to Christian influence, and the Editor of the *Morning Star* does not miss a single opportunity to extract in his columns passages from these clamours, evidently with the object of advertising the success achieved by his co-workers in India.

Let him satisfy his fancy as he pleases. But can he seriously say that the evils that now exist in India are all attributable to Hinduism? There are evils in every country and at every time. Europe and America. They are all under the influence of Christianity, and can the evils that exist in those countries be attributed to Christianity? According to certain statistics published in 1911 (See the "Star of India" of November 1911), there are in China 1 criminal for every 878 persons whereas in Christian lands there is 1 criminal for every 60 persons! I do not think that the Editor of the *Morning Star* will say that this is due to the influence of Christianity. Let us compare the number of divorce cases instituted in the courts of Europe and America with those instituted in the Courts of India and Ceylon. How will they compare? Let us compare the criminal statistics of Europe and America with those of India and Ceylon. What percentage would each of these countries show? Let us compare the number of drunks and prostitutes, pickpockets and habituals of these various countries. What percentage will each of them show? Can this high percentage of Europe and America be attributed to the influence of Christianity over those countries?

The Editor again speaks of some of the exponents of Savite Philosophy as unworthy of confidence. So far as I know, I have not yet heard of any of them whose moral character has been questioned. But perhaps the Editor of the *Morning Star* knows better. Whatever that may be, can the Editor say that there are no black sheep among his flock? It was the other day I read an extract published in the *Hindu Organ* in which a veteran American Missionary is reported to have addressed a big audience in his native country and said that Indian women used to throw their children into the Ganges to be devoured by crocodiles &c., &c., and that he had abruptly to leave the place quite discomfited when an Indian got up and gave the lie direct to his teeth! I know of Missionaries who were suspected of screening the truth in courts of law, and I have heard of evangelists who are engaged in trade and involved in lawsuits. I am sure that the existence of such people will not be a reflection on the religion. The religious persecutions carried on in India and Ceylon in olden days, cannot, I am sure, be attributed to Christianity; and much less can the history of early Christian Church be said to have been the outcome of Christian faith. Can the hypocritical spirit engendered among native Christians and referred to by the late Arunaka Navalar in his *Yalpana Samaya Nila* be attributed to Christianity? There might have been good Christians like Barrows and Halls—I have no idea of them. But what about Jada Icarari, one of the chosen disciples of Christ? Can we say that his teaching was attributable to the teachings of Christ?

The Editor again exults over the idea that all progressive movements in India are to be traced to Christian influence. The anti-Christian spirit that is now largely seen in India has also I believe to be traced to Christian influence! I will, however, extract for his edification the following passage from an address of Mr. J. N. L., the President of the scientific section of the Chicago Parliament:—

"Europe has always been indebted to India for its spiritual inspirations. There is little, very little, of high thought and aspirations in Christendom which cannot be traced to one or another of the successive influence of Hindu ideas."

A HINDU.

THIRD CLASS PASSENGERS ON THE UP-COUNTRY AND JAFFNA LINE.

Dear Sir,

With reference to my letter of 24th ultimo on the above subject to the General Manager, C. G. R., which I sent to you for publication, I have much pleasure in handing you herewith the information of the general public, copy of a letter I have since received from the General Manager in reply to mine. No doubt the hearty thanks of all our countrymen are due to the General Manager of the Railways, for having so kindly and promptly removed trouble and inconvenience.

I also beg to thank you for your kindness in publishing my last letter.

Nuwera Eliya. Yours faithfully,
Sd. Feb. 1917. J. P. AMPALAVANAR.

The copy referred to:—

REDUCED TRAIN SERVICE.

Sir, I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 24th ultimo and to inform you that 3rd class passengers will be conveyed by the down night mail from Monday next.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,
(Sd.) J. M. ORKNEY,

C. G. Railway, General Manager's Department, Colombo, 1st March, 1917.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

The War.

THE EXCHANGE CRISIS IN CEYLON.

RAISED IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, March 7.

In the House of Commons at question time Mr. H. Ingleby affirmed that the negotiation of Bills of Exchange by English bankers in Ceylon was practically suspended and business was drifting into the hands of the native Cetties, greatly to the disadvantage of the English firms and threatening ultimately to affect adversely the whole Colony. Mr. Walter Long replied that he was carefully and constantly considering the difficulty of the banks in financing exports from Ceylon to Britain. He promised to bring Mr. Ingleby's question to the attention of Sir John Anderson.

THE BRITISH FRONT.

London, March 9.

A correspondent at Headquarters on March 8th says a furious gale is sweeping the battlefield of the Ancre with blinding snow squalls, sometimes making it impossible to see more than a few hundred feet, hampering aircraft and the troops working on the new lines. The ground has frozen again, facilitating transport. The enemy is very active in improving his front before Baupae.

NOTABLE CAPTURE OF ROSSIGNOL WOOD.

London, March 8.

Reuter's correspondent, wiring from Headquarters, says:—The weather has improved, an Easterly wind drying the ground. Details are coming in of the recent fight, the most notable being the taking of Rossignol Wood, a strategic position strongly held by the Germans. After the evacuation of Gommecourt the British attacked on March 3rd and captured the main trench in 2½ hours, but stiff fighting at close quarters for the possession of the two reserve trenches resulted in a deadlock. At midnight the British were temporarily withdrawn, while the guns bombarded the trenches till dawn. Then the Infantry attacked again, cleared the trenches and found the wood deserted. The Germans had evacuated the ridge. The number of corpses found showed the enemy casualties were of the heaviest.

MANY RAIDS BY BOTH SIDES.

London, March 10.

F. M. Sir D. Haig says that last evening the enemy launched five raids on our trenches Northward of Walverghem and re-attacked with four parties this morning. Only one party in each case reached our trenches. The enemy left some prisoners and twenty to thirty British are missing. We raided his first line Southward of Baches and damaged dug outs and inflicted many casualties.

IRLES VILLAGE CAPTURED.

London, March 10.

F. M. Sir J. D. Haig reports:—We attacked and captured the village of Irles and the neighbouring defences. Our advance extends over a front of three miles. We took a considerable number of prisoners. Over 100 have already been counted. We captured four trench-mortars and fifteen machine guns. Our casualties are eight. The aerial patrol yesterday was heavily engaged by a strong hostile formation.

London, March 11.

F. M. Sir J. D. Haig says:—The total prisoners taken at Irles is 292. Our Artillery crushed attempts to attack West and North-West of Leor. The Artillery are active on the Somme and Ancre, at Arras, Ypres and Southward of Arras.

GERMANS ADMIT RETIREMENT FROM IRLES.

London, March 11.

A wireless German official despatch reports Infantry fighting at Irles. Our rearguards withdrew to the main position.

FIGHT FOR AIR SUPREMACY.

London, March 8.

A feature of the recent fighting has been the resumption of the struggle for air supremacy. F. M. Sir J. D. Haig, in yesterday's report, said the enemy made determined but unsuccessful attempts to stop the British aerial work. They sent up most numerous machines. Much fighting resulted, in which three hostile machines were killed and three were driven down and damaged. Four British were killed and seven are missing. Altogether the communiques mention forty-six aeroplanes as being brought down in the West in the last two days. The record is unparalleled since July 1st. The Germans claim that thirty-three of these were Allied. Monday's and yesterday's British communiques admitted 6 killed and 12 missing. British airmen accounted for twenty and French for three of the twenty three German aeroplanes killed.

MESOPOTAMIA.

London, March 8.

Mesopotamia (official).—Our pursuing troops met with little opposition. The Cavalry, traversing Ctesiphon, bivouacked at Bawi, fourteen miles from the Southern outskirts of Bagdad. We took prisoner eighty five men and captured one gun.

THE FRENCH FRONT.

London, March 9.

A French communique says:—Our attack yesterday between Butte du Mesnil and Maisons de Champagne was brilliantly successful. Despite the snowstorms which rendered marching difficult, we carried the enemy positions on a front of 1,500 to a depth of 600 to 800 metres. A violent German counter attack on the left sector in the evening was repulsed with serious enemy losses. We took prisoner 136 including three officers. Two enemy attempts on the trench at Avocourt Wood failed under our fire.

MORE TRENCHES CAPTURED

London, March 10.

A French official despatch says:—We entered wooded enemy trenches at several points South of Rive. The Germans thrice furiously counter-attacked position we captured yesterday in the sector Maisons Champagne. Our curtain of machine fire everywhere shattered the efforts of the enemy who were obliged to retire, leaving

numerous dead. We progressed during the day and captured fresh trenches North of the Butte du Mesnil. Maisons Champagne north. We took 170 prisoners in this region.

ENEMY BEATEN BACK.

London, March 10.

A French communique says:—In Champagne there was obstinate fighting all night long at some points between Butte-de-Mesnil and Maisons de Champagne. The Germans made several attempts to recapture trenches we took in the West of that sector, but after alternate advances and retreats, we finally beat back the enemy and made some progress. On the right of the sector our fire smashed up German attacks. We maintained all the positions. On the right bank of the Meuse the Germans again attacked the trenches retaken by us North of Caurieres Wood, but our immediate counter attacks drove out the enemy from some portions of the trenches he succeeded in entering. We carried out several coups de main South of the Ancre, notably at Armancourt, where our detachments penetrated the third German trench.

London, March 11.

A French official despatch says:—There has been a severe Artillery duel in Champagne, but no Infantry action. There was an intermittent cannonade elsewhere.

SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL RAIDS.

London, March 11.

A French communique reports that we made several successful coups-de-main on the German trenches in the regions of Lassigny, Canny sur-Metz and North of Bois du Jury in Woivre, and captured prisoners and a machine gun. There was fairly considerable reciprocal Artillery fire in the sector of Maison de Champagne. An enemy attempt on our small posts in the region of Lassigny in Alsace failed.

London, March 9.

A wireless German official despatch says:—The French attacked Southward of Ripont and penetrated trenches on height 185, also at Champagne. Our counter-attack regained a trench dominating the height. The farm remains in French hands.

AFTER IRLES—BAPAUME.

London, March 11.

French experts emphasize the importance of the British success at Irles, facilitating the envelopment of Bapaume. They state that several hundred prisoners were captured.

London, March 12.

A French official despatch says:—There was the liveliest reciprocal Artillery work North of the Aisne. Attempted enemy coups de main North West of Rheims and on the right of the Meuse failed completely.

DARDANELLES COMMISSION.

London, March 8.

In the Dardanelles Commission's Report one piquant passage refers to the part played by Mr. Churchill who, in the course of his evidence, said: "In the early stages of the War was carried on by the Premier, Lord Kitchener and me—I think—in the next place. But I had not the same weight, authority or power as those two Ministers; and if they said 'This is to be done, or not done, that settled it.' The Commissioners believe that this description of the actual working machine was substantially correct, save that Mr. Churchill probably assigned to himself a more unobtrusive part than he actually played.

EXPEDITION'S SUCCESS AS A DIVERSION.

The Report, which only deals with the origin and inception of the expedition, covers the events to March 23rd, 1915. It says that, while the objective, namely the forcing of the Straits and reaching Constantinople, failed, it would be an exaggeration to say that the expedition, considered as a whole, was a complete failure. It was originally undertaken to create a diversion in favour of the Russians. In this respect it was very fairly successful. Another aspect was the importance attached to the effect on the Balkans. Although it did not secure Bulgaria's Neutrality, it can scarcely be doubted that but for the expedition Bulgaria would have joined the Central Powers earlier. Also a large force of Turks, which might have been employed in other theatres, was for a time rendered immobile.

THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

London, March 9.

A wireless Russian official despatch says:—We threw back an enemy attack in the Mittau region. The enemy captured three heights North-Westward of Okna. Attacks Westward thereof failed.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

London, March 9.

A wireless Italian official message says:—The enemy penetrated the lines Westward of Castagnavizza and were thrown out.

THE FRENCH CIVILIAN MOBILISATION.

London, March 9.

Paris.—The amended Government Bill for the mobilisation of civilians provides for voluntary enrolment of both sexes between the ages of 17 and 60 with eventual compulsion.

THE IRISH QUESTION.

London, March 7.

In the House of Commons Mr. Lloyd George said that Government was prepared to grant Home Rule to those parts of Ireland clearly demanding it. "I am not in the least afraid of submitting the proposal of Government to the judgment of any unbiased friend of Ireland in any quarter of the globe. I put it again, and I want not merely Irishmen to know it, but I want men outside the confines of the United Kingdom and the British Empire to know what it is today we offer. It is that the part of Ireland that clearly demands Home Rule—self Government—shall get it. There are two questions to be asked by all of us. The first is this: Are people in this country prepared to confer self Government on the parts of Ireland which unmistakably demand it? The answer which I give on behalf of the Cabinet is that Government are firmly of that opinion and firmly of opinion that that represents the views of the vast majority of the people of this country. The next point is this: Are the people of this country prepared to submit to force the population of the North-Eastern corner of Ireland, to submit to be governed by a population

with whom they are completely out of sympathy? In my judgment—and here I speak on behalf of the Government—they are not.

MR. ASQUITH'S SUGGESTION.

NATIONALISTS LEAVE THE HOUSE.

In the Commons Mr. Asquith, following Mr. Lloyd George, suggested that the Irish question be referred to outside impartial authority for adjustment in the interests of the settlements concerned. The constitution of such a body might be facilitated by the presence here of a number of the Dominion statesmen who already had solved various problems of local autonomy in different ways. In response to an appeal from Mr. Redmond not to participate in the futile discussion but to consult him on future action, the Nationalists, who had adopted a markedly hostile attitude during the Premier's speech, left the House. Following a request for his opinion on Mr. Asquith's suggestion, Mr. Lloyd George said the Nationalists' duty was to say whether they meant to oppose the measure embodying Government's offer. The debate was adjourned till 8th March.

NIZAM'S ANTI-SUBMARINE £100,000.

London, March 9.

The Press Bureau states that Government has accepted the Nizam of Hyderabad's gift of £100,000 sterling towards the anti-submarine campaign.

THE LATE COUNT ZEPPELIN.

London, March 9.

Amsterdam.—Count Zeppelin died at Charlottenburg from inflammation of the lungs.

GERMANY AND AMERICA.

London, March 10.

Washington.—President Wilson has convoked an extra session of Congress on April 16th to receive such communications as may be made by the Executive.

It is understood that a number of American merchants will sail for submarine zones immediately and will be armed by Government. Their names will be published. Dr. Wilson convokes Congress to confirm his arming of merchantmen.

MINISTERS ADVISE FAVOURABLY.

London, March 9.

Washington.—Mr. Lansing and Mr. Gregory, the Attorney General, have both advised President Wilson that he has full authority to arm merchantmen immediately, but as the Senate has revised its rules in order to prevent further filibustering, it is believed that Dr. Wilson will immediately call an extra session of Congress to consider the matter.

SENATE'S NEW POWERS.

Washington.—The Senate by 76 to 3 has passed the amendment to the Rules giving two-thirds of the members the power to closure debate.

PRESIDENT LAID UP.

Washington.—Dr. Wilson is ill and may be in bed several days.

FAST STANDARD SHIP-BUILDING.

London, March 11.

Washington.—Wooden ship builders of the United States have been summoned to a Conference of the Shipping Board on March 14th with a view to building the speediest large fleet of standardised ships for the Trans-Atlantic trade. It is hoped thus materially to defeat the submarine blockade.

CEYLON AND SHIPPING REQUISITIONS.

London, March 7.

The Times states that arrangements are being considered for extending the shipping requisitioning scheme to the services to India, Burma, Ceylon, the Straits, China, Japan and the Persian Gulf. The Times adds that as regards the outward services it would seem that the business could be efficiently controlled by three main Committees, representing, firstly, the Persian Gulf, Karachi and Bombay; secondly, Calcutta, Colombo and Burma; and thirdly, the Far East. It is probably also desirable to form Committees of Management in respect of Homeward loading.

IRISH DISCUSSION.

London, March 8.

In the Commons Mr. Bonar Law said he saw no advantage in resuming yesterday's Irish discussion.

PREMIER'S WISE AMENDMENT.

London, March 7.

In the Commons Mr. Lloyd George, in the course of his statement, said no Party would support the demand that Ulster should be forced into a settlement. His offer of self-Government to parts of Ireland would take immediate effect. He was not in the least afraid of submitting his proposals to any unbiased friend of Ireland in the Empire. He moved as an amendment:—"This House would welcome any settlement which would produce a better understanding between Ireland and the rest of the United Kingdom, but considers it impossible to impose by force on any section of Ireland a form of Government which has not their consent."

CONTROVERSY IMPOSSIBLE NOW.

London, March 8.

In the Commons Mr. Asquith discussed conceivable expedients for a settlement. He did not think the renewal of negotiations between the Parties was likely to be successful. The only practical alternative was to invoke the intervention of some outside impartial authority. It would be essential that such authority should act in the promptest manner. Its decision would be subject to the final approval of Parliament. Mr. Lloyd George interjecting and asking whether such a body would enquire and report to Government, or whether it would have statutory powers, Mr. Asquith replied: "No. He would make its decisions subject to the approval of Parliament which would be the final authority. Mr. Redmond, following Mr. Asquith, asked why Mr. Lloyd George did not appeal to Sir Edward Carson to make the sacrifice and agree to a proposal acceptable to the whole of Ireland. The Labourite Mr. Wardle, regretted that the House should not have been asked an unfair question, whether it was prepared to coerce Ulster in the actual circumstances. Mr. Lloyd George, replying, said he had suggested two methods of dealing with the details of Government's proposal, either by a Conference of Irishmen or the establishment of a Commission. The latter was practically identical with Mr. Asquith's but it was impossible to introduce a Controversial Bill on such a basis in the middle of a great War.

NATIONALIST MANIFESTO SENT TO U. S. A. AND DOMINIONS.

London, March 9.

Copies of the Nationalist Manifesto are being sent to President Wilson and the Premiers of the Dominions. The Daily Telegraph and Daily News alone comment on the Irish debate. Both emphasize its imperial aspect. The Daily Telegraph says that until it is known whether the statesmen of the Dominions will accept the responsibility it is useless further to explore Mr. Asquith's suggestion. The Daily News is resolute that a Military Government is now starkly impossible. The Dominions will not permit it. The problem of Home Rule must be in the forefront of Imperial post War organisation.

NATIONALISTS BAIT PREMIER.

London, March 8.

The Nationalists frequently interrupted with questions the Premier during his speech. Mr. Dillon angrily asserted: "You are turning your back on Home Rule". When the Premier was dealing with the Polish parallel, Mr. Dillon interrupted: "What will you say to the Sinn Féiners?" Mr. Lloyd George replied: "I will say to them, you can have Home Rule for the asking, but we will not put under your heel people who do not want your rule." The Nationalists have issued a manifesto declaring they can never assent to the previous [Premier's] principle regarding the Ulster and accusing the Premier of breach of faith.

MEXICO AND GERMANY.

London, March 9.

The U. S. A. Government is semi-officially advised that Mexico City is in direct wireless communication with Germany. An investigation has been ordered.

CHINA AND THE POWERS.

London, March 8.

Reuter learns authoritatively that the Chinese Premier has withdrawn his resignation.

London, March 10.

The withdrawal of the Chinese Premier's resignation is regarded as indicating that the President has finally agreed to the Cabinet's policy of rupture with Germany and possibly Alliance with the Entente.

ITALY'S ANTI-SUBMARINE WORK.

London, March 11.

Rome.—In the Chamber the Minister of Marine detailed Italy's anti-submarine measures, including the arming of numerous places on the coast, the organisation of coastguards, barriers and other defensive works. The depth of the seas precluded the employment of nets. As regards the methods of chasing submarines, 200 small craft were employed in the Otranto channel for months. Numerous aeroplane squadrons and small airships were employed. The demand for the armament of merchantmen was the greatest. Already over 1,000 guns had been used. 60 per cent of the Italian ships were armed. Several wireless systems had been installed in ships. The system of signalling by wireless and of aeroplanes was most successful. The large number of sailings and arrivals showed that the measures were not in vain.

MESOPOTAMIA COMMISSION.

London, March 8.

In the Commons Mr. Bonar Law stated that the Report of the Mesopotamia Commission was not yet written. He declined to promise, before receiving the Report, that it would be published in its entirety.

SISTER OF LORD FRENCH KILLED.

London, March 10.

Salonika.—Mrs. Harley, sister of Lord French, was killed by a shell while in charge of a motor ambulance.

AUSTRALIA'S ELECTIONS: IN MAY.

London, March 9.

Melbourne.—The dissolution takes place on March 26th and the election on May 5th.

TRYING TO POISON THE PREMIER.

London, March 10.

In the Old Bailey conspiracy trial Mrs. Wheelodon got ten years; Alfred Mason, seven years; and Winnie Mason five years. Harriet Wheelodon was found not guilty.

KAISER CONDOLES WITH COUNTESS.

London, March 9.

The Kaiser has telegraphed his condolences to the Countess Zeppelin in extravagant terms in which he states:—"I feel the death of this excellent man most painfully. The whole of Germany unites in mourning one of the greatest sons of the Fatherland. His successes in the air have rendered his name immortal far beyond Germany. His memory will always remain sublime and dear to me.—Wilhelm."

CUBA REVOLT.

London, March 9.

New York.—400 American marines have been landed at Santiago de Cuba as a precaution against a rebel attack.

THE MESOPOTAMIA ADVANCE.

BAGDAD OCCUPIED.

London, March 10.

A Mesopotamia official despatch says:—Our gunboats and cavalry discovered on Wednesday the enemy holding a line on the Diala River in some strength. We engaged the enemy on Thursday. The enemy's position at Ctesiphon had been most carefully prepared. It is clear that the enemy intended to hold it. Its evacuation was probably due to our rapid advance from Afid.

THE GOAL!

London, March 11.

Mesopotamia (Official).—Bagdad was occupied on Sunday.

—The Ceylon Observer.

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