

Jaffna  
Vas



1920

# JAFFNA COLLEGE MISCELLANY





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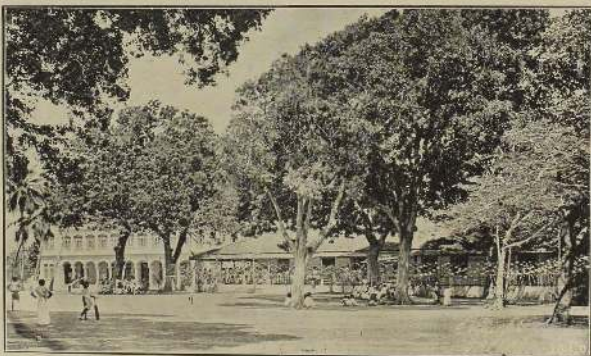
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OTTLEY HALL, FRONT VIEW.



OTTLEY HALL FROM THE EASTERN GATE.

# Jaffna College Miscellany

Published Once in a Quarter

VOL. XXXIX

SEPTEMBER, 1930

No. 2

THE OPENING OF THE NEW OTTLEY HALL, AUGUST 2, 1930

THE PROGRAMME.

12-111-1748

PROCESSION OF GRADUATES AND STUDENTS ACROSS THE COMPOUND.

PRAYER by the Principal.

FORMAL DECLARATION OF OPENING AND UNLOCKING OF THE ENTRANCE by Mr. J. D. Brown, Government Agent of the Northern Province.

CHANT by the College Choir.

PRAYER by the Rev. A. Lockwood, Chairman of the Wesleyan Mission.

HYMN, "O God our Help in Ages Past," by the Choir.

WELCOME SONG by two students.

STATEMENT by the Principal.

DECLAMATION, "The Call of Lanka", by a student.

ADDRESS by Dr. Paul E. Pieris.

REMARKS by the Hon. K. Balasingham.

REMARKS by the Chairman, the Government Agent.

PROPOSAL OF A VOTE OF THANKS by Mr. C. H. Cooke, retired teacher of the College.

TABLEAU, "The Triumph of Truth" from Harichandra, by students.

THE COLLEGE SONG.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.

After the formal opening by the G. A. the crowd of Old Boys and visitors followed him up the main stairway. The familiar words from our seal "The Light of Life," in raised letters over the main entrance, attracted the notice of those who have come to know them so



well from our song, and must have made them feel as Mr. T. Buell of the class of 1886 wrote he would feel were he privileged to come on the occasion "as if he were going up to Jerusalem", for that Hall had been the place of their spiritual uplift, there they had seen the True Light.

The students poured in through the side doors from the open veranda on the west and filled the capacious assembly room as full as we in the past have been accustomed to see the old, much smaller hall, filled.

The prayer of Mr. Lockwood came with a special power because it may be the last time he will appear here at Jaffna College where he has often during the past quarter of a century spoken so acceptably. Mr. Senior's "The Call of Lanka" sounded a note which was taken up by the address of Dr. Pieris. Both these are printed as worthy contributions to the furtherance of the true spirit that may make Ceylon realize to the full its destiny, in the "brave new days to come."

As the chairman of our Board of Directors the Hon. K. Balasingham was called upon for remarks and made the suggestion that the college might lead in an experiment in a varied diet which would do much to promote the physical well-being of the Jaffnese and further the production within the island of the food stuffs it requires.

#### STATEMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL.

For the past two and a quarter years, day by day, the students and teachers of Jaffna College have been watching with eager, almost impatient interest, the progress of this building. During this time two groups of students have left us with something of envy in their hearts because they were never privileged to have any use of it. At last it is open for use and consequently we all rejoice; and have our joy increased as you have come to share it with us.

This building, you should remember, is essentially the same structure that has served the institution for over 100 years though there is nothing left of the old except the walls upon which rests this floor. These walls were so well built that you need have no fear they will not bear up the weight this crowd of people puts upon them: I measured yesterday and found the thickness to vary from 2 ft. 1 in. to 3 ft. 10 inches.

The large room down stairs, now used for the library, is bounded the same as the Old Assembly room in which many of you have met so often. The long room at the back, and the rooms on the south, are, likewise, as they were. Part of the north east room has been taken for the stairway; the north west room is unchanged. This is not all that is left of the old Ottley Hall, in this compound, for the roof and the wooden pillars, supporting it, that form a part of the new dining hall and Junior dormitory, are old



friends having come from this Hall. This is not, however, the original roof but one placed here by Rev. R. C. Hastings in 1901-2.

In spite of our reverence for the Old Ottley Hall it can be claimed that its builders were fairly successful in their avowed aim not to erect an 'elegant edifice.' We trust this building meets a little more fully the esthetic demands, and that it will afford something of pleasure to those who look upon it from day to day, even from hour-to-hour, as well as to those who take a fleeting glance as they sail by in their motors. We trust too that from point of view of usefulness this will not fall short of its illustrious progenitor. It will give us, for the first time, for fifteen years, anything like an adequate assembly hall; a room in which we can accommodate our books and the students who would read them; a place for the display of the products of the pencil of our budding artists; and offices for the principal, vice-principal and clerks. The costs of the building, some over Rs. 50,000, has been met by a grant from the government; contributions from the Old Boys, and friends; a gift from America; and a debt. His majesty's government granted Rs. 10,000, for which we are deeply grateful and for which we shall feel all the more bound to make our institution contribute to the well-being of the people whom the government serves and whose money is thus granted. The Old Boys and friends gave Rs. 6,000 which will be for us a perman-

ent incentive to retain all that is best of the old Jaffna College as we move on to something better in the days to be. America has sent a large part of the balance and thus increased the debt of Jaffna to a land that has rendered no small service to the people of this peninsula for more than a century, and which now harbours many whose hearts leap up at the thought of any advance in His kingdom in this coral strand. The debt affords an opportunity for further expressions of loyalty and gratitude from Old Boys and friends. Moreover, this opportunity is still further enlarged by the needs of furnishings for the building, especially for the library, which we would be glad to furnish in memory of one whose name is dear to us all, Allen Abraham.

As you may note from your programmes those saintly missionaries, Meigs, Winslow, Scudder, Spaulding voted "that the large room or building now going forward be called Ottley Hall in grateful remembrance of the generous donation of Sir Richard Ottley towards the expense of erecting it and that the name Ottley Hall be affixed in capital letters over the principal door." It is a pleasure, as we read the records of those early days, to see how the suspicion, with which some of those connected with the government looked upon these Americans (so soon after the war of 1812, passed away, and in its place came a most cordial atmosphere of co-operation, as they saw the real motive of these men and the effect of their labours. What

Sir Richard gave for the first Otley Hall would not go far to meet the cost of the present building; it might not be enough so he could expect us to continue to attach his name to it, but the good deed he did we are most glad to memorialize that its aroma may be wafted down through the coming generations as it has been through the years since 1826, so you will find this name on the marble slab inserted at the base of the northern tower.

## THE CALL OF LANKA

BY REV. W. S. SENIOR

I climbed o'er the crags of Lanka  
 And gazed on the golden sea  
 When out from her ancient places  
 Her soul came forth to me  
 "Give me a bard" said Lanka  
 "My bard of the things to te,

My cities are laid in ruins  
 Their courts through the jungle  
 spread;  
 My sceptre is long departed  
 And the stranger lords instead;  
 Yet give me a bard," said Lanka  
 "I am living; I am not dead.

For high in my high land valleys  
 And low in my lowland plains  
 The pride of the past, is pulsing  
 Hot in a peoples' veins;  
 Give me a bard," said Lanka  
 "A bard for my joys and pains".

"I offer a voice, oh Lanka,  
 I child of an alien isle  
 For my heart has heard thee and  
 kindled  
 Mine eyes have seen thee and  
 smiled  
 Take foster mother and use it  
 'Tis but for a little while.

For surely of thine own children,  
 Born of thy womb shall rise  
 The bard of the moonlit jungle  
 The bard of the tropic skies,  
 Warm from his mother's bosom  
 Bright from his mother's eyes,  
 He shall hymn thee of hoar Sripada  
 The peak that is lone and tall.  
 He shall hymn with her crags,  
 Dimhinda,  
 The smoking waterfall.  
 Whatsoever is fair in Lanka,  
 He shall know it and love it all.

He shall sing thee of sheer Sigyria  
 Of Minnerias' wandering kine  
 He shall sing of the lake and the  
 lotus:  
 He shall sing of the rock hewn  
 shrine.  
 Whatsoever is old in Lanka  
 Shall live in his lordly line.

But most shall be sung of Lanka  
 In the brave new days that come,  
 When the races all have blended  
 And the voice of strife is dumb,  
 When we leap to a single bugle  
 March to a single drum.

March to a mighty purpose,  
 One man from shore to shore;  
 The stranger becomes a brother  
 The task of the tutor o'er.  
 When the ruined city rises  
 And the palace gleams once more

Hark, Bard of the fateful future:  
 Hark, Bard of the bright to be,  
 A voice on the verdant mountains,  
 A voice by the golden sea:  
 Rise child of Lanka and answer,  
 Thy mother hath called to thee."

## DR. PAUL PIERIS' ADDRESS

Dr. Paul Pieris then addressed the gathering.

Dr. Pieris said: I come here as a representative of the Sinhalese community. I have been favoured with the original report of the first American missionaries. You are all no doubt familiar with the sonorous terms in which they have recorded for us the considerations which moved them to start on their education work. In their words those were "considerations which affect the temporal and eternal interests of a large heathen people; and which are as weighty as the last command of our ascending saviour: as pressing as the necessities of millions perishing in ignorance; solemn as death and judgment: and vast eternity."

## 16TH CENTURY EUROPEAN POLICY.

It is idle to speculate what might have been the history of Ceylon had these missionaries been permitted to establish themselves in the South instead of the North of the Island. Try to visualise the state of things which prevailed in 1816. The European policy, enunciated early in the 16th Century and consistently pursued by the three nations which had succeeded in effecting more than temporary settlements in the country had at first yielded fruit. "Divide and Conquer" had been their watchword, and in the result the whole of the Island acknowledged a British King. The North, isolated by a great forest, and less richly endowed with natural attractions than the South provided few

problems of urgency. Prominent individuals, like the great financier Vaitialingham Chetty, were markedly rare.

The Kandyan provinces split up into factions, animated by strong jealousy of each other, gave no substantial cause for anxiety.

In the maritime provinces a group of closely-allied families still retained a substantial share of administrative authority which was being deliberately and insidiously undermined. But everywhere, a profound listlessness and apathy had settled on the people.

## OLDEST CIVILIZATION OF INDIA.

And what a people! Think of yourselves; think of what that blood, which we can almost see under some of the beautiful skins of your boys and girls, represents. It represents the oldest civilisation of India; a civilisation anterior to the Puranas; a civilisation only the remote outskirts of which have been so far explored even slightly. Dravidian thought influenced Greek thought. Dravidian figures are found in the Egyptian pyramids. Dravidian conceptions in architecture made the efforts of medieval Europe seem puny. If Dravidian skill in art had given us nothing more than Ellora and Elephanta and Maha Bali Puram, it would have contributed materially to the story of Art in the world.

## GUIDED BY DRAVIDIAN

## INFLUENCES.

And when we of South Ceylon came, our softer Buddhist civilisa-



tion was, throughout, guided by Dravidian influences. Go and look at the few specimens of so-called Sinhalese ancient Art to be seen at the Colombo Museum, then turn to South India for their prototypes. Many have written, and more have spoken, and are still speaking, of the past of the Sinhalese. Well, it is no mean record. These formed the people who in 1816 were listless and apathetic. It is impossible to deny that the first three centuries of European aggression on the East had in many directions hampered the progress of the world. But these listless and apathetic peoples still possessed that of which no power could deprive them, their past.

#### COMING OF AMERICAN MISSION- ARIES

But a live wire was needed: it was slow in coming: electrical under-takings in Ceylon, as you know, do not move with an excess of rapidity. That live wire came to you in the American. He was a man who was prepared to fight to the death for liberty, and having won liberty for himself, he was not prepared to deny the right to it to others. He was practical: he was pertinacious: he was religious: and God had blessed him with a rare gift—the gift of imagination. To his country was attracted the virile elements of all the nations of Europe.

They came out of a pernicious atmosphere where so many of them had been forced to lead lives which permitted of no thought beyond

the securing of food and clothes. They came into an atmosphere radiant and pure, into a community untrammelled by the shackles of custom and privilege, a society in which the capacity of an individual was the limit of his progress. The feeling for equality, independence of thought, initiative in action, grew and flourished abundantly in this virgin soil till it has created that amazing product, the United States of America,

It is the men of this new race who came among you: they called themselves Missionaries; nevertheless their field of work covered not religion alone but every aspect of life which should be developed in a useful citizen. For more than a hundred years, men and women of this new race, have lived among you and given you the opportunity of intimate contact with their limitless vitality and hustle.

Be thankful, be deeply thankful, for what you have received. Other races in turn have tried to influence you: certain inherent qualities of your race rendered their efforts nugatory, and in their disappointment and with superficial knowledge, they have said hard things of you. Please do not consider yourselves to be angels. Your weaknesses, in their own way, are as great and as glaring as those, perhaps, of the Sinhalese or of the British. But that mass of conservatism, made up of so much pride of race and pride of tradition, which has proved a rock of offence and stone of stumbling to so many, may when fitted with

the proper diamond point, provides a drill which will dig deep into the hardest rock. Those shining grains which the curious seeker after the Truth finds in your Thesawalamai, the custom of your country, subjected in a crucible, to the fervent heat of the West, may yet provide the drill point.

#### TWO GREAT SONS OF JAFFNA.

Fifteen years ago, I publicly expressed the opinion that the Jaffna man will govern Ceylon. It may be that the truth contained in that utterance was exaggerated. But think of one or two names of your people—Ponnampalam Mudaliyar's two sons for instance. The Sinhalese man who can mention those two names with any other feeling than gratitude and reverence will be difficult to find. Will you forgive me if I come nearer home and remind you that Kathirevelupillai too has left a son (Hon. Mr. K. Balasingham) who does not fall behind the finest traditions of his race.

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE SOUTH.

I have been asked to come here today with a message from the South. I go back to what the

Missionaries declared in 1823 that their ambition was to meet "the strong claims of these lads and youths to be furnished in the best manner to do good to their countrymen." It is for you now to prove that their labours have not been in vain. The gloomy forest which divided the country into two, which separated North from South, no longer exists. In these critical times of the common motherland, self seeking and narrowness of view must disappear. The interest of one small race cannot in a small land be divorced from the interests of another small race. Pool our interests: come to us frankly and freely, and you will be received with the same spirit. We owe much to you: the whole country will be proud to owe more to you. Destroy for ever the fear of that baneful doctrine, "Divide and Conquer."

Mr. Brown in his remarks urged the boys to devote attention to sports.

Mr. C. H. Cooke proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Paul Pieris and to Mr. Brown.

The function came to a close with a tableau from Harichandra, "the Triumph of Truth."



## A QUESTION OF A DATE

The stone which has been placed at the foot of the Northern tower of Ottley Hall, reads:

OTTLEY HALL

Built 1826

Remodelled 1930

The one responsible for this wording has, after further investigation, been led to question whether he was right in putting the date 1826 after 'built'. As this is a question of interest to many, quotations from the minutes of the meetings of the American Ceylon Mission bearing on this are given below. From these it seems the building was in the process of erection in 1826. It is also clear that it was not fully finished even in 1833. When was it so far advanced as to be made use of for college purposes? Was this in 1826, and if so is that date right?

Extracts from Minutes of Mission Meetings of the A. C. M.

Batticotta, Jan. 9, 1826

"The state of our funds was then examined; our prospects of procuring money for our College, both in India and America, considered; and the question discussed whether we are able to go on to complete this year the buildings which we have already commenced at Batticotta. When it was decided, on the blessing of God, it was our duty to proceed with the buildings as fast as possible."

Pandeterrippu, May 4, 1826

Voted, "that Bros. Meigs, Winslow, and Scudder be a commit-

tee to make a plan and estimates for repairing the old Church at Batticotta for a College".

Batticotta, July 26, 1826

"That brother Spaulding write to the Board giving an estimate of the sum needed to repair the church at Batticotta for a College edifice. \$10,000 to be asked for to add to what there should be left after completing other buildings."

"That the large room or building now going forward be called Ottley Hall in grateful remembrance of the generous donation of Sir Richard Ottley towards the expense of erecting it and that the name Ottley Hall be affixed in capital letters over the principal door."

Uduvil, Oct. 23, 1826

"The brethren met at Uduvil for an evening session to consider further the subject of building for the seminary and it was agreed to request Dr. Meigs to finish the new room to be called "Ottley Hall" two stories high, with a good tile roof and verandah all around, above and below."

Batticotta, Nov. 7, 1827

"State of Ottley Hall was brought up and it appearing that the workmen had used bad mortor in laying the foundation and in the lower part of the wall, and, moreover, that the wall is too thin for an upper story, it was concluded that it be taken down and rebuilt with reference to a flat roof as well as an upper story."

Manipay, Jan. 10, 1828

"The subject of Ottley Hall, as postponed from last meeting was taken up, and considering the expense and delay of rebuilding and of making the Hall two stories high with a flat roof as contemplated in the vote of Nov. 7, 1827, it was resolved that this and other votes on the subject be repealed and that;

Ottley Hall be finished, as soon as may be, a single story with tiled roof and with the addition of a back verandah room the whole length of the building."

Manipay, Sept. 13, 1830

"It is agreed to have a front made at the South end of Ottley Hall by means of a wing across

it two stories in height and with a flat roof."

Manipay, Dec. 6, 1832

"It is also desired to paint Ottley Hall".

"Bro. Meigs presents a plan for the South end of Ottley Hall drawn by Mr. Law of Madras."

Batticotta, Aug. 7, 1833

"Bro. Woodward is authorised to procure a piece of land in front of Ottley Hall so as to make the road run straight by the end of Ottley Hall."

Uduvil, Oct. 25, 1833

"Bro. Woodward is directed to finish the South end of Ottley Hall on the plan furnished by Mr. Law of Madras."



## THE NAME OF THE HALL

From the quotations from the minutes of the Mission meetings it will be noted that on July 26, 1826 it was voted that the hall was to be called Ottley Hall "in grateful remembrance of the generous donation of Sir Richard Ottley", who was Puisne Justice of Ceylon from 1819 to 1827 and

Chief Justice from 1827 to 1833. Below we give extracts from the first report of the Seminary, given in 1827, and a list of the donors which show the interest and generosity of this benefactor and reveal the widespread response to the appeal of this institution for aid.



## 1827 REPORT

"The annual examination in English, in September, was attended by the Honorable Puisne Justice, Sir Richard Ottley, and Major Antill, who had favoured the semin-

ary with their attendance on a former occasion—and by Henry Wright, Esquire, Provincial Judge, as well as the Reverend Missionaries of the District, and some



other gentlemen. The third class was examined in Grammar, and the ground rules of Arithmetic, —the second in Vulgar and Decimal Fractions and Geography,—the first, in Algebra and the elements of Astronomy, and all in Scripture, History and Chronology. The gentlemen who attended, expressed themselves highly gratified with the appearance of the pupils. Sir Richard Ottley made an impressive address to the students, commending their progress and urging them to continued diligence. In reference to the Seminary, generally, Sir Richard also, kindly expressed himself afterwards in a letter to the Principal of the school, as follows:—“My more intimate knowledge of the system adopted by yourself and your brethren has powerfully tended to increase the favourable sentiment, which I originally entertained, of the value of your labours in this Island. From my own personal observation and a consideration of the means employed in your institutions, compared with the difficulties you may expect to encounter, I feel convinced, that the improvement of the children will be most effectually secured, and the Hindu superstitions most powerfully encountered, by a perseverance in that system of education, in which such encouraging progress has already been made. I likewise feel sincere satisfaction in contemplating the progress of the building, and the accommodations provided for the use of the students; as these accommodations afford apartments, as well for public instruction as

for the more important purposes of retirement in study and devotion.”

Some delay has occurred in the erection of the contemplated building, not only from want of funds, but from a degree of uncertainty as to the plan required by a proper regard to the prospects of the Seminary, which have sometimes been more, and sometimes less flattering. Not that there has been a hesitancy as to the general outline. Considering the habits of native youth who usually study better in classes under a monitor, than in different rooms alone, and who do not need separate and well finished rooms for sleeping, but often prefer a verandah, or even the open air, a large and elegant edifice, for the accommodation of the students has not been thought necessary or even desirable. Small buildings with only single floor, seem more appropriate. But for the public examinations, the lectures and other exercises, and for the library, map, and various apparatus, as well as for the sake of convenience, and respectability of appearance, a neat edifice, larger or smaller, according to the extent of the institution, has even been thought necessary. A *small building*, to answer these purposes at least during the first years of the Seminary, *is in progress*. It will be two stories in height, with upper and lower verandahs; and including them, eighty-eight feet in length and fifty-one in breadth. Each story will be a single hall—the lower for public exercises, and the upper for private recitations, and for the library, maps

and apparatus. Out of gratitude to Sir Richard Ottley, as principal donor towards its erection, this building is to be named Ottley Hall. Its situation, on the mission premises at Batticotta, is, on the whole, pleasant. It has in front, and on one side, extensive rice fields, skirted by native villages, and gardens of palmyra, coconut and other fruit trees; and in the rear, will command from the upper verandahs, a partial view of an arm of the Sea, with the Islands beyond it. On the other side are the mission house and garden. The hall stands 'on one end of an oblong square enclosed by a high stone wall, embracing a considerable area of ground covered with coconut trees, which make a handsome grove. Along one side, and at the opposite end of this square, are rows of small

buildings for the students; to be increased as rooms may be needed. There are now six good sized rooms for students, a dining room and cook-house, a large and airy room for meetings of various kinds, and several small apartments for devotional purposes. There are also study rooms for the principal and the native tutor. Accommodations for the family of the principal have been made at considerable expense, in connexion with the mission house. The money expended in these buildings and repairs, including what is advanced for completing Ottley Hall is something more than 10,000 Rix dollars or 750 Pounds Sterling. Arrangements have not as yet been made for erecting a chapel as the mission bungalow church has hitherto answered the purpose; but it is becoming inconvenient."



## SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE SEMINARY

## 1. IN CEYLON.

	Rds.	
The Hon. Sir Hardinge Gifford, Chief Justice,	50.	
The Hon. R. Boyd, Con. Revenue,	100.	
The Hon. Sir Richard Ottley, Puisne Justice,	1500.	
G. Lusiguan Esq. late Dep. Sec. to Government,	25.	
The Rev J S M. Glen, Acting Archdeacon,	100.	
W. H. Hooper Esq. former Prov. Judge, Colombo,	50.	
Charles Scott, Esq. Prov. Judge, Galle,	100.	
Major Antill, Commandant, Jaffnapatam,	100.	
A. Wright Esq. Prov. Judge, do,	25.	
I. G. Forbes Esq.	20.	
R. M. Sneyd, Esq. Collector, Mannar,	25.	
J. N. Mooyart, Esq. Sitting Magistrate, Colombo	333. 4	
P. A. Dyke Esq. Mannar,	10.	
R. Brook, Esq. Mas Art. Trincomale, don	25.	
Ditto, and Sub.	20.	
Archibald Fraser, Esq. Surgeon,	30.	
The Rev. S. Lambrick, Church Missionary,	25.	
The Rev. H. Woodward, Am. Missionary,	200.	
Major Audain,	50.	
J. T. Anderson, Esq. Jaffnapatam,	50.	
A Friend	50.	
Ditto,	26. 6	

## 2. MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

	M. Rs	
The Hon. Sir. Ralph Palmer, Chief Justice,	50.	
John Babington, Esq. Collector, Cannanore,	50.	
James A. Dazzell, Esq. Post Master General,	100.	
J. Thomas, Esq.	40.	
W. Bannister Esq. Mint Assayer,	50.	
Captain W. T. Brett, Madras Establishment,	50.	
H. M. Blair, Esq. Calicut	25.	
George Bailey, Esq. late Surgeon,	70.	
Alexander Johnson, Esq. Gar Surgeon,	50.	
T. M. S. Lane, Esq. Sup. Eye Infirmary,	70.	
Mess Griffiths & Co. Merchants,	35.	
Mess. Arbuthnot & Co. Agents,	350.	
J. M. Strachan, Esq.	150.	
John Hall, Esq. Agent,	50.	
W. Bainbridge Esq. Agent,	20.	
J. Hunter, Esq.	50.	a legacy
The Rev. C. Traveller,	35.	
Mr. Vansomerem,	50.	
Unknown, Palamcottah,	100.	

## 3. BOMBAY.

The Hon. J. P. Sparrow, former Mem. Coun.	50.	
The Rev. Henry Davies, Sen. Chaplain,	100.	
The Rev. J. Clow, Chaplain,	30.	
Lieutenant Sandwith, Bom. Establishment,	50.	
Lieutenants G. and T. Candy, do	200.	

## 4. CALCUTTA.

	Sa. Rs.	
The Hon. Sir Charles Grey, Chief Justice,	100.	
The Hon. John Herbert Harington Esq. Mem. Sup. Coun.	427.	
The Hon. W. Butterworth Bayley Esq. do do	100.	
The Hon. Sir Anthony Buller, Puisne Justice,	100.	
Col. Charles Mouat, Bengal Establishment,	100.	
Col. John Mc Innes, do do,	50.	
Holt Mackenzie Esq. Sec to Government,	100.	
James Money, Esq. Senior Merchant,	50.	
James Pattle, Esq. do do	32.	
James Pascal Larkins Esq. Senior Merchant	50.	
John Walter Sherer Esq. do do,	50.	
Wigram Money, Esq. do do,	50.	
The Ven Archdeacon Currie	32.	
Angustus Frederick Hamilton, Esq. Counsellor	100.	

George Money, Esq.	do.	50.
Aaron Crosseley Seymour, Esq, Barrister,	-	32.
Charles George Strettell Esq.	do.	50.
Jonathan Carey, Esq.	do.	50.
The Rev. Deocar and Mrs. Schmid,	-	50.
The Rev Drs. Carey, Marshman, and John Marshman Esq.	-	200.
The Netherland Missionary Society, by Dr. Vos.	-	100.
Messrs Mackintosh & Co. Agents,	-	100.
Messrs. Alexander & Co	do.	100.
Messrs Palmer & Co.	do.	100.
Messrs Culvin & Co.	do.	100.
Messrs Ferguson & Co.	do.	100.
Messrs Joseph Barretto & Co do.	-	100.
Messrs Cruttendon Mackillop & Co. Agents,	-	100.
Henry M. Pigeon, Esq. Benares,	-	82.
Matthew Gisborne Esq.	-	50.
William Tate, Esq.	-	50.
J. B. Swinhoe, Esq.	-	30.
William T. Beeby Esq. Agent,	Sa. Rs.	32.
George W. Blaikie Esq. Sup. Am. Ship Asia,	-	50.
H. Roger Kendall Esq. Sup Am. Ship,	-	50.
Captain King. Am Ship, Coral,	-	20.
C. W. Britzche Esq.	-	30.
John Cordou Esq.	-	30.
Jas. U. Sheriff Esq.	-	10.
Mr. David Harc,	-	32.
Mr. Charles Piffard,	-	25.
Doctor Bos,	-	10.
John Athanass Esq.	-	25.
A Friend,	-	10.
Mr. I. N. Van Hart,	-	32.
A Friend,	-	20.
George Chisholme Esq.	-	20.
Thomas Clarke Esq. Branch Pilot	-	32.
David Jones Esq. do	-	20.
Thomas Tomlin Esq.	-	32.
Thomas de Souza Esq.	-	16.
D. Thompson Esq.	-	16.
The Rev. J. C. Proby	-	16.
Capt. W George Mackenzie, Resident, Malacca,	-	25.
Capt. George Hutchinson, Fort William,	-	16.
Mr. John Jahans,	-	25.
Mr. Matthew Johnstone,	-	10.
Mr. John Toil,	-	32.
Mr. J. Gilbert,	-	20.
Mr. Thomas Wilson,	-	25.
Mr. Alexander Walker,	-	16.
Mr. John Urquahart,	-	10.
Mr. A. Stephen,	-	25.
Mr. W. Wallis	-	10.
The Rev I. Statham.	-	10.
Thomas Davis Esq.	-	16.
M. Haynes Esq.	-	5.
Mr. De Clarke,	-	8.
Mr. James Thompson,	-	8.
A Friend,	-	10.
Mr. R. Kerr,	-	8.
Mr. J. Murray,	-	10.
Baboo Ram Mohun Roy.	-	25.

The whole amount of subscription and donations, as above, is in Rix dollars 10, 109, 6, 0, or in Pounds Sterling 758. 4. 3; and the sum already expended on the buildings connected with the seminary, Rds. 10,000. Pound Sterling, 750; though the principal building is still in a unfinished state. The Salaries of the Principal, the Tutor and the teachers, with the Board, Clothing, Stationary, Furniture, Books, &c. of the students, have been made a Mission charge, to the American Board; and Books with the Philosophical and other apparatus, to some amount, have been ordered from England on the credit of the Board; but in the hope that friends of the Institution in India will still generously assist in meeting these expenses as well as in completing the buildings.



## FURTHER REPAIRS

Doubtless there were changes made in Ottley Hall at various periods of its history, but these are not known to the writer. We do know, however, that extensive repairs and some alterations were made in 1901 and 1902 under the direction of the Rev. R. C. Hastings. Regarding this the following has been taken from the Miscellanies of Aug. 1901 and March 1902.

"The Hall was unroofed during the holidays of April and May and it was hoped that the new roof would be quite finished by the middle of the first term. But there was great delay in getting timbers, and even after the necessary timbers were secured, workmen were not easy to find

so the building is far from finished as we go to press. The upper roof is about finished the masons being busy in putting on the tiles. We are using Calicut tiles as they make a lighter and drier roof. The verandahs and side rooms, we hope, will be finished before the rain sets in. Accustomed as we are to the slow moving East, we have been greatly tried by the delay experienced much of which was unnecessary. In the meantime the Gymnasium was fitted up as a school room and has served its purpose fairly well."

March, 1902.

"Ottley Hall is practically finished and the posts and wall plates are receiving a coat of paint".



## COLLEGE DAY

As decided by the Executive Committee of the Old Boys' Association the celebration of College Day came off on the same day as that set for the opening of Ottley Hall. This, doubtless, accounted for the larger attendance than usual.

The programme really started on Friday afternoon with the cricket match when the Hobbises of the past and the Bradmans of the present crossed bats, with the same outcome as the contest in which these celebrities have just taken part, though with a somewhat smaller score. T. Balasingham was

the Chapman and S. K. Sabaratnam the Woodfull of the respective teams. It is evident that through such matches the loyalty of the Old Boys is kept burning and fanned into flame.

The Old Boys showed keen appreciation of the way the students of the College had prepared for their reception and entertainment during the day. The boys had set out to make the decorations, the music, and the lighting, worthy of the joint occasion and fully succeeded. At the gate rose an imposing entrance of oriental design which admitted one to a lane, of

plantain plants connected with coloured paper, and covered with streamers at frequent intervals, leading across the campus to the new hall. Many musicians, the best procurable, filled in intervals throughout the day. A portable electric lighting plant provided the electricity which furnished light for the compound and Ottley Hall making us all long for the time we shall no longer be dependent upon an imported plant to furnish a light that will stand the hard blowing of the Jaffna monsoon winds.

At 11 A. M. on Saturday Old Boys from classes as far back as 1880 and as recent as 1929 went to the church to worship, along with present day students. They listened to a thoughtful sermon by Rev. G. D. Thomas on "A Yearning Heart" in which he emphasized the necessity for doing away with the idea that some things are not sacred.

Breakfast was served in the new dining hall, the hall that is very near the old eating place, with the same well serving for purposes of washing. The food was pronounced good much to the pleasure of the boarding master Beadle.

The Principal and Mrs. Bicknell were "At Home" to all under the May-pole, or around the May pole. An unusual number of ladies had the temerity to venture out for this part of the day's festivities. We trust they may have set an example which others will follow in years to come.

At the business meeting held at 4.30 with the Principal in the chair, only routine business was taken up. Rev. K. E. Thambyrajah, the first of our graduates to be ordained to the ministry offered prayer, and officers for the year were elected as follows:—

President:—The Principal ex-officio.

Vice-Presidents:—

C. H. Cooke, Esq. J. P.,  
Hon. K. Balasingham.  
J. V. Chelliah, Esq. M. A.  
K. Kanagaratnam, Esq.

Secretary:—

T. Arumanayagam, Esq.

Treasure:—

J. M. T. Cooke, Esq.

Extra members of the Committee:—

Rev. G. D. Thomas.

T. C. Rajaratnam, Esq.

D. S. Sanders, Esq. B. A.

A. M. Brodie, Esq.

Auditors:—

K. E. Mathiapparanam, Esq.,

S. R. Beadle, Esq.

The meeting voted to extend its sympathy to the families of the Old Boys deceased during the year including the families of Messrs. Louis S. Ponniah, B. A., T. S. Thuraiappahpillai, J. W. S. Cooke and J. K. Channugam, B. A.

The banquet was held in the place where the afternoon tea had been served out under the starlit sky. A. S. Vanigasooriar, Esq. spoke of the services of the college and of the need that young men should be induced to go into farming. S. M. Kanaganayagam, Esq., brought a message of appreciation, replete with wit, that was most heartening.

**HISTORICAL SKETCH****OF JAFFNA COLLEGE**

When the American Missionaries commenced their work in Jaffna in 1816 they found it necessary to establish free schools in different villages. After some time it seemed important to attempt in addition to the native free schools, Boarding Schools. Five Boarding Schools were started with great difficulty in five stations—Tellipalai, Batticotta, Uduvil, Pandaterrippu and Manipay. Later an attempt was made to put these in more favourable circumstances for higher attainments by establishing one Central School and the Institution was commenced at Batticotta in 1823. In order still further to forward the progress of education the American Mission started the Batticotta Seminary in 1826 and continued it until 1856, when it was closed because it was thought that so much attention, paid to English was not consistent with the claims of Mission work. Nevertheless the desire for English was not diminished and a feeling grew strong for a Christian institution in Jaffna. Jaffna College in its present form is a result of this desire for higher education. We can here do no better than to quote the following account of the beginning of this Institution from the report of one of its former Principals, Dr. Howland. "A definite movement was started in 1867 among the graduates of the old Seminary and an attempt was made to collect funds. But it was only in 1872 that they were able to open

the College. It was called Jaffna College, because the plan originated with Christians of three denominations, and form all parts of the Jaffna Peninsula, and was brought to a successful issue chiefly by their efforts, and because it was intended to furnish an education in advance of that given in any Mission institution and thus meet the needs of the whole peninsula. For this reason also, Christians of three denominations, both native and foreign, were invited to be members of the Board of Directors. As the buildings at Vaddukodai were available and answered the present need, and as most of the promoters had studied there themselves, the institution was naturally located there. Moreover as a fund had been collected in America for the support of the Principal, an American Missionary was asked to take charge of it. As the number of students increased first one assistant, and then two, were secured from America."

As the other two Missions in the Peninsula have raised the standard of their institutions this college has come to be identified more or less with the American Mission, and yet it is not intended or desired that it should be denominational or exclusive, but one in which all the people of Jaffna may share.

It was thought that in time the certificate of the College would have a recognised value equivalent to that of the degrees of the Indian



Universities. This proved true to a certain extent; and in many places in India as well as in Ceylon, Jaffna College students had a good reputation. Nevertheless the desire for degrees increased and students at one time and another left the College to study where they could get degrees.

But early in 1891, the Director of Public Instruction having announced his determination to substitute the London University Examination for the Senior Cambridge Local, the Jaffna College authorities, considering the Indian University Examinations more suitable for Tamil youth and realising the need of some sort of examination which would be recognised by the public, decided to seek affiliation with an Indian University. Madras University, being in a Tamil country and not very distant, was naturally thought of. But the Metropolitan University seemed to be guided by wiser counsels, and to present a better course. Therefore affiliation with the Calcutta University was sought and secured to the First in Arts grade in September 1891, and to the B. A. grade in June 1893, just twenty-one years from the opening of the College.

This affiliation was continued till 1906 when we were forced, by the Lord Curzon University Act, to seek affiliation with the Madras University. Madras University recognised us as a first grade Col-

lege for some time but later on advised the Protestant Missions in Jaffna to form a Union College. This was the result of the visit of a deputation from the Madras University who saw that no College in Jaffna could, standing by itself, provide the education that would give an adequate training in the sight of the Madras University.

In spite of the strenuous attempts made by the Jaffna College authorities to form a Union College, its realisation has not been possible up to the present time.

The Madras University, finding that our staff and equipment had not reached the standard of efficiency which it put before us, disaffiliated us. It was about this time that the Cambridge Local Examinations were being patronised by many institutions in the Island. We also fell in with the running tide. At first the Senior Certificate Examination was the highest that we aimed at, but we could not rest satisfied with that. So we introduced the London Matriculation and Intermediate classes.

In the year 1915, during the Principalship of Mr. Brown, the Vaddukoddai English School was amalgamated with the College. We are now, therefore, able to take in boys as soon as they pass out from our village vernacular schools and build up their English education under our own immediate supervision.



**JAFFNA COLLEGE CHARTER**

Ordinance enacted by the Governor of Ceylon with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof:

No. 7, 1894

Preamble. Whereas several inhabitants of the Northern Province have established an Institution called and known as "The Jaffna College" at Vaddukodai, in the District of Jaffna and it is found desirable to constitute certain persons one body politic and corporate for the purpose of effectually transacting all affairs connected with the said college according to the constitution agreed to by its founders:—Be it therefore enacted by the Governor of Ceylon by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

1. The persons named in the schedule A hereto, being the present Directors of the said college, and such persons as may hereafter be appointed from time to time Directors of the said college, as declared and set forth in the schedule B hereto, shall be, one body politic and corporate by the name of "The Board of Directors of the Jaffna College" and by the said name they shall have perpetual succession and shall and may use a common seal with power to change and alter the same at their pleasure.

II. They and their successors by the same name may sue and

be sued, implead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended in all and any courts whatsoever and before any Judge, Magistrate, or judicial officer within this Island, in all manner of actions, suits, complaints, matters and courses whatsoever.

III. They and their successors by the name aforesaid shall be able and capable in law of holding all such estate, movable and immovable, either by purchase, gift, devise or legacy, to and for the use and benefit of the said college; and of selling, disposing of, or exchanging the same."

IV. And all mortgages and other securities for money, lands, and tenements held in the Island in the name of any persons as trustees of the said College shall be and the same are hereby declared to be transferred and vested in the said "Board of Directors of the Jaffna College" and their successors in the corporate name as fully as if the same had been assigned and transferred by the trustees in whose name the same are now held to the said corporation and the said corporation shall have full power to assign, transfer and dispose of all such mortgages and other securities to which they shall be entitled as the said corporation shall think proper.



## CONSTITUTION OF JAFFNA COLLEGE

(AMENDED)

- Art I. The institution shall be called Jaffna College.
- Art II. It shall be conducted as a Christian college whose Directors and Faculty shall be members of some denomination of Protestant Christians.
- Art III. The object shall be to give to all pupils admitted into the college a thorough general and Christian Education.
- Art IV. The general government and direction of the college shall be vested in a Board of Directors, not more than fifteen nor less than eleven in number.
- Art V. Any Protestant Christian resident in the Island of Ceylon who is interested in the work of the college, shall be eligible for election as a Director, whether by race a native of Ceylon or not, provided always that those who are not Ceylonese shall never at any one time exceed a moiety of the entire Board.
- Art VI. The Board of Directors shall be constituted and elected as follows:—
1. The Principal shall be a member of the Board of Directors ex-officio.
  2. The remaining fourteen members shall be divided into three sections: A. five members
- B. five members; C. four members.
3. Section A shall be elected for one year, section B two years and section C for three years. But at the second election after this, amended constitution goes into effect, and thereafter, each section shall be elected for three years.
  4. In each of the sections A and B the American Ceylon Mission shall have the right to elect two members and in section C they shall have the right to elect one member.
  5. Of the remaining members at least five must be members in good standing of the churches of the Jaffna Council of the South India United Church, or of the American Ceylon Mission.
  6. The members of the Board of Directors referred to in sub-section 5, above, shall be elected by the Board of Directors itself, or by any other organization to which the Board may delegate this power in whole or in part.
- Art VII. The officers of the Board of Directors shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, each of whom shall be elected annually out of the Board of Directors by the members of the Board present at the Annual meeting and shall continue in office

till the next election or till their successors are elected. Should any office be vacated at any time other than at the Annual Meeting, the Executive Committee may appoint another member thereto, subject to the provisions of article xvii.

Art VIII. The Board of Directors shall have authority over all the interests of the College. They shall have the power to elect the Principal and all other instructors and officers, and at their discretion to remove any of them. They shall have the power to make and to enforce by-laws, and such by-laws shall not be made, revoked, or altered, save at a meeting of the Board duly convened by notice to all the Directors specifying the proposed changes. The Board of Directors shall also be responsible for the safe-keeping and disposition of all funds received by them for the College from whatever source.

Art IX. The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held within the first term of each collegiate year, notice whereof in writing, together with an agenda, shall be given or posted by the Secretary to each Director not less than seven days before the said meeting. At each Annual Meeting the Principal shall present a report on the present state of the college and on the work done during the previous collegiate year. The Treasurer shall present a statement

of receipts and expenditures during the year, properly audited by auditors appointed by the Board. The Executive Committee and the investment committee shall each present a full report of their work during the year, together with the minutes of their meetings

Art X. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be held at any time on the requisition in writing of five directors, or at the call of the Executive Committee. Written notice of such meetings shall be given or posted by the Secretary to all the Directors, at least seven days beforehand, together with a statement of the purpose for which the meeting is called.

Art XI. At any meeting of the Board of Directors duly held, a majority of the Directors shall form a quorum.

Art XII. Vacancies in the Board may occur by the resignation of a Director, or by his ceasing to reside in the Island of Ceylon for a period of six months consecutively. The electing organisation or electorates shall also have the power, at any time, to recall any director elected by them. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the Board of Directors the organisation or electorate which originally elected the member shall fill the vacancy.

Art XIII. The faculty shall be constituted as follows:—

The Principal shall be chairman of the faculty ex-officio



2. All teachers of the college who are university graduates and who have served the college for one year shall be members of the faculty.
3. Other members of the teaching staff may be appointed to the faculty at the discretion of the Board of Directors,

which these duties shall be performed. Members of the faculty shall be eligible for appointment to this committee, but the number appointed shall not at any one time exceed two in addition to the Principal.

Art XIV. The faculty shall have power to prescribe the general course of study and the conditions under which students shall be admitted; to determine the general arrangement of the terms and the limits of the collegiate year; and to assign its duties to any department of the college for which the Board of directors may provide. The faculty shall submit the minutes of their meetings to the Executive Committee.

Art XVII. The Executive Committee shall have power to consider and to decide all questions pertaining to the management of the College which may arise in the intervals between meetings of the Board of Directors, including the appointment or the removal of teachers or other employees. But it shall submit a report of all its action to the Board of Directors at its next meeting thereafter, to be by the Board confirmed or disallowed, both in relation to the occasions in which such actions originated (so far as final action on any of them has been deferred or may thereafter yet be taken) and in relation to all like questions which may arise in future.

Art XV. The faculty may admit as a student of the college any person of any race or creed who bears a good moral character, and who satisfies the requirements prescribed from time to time by the faculty as conditions of admission, and undertakes to conform to the rules and regulations of the college.

Art XVIII. The Board of Directors shall annually appoint an Investment Committee which shall consist of the Principal, the Treasurer, and not less than three others, and may make rules defining duties of the Committee, and the manner in which their duties shall be performed.

Art XVI. The Board of Directors shall annually appoint an Executive Committee which shall consist of the Principal and six others, and may make rules defining the duties of the committee and the manner in

Art XIX. The Investment Committee shall have power to con-

sider and to decide all questions pertaining to the investment of the permanent funds of the College and shall submit a report of all investments to the Board of Directors at each annual meeting, or whenever called for. All investments shall be by the Board confirmed or disallowed.

Art. XX. Any article of this constitution may be by the Board of Directors repealed or amended and a new provision in lieu thereof may be substituted for or added to any of the then existing articles, provided first, that all such changes shall be voted by three-fourths of the Directors present at any meeting at which, with due notice to all the Directors, the alterations shall have been proposed and discussed, and that such three-fourths shall constitute a clear majority of the entire Board and provided, second, that the object for which the College was founded shall be respected.

Art XXI. The provisions of this amended constitution shall come into effect upon such day as His Excellency the Governor, upon notification by the Board of Directors that the new Board of Directors has been duly organized, shall declare by notice in the Ceylon Government Gazette.

Amendment.

By vote of the Directors of the college the vice-principal is now

an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors.

FORMER MEMBERS OF THE  
FACULTY OF THE COLLEGE

AMERICAN

The Rev. E. P. Hastings	1872-1889
" " S. W. Howland, D. D.	1889-1897
Mr. W. E. Hitchcock, M. A.	1880-1886
" "	1891-1908
The Rev. R. C. Hastings	1881-1904
The Rev. F. K. Sanders, D. D.	1882-1886
Irving Wood, Ph. D.	1885-1889
A Silver	1887-1888
Wm. Marsh	1888-1890
W. W. Wallace M. A.	1889-1893
L. Best B. A.	1893-1897
Rev. T. Elmer, M. A., Ph. D.	1897-1902
Rev. J. Bicknell, B. A. B. D.	1902-1905
A. A. Ward B. A.,	1902-1906
Rev. G. G. Brown B. A. B. D.,	1908-1914
L. B. Fitts, B. A.	1906-1909
H. C. York, M. A., Ph. D. Ph. L.	1908-1913
C. W. Miller, B. A.	1914-1917
Rev. M. H. Harrison, B. A. S. T. M.	1918-1928
S. P. Hieb M. A.	1926-1928
E. G. Nichols B. A.	1921-1924

CEYLONESE

Rev. T. P. Hunt	
Mr. R. O. D. Asbury	
" Samuel Hensman	
" E. A. Kingsbury	
" E. G. Adams	
Rev. J. K. Sinnatamby, B. A.	

Mr. S. G. G. Carpenter

„ S. Thambiah

„ T. P. Hudson, B. A.

„ V. Mudr Stephenson

Mr S. G. Lee, M. A.

„ Allen Abraham, B. A.

„ Chelliah H. Cooke

„ L. S. Ponniah, B. A.

„ J. C. Amarasingham, B. A.





