# Jaffna College

# MISCELLANY



No. 2   Second Term, 1913		per annu
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Vol. XXIII

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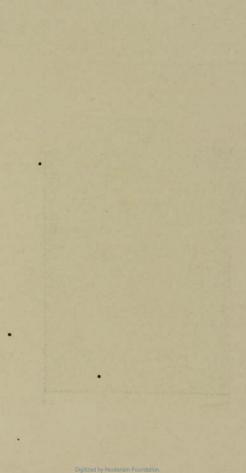
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# Jaffna College MISCELLANY

Editor: J. V. Chelliah M. A.

Vol. XXIII | Second Term, 1913 | One Rupee per annum

# Editorial Higher Education in Jaffna

About ninety years ago was established the famous Batticotta Seminary, the pioneer of higher English education in the East, which flourished for a period of about 30 years. After an interval of 18 years was founded the Jaffna College which enjoyed the privileges of first grade affiliation with an Indian University for nearly two decades. There were also three other Colleges in Jaffna affiliated to second grade. Today Jaffna is without an institution for higher education, and the Government is proposing to centralise higher education by the establishment of a University College in Colombo.

Now, this means that a place which has enjoyed the advantages of higher education for nearly a century is to be deprived of them, and the youth who wishes to pursue higher studies must move out of the Peninsula. This setting back the hands

of the clock of progress has alarmed the Tamil community in Jaffna, and the question of higher education has become the most urgent problem of the day. Is there anything that the people of Jaffna can do to establish their claims for higher education, and prevent the Government from doing an injustice to them by depriving them of the privilege which they have enjoyed for so long a time?

In discussing a question of this kind, it will be worse than useless to impute any unwerthy motive to the Government in their attempt to centralise education in Colombo. We have heard people say, for instance, that the Government is opposed to a large number of young men getting higher education, and wishes to limit the opportunities for receiving it. This is absurd on the face of it, and we have had the assurance of responsible administrators of the Island that the spread of higher education is the goal which they have set before themselves. Further, in the neighbouring continent of India, the Government has definitely shown that it is favourable to higher education by the establishment of a new University at Dacca, and by their approval of the proposed Mahomedan and Hindu Universities. Surely the Governments of two countries under the same rule and in such close proximity cannot be supposed to pursue such opposite educational policies.

Nothing will help our cause better than to try to fully appreciate the view point of the Government in centralising education in Colombo. As far as we understand it, there are two reasons for this step. First, the Government seems to think that there are too few candidates at present seeking higher education, and hence it would be folly for a number of institutions to fritter away

their energies in each trying to teach a handful of students. It is true that the number of students pursuing higher studies throughout the Island may be counted on the fingers of one's hands. Yet, those who argue this way are forgetting two things. First, it is the lack of proper facilities that accounts for the small number of students. Take Jaffna; not long ago in Jaffna College alone there were not less than fifty in the University classes, as many as thirteen being in the Senior B. A. class! Yet, there are none at present in Jaffna pursuing higher education. The conclusion is quite obvious. Secondly, those who are of the Government view forget a simple educational principle. An educational institution is intended not only to supply an existing demand, but, what is more important, to create a demand for education among the people whom it is intended to serve. When the Madras University was started there were only very few students, but we know how the existence of such a seat of learning has created the present enormous demand for higher education in the Presidency. From the above considerations it mustbe plain that the policy of having only one central institution will retard the growth of higher education in the land

The second reason put forward by the advocates of the Government policy is a much more reasonable one. The higher education imparted must be fully worth while and the student must have opportunities not only for acquiring knowledge but also for undergoing a thorough training in the best atmosphere and under the best teach ers available. No one can deny that, under the present circumstances, no other College could hope to compete with the Government in regard to equipment, staff etc. Further, it must be conceded that the civilizing influences of a Metropolis

like Colombo will be far superior to those of the provincial towns. Granting the superiority of a central Government institution, we cannot still incline to the view that those who are to receive higher education should get the best that is possible or none at all. Take the example of the Madras University again. It does not insist on all institutions affiliated to it to be on the same grade as the Government Presidency College. All that it requires is that they should come up to a certain standard. If it can be shown in the case of Jaffna that it can maintain a really good College that will come up to the standard required of it, and further, that such an institution is a necessity for laffna, the case for the people of laffna will be proved.

Jaffna is a large educational centre and is second only to Colombo in importance. Further, in intelligence and industry the Jaffna student takes the first place in Ceylon. Now those who have any knowledge of conditions in Jaffna know that very few parents will be able to support a boy in the University College. With the high fees that are likely to be charged there, it is not probable that the expenses could be managed under Rs. 50 per mensem on an average. Considering the fact, which those engaged in educational work know, that a large majority of capable students who could profit by higher studies are the very ones who cannot afford this expense, the number who may be expected to go to the University" College becomes still smaller. As to the scholarships that may be provided by different educational institutions, they will be so very few that they may be left out of our calculations.

Now this state of things cannot but prove disastrous to the Tamils of Jaffna. Aside from the fact that the Island will lose to a great extent so excellent a material as the Jaffna student the location of the College in Colombo is sure to, give unfair advantages to the Burgher and the Sinhalese over the Jaffna Tamil. In another decade or two the professions and other higher walks of life will be monopolised by the former, and the Jaffna man who has held his own hitherto will have to take a back seat.

After explaining the necessity of an institution for higher education, the next thing to be shown is that it is possible to have a good and efficient institution in Jaffna. We must acknowledge that none of the existing institutions can, single handed, come up to the requisite standard. But with the united effort of the authorities of, say the existing Protestant Colleges, it ought to be possible to establish a Union College that could pass muster. Other ways of Union may be readily suggested, but as the above is not only the most practicable scheme, but also one which was almost completed not long ago, it is unnecessary to speak of others. Whatever may be the scheme, we are confident-this is the belief of many prominent Jaffna Tamils -that if only the Government allowed Jaffna an institution of higher learning, the people of Jaffna may be relied upon to rise to the occasion. The object of this article is not so much to discuss practical schemes as to stir up those who have the welfare of Jaffna at heart to realise the danger they are face to face with. We know that there are timid people who question the ability of the Jaffna people to help themselves in this matter. Such work as this is not going to be accomplished by men who are too calculating. It requires hope and enthusiasim for the cause of the youth of Jaffna. At the outset we referred to what we may call an interregnum in the history of education in Jaffna after the abolition of the Seminary; at that crisis the people helped themselves. History repeats itself, and the people may be depended upon to help themselves once more in this crisis also.

In making an appeal to the Government for the recognition of such an institution, it will perhaps be useful to be a little more definite. Recognition by Government would of course mean large and liberal grants; it will also mean that the local institution must be affiliated to the one in Colombo and supervised by its authorities. If the Government could not make up its mind to give—to use the language of University affiliation—first grade affiliation, it surely ought to see its way to grant what we may call an intermediate affiliation, expecting the students to take a year or so at the Colombo College to complete their education.

If the Government refuses, what then? In our humble opinion, Government can be compelled to make the concession when a practical demonstration is made by the establishment of a really high grade institution in Jaffna. At any rate, the Ceylon Government cannot stand in the way of our plowing our lonely furrow with an affiliation to the University of Madras.

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Rev. J. S. Chandler of the American Madura
Mission, the Chairman of the New
A New Tamil Tamil Lexicon Committee, has contributed a very interesting article to the June number of the Christian College Magazine, giving the history of the movement for a New Tamil Lexicon. For the benefit of our readers who do not read the Magazine, we summarize the facts. The movement

originated in the decision of the Ceylon sub-committee of the Tamil Christian Literature Committe to revise and reprint Winslow's Dictionary which is the property of the American Ceylon Mission. Rev. J. H. Dickson, as the Secretary of this sub-Committee and a member of the Mission corresponded with the Secretary of the C. L. S. and proposed that the C. L. S. and the American Cevlon Mission should jointly publish the Dictionary, dividing the expenses and proceeds proportionately and that the revision should be entrusted to an Indian scholar assisted by a Jaffna man. Rev. J. Lazarus was suggested as the chief reviser. These proposals were favourably considered, but when it was known that Dr. Pope also was thinking of publishing a new dictionary, the Secretary of the C. L. S. wrote to Dr. Pope. who cordially made the suggestion that, as he had accumulated great stores of material for an exhaustive lexicon, the proprietors of Winslow's Dictionary should send a competent editor for a short time to Oxford, to whom he proposed to give directions as to his materials. This letter was communicated to Mr. Chandler who took steps to move the Government of Madras and the University of Madras in the matter. Rev. Dr. Canon Sell and Hon'ble Sir S. Subramania Iyer, on being consulted by the Syndicate of the University, wrote memoranda favourable to the scheme. The latter made the suggestion that the excellent dictionary compiled by Mr. C. W. Cathiravelupillay of Ceylon should be utilised with Dr. Pope's materials. When, however, Mr. Chandler on his way to America visited Dr. Pope at Oxford the latter proposed to undertake the work himself, and subsequently wrote to the Madras University asking them whether they would give him a competent assistant, who might become chief editor,

if necessity arose, and succeed him as University Lecturer in Tamil. The Government consented. but Dr. Pope gave up the plan later owing to failing health and proposed to revise the proofs of any revision by the Jaffna Committee. Dr. Pope died soon after. The Literature Committee and the C. L. S. did not allow the matter to dropped, but asked the Government to make the same grant-in-aid offered to Dr. Pope and to recognise the Literature Committee as a responsible body for doing the work. In the meanwhile Mr. Chandler had some difficulty in finding Pope's materials at Oxford. He was fortunate enough to get the information that it had been removed to Madras by his son, who on application handed it over to him. The Government once more approved the proposal and it was decided to form a committee of five representing the Government, the University, the Tamil Sangam, Missionary bodies in Ceylon and Missionary bodies in S. India. A change was subsequently made by which the supervision of the work was transferred to the University of Madras. The Committee is at present composed of the following:-Rao Bahadur M. Rangachariar, for the Government; Rao Saheb T. Ramakrishna Pillai, for the University: Mahamahopathyaya V. Saminatha Iyer, for the Tamil Sangam: Rev. A. C. Clayton for the Missionary bodies of Ceylon, and Rev. J. S. Chandler (Chairman) for the Board of Tamil Christian Literature. Thirty or more men representing different parts of the Tamil country are appointed as Honorary Literary Associates who will be consulted on special subjects in which they are experts. The work was commenced on 1st January 1913 and is expected to take five years for its completion.

## The Alumni Day

The annual celebration of the Alumni Day and the third Annual Dinner connected with it took place on the King's Birthday, June 3rd. The Vice-Principal, Dr. York, and Mrs. York were "at home" to the Alumni from 4 to 6 p. m. A foot-ball match was played between the old boys and the new and, as usual, the new boys won by four goals to one The general meeting began at 6.15, Dr. York being in the chair. The Principal was absent as he had not returned from the Hills having had to undergo an operation, Rev. J. H. Dickson and Mr. W. E. Hitchcock conducted the devotional exercises. The first part of the meeting was devoted to the unveiling ceremonies of the Y. M. C. A. Memorial Tablet. The Chairman called Rev. E. R. Fitch, missionary at Etawah, N. India, and an old boy of the College, to give an account of the foundation of the College, Y. M. C.A. Mr. Fitch said that there was a revival in 1882 among the Christian students and as a consequence they were roused to do some practical work, and chose the Islands for the purpose. A party led by Mr. Fitch, the father of the speaker, went at their own expense during holidays to the Islands and chose Eluvaitive as a suitable place for the establishment of a school. For this purpose a society called the Gospel Band was formed and efforts were made by this body to collect funds for the school. Some of the members went every other Saturday to supervise the work till it was completed. The Treasurer at first found it difficult to find the money for the payment of the teacher; but before the end of the year they were able to collect Rs. 225. A garden was taken in hand by the Band for the support of the school. Besides

this work, the Band arranged for prayer meetings and especially Sunday afternoon meetings. When Mr. Sanders (now Dr. Sanders, President of Washburn College) arrived as a professor, he suggested that the work be unified under the Y. M. C. A. A meeting was held for the purpose on the 12th March 1884, under the presidency of Dr. Hastings, and it was resolved to found the first College Young Men's Christian Association in the East, which event they were there to celebrate that day. Mr. Fitch felt pleased that the school which he and others (the names of Mr. S. G. Lee M. A. and Mr. J. K. Sammugam B. A., L. T., were mentioned) had started was still kept up by the Association. He was also glad to hear that the Association was in a flourishing condition.

The next speaker was Mr. M. G. Brooks, the General Secretary of the Ceylon Y. M. C. A's. He began by referring to the experience of a man of this country attending a large convention in England. This person realised as never before what a great thing Christianity was when the whole audience stood up and sang with one accord a hymn. In a similar manner, people in this country might have an inadequate idea of the Y. M. C. A. from what they saw of it locally. If one-took a boat in any direction and visited the different ports on his way, he would find no port without a large Y. M. C. A. building into which he would get ready admittance. The Y. M. C. A. was a brotherhood of millions, and the cost of buildings in North America alone was 2000 lacs of rupees. This great movement was started seventy years ago in an upper room by George Williams and was composed of men of four different denominations. This movement now embraced the whole globe, and the largest strides had been made in America. Y. M. C. A's are now to be found in

all the principal cities of the world with a membership of a million individuals. Mr. Brooks then spoke of three unique features of the Y. M.C. A.

First, it was interdenominational and included among its active members Christians of all denominations, and among the associates, men of all religions. The second characteristic was that it was democratic. No caste or class difference was observed. In fact, the Association had been instrumental in breaking up caste and other artifical distinctions of society. Mr. Brooks gave as an instance the Negombo Camp last year where men of widely different races and classes met as members of the same household. The third feature was the splendid equipment of the Associations. Paid secretaries were appointed and palatial buildings constructed everywhere for housing them. Buildings though not essential, were the tangible embodiment of the spirit actuating the Associations. He was glad that the Jaffna College Y. M. C. A. was to have a building of its own to contribute to the permanency of the sociation and to be a monument and a suitable place for carrying on the work. He held up the example of the Kandy Y. M. C. A. which had a new life infused into it, the activity of the members going so far as to make them toil with their hands to make it a success.

The Chairman said • that the Jaffna College Y. M. C. A. needed more money for its building. The subscriptions so far aggregated Rs. 2,600.

Mr. W. E. Hitchcock, M. A., was the next speaker. He spoke of his early recollections of the College Y. M. C. A. He then unveiled the Tablet.

The Chairman exlpained that the Tablet was considered by Mr. Harte to be one of the best ever sent out to the East. It was designed by

the Y. M. C. A. architect at the request of Mr. Harte, and was made in Germany.

This closed the unveiling ceremonies. The next item on the programme was the discussion of the motion:—"Resolved that Jaffna needs an institution of her own for higher education."

Mr. I. K. Chanmugam, B. A., L. T., was the first speaker. He said that the subject was an opportune one as next year there would be a central University College established, without any opportunity for other competing institutions. The point of view of the Government was that the institution for higher education must be a residential one and so planned as to become the precursor of a teaching university. The Government also believed that there was no educational salvation outside Colombo. A further thought in their mind was that there were only half a dozen candidates preparing for the London Matriculation and half a dozen more for exemption from Matriculation. and the recognition of more than one institution would mean frittering away the energies of differ! ent Colleges on these few. Against this the speaker put forward the case for Jaffna by pointing out the inability of the Jaffna parent, owing to his poverty, to send his children to the University College, and the consequent loss to Jaffna and the Island of such magnificant material as the Jaffna boy. From the financial point of view, however, the speaker was not sure whether the Jaffna people could raise money enough to run an efficient institution if the Government allowed it. As to the Union College scheme, he deplored it as a monumental failure. All he could say was that it might be tried again. The speaker said further that adequate provision of scholarships for Jaffna boys in the University College could not be made, as the

outlay on them, according to his calculations, would be too large. On the whole, the speaker deplored the fact that the prospects of higher education for the Jaffna boy were gloomy.

Advocate Thambiah Crossette who followed said that he was not sure whether he was going to speak in the affirmative or the negative. Education was regarded by the people as something having a commercial value, and therefore the tendency of the new rule about fees would shut many out from getting an English education. He thought that the University College would charge something like Rs. 20 as tuition fees, which he felt sure the Jaffna boy could not afford to pay. As to the probability of the Government allowing other institutions for higher education being established, he was not hopeful that the permission would be given. The speaker expressed his keen disappointment at the failure of the Union College scheme. Speaking generally, Mr. Crossette thought that the craze for education with material ends in view had gone too far. There were very few opportunities in the learned professions and therefore the speaker exhorted those present to form commercial and industrial organizations to benefit the country. In conclusion, the speaker was of opinion, that, just as Lord Curzon's Education Reform Act tended to the advancement of education in India, so the reforms inaugurated by the Government of Cevlon would be for the good of the people.

Mr. Richard Thavathasan followed and spoke for the mortion. He emphasised the opinion of the previous speakers that the majority of parents in Jaffna could not afford to send their sons to the University College. He also pointed out the disadvantages of sending young men to Colombo for education, and the advantages, such as instruction in the vernacular, that could be had in a College situated in Jaffna. He hoped that a fresh effort for union would be made to help the young men of Jaffna. The meeting terminated at 7.30.

Then the Alumni and guests went over to the Dining Hall which was tastefully decorated. About 100 sat for dinner. After dinner the following toasts were proposed:

Royal - - The Acting-Principal

The College and its

"Old Boys" Adv. Niles

Reply - The Acting-Principal
Sister Colleges - Mr. A. Abraham B. A

Sister Colleges - Mr. A. Abraham B. A., F.R.A.S. Reply - Rev. I. Thompson M. A.

The American Board - Rev. E. R. Fitch

Reply - Rev. J. H. Dickson B. A., B. Sc.
The Guests - Mr. A. R. Supramaniam B. A.
Reply Mr. M. G. Brooks

The post-prandial speeches were excellent as evident from the mirth and laughter they evoked. Two speeches contained, in addition, much food for reflection. Mr. Advocate Niles B. A., in an eloquent speech contended that Jaffina was in a position to establish a College in which higher work could be done efficiently. The other speech was Mr. Abraham's, a part of which we are in a position to reproduce:—

My toast is the Sister Colleges. I will first speak of the Colleges', and then of sisterhood. There are seven institutions in Jaffina bearing the name 'College' and seven others aspiring to that name in a place whose population is 300,000. They cannot be said to be too many if they are of the right kind. Education, and especially higher education does not spoil anybody. Education makes man independent and creates in him the spirit of self-respect and self-reliance and raises a nation high. Intellectual and religious influences are at the bottom of all political, social and material reforms. According to Professor Ramsay it was the American College at Constantinople, Robert College, that solved the Eastern questions. Again the

opportunities for Jaffna young men to do good in India and elsewhere are limitless, as Dr. Howland said in one of his reports that Jaffnese are considered to be the Scotchmen of the East. In a Mission Conference held in Bombay some years ago, most of the prominent delegates were Jaffna College old boys; and Bishop Thoburn is reported to have said that he was prepared to take 200 of such men if the College could send them to him. An English Professor in Bengal said to one of our men that he considered the Jaffna College men to be as good as missionaries.

The next point I wish to dwell on is the quality of our Colleges. Mr. Booker T. Washington, the eminent negro reformer says that we must call things by their right names. Do we at present deserve the name "Colleges"? The students we turn out at present are not able to effect anything worthy in any department of activity. Plato is said to have written on the doors of his lecture room, "Let no one enter who has not studied Geometry," because he insisted on a general education before the study of philosophy and metaphysics. Boys who go now-a-days to the Madras Medical and Engineering Colleges and to the Bangalore Theological College, with a Senior Local knowledge are obliged to return for want of adequate general education.

The Mission Colleges are not fulfilling their mission of supplying workers as ministers and teachers. We want men to take the place of the ministers, lawyers and doctors who have laboured worthily in Jaffna. The Hindus have an inexhaustible source in the Brahman B. A's of India to fill the vacancies in their schools. The mission schools cannot get their workers from India, as India itself has been looking to Jaffna for a supply af teachers.

Now that the Union College scheme is found to be something impossible, it is better that the Sister Colleges try to develop first into second grade Colleges affiliated with Madras, and then some one of them develop into a First Grade College, leaving the Ceylon Govt. to have its own way. We have all along been looking to India for higher education and leading the whole of Ceylon in that matter, and now we can do whatever the Ceylon Government requires of us and do further work in the matter of higher education by being connected with Madras University which is more suited to the needs of the Tamil country.

Now I come to the other word "Sister"

I congratulate the Sister Colleges on their brilliant success in the Senior and Junior examinations by winning honours

and distinctions which were once supposed to be the monopoly of Colombo Colleges, though it was on many occasions Jaffna boys, like Arunachalam, Thuraisingham, Kumarakulasingham, Tampoe and Hoisington, that carried away the educational Blue Ribbon of the Colony.

I assure you that we always cherish a good and friendly feeling towards you and have been trying to make use of every opportunity to come in contact with you in games &c. I wish very much that we might revive the old Gymkhana Ath. letic Sports and Intercollegiate games which helped a great deal to rouse up young Jaffna who are naturally timid and make them more warm and enthusiastic. I wish we might establish some common lectures to be delivered at regular times in some central place where all could meet and at the same time gain knowledge with a saving of money and labour, on scientific, literary, moral and religious subjects.

Wishing great prosperity and further development and good success I give you the "The Sister Colleges," coupling with them the name of the genial and popular Principal, Rev. Jacob

Thompson of St. John's College.

### Alumni Notes

Messrs S. V. Chinniah and R. C. Carpenter came off succesful in the last Proctors' examination.

Dr. Vettivaloo has been transferred from Ammapattam to Ragama.

Mr. S. A. Snell of the Jaffna Post Office has been transferred to Vannarponnai, Mr. S. P. AmaraSingam of Tellippalai to Bandaragama and Mr. N. Chellappah of Pandeteruppo to Pallai.

Dr. George S. Mather M. R. C. S., (Eng.) L. R. C. P., (London) who has recently returned from England expects to establish himself in private practice in Jaffna.

Messrs. S. V. Sabaratnam and S. Thambiah have passed the

B. A. examinations of the Madras University.

Rev. E. R. Fitch, missionary at Etawah, was married to Miss. Chinnamah Christmas on the 20th June at St. John's Church, Chundicully,

Visitors: Messrs K. Balasingham, Advocate, Colombo; Dr. E. V. Ratnam, Colombo; S. N. Ascervatham, Proctor, Colombo; C. H. Cathiravelpilly, Tashildar, Tirupur; A. C. Bissell, Nagpore; J. C. V. Ratnam, Central College, Colombo; J. R. ThuraiSingham, Sanitary Engineer, Madras Rev. E. R. Fitch, missionary Etawah; W. P. A. Cooke, Agricultural Student, Poona V. R. Page, Book-keeper at Messrs Davidson and Co., Colombo, V. Thampiaiah, Surveyor, F. M. S.

Mr. M. S. R. Singhe has passed his B. A. examination of the Calcutta University.

Mr. P. S. Charavanamuttu, Chief Clerk of the Master Attenant's Department, Colombo, has been promoted to the 1st class of the Clerical Service in recognition of his special merit.

Mr. Hallock Mudaliar Tambippilly, Sub-Collector, Valvettiturai has been promoted to class II of the Customs Clerical Service.

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### Subscriptions for the Memorial Tablet

Before the appeal was made for subscriptions for this Memorial Tablet an estimate of the cost was made through some friends in Madras and it was thought that about Rs. 150 would be necessary and the appeal was made for that amount. No one was urged to give and no one was asked a second time. All of these subscriptions have come in as freewell offerings as tokens of gratitude for what the Y. M. C. A. has done and is doing. It is gratifying to see that without any special effort the Rs. 150 asked for became Rs. 258.49.

The original estimate would have been exceeded had it not been for the kindness of Mr. A. C. Harte and Mr. H. Scharth who took a very keen personal interest in the matter. It was Mr. Harte who made the suggestion that a Memorial Tablet be placed and he has been pushing the matter from the first. He interested Mr. Scharth in the project and he designed the tablet and had it executed through friends in Germany. The

beauty and appropriateness of the tablet are the subjects of comment by all who saw it and special thanks are due to Mr. Scharth for his part in producing it. As a result of his efforts, the actual cost has been considerably below the original estimate and there is a substantial balance left over. It is proposed that this balance be turned over to the Building Fund and we are sure that the subscribers will gladly consent to this disposal of their gift. The complete list of subscribers is given herewith in the order in which they came in. An account of the expenses is also given and the whole statement is made with most cordial thanks to all who have contributed to this G. G. BROWN object.

Rs.cts 1. Mr. P. S. Saravauamuttu 2. \*\* S. C. Arnold 3. \*\* T. S. Selviah 4. \*\* Dr. K. Modr. A. Curtis 5. \*\* D. S. Sesvaratnam 6. \*\* S. Karalapillay 5.00 38. " S. P. Lawton 2.00 36. " J. K. Kanapathipiliay 1.00
4 " Dr. K. Modr. A. Curtis
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22. " T. N. Devadason 2.25 54. Mr. S. Tilliampalam 2.00
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S. S. Rajanayagam

#### Jaffna College Alumni Association. (Colombo Branch)

We are glad to be able to report that a Colombo Branch of the College Alumni Association has been formed. It is very gratifying to know that the Branch was formed at the earnest suggestion of several Old Boys of the College residing in Colombo. The inaugural meeting was held on the 14th of July. We quote the following account of it from the Morning Leader of the 15th.

"A meeting of the Old Boys of Jaffna College, resident in Colombo, was held in the Central College Hall, Barber Street, at 6 p. m. yesterday, the object being to form and Colombo branch of the Jaffna College Old Boys' Association. The Rev. G. G. Brown, B. A., B. D., Principal of Jaffna College,

The meeting opened with prayer offered by Mr. P. Charawanamuttu, after which the Chairman addressed the gathering.

A full report of the address as well as Mr. Balasingham's speech will appear in a subsequent issue. The following gentlemen were elected office-

The following gentlemen were elected omce-

PRESIDENT:—The Rev. Mr. G. G. Brown, B. A., B. D. VICE-PRESIDENTS:—Messrs H. Tiruvalangam, K. Balasingham, S. C. K. Ratnam, G. C. Lee, Dr. E. V. Rutnam, Messrs. P. S. Saravanamuttu and T. N. Nathaniel.

SECRETARY:-T. N. Nathaniel.

TREASURER: - Proctor J. H. R. Joseph.

COMMITTEE:—Messis, S. Karalapillai, C. Arumugam, R. E. Proctor, J. C. V. Ratnam, R. Dorasamy, J. T. Bartlett,, R. Darmalingam, E. T. Hitchcock, K. Tambyah, and J. C. Rajaratnam.

SUB-COMMITTEE TO FRAME RULES;—Messrs K. Balasingham, J. C. V. Rutnam, E. D. Hensman, T. N.

Nathaniel, and T. Muttucoomaru.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair, proposed by Mr. G. C. Lee.

#### Miscellany Receipts

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