

Hindu Organ

VOL. X. } JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY } கலியுகமூல் ௫௦௦௦. } NO. 12
 ௧௦-ம் புத்தகம் } FEBRUARY 1, 1899 } அக்க பெற்றவரிடம் க. } இலக

PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY. பக்தந்திக்குகாருமுறை புதன் கிழமைகளிற் பிரசுரிக்கப்படும்.

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The Manager

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F. W. VANE

Asst. Postmaster General

Postmaster General's Office
 Colombo, 31st December 1898

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

ORDER NISI

Testamentary } No 942

Jurisdiction }
 Class II

In the Matter of the Estate of the late

Ravanna Mana Meyna Seena Thana Hadchumanan Chetty of Vannarpannai Deceased.
 Rrvanna Mana Meyna Seena Thana Raman Chetty of Vannarpannai —Petitioner.
 Vs
 Ravanna Mana Ana Runa Ana Runa Suppiramanian Chetty of Vannarpannai Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Ravanna Mana Meyna Seena Thana Raman Chetty of Vannarpannai praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Ravanna Mana Meyna Seena Thana Hadchumanan Chetty coming on for disposal before C. Eardley Wilmot Esquire, District Judge, on the 19th day of December 1898 in the presence of Messrs Casippillai & Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 19th day of December 1898 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the agent of the principal 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 the 27th day of February 1899 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 19th day of December 1898
 Signed/ C. EARDLEY WILMOT
 District Judge.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

ORDER NISI.

Testamentary } No. 946

Jurisdiction }
 Class I

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Vethakkuddikkurukkal Kathiresakurukkal of Irupalai Deceased
 Vethanayagi-amma widow of Kathiresakurukkal of Irupalai —Petitioner.

Vs
 Suppaiyar Sapapathy-aiyar of Chulipuram Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Vethanayagi-amma widow of Kathiresakurukkal of Irupalai praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Vethakkuddikkurukkal Kathiresakurukkal of Irupalai coming on for disposal before C. Eardley Wilmot Esquire, District Judge, on the 4th day of January 1899 in the presence of Messrs Casippillai & Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 3rd day of January 1899 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the widow of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to her unless the Respondent or any other person shall on or, before the 27th day of February 1899 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 4th day of January 1899
 Signed/ C. EARDLEY WILMOT
 District Judge.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

ORDER NISI.

Testamentary } No. 947

Jurisdiction }
 Class I

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Veerapattirar Sinnattampi of Chiviyaterru Deceased.
 Sinnattampi Appakkuddi of Chiviyaterru —Petitioner.

Vs
 1. Sinnattampi Ponnampalam of Chiviyaterru
 2. Ponnachechi widow of Sinnattampi of do and
 3. Sitamparappillai Kantaiya of do Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Sinnattampi Appakkuddi of Chiviyaterru praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Veerapattirar Sinnattampi of Chiviyaterru coming on for disposal before C. Eardley Wilmot Esquire, District Judge, on the 6th day of January 1899 in the presence of Messrs Casippillai & Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 6th day of January 1899 having been read, it is

declared that the Petitioner is one of the heirs of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall on or, before the 20th day of February 1899 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 6th day of January 1899
 Signed/ C. EARDLEY WILMOT
 District Judge.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

ORDER NISI

Testamentary } No. 951

Jurisdiction }

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Sivakkolunthoo wife of Mailvaganam Tamotarampillai of Tunnalai Deceased.
 Mailvaganam Tamotarampillai of Tunnalai —Petitioner.

Vs
 1. Teivanaipillai widow of Ramalingam of Kaitady
 2. Kanapatipillai Rajakulasurair of Navaly and wife
 3. Sellamuttoo of Navaly Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Mailvaganam Tamotarampillai of Tunnalai praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Sivakkolunthoo wife of Mailvaganam Tamotarampillai of Tunnalai coming on for disposal before C. Eardley Wilmot Esquire, District Judge, on the 19th day of January 1899 in the presence of Messrs Casippillai and Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 19th day of January 1899 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 Respondents or any other person shall on or, before the 28th day of February 1899 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 19th day of January 1899
 Signed/ C. EARDLEY WILMOT
 District Judge.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

ORDER NISI.

Testamentary } No. 953

Jurisdiction }

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Vairavanather Vannittampi of Tellippalai Deceased.
 Mankayapillai widow of Vannittampi of Tellippalai —Petitioner.

Vs
 Vannittampi Arumugam of Tellippalai Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Mankayapillai widow of Vannittampi of Tellippalai praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Vairavanather Vannittampi of Tellippalai coming on for disposal before C. Eardley Wilmot Esquire, District Judge, on the 23rd day of January 1899 in the presence of Messrs Casippillai and Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 20th day of January 1899 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful widow of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to her unless the Respondent or any other person shall on or, before the 28th day of February 1899 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 23rd day of January 1899
 Signed/ C. EARDLEY WILMOT
 District Judge.

THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1899

WHO ARE "PAGANS"?

The "Jaffna Catholic Guardian" quotes an article from the Madras Watchman, in which (continued on the 4th page)

Mrs. Besant is found fault with for what the *Watchman* is pleased to style her "call to the ancient traditions of a pagan nation." What Mrs. Besant said was that English-educated Hindus should not imbibe the materialistic notions and ideas of the West, which, an education modelled on Western lines, was calculated to produce, but to practise their religion as zealously and fervently as their ancestors did. Many of the evils which beset Hindu society are, as she truly observed, due to the non-observance of the "Dharmas." In order to preserve intact the religion and literature of the Hindus, she impressed on them the duty of contributing towards the building and endowment of the Central Hindu College at Benares. A European professor of Hinduism has as much right to recall to the minds of his or her co-religionists the glories of ancient India, which regarded religion as the supreme concern of man's life, as a Tamil Christian has to refer to the greatness of the Israelites—God's chosen people, in lecturing on Christianity. But we forget that the Hindus are "pagans" and the God whom the Christians worship, has not invested the "pagans" with the same rights and privileges as the Christians. Hindus have no soul, no reason. They are neither Admirals of the Fleet nor Field-Marsbals. They do not manufacture maxim guns or torpedo boats. Colonel Ingersoll once put in a nutshell the whole trend of Christian reasoning when he jocularly remarked that nobody ever heard of a person who drove in a carriage going to hell. The God of the Christians has prescribed two weights and two measures, one for the Japanese, Chinese, Hindus, &c. &c., and the other for the British, French, Americans, Germans, Russians, &c. &c. Surely, Mrs. Annie Besant ought to have taken these differentiating principles between the Christians and "pagans" into consideration before she expatiated on the virtues of the "mild Hindoo."

The ancestors of Tamil Christian editors and preachers were also "pagans", and will be put in bell, hand and foot bound, with us, with Mrs. Annie Besant, and the two hundred and fifty millions of Hindus; nay, if Buddhists are also "pagans", with the vast majority of the human race. But we have one satisfaction, one gleam of hope. The Greeks, Spaniards and Portuguese, who, most of our Christian contemporaries say, are more vicious than the "pagan" nation of India, will keep us company. For, we think that all pious Christian souls will admit that individuals as well as nations are to be judged not by their professions, but by their actions. Judged by this standard, if it is a standard among Christians, Hindus and Buddhists will never be excelled by the Christian nations in virtue or morality. The "pagans" are neither land-grabbers, nor smugglers of opium into China, nor persecutors of the Jews. They do not profess one thing and do another. Oh, how long will Christianity continue to judge men by their professions and not by their deeds!!! Fancy the idea of Japanese, Chinese, and Hindus being called "pagans", while Greeks, Armenians, and Spaniards are said to belong to the group of enlightened nations!!! As if this inconsistency is not enough, we understand that Muhammadans also are excluded from the category of "pagans." Is it because they are as warlike as the Christian nations? People who are wedded to shibboleths may see virtue in such words as *Christian*, *Reverend*, *Right Reverend*, &c., and vice in such words as *Gentile*, *heathen*, *pagan*, &c. But we are among those who believe that there is no magic in words, and that man stands or falls by his actions.

Certainly, *pagan* is not synonymous with *non-Christian*. *Heathen* and *pagan* are words of contempt employed in speaking of non-Christians by narrow-minded fanatics who have no religion in them. Protestants employ the milder word *heathen* while Catholics employ the stronger one *pagan*. Apostle Paul says (1 Corinthians, X. 32):—"Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the Church of God." The term *Gentile* has almost the same meaning as the *Mlechha* of the Hindus—foreigner. While the Jews and Hindus have dropped from their vocabulary the words *Gentile* and *Mlechha*, the Christian Churches have coined two new words *heathen* and *pagan* to express their pagan hatred of non-Christians.

All accounts from the West agree in telling us that there is little of religion in Christian countries. Irreligion and want of religion are vices which affect the West more than the East, and

hence, if Hindus are a pagan nation, European and Americans are worse. It is Europeans and Americans belonging to the Christian persuasion, and not Hindus, that bear testimony to the fact that the Western people are not influenced by religion in their relations with each other and with the rest of the world. The London "Spectator" says that "if we believe in a future life, we shall not allow mere secular civilization to dominate us, as it dominates at the present moment a world which has lost for the most part its sense of the divine." According to the Editor of the "Spectator" and many other Christian Editors, Christianity has lost ground in Europe and America. But Hinduism has been the living religion of India for ages. Who are pagans then? Are not they the professors of the Christless creed of Europe and America?

We prefer the testimony of Christian laymen to that of Bishops and Archbishops, according to whom nobody lives or dies but does not flee into the arms of Jesus. All right-minded laymen in the West are agreed that religion does not influence the conduct of mankind there.

We hope that our countrymen will take note of these facts. Religion has to a great extent failed in Europe and America, which abound with "pagans" Christian, agnostic, and materialistic. The form of religion which has dubbed us heathen and pagan, and from which Christ has been "subtracted" for hundreds of years, is the worst paganism that has ever been inflicted on mankind.

THE WHITE WORLD HAS YET TO TURN CHRISTIAN

Whatever the politics and policy of the London "Spectator" may be, its articles are thoughtfully written setting forth every aspect of a question. Even if its conclusions are wrong, the facts are clearly stated so that the reader may draw his own conclusions. It is a paper that would never have disestablishment for fear of the injury to the spiritual life of the nation that would follow the severance of the Church and State. Such a paper in discussing the peace proposals of Nicholas II of Russia and Mr. Stead's project "to popularise the cry for peace by an endless series of public meetings", dismisses the same as impracticable, and concludes as follows:

"The plain truth of the matter is that war and the preparations for war are originally due to the fears and passions and clashing interests of the different peoples, and that there are only three ways in which these effects of those motives can be cured. One is the rise of a dominant power such as Rome was when Augustus decreed that all the world should be taxed. That is an impossible condition for the ruler of the land will under modern conditions, be also ruler of the sea. The second way is a federation of Europe, with a clause in its constitution that any state declaring war on another state, shall, at once, be occupied by the armies of the remainder. Does any one hope that this condition will ever be realized? And the third way is for the white world to turn sincerely Christian. That is not impossible, as we all hope and some believe; but we prefer to leave it to Mr Stead to fix the date, which he will not make close at hand, as the Christianization of the world would make both his proposal and him superfluous in the universe."

THE "CEYLON STANDARD" ON THE "INDIAN CHURCH."

Dr. Welldon stated at a meeting held in England that he had accepted the Bishopric of Calcutta on condition that he would be given a free hand in the proselytization of the Hindus, and that it was the duty of England in India to help the work of Christian Missions and make her Christian. This declaration of Dr. Welldon who is one of the state-paid officials of India, gave rise to considerable misgiving and created serious alarm in the minds of the Hindus and Muhammadans so much so that the leading Anglo-Indian Daily of Calcutta, the *Englishman*, called upon the Government to publicly disavow the principle involved in Dr. Welldon's declaration. The utterances of the *Englishman* were telegraphed home—to the *London Times*, Dr. Welldon evidently alarmed at the alarm he has created, writes a letter to the "Thunderer" in which he states:—"The Church in India must respect ancient religions and Indian Christianity to become national must be based upon native ideas of Character." The Editor of the "Ceylon Standard", in commenting approvingly on Dr. Welldon's words, makes the following observations on the policy pursued by the so-called Missionaries of Christ in South Ceylon, which,

mutatis mutandis, apply to North Ceylon with greater force:—

"We, here in Ceylon, have in Buddhism one of the most perfect of ancient religions that the world has ever seen. What has hitherto been the attitude of Christian Missionaries in Ceylon towards this ancient religion? We cannot think that their past action has always been free from bigotry and unnecessary hostility. There are Christian Missionaries, who, from pulpits and in the streets, daily attack Buddhism. We have seen tracts issued by Christian Publication Societies ridiculing scientific theories connected with Buddhism, in utter forgetfulness of the fact that even Christians, in the time of Galileo, were hopelessly in error about some of the cardinal truths of science. There have been too, occasionally in the past, an ungenerous omission to recognize Buddhist philanthropy."

BLACKMAILING IN ENGLISH SOCIETY.

The London Correspondent to the Hindu in the course of his "social letter" writes as follows:—

"In my last letter, I told you about a blackmailing case that came up before the Law Courts recently. But that was only one of numerous kinds of blackmail now practised in London, the amount of which is said to be 'simply enormous.' A Society paper says:—

"The Police Courts teem with exposures in low life. But it is far worse in the upper classes. Husbands are threatened by the female associates of their bachelor days. Wives ashamed to trust their husbands with some risky confidence, find that the secret is known to some scoundrel, who deliberately makes a livelihood out of it, and renders the lives of some of the foremost in the land a secret crucifixion. Men who are members of the most fashionable clubs, and go to the best houses, are often blackguards enough to practically support their worthless existence by blackmail.

Money-lending is a most lucrative business everywhere, but here, owing to the exigencies of modern Society with its rage for smart dressing and other luxuries, blackmailing is not unfrequently added, as a profitable appendage to it. And the opportunity is created by lending money to married women without the knowledge of their husbands and inducing them to sign their husband's name. The woman who is threatened with exposure if she does not repay, and dare not confess to her husband that she has borrowed, is on the high road to ruin—unfortunately, it is very difficult to catch this most pestilent type of blackmailer, for the woman either bravely owns up to her husband, who pays to avoid unpleasantness, or she falls back on some one who is not her husband, and is even more afraid than before to say anything about the matter."

"Woman's Weekly" says:—"Family prayers are again becoming de rigueur in smart households. This does not necessarily mean that an evangelical tone is spreading through the ranks of our purple clothed ones—but it is considered right to impress certain moral traditions and obligations on domestic households—very necessary in these levelling times of universal suffrage and socialism."

Recruit Drill—Among all nations and in all ages, there have been institutions devoted to the physical culture of the community; the soundness of the mind depends on the soundness of the body, physical training is as important as intellectual and moral training are. Of all modes of modern physical training, the Recruit drill as laid down by the Horse-guards, most contributes, if rightly practised, to a soldierly bearing, a graceful air and an impressive look; and it is just the sort of exercise that could be practised in all periods of life. For schoolboys it is an ideal one; it is well adapted to their raw physique and unlike other exercises, is very favourable and even conducive to growth. It will really recreate and will never exhaust. It brings every muscle and sinew into full play and develops them all simultaneously. It is perfectly free from accidents. Further it will prove a real accomplishment in case volunteering is introduced here. As a proof of the above it may be stated that Drill is a part of the Programme of every school and College in Europe, and that the Germans are reported to be much better all-round than they were before the system of compulsory military training.—Cor

THE NATIONAL COLLEGE IN BENARES.

Mrs. BESANT explained yesterday evening to the people of Madras her scheme for maintaining the National College at Benares. His Excellency the Governor of Madras accompanied by Lady Havelock graced the occasion by his presence. Sir Arthur Havelock has already established in the minds of the people a reputation for broad-minded sympathy with them and their aspirations, and the thundering cheers that greeted their Excellencies show the hold they have upon the affections of the people. His Excellency's sympathetic attitude towards the movement was made unmistakable when he voted for the proposition approving the proposals laid by Mrs. Besant. There is no doubt that there is a general cry for a change in the educational curriculum. The people as well as the rulers are equally interested in it. As was explained by Mrs. Besant yesterday, no education can make the

(continued in the supplement)

people of this ancient land more loyal, and more contented than that which imparts to them religious instruction along with secular teaching. If there is one teaching in our religious writings which is more prominent than the others, it is the principle of reverence and obedience. Duty is the key-note of the writings of our teachers. Duty to the Sovereign, duty towards our fellowmen, duty towards the poor and the forlorn are the lessons that are inculcated in our books; and it is to the bringing home to the minds of our young men this rich heritage that the movement for the establishment of a national College is directed. In all countries and in all ages, the schoolmaster has been a very potent factor either in advancing civilisation or in retarding it. As the gifted lecturer put it most pathetically, our sons and grandsons are now sitting at the feet of men to whom for the most part religious and moral precepts are contemptible, and need we wonder that nurtured under such auspices, educated by such men, we are rearing up generations of men who scoff at everything old and sneer at everything which speaks of religion or morality. We want men to teach—men who have in themselves realised the standard of excellence mentioned in our books, men whose profession is not to sell their dogmas for money, men who will teach for the sake of teaching and for the love of teaching. Mrs. Besant is no dreamer and she knew perfectly well that the ideal for the present at least, is impracticable. And it is therefore that she said that her object was to bring forth a class of teachers who would combine Western knowledge with the Eastern love of religion, so that they may mould the younger generation into intelligent and useful citizens of the Empire. The object set forth is most praise worthy. We are often accustomed to hear of the greatness of India in the past. We all glory in it and rightly too. Here we have an opportunity of showing that we are sincere in our glorification. It is not enough that we love our land; as the Honorable Mr. Bose said, we must love her well, if our love is to bear fruit. Two persons from two different platforms have told us what our duty is; we have listened with rapt attention to these wise counsels. Unless we are prepared to act up to these noble counsels, we shall be for ever fallen. We do not mean to recapitulate in these columns the aims and objects of the institution already established in Benares. We ask all Hindus to do their utmost in furtherance of the cause. Our people are always charitable. But theirs is a charity of a kind which is ephemeral. The time is come when that charity should be devoted to objects which will have a far reaching effect. Our rich Zemindars have now an opportunity of showing that their Hinduism is real by subscribing largely for this excellent purpose. Our charitable Nattukottai Chetties are not likely to miss this splendid opportunity of doing real good to their countrymen. It has been said that they have already agreed to subscribe fifty thousand rupees. We feel no doubt that, when the true object is better explained to them, it is not by thousands but by lakhs their contributions will pour in. Of late our Madhathipathies have shown that they are losing ground everywhere. The donations and contributions made to them cannot be better utilised than in helping on this cause. In fact, it is their duty which Mrs. Besant has taken upon herself. If they had done their duty by expending their wealth for proper purposes, the present scheme would have been unnecessary. If they fail to rise to the occasion, they will soon find that they have no place in the fold of Hinduism. They are given a splendid opportunity to recover their lost hold, and we hope they may be approached in a proper way so that their position in regard to such a movement may be clearly laid before them. To our merchant princes and other rich men we need say no more than this, that it is their simple duty to assist in making the institution, a success. In conclusion, we must say that our warmest thanks are due to the gifted lady who has made the cause of this country her life's work. She has given us new hope. She has spread before our eyes the vista of a forgotten glory—she has taught us to respect ourselves—she has pointed out to us that we are going down the ladder very fast and has undertaken to pull us up. Would we, at least, grasp the proffered hand and rise up? She wants no thanks—she thinks that she is doing her simple duty. Should we not, the sons of India, try to follow her in her noble work, cheer her up in her uphill task, so that she may be gratified by the belief that if we are not able to help ourselves, we are at least not indifferent to her extraordinary kindness and are grateful to her for her self-sacrifice and assiduity?

