

Subscription Rs 1 50
 Postage to Ceylon & India 50
 do Straits 75

THE

Advertising charges per line 10
 do per half col Rs 2 00
 do per Column 5 00

The Hindu Organ

VOL. IX. } JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY } **இந்து சாஸ்திரம்.** } NO. 14
 கலிங்க (20) ச. ச. ச. ச. }
 ச. ச. ச. ச. } மார்ச் 2, 1898 } இலக் 14.

PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY. பகைத்துக்கொருமுறை புதன் கிழமைகளிற் பிரசுரிக்கப்படும்.

NOTICE.

The House and premises situated at Kankasanturai, the property of the late Mr. Advocate Nagalingam will be sold by public auction on the spot on Saturday the 12th March 1898. The ground attached to the house contains 11 Lachams Vc and 3 kulies. For terms apply to the undersigned.

V. Casippillai
 S. Valuppillai
 Executors

Jaffna 24th
 February 1898

DEFT PONIES

The annual sale of these hardy and useful ponies will be held at the Jaffna Kachcheri on the 16th April at 2 P. M. or by private sale previously. An exceptionally good lot of fillies is available.

For terms apply to
 Government Agent
 Jaffna.

Jaffna Kachcheri
 12th February 1898

R. W. IEVERS
 Government Agent.

THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY MARCH 2, 1898

WANTED—AN ASSOCIATION FOR JAFFNA.

What joint stock Companies and Corporations are to the successful carrying on of mercantile pursuits and the promoting of a feeling of mutual confidence and business habits among the people, Associations composed of the leading and representative men of each community are to the effectual furtherance and safeguarding of the political and social interests of the community. Political and social movements initiated and continued by such organizations have greater chances of success than those commenced by individuals belonging to no recognized Associations, as the Government receive with respect and attention representations made by such bodies. Hence we find in most of the principal towns some kind of Associations or other to further the well-being of their inhabitants. Not to go beyond the limits of this Island, we may mention the Planters Association of Ceylon and the Chamber of Commerce, which are great powers in the land, exercising vast influence and authority with the Government and the public. What these bodies are to the planters and the merchants of Ceylon, the Ceylon National Association which we fear is now defunct, was to the Ceylonese in general. It is a disgrace to the leaders of the native communities of Colombo that they should have allowed this Association to collapse for want of public spirit among them. We are, however, glad to find political Associations springing up in some of the principal Towns of Ceylon, which are sure to do immense good to them—those for instance at Chilaw, Moratuwa, Panadura and Negombo. What we desire to see are Associations in every important Town in the Island, to safeguard the interests of the inhabitants of the District of which the Town

is the Capital and to represent to the Government their wants and grievances. When they are once established we could make a further move of holding an annual Conference of delegates from the different Associations in the Provincial Capitals year after year as the Indian National Congress is held in India.

Our immediate object in writing this article is to urge on the attention of our countrymen the need of an Association for Jaffna. Of all places in Ceylon, Jaffna, by reason of its distance from the seat of Government, the large body of intelligent and independent gentlemen here who could constitute it, its various wants and interests which require proper representation and safeguarding, and more especially on account of the absence of any self-governing institution here, is urgently in need of such an organization. We, therefore, earnestly hope that all men of light and leading in Jaffna will seriously consider the question and form themselves into an Association before long.

THE CLERICAL SERVICE.

(communicated)

There has been for some time past good deal of murmur and discontent in the Clerical branch of the Public Service of Ceylon as regards the manner in which appointments and promotions are made, and this apparently has led to the appointment of a Committee to revise the Clerical system. The existing system was introduced during the time of Sir William Gregory, and it worked admirably well till some time back. The System is not therefore much to blame, but it is evident that the defect exists in the manner in which it is worked. In the circumstances, a Commission of enquiry into the alleged grievances that have become so very common of late would be greatly desirable before a revision of the existing system is taken up.

As matters now stand we would ourselves strongly urge upon Government the necessity of a revision of the system, especially as regards the executive function of making appointments and promotions. We must emphatically object to the function being monopolized at the Secretariat, and it is very desirable that a Board consisting at least of three senior members of the Civil Service must be appointed for the purpose of making clerical appointments and promotions. The Heads of Departments must invariably be consulted before making these appointments; and we feel confident that the evils so bitterly complained of were more or less due to the overlooking of this course. The executive function of making these appointments seems to have been relegated to the Colonial Office, as it was suspected that the Heads of Departments might be influenced by favouritism. If this be so, we find the case worse now. We should think that a distribution of favouritism is much to be preferred to a monopoly of the same by one department.

There is another great evil in the procedure now adopted. If a mistake is committed at the Colonial Office, the clerk or clerks who suffer thereby, have no alternative but to keep strict silence. If they attempt at making any representation to the Governor, this representation is referred to the officer who originally committed the mistake, and it is no wonder that the party that made the representation receives no justice. This is indeed an objectionable policy. Even if a pauper makes a representation to the Governor complaining of any injustice done to him by a Government Officer his complaint is duly enquired into and

justice done; but if the party aggrieved is a Government Clerk, he is abruptly and arbitrarily told to keep silence; and it is very unfortunate that the Governor does not take any great interest in matters regarding Clerical appointments, he being generally abided by the officer in charge of the work. Surely then the officer in charge has no check over him and the poor Clerks must as dumb brutes, submit themselves to any high-handed act of his.

We think that Clerical appointments must be made with great caution—even with greater caution than in the case of Civil Service appointment—as the former appointments concern the interest of Her Majesty's native subjects, and as such they form one of the important items of the administration of the Colony. The clerks aggrieved must be given full scope to make any representation or appeal directly to the Governor in Executive Council and due enquiry (not mere reference and report) should be made into the complaint.

Appointments and promotions should as a rule be probational, at least for three months, within which period any officer who thinks that his claims have been overlooked, may lay before the Governor his grievances and obtain redress. It is only at the expiration of three months, the appointment should be confirmed if not concalled before that. Appointments once made should not be maintained in spite of valid grounds to the contrary under the excuse that it is bad policy to encourage representations.

At present there seems to be no definite rule to reckon seniority. One officer in charge of these appointments reckons it by service, another by salary and a third by merit &c &c. So that the fate of the poor clerks seems to depend on the mere whims and caprices of the appointing officer who may make use of this plea or that to carry out his own object. This state of things is much to be deprecated and it is highly desirable that a definite rule should be laid down once for all, and such rule must be made known to the Clerical Staff in general so that there may be no room for any murmur or discontent among them. We do not of course mean by this that there should be no exception to the rule; but what we insist on is that exceptions should not be made rules. We would in this connection suggest that whenever a deviation from the general rule is intended, it must be specially submitted to the Governor and his sanction obtained before hand.

Another rule was introduced of late which seems to us rather to be an unjust one. If a clerk is unwilling to move from one station to another he is said to forfeit all his future promotions. We fail to see the propriety of this rule. If a clerk does not wish to accept a promotion elsewhere for some reason or other, he does so at his own risk, because he curtails the sphere of his own promotion; and this is the very reason why he should be given free promotion in the small sphere that he has selected. But on the contrary, to tell him that because he did not like to have an enlarged sphere of promotion, he is denied all chances of promotion for ever appears to be very impolitic. It is indeed hardly justifiable to treat the Clerks and Civilians alike as regards transfers. The Civilians are highly paid officers and they can well afford to defray any additional expense thrown on them. But to order out a clerk from one place to another for the sake of an increase of Rs. 7 or Rs. 8 a month—which

(continued on the 4th page)

மேல் ஸ்திரீ சுகரம் பையாள் சிவராத்திரி மிகமையர் தீர்த்தவலிசை மெய்திரிசை மெய்திரிசை மெய்திரிசை...

முகத்தெரிப்பார்ப் பரிசேனை - முகத்தெரிப்பார்ப் பரிசேனை பரிசேனை பரிசேனை...

இலங்கைத் தபாந்திரவர் - இலங்கைத் தபாந்திரவர் தபாந்திரவர் தபாந்திரவர்...

கொழும்புக்குடும்புள்ளி - கொழும்புக்குடும்புள்ளி கொழும்புக்குடும்புள்ளி கொழும்புக்குடும்புள்ளி...

ஐரோப்பியர் பிரதிபலிப்பு - ஐரோப்பியர் பிரதிபலிப்பு ஐரோப்பியர் பிரதிபலிப்பு ஐரோப்பியர் பிரதிபலிப்பு...

பிழைபாணித் தேவையா விறத்தவாரம் - பிழைபாணித் தேவையா விறத்தவாரம் பிழைபாணித் தேவையா விறத்தவாரம்...

புதுவிலை ஐதிரிவிக்கிசை - புதுவிலை ஐதிரிவிக்கிசை புதுவிலை ஐதிரிவிக்கிசை புதுவிலை ஐதிரிவிக்கிசை...

ஓர் தபாந்திரவர் - ஓர் தபாந்திரவர் ஓர் தபாந்திரவர் ஓர் தபாந்திரவர் ஓர் தபாந்திரவர் ஓர் தபாந்திரவர்...

மனைவியின் தொண்டையை அறுத்தது - மனைவியின் தொண்டையை அறுத்தது மனைவியின் தொண்டையை அறுத்தது...

சீமையின் ஒருநாள் சக்கரவர்த்தினியின் மாணவர்கள் - சீமையின் ஒருநாள் சக்கரவர்த்தினியின் மாணவர்கள் சீமையின் ஒருநாள் சக்கரவர்த்தினியின் மாணவர்கள்...

கொண்டிருக்கும் தீவிபத்தம் - கொண்டிருக்கும் தீவிபத்தம் கொண்டிருக்கும் தீவிபத்தம் கொண்டிருக்கும் தீவிபத்தம்...

கடிதம்

கடித உத்தரம் - கடித உத்தரம் கடித உத்தரம் கடித உத்தரம் கடித உத்தரம் கடித உத்தரம்...

தருக்கே தீர்ச்சம்

இலங்கையினர் பாடல்பெற்ற சிவஸ்தலங்கள் - இலங்கையினர் பாடல்பெற்ற சிவஸ்தலங்கள் இலங்கையினர் பாடல்பெற்ற சிவஸ்தலங்கள்...

இதிலிய நியத்தை வாங்கி இப்போது ஏற்குறைய - இதிலிய நியத்தை வாங்கி இப்போது ஏற்குறைய இதிலிய நியத்தை வாங்கி இப்போது ஏற்குறைய...

அகேசத்திருப்பணியை இக்கியாமுதலிய - அகேசத்திருப்பணியை இக்கியாமுதலிய அகேசத்திருப்பணியை இக்கியாமுதலிய...

மாநாட்டினர் தபாந்திரவர் மகாசாமி - மாநாட்டினர் தபாந்திரவர் மகாசாமி மாநாட்டினர் தபாந்திரவர் மகாசாமி...

ஜயபயோ! - ஜயபயோ! ஜயபயோ! ஜயபயோ! ஜயபயோ! ஜயபயோ!

இனியாவது மீண்டும் விசேஷித்த இக்கியாமுதலிய - இனியாவது மீண்டும் விசேஷித்த இக்கியாமுதலிய இனியாவது மீண்டும் விசேஷித்த இக்கியாமுதலிய...

எவ்வாயினும் - எவ்வாயினும் எவ்வாயினும் எவ்வாயினும் எவ்வாயினும் எவ்வாயினும்...

பத்திரிகைகளுக்கு

இனிப்பத்திரிகைகளுக்கு கடிதவெறுதல் - இனிப்பத்திரிகைகளுக்கு கடிதவெறுதல் இனிப்பத்திரிகைகளுக்கு கடிதவெறுதல்...

வலியுறுத்தியதொரு - வலியுறுத்தியதொரு வலியுறுத்தியதொரு வலியுறுத்தியதொரு வலியுறுத்தியதொரு வலியுறுத்தியதொரு...

இன்னிசை வெண்பா - இன்னிசை வெண்பா இன்னிசை வெண்பா இன்னிசை வெண்பா இன்னிசை வெண்பா...

புத்தலுங்காராமமுள் முத்தலும் - புத்தலுங்காராமமுள் முத்தலும் புத்தலுங்காராமமுள் முத்தலும்...

சுமந்தி - சுமந்தி சுமந்தி சுமந்தி சுமந்தி சுமந்தி...

ஐயா பத்திரிகை

சென்ற மீட்டர் உட்கொண்ட - சென்ற மீட்டர் உட்கொண்ட சென்ற மீட்டர் உட்கொண்ட சென்ற மீட்டர் உட்கொண்ட...

பிரச்சன்களைத் தவிர்த்து - பிரச்சன்களைத் தவிர்த்து பிரச்சன்களைத் தவிர்த்து பிரச்சன்களைத் தவிர்த்து...

will not even cover half the additional expense that might thereby be thrown on him—not to speak of the many inconveniences and troubles peculiar to natives in strange places—is more than an infliction of punishment on him.

We are willing to concede that clerks serving in unhealthy climates should be given a transfer to healthier places at stated intervals and their services in unhealthy climates should be considered as an additional claim for promotions; but at the same time due consideration should be given to the services of clerks who had already served in unhealthy climates and their claims should not be overlooked as it is now generally done.

When the existing system of the clerical service was inaugurated during the regime of Sir Wm. Gregory, the various Departments of Government were classified in different groups, and those in each group were amalgamated together for the sake of promotion; and promotions to clerks were invariably confined to the group to which they belonged. This rule has now been overlooked and clerks who could command influence or favour are found to get promotion from one group to the other in direct violation of the above rule, and the poor clerks who suffer thereby are powerless to remedy this evil and they only satisfy themselves by cursing their fate.

It was a rule in former days to observe turns in the case of promotions, i.e., if a junior clerk is put over his senior by some chance or other, the next turn was given to the senior and he was put over his junior again. This excellent rule is now almost neglected. If a junior is now put over a senior by some chance, seniority of the junior is maintained and he is given promotions over his senior all through. So that the prospects of the poor quill driver seem to be a matter of lottery and are not controlled by an intelligent Government. If a senior's claims be overlooked owing to any mistake committed by him we can well understand such a course; but in the absence of any thing recorded against him it is inexplicable to us why a mistake once committed accidentally or intentionally should not be remedied at the earliest opportunity.

Now as to the promotion of first class officers into the second class Officers, serving in the first class for a stated period—say 12 years—should be shown some indulgence and given promotions into the second class upon the recommendation of the immediate superior. But we now see that while a large number of intelligent and hardworking clerks are being allowed to remain in the first class for over 20 and 30 years, clerks who have not passed any examination and who are only 4 and 5 years in the service are given substantial promotions in the second class. What does all this betray?

These are only a few of the many defects in the existing system of making clerical appointments, and it is highly desirable that immediate steps should be taken to put a stop to this state of things. We would like that gentlemen like Messrs. Ellis and White should be put in the Committee now engaged in revising the system.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Weather—There has been no rain during the last fortnight. The heat during the day is intense.

Cholera—We learn that during the third outbreak of cholera at Chinnagam there have been till today 29 cases with 20 deaths. The removal of the patients and suspects to Kankesanturai is generally condemned by the public. Even if it has been done till now, during the closing of the port, to continue to use the quarantine sheds as Cholera Hospital after the re-opening of the port would prove detrimental to its interests.

Our Food Supply—The S. S. Scindia arrived here and anchored off Mandativu last week with 37,000 bags of paddy from Akyab. She is still discharging her cargo. The Jaffna Customs present a busy and animated appearance. Two more steamers are expected in the course of the week from the same place one with 15,000 bags and the other with 5,000 bags. The native vessels also have begun to arrive and it is estimated that before the end of this month 4,000 garces or 640,000 bushels of paddy from the ports of Burmah will be landed in the ports of this District, not to speak of the paddy and rice that will come from Masulpatam, Ceylon and the ports of South India. We also learn that 5,000 bags of rice are expected from Calcutta by a steamer in a day or two. The price of paddy has now gone down to Rs. 1-75 a bushel.

Jaffna Railway—A meeting of the Railway committee was held on the 21st ultimo in the Pettah Library under the presidency of Mr. Advocate Kanagasabai. It was resolved to hold a general meeting of the inhabitants of Jaffna on the 5th Instant, and a Sub-committee, composed of Mr. Advocate Kanagasabai, Proctors Changarupillai, Santiagopillai and Scrantenberg, and Mr. A. Sappapathy was appointed to draft a Memorial to the Secretary of State thanking him for the sanction of the section of the Northern Railway between Kurunagala and Anuradhapura and praying for the further extension to Kankesanturai, to be adopted at the general meeting.

Personal—Mr. M. Sanmugam, District Engineer, Kanakeni, is now in Jaffna having come on leave. He is the only Tamil now left in the higher grade of the P. W. D. out of a large number that were connected with it not long ago.

—Mr. Marugasampillai, Deputy Collector of Tanjore is expected to pay a visit to Jaffna his native place, before the end of this month after an absence of several years from it.

Dr. A. Ponnampalam—This gentleman who is Sub-Asst. Col. Surgeon, Baddula, is now in Jaffna having come to give evidence in the Supreme Court in the Mannar case which has been transferred to the District Court.

The late Mr. Sundram Pillai—It is with the deepest regret we have to record the death of Mr. Sundram Pillai, ex-shroff of the Jaffna Kachcheri which occurred yesterday at Vannarponnai after a protracted illness. He was very highly connected being the son of Mr. Kuttupillai, a well-known merchant, and contemporary of Arumuga Chettiar. Mr. Sundram Pillai distinguished himself by the leading part he took in the seventies in bringing to light the forgery connected with the vast estate of the Brahmin Priest of Vilaveli and to condign punishment the persons concerned in it.

THE SUPREME COURT.

The first criminal sessions of the Supreme Court for the year 1898 was opened here on Monday the 21st ultimo by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Withers. Mr. Cooke was Crown Counsel, Mr. Stork acted as Registrar, Mr. Prins as Private Secretary, Mr. Muttiyah and Mr. De Silva as Tamil and Sinhalese Interpreters respectively. There were only four cases on the calendar. Prisoners who were four in number in case No. 1 were put into the dock charged with abduction. The Crown Counsel brought to the notice of His Lordship that the 1st accused who seduced the girl had since married her legally with the approval and consent of her parents and had paid Rs 200 as compensation. He therefore asked the permission of the Court to withdraw the case. His Lordship allowed the accused to be discharged and informed them that they were not acquitted and that the 1st accused would be liable to be prosecuted for the same offence if he would fail to fulfil his engagements with his wife.

Case No. 2 from Mannar in which a Moor-man was charged with culpable homicide not amounting to murder was then transferred to the Jaffna District Court.

Case No. 3 was the same day disposed of. In this case one Pattan Tiliyan of Nellore was charged with abduction. An English-speaking Jury of which Mr. H Todd was foreman was called to try this case. Mr. Advocate Tirunavak Arasu defended the accused who was acquitted and discharged.

The remaining case No. 4 was taken up the next day. Sinnaddi Sinnadurai of Point Pedro was charged with culpable homicide not amounting to murder. Mr. J. P. Todd was foreman of the Jury. The prisoner who was undefended was convicted of causing grievous hurt and sentenced to two years rigorous imprisonment.

The Judge and suite left here the next day for Trincomalee.

of Bombay has upheld that conviction, and although the Privy Council also has refused to interfere, yet his countrymen hold Mr. Tilak to be innocent of the charge against him, and even some Englishmen of the highest authority and position are of the same opinion. Sir John Budd Phear, who was a Puisne Judge of the High Court of Calcutta and was one of the ablest and most conscientious Chief Justices Ceylon has ever had, in the course of an able article on the subject of Mr. Tilak's trial and conviction makes the following remarks in 'India' of the 7th January last:—

It is hardly too much to say that the now famous Tilak affair has, from beginning to end, been most unhappy in its incidents. The history of our own country affords examples in abundance to prove that prosecution for mere seditious libel is apt to be a weapon of the boomerang sort in the hands of the Government which has recourse to it. Whether conviction or acquittal, result, the Government usually comes out the greater sufferer from the encounter. And assuredly in the Tilak case the sentence of 18 months' imprisonment founded on the divided verdict of nine jurymen—six of whom, members of the foreign ruling class, held that the incriminated documents, which they could not read or understand in the original, were calculated to incite disaffection, while the remaining three, natives of the country, who could read the documents, said they had not such tendency—such a sentence resting on such a verdict certainly seems at a first glance to bear a stronger likeness to the smart stroke of an angry executive than to the calm, unbiassed, judicial vindication of well-established law.

Moreover, when we examine the circumstances more closely, the case, to say the least of it, is slow in assuming any better complexion.

The accused person was charged, (1) with exciting feelings of disaffection; and (2) with attempting to excite feelings of disaffection. But at the trial, so far as appears, it was not attempted to prove that feelings of disaffection had anywhere in fact resulted from the supposed incitement; or that the accused actually entertained any intention to excite feelings of disaffection. The only substantial question in the case made by the Government seems to have been whether the language of the documents complained of was such that the publisher of them must be taken to have known that it was likely to excite feelings of disaffection, and that consequently it must be inferred in law that he intended so to excite such feelings. But how difficult it was to extract the sought for meaning and tendency from the language of the incriminated documents is manifest from the remarkably able address to the jury of the learned judge before whom the case was tried.

In a comparatively early part of his summing-up the learned judge told the jury:

"There is a preliminary question to be considered, and that is what is the meaning of Section 124a of the Penal Code, and what is the nature of the offence which it makes punishable. That preliminary question is for me to decide. The law requires you to accept from me the explanation of the section and of the offence; and it is then for you to determine on the evidence before you whether the facts constituting the offence as explained by me have been established, and whether the prisoners are guilty or not."

And he proceeded to direct the jury as to the law of the case at very unusual length, labouring to give section 124a a scope which had not hitherto been attributed to it. Having done so, he did not confine himself to this duty, but went on, as he was, no doubt, in the exercise of his discretion entitled to do, to lay before the jury his own conclusions from the evidence, supporting them by a course of argument so lengthily, detailed, and ingenious as to be inevitably suggestive of anxiety to obtain a conviction.

And the presence of the Lord Chancellor (one of the most responsible members of the Government which authorized the prosecution) at the hearing of the application to the Privy Council unfortunately maintained this complexion of the proceedings up to the very last.

We published sometime back Mr. Tilak's letter to a friend written before his trial, refusing to apologise to the Government; from which it would have been seen that it was in his power to save himself from the ignominy of a trial and imprisonment if he had only tendered an apology. Now comes the news that the Government is willing to release him on certain conditions but Mr. Tilak prefers to remain in Jail unless unconditionally released. Says the 'Amrita Bazar Patrika':—

The rumour in Bombay is that orders have come from England to release Mr. Tilak. We heard of it two weeks ago. We were sorry to find that the Bombay authorities offered to release him if he would agree to certain terms, but which he did not see his way to accept. We cannot vouch for the truth of those rumours; but, it is a fact that the Howard Association was moved on behalf of Mr. Tilak and that the members of that philanthropic body wrote to the Secretary of State to ask the Bombay Government to accord him better treatment. Most probably, it is owing to the exertions of the Howard Association that a better treatment is being now accorded to him.



MR. B. G. TILAK B. A., L. L. B.

The name of Mr. Tilak has now become well-known throughout the civilized world, on account of his prosecution for sedition, conviction, and the sentence of eighteen months' imprisonment which he is now undergoing. Although he was convicted by the six Europeans who were in the jury that tried him, although the High Court