

[Narrative History of the Sandwich Islands.]

சாங்குவிக் தீவுகள்.

உதயதாரகையை வாசித்தவருகிறவர்கள் சாந்து... விக் தீவகளைப்பற்றி அங்கே கேள்விப்பட்டிருக்கிற...

இக்கட்டானது தீவுகளை கவனம் ஆண்டு சுற்றி... தந்தான் குக்கென்பர் கண்டுபிடித்தப் போர்க்கப்பல்கள்...

சுற்றாவில் ௫ மீயிலும் கோழிமுட்டை விடவு... முழுநேரம் ஒரு உபு நீர்வால் அக்கினி மட்டையிழிம்...

யாசப்படுகிறார்கள். முன்ன முதல் அமெரிக்காவில்... விருந்து, ஒரு பசமாடு கொண்டு வரப்பட்டுப்போது...

[The Salutation of the Gospel.]

சுவீசேஷ்டாராவில் மறுதேசாசாரம் ஏற்றுக்கொ... ன்ளப்படுகின்றதோ அவர்களின்கண் சுவீசேஷ்டம்...

முக்கசாயலைப் பிரகாசிக்கின்றது. அது சாகக்கொ... மெய்யனுடைய தயாரத்தைத் தணிவிக்கின்றது...

தோகையாகச் சொல்லும்படி தந்தது. அது நன்றை... கல்லிப்பாரும் மெய்யறிவுக்குக் காரணம்...

[Doings of the Roman Catholics.]

சுஅருகம் ஆண்டு மார்ச்சுமாதம் பதினாறந்திக... பின்னாலும், ஐந்து அல்லது ஐந்தரைமணிவேளையி...

[Children may do Good.]

பின்னகரும் நன்மனசெய்யலாமென்பது—வே... தவிரோதியான ஒரு பெரியோரைப் பரிசாரியுந்நார்...





MORNING STAR.

Jaffna, Thursday, February 24, 1853.

THE TAMIL BIBLE A STANDARD FOR PROSE COMPOSITION.

The need of such a standard must have been deeply felt by every missionary in the Tamil field. The classic writings of the Hindus are chiefly poetical, and the dialect in which they are written is so unlike that of ordinary prose composition, as to require a different grammar—a teacher of rare attainments, and a lengthened course of close application of study, if one would become conversant with their poets. The difficulty of understanding Tamil poetry is felt by the Tamilian as well as by the foreigner. Every sentence must be laboriously deciphered before either of them can comprehend its full import or perceive its literary merits. Prose writings are but lightly esteemed by the natives, hence the important "art of writing" prose composition, "with propriety and dispatch," has been but little cultivated.

The two following paragraphs from the pen of the late Rev. T. C. E. Rhenius are in point as illustrative of the subject:

"From the poetical writings," he observes, "Tamil style and diction as used in common life, cannot be learned; because they contain so many old Tamil words, which are not at all in use now, and so many terminations and modes different from those in common conversation, that it is not at all intelligible, except after hearing the explanation of learned men; and even they cannot understand at once any poem, written in that manner without much difficulty. These poetical writings contain indeed explanations in prose; and from them something more of Tamil style and diction may be attained; but they also differ much from the style used in civil life, and they consequently require another explanation to make them intelligible."

After enumerating some of the principal native works that are to be found in prose, and showing that their style and diction are not to be imitated he then proceeds:

"After what I have said, it will be asked How then shall we acquire the proper Tamil idiom? I answer, that it can be acquired only by the assistance of a learned native, who knows the native grammars well—has had no practice in English and foreign composition—possessing a clear and logically thinking intellect, and is a flatterer."

Alas for us if this be the best direction that can be given by one of the masters in Tamil composition! The rule itself points to one of the most formidable obstacles to the production of such prose writings, as might be regarded as approved standard composition, i. e., the vitiated taste and almost invariable practice of learned natives in relation to prose writings. This is manifested in an overweening fondness for a higher and more intricate style and diction than can be apprehended by the common mind, or by those whom it should be their object and their privilege to instruct and influence. They manifest a desire rather to show their own knowledge of language, than freely to impart information through the medium of language level to the capacity of those who are to be taught. They write for the learned and cautious linguists, rather than for unassuming pupils.

In view then of all the difficulties of the case as set forth in the two extracts above given—and in view of the very great importance of having an approved standard for prose composition that shall be within the reach of all classes of students, we would with earnestness and confidence recommend to the Tamil community, the last revised edition of the Tamil Bible as the standard for prose composition. We recommend it with earnestness from a conviction that it is worthy of their acceptance and of their diligent imitation—that it is a standard indeed in the important particular specified, wherein they would do well "to take heed as unto a light that shineth in a dark place." And we recommend it with confidence fully believing that in proportion as it is studied and used, by those who are seeking a correct model for style and diction, it will come to be regarded as the authorized standard.

In speaking thus highly of the last revised edition of the Tamil Scriptures, we rigidly confine our remarks to the specific point under consideration—its style and idiom. For whatsoever objection may be fairly urged against the revision in its higher departments of criticism, there is a remarkable unanimity in the deliberate opinion both of European and native scholars in regard to its style and diction. Hence there is ground for hope, whether the present edition be revised and improved or not, that the Tamil Scriptures may hereafter exert as favorable an influence upon prose writings in Tamil, as the English Bible has exerted for centuries past upon prose writings in English. (To be continued.) D. P.

"Pro Felix," as a whole, is not up to the publishing standard. His remarks, however, on the importance of having Tamil schools opened, in every corner and nook of the country, for the purpose of teaching the first rudiments of learning, and more especially the first elements of Christianity, are doubtless correct, and on this account may be fairly regarded as an appropriate echo to the remarks of Felix.

POOR EMIGRANTS IN AMERICA.—The Boston Traveler says, there are now quartered at the Deer Island and South Boston Almshouses some fourteen hundred paupers and criminals, nine-tenths of the number being foreigners and mostly Irish. The Lunatic Hospital at South Boston is full, with two hundred and fifty inmates, principally Irish, two-thirds of the number being foreigners.—New York Observer, Nov. 25.

NEWS ITEMS.—In November last a mob occurred at Honolulu of the Sandwich Islands, in which great numbers of seamen, whalers, were concerned. The town was fired one night, and much property was destroyed. After the putting down of the riot, the king appointed Nov. 13th as a day of thanksgiving.—The editor of the Friend of India, J. G. Marshman, Esq., left Calcutta, Jan. 20, for England, in the steamer Pottinger.—It is said gold has been found in the Sandwich Islands.—An American traveler Mr. Bayard Taylor, who is one of the editors of the New York Tribune, and who is highly spoken of as a writer, has arrived in Agra, and is expected to write a series of interesting letters upon India and Indian life, for publication in the Tribune.—The funeral of the Duke of Wellington cost the English nation £20,000! an enormous sum! The funeral car alone cost £15,000. In how many ways might it have been much more profitably expended. Would the Duke himself recommend such a use of money if he could come back to earth? No doubt not.—One of the missionary bodies at Calcutta is just now talking of taking fees of the pupils in their schools. It seems it has never yet been done. The Friend of India opposes the measure. We wonder at it,—and moreover it seems singular to us, while education is so popular in Calcutta and is carried on so extensively, that the missionary bodies should all of them up to this time, have given it entirely gratuitously.—The Colombo Observer recommends the reduction of the duty on coffee, by one penny a pound now, and more hereafter. The duty is now 50 per cent ad valorem.—The same paper, also, we are glad to see, is urging the reduction of the island postage on letters going out by the overland steamers. We hope the Governor will give his attention to it, as the matter is left discretionary with him.—The news from Burma is that the king of Ava is dead, and that proposals have been made for peace. Small pox was raging at Rangoon.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR TOBACCO.—A correspondent, over the euphonious cognomen of "C. Bob," sends us a long communication, in which he proposes the cultivation in this province of senna in place of tobacco, and asserts that the income from the former can be made greater than that now gained by the latter. He proposes to prove this in a future communication. We wait to have him do so, and hope he may succeed, for we should be most happy to see the cultivation of a useful plant introduced in the place of the pernicious, "nasty weed" tobacco. We give one extract in which senna and its uses are noticed:

Senna is much used by native physicians in this district, in their prescriptions. The extensive use of it at Madras and at other places, and the high price for it in England and other parts of Europe, are sufficient proofs that this plant is one worthy of extensive cultivation. Hearing something of the use of this plant, I once sent a specimen of the wild senna obtained from the fields in Jaffna to a friend at Madras in order to ascertain the nature, use, price, &c., of it there. He says: "The senna leaves which you kindly sent me I forwarded to Doctor C.—Professor of Materia Medica and Botany in our college.—He says the leaves belong to the same family as Tiansely senna, which are the best ones we can get. The leaves you sent were wild ones. To be fit for the English market European practices they should be cultivated, for the Timinevel and Egyptian senna, which alone supply the English market, is cultivated."

INFANTICIDE IN JAFFNA.—An unknown correspondent, whose article in detail is inadmissible—intimates that this crime is committed "more or less in all parts of Jaffna, not as a part of religious worship, as the ancients did," but to cover "shameful immorality." We hope for the honor of the province that the statement is much exaggerated, but we have reason to fear that it is true to a considerable extent. The subject deserves the attention of those in power.

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.—The presses of this Society now turn out 3500 volumes a day; and the past year they have printed over a million of volumes, besides ten millions of tracts, and periodicals equal to a million of volumes of 200 pages each. Since the commencement of the volume enterprise in 1835 they have put in circulation over seven millions and a half, or an average of nearly two volumes to every family in the United States.—N. Y. Obs., Nov. 25.

A GIANTIC PROJECT.—A railroad from Minnesota to New Orleans, competing with the Great Father of Waters throughout its course, and joining in close fellowship the six months' snows of Lake Superior with the perpetual summer of the Gulf of Mexico, is the latest project to which the exhaustless enterprise of the republic has given birth, and one which in its gigantic proportions is little likely to be paralleled.

New York Observer, Nov. 25.

If all men were just, there would be no need of valor.

Correspondence of the Morning Star.

To the Editor of the Morning Star.

SIR—You know well that now a-days there is much noise about literary associations and institutions, the introduction of aris, &c., and the advancement and improvement of the people of Jaffna. But it is lamentable to find the very little has as yet been effected beyond mere speculation. It is true that here and there some societies are still kept up, but this will not do. Literary societies are only for the educated and one lightened, who are comparatively few in number. If national advancement in the scale of civilization and in the arts and trades of civilized life is the object aimed at, (and no doubt it is,) then it must appear plain enough that very little can be done for it without educational institutions for the mass of the community. The present system of education is ill-suited to gain that object. Numbers have been educated and sent throughout all the provinces of Ceylon, to India, Mauritius and many other places. A great number, however, remain in the province unemployed, and are in the same category with the unjust steward (in one sense) having equal occasion to say "I cannot dig; to hug I am ashamed." Therefore unless the rulers of the province increase and multiply means of employment, as far as it lies in their power, more evil than good is likely to ensue from the present system of education. On account of scarcity of employment even the holy work of missions has lost its sacredness and spirituality, and has become a secular means of employment. From a variety of other considerations, it appears that unless other modes of education be pursued there can be no national advancement. The suggestions of Felix in his remarks on Delta's letter, No. 5, are worthy of being acted upon. Not long ago the Burghers talked of establishing an Industrial School; but the scheme has lately expired. Some thing like that is very much needed at the present crisis, and will not be forgotten until your attention to it? Yours, &c., &c. P. W. S. Jaffna, Feb. 12, 1853.

CASTE.—To observe caste, as regarded by the common people at present, is inconsistent with the Christian principle; it is once more repeated. It is not only inconsistent with the Christian principle, but is a great obstacle to the heralds of the cross, inasmuch as they are to deal freely and brotherly with all sorts of people. The Christians who are particularly engaged in preaching the gospel are to imitate Christ and Christ only in their crusade. He sat at meat with the publicans and sinners, yea with the rich and poor, with the high and low without distinction, but with considerable freedom accompanied with sympathy and love. He washed the feet of the poor fishermen. Still His excellency or Godhead was not affected.

It is the nature of Christianity, which they profess, and preach, to bless the lowest orders of society, to raise them to a degree of comfort, respectability and information unknown before the promulgation of the gospel. It teaches that all men are brethren, that all were made of one blood, that all are redeemed by one Savior, and that all are equally immortal and accountable beings. It is Christianity that broke, that breaks and that is to break down the impassable barriers of caste. It is Christianity that places men on the common ground of their respective merits and exertions. Feb. 1, 1853. A. E. O.

OCEAN TELEGRAPH.—The progress of communication between portions of the world the most distant from each other, is wonderful. A plan is now on foot for bringing London and New York within four or five days of each other, in the communication of intelligence. A company has been chartered by the British Colonial Government, by the name of the Newfoundland Telegraphic company, which has already commenced operations for the construction of a telegraphic line commencing at Cape Race, and touching at St. John's, crossing the island of Newfoundland to Cape Ray, thence a submarine line, 140 miles crossing the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and landing at Cape East on Prince Edward's Island. Traversing Prince Edward's Island, and going through the principal towns of that district, it again takes the ocean, and crossing Northumberland Straits by another submarine line of 10 miles, lands at Cape Tormentin in New Brunswick, and so on to the boundary of the United States, from whence, by an independent line to New York, the connection is completed. The total distance traversed by this line will be between 1400 and 1500 miles, of which 150 miles is submarine; and it is intended that this line shall be completed and perfectly ready for use early in the coming summer. This line is intended to be used exclusively for the direct transmission of foreign intelligence, and when completed, the only unbroken link in telegraphic communication for many thousand miles, will be the Atlantic Ocean. A new and admirable feature in the arrangements of this company, is the being able to deliver a message at the Company's Office in New York, for any place in the Old World, to which the telegraph line extends, whilst messages may be delivered to its agents in Europe, and transmitted by the Newfoundland Telegraph Company over this continent. And measures are about to be taken to test the feasibility of extending a submarine line from Newfoundland to the Irish coast, and thus entirely overcoming the distance between Europe and America, so that daily communication may be had between the old and new worlds.—New York Observer, Nov. 11.

Pleasure is seldom found where it is most eagerly sought. Promise little and do much.

REMINISCENCES OF A RECENT VISIT TO AMERICA. No. 22.

With deep and pleasing impressions upon my mind regarding the "City Mission" and "the Ragged Schools," I prepared to leave England for the United States. On learning that my passage had been engaged on the "Victoria," a splendid packet ship, I supposed, of course, it must be an English vessel, but no, it was an American packet ship—and her commander a New Englander.

After our embarkation it appeared that there were about 40 cabin passengers—gentlemen and ladies, and some hundreds of emigrant passengers, many of whom were Germans, in the steerage. The gentlemen and ladies in the cabin, were partly English and partly American, but I found it impossible to discriminate the one from the other, otherwise than by information from a third person. One young lady and gentleman, husband and wife, to whom I was introduced, informed me that she, an American, while on her visit in England, had been taken for an English lady, while her husband an Englishman, had been set down as a Yankee. She did not however mention this in the way of complaint, as though her recently wedded spouse had been maligned. This circumstance as well as the name (Victoria) of the packet ship was happily illustrative of what appeared on every side, of the commingling of the two nations and of a disposition to make the most of their consanguinity. On one American ship, I saw symmetrically carved in figures large as life "Robert Peel" and "Daniel Webster," and on another ship, the "Lion" and the "Eagle." As I stood gazing at this beast and bird of prey, I could not but start with some interest in the inquiry, When will these emblematical figures be supplanted by the lamb and the dove? Such an exchange, it may be confidently anticipated, will closely follow in the wake of the revealed consummation of the missionary enterprise "in that day" when "there shall be upon the bells or (brides) of the horses Holiness unto the Lord."

On looking around upon the inmates of the Victoria, there appeared to be a world in miniature before us, and many things conspiring and inviting to the formation of new acquaintances. Finding a goodly number of my own countrymen on the ship who could give me information of localities—of persons and things in America, it came over me as a pleasing reality that I should after an absence of a third of a century again set foot upon the shores of my native country.

An elderly gentleman, an American merchant, who was then crossing the Atlantic, I think, for the 17th time and who was seated at my side at the dinner table, was both intelligent and communicative. From him I obtained valuable information respecting both England and America, and of the nature and extent of intercourse between the two countries. From all I could see and hear it was quite evident that by the crossing and re-crossing of every packet-ship, steamer, or merchant vessel, a web is being woven, which cannot fail to bind the two nations more firmly together; so that instead of being any longer available for the purposes of separation and repulsion, the wide Atlantic, in all time to come, must in reality be a connecting link, by which both mother and daughter (now that they have got along in life and know what is what) will be not only attached to each other on the score of relationship, but mutually wedded to each other by the stronger bonds of self-interest and mutual defence, by the love of country (which, right or wrong, they seem to understand to be the world at large)—by a common origin—a common language, and emphatically and distinctively by the principles of a common salvation. D. P.

OPIMUM IN CHINA.—A Canton correspondent of the New York Observer, under date of August 20, 1852, says: "The opium trade is doing more to overthrow the Chinese monarchy, and weaken the power of rule, than these rebellions can do; and it is not less painful than difficult to foresee what will be the result of the disastrous exchange now making by the Chinese of nearly \$25,000,000 annually for opium. The only hope is in the Almighty Governor of actions, and that with the bane, the antidote may be more and more applied for the healing of the nations."

Upon this painful statement, the editor of the Observer remarks: "Twenty-five millions of money annually spent by the Chinese for opium! If the poor pagans raised the drug themselves, their use of it would be less horrible, but when we reflect that a Christian people, the 'most enlightened' on the earth, are forcing this poison upon China, against the wishes of the government, the fact is most deplorable and painful."

GREAT FACT FOR ANTI-TRINITARIANS.—"We can prove," says Baron Leibig, "with mathematical certainty, that as much flour or meal as can lie on the point of a table-knife is more nutritious than five measures (about eight or ten quarts) of the best Bavarian beer; that a person who is able daily to consume that amount of beer obtains from it in a whole year, in the most favorable case, exactly the amount of nutritive constituents which is contained in a 5lb. loaf of bread or three pounds of fish."—Letters on Chemistry.

It is good to begin well, but better to end well.

THE FRIEND, [a notice of which we gave lately,] a religious paper published at Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, and just received, contains a full account of the organization of the church, composed of the members of the new Micronesian mission, July 11. The covenant and articles of faith adopted, with the address of Rev. L. Smith to the newly constituted church; the fellowship of the churches expressed by Rev. S. C. Damon; the charge and instructions by Rev. E. W. Clark; the remarks of Rev. Mr. Kekela, a native pastor of the church of Kekuku, who accompanies the mission, but expects to return to his people; and the farewell remarks of Rev. L. H. Gulick, one of the missionaries, are all given in full, and present one of the most heart-affecting and soul-elevating exhibitions of Christian principle and devotedness we have ever met with. The light enkindled on the benighted Sandwich Islands, thirty years ago, is thus flowing forth on other islands far distant, thousands of miles.—Boston Congregationalist, Nov. 26.

A preacher once said "If you know anything that will make a brother's heart glad, run quick and tell it, but if it is something that will only cause a sigh, bottle it up."

It is no small conquest to overcome yourself.

Subscribers to the Morning Star for 1853.

Table listing subscribers to the Morning Star for 1853, including names and locations such as JAFFNA, COVINTON, SAMUEL, VALUO 1st, VALUO 2d, SOLOMON, ALEXANDER, VYANTHATHAN, CARALY, ASCERPETHAM, SOOPER, REV. D. POOR, MR. S. FARRAR, MR. I. SAYRES, MR. S. MOODY, MR. E. F. COOLY, MR. TAYLOR, MR. W. SHERRARD, MR. D. H. RIDGLE, TAMBER, CATERAMEN, SANMUGAM, JOHN, JACOB, ARUMUGAM, CANDER, SWARMINTHER, C. ARUMUGAM, THOMAS RAMLINGAM, CATERAVALOO, BATTICCOLLA, REV. W. W. HOWLAND, MR. S. PAYSON, MR. W. VOLK, MR. A. BACKUS, MR. G. W. BOARDMAN, R. CROSSIT, T. SCOTT, S. SIDES, F. WHITELSEY, J. P. COOK, D. H. CLARK, W. COIT, C. C. CHAPIN, S. GAY, S. BUEL, T. SPENCER, J. NIELL, AMPALAM, SAMUEL, MARMUTTU, NARANY, ENGLISH SCHOOL, TAMIL SCHOOLS, REV. M. D. SANDERS, S. P. GREEN, MR. J. EVARIS, RAYTS, S. AMBALAVANER, MR. E. VANROSTUM, MR. C. HONNER, MR. T. ARMSTRONG, MR. H. HOSMER, CARADIVE, MR. V. CORNELIUS, MR. C. BARTLETT, MR. V. ABRAHAM, YALANT, MR. D. STICKNEY, MR. S. PUCK, POONGERDIVE, MR. A. ANKELETT, SCHOOLS AT THE ISLANDS, TILIPALLE, REV. B. C. MEIGS, MR. T. SNELL, MR. A. BRYANT, MR. B. LEVINA, MR. C. KINGSBURY, MR. W. HALL, MR. S. AUSTIN, MR. H. LORD, MR. J. CHAMPLAIN, MR. J. HEMPHILL, DANIEL, SAMUEL, JOHN, MATHEW.

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GRAFTED MANGO PLANTS

THERE is still a number of these to be had at the Kutchery garden on application to the Peon in charge at prices varying from 3 shillings to 1 shilling, according to the quality of the fruit of the tree from which each is grafted and the size of the plant. Jaffna, Feb. 27, 1853.

FISCAL'S SALE.

In the District Court of Jaffna, Superintendent chitty partner of R. Moorgappa chittiar of Natookottai residing at Vannarponne, Plaintiff. Nagamoota chitty Sinnatamby of Vannarponne, Defendant. No. 6104, etc.

NOTICE is hereby given that on Saturday, the 12th day of March next, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon of the said day, will be sold on the spot, the following property of the defendant.

Situated at Vannarponne east—registered in the thombo on the name of Christopol Mooyaratt, Esq. A land called Marrootoovooteliddey, in extent 22 1/2 lathams varrego culture, bounded on the east by property owned by Sinnatamby, on the north by property owned by Government, on the west by road and on the south by property owned by P. A. Dyke, Esq. Registered in the thombo on the name of Gualter Esq. Mooyaratt, Esq. A land called Keerang and Kallioottoratan, in extent 41 1/2 lathams paddy culture, bounded on the east by property owned by Philippayah and others, on the north by property owned by Government and tank, on the west by property owned by Sinnatamby, and on the south by property owned by the Wesleyan Mission. F. W. GIBBORNE, Deputy Fiscal. Fiscal's Office, Jaffna, Feb. 5, 1853. 1p