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Hindu Organ

VOL. IX. } JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY } திந்துசாதனம். } கலியுகமூல சகசுகக. } NO. 8
 கூட்புத்தகம் } DECEMBER 8, 1897 } அகசு அசம்பர் அக. } இலக் அ.

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THE HINDU ORGAN.
 JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8, 1897.
THE TAMIL SEAT,

An overwhelming majority of the most intelligent and influential Tamils in all parts of the Colony have already declared themselves in favour of the re-appointment of Mr. Coomara Swamy. That the gentlemen who composed the several meetings held in this District in his favour represent the wealth, intelligence, and influence of Jaffna none can deny. Out of the three Tamil Magistrates in the District and also in the Island, two have declared themselves in favour of Mr. Coomara Swamy's re-appointment, and the other is not, as far as we know, a supporter of any of his rival candidates. The only Un-official Police Magistrate in the Northern Province who represents the landed aristocracy of the North is a staunch supporter of Mr. Coomara Swamy's cause. All the Advocates of Jaffna with the exception of one whose own son-in-law is a candidate for Legislative honours, and the Proctors with one or two exceptions are for him. Again, the Chief Mudaliyar of the Jaffna Kachcheri, all the titular Mudaliyars in this District, all the Maniagars, almost all the leading Government Officers, and all the leading merchants and landed proprietors are on the side of Mr. Coomara Swamy. His Excellency the Governor will be convinced of this fact when the Memorial of the Committee appointed at the District Court House meeting reaches his hands. If His Excellency's choice will fall on the candidate who has had the largest amount of influential and intelligent support and if the paramount voice of Jaffna is to prevail, there need be no misgiving as to Mr. Coomara Swamy's re-appointment to the Tamil Seat for another term of five years.

Leaving aside Jaffna, Mr. Coomara Swamy has been nominated at an influential and representative meeting held in Trincomalee, another important centre of Tamil population. Batticaloa, another important Tamil District, has followed suit, as the very influential meeting held on the 1st Instant in the District Court House there, at the instance of the Chief Mudaliyar of the Eastern Province and other leading Tamils, would show. Mullaitivu also has declared in favour of Mr. Coomara Swamy, a meeting having been held there on the 20th Ultimo under the presidency of Mr. Sanmgam, District Engineer, and attended by almost all the leading Tamils of that District. The proceedings of this meeting have been received by us too late for insertion in this issue.

We need hardly refer to the meeting held in the Floral Hall, Colombo, under the presidency of Dr. Rockwood. It was a demonstration in favour of Mr. Coomara Swamy, impressive and worthy of record, both on account of the unanimity that prevailed on the occasion and also on account of the large number of influential and representative Tamils who took part in it. In fact every intelligent and representative Tamil in the Metropolis, except a few malcontents, were present and voted for the re-appointment of Mr. Coomara Swamy.

What we have stated above would be borne out by the proceedings of the several meetings which, we believe, have been forwarded to His Excellency, certified to be correct by responsible and well-known gentlemen who presided over them, and by the memorials of the representative Committee forwarded at those meetings.

Can this be said of the support Mr. Senathi Raja has received from the Tamils of Jaffna and other parts of Ceylon? In Jaffna no meeting worthy of the name has been held for him. We have already exposed the informal character of the St. Patrick's College meeting, and of the fictitious Committee which seems to have been subsequently created to supply a defect pointed out by the "Hindu Organ." Three of the gentlemen put in that Committee, Mr. P. Murugasu, Head Clerk of the Jaffna Fiscal's Office, Mr. W. Madaliyar Mattuvalu Pillai, a son of the well-known District Engineer Walupillai Mudaliyar and a large landed proprietor in Jaffna, and Mr. S. Tiliampalam, the veteran Udaiyar of Sauderipai have written to the "Patriot" in which alone the names of the gentlemen composing the so-called Committee have been published, disclaiming all connection with it. But that paper with that unfairness which have characterised its proceedings in connection with this agitation and which is exposed by a correspondent in another column, have not given insertion to their letters but only made a passing notice to them in its Local columns. The letters addressed by two of these gentlemen to the "Patriot" are published elsewhere. It will be seen that these gentlemen not only never authorized anyone to put them in that Committee but are staunch supporters of Mr. Coomara Swamy. Mr. Senathi Raja's friends have evidently created a Committee out of persons, a large number of whom are firm supporters of Mr. Coomara Swamy's cause. We are constrained to think that in order to give a show of greater respectability to the Committee than they can really command, the friends of Mr. Senathi Raja were obliged to include in it a large number of Mr. Coomara Swamy's supporters. This is in keeping with the practice that has been adopted in the head quarters where in a report of the "At Home" held by Mr. Senathi Raja in honour of some Siamese visitors some one has ingeniously got a list published, after the occurrence, not of the names of the ladies and gentlemen actually present on the occasion, but of those who were expected.

Space forbids our noticing the proceedings of some other meetings which are said to have been held in favour of Mr. Senathiraja in some remote corners of this Peninsula, the existence of some of the villages which are the scenes of the activity of Mr. Senathi Raja's friend being for the first time made known to most of the residents of Jaffna. We cannot, however, close this article without a reference to the Arcade meeting in Colombo, in which free vent was given to the pent up malice of years" by the gentlemen who took the leading part in it. Considering that Mr. Advocate Brito who presided over that meeting is the father-in-law of Mr. Senathi Raja, and considering also the acrimonious and spiteful tone of the speeches made on the occasion, it is the opinion of several intelligent gentlemen that the meeting, far from damaging Mr. Coomara Swamy's cause would go a great way to injure Mr. Senathiraja's interests. Fancy Mr. Brito not knowing his successful rival of 1879 and referring to him as "one Mr. Ramanathan"—a gentleman who for thirteen years represented the Tamils in the Legislative Council with conspicuous success and was made a C. M. G. and who now occupies the position of Solicitor-General of the Colony and twice acted as Attorney-General. And what value His Excellency would attach to the denunciations of Mr. Coomara Swamy by this gentleman alone when special resolutions have been passed with

religious care in all the meetings said to have been held in favour of Mr. Senathi Raja gratefully acknowledging Mr. Coomara Swamy's valuable services as Tamil member!!

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Weather—Some good showers of rain have fallen in all parts of the District since our last issue which have somewhat improved the condition of the paddy crop. But more rain is wanted.

Health—What the medical authorities persisted in calling diarrhoea is now admitted by them to be cholera. No fresh cases have occurred at Koddadi where six persons died out of eight or nine persons attacked. Three cases have been reported from Pirappankulam close to the residence of Doctor Ramupillai, in Vannarponnai West, of whom two died on the 5th Instant. The whole inmates of the infected house have been now removed to the Cholera Hospital leaving none in the village to spread the infection. Almost all the cases that occurred at Koddadi and Pirappankulam have been among the Nalavars, who carried the infection from one house to the other. Had the medical authorities promptly removed the patients who were first attacked with cholera at Koddadi to the Hospital and segregated the other inmates, as they do now, instead of considering them cases of diarrhoea till a dozen persons had died, cholera would not have, in all probability, broken out in different parts of Vannarponnai, as it has now done. Several cases have occurred at Chunnakam, close to the market and about six persons have died there. Mr. Thambipillai, Surveyor of Manipay died last week of purging and vomiting, and it is not known whether it was also a case of cholera or not. Cholera has appeared at Moorstreet also.

The Government Agent—Mr. Evers has already returned to the Colony on the expiration of his leave. He will arrive here and resume charge of this Province about the 15th Instant. Mr. Fisher will revert to his duties as Government Agent of the Eastern Province. The latter has, during the short time he has acted as Government Agent of the Northern Province, discharged his duties to the entire satisfaction of the public. He is admittedly an able administrator, full of schemes for the improvement of the Province. He has already, we understand, submitted a scheme to the Government reducing the number of Districts in the Province, and the Maniagar Divisions in the Jaffna District. According to this scheme the Kachcheri at Vavuniya will be abolished, there being only one Kachcheri at Mullaitivu; and the Maniagarships of the Jaffna District will be reduced to about half their present number. If this scheme be approved Jaffna and Valligamo East will be under one Maniagar, Valligamo North and Valligamo West will be placed under another, Tenmarachy and Pachilaipali will form one Maniagar's Division, while Vadamarachi East and West will be amalgamated. The Maniagarship of Dalt will be abolished, there being only one Maniagar for all the Islands, while Poonaryn will form a part of the Maanar District. Mr. Fox, Assistant Government Agent, Vavuniya, was here lately, and in consultation with him, Mr. Fisher is said to have recommended these changes. Since the above was in type we have been informed that Mr. Fisher goes to Colombo to act as Conservator of Forests.

Official changes—Consequent on the retirement of Mr. T. Vianvanather, Secretary of the (continued on the 4th page)

District Court, Trincomalee, and P. Mudaliyar Ellankainayaga Mudaliyar, Interpreter of the Jaffna District Court, the following appointments have been made.—

Mr. R. Kanyah, Chief Clerk Minor Courts, Jaffna, succeeds Mr. Visuvanather; Mr. P. Murugasu Head Clerk Fiscal's Office Jaffna succeeds Mr. Kanyah; Mr. Puvirayasinghe of the Chavakachcheri Court succeeds Ellankainayaga Mudaliyar, Mr. M. Sapapathy, Interpreter of the Jaffna Police Court has been appointed successor of Mr. Puvirayasinghe at Chavakachcheri; and Mr. Vinasisambay 2nd clerk, District Court Jaffna succeeds Mr. Sapapathy. Mr. K. C. Kudumer, Deputy Fiscal and Head Clerk Fiscal's Office, Batticaloa, becomes Head Clerk of the Fiscal's Office Jaffna.

Hindu College—We publish as a Supplement to this issue the Report of this Institution read on the occasion of the distribution of prizes on the 22nd ultimo.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TAMIL SEAT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Sir,

A telegraphic message reported in the Independent of the 6th Instant of a largely attended public meeting held at Mallakam Courts giving the consecration of its benediction to Mr. Senathi Raja's candidature reminds me of the hot wrangle that has been raging for the past few weeks between the different factions of our community on the above headed subject.

A certain section of the Christian Community carried away no doubt by religious fanaticism has hurled fierce oburgations against the candidature of Mr. CoomaraSwamy whose only fault by accident of birth is his relationship to former representatives in the Legislative Council. In former appointments of the Tamil representatives, whether the then Governors were carried away by their deeply rooted faith in heredity or by their conviction of the fitness of the candidates, I leave your readers to decide. But I cannot resist the conviction that there are hereditary legislatures as there are hereditary poets, and the choice of the candidate for the Tamil Seat falling in one family for 3 generations is no doubt an accident with which Mr. Coomara Swamy's opponents have not hesitated to manufacture a party capital.

Mr. CoomaraSwamy possesses the first indispensable requisite of an unofficial Legislative Counsellor in that he has a sufficiently large private fortune which is the main ground work of real independence. He is not the man who will be tempted to hanker for place under Government. There is too strong a dash of independence in his character, too great a readiness to cut and thrust with ruthless blade at the most cherished convictions of Government when they do not coincide with his own views or where the interest of his community he represents are at stake. He is not the facile and obedient Member of the Council doing homage in an obsequious manner to opinions of Government when such opinions appear fatal to the interests of the public at large. Mr. CoomaraSwamy is a fairly good speaker and debater. He had the immense fortune of a municipal training before he was installed into the legislative assembly which have no doubt stood him in good stead in his legislative career. He has always distinguished himself by rare chivalry and perfect candour and never hesitated to redress a grievance or unearth corruption and maladministration which makes him quite one of the most ideal characters in the political world at Ceylon. He wields an immense influence over his constituents as the movements of the meetings to advocate his candidature would testify. Mr. C. is, take him all in all, the best allround candidate for the Tamil Seat in the Legislative Council. In saying this, I am saying nothing that would not be endorsed by his constituents including his opponents.

No one will deny that, during the past 5 years he has been in Council representing the Tamil interest, his career has been crowned with signal success. Amid the murmurs of denunciations which the factious opposition is raising against his candidature there is hardly to be heard a whisper against his past legislative work. He has had during the last five years a creditable record and discharged his legislative duties with indomitable zeal and sagacity and without leaving to the most vigilant eye to discover a single blot. In the teeth of most influential and overwhelming opposition he has sometimes stood firm and without fear safeguarding the interest of his people.

In the face of such a record it is the duty of every Tamil whether Hindu, Christian, or Mohamedan to testify his grateful recognisance of the past services of Mr. C. by openly advocating his candidature for re-election. It is most ungracious to refuse with shameful ingratitude to recognise the services of the present incumbent and to canvass votes for others whose qualified under cover of public meetings whose manufactured enthusiasm is as clear as noon day.

Membership of the Legislative Council is a prize not awarded to an individual for his and his adherents own delectation and glorification, but it is rather ought to be given to a person whose tenure of it is most advantageous to the community which he represents. Are those individuals whose names have been put forward as candidates for the Tamil Seat in opposition to Mr. CoomaraSwamy possessed of talents so far above those of the present incumbent that they outweigh his manifold claims for re-election? Has any one of these given any evidence of these transcendent qualities. I do not mean to cast a slur on these individuals when I say that they are all excellent, capable hum drum body of lawyers guaranteed sound in mind, limb and eye sight, but quite certain never to bolt or kick over the traces. They are all curiously devoid of practical politics and if any they possess, it is thin, wishy-washy and common place. The little band of intriguers who held meetings under the presidency of Reverend gentlemen hope to manoeuvre their candidate into Council by their persuasive powers of eloquence, adroit manipulation of the Christian press and assiduous application of pressure upon a small minority of Tamils. It is hard to say whether the astonishingly cool project of these Christian gentlemen to install Mr. Senathi Raja into Council is better calculated to provoke ridicule or indignation. They seem to forget and ignore entirely that in a contest of this nature they ought to be colour-blind to creed as they are to sect which is one of the fundamental principles of the British constitution. It has been urged by the followers of Christ that it would be monstrous to have a Hindu in the Council Chamber of a Christian Government and this fact alone ought to disqualify Mr. CoomaraSwamy for re-election. The Hindu's never wavered in their personal esteem for Mr. C. and their verdict has been approved by Government and unofficial side of the Council. No man stood high in the opinion of Sir Arthur Havelock than did Mr. C. when His Excellency's choice fell on him notwithstanding the clamour of clique of party intriguers.

Yours faithfully
A Tamil

MR. SENATHI RAJA'S COMMITTEE.

Sanderippai, 1st December 1897.

To the Editor of the Hindu Organ.

Dear Sir,

Kindly publish the enclosed copy of a letter I have this day addressed to the Ceylon Patriot news paper.

Yours Truly
S. Tiliyampalam.

Copy referred to.

Sanderippai, 1st December 1897.

From S Tiliyampala Udiyar.

To the Editor of the Ceylon Patriot.

Dear Sir,

I am surprised to find in your issue of the 19th Ultimo my name (there being no other Tiliyampala Udiyar to my knowledge) among the List of the Committee held in St. Patrick's College Hall to further the interest of Mr. Senathirajah. As I have no sympathy with the movement and am decidedly in favour of the re-appointment of Mr. CoomaraSwamy, I beg to state here, that my name has been included in the Committee without my knowledge and consent.

Yours truly
S. Tiliyampalam.

Cantherody, 26th November 1897.

To the Editor of the Hindu Organ.

Dear Sir,

In the list of the Committee said to have been appointed at a meeting held in the St. Patrick's College Hall and published in the Ceylon Patriot of the 19th Instant I find to my great regret that the promoters of the meeting are using my name without my knowledge and consent, and I have this day written to the Editor of the Ceylon Patriot to that effect. I shall thank you to publish this letter along with the letter I have written to

the Editor of the Patriot, a copy of which is enclosed.

Yours &

W. Mudaliyar Muttavelu Pillai.

Copy referred to

Cantherody, 26th November 1897.

To the Editor of the Ceylon Patriot.

Dear Sir,

I am surprised to find my name included in the list of the committee said to have been appointed at a meeting held at the St. Patrick's College Hall to further the interest of Mr. Senathiraja and published in your issue of the 19th instant I feel it a duty I owe to myself and to the public to publicly declare that I am for the re-appointment of the sitting member and that I never authorised any one to include my name in any committee intended to support the candidature of Mr. Senathiraja.

Please publish this letter in your next issue and oblige.

Your &

W. Mudr' Muttavelu Pillai

THE 'CEYLON PATRIOT' AND FAIR PLAY.

The Editor of the "Ceylon Patriot" is a staunch supporter of Mr. Senathi Raja and leaves no stone unturned to secure the appointment of his favourite candidate. Every man is entitled to form and express his opinion on any subject and the "Patriot" is welcome to his own. But no gentleman of position, influence or worth in the community, much less a public journalist claiming to represent every section of the community of Jaffna without reference to colour, caste or creed is justified in refusing to publish the proceedings of the large and influential meeting held in the Jaffna District Court Hall and which decided in favour of the re-appointment of Mr. CoomaraSwamy, while he gives full publicity to the proceedings of the St. Patrick's College meeting, which both in point of numbers and the position of the gentlemen who took part in it, cannot stand comparison with the District Court meeting.

In view of the fact that the "Patriot" of the 12 November last contained a distorted version of the proceedings of the District Court meeting from an anonymous correspondent, the Secretary Mr. A. Maitavaganam sent a correct report of the proceedings for publication in that paper. But the Editor declines to publish them in full stating that they are stale and that his space is limited and gives only a summarised account just stopping at the point where an amendment in favour of Mr. Senathi Raja was moved, and omitting the names of the influential and representative gentlemen who form the committee and omitting to say how the meeting ended. The very same issue of the paper from which the report of the District Court meeting is shut out contains in full the names of the gentlemen composing the committee said to have been appointed at the St. Patrick's College meeting. Paraphrasing I may observe here that on the committee appointed at the St. Patrick's College are found the names of a few Proctors who with sedulous care obtained signatures for Mr. CoomaraSwamy and have only recently forwarded them with their own signatures to Colombo. It remains to be seen whether they authorized the promoters of the St. Patrick's College meeting to put their names on the committee.

Both the District Court meeting and St. Patrick's College meeting were held on one and the same day. How is it that the proceedings of the former were stale while those of the latter were not so? The duty of publishing the corrected report sent by the Secretary of the District Court Meeting became doubly necessary after the wrong account given of it in the Patriot of the 12th November by an anonymous correspondent. But the Editor has not discharged that duty. If the "Ceylon Patriot" is the organ of the people of Jaffna and does not represent sectional interests, it behoves the Editor to publish the views of every section of the community while giving his decision in favour of the candidate whom he thinks is the fittest. But it is not proper to make a paper supported by gentlemen of all shades of thought and opinion in Jaffna, the organ of one party, and that too of a minority in this District. Fancy, Mr. Editor, the idea of the "Patriot" publishing the proceedings of the Kodikamam and Idakkurichy meetings, if there were any, while excluding those of the District Court Meeting! Let the Patriot outwardly declare itself the organ of Mr. Senathi Raja and the other directors, share holders, and Secretary of the Equitable Loan Company. Then the people will have no cause to complain. All other secular papers of Ceylon have held the balance fairly between the contending parties as regards the publication of proceedings of public meetings. The one sidedness of the Patriot does not end here.

The Patriot of the 19th November professes to cull and publish the opinion of some Editors of Ceylon on the way the impending vacancy in the Legislative Council is to be filled up. In doing so the Editor quotes among others two communicated articles one from the "Catholic Guardian" and the other from the "Morning Star" but does not insert them as articles communicated to those papers. Anybody who reads the "Patriot" but has not read the "Guardian" and the "Morning Star" will be led to think that the articles in question are the productions of the respective Editors, especially in view of the announcement made by the Editor at the commencement of the article that he was proceeding to cull the pronounced opinions of his contemporaries. The "Guardian" and the "Morning Star" took special care to say that they had communicated articles. The "Patriot" of the 26th November quotes a communicated article from the "Observer" but does not append the word "communicated" to the article as the "Observer" has done.

K. Mudr' Navaratnam.

Tellipallai, 4th December 1897.

REPORT OF THE HINDU COLLEGE FOR 1896 and 1897.

Before proceeding to read the report of the Hindu College, for the years 1896 and 1897, it is my melancholy task to refer to a circumstance which has cast a gloom over this College. By the death of Mr. Advocate Nagalingam in the prime of vigour, and in the midst of his brilliant and beneficent career, this College has lost its able and energetic Manager. He it was who conceived the idea of a National College, developing a national system of education adapted to the requirement and needs of the Tamil community of Jaffna. His loss has been a national loss. This College deploras the loss of its father, the Jaffna Bar has lost its bright ornament, the public has lost a benefactor, and the Tamils have lost a patriot. This College will live as a monument of his self-sacrificing labours in the cause of education, and the good he has done will never fade from the grateful memory of his loving countrymen. He will be to us a guiding Star and in the moment of our troubles and difficulties, we will look up to his noble example for leading light. His loss touches us most closely on this occasion for we miss today that genial presence which in years past adorned this hall and that magnetic influence which attracted people from all parts of Jaffna.

Let me now turn to a happier subject—the history of this institution during the last nine years, the period during which Mr. Nagalingam was Manager. From 1889 up till the early part of 1894, when the Hindu High School was recognised by the University of Calcutta, as qualified to send up students for the Entrance Examination, the school was mainly supported by the Saiva Paripalana Sabai, of which the late Manager was the leading spirit. It was a period of grave anxiety to the promoters and the school had hard struggle for existence. During this trying period, it was the indomitable energy of Mr. Nagalingam and his colleagues which saved the school from extinction. But the recognition of the school by the Calcutta University was the first golden milestone in its progress. It roused the lagging zeal and ensured a degree of public confidence. This College must ever be indebted to Mr. R. H. Leembruggen, Government Inspector of Schools, for the opportune help he rendered in recommending the school to the University. Now commenced an era of slow but steady progress in the school. But Public confidence was still lacking. The University was at a distance and the public could not realize the full importance of its recognition. They wanted something nearer, something tangible. And the registration of the school by the Ceylon Educational Department in February 1895, marks a new epoch in its history. The annual result-grant has strengthened the slender finances of the school and has therefore gained for it a greater measure of public confidence. This is evidenced by the rise in the number on the roll, from 322 in 1894 to 371 in 1895.

During all these years the school was held in a humble shed and the want of a proper school House was keenly felt. The foundations of a school-building were laid so far back as the year 1892, but for want of funds the work was delayed long, and had it not been for the liberality and influence of Mr. Nagalingam and his colleagues the College would never have had its present building. The 28th of September 1895, the date of the opening of the College building, will ever remain a red-letter day in the history of the College. Just a fortnight before the inauguration, the Government of India communicated to the Manager the happy news of its affiliation to the Calcutta University as a second-grade College. So when

the school developed into the College, a habitation worthy of its new dignity and improved status was ready to receive it.

The College has made satisfactory progress during 1896 and 1897. Owing to the protracted illness of the late Manager, the Committee was obliged to put off the prize distribution last year. And so the reports for two years are included in one.

The number on the roll during 1895, 1896 and 1897, has remained almost stationary. But the percentage of average daily attendance has slightly increased during 1896 and 1897. A tabular statement for the last 3 years will show this clearly.

	No in roll	Av. D. Attendance
1895	371	275
1896	373	281
1897	380	295

Although there has been a slight increase in the percentage of daily attendance, it is not all that is to be desired. The same remark on the subject of punctuality and regular attendance in reports of past years have to be repeated. Success at College, as in every walk of life, mainly depends on punctuality and perseverance, and the school is the training home where these habits are early formed. The teacher's attention is mainly directed to them and unless the parents co-operate with the teacher the result aimed at cannot be achieved. It is a standing reproach against our national character that, as a rule, we are never punctual. It must be our sedulous care to wipe off this stain.

CHANGE IN MANAGEMENT

Mr. V. Casippillai, Proctor Supreme Court, has succeeded Mr. Nagalingam as Manager.

Changes in the staff of the College

The College Department was opened in July 1895. In 1896, it was divided into the Junior F. A. and the Senior F. A. classes, and the appointment of a new Professor became necessary. Mr. J. K. Namasivayam Pillai, B. A. of the Madras University was appointed Professor of Logic and History in January 1896. He is an able and zealous teacher and has produced very good work during the two years he has been connected with the College. Lately he was appointed Head Master of the School Department, and my thanks are due to him for the able help he has rendered me in the work of supervision. In August 1896, Mr. Sundaram Iyer, B. A. and Licentiate in teaching of the Madras University was appointed Professor of Mathematics. Owing to ill-health he resigned his connection in December of the same year and the College lost the services of an able Teacher in Mathematics. Mr. S. Vytialingam was appointed, to teach Mathematics in June 1897; but he left in July 1897 to continue his B. A. studies. In July 1897, Mr. V. Changarapillai, B. A. Calcutta University, who took Honours in Mathematics, was appointed in the place of Mr. Sundaram Iyer.

The Tutorial staff at present, consists of the Principal, 3 Professors who are all graduates of Indian Universities, 9 assistant Masters and one Tamil Pandit.

SUCCESS AT UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

In March 1897, the first batch of F. A. students, from the College, were presented for the Examination. Out of eight who appeared, three passed. One of them was placed in the second Division and the other two in the 3rd Division. Eleven students entered for the Entrance Examination in 1896, of whom 6 passed; two in the 1st Division, one in the second Division and 3 in the 3rd Division. In 1897, 26 students appeared, of whom 13 passed; one in the 1st Division, 8 in the 2nd Division and 4 in the 3rd Division.

SCHOLARSHIP

There are two Scholarships attached to the

College, one "Coomara Swamy Scholarship" and the other "Namasivaya Mudalar Scholarship," both tenable for two years and given to students who pass the Entrance Examination obtaining the highest mark respectively, out of the students of the College, in English and Mathematics and continue their F. A. studies in the College. The scholarship holders for 1896 are.—

A. Visuvanathan Coomara Swamy Scholar
R. S. Superamainam, Namasivaya Mudalar Scholar.

For 1897 P. Thampipillai holds both the Scholarships.

It gives me also great pleasure to state that one of our students R. S. Superamainam passed the last Government Clerical Examination and has already been appointed a clerk in the Waterworks Branch of the Public Works Department. He is an instance of a boy, not in easy circumstances educated free at school, who by dint of industry and perseverance, passed the Standard Examinations creditably, passed the Cambridge Junior Local, then the Calcutta Entrance in the 1st class, carried off the Namasivaya Mudalar Scholarship, continued his studies in the F. A. class, where he was one of the best students, passed the Government Clerical Examination, and has entered the Ceylon Government Service. He was a model student and I hope that many others will follow his example.

The school was examined by the Inspector of Schools in October 1896 and again in October 1897. The results of the Examination were on the whole satisfactory. The weak points and defects in the system adopted in teaching certain subjects, discovered by the searching test of the Inspector, were year after year removed. Though there is much scope for further improvement, yet it is satisfactory to note that progress has been made and the general efficiency of the school has been raised.

In this connection I have to thank each and every one of my assistants for the ability and zeal with which they discharged their work and for the able manner in which they maintained discipline and order to which much of the success of the school is due.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In India every College affiliated to the University and every High school aided by the Department of Public Instruction must possess a Gymnasium. The Authorities attach great importance to Physical Education. In the Educational Code for Ceylon, this is not a necessary condition for the registration of a school. The value of a good physique cannot be overrated. It gives vigour to the mind on the one side and lends strength to the moral stamina on the other. Our boys practise running and jumping, in a place nearly half a mile from the College. In spite of this disadvantage it is very encouraging to note that one of our boys, G. Duraiappah, scored the highest number of points and came out first in four out of the six events in the inter-collegiate athletic competition, held by the Jaffna Gymkhana Club this year. To encourage athletic sports among the boys, a few friends of the late Mr. Nagalingam are offering a Silver Cup to the student who did best from the College, in athletic sports, this year. The donors have promised to offer a silver cup every year in memory of the late Mr. Nagalingam, to be called "Nagalingam Silver Cup."

I have to thank the donors of Prizes this year, who have by awarding prizes signified the warm interest they take in the welfare of the College.

