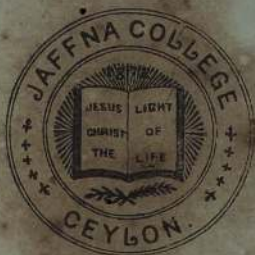


Jaffna College

MISCELLANY



XIX

November 1908

No. 1

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The
JAFFNA COLLEGE MISCELLANY

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The Principal,
Jaffna College.

Jaffna College

MISCELLANY

Vol, XIX

November 1908

No. 1

*A Defect in Our Educational System**

Giles G. Brown, B. A., B. D.

In presenting this paper this evening, I am conscious of raising a problem on which there are widely differing opinions, and which cannot be solved off-hand without a great many experiments, and perhaps a few lamentable failures. But I am chiefly concerned this evening, not with the final solution of the problem, but merely with pointing out the defect in our system, though I do venture a few suggestions, indicating the direction in which I think the remedy lies.

The defect which I wish to discuss is fundamental, and may be stated by saying that we lack a high ideal of what education means.

I must confess that in coming more intimately into personal relations with the work of higher education in Jaffna since returning from furlough, I am amazed to find the low ideals of education which are current among both teachers and students. It is no exaggeration to say that the standard by which education is measured today in Jaffna and indeed throughout

* Read at the annual meeting of the North Ceylon Educational Association, Oct. 3rd, 1908.
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Ceylon, is the ability of a student to pass some of the public examinations, most of which are of very doubtful value. The fact is, we have gone crazy on the subject of examinations, and have allowed ourselves to become enslaved to a system of which we should be masters. Far be it from me to say that there should be no place for examinations in our educational system. That would be foolish. But to be dominated by examinations, to make the passing of examinations our goal in education, and to measure our successes by that standard alone, is all wrong and to do so is to confess that our ideals in education are low and inadequate.

Perhaps some one may be inclined to say that I am overstating the case when I say that we are dominated by examinations, that we do make the passing of examinations our goal and that we do measure our successes by these standards. Let me appeal to your own experience to prove my point. In the first place, you know that from the time a child enters school till he passes into his professional career, he is annually met by the examiner and his fitness or unfitness for advancement is determined wholly by the results of that examination. Not only so but a teacher's ability is measured, not by his knowledge of a subject nor even by his ability to impart his knowledge, but by his ability to make his pupils pass their examination. You have all heard teachers criticised in this very respect:—"He is a good man, well educated and liked by his pupils, but he cannot make them pass their examinations." I have heard that sort of criticism from both managers and students. The passing of students safely through an examination is the test of a teacher. Further, — did you ever know of a teacher who carefully kept a list of all the questions ever asked by the inspectors in examinations for ten years past? Did you ever know of teachers drilling their pupils diligently on those questions? You all know that I am referring to a matter of everyday experience in our schools. Nor is this sort of thing confined to our primary and middle schools. I venture to say that there is not a teacher in Ceylon who does not more or less study examination papers and conform his teaching to the standards of those papers. Now I am not condemning that practice under the present

state of affairs. Since examinations have assumed such an abnormal place in our work, it is only the part of wisdom to take account of them. What I am condemning is the ideal of education underneath our present system which makes it necessary for teachers to turn their teaching in this undignified way. It would not be so bad however if somehow we could let it be known to our pupils and to the public that we repudiate that ideal. But do we? I think not. Did you ever take the trouble to read or to listen to the reports of principals of schools and colleges and to note that to which they particularly directed the attention of the public? Did you ever hear such an expression as the following: "This school has been brilliantly successful this year from an educational point of view, as is shown by the following examination results." Then follows a list in minute detail of every boy who has passed in some petty little examination that amounts to nothing as a real test of his attainments. And what does the public gather from our reports? It gathers that our ideal in our educational work is to get our boys through their examinations. But even worse than this impression on the public, is the impression made upon the students themselves. Just at the time when their minds should be directed toward high ideals of study and discipline, we are actually cramming them full of mere details which they can put down on paper at a given time and win a pass, much the same as jockeys dose a horse with oxygen in order that it may stand the test in a given race. Such an ideal is wholly unworthy. That students do allow themselves to be dominated by it, is seen in their unwillingness to study anything, even in connection with the subjects in which they are interested, unless it will be likely to help them in their examinations. Only a few days since a teacher in Jaffna College assigned some work in connection with a Latin lesson which, from an educational point of view, was quite important for the boys to know. Immediately the class demurred, saying that no such work would be required by the examiners of Cambridge University. The teacher very properly told them to prepare the work whether it was required for examination or not. I would not mention this if I supposed this feeling to be confined to a single class in one College. It is

bound to be the feeling of all students under our present system. The whole point of view of the student is vitiated. He studies examination papers and knows exactly what line of study to pursue to outwit the examiners. The books he buys and studies are prepared for that end and are filled with examination questions. What will increase his chances of passing is carefully memorized, no matter of how little consequence it may be from an educational point of view. What will not be immediately useful is set aside as of no account. I am sure that every teacher in our higher schools has had just this experience, and laments that his students are not being educated but are being crammed.

From the point of view of moral training, this is most disastrous. You cannot impart high moral teaching under a system of low ideals in education. The very system itself tends to develop low standards of honour. Anything to get through an examination will be regarded by the student as legitimate, since his whole career depends on his passing, he will try to get through at all costs. It is not an education that he wants but a pass. It is not a thorough grounding in the discipline of study that he is seeking, but a certificate of having successfully met a certain technical test. He cares nothing about the method by which this end is attained so long as he gains his end.

And the system also makes impossible any practical teaching along the line of moral training. Such teaching, being outside the studies of the curriculum, will not elicit the student's interest. They may come to class and listen in an indifferent way because they are compelled to do so, but they cannot assimilate such teaching, because they will not give it their strict attention. Moral training is regarded as of no value because it counts for nothing in examinations.

The remedy for this defect is not an easy matter to indicate and yet I venture a few suggestions. Unfortunately the matter does not rest with managers and teachers. We have our system to a large extent imposed upon us from without. The Department of Public Instruction has assumed the duty of dictating our standards of education and we are more

or less bound by that dictation. I say more or less advisedly for I think that we have allowed ourselves to be bound very much more than we ought to have done. We have confessed our dependence upon the Department in innumerable ways and because of that dependence we have permitted its dictation and have allowed the Department to lower our standards of education to its own ideal. And the Department has made it desirable for us to yield our standards by paying us the grants which support our schools and so it comes about that all our success is estimated from the standard of grant earned and examinations passed; and Government accepts—no—imposes that standard. Now we are to blame in accepting that sort of dictation. As managers and teachers we ought to repudiate such an ideal and this seems to me to be the first step in remedying this defect. As a matter of fact, we lamely protest against it but immediately set to work to gain every possible advantage from the system. Here are a number of boys in the Senior Local class. It happens that some of them have not yet passed the fifth or sixth standard examination. They have a money value. Let them go to examination and earn the school a few rupees. So on they go to the examination and have their minds impressed anew with the thought that passing the examination is their first business and that their value to the school is their grant-earning power. Now it seems to me time for us to repudiate that system. Even while working under a Grant-in-aid code, it seems to me to be still possible for us to hold up before students the true ideal and to give them to understand that the matter of prime importance for them in school is to submit to a thorough system of drill and discipline in study which will put into their minds not a fund of facts, but a method by which they can acquire facts for themselves, an impulse to further study and a relish for original research. Let them be thoroughly taught that a man may be an awful fool and still pass an examination, while a man may be a thoroughly well educated gentleman and never even appear for an examination. Let them feel that the passing of examinations and the earning of grant are mere incidents in their school life and not matters of first importance in their education. So I suggest that the place for us to be

gin remedying this defect is in our own schools and among our own pupils by repudiating the emphasis that has been put upon examinations and grants.

And again I think it is time for us to let the Department of Public Instruction know that we cannot give our approval to a system which makes examinations of paramount importance. I am well aware that we here encounter serious difficulties for we cannot wholly deny our dependence on the Department. But I think that both we and the Department have an exaggerated idea of that dependence, especially in higher education. We cannot exercise our independence, of course, if we value above all else passes and grant. But if we value the opportunity of giving genuine instruction along all lines which contribute to the full development of our pupils, then we can afford to be more or less indifferent about examinations and grants. I believe that one of the best things which one missionary in Jaffna ever did, was to ask the D. P. I. to relieve him of the obligation to present his pupils for examination. The school did not suffer in prestige and it certainly gained in its ability to give a genuinely good education. I believe we can all afford to do that much more than we have thought we could. But even if this is not true and we are still bound to the D. P. I. we can agitate for a system of education which will reduce the examination evil to a minimum. There is already a provision in the code for lump grants under certain conditions. It is true that such grants will be small compared with result grants, but under that provision it will be possible to give a very much better education and to instil into pupils a higher ideal of education and surely it is worth the sacrifice of some money to be able to do that. I believe that the time has come for all in educational work, and especially for such a body as this to demand a thorough modification of our present system, and for the almost complete elimination of public examinations. Personally I should like to see all high schools and colleges chartered institutions, subject to annual or semiannual *inspection*, and, if not with unlimited freedom, at least with a very wide range of choice in arranging their courses of study and the conditions of promotion. I believe that

such institutions would give an infinitely better training than schools which are working for passes, and that such schools might safely be trusted with the privilege of granting certificates to their graduates, which could be accepted in lieu of many of the examinations required by the Government. My own very strong conviction is that we are working under a system which cannot bring satisfactory results, and that it is the province of just such Associations as this to agitate strongly for a modification of the system along some such lines as I have indicated.



The Principal's Report

Ladies and Gentlemen:—

In submitting this report I am conscious of a certain inappropriateness in a Principal of only three months standing attempting to make a report for the whole year. From the very nature of the case, in dealing with the work of the school itself, I must rely wholly upon the testimony of others, for the condition of the school a year ago is outside the range of my personal knowledge. I shall therefore, in this report, draw freely upon the report submitted to the Board of Directors in June by my predecessor and colleague, Mr. Hitchcock.

But before turning to the main part of my report, I wish to express the sense of loss which those in most intimate relation to the college all feel in the passing of Mr. Hitchcock temporarily to another field of activity. Since 1888, excepting during two short intervals while at home in America, Mr. Hitchcock has been associated with the college, and has given the best years of his life to her service; and it is only fitting that on a public occasion like this I should express the appreciative regard in which Mr. Hitchcock is held by the students of the college, by the faculty and by the Board of Directors, as well as by the people of Valluikkodai both Christians and Hindus. I am sure that I express the feeling of all present when I say that the unostentatious faithfulness of Mr. Hitchcock's service will long be remembered and appreciated. In this service, Mrs. Hitchcock has played an equal part with her husband, and as they take up a new line of service, I am sure that the best wishes of the college and their large circle of friends follow them.

And now for a brief review of the work of the College during the past year for which I rely almost wholly upon the report of Mr. Hitchcock. I might explain that our College year begins in May, so that this report is supposed to cover

a year, from May 1907 to May 1908, and something of the past three months besides. During this time our numbers have been smaller than at any time since Dr. S. W. Howland took charge of the College 19 years ago. The decrease was in the College classes due wholly to the total failure of candidates in the F. A. and B. A. examinations the year before. We will omit a review of this period of our history with a passing sigh and with the hope that it will not occur again. We are glad to report a decided advance this year on the record just mentioned, though perhaps at first sight it does not appear notable. We were unfortunate along with many other schools in the matriculation results. The failure throughout the country was so great that a Commission was appointed to investigate the cause. For the F.A. examination we presented seven boys of whom four passed. In the B. A. examinations according to the reckoning of the Madras University, we obtained 43% of passes. That is, three candidates who appeared for the seven branches obtained three out of the seven credits with the University. Two of these passes were in the second division.

The demand for the Cambridge Local examination has become so insistent that we have yielded to the pressure and last year we presented six candidates for the Senior examination and twelve for the Junior. Of these, three of the Seniors, or 50% passed and of the Juniors a full 100% passed. I think we can be justly proud of these results. These classes have largely increased this year and we will send up twenty candidates for the Senior examination and fifteen for the Junior in December. All this is very encouraging. Today we have 100 on the roll while we had but 77 a year ago.

The religious work of the College has been pushed forward steadily. We trust we may never lose sight of the fact that it is on the side of character that we influence the lives of our students most profoundly; and our aim in this matter is the Christian ideal. The visit of Mr. Harte, the Colombo Y. M. C. A. General Secretary, was a great inspiration to the young men of the College. No less than 10 expressed a desire to lead a Christian life. Again at the convention in town under the leadership of Mr. Eddy, our students received another valuable impulse toward right living. But it is not upon such special seasons that we depend for our influence. If our daily work with these young men, and the daily contact of their teachers with them, if these fail to stimulate to nobler purpose and character, then we are failing in our fundamental aim. And here it may be permitted me to turn aside to say a word about my ideal for this College. Whenever an institution changes its administration it is customary for the new incumbent to take the public into confidence by telling them what the attitude and the policy of the new administration will be. In what I am about to say I am sure that my colleagues on the Faculty, both Tamil and American, are in sympathetic accord. We wish to have a College so efficient that it shall be able to advance its pupils in the

knowledge of the ordinary subjects of the curriculum that they shall pass their examinations successfully. We would like to see our students as they pass from our care privileged to write "B. A." after their names, and able from the intellectual point to enter any line of service for their country. But if we should do only this we would consider ourselves failures. That is not the height of our ambition. I believe that every school such as this should so stimulate the student's love of truth and humanity, that he should pass from his college Course inspired to spend his life in genuine service for humanity. The colour adopted by the College is Gold. That is the colour of our standard. And I trust that this colour represents in the mind of the Faculty and the students, not the gold of mere material wealth, but the gold of real achievement in character and service. I should like to see another colour added to our standard, viz crimson, representing the blood of real sacrifice. Sacrifice and achievement, or achievement through sacrifice; that is the ideal which I should like this school to place before its students for their inspiration. Such an ideal can be learned only from a great teacher, and we believe that it is not only our duty, but it is also our supreme privilege to introduce our pupils to the Great Teacher in whose life these elements, sacrifice and achievement, stand forth so conspicuously. If we fail in this we fail at the very foundation of our work. Again let me say that I am sure my colleagues are in perfect harmony with me on this fundamental.

With a new administration certain changes of method must necessarily be made. It will be the policy of the present administration to make only such changes as seem necessary for progressive evolution toward higher ideals of service. Whatever changes are made will not be made in the spirit of criticism of the past, but rather in the hope that, building on the past, we may lay a good foundation for the future.

Most of you have noticed an item in a recent issue of the *Morning Star* stating that we are expecting a grant from the D. P. I. We have received no official assurance on this point and so will make no plans depending on this help till it actually comes. (Since this report was made word has been received from the Department of Public Instruction that the College will be inspected for grant in August 1909.)

Mr. Hitchcock, in his report to the Directors, made very cordial reference to the work of the teachers during the past year, and it is with great pleasure that I add my word of testimony on this point. No school can be successful without loyal hard-working teachers. Jaffna College is richly blessed in this respect. We regret that J. K. Sinnatamby, Esq. B. A. has been absent for two months on account of illness, but we rejoice in his recovery and his ability to be with us again. J. V. Chelliah Esq. B. A. has left us on three months leave to try his M.A. examination in Calcutta. We wish him abundant success. S. M. Thevathason, Esq. B. A. a recent graduate of the College,

has accepted a position on our staff and we are sure will add to our strength and usefulness.

I am sure all our friends will rejoice with us in welcoming to our staff a new American teacher, Mr. Harry C. York Ph. D. of Yale University. In these days when the missionary enthusiasm of students in America is all being directed toward China, it is difficult to get men to consider any other field. But Dr. York very cordially and enthusiastically took hold of the Jaffna proposition as if he were satisfied that we could offer him as worthy an opportunity as any in the world. And I am inclined to think he is not mistaken. Dr. York is now in the harness and we are sure that his vigor, and enthusiasm and his wise counsel will do us all good. He shall have an opportunity to speak for himself before the meeting is over.

There is one other thing which should be mentioned, viz. the completion of the Local Endowment Fund. You will recall that the American Trustees of the College offered us Rs. 50,000 if we would raise Rs. 10,000. Well, we have done it, and more too. But it was tremendously hard work. Indeed it was such hard work and it took us such a long time that I am inclined to think that we would not at present welcome with real enthusiasm another such generous offer. In the collection of this fund a few men deserve special praise. Rev. T. B. Scott, M. D. worked like a slave. During the time of our special effort his typewriter was going from morning till night. He sacrificed much of his own work for our sake. He searched the peninsula from end to end. Whenever he saw a man with a rupee he ran after him, buttonholed him and would not take "No" for an answer. If it had not been for his unselfish sacrifice of his time, his energy, and his own personal comfort, we would still be searching for that Rs. 10,000. Another man who deserves special recognition in this matter is T. P. Hudson, Esq., B. A., our popular Latin teacher. Mr. Hudson went to the Straits and, largely among strangers, collected the sum of Rs. 5,648.57. Of this sum Rs. 1071.00 was given by Chinese of the Malay Peninsula who have never seen Jaffna. Remember this friends, that through Mr. Hudson China's sons have given to Jaffna Rs. 1071 for the education of Tamil youth. That should spur us to a greater degree of self help. Mr. Hudson's task was very difficult and its accomplishment reflects great credit upon him. Two others rendered special service. A. Abraham, Esq., B. A. and C. H. Cooke, Esq., went to Colombo and there collected Rs. 1177.00. It was the work of these men that brought us final success. This endowment will help us to meet a number of pressing needs. Most of all we hope it will not be long before we can strengthen our force by paying better salaries.

Perhaps some one will think that we can now boast like the Laodicean Church saying;—"We are rich and have gotten riches and have need of nothing." The fact is that the very thing which we need most seems to be the

hardest thing to get. Some of you have had considerable experience in the difficulty of securing suitable husbands for even well endowed brides. We are having the same difficulty. Personally, I believe that the greatest need of Jaffna College today is to be married, and I should be willing to see her grossly violate the laws of the land by marrying two partners on the same day, and then prove her righteousness by living with them both ever afterwards, in peace, happiness and usefulness. Friends, I hope that Union College is not yet dead. Indeed I believe that it ought to be the most alive project in Mission circles today, and I believe that there ought to be genuine rivalry among all concerned in making sacrifices for a worthy union of all the Christian forces of Jaffna in one strong school. Of this much I feel certain. If we fail in this, within fifteen years the people of Jaffna will regard us as a set of short-sighted dreamers. I shall be very sorry to see another year go by without some real progress in this direction.

In conclusion let me thank all those who have in any way contributed to the success of this prize-giving. Friends of past years have continued their kindness and we cordially recognize their generosity. We specially thank S. Kathiresu Esq., Proctor and Notary of Jaffna, for his very liberal contributions to our gymnastic prizes; and S. Seenevasagam, Esq. who is the donor of the new Kingsbury Prize in honor of the late E. A. Kingsbury Esq. who was for many years a teacher in the College, and I thank you all for coming here and showing your interest in this college. I submit this report with the hope that the coming year will see real progress in the development of the College in usefulness.



The Y. M. A. Annual Report

• By V. S. Saba Ratnam, Recording Secretary.

As we attempt to take a cursory review of the past year's work, we cannot but perceive that the hand of the all-mighty and all-merciful Father was with us in all our undertakings. Consequently we are thankful to Him for His infinite mercies and manifold blessings with which He has crowned our work. The year under review has been as eventful as any of the previous years. The general health of the Association has been very satisfactory.

• At the annual meeting held on the 9th Nov, 1907 Prof. L. B. Fritts, M. A. was elected president for the

third time, Mr. J. K. Sinnatamby B. A., vice-president, Mr. S. M. Thevathson B. A. Corresponding Secretary, Mr. V. S. SabaRatnam Recording Secretary, Mr. R. M. Thevathson Treasurer, and Prof W. E. Hitchcock M. A. and Mr. G. D. Thomas auditors. These officers together with the Chairmen of the nine committees and the two representatives of the associate members were the energetic leaders of the work of our Association; of course, the help rendered by the other members--active, associate and honorary, cannot be ignored. As we began the year there were 36 active and 47 associate members numbering a total of 83; but as time went on, our number began to increase and now there are 32 active and 73 associate members numbering a total of 105.

All the members of the Executive Committee filled their offices creditably and did their work faithfully and satisfactorily. There were held in all five business meetings to consider the progress we made from time to time and nine executive committee meetings to consider the different steps to be taken to develop our work. The president gave sufficient stimulus to infuse an energetic spirit into the minds of all workers. The financial state of the Association was pretty well kept up. The total income for the year amounted to Rs. 291. 28. The total expense was Rs. 236. 38. Hence there is left a balance of Rs. 54. 90.

Now turning to the religious work of the Association, we may safely say that we, on the whole, are considerably improved today when compared with our state at the close of last year. The religious indifference of many has given place to active and energetic Christian work. Certainly the whole success cannot justly be attributed to our work; but the various visits that were paid to us from time to time were of real service to us, especially that of Messrs. G. S. Eddy and A. Kingsbury and those of Mr. A. C. Harte the General Secretary of the Colombo Y. M. C. A. The indoor religious work was carried on aggressively by the Personal Piety and Prayer Meeting committees; but there is more room still for improvement in this direction. The Personal Piety committee was able to hold 31 evangelistic meetings with an average attendance of 25 and four Bible classes every Sunday

with an average attendance of 15. The Prayer Meeting Committee held 27 Gospel meetings with an average attendance of 37 and 30 prayer meetings with an average attendance of 19. The Gospel meetings were a decided advance on those of previous years, within our memory and some problems of comparative religion, Christian Theology and Doctrine were discussed. The Student Convention held in town on the 3rd, 4th and 5th July was of much service to us. About a dozen of us publicly confessed Christ and six of our number joined the church this year.

Coming to the outdoor religious work we had for our field the adjoining villages and schools, the Island of Elluvaitive and Tondi. Nine outdoor meetings were held with much success in the neighbouring villages and schools; we can safely say that the chairman did real honest work. Our school in the Island of Elluvaitive is in a flourishing condition, and a graduate of this school is being educated at the Tellipallai Training school at our expense. Instead of the usual annual expedition to the island a special evangelical deputation of nine members was sent on the 14th Feb. During the two days spent there, they held the usual prize-giving of that school and preached the gospel from house to house. The teacher with his family is doing honest evangelical work and is very true to his sense of duty. "Paul planted, Apollo watered," the remaining work is left with God. The work done in the schools mainly consisted in conducting Sunday schools. There was a pretty good advance in this line. The teachers going to the different schools are first prepared by our principal every Sunday, to place the truth before the boys and girls in the fittest manner possible. This year the Sunday school prize-giving was held in each school and prizes were distributed as usual.

Now turning to the mental department, we are glad to see that the Reading Room has continued to be very attractive. The valuable additions made to the list of papers and magazines, especially "The Bangalore," "The Well Spring," "The Independent," "The Christian Herald," and "Everybody's Magazine" were of real service to widen the student's mind. The prize for current events awarded by the Faculty for the College classes stimulated them to pay more

attention to this line and helped to recreate their minds overtaxed by the Madras Examinations.

The Association had a picnic on the 7th and 8th Feb. on the island of Mandaitive. About fifty of the members accompanied by the president and others left the College on Friday noon and after a prosperous voyage landed in the island in time for a good game of football. The day was spent in exploring the island, playing games, and sea-bathing. Dr. Gnanamuttu did much to make the picnic a success for which we most sincerely thank him.

Now coming to the third side of our Association, the physical, the last though not the least, we can safely say that we did make some advance here. During this year we played two football games in connection with the 'Price Challenge Cup' with Jaffna Central and St. John's College, and each ended in a drawn game. The annual 'Field Meet' came on on the 18th July. As no one satisfied all the conditions of the constitution, no medal was awarded this year; however, the day was eventful and interesting. We are very glad to find that the Faculty take much interest along this line. The help rendered by them in this department was very great.

Though the state of the garden was poor at the beginning of the year, Mr. J. K. Sinnatamby B. A. began the work so ably and diligently that his worthy successor was able to bring it to a thoroughly flourishing and productive condition and realised an unusually large income of Rs. 24. 35 cts for the year.

All these facts show us clearly that we have been doing some real service in all the three departments of the Association man. Thus, let us run our race with patience "till we attain unto the unity of faith, and of the knowledge of the son of God, unto a full-grown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ."

In conclusion, while I thank all the officers and other associates who kindly helped me in carrying on my work, I earnestly wish that we remember Toudi and feel it our duty to take an active part in the evangelization of India and Ceylon and help that cause as much as possible, even by going as missionaries, and that we strive to finish the work we are in and

pray that this Association be a means for the furtherance of the kingdom of God in our land.



Y. M. C. A. Treasurer's Report

for the Year 1907-8

| Receipts | | Expenditure | |
|---|----------|---|----------|
| | Rs. cts. | | Rs. cts. |
| To subscriptions | 43.72 | By Tondi Mission | 25.00 |
| " Int. on Permanent Fund | 12.00 | " Train. Sch. student | 19.75 |
| " Reading Room | .34 | " Picnic Expenses | 12.00 |
| " Eluvitive Exped. Collection | 23.15 | " Eluvitive school | 8.18 |
| " S. School charity | .05 | " Eluvitive Expedition | 23.15 |
| " Fine for lost things | .10 | " Correspondence | .30 |
| " Rice contribution | 9.22 | " Cart hire | 4.00 |
| " Garden | 24.00 | " Town Convention | 10.00 |
| " S. School Committee Collection | 23.00 | " Repairs | 1.75 |
| " Athletic Committee Collection | 17.25 | " S. School Quarterlies | 5.00 |
| " College collection for athletics | 87.00 | " S. School celebration | 28.00 |
| " Balance in hand Nov. 9 th 1907 | 55.45 | " Athletic committee for the field day | 17.25 |
| | | " Cricket, football materials | 87.00 |
| | | " Garden Committee | 4.00 |
| | | " Balance in hand Nov. 7 th 1908 | 54.90 |
| Total | 295.28 | Total | 295.28 |



The Annual Prize-Giving

Our Prize-giving this year was held on September 11th, which unfortunately for us was a very lucky day for weddings among our Tamil friends, and as a consequence the attendance was not so large as usual. However Otley Hall was comfortably filled and those present spent an enjoyable evening. Sir William Twynam, K. C. M. G. was expected to preside but at the last moment was detained and in his absence the chair was filled by our Principal. The following programme was given:—

Hymn

Scripture Reading and Prayer

Principal's Report

Song

DECLAMATION:

Prize Tamil Lyric

PRIZE ESSAY:

DECLAMATION:

Litonia

Impeachment of Warren Hastings

R. Arulampalam

A. Kanagasundram

The Harmony of Science and Religion

M. Arumugam

Judge Pittman's Watch S. W. Charles

Prize-Giving

Song

One Night When I Was Snug in Bed

Remarks

College Song

National Anthem

Prizes to the value of about Rs. 175.00 were awarded. The full value of the prizes would not be apparent to an outsider as the books given represented but a small proportion of the value. Most of the winners prefer to have but a single book as a reminder of the prize and the balance given in money. However the books awarded were about thirty in number and were well selected. The following were the prize-winners:—

| Class | Subject | Name of Prize | Winner |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--|
| B. A. | Essay | S. R. Rajaratnam (Donor) | 1st. M. Arumugam 2nd. V. S. Sabaratnam |
| B.A. & F.A. | Currents | Dr. Paul's Memorial | 1st. R. M. Thevathason 2nd. A. Kasuppillai |
| F. A. | Math | The Bartlett | 1st. R. M. Thevathason 2nd. V. Arumugam |
| Matriculation | Hist. & Geo. | The Hunt | 1st. P. C. Rajaratnam 2nd. S. N. Nelson |
| " | Scripture | The Brokenridge | 1st. A. M. Thevathason 2nd. S. H. D. Selvamanikam |
| Matric & Sen. Local | Arithmetic | The Kingsbury | 1st. A. D. Edward 2nd. A. Sinnatambv |
| Sen. Local | English | The Vaitialingam | 1st. Thambyrajah Hudson 2nd. A. S. Snell |
| " | Scripture | The Sherman | 1st. A. Edward 2nd. V. Kartigesu |
| " | Math. | The Drieburg | 1st. S. Kanapathipillai 2nd. A. D. Edward |
| Jun. Local | Declamation | The Howland | 1st. R. Arulampalam 2nd. E. T. Hitchcock |
| " | English | The Asbury | 1st. Arumainayagam 2nd. A. Suntharampillai |
| " | Scripture | The Hastings | 1st. T. Arumainayagam 2nd. E. T. Hitchcock 3rd. S. Tambu |
| Jun. Local "B" | Arithmetic | The Hitchcock & Strong (continued) | 1st. K. Veeravahu 2nd. K. Murugappah |
| The whole school | Tamil Lyric | Proctor Rajaratnam | A. Kanagasundram |

The character prize given annually by Sir William Twynam K. C. M. G., was this year awarded to R. M. Thevathason of the Senior F. A. Class.

After the prizes for scholarship were distributed winners in the Field Day Meet and in the Gymnasium contests were called to the front and roundly applauded as they received their prizes. The winners in the field sports are given on another page. Prizes in gymnastics were awarded to the following:

Parallel Bars:

1st. V. Kartigesu
2nd. A. M. Thevathason

Horizontal Bar:

1st. E. R. Alfred
2nd. V. Kartigesu

Rings, Trapeze & Ladder

1st. E. R. Alfred
2nd. V. Kartigesu

Horizontal Bar (Juniors)

1st. S. Nagalingam
2nd. M. Ponniah

The Field-day Sports

Our annual contest in Field Sports was held this year on Saturday, July 18th. There were eleven prize events and the competition was keen although no records were made. There are at present no athletes of extraordinary ability in school but the contests showed that we have several young men of promise from whom we may expect greater things in the future. Messrs. S. R. Rajaratnam B. A., W. Thambypillai Esq. and L. B. Fritts, M. A. acted as judges, and Rev. G. G. Brown B. A., B. D. acted as starter for the races.

Below we give the several events with the prize-winners in each.

For Senior Students

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----|--------------------|
| High Jump, | 1st | V. Vytilingam |
| | 2nd | E. R. Alfred |
| | | P. Kanapathipillai |
| Broad Jump, | 1st | V. Kartigesu |
| | 2nd | S. Suppiah |
| 100 Yds. Dash, | 1st | V. Kartigesu |
| | 2nd | S. Suppiah |
| 100 Yds. Hurdles, | 1st | V. Kartigesu |
| | 2nd | E. R. Alfred |
| 300 Yds. Dash | 1st | S. Suppiah |
| | 2nd | V. Kartigesu |
| Throwing Cricket Ball | 1st | S. Suppiah |

For Intermediate Boys:

| | | |
|--------------|-----|----------------|
| 100 Yds Dash | 1st | D. J. Hensmar |
| | 2nd | S. Nagalingam |
| Sack Race | 1st | S. S. Cooke |
| | 2nd | V. Chellaturai |

For Junior Boys:

| | | |
|--------------------|-----|------------------|
| 100 Yds. Dash | 1st | S. Thambynayagam |
| | 2nd | M. Ponniah |
| Egg and Spoon Race | 1st | S. Thambynayagam |
| | 2nd | T. Tharmaratnam |

Competition of Classes:

| | |
|------------|--|
| Relay Race | Won by E. R. Alfred, V. Kartigesu and P. S. Kulathangam, representing the Cambridge Senior Local Class |
|------------|--|

The Tug of War between the Cambridge and Madras classes was won by the former.

The Football Matches

In our athletic activities football ranks high this year. Entering the Intercollegiate contest for the cup offered by Mr. Price, the Government Agent of the Northern Province, with an unenviable record of losses in past years, it completes its series this season with what is for Jaffna College a remarkable showing, a season unmarred by defeats. To be sure, our team has not the satisfaction of having scored on its opponents; but in the light of all circumstances the record is a most encouraging one, and bids fair for the future.

Our first game was played Oct. 23rd against the strong Central College team. At that time our period of training had been very brief, and our team work not so well developed as in succeeding games. Our forward line was weak, and not so aggressive as could have been desired. In this match the play was in Jaffna College territory most of the time, and in the second half particularly, Central made repeated and desperate efforts to make a goal. But what our team lacked in offensive work it made up in its fine defense, and the whistle gave its final sound without either side having scored.

In this game the line up was as follows:

| | | |
|----------------|---|---------------------------|
| Center Forward | - | Cooke, A. W. P. |
| Right Forward | - | Sabarathnam V. |
| Right Wing | - | Nagalingam, S. |
| Left Forward | - | Kanapathipillai, S. |
| Left Wing | - | Chellaturai, V. |
| Center Half | - | Thevathasan, R.M. (Capt.) |
| Right Half | - | Karthigasu, V. |
| Left Half | - | Thambyrajah, H. |
| Right Fullback | - | Alfred, E. R. |
| Left Fullback | - | Kulathungam, P. S. |
| Goal | - | Robert, J. |

Our second game was with St. John's College, and was played Oct. 30th. This game showed decided improvement in the team-work, and ought to have proved a victory for our side. St. John's, however, put up a spirited defense, and successfully blocked several chances at their goal both in the way of corner kicks and as a result of clever

passing. An unfortunate accident occurred in the second half, when one of the St. John's players was taken ill and had to withdraw. The other ten put up a stiff game nevertheless for the remainder of the half. Again the game resulted in a no-score tie.

The line-up was the same as in the game with Central, with the exception that Rajaratnam, T. C. played at right wing in place of Nagalingam, S., the latter taking the place of Sabaratnam, V. at right forward.

The third, and final, game was played on Nov. 9th, the anniversary of the King's birthday, against St. Patrick's College. This was the match scheduled for Oct. 16, but postponed by the latter party. In this game the Jaffna College team showed by far the best development of the year, and indicated what might have been its power had it been favored with better opportunities for getting into full form. Some of the passing was the prettiest seen thus far. The line-up for this game was quite different from that of the previous games, but the results amply justified the changes, and vindicated the judgment of the coach, who was responsible for the same. Altho we again failed to win a decisive victory, we feel satisfied that our team did superior work, and is entitled to a foremost ranking.

For this game the line-up was

| | | |
|-----------------|---|---------------------------|
| Center Forward, | - | <i>Arumugam, M.</i> |
| Right Forward, | - | <i>Sabaratnam, V.</i> |
| Right Wing, | - | <i>Rajaratnam, T. C.</i> |
| Left Forward, | - | <i>Nagalingam, S.</i> |
| Left Wing, | - | <i>Chellaturai, V.</i> |
| Center Half | - | <i>Thevathasan, R. M.</i> |
| | | (Capt.) |
| Right Half, | - | <i>Edward, A. D.</i> |
| Left Half, | - | <i>Vaitalingam, V.</i> |
| Right Fullback, | - | <i>Alfred, E. R.</i> |
| Left Fullback, | - | <i>Cooke, A. W. P.</i> |
| Goal, | - | <i>Robert J.</i> |

In connection with this series of matches certain innovations have been made with a view to rousing and maintaining a true College spirit, and for raising

the position of athletics as a means to a broader education.

The first of these was the appointment of a coach with full authority to direct the playing and to make changes in the line-up. By this means the making of the team was placed on a purely competitive basis, and the effect in the direction of a keener competition was at once apparent.

The second innovation was to hold out a tangible reward in the shape of a right to wear the letter "J" worked in the College colors, the same to be conferred on all who played in the championship series. This, too, could not fail to have its effect toward arousing a more vital interest, especially when supplemented by talks and mass meetings for the purpose of instilling deeply into the minds of the students a realizing sense of the deep honor, and consequently deeper obligation, implied in thus representing the College in a public contest.

The enthusiasm and true sportsmanlike spirit that has been shown in growing measure among the majority of the students have fully justified all these efforts.

Two defects have come to light thru the lessons of this season, both of which, however, can be readily remedied. One is that more time is required to develop a team than we had at our disposal this year. Of course we have simply to begin a few months earlier next season. The other defect is the lack of suitable grounds on which to practice. This is more serious, and in this we are badly handicapped. Would that some public spirited benefactor would come forward, and solve the problem for us by the offer of at least the use of his land during the dry season! But in any case we are determined that another season shall not come around without better facilities for practice.

With these two defects corrected, and with an admirable nucleus for next year's team and plenty of good material to draw from, we feel optimistic of once more bringing into the annals of Jaffna College the record of a Championship Eleven.

Jaffna College Announcements

Work for 1909 will begin on Monday, January 11th, at 9. A. M. and all students are asked to be present at that time. A number of important changes will be made to which prospective candidates for admission are asked to give careful attention.

1. A preparatory class will be formed for boys, who have passed standard V.

2. To meet the needs of those who wish to qualify for the London University Scholarships, a London Intermediate class will be formed.

Candidates desiring to enter the three classes in the lower division, must come prepared to pass an entrance examination.

Candidates for the Preparatory Class will be examined in subjects of the fifth standard. Candidates for the Junior Local B Class will be examined in the subjects of the sixth standard.

Candidates for the Junior Local Class will be examined in the subjects of the seventh standard including second stage Latin and Algebra. For 1909 Latin and Algebra will be omitted from the subjects required except in the case of students who are preparing for the London Intermediate course.

Candidates who have passed the fifth, sixth or seventh standards in all subjects and who bring a certificate from their schools to that effect will be excused from these examinations.

Candidates for the Senior Local and London Intermediate Classes will be admitted on the presentation of satisfactory certificates of fitness.

N. B. All candidates must bring a proper leaving certificate from other school managers and a recommendation of character.

The Entrance examinations will be held in Otley Hall, Vaddukkoddai on Monday and Tuesday January 4th and 5th commencing at 9. A. M. To meet the expenses of this examination a charge of Rs. 1. for each candidate will be made. For examinations on any other days the fee will be Rs. 2.50.

Day pupils and weekly boarders will be admitted under conditions satisfactory to the Faculty.

An entrance fee of Rs. 10 for boarders and Rs. 5 for day pupils will be charged. Board will be charged at the rate of Rs. 15 per quarter for ordinary board and Rs. 17 for vegetarian board.

Tuition Fees

| | | |
|---------------------|----------|-------------|
| Preparatory Class | Rs. 5.00 | per quarter |
| Junior Local B. | 7.50 | " " |
| Junior Local A. | 7.50 | " " |
| Senior Local | 9.00 | " " |
| F. A. and B. A. | 10.50 | " " |
| London Intermediate | 12.00 | " " |

All day pupils must pay fees strictly in advance on the first day of term. All boarders except those who receive aid from bursaries, may pay their fees in three installments on or before the dates appointed by the principal, the first installment being due on the first day of the term.

All students who receive aid from bursaries, and who pay less than Rs. 10 per quarter must pay all dues on the opening day of the term. All others may pay in two installments. No money will be credited from bursary funds till all dues from the student are paid.



College Notes

—Our very able instructor in Latin and English Mr. J. V. Chelliah, B. A., takes up his M. A. examination in Calcutta this month.

—It has been definitely decided to start a London Intermediate class in January; also a Theological class. All those interested in either of these classes should consult the College announcements above and write to, or see, the Principal.

—Mr. J. K. Sinnatamby, B. A., has taken up the pastorate of the Pandaterrippu church and will sever his connection with the College at the end of the present term. He has been a very efficient teacher and exerted a strong Christian influence in the school. We

are sorry to lose him but are consoled with the thought that our loss is the Church's gain.

—In the latter part of September, we were very glad to welcome Mrs. Brown, who had remained some months in America after her husband returned to Jaffna to assume the Principalship of the College. Mrs. Brown was formerly a very successful teacher in Oberlin College and has taken up some work in Jaffna College. She has already demonstrated the fact that she is one of the most valuable members of our staff.

—Mr. S. Seenivasagam of Chunnagam, now of the Supreme Court, Ipoh, Perak, has started a prize in honor of the late Mr. E. A. Kingsbury. This year the prize was given by Mr. Seenivasagam himself for the best written examination in arithmetic in the Senior Local and Madras Matriculation classes. Mr. Seenivasagam has promised to raise a fund so as to secure the permanency of the prize.

—On October 12th, Mr. S. K. Nair, a member of the Indian National Congress, who was on a speaking tour in Ceylon, visited our College and gave a splendid address on "Young Ceylon and Its Mission." He is not one of the misguided patriots, who are all too common in India today, but a thoroughly sane and cultured gentleman who recognizes the real needs of his country—social reform and industrial development. His address was full of sound advice and helpful suggestions couched in excellent English and delivered in a masterful manner.

—Jaffna College has been registered by the Department of Public Instruction for a grant-in-aid. The College will not have a regular examination but will be subject to occasional inspection and will receive a lump grant based on the average attendance.

—Mr. A. C. Harte, the General Sec. for the Ceylon Y. M. C. A. was in Jaffna recently and paid us a short visit on October 17th. There is no one more welcome in Jaffna College than he, and we are looking forward with pleasant anticipations to having him with us for a day or two in the near future.

—The College Library has recently been improved by the purchase of "The Historians History of the

World" in 24 large volumes and several new books on various subjects. Besides these about a hundred volumes from Rev. R. C. Hastings' library have been purchased, and our Principal has donated a number of good books including a full set of President King's works on theology and kindred subjects.

—On Saturday Nov. 7th, at 7 p. m. the Y. M. C. A. had its annual meeting and election of officers for the ensuing year. The following are the names of those selected to fill the offices during the next year. President, H. C. York M. A., PH. D., Vice-President, Allen Abraham, B. A., Corresponding Secretary, S. M. Thevathason, B. A., Recording Secretary, Mr. V. S. Sabaratnam; Treasurer, Mr. A. M. Thevathason; auditors, Rev. G. G. Brown, B. A., B. D. and C. H. Cooke Esq. For an interesting account of the year's work see the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer in this number of *The Miscellany*.

—The College staff has been greatly strengthened this term by the coming of Dr. and Mrs. Harry C. York. Dr. York is a graduate of Yale University and received his degree of Ph. D. after three years of post graduate work in the department of Biblical Literature and Semitic Languages. His thorough scholarship and his large capacity for work will do much to raise the students' standards of study and educational ideals. He has already won a place of honour among the students on the athletic field by coaching the football team so that the college eleven is now the best the school has had in years. The Alumni of the College will rejoice in this addition to our force. Dr. and Mrs. York arrived the latter part of August and are both hard at work studying Tamil. Dr. York, has been taking classes in Science, English and Latin. It is expected that at the beginning of next term he will give about half of his time to work in the Theological class.

Alumni Notes

Mr. T. H. Crossett M. A., F. R. H. S. has been appointed Vice-Principal, St. John's College, Jaffna.

Dr. E. V. Ratnam who proceeded to England in March last, has succeeded in obtaining the triple qualification L. R. C. P. and S. Edinburgh.

Dr. W. S. Rutnaval has been transferred from Maha Oya as resident medical officer of the Convict Hospital, Borrella.

Mr. A. Talaiyasingam, Advocate, was appointed to act as Commissioner of Requests and Police Magistrate of Point Pedro and Chavagachecherri from July 15 to August 5, 1908 during the absence of Mr. M. M. Wedderburn.

Mr. R. P. Aseervatham, Postmaster of Kurunegalle has been appointed District Engineer.

Mr. A. S. Arulampalam, Clerk District Court Jaffna, has received an appointment as clerk in the P. C. M. O.'s office Colombo.

Mr. J. Thambyah Bartlett who passed the Proctor's Final examination sometime ago, was sworn in on the 24th Sept. before Mr. Justice Wendt as Proctor of the District Court of Colombo.

Mr. R. Darmalingam was successful in the last Proctor's Final Examination.

Mr. S. Supramaniam, Notary Public, has his license transferred from Karadive to Maviddapuram, Tellippalai.

Mr. F. S. John who recently passed the Postal examination and came off the third in the Colony, has received an appointment at the General Post Office in Colombo.

Dr. S. Saravanamuttoo has been transferred from Nikkara-wattia to Deniyoya.

Mr. D. S. Woodhull of the Ahangama Postoffice has been transferred to Galle as a signaller, on promotion.

Dr. Charles Dutton of Jaffna has been registered under Medical Registration Ordinance.

Mr. G. A. Richard of the Postoffice at Hutton has been transferred to Jaffna Post office.

Mr. R. P. Aseervatham, Postmaster of Kurunegalle has been promoted to Class I of Postmasters, starting with a salary of Rs. 1,400 per annum.

Visitors

Mr. J. I. Christmaspillai, B. A. sub-Magistrate, Vaniyambad-Salem District; Mr. P. Amerasingam, Postmaster, Hambantotte; Mr. Charles Gnanamuttu, Postmaster Negombo; Rev. E. R. Fitch, of the Jumna Mission, Allahabad; Mr. S. Tambyrajah, Overseer P. W. D. Kuala Kubu; Mr. J. V. Chellappah Chief Clerk, P. W. D. Kuala Kubu.

Obituary

The death of Mr. S. Saktivelpillai, Station Master of Kankasanturai after a short illness from pneumonia occurred on 10th August, 1968.

Marriages

Mr. T. N. Sinnatamby, of the Kantherodai English school was married to Miss Ilya Thankamma Chellappah on the 9th Nov. '08.

Mr. K. Arumugam, of the Vaddukkoddai Hindu English school was married to Miss. Vytilingam of Araly on the 3rd September 1908.

The wedding of Mr. V. Ponnampalam, Clerk, Land office, Kuala Kubu, with Miss Thaiyal Ambaal Murugeser took place on 2nd July 1908 at Urumperai.

The marriage of Mr. J. H. Rasiah Joseph, Proctor, with Miss Chinnammah Williams Murugesu was solemnized at St. Peter's Church, Jaffna, on the 11th July, 1903.

Mr. Sinnaturai Backus, was married to Miss Pakkiam Moody on the 12th August 1903, at Vaddukkoddai Church.

Mr. S. Seenivasagam, Clerk, Supreme Court, Ipoh, Perak was married on 28th August, 1908 to Miss Puranam Canagasabai.

Mr. George S. Mather is engaged to Miss Alice Ratnam Dana of Manipay.

Mr. J. C. Chelliah was joined in matrimony to Miss Moses at Pandaterippoo Church on 4th November.

Mr. V. Coomarasamy Proctor, Tellippillai, was married to Miss Vairavipillai of Maviddapuram on 2nd September 1908.



Receipts for the Miscellany

Since our last issue the following subscriptions for *The Miscellany* have been received. We heartily thank those who have paid, and earnestly request others who have not paid to do so at an early date. We would suggest that those in the Federated Malay States send their subscriptions for two or three years at a time, as many are in arrears and the money will be credited in advance. The subscription is 50 cents per year.

| | | | |
|---------------------|------|------------|----------|
| Chas Stickney, | Esq. | Colombo | Rs. 2.00 |
| C. W. Balasingham | " | " | " 2.00 |
| J. R. Mann | " | " | " 1.00 |
| R. P. Aseervatham | " | Kurnegalla | " 2.00 |
| Dr. A. C. Evarts | " | Kalpitiya | " 2.00 |
| R. C. Proctor | " | Chilaw | " 2.00 |
| C. Tambo | " | Kotmale | " 2.00 |
| K. Arumugam | " | Jaffna | " 1.00 |
| S. T. Selviah | " | Badulla | " 1.00 |
| Samuel Joseph | " | Matale | " 2.00 |
| Dr. C. S. Ratnam | " | Batticaloa | " 2.00 |
| " J. R. Jeremiah | " | Mullaitivu | " 2.00 |
| " G. S. F. Danforth | " | Pt. Pedro | " 2.00 |
| " K. Mod. A. Curtis | " | Manepay | " 1.00 |
| J. S. Ampalam | " | Batu Gajah | " 1.00 |

Total Rs. 25.00

We are also glad to acknowledge the following additions to the Local Endowment Fund. Some of these subscriptions should have been noticed in our previous issue but were overlooked.

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------|
| Rev. C. M. Sanders, | Charagachcheri | Rs. 5.00 |
| Mr. A. E. Clough | Batu Gajah | " 157.50 |
| " S. T. Selviah | Badulla | " 15.00 |
| " S. M. Thevathasan, B. A. | Vaddukoddai | " 10.00 |
| " A. Muttucumaru | Parit Buntur | " 17.50 |
| " J. P. Cooke | Vaddukoddai | " 1.00 |
| Rev. S. Veerakatty | Tellippalai | " 3.00 |
| Mr. J. S. Ampalam | Batu Gajah | " 35.00 |

Total " 244.00