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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 8405.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Annamma wife of Kanthar Vaithilingam of Kokkuvil

Deceased.

Kanthar Vaithilingam of Kokkuvil

Petitioner.

Vs.

Paramanathan Nadarajah of Kokkuvil

Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Kanthar Vaithilingam praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Annamma wife of Kanthar Vaithilingam, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris, Esq., District Judge, on April 23, 1917, in the presence of Mr. K. Somasundaram, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated April 11, 1917, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful husband of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall, on or before May 22, 1917, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Pieris,
District Judge.

April 23, 1917.

NOTICE.

Intending purchasers of the Mullattivu Arrack Rent for 1917-1918 are requested to take notice that the hours during which the taverns may remain open have been fixed at 8 A. M. to 6.30 P. M.

Mullattivu Kachcheri, W. L. MURPHY,
8th May 1917. Asst. Govt. Agent.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the hours of sale in all arrack taverns in Trincomalee Town and District on and after 1st October 1917 have been fixed with the approval of the Excise Advisory Committee between 8 A. M. and 6.30 P. M. only. No sale will be permitted except between these hours.

Trincomalee Kachcheri, G. S. WODEMAN,
15th May, 1917. Asst. Govt. Agent.

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The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, MAY 17, 1917.

"THE MAHARAJA OF BIKANER
ON HOME RULE IN INDIA".

Elsewhere we quote a very interesting and instructive article on the above subject from the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" of Calcutta. It will be seen that our Indian contemporary is in ecstasy over the pro-

nouncement of His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner in favour of autonomy or Home Rule for India. Our readers are aware that the Maharaja is one of the three Delegates selected and sent to England by the Government of India to represent that great Dependency at the Imperial War Cabinet and the Imperial Conference which have just concluded their labours in London. The three Delegates are fit and proper representatives of all interests in India—Sir James Meston representing the Civil Service and the Anglo-Indian community, the Maharaja the Ruling Chiefs and Zemindars of India, and Sir S. P. Sinha, the people of India in general. It speaks volumes to the fairness and earnest desire of the Indian Government to do justice to all interests concerned that they selected the best and the safest men available to represent India in those Conferences. Sir James Meston is the Lieutenant Governor of the United Provinces and the best type of an English Civilian, the Maharaja of Bikaner is an enlightened Indian ruling Prince, and Sir S. P. Sinha was not only the Advocate-General of Bengal and the first Indian Member of the Executive Council of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, but also the President of the Indian National Congress of 1915.

Till lately the agitation in India for political reforms was confined to the educated portion of the Hindus, while the bulk of the Mohammedans and the Princes and Chiefs were inimical to those movements. Although the Indians have secured certain amount of reforms on account of their persistent constitutional agitations, yet the authorities have always made it an excuse, for not granting the full measure of reforms asked for, that the Mohammedans, the princes, and the aristocracy of India are opposed to the granting of such privileges. The times have, however, entirely changed. The Indian National Congress representing the educated Indian community and the All-India Muslim League, representing the wealth and intelligence of that community are now working in union and have passed identical resolutions demanding self-Government for India within the British Empire. The greatest of agreeable surprises are the pronouncements and attitude of Indian Chiefs in regard to political reforms in India.

At the farewell functions held in honour of the appointment of the Maharaja of Bikaner as one of the Delegates to the Imperial Conference, just before he left for England, not only His Highness but also some fellow Princes gave utterance to very patriotic and progressive sentiments which elicited general admiration and approval. His Highness, since his arrival in England, has been much in evidence and his utterances have been characterised by very broad, liberal and statesmanlike views which are deservedly appreciated in England as well as in India. The nationalist papers in India are naturally jubilant over His Highness' speeches delivered in England and comment on them with very great appreciation and delight as the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" has done.

Surely India has a bright future before her. She has made such sacrifices in men and money on account of the war as to deserve additional privileges being conferred on her. It is noteworthy that the Indian War Loan which was estimated to produce £10,000,000, or 150 lakhs of rupees is likely to realise very nearly double that amount. His Majesty the King as well as responsible British Statesmen have already admitted the claims of the Indians for being given a larger share in the Government of their country, after the war.

THE RELIGION OF THE ANCIENT
TAMILS.

(By S. Sabaratna Mudaliyar.)

PART THIRD.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

THE ARYAN VIEW OF THE CASTE
SYSTEM.

I have already said that the Aryan views I am referring to in these columns are the views held by the Brahmins of South India in the name of the Aryans; and I therefore wish that the readers will bear in mind that my remarks are applicable mainly to the Brahmins of South India.

The religion of the Tamils—the Saiva Siddhanta—makes it very clear that the caste system is intended to regulate the social life of man so long as he remains in the material plane, and that it does not apply at all to those that have transcended that plane. A Gnani who has extric-

ated himself from the clutches of the material plane does not fall under the working of the caste rules, and he has to be revered even by the best of Brahmins, although by birth he may belong to the lowest caste. The Aryan religion, or what I may call the Vedic religion, is itself in full consonance in this respect with what is known as the Agamanta or Saiva Siddhanta; and authorities could be quoted largely from the Puranas and Smritis in support of this view.

Ancient Aryan Rishis such as Parasara and Vyasa, Vasishtha and Visvamitra were not high up in society by birth, and still they have been highly respected and revered by all the Aryans on account of their Brahmaguna or spiritual advancement. So were the Tamil saints Tiru Navukkarasar and Tiruvalluvar, Nanthar and Kannappar. Suntharar, a Brahmin by birth venerated the several Saints mentioned in the Periyapuram; and in his Tiruttondattokai he calls himself a servant of all of them among whom there were Pariahs and Dhobies, Potters and Channers. Tirugnanasambantha the most renowned Brahmin saint is said to have fallen at the feet of the Vellala Saint Tiruvalluvar and worshipped him. Apputhinayanar a Brahmin by birth, worshipped the same Vellala Saint Tiruvalluvar and even dined with him. Arulnathisvacharya was a Brahmin of great learning and he still worshipped the Vellala Saint Meikandathevar, and even held him as his Guru. So did Umapati Sivachariar one of the high class Brahmins of Chitamparam in South India. He is said to have become so much enamoured of his Guru Maraignanasambantha that he received into his hands the liquid food that spilt from the hands of Maraignanasambantha and sipped it.

The present day Brahmins, however think that their superiority should be maintained over the Gnani themselves. They do not seem to realize the fact that their superiority over the other caste men is owing to the dawn of Satwa Guna in them and that if they are found to be possessed of no Satwa Guna they cannot be recognized as Brahmins.

மற்றும் பிறர் தமது உயர்வுகூறிய பாரம்பரிய சிறப்பை மீட்டிக் கொடுக்க முன்வருவார்களாக.

If a man is really possessed of any Satvic influence, he will not hesitate to respect and revere the Gnani on whom the Grace of God fully radiates, whatever may be their caste; and if there are any Brahmins who hesitate to do so, they must certainly be said to be possessed of no Satwa Guna which only will entitle them to be called Brahmins.

There is another idea prevailing among the Brahmins of South India that, as a class, they belong to the Aryan stock, and that there were no Brahmins among the Tamils. This I should think, is a great mistake. The Tamils had their own Brahmins, and this is quite apparent from the ancient Tamil classics. Sankaracharya a great authority for the modern Brahmins calls Tirugnanasambantha "a Dravidyan Child". Sambantha was a Brahmin by birth and it is therefore very plain that there were Brahmins among the Tamils. Sankaracharya himself was a Brahmin of South India,—and as such of Dravidyan origin.

Brahmins of course enjoy the exclusive privilege of officiating in temples. This is a function entirely in the material plane to which the caste system is fully applicable. But in the spiritual plane, distinctions are observed by Diksha or initiation and not by caste. People of all the four castes are entitled to this initiation according to the progress made by them in the spiritual plane. The Sudra can himself perform what is known as Annamtha Pooja, although the Brahmin alone is qualified to perform the Parantha Pooja, or the Pooja in temples for the use of the Public. According to Sivagamas, even a Sudra can become the spiritual Guru of a Brahmin, provided that the former is more advanced in the plane of spirituality than the latter.

The Brahmins of the present day try to ignore the law of the spiritual distinction laid down by the religion and to maintain their superiority even in that plane. In the material plane, the Brahmin is supposed to have attained the Satwa grade of the Rajasic sphere and he is therefore placed over the rest of the people in the material plane in whom Tamara and Rajas preponderate. These Guna powers are gauged by the law of nature that appertains to the material plane, and it is therefore that the caste system is regulated by birth right. But to the man in the spiritual plane the material law is quite inapplicable as he is above the sphere of Guna power, and if at all he has in him any influence of that power, it is that of Satwa of the Satvic

sphere. The Brahmin is not so. Although he has Satwa in him his Satwa belongs to the sphere of Rajas—and he is governed by the law of Rajas—and as such by the law of the material plane. The Religion therefore lays its down that the distinctions in the higher plane of spirituality have to be reckoned by Diksha and not by caste.

சாதிப்படிதான் சமயமே அறிதல்—சமயத்தினால் சாதி அமைந்திருக்கிறது, யுத்தி, அனுபவம் மூலம் நனுகூறும் விதேயமாக.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER.—There is a lull in the blowing of the South West wind. Yesterday a light shower of rain fell in some parts of the District.

JAFFNA DISTRICT COURT. HOUSE.—A temporary shed is being erected on the Espinade for use as court house while the permanent building is under repairs.

A BOAT ACCIDENT.—A boat laden with two hundred bags of rice struck against a signpost on its way from Kayts to Jaffna and sank to the bottom. The bags of rice have been recovered.

THE SARASWATI VILASA SABHA, JAFFNA.—The annual meeting of the Saraswati Vilasa Sabha, Jaffna will be held at the Ridgeway Hall on Friday the 18th instant at 6.30 P. M. The next day the anniversary celebration will take place when the Sabha will be "At Home" to its friends and well-wishers from 5.30 to 6.30 P. M. at the Ridgeway Hall. The guests will be entertained to a dramatic performance from 7 to 9 P. M. when ladies will be welcome.

PERSONAL.—Mr. James Hetaman has gone to Madras on a visit.

—Messrs. V R Page and C Sivacolundu who had come here on account of the illness and subsequent death of Mr. Gooneratnam returned to Colombo last week.

—Mr. R. A. Naganabhar, of Vaddukoddai, Jaffna, who has been a Surveyor in the P. W. D., F. M. S., and one of the most prominent Jaffnese Officers in F. M. S. is retiring from service and is expected to return to Jaffna shortly.

—Mr. C. O. A. Brito Muttunayagam, B. A., B. C. L., (Oxon), Barrister-at-Law, appeared before the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Shaw on the 14th instant and took his oaths as an Advocate of the S. C. Their lordships wished him success. The new Advocate is a son of Mr. Muttunayagam, Judge of the High Court of Travancore, and a grandson of the late Mr. Christopher Brito, Advocate.

"CEYLONESE" LIBEL ACTION.—The hearing of this case in Appeal was resumed yesterday. The Appeal was dismissed.

CLOSING TIME FOR ARRACK TAVERNS DECIDED.—Six Advisory Board meetings were held at the Colombo Kachcheri on the 12th instant at 10.30 A. M. to consider the time for closing arrack taverns. It was finally decided that all arrack taverns with the exception of those within the Municipal limits of Colombo and the limits of the Local Board at Negombo, should be closed at 7 P. M. and open at 8 A. M. The taverns within the Colombo Municipal and Negombo Local Board limits are to open at the same time, viz., at 8 A. M. but close half-an-hour later, viz., at 7.30 P. M. The closing and opening time for foreign liquor taverns will also be changed, but this was not considered at the meetings. The closing time for taverns does not interfere with toddy rents as they have already been sold for this year. The arrack rents will be put up for sale commencing on the 22nd.

Y. M. H. A. (VADDUKODAI).—A lecture in Tamil on "the efficacy of Prayer" was delivered in the Hindu English Institute Hall on the 15th instant by Pandit K. Somasundaram Pillai of the Institute. Mr. K. O. Nathan offered remarks. There is to be a meeting of the Executive Committee on the 16th to fix a date for the annual general meeting and to consider other matters if there be any.

—Cor.
OBITUARY.—We regret to record the death of Mr. M. Ambalavanar, father of Mr. A. Ariakutty, Head Clerk, Fiscal's Office, Jaffna, and father in law of Mr. T. H. Crosette, Principal, Manipal Hindu College, and of Mr. G. O. Thambiah, Advocate, which took place on the 10th instant at the ripe age of 72.

A NEW PEST IN CEYLON.—Pointed and serious attention of all planters in Ceylon has to be drawn to a new pest which has made its appearance here. It is commonly known as the Fluted Scale (Icerya Purchasi) and belongs to that class of insect in which the mouth parts are fused and prolonged into a sucking beak. Hence they are known as plant lice. It is one of the largest scale insects and the most conspicuous. Mr. E. R. Speyer—the acting Entomologist—is of opinion, after considering all the evidence, that the probable home of this insect was originally Australia whence it was imported in 1865 to California, on acacia latifolia, and spread as one of the most serious pests known to Citrus trees. In Australia, though a considerable pest on species of Acacia and on Citrus, a good control of it was maintained by indigenous parasitic flies, and also by predatory lady-bird beetles, consignments of which had since 1888 been sent to California with varying success and reared by the U. S.

Department of Agriculture and members of the U. S. Horticultural Commission at the Sacramento Botanic Gardens. In the same year parasites and predators were introduced to New Zealand where Acacias and Citrus were suffering heavily, both from Australia and South Africa. In the U. S. A. the Citrus industry was threatened in 1888 to such an extent that farmers seriously proposed cutting down their trees, and others were even forced to abandon fruit-growing. In Ceylon apart from possible damage to fruit trees, due to the fruit buds being pierced and sucked, and a temporary weakening of Acacias by vast numbers of insects extracting the sap from branches and trunk, there are agricultural products, an attack on which would not be welcomed. Though controlled during the North-East Monsoon in the Ambawala, Hewabeta and Galaha districts, and apparently just before that monsoon in the Agra-patana, by a parasitic fungus, *Cephalosporium*, the increase of the pest is considerable at other times. There are indigenous lady birds feeding on the pest at Peradeniya and at Ambawala, but they are few in numbers at present. The chances of spontaneous natural extermination are therefore small, and for some time an increase, rather than a decrease, is to be expected. Mr. Speyer appeals to Agriculturists in Ceylon to help him to control the pest before it touches economic products. —"The Ceylon Observer".

Y. M. H. A. (CENTRAL)

Lectures.—Mr. E. K. Sivasubramanian, B. A., will continue his Vivekananda Series on Friday, 18th instant in the Central Hall. —Mr. M. S. Eiatamby delivered a Tamil lecture in the Y. M. H. A. Chiviyatara on the 12th instant.

Bajana.—The weekly Bajana is being held regularly.

Initiation.—On the 12th instant at the Vidyheswara Vidyasayam, 81 students were initiated. In the evening S. Saravetna Mudaliyar addressed an enthusiastic gathering on Samaya Dheeksha.

—On the 7th instant 31 students were initiated in the Copay branch.

Anti-animal Sacrifice.—The Secretary Jiva Daya Section convened a successful meeting of the leading residents of Araly yesterday in the Kautthapurana Madam of the Amman Temple at Araly to concert measures to put down the evil practice of animal sacrifice in the temple. In view of the approaching sacrifice in this temple several interested gentlemen were present and took part in the discussion. S. Sabaratna Mudiyar presided and addressed those present in elegant and impressive Tamil. He was followed by Mr. Advocate C. Arulampalam, Thambiah Upathiyayar and Messrs S. Ramalingam and M. S. R. Singha, B. A. At the close of the meeting several people came forward and expressed their willingness to co-operate with the movement; one laid himself prostrate on the ground and expressed his gratitude to the organisers of the campaign. It was resolved to hold frequent meetings at Araly. Among those present were, S. Sabaratna Mudaliyar, Messrs W. Duraiswamy, C. Arulampalam, M. S. Eiatamby, Advocates, S. Kandiah, Proctor, S. Thuraiappah, Fiscal's Office, S. T. Chittampalam, H. M. Oustoms, M. S. R. Singha, B. A., M. Selvadurai, S. Eiyappah and C. Chellappah Udayar. Another meeting will be held on Monday at Araly.

Branches.—A branch Association has been started at Colombogam. —Cor.

THE INDIAN DEMANDS.

Within the 288 pages of this handy volume is compressed almost everything that is worth knowing about Indian political questions, especially in connection with the Indian demand for Self government within the Empire. The introduction written by Mr. G. A. Natesan, the publisher of the volume, gives an epitome of the whole question. The memorandum of the nineteen elected non-official members of the Imperial Legislative Council on post war reforms in the Government of India and the opinions on it of about 42 leading Indian politicians; the scheme of Reforms presented by the Indian National Congress and the Moslem League, and the speeches delivered and criticisms offered by eminent Indians in this connection, comprise the body of the volume. There are nine appendices dealing with important political questions. Appendix III giving the published views of 24 eminent British Statesmen on India and the War, delivered on important occasions, should impress the reader with the high sense of justice, noble motives and love of liberty that animated the minds of British Statesmen in their dealings with India from the very early times of British rule. Appendix VII giving brief accounts of the seven Indians who have won the Victoria Cross in the present War, is also very interesting. We recommend this volume to the careful perusal of all educated Ceylonese. (Price Re 1 G. A. Natesan & Co. Madras)

INDUSTRIAL AND SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIPS IN TRAVANCORE.—In Travancore a system of foreign scholarships to enable young men to be trained in foreign countries for industrial, technical and commercial pursuits was inaugurated in August 1916. In ac-

cordance with this system it is offering this year six scholarships, four of which will be tenable for two years each in England and the other two for a like period in India. The foreign scholarships are for students who will specialise in (1) weaving and dyeing, (2) chemical industry, (3) soap-making, and (4) leather and tanning. The scholarships are of the annual value of £150, exclusive of passage money and college tuition fees. The two other scholarships will be worth Rs. 50 each, exclusive of tuition or college fees. These are tenable in India and will be awarded to students who will specialise in wood distillation and manufacture of shellac, sealing wax, etc. —Indian Review.

THE GWALIOR STATE TRUST, LTD.—His Highness the Maharaja Scindia has recently announced the formation of a new enterprise known as the "Gwalior State Trust, Limited." The objects for which the company is established are:—(1) To assist in every way possible the development of industry and commerce in the Gwalior State. (2) To render financial or any other assistance in commercial enterprises and in the creating of new manufactures and in the fostering and development of industries already in existence in the Gwalior State and (3) to encourage and foster in the Gwalior State the increased use of up-to-date machinery in agriculture and similar industries hitherto dependant on manual labour. —Ibid.

SOAP INDUSTRY IN BARODA.—An attempt is being made by the Baroda Darbar to develop the soap and oil industries in the State. With a view to assist the development of these industries, the Darbar has appointed Mr. J. Chakrabaty, F. C. S., Technical Chemist of the University of Paris, as expert adviser. Mr. Chakrabaty has for about five years been the Managing Director and Chemist of the Oriental Soap Factory at Calcutta, and in 1915 was engaged by the Mysore State to investigate the possibilities of the soap industry in that State. His experiments proved successful, as a result of which the Mysore State started a soap factory at Bangalore. —Ibid.

WAR AND MYSORE INDUSTRY.—A striking instance of the development of an Indian industry as the direct result of the war is found in the Mysore State. Prior to the outbreak of hostilities, the State derived a considerable revenue from sandalwood which was disposed of at periodical sales, principally for shipment to Germany. With the advent of war, buyers failed to appear at the sale and Mr. Alfred Chatterton, Director of Industries and Commerce, accordingly sought the assistance of the chemists of the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore, with a view to establishing a sandalwood oil industry in Mysore and thus utilising the raw material formerly shipped to Germany. As the outcome of the experiments made in the laboratory at Bangalore, it was found practicable to inaugurate such an industry, and within a brief period, the works were so greatly extended that the manufacture of the oil is now yielding a monthly revenue of Rs. 1½ lakhs. The co-operation of the Institute of Science was essential to this development and the profits derived from the industry within a single year, it is said, will almost equal the whole amount so far expended on the Institute. The value of a well-equipped scientific institution is forcibly illustrated in this case. Sandalwood, which was formerly exported for the manufacture of oil, is now profitably treated in India and the loss of the German manufacturers means a corresponding gain to an enterprising Indian State. —Ibid.

NEW INDUSTRY IN HYDERABAD.—Great progress, we are told, has been made in Hyderabad in making motor spirit from the mahua. The tree abounds in the State and the authorities gather about 25,000 tons of its flowers every year. Some 10,000 tons are used for liquor, leaving a balance of 15,000 tons which are at present on the market. Mr. G. E. C. Wakefield, the Director-General of Revenue, says:—"We have run several kinds of motor cars successfully for some time on a spirit prepared from mahua at half the cost of petrol. Annual consumption of petrol in Hyderabad and Secunderabad is about 100,000 gallons and we require only about 1,500 tons of mahua to make that quantity." Mr. Wakefield adds: "A cheap motor spirit spells great reduction in the working charges of railways, water pumps, motor cars, in fact every description of power engine." —Ibid.

SIGHT FOR THE BLIND.—Dr. E. E. Fournier d'Albe has invented an instrument, the Optophone, which consists of a small "siren" disc illuminated by a straight Nernst light; an optical arrangement for projecting an image of the line of luminous dots furnished upon the type to be read; a set of selenium or antimonite bridges exposed to the light reflected by the type; a Brown "wireless" telephone relay connected with these bridges; and the telephone receiver used for reading. What happens is this: the reader clamps the wireless receiver to his ears, passes the paper slowly before him on a little table, switches on the current, and listens intently. As each letter comes within the radius of the siren a certain note sounds in the ear. The actual sound heard depends upon the shape of the letter. —Ibid.

A GREAT DISCOVERY.—The *British Medical Journal* gives an account of a discovery which is of surpassing interest to doctors and of immense importance to the world at large. It is understood that the discovery is quite as important as the X-rays and much more remarkable. With the X-ray, in a darkened chamber, and with elaborate apparatus, it is possible to obtain pictures of the bones and more solid substances contained in the body, by means of the new discovery de-

tailed pictures can be obtained in broad daylight of any organ of the body, brain, liver, kidneys, spleen, etc. Pictures can also be obtained of abscesses of the liver, cuts or wounds in any organ. This wonderful result is achieved by utilising the electricity which the body is believed to generate. The discoverer of this wonderful aid to surgery is stated to be James Shearer, aged 30, a sergeant in the Royal Army Medical Corps. He is a Scotsman who graduated M. D. and Ch. M. at the University of Washington. —Ibid.

THE MAHARAJA OF BIKANER ON HOME RULE IN INDIA.

The official opponents of the Home Rule propaganda in this country would do well and wisely to read, mark, and inwardly digest the extremely significant speech delivered by His Highness the Maharaja Sahab of Bikaner at the lunch given by the Empire Parliamentary Association to the Indian and Dominion delegates to the Imperial War Conference. Speaking of the Maharaja Sahab, the Secretary of State for India correctly described him as "a soldier and a statesman as he has shown at the deliberations of the Conference and as a contributor to one of the many forces now upholding the banner of the Empire."

In course of his reply the Maharaja Sahab made it very clear that the larger statesmanship in India is at all times ready and eager to render all the service it can to the Emperor and the Empire "whose welfare both for loyal and patriotic reasons and for motives of enlightened self-interest was a matter of abiding concern" to the people of India. "The millions of Indian people," His Highness declared, "are loyal to the core" while the Ruling Princes and Chiefs of India, though not technically a part of British India were proud of their unique position in the Empire and yielded to none in their loyalty to the King-Emperor.

It will thus be seen that in the political philosophy of the Maharaja Sahab, loyalty and patriotism have been fully reconciled. Every sane Indian politician seeks to complete and strengthen this reconciliation by harmonising the highest interests of the Indian peoples with those of the great Empire to which they belong. The Indians are loyal to the British Connection, as the Maharaja Sahab rightly puts it, "for loyal and patriotic reasons and for motives of enlightened self-interest." We wish the Indian Bureaucracy as clearly understood this simple fact as His Highness does; for just a little understanding of it would help to reconcile it to every progressive and evolutionary political movement in this country and remove the unfortunate conflict that exists at present between itself and the leaders of the people.

But the most significant statement made by His Highness was in reference to what we generally characterise as Home Rule. His Highness, for obvious reasons, did not use the word Home Rule, it is true; but what he said practically amounted to a demand for Home Rule for the people of India. "Subject to her profound veneration for the Emperor," His Highness declared, "and her constant concern for the welfare of the Empire, India desired, with the guidance and help of Britain, materially to advance on constitutional lines in regard to matters political and economic, and ultimately attain under the standard of the King-Emperor the freedom and autonomy which her more fortunate sister Dominions enjoyed." The "freedom and autonomy" which the Dominions enjoy, is summed up in the word Home Rule; and here in the frank, though necessarily guarded, testimony of one of the chief Ruling Princes of India, who has been chosen by the Government to represent this country at the Imperial War Conference, and whose knowledge of the country he represents cannot be questioned, whose statesmanship is recognised by the Secretary of State for India,—we find an unerring proof of the Home Rule sentiment of the country.

And His Highness spoke here not only for British India, but practically also for his own class and their own subjects. The statement of the Maharaja Sahab of Bikaner is a most convincing proof, if proof were needed, of the absolute unreality of the contention that the Ruling Princes and Chiefs of India do not, and cannot view with sympathy the movement for democratic self government in British India. His Highness the Maharaja Sahab distinctly said, indeed that "The Indian States, several of which had already representative Government, would rejoice at any political advance in British India."

And it is really here, in this declaration of the sympathy of the Ruling Princes of India with the movement of self-government in British India, inside the federation of the British Empire, that one must recognise the far seeing statesmanship of the Maharaja Sahab. Every intelligent Ruling Prince in India fully realises that the future of his own dynasty and State is indissolubly bound up with that of British India. Discontent in British India will prejudicially affect their own principalities, as contentment and peaceful and evolutionary progress in British India towards the fullest measure of national autonomy will be the greatest guarantee of the peace and progress of their own dominions. All India today is one, such as perhaps she had never been before, British India and the "Indian States" form parts of one organic whole. The Indian Ruling Princes and Chiefs cannot conceive of the possibility of maintaining their own position and safeguarding their rights without the help, sympathy, and friendly co-operation of British India, any more than the people of British India can hope to realise their highest political destiny without the help and sympathy and active co-operation of the Indian States. This is why His Highness desires the gradual advance of British India to complete Home Rule such as is enjoyed by the overseas Dominions of Great Britain.

The subtle irony of the incidental reference to the existence of representative Government in several Indian States is simply inimitable. It offers a volume of comment on the contention of those who refuse to admit India's claim and qualification for self rule. The British rulers of India claim to have established a progressive and modern system of Government in the country. They claim almost complete success in their efforts towards the introduction of modern ideas and methods of government in this old and mediaeval land. And yet, while general Indian States governed by their hereditary rulers, have

already started and have been successfully working representative institutions. British India with all the benefits of the direct administration of its British rulers, is declared to be unfit for these institutions. What a sad commentary is this on all the claims put forward by the Bureaucracy in behalf of their rule!

The fact of the matter, however, is that whatever the Indian Bureaucracy might say or do, there is a universal desire in the country for Home Rule. The passion for self government has possessed both princes and peasants alike. The duty of real statesmanship is to freely and frankly recognise this fact; and so to guide and shape this great national aspiration for political and economic freedom that it may be a bond of union between India and the Empire, and not be driven to any suicidal separatist channel. We want the present rulers of India to understand this simple fact, and treat the Home Rule movement, of which even men like the Maharaja of Bikaner are honest and frank advocates, with sympathy and consideration, and unconsciously help the solitary Indian revolutionary by seeking to suppress this legitimate and constitutional and imperial propaganda. The speech of the Maharaja Sahab of Bikaner ought in any case to convince every official of the extreme unwisdom of trying to repress the Home Rule Movement.

MALAYA LETTER.

MY MAIL BAG.—My Dear L.—Although it's such a long time since I came here yet there seem to be fellows in the F. M. S. who expect me to go back to them. I never have told them I was coming back but certainly they ought to know. And some of those dear chaps have reason to expect me, and indeed I see one or two eagerly await my return. You know T. K., that little fellow like a medicine jar, he writes to me that he has been hoping to get home every month these two years, and has incidentally had a half dozen farewell dinners given him. But he can't get away until he auctions away his things and the auction won't come off unless I am there, for when my things were auctioned he was one of the most prominent buyers and helped me to the tune of close on two hundred dollars. A dilapidated old umbrella he knocked down for \$18.50, while a bicycle whose front wheel had disappeared in an encounter with a gharry, and complete except for the seat, the chain, a few spokes in the back wheel and the mudguards, fetched me from the same selfless source the modest sum of seventy-five dollars. There is nothing out of the common in such a man expecting me to be present at his auction. Don't be surprised, my dear boy, at the fabulous figures connected with these helpful auctions of ours. I hear from him K. S. cleared 1200 in his, only a couple of months ago. It is a record considering the things, or rather the want of things, lucky K. S. gloried in. He is said to have sold a quantity of little plants playfully planted by his little girl of four, and a goat that happened to stray into his compound while the auction was on. I knew he would do that. Guess where he comes from? * * * Do you note the activity of men and women here these days. The papers are filled with reports of the varied and usually spasmodic efforts at reform. They want this, they want that, and they want everything all of a sudden and suppose they are ripe for the things they want. But one thing is plain, however much it may hurt you to hear it from me that Hindu activity is modelled on Christian example. We lend the way and you follow, then why not formally declare yourselves adherents of our faith? * * * That girl of mine (I thought she was a "queen" once upon a time—L) has slipped out of my mind as she has out of my hands. It's a long story etc. Ta Ta.

Yours as ever
Henry.

NOTES AT RANDOM.—Compelled by the inexorable force of War the adaptation of the Western nations to food regulation has taken the euphemistic title of Food Reform. One doubts if continued peace would have made this "reform" possible. There is a Food Reform Society in Singapore and its activities are in the direction of Vegetarian diet. Where actual scientific investigation of the value of vegetarian food failed to convince the conditions of War succeed!

"Wreckless Submarinism" is a headline we read in a daily. "Won't Do any Harm" will be a suitable sub-heading.

The tentacles of the War income tax are spreading on us, but there is a feeling that the burden is less on paying out than on filling up the many documents connected therewith!

Lens, we see, is now in the hands of the Allies. They can focus it on the Kaiser!

The news that the Germans are extracting oil from human corpses need not cause much surprise.

"Dust thou art, to dust returnest"
Was not spoken of the German!

Renter's statement that a preparation of these human corpses is used as food for pigs is informative. It is the biped variety that is meant!

"Naughty girls puffing cigarettes and sipping claret are doomed to have undainty little moustaches" says an American doctor. It's but another step in the attempt to entirely replace men.

Observant men think that the employment of women to do the work of men that have gone to the front is presenting a serious social problem in that the woman readily take to all the idiosyncracies and vices of men in their new environments. They are found to lose their individuality as women, and adapt themselves to masculine manners and ways. And when these new-made man-women have the effect, as a doctor seems to think, of gradually wiping out the nine elements in women, or unsexing the problem of population becomes as a solution as ever—at least in England.

Singapore,
5th May, 1917.

LANKA

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

The War.

THE BRITISH FRONT.

London, May 11.
F.-M. Sir J. D. Haig reports:—The Germans attacked last evening Eastward of Arleux and Southward of Souchez River. They were repulsed by Artillery and machine-gun fire. We drove off a later attempt assisted by *flammenwerfer* Southward of the Souchez River. We successfully carried out a night raid Eastward of Ypres.

A DING DONG STRUGGLE.

London, May 11.
F.-M. Sir J. D. Haig says:—The enemy early in the morning launched a third attack using *flammenwerfer* Southward of the Souchez River. After three hours severe fighting the weight of repeated assaults compelled our posts to withdraw on a portion of the front. Our counter-attack this afternoon recaptured the whole of the lost trenches. The enemy's losses in the three attacks were heavy. Our positions are unchanged. Three German aeroplanes were brought down on Thursday and three driven down. Two of ours are missing.

A FURTHER ATTACK: ALL OBJECTIVES GAINED.

London, May 12.
F.-M. Sir J. D. Haig says:—We successfully attacked last night and this morning the Hindenburg Line in the neighbourhood of Bullecourt. We also got astride the Arras Cambrai road and Northward of the Scarpe, gaining all objectives. We took prisoner some hundreds. Local fighting resulted in our favour at night Eastward of Lempire. We also carried out successful raids Eastward of Ypres.

BULLECOURT OCCUPIED.

London, May 18.
F.-M. Sir J. D. Haig says:—Further details of last night's attacks confirm the success of the operations. Considerable enemy forces were observed last evening to be massing for a counter-attack in the neighbourhood of Bullecourt. They were effectively dealt with by the Artillery. Their attack did not develop. We attacked later and after fighting all night long established ourselves in Bullecourt village. The fighting continues. The enemy's attack upon our new positions were scattered by Artillery. We captured, astride the Arras-Cambrai road, 1,200 yards of trench, including a strong Cavalry farm position. We stormed last night Roex Cemetery and chemical works further Northward and continued to advance today, carrying positions in this neighbourhood on a front of 1½ mile. We took 700 prisoners and a number of trench-mortars and machine-guns. We destroyed yesterday seven German aeroplanes. Five were driven down uncontrollable. Four of ours are missing.

GREATER PART OF BULLECOURT HELD.

London, May 14.
F.-M. Sir J. D. Haig says:—This morning we repulsed two counter-attacks upon the positions of the Hindenburg line Eastward of Bullecourt. The Australians in the past ten days gallantly maintained their positions in this sector, repelling at least twelve determined counter-attacks. We hold the greater part of Bullecourt. We today established ourselves in the western houses of Roex. We again progressed on the Western slopes of Greenland Hill. We destroyed six German aeroplanes and drove down five uncontrollable. Six of ours are missing.

THE FRENCH FRONT.

London, May 11.
A French *communiqué* reports:—We carried the centre of resistance in the region of Chevreux. Grenade counter-attacks broke down under our fire. We repulsed a stronger attack on the salient North-East of California plateau after lively fighting in which the enemy suffered serious losses. There was a lively Artillery duel on Cerny-Hurbise front.

ENEMY ATTACKS SHATTERED.

London, May 12.
A French *communiqué* says:—After a violent bombardment in the region of Cerny-en-Laonnois enemy attacks on both sides of the village were shattered by our Artillery and machine guns. The enemy gained a footing of 200 metres in the trenches West of the village, but were immediately driven out. There was violent cannonading on this part of front. We brought down five enemy aeroplanes. Four others were forced down seriously damaged.

RAIDS IN ALSACE.

A French *communiqué* says:—The batteries carried out a destructive fire against German organisations and blew up a munitions depot North-East of Wovincourt on the left of the Meuse. The Artillery duel was violent all night. Detachments penetrated the German line North of Bezouvaux and at various points in Alsace. We took prisoners.

THE BALKANS.

London, May 11.
A Bulgarian *communiqué* gives a long account of the fighting West and North of Monastir. It singles out the British attacks South of Doiran which it describes as most persistent, four being made between nine in the evening and two in the morning. It admits the British twice penetrated their positions but asserts that they were ejected by counter-attacks.

THE FRENCH PROGRESS.

London, May 11.
A French Macedonian *communiqué* says:—West of the Vardar over most difficult ground we brilliantly captured Skadiliegen, South of Huma, repulsing violent Bulgarian counter-attacks. There was lively Artillery fire in the Cerna bend and the sector of Monastir. In the fighting of May 10 11th the Allies captured 853 prisoners and three machine guns. The enemy losses were considerable.

A British Salonika despatch reports:—The enemy on Wednesday night South-Westward of Doiran and obtained a momentary footing on Rodie's Hill. Our counter-attack immediately drove him out. We repulsed an attack on May 11th, inflicting losses. Our aeroplanes carried out four successful bombing raids dropping quantities of explosives on dug outs, dumps and transport.

U-BOATS GERMANY'S LAST HOPE.

London, May 10.
Amsterdam.—That the submarines are Germany's last hope is admitted by Admiral Von Capelle in his speech on the estimates in the Reichstag. He said thousands of workers are producing new and improved submarines and new material for torpedoes and mines. Officers and men are growing for submarine service. He admitted losses occurred as the enemies' defences are increasing in quality and quantity, but it was not a radical remedy against the submarines. He said every departing crew was animated with the consciousness that everything was at stake. The submarines, which are striking at the vital centre of our farthest enemy, are a guarantee of our holding out. The Socialist, Brandes, warned him that discontent among workmen in the shipyards would increase. Von Capelle admitted disturbances had occurred.

FRENCH SUBMARINE LOSSES.

Paris.—In the week ending May 6th the arrivals of merchantmen were 940 and departures 980. Sunk were one over and seven under 1,500 tons. Six merchantmen were unsuccessfully attacked and five fishing boats sunk.

CHANGE IN RUSSIAN MILITARY CONTROL.

London, May 11.
The Provisional Government has relieved General Ruzsky of the Command of the Northern Front, retaining him as a member of the Council of Empire and the War Council.

RUSSIA'S DUMA ANNIVERSARY.

London, May 11.
Petrograd.—The anniversary of the opening of the first Duma was celebrated by an extraordinary sitting of the members of all the Dumas, attended by members of the Government and diplomats. M. Rodzianko's speech was loudly cheered. When he repudiated the idea of a separate Peace and declared Russia's loyalty to the Allies, the assemblage rose and ovated the Allied Ambassadors.

FORTNIGHTLY MAIL FOR INDIA.

Calcutta, May 12.
The Government of India have decided, after consultation with the Secretary of State, to have a fortnightly instead of a weekly mail service, which will commence probably at the beginning of June from England, and a month later from India. This is being done in order to economise British shipping throughout the World.

BRITISH TRADE RETURNS.

London, May 11.
The exports for April show a decrease in value of £1,018,873 sterling and the imports an increase of £3,889,014 compared with April 1916.

BALFOUR MISSION IN NEW YORK.

London, May 12.
New York.—Enormous enthusiasm marked the arrival of Mr. Balfour and his Mission. The streets were packed with cheering crowds. The Mayor, in receiving them at the City Hall, expressed his admiration and thanks to the British Navy for keeping open the seas for American commerce. He also thanked the Armies of Britain, Canada and other Colonies. Mr. Balfour was much moved when he replied briefly and said that, if possible, the people at home-land could have a glimpse of the scene it would inspire them to fresh enthusiasm.

A MEMORABLE LUNCHEON.

London, May 13.
New York.—The Chamber of Commerce luncheon to the British Mission was memorable owing to the fact that American financiers and business men of worldwide note cast aside their accustomed work and acclaimed Mr. Balfour as a friend of the United States. Mr. Balfour responding to the toast, said his life dream had been that the English-speaking and liberty-loving branches of mankind should be drawn closer and all temporary causes of difference seen in their true perspective. He had been and would remain unalterably faithful to the ideal of American friendship. Shouts of "No!" greeted Mr. Balfour's question: "Does anyone think if sea power were transferred to German hands it would be exercised on behalf of human freedom?" Mr. Balfour continued that the German fleet was deliberately brought into existence in the hope of crushing the Naval power which German autocracy recognises as one of the great bulwarks of freedom and one of the most perfect defences against world domination.

GREAT ENTHUSIASM.

London, May 13.
New York.—Unforgettable scenes marked the great banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel to the Anglo-French Missions. The Mayor declared that nothing in the civic life of the city since the visit of Lafayette had equalled the magnitude of the reception of their guests because of what their respective nations had done for human liberty and self-government. Mr. Choate, ex-Ambassador to London, referred to "Those dear Allies of ours, Great Britain, our beloved mother-country, and France, our fascinating, hypnotising sister." Mr. Balfour aroused great enthusiasm when he declared a crisis had been reached when the whole of civilisation must rise up and voice its appeal for the preservation of human liberty. "Unless all who love liberty unite, we shall be destroyed piecemeal."

Washington.—The Mission to Russia includes Major-General Scott, Chief of Staff, and Admiral Glennon.

U. S. A. SOCIALISTS AND THE WAR.

London, May 13.
New York.—Prominent Socialists have sent a message to the Socialists in Stockholm, Copenhagen, The Hague and Bern requesting them to forward it to the Socialists of Germany declaring that the Democracy of the world would continue to fight Germany till the Hohenzollerns were overthrown. The signatories include Mr. Russell, a member of the Mission to Russia.

KING TO TOUR INDUSTRIAL AREAS.

London, May 12.
The King and Queen make a tour of the Northern industrial areas next week.

CONTROLLER OF THE NAVY.

London, May 12.
The Daily Mail says:—Sir Eric Geddes has been appointed Controller of the Navy.

London, May 13.
The Times says the reorganisation of the Admiralty is complete. The First, Second and Fourth Sea Lords will be relieved of departmental work connected with the provision of material. The civil administration will now devote its whole attention to strategy in consultation with the First Lords. Simultaneously the office of Controller of the Navy will be revived and probably filled by an eminent civilian.

BOMBARDMENT OF ZEEBRUGGE.

London, May 13.
The Admiralty reports that a portion of our Dover forces successfully carried out yesterday morning a very heavy bombardment of Zeebrugge. The Naval Air Service co-operated. Over fifteen aerial combats were fought in which four of the enemy's machines were destroyed and five driven down uncontrolled. Two of ours are missing, one of which landed in Holland and was interned.

Flushing.—There was heavy firing and bombing for hours yesterday morning in the direction of Zeebrugge. Reports from the frontier state that warships and aircraft attacked Zeebrugge from three till eight in the morning. The bombardment was unprecedentedly heavy.

THE RUSSIAN FRONTS.

London, May 12.
A wireless Russian official despatch says:—The enemy made a gas attack at Stahovec, Southward of Lake Narocz. Three companies of Turks and Kurds attacked on Thursday on both sides of the Euphrates South Westward of Erzingan and in the region of Kelerkani Pass. Their offensive was arrested. We captured on Tuesday part of the positions between Sanna and Pendgenin in the region of Garrair Pass. Later we captured several more positions but Turkish reinforcements in the night time compelled us to fall back to our trenches. We crossed the Diale River on May 3 near Meidan and advanced in the direction of Kifri. Our troops on Thursday forced the passage of the Diale River between Jumar and Omaraga.

U. S. A. AND THE WAR.

London, May 13.
Washington.—The Senate after a acrimonious debate expunged by 89 votes to 38 the provisions of the Espionage Bill establishing modified newspaper censorship. The House of Representatives in a stormy debate decided by 215 votes to restore the Army Bill amendment which the Senate eliminated, permitting Mr. Roosevelt to lead a division in France.

THE FLYING CORPS.

London, May 13.
Lord Derby, speaking at Liverpool, paid a tribute to the bravery of the Flying Corps. He defied anyone to say whether any nation had complete air supremacy, but without fear of contradiction he said that one of the essential keys in the battles of Arras and the Somme was that the supremacy of the air was absolutely ours and without it we could not have done what we did. Lord Derby believed there were at present better brains working in this country in perfecting and improving flying machines than in any other country of the world. Everything humanly possible was being done to improve our air service. Referring to the general War outlook Lord Derby said there was every reason to be optimistic. We could certainly beat the submarine menace if we rationed ourselves as required. There was no place in a country for the man who did not do all the work in his power for the country and the War.

WORK OR FIGHT.

London, May 13.
Sir William Robertson, the guest at a dinner of the Newspapers Press Fund, acknowledging the debt of the Army to the Navy and the Merchant Seamen, mentioned that during the last five or six weeks we had expended 200,000 tons of munitions in France alone, while we sent across 50,000 tons of stone weekly for the making and mending of roads. All this meant a great amount of work and General Robertson urged the newspapers to realise their great power and responsibility and to encourage the 75 per cent of the nation, which was not in the fighting line, but whose work was essential to success, to do their utmost so that the whole resources of the nation could be utilised.

RUSSIA AND PEACE PREACHERS.

London, May 11.
Petrograd.—In the Duma the War Minister, M. Guchekoff, in a stirring appeal to Russian patriotism, denounced the preachers of Peace at any price. He declared that not a moment must be lost to enable the whole country to make a united effort by which the enemy would be beaten. There was loud and long cheering in all parts of the House.

London, May 12.
Petrograd.—M. Skobelev, a leading member of the Executive Committee of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates roundly declared at a sitting of the Council that every Russian of the proletariat scornfully repudiated a separate Peace. Every soldier who consented to such with the Germans injured the general cause of the Russian democracy. The Army must be a powerful organisation, ready not merely to fight in the trenches, but to take the offensive.

—The Ceylon Observer.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3392.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Muhammadu Meera Nachchia alias Ummakany wife of Meera Saibu Muttu Muhammadu of Vannarponnai West

Deceased.

1. Seyathu Ahamadu Muliadeen Abdul Cader and wife
2. Muttu Meera Nachchia of Vannarponnai West

Petitioners.

Vs.

- Minors
1. Meerasaibu Muttu Muhammadu of Vannarponnai West
 2. Muttu Muhammadu Abdul Hamidu of Do.
 3. Ummakulthum daughter of S. Muhammadu Abdul Cader of Do. and
 4. Muliadeen Abdul Cader Muhammadu Saripu of Do. 2nd and 3rd Respondents are minors by their Guardian ad litem the 4th Respondent

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Seyathu Ahamadu Muliadeen Abdul Cader and wife Muttu Meera Nachchia of Vannarponnai West, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased, Muhammadu Meera Nachchia alias Ummakany wife of Meera Saibu Muttu Muhammadu of Vannarponnai West, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris, Esqr., District Judge, on April 26, 1917, in the presence of Mr. K. Sivaprakasam, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioners; and the affidavit of the Petitioners, dated March 21, 1917, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioners are the heirs to one third share of the said intestate, and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Intestate issued to them, unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before May 22, 1917, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Pieris,
District Judge.

May 2, 1917.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3409.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Kanagamma wife of Vaitilingam Chellattamby of Attiady

Deceased.

Subramaniam Cheddiar Nagalingam of Attiady

Petitioner.

Vs.

Katirasippillai wife of Nagalingam of Do

Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Subramaniam Cheddiar Nagalingam of Attiady, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased, Kanagamma wife of Vaitilingam Chellattamby, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris, Esqr., District Judge, on May 1, 1917, in the presence of Messrs. Sivaprakasam & Katiarasu, Proctors, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the said Petitioner, dated April 18, 1917, having been read: It is ordered that the Petitioner be and he is hereby declared entitled, as father and one of the sole heirs of the said deceased, to administer the estate of the said deceased and that Letters of Administration do issue to him, accordingly, unless the Respondent above-named or any other person shall, on or before May 24, 1917, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Pieris,
District Judge.

May 5, 1917.