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The Jaffna Catholic Guardian.

கத்தோலிக்கப் பாதுகாவலன்.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

"Qui Dominus custodierit civitatem frustra vigilat qui custodit eam."

கையொப்பவிகிதம் . ரூ. ௪
ஆம் க-க்கு முற்பணம்... 4-0
க-மாசத்துக்கு முற்பணம்... 2-0

CHURCH NOTICE.

Sunday 19th November 1893. AT THE CATHEDRAL. Mass 5.30 A.M. 7.00 A.M. 9.00 A.M.

Telegraphic Summary

Elections

New York, November, 8th.—In the United States State elections the Democrats have been completely defeated in the State of New York.

Defeat of the Matabeles.

London, November 10th.—A despatch from Fort Salisbury states that the columns under Majors Forbes and Wilson have again been attacked in the laager by a force of Matabeles numbering 10,000 men, which was defeated after an engagement lasting an hour.

An ultimatum has been sent to Lobengula calling on him to surrender; otherwise our troops will pursue his followers.

Mr Gladstone on the Matabele Question.

London, November 10th.—In the House of Commons last night Mr Labouchere raised a debate on the Matabele question, and vehemently attacked the Chartered Company, accusing it of filibustering and swindling.

Morocco to indemnify Spain.

Madrid, November 9th.—A note has been received from the Sultan of Morocco promising to fully satisfy Spain for the attack on Melilla, and to send a force to punish the Rifis.

The Lord Mayor's Banquet.

London, November 10th.—At the annual Lord Mayor's Banquet at the Guildhall last night, Lord Kimberley, in the absence of Mr. Gladstone and Lord Rosebery, said that our foreign relations were friendly; but that the growing battalions in Europe inspired anxiety.

New Ambassador at Rome.

London, November 12th.—The Right Hon. Sir Francis Clare Ford has been appointed British Ambassador at Rome, in place of the late Lord Vivian.

The naval question.

London, November 12th.—Lord George Hamilton, speaking at Harrow yesterday, said the different foreign nations were making great naval progress, and that, unless Great Britain made an immediate effort, she would be at a disadvantage next year.

Bombardment of Rio Janeiro.

November, 14th.—Latest advices from Rio Janeiro state that the bombardment of the town has been renewed with vigour by the rebel fleet. The banks are closed, and foreign warships protect the shipping.

The Times on the British Navy.

London, November 13th.—The Times is publishing a series of articles on the British Navy showing how weak it is as compared with the immense growth of the French and Russian navies, and insists on our spending one hundred millions, if necessary to secure the command of the seas.

The French in Mekong.

London, November 13th.—The Times Bangkok correspondent telegraphs that the French have shot some Laotians for refusing to do correct roadmaking along the Mekong, and that the tribesmen are in consequence furious.

Honor for the Duke of Edinburgh. London, November 14th.—In the House of Commons last night Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question, said the Duke of Edinburgh would be retained on the navy list unpaid as a mark of honor for his long and excellent service.

Mr Gladstone as a peace maker.

London, November 14th.—Mr. Gladstone has written to the coal owners and to the Miners' Federations advising further discussion of their grievances under the presidency of Lord Rosebery, in accordance with which his lordship has invited the representatives of both parties to a conference.

Local &

Arrival of Archbishop Melizan. Just as we go to Press, the following telegram reaches us from the Very Revd. Fr. J. Collin.

Archbishop arrived yesterday afternoon happy voyage, landing at four thirty, reception most enthusiastic on sea and land, decorations gorgeous and tasteful, fifteen very beautiful triumphal arches, immense crowd cheering all the way.

St. Patrick's College. The following telegram was sent on Thursday morning to the Archbishop.

Teachers, pupils begging Blessing send Your Grace thousand Welcomes, Ceylon.

His Grace the Most Revd. Dr. Melizan, has been pleased to telegraph the following reply.

Thanks to Principal professors teachers, pupils, send hearty blessing.

In honour of the Archbishop's arrival, the College was closed on receipt of His Grace's reply.

The Very Revd. Fr. J. Collin left this by Coach on Tuesday last for Colombo to be present for the reception which was accorded to His Grace the Most Revd. Dr. Melizan on Thursday last. Father Collin will remain in Colombo to receive His Lordship the Right Revd. Dr. Joulain and accompany him to Jaffna.

The Revd. Father Lytton, we learn from the Messenger, is now on a tour through England and Ireland, making collections for the proposed Catholic College of Colombo.

He has issued a Circular in which he states that "Donations may be made in money, in books to form a library either for the professors, the boarders or the day students, in instruments etc. for the science classes. Any thing that will help to raise Altars in the College Chapel and to finish and to decorate the Chapel itself will be most acceptable."

Change of Postmasters. Mr. Sathasivam is transferred from Puttoor to Vavuniya and Mr. Nicholas from Mannar to Puttoor.

The Mail Coach from Jaffna which left this at 5 A. M. now leaves at 3: A. M. in order to be able to catch the Matala train, the wet weather interfering with the usual speed of the coach.

Personal. Mr. Creasy, the Provincial Engineer who had been on a tour of inspection to the Vavuniya district returned to Jaffna a few days ago. Captain Walker with Mrs. Walker has also returned from Mannar where Mr. Walker was engaged in the inspection of the works in the Forest Department.

The Salt Rent for the Jaffna district for the year 1894 was put up for sale at the Kuchcherri last week and the highest price offered was Rs. 44,000.

The case in the Police Court of Jaffna to which I referred a few weeks ago and in which the Vidhan of Jaffna and the Udayar and Manigar of Nellore were charged with mischief by one Sapapathy for cutting down the fence of his compound and thereby causing damage to the Manigar, has been decided.

Irrigation. A meeting of the Provincial Irrigation Board was held at the Jaffna Kuchcherri on the 16th Instant. The members present were Mr. Twynam,

G. A. Mr. Creasy, P. E. and Captain Fyers.—Cor.

Mr. S. Asai Pillai.— Mr. Asai Pillai's tender for the Mail Coach Services along the Central Road as far as Matala and between Jaffna and Kangesanturai has again received the acceptance and sanction of the Post Master General.

A Trincomalee correspondent is glad to send to the Guardian a few lines about the small church of Kottiar, a village situated at the further extremity of the bay.

The Blessing of the new church took place on the 8th. The people gathered on the seashore to receive the Missionaries and throughout the day showed much enthusiasm.

The Lady Havelock Hospital is a hospital proposed to be established in Colombo for the benefit of Women and Children of all classes of the community.

PLAN OF HOSPITAL. Four General Wards, each to contain six beds and Six Single Wards for paying patients. Any donor of Rs. 4,000 may give a name to a General Ward (either his or her own name or a name In Memoriam.)

Stray Notes.— The case in the Police Court of Jaffna to which I referred a few weeks ago and in which the Vidhan of Jaffna and the Udayar and Manigar of Nellore were charged with mischief by one Sapapathy for cutting down the fence of his compound and thereby causing damage to the Manigar, has been decided.

It is expected that the extension of the Rail way from Polgahawella to Kurnegala will be opened for traffic in February next.

or of his Assistant that they have been fined. I think the Magistrate is right in fining the Headman, who instead of taking the law into their own hands should have taken a Civil action for asserting the rights, if any, of the Crown in the matter.

The Jaffna Railway Committee seem to be sleeping the sleep of the Seven Sleepers. I thought that the unfavourable report of Messrs Williams and Christie would rouse and bestir them; but I have been greatly disappointed.

The report has got abroad that a Police Magistrate is allowing his Interpreter to have access to him at home from day to day as his Tamil Pandit. As the Interpreter with the advantage he now enjoys of free intercourse with the Magistrate, can make himself the possible channel of much private information bearing upon the public duties of his superior, it is obvious that the best course for the Magistrate to adopt would be to employ a Pandit departmentally unconnected with him.

Hammenheul, the old Dutch fort at the entrance to the Kaits harbour was converted lately into a lazaretto, where persons suffering from infectious diseases were placed in quarantine. Mr. Hitchcock was in charge of this lazaretto for some time; but as there was little or no work there, the P. C. M. O. ordered that Mr. Hitchcock should be provided elsewhere and Dr. Attygalle has had to discontinue Mr. Tambimuttu, transfer Mr. Marganoute from Mandativu to Jaffna and send Mr. Hitchcock to Mandativu.

Conversion. The Madras Watchman announces the reception into the true fold, by the Archbishop of Madras Dr. Colgan, of a distinguished member of Madras Society in the person of Mrs. Yorke, the daughter of the Hon. Spring Branson, Advocate General of Madras and wife of Mr. A. Yorke, Partner of the Firm of Messrs Parry and Co. Madras.

Ceylon News.

His Excellency the Governor paid a visit to St. Lucia's Cathedral last week. He was shown round the building by Fr. Angeliemi and was much pleased with all he saw, especially with the altar made by native artists.

From and after the 15th Instant, Police Forces will be stationed in Peiyagoda and Pamanakada in the Western Province.

A direct Money Order Exchange has been established from the 1st Instant between Ceylon and New Zealand.

Mrs. Beasant has been lecturing on the "law of Karma" and kindred subjects during the week in Colombo, Galle and Panadura.

Mr. Lye, the Government Veterinary Surgeon proceeds shortly to India to bring a further supply of cows for the Government Dairy.

The Secretary of State has made an offer to place the Civil Service of Ceylon, the Straits and Hongkong upon the same footing as regards pay and pension as the Civil Service in India.

The Hon. J. W. Bonser, the new Chief Justice of Ceylon has arrived and assumed the duties of his office.

His Eminence Cardinal Moran, accompanied by the Very Rev. Dr. O. Haran passed through Colombo on the 14th Instant on his return from Europe to Sydney in the Orient.











THE

## Jaffna Catholic Guardian

NOVEMBER 18TH

## THE REVISED CODE.

The *Government Gazette* of the 3rd Instant contains next year's instalment of amendments to the Educational Code.

During the first eight years of its existence, the Department of Public Instruction carried on its operations by means of Circulars etc issued from time to time by the Director. It was in 1878, we believe, that Mr. Bruce embodied all the rules and regulations enforced by his predecessors together with those framed by himself, into a Code for Aided Schools. From 1878 the Code has been revised from year to year. While this revision lasts, the Code will hardly take a permanent shape; but there is the danger, already apparent, of its gradually coming out of the process of change, a scheme very different from what it was originally understood to be by those who are doing so much for the education of the people.

The Ordinances framed by the legislature for the repression of crime, the protection of property and the preservation of peace are far from being subjected to the same annually recurring revision as the comparatively insignificant regulations for aided Schools. The pretence for so much meddling legislation in the matter of schools is to be found in the fact that some aid is given by the Government to those who, by opening and maintaining nearly all the schools of the island, are practically the educators of the Ceylonese. And the worst feature of this legislation is that it is planned and carried out by a single individual. The Director makes any amendments he chooses to handicap Aided Schools in their efforts to secure a fair grant and the Governor in Executive Council "patriarchally" sanctions the amendments without any reference to the views of those who have to conform to them. We think that any amendments proposed by the Director should, after due notification in the *Gazette*, be referred to Managers, and afterwards submitted to the Legislative Council for approval and sanction, thus affording an opportunity for fair discussion. It is only a species of farce to print the Code each year with the "one-man" amendments of the Director, as sanctioned by the Governor, and then to lay it on the table of the Legislative Council.

The crop of amendments for 1894 begins with clause 12 which is given as follows:—

"Excepting in towns with special claims, no application will, as a general rule, be entertained for aid to a new school when there already exists a school of the same class within two miles of the new school, without some intervening obstacle, unless the average daily attendance in the new school for one year prior to the date of application for aid exceeds 60 in a boys' or mixed school and 40 in a girls' School. But in any case, however large the attendance, no new school will be aided within a quarter of a mile of an existing school of the same class, excepting in towns with special claims as aforesaid."

The amendment now made is immaterial, consisting as it does of the addition of the words "of the same class" to the word "school" last occurring; but we have to refer to the clause, as interposing a serious obstacle to the progress of Denominational education, which is the system pursued by the Catholic body. The clause, as it now stands, is the outcome of successive modifications by successive Directors, of the Departmental circular of the 30th November, 1874 which ran thus:—

"No grant will be made to any school established after the date of this circular, within a distance of three miles from an existing Government or Aided School of the same class, save under exceptional circumstances."

The Colonial Secretary, in his letter to the late Dr. Bonjean, of the 17th. February 1875, explained as follows what would constitute an exceptional circumstance:—

"The rule is intended to put a stop to differences which arise, but too often, from the competition (very laudable in itself) of the different religious bodies to extend their schools. In accordance with its provisions, if a school occupies the ground among the Buddhists and heathens, assistance will not be given to another school, founded subsequently within the prescribed limits, unless the first school works badly. If however there be a Christian religious community of sufficient number for a school, there would be no objection to an application for a grant to a new school, in spite of the fact of there being within the three-mile limit another school conducted on religious principles to which the parents of a large portion of the pupils object or to which children from religious objection refrain from going. Such a condition of things would be an "exceptional circumstance"; but every such case would have to be carefully inquired into before the sanction of Government to a grant could be given."

Mr. Bruce declared in 1880 that the Department would continue to be guided by the principle laid down in the Colonial Secretary's letter, which was printed at the end of the Memorandum of amendments published in that year. But in the process of revision, when the three-mile limit became a two-mile limit, the words "save under exceptional circumstances" were ingeniously transformed into "without some intervening obstacle, rendering the Colonial Secretary's explanation inapplicable to the transformed words and enabling the Directors who succeeded Mr Bruce to ignore the principle laid down in that explanation and to disregard the promise or pledge held out by Mr. Bruce.

Owing to this obnoxious clause to which the Managers generally object and which is very much in need of a definite interpretation to obviate misunderstandings, the registration of even C. Schools is complained of as being rendered impossible within the two-mile limit. In a C. School the average attendance required is fifteen, if for boys or for boys and girls and ten, if for girls only; and it is manifestly unfair that the two-mile regulation for A Schools in populous centres should be made to apply to C. Schools in neglected districts where the provisions of the Code as regards attendance and instruction are specially relaxed. The Director has subjoined notes to Clauses 30, 42, 59 and 68. The Clause we have been considering requires a special note and it is to be hoped that, in the next edition of the Code, Mr. Cull will restrict the application of the Clause to A Schools and add a note fully defining "special claims" and "some intervening obstacle."

Mr. Cull, probably acting on the advice of certain Inspectors anxious perhaps for more power to annoy the Managers and to terrorise the teachers of aided schools, has made the following addition to the punitive Section (h) of Clause 30.

"Violation of the rules for keeping registers referred to in clause 20 (d) will entail a forfeiture of either one-fourth or one-tenth of the grant according to the nature of the irregularity to be dealt with, in the judgment of the Director."

We have in a previous article proved that the Department, by depriving the conscientious Manager of half the grant of his school for false personation or falsification of the register committed by a teacher, is simply defrauding the Manager of what his school has honestly earned and making his school and the children attending it suffer most unjustly. We now further say that the forfeiture of one-fourth or one-tenth of the grant by a Manager, when the rules for keeping registers are violated against his will and without his knowledge, is a further attempt, shockingly un-

scrupulous, on the part of the Department, to deprive Managers of the grant earned under the most exacting conditions. It is simply robbery more or less legalised. The amendment or rather addition now made is also objectionable in that it gives a convenient handle for annoyance and even oppression to ill-disposed inspectors who can easily pick holes in the most carefully kept registers. Would Mr. Cull mind a little home-thrust? He would certainly feel deeply aggrieved, if he were fined the one-half or the one-fourth or even the one-tenth of his salary, for some offence done by one of his subordinates; and yet, he must admit that there would be no more injustice in fining him than in fining the Managers of schools, as he has done and now proposes to do. If the teacher violates the rules for keeping registers, let him be fined; if he is guilty of false personation or falsification of the register, let his certificate be suspended or let him be dismissed, or if Mr. Cull wants to go further, let the law be put in motion and the offender punished. It is surely not by wronging the Manager and the school itself that the wrongs done by a teacher are to be righted. This is palpable, manifest, downright injustice.

## THE JAFFNA RAILWAY.

We note that a high official, the Treasurer of the Colony, deprecates the idea that the construction of further breakwaters for Colombo to make its harbour more sheltered than it is, would prevent the Government undertaking the extension of the railway to Jaffna at an early date. This is how he expressed himself the other day in Council when the subject of the proposed Breakwaters and Graving Dock for Colombo was discussed.

"What he wanted to impress upon the members of the Council was that if they were now going forward and saying they were prepared to find such a large sum of money and to bind the colony to pay such a large sum, they must not hereafter, if claims were put forward that were supposed to be more in the native interest than in that of the mercantile community, say that they could not afford it, because they had already pledged themselves to this extension of the harbour. There were great works, railway works, and particularly he wished to say the RAILWAY TO JAFFNA which must come sooner or later and the Colony must be prepared to find the money for that, and not say that they could not afford it because they had entered upon this great work of the Colombo harbour."

The Treasurer, is the Hon. R. F. Saunders, the Chairman of the Northern Railway Commission and it is a thousand pities that he was not in the Island when Messrs. Williams and Christie drew up their hasty report.

The Jaffna Railway Committee should take heart and be up and doing. They should, on behalf of the people of the Northern and North-Central Provinces, emphasise what the Hon. Mr. Saunders has so well and seasonably said and urge upon the Governor with even more vigor and persistence than they have hitherto shown, the crying demand, the imperative necessity there is for railway communication to resuscitate the neglected North.

The *Observer* of the 9th Instant says:—The hope of railway communication for Jaffna and the North-Central and Eastern divisions of the Island must now be centred in a very promising and desirable Indo-Ceylon metre gauge railway with its West Coast line Mannar to Colombo and branches north to Jaffna and eastward to Trincomalee."

Commenting on the above the *Times* of the 10th Instant says that "the proper route is through the centre of the Island and not along the sea coast where traffic can only be secured from one side." This is so self-evident, that the *Observer's* contention for a West Coast route is unaccountable. Even the *Observer* must admit that the Northern North-Central and Eastern divisions of the Island would be much better served by the railway running through the heart of the Island than along the Western Coast. Even if we are to have an Indo-Ceylon Railway, the Ceylon sec-

tion of it should run through the centre of the Island, if its promoters are to secure from Government the large grants of Crown land they would require as a condition of their undertaking the work.

The *Observer* of the 13th Instant in a leader on the "Central Road," says that the report lately made as to the financial prospects of the Jaffna railway has demonstrated that its construction could not be made to pay. The report in question has demonstrated nothing of the kind. Messrs Williams and Christie's estimate was mere guess-work as to the cost of construction of a line on the broad-gauge; but if a metre gauge railway which our contemporary now advocates is made, it may, we think, be demonstrated that the Jaffna line will pay, and pay very well when the large tracts of fertile country on either side are taken up and cultivated.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The German Emperor receives on an average 600 letters a day.

It has been accidentally discovered that the flower of the sweet pea is the most effective destroyer of the common house fly.

A serious accident on the Madras branch of the Nilgiri railway occurred on the 9th Instant; forty-two persons were killed and several injured.

Very Rev. Father Schuch O. M. I. Prefect Apostolic of the Transvaal sailed from Southampton on Saturday 21st Oct. in the *Tartar* accompanied by nine sisters of the Holy Family destined for various missions in the Transvaal, Cape Colony and the Free State.

## WAS IT A GHOST THEY SAW?

Mrs. H. H. JENNINGS lives at No. 211, Main Street, Bridgeport, and Miss Minnie Parrot boards with her. The house is an old one, but in good order. One night early in December (1891) the two women locked all the doors and went to the theatre, leaving not a soul in the house. They left the gas burning, however, in the front parlour. At about half-past eleven they returned, and entered the house laughing and talking. But as they went into the parlour the merry humour died out of them in a second. Right in the middle of the room stood a dark man of gigantic stature. The upper part of his face was concealed by a mask, his eyes gleaming through the eyeholes in it. His shirt-sleeves were rolled up, and in one hand he carried a long, old-fashioned pistol. The women fled screaming from the room, and when Mr. Jennings came in five minutes later he found no one in the parlour and all the doors and windows securely locked. What was it the women saw?

"During a recent period of ill health," writes an American friend, "I had slept badly for several successive nights. On the fourth of these nights about two o'clock, I was suddenly aroused from a doze by what seemed like the calling of my name; and at the foot of the bed stood the image of my mother just as she looked five years before, as she was leaving home to go on a journey, on which journey she was killed in a railway disaster. I screamed and fainted. I was foolish enough to tell of it, and the local old women gossips said it was a summons and I would never get well. Yet I did, and am in perfect health now. I believe that vision came of my weak nerves, for I've never seen it since, and it's more than three years ago now."

No doubt it was the nerves. Why, there's no end to the tricks the nerves will play off on you when your system is out of condition. In March, 1890, it was, that Mrs. Jane Foster, of Darracott Road, Pokesdown, Haunts, wrote us as follows:—

"I was so dreadfully nervous I could not bear anyone in the room with me, yet I did not wish them far away in case I should call out for help. This was in June 1889. I slept very badly, and in the morning felt little the better for having gone to bed. There was often a severe pain in my head and over my eyes, and I was sick most of the time. My skin was dry and yellow, and the stomach and bowels felt cold and dead. By-and-by I had to lie helpless in bed. The doctor said he didn't know what my complaint was. I took nothing but liquid food, and could not retain even that on my stomach. By this time I was nothing but skin and bone. My memory completely failed. My head ached so dreadfully I thought I should lose my senses, and my friends agreed that I would never get better."

"I had given up all hope, when one day Mrs. West, of Bourne mouth, called and asked what I was taking. She told me she was herself once just as badly off, and was cured by Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. As she seemed to have so much faith in this medicine, I tried it, and in three days I was able to walk across the room, and by the end of the week I went downstairs. Now I am as well as ever. I can eat and digest my food, and all my nervousness has left me."

The malady Mrs. Foster suffered from was indigestion and dyspepsia and nervous prostration. The original cause was grief and accident, and violent death of her husband, but the Syrup had the system rallied only when the Syrup had given new vigour to the digestion and thus fed and toned the nerves.

Whatever may be your opinion of the Bridgeport ghost, it remains true that most unaccountable and sounds mean nothing more or less than a set of nerves all upset by indigestion and dyspepsia. Ghosts come from the inside of the person who sees them, and when Mother Seigel's Syrup does its work the eyes and ears entertain only what is natural and wholesome.