







MORNING STAR.

Jaffna, Thursday, April 28, 1853.

THE RICE HARVEST.

[CONTINUED.]

Another custom universally observed by the farmers, is the person who superintends the work of treading out the grain should neither leave the choorodoo (threshing floor) nor eat any thing until the whole business is done; and the person who drives the cattle that tread the grain, frequently cries out very lustily "po-le, po-le, O mother, goddess of the earth, po-le, po-le," which is a kind of prayer that the yield may be multiplied many fold. When the treading is finished the straw is shaken out and piled up around the choorodoo in a circle. While thus lying, it is the wind breaks the circle on the southern or western side, it is an ill omen, and indicates a decrease of the grain. If, on the contrary, the northern or eastern side be broken, it is a good omen, and shows that the evil spirits will take rice from the fields of others to increase this. Again, if another farmer have his choorodoo threshed just opposite, a quarrel will most likely occur between the two, from the superstitious notion that the evil ones will take the grain from his choorodoo and carry it to his neighbor's.

After the straw is removed as above, the grain is heaped up in the center of the threshing ground, and a rough unsightly range of the god Palliar, and a knife, are placed upon the heap as guards against the thefts of the much dreaded evil spirits. Now the process of winnowing is commenced, which is all done by a fan made of the braided palmyra leaf—a slow process indeed, but one by which the rice is quite well cleaned. After all is winnowed, superstitious signs are written upon the heap—a present of some quarts is given to the family brahmin—and the rice is carried home in ola baskets. Carts are seldom or never used in conveying the grain or the straw from the field, but all is carried upon the heads of men and women. The latter generally carry the grain, while the men take the straw upon their heads in immensely great bundles, under the pressure of which, with much toil and "sweat of the brow," they briskly walk and sometimes run, ten or a dozen in single file, to their not unfrequently distant homes.

It should be said that many of the above mentioned superstitions and heathenish observances are now but little observed in comparison with what they once were, owing to the spread of civilization, European influence, and the knowledge of true religion diffused through the agency of English and American missionary societies.

It is an interesting fact, as showing the great poverty of many of the people, that for weeks after the fields are harvested, poor women may be seen with a little broom or brush, sweeping and searching among the stubble, for the single kernels of rice which have fallen while the grain was reaped. These, each one picks up, generally kernel by kernel, and in the course of a day may glean enough to come to the value of two pence when sold. Thus wretchedly poor are many among the Tamil people, who have no little difficulty in procuring food, even of the coarsest kind sufficient for their maintenance.

THE MADIAT.—Much is said in the papers at present of "The Madiat," and perhaps some of our readers will ask, who are they? They are, then, an Italian man and wife bearing the name of Madiat, who have been imprisoned by the Roman Catholics, in Tuscany, for nothing else in the world, as it appears, but reading the Bible! And this persecution is in the middle of the nineteenth century! Rev. J. P. Thompson, writing to the N. Y. Independent from Rome, Dec. 20, thus speaks of the Madiat:

"These two 'traitors' and 'rebels' for conscience' sake are confined in different prisons, one at Lucca, the other at Vittoria, about fifty miles apart. It is almost impossible for them to exchange communications. He has remained firm—though a man of weak nerves and of but partial enlightenment in the Scriptures, and constantly subjected to the wiles and the intimidations of priests who have daily access to him, while he is allowed to see an English friend only once a month. His health is falling rapidly, and both he and others have a suspicion that he is slowly poisoned. A concert of prayer for and with these sufferers is observed every evening at 9 o'clock by evangelical Christians on the continent and in Great Britain. I was present in Paris one evening in a company of Christians met for social purposes, where at 9 o'clock the host reminded his guests of this concert, and the whole company at once engaged in prayer for the Madiat. I never witnessed a more delightful transition from the social to the religious.

BOSTON AND AUSTRALIA.—There are seven first class ships up for Australia, in Boston, besides a number that have already sailed, and the freight which is offering, it is said, far exceeds the expectations of the most sanguine.—N. Y. Obs., Feb. 17.

ITALY AND THE BIBLE.—A gentleman, who is said to be "one of the most estimable of the clergy of the English church, one whose labors and whose writings are of world-wide renown," writing from Nice, an Italian city in the kingdom of Sardinia, gives the following encouraging account, which shows that the Bible is doing a great work in Italy, and that the cruel persecution of the Madiat is helping the truth, as all persecutions of Christianity have hitherto done. The date of the letter is Nice, Dec. 14, 1852.

"The great thing to do is to get the Scriptures circulated as freely as possible. Facts prove that they are wrong who maintain that Bibles and tracts will do nothing without preachers. What is done is done by the circulation of the Scriptures by the colporteurs in Syria. It is now some time ago that 500 inhabitants of Nablous, the ancient Sychar," from the reading of the Scriptures they had bought from colporteurs, had seen their errors, and, in a body, implored the bishop of Jerusalem to receive them into the English church. We are not all aware of what is thus progressing throughout the East. Turkey, the Scriptures are producing wonderful results. I lately had the privilege of seeing some highly influential persons from Turkey, who quite electrified me with their accounts. In a town on the sea of Marmora 500 persons were lately discovered, who had renounced their religion in consequence of reading the Scriptures brought by the colporteurs, and had formed themselves into a new church, and were waiting for a minister to be sent to them. It is not easy to estimate the good that the Bible alone is effecting throughout Italy at this moment. And all the persecution that the priesthood are raising up in consequence, however hard it presses on individuals, is immensely forwarding the good work. Curiosity is thus created, and men will see for themselves a book which is so much dreaded. I have abundant proof of this; and strange to say, on taking up a Turin newspaper, I find an advertisement stating that the case of the Madiat was exciting intense interest throughout Italy, and in all directions men were resolved to see for themselves a book the very reading of which was visited with condign punishment. I could tell you of numberless instances in which the simple reading of the Bible is doing wonders. In a little town, not many miles hence, sixty persons have renounced popery, and implored that a faithful minister may be sent to them.

Also, called Shechem. It is a place often mentioned in the Bible and is about forty miles north of Jerusalem. Here the bones of Joseph, brought from Egypt, were buried. (See Joshua 24: 32.) Here also occurred the very interesting and beautiful conversation of the blessed Savior with the "woman of Samaria" as recorded in the 4th of John, and where "many of the Samaritans believed on him (Christ) for the saying of the woman," and where "many more believed because of his (Jesus) own word.—Ed. M. Star.

FACILITIES FOR TRAVELING.—The Boston Journal says that more than one million and a half of passengers pass Memphis on the Mississippi river every year, according to reliable data. Roads will soon be completed from Memphis to Lexington, Ky., and from Lexington to the mouth of Big Sandy River, and by filling up the gap thence to Parkersburg, 80 miles, there would be secured a railroad connection to Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Portland, and when the North American railway is completed, to Halifax. One continuous line of railway from Halifax to New Orleans! Senator Downs, in his speech at the Baltimore Trade Convention, said: "I have the pleasure of informing you, that New Orleans has the means, and is now at work in constructing a railroad, as near as may be in an air-line from thence to Washington. The means are obtained, the work is in execution to give you a communication by which a passenger, crossing the line of railrope, can reach Baltimore from New Orleans in 50 hours; and not four years will elapse before it will be accomplished."

A WRECK.—On the 15th of February, the steamer "Queen Victoria" was sunk near the Bailey Light Rock, off Howell, while on her way from Liverpool to Dublin, Ireland. She was run upon a rock in the night, in the midst of a snow storm, and of about one hundred and thirty persons on board, only some fifty escaped. The accident, it is thought, was the result of want of proper care, and the English government were asked to examine into the cause of this most melancholy wreck.

NEWS.—From Burmah we hear that on or about the 20th of March there was an engagement between the English and Burmese, in which the stronghold of Donabew was taken by the English, and a loss of killed and wounded of 33 men.—News from the Cape is received up to the 13th ult. The principal item—and it is one of great interest, it traces—is that official announcement of peace has been proclaimed.

A SIGNIFICANT FACT.—Four hundred years have elapsed since the invention of printing, yet books are not in circulation all over the globe; while the use of tobacco became universal within fifty years of its discovery.

SMOKING.—A leading medical practitioner, at Brighton, England, has lately given a list of sixteen cases of paralysis produced by smoking, which came under his own knowledge, within the last six months.

CALIFORNIA.—There are at present thirty churches in San Francisco. This is about one to each thousand inhabitants, and which, judging from other cities, is perhaps about a fair average.

A petition for the Maine Law has been presented to the New Jersey legislature, containing 50,000 signatures. The petition was 1,400 feet, or more than one quarter of a mile in length.

UNPARALLELED CIRCULATION.—Five hundred thousand, or half a million, copies of the American Messenger and Child's Paper are now circulated by the Am. Tract Society.

IOWA.—The number of inhabitants of this new American State in 1840 was 43,111; in 1850, 192,214, and at the present time, 230,638.

MICHIGAN.—The Maine Liqueur Law has just passed the Michigan State Legislature, and is to be submitted to the people at a special election in July. N. Y. Obs., Feb. 17.

REMINISCENCES OF A RECENT VISIT TO AMERICA.

In one of the early numbers of this series of reminiscences, a proof was given of the conver form of the earth from north to south, by the apparent gradual descent of the polar star, as we proceeded southward in the "Queen's Severn." At the equator this star was in the horizon but wholly disappeared as we proceeded further south. The apparent descent of the star was at the rate of one degree for every 69 English miles of sailing in a southern direction, showing the earth to be very nearly (69-1.6 by 360) 25,000 miles in circumference. The convexity of the earth from east to west is indicated in an equally satisfactory manner by the discrepancy above alluded to, between the watch and the sun, as we proceed either eastward or westward.

It was a circumstance of some interest, on leaving London to find myself on the first or "fixed meridian which passes through Greenwich near London." This circumstance carried me back to the days of my boyhood and to my "first lesson in geography." Supposing the ship "Victoria" to have been at anchor on the 10th of August, 1849, it would have been in a position to take some special notice of our position in relation to other parts of the world, both westward and eastward. If at 12 o'clock at Greenwich, (the sun then being on the meridian), we had inquired through the electric telegraph, what time it was at the 11th or 12th degree west of Greenwich it would have replied "11 o'clock and 17 seconds west," "11 1/2, 32m," thus the solar time becoming later, as we proceed westward, in the case on our voyage, at the rate of 4 minutes to the degree—less at 15 degrees west of the principal meridian it would be 11 o'clock A. M. at 20 degrees 10 o'clock, and on the Mississippi river, 90 degrees westward in the central parts of the U. S., it would be 6 o'clock A. M., Sabbath morning instead of 11 o'clock.

If we should proceed to the 10th or 11th degree from Greenwich to the meridian of the Sandwich Islands, from Greenwich and of the Society Islands in south latitude, we should find it to be 10 A. M., Sunday morning, and the missionaries gathering strength by sleep for the appropriate labors of the Sabbath ensuing. And if we proceed 25 degrees further east, i. e., to the anti-meridian, 180 degrees west of Greenwich, we should find it to be 12 o'clock Saturday at midnight. This last stage would bring us to the Feejee Islands, where the Wesleyan society have a highly favored mission.

Keeping in mind the result of looking westward from Greenwich, let us now look eastward by similar stages. At the spot one degree east of Greenwich, at the time of which we are speaking, it would be 12h. 4m. P. M. at 15 degrees distant, 1 o'clock, at 30 degrees 2 o'clock, at 45 degrees 3 o'clock, at 60 degrees 4 o'clock, at 75 degrees 5 o'clock, at 90 degrees 6 o'clock, at 105 degrees 7 o'clock, at 120 degrees 8 o'clock, at 135 degrees 9 o'clock, at 150 degrees 10 o'clock, at 165 degrees 11 o'clock, at 180 degrees 12 o'clock, or midnight. Thus, as we proceed eastward, the time becomes earlier, and we find it to be 12 o'clock on Saturday evening as when we went westward, but on Sabbath evening, and if we proceed 25 degrees further on to the meridian of the Sandwich and Society Islands, we should find it to be 10 A. M. on Monday morning, and the people there engaged in the usual labors of the Sabbath. It was the case with respect to them in the far west. That this view of the subject is correct is evident from the very inconvenience and undesirable state of the case in those far distant regions regarding the Sabbath day. The English missionaries who went to the Society Islands eastward regard as holy time the day previous to that observed in the American Colonies, and they went to the Sandwich Islands westward. Consequently, when the missionaries visit the Society Islands on Saturday, they find the natives engaged in their devotions on Sunday, and a similar inconvenience is experienced when the Society Islanders visit the Sandwich Islands. Query.—If the inhabitants of those anti-meridional regions would have uniformity in so important a matter as that of observing the same day as the Sabbath, who ought to give up their own day, or to receive it in the way of exchange and concession to their neighbors? And how would any exchange of the kind affect the Christians of China and of California who live on each side of the anti-meridian and are now brought to close contact with each other? However this difficulty may be disposed of, the fact of its existence must furnish an irrefragable proof to the minds of our native readers of the globular form of the earth, and consequently of the Puranas, who agree in stating that the earth is an extended plain of some millions of miles in diameter! D. F.

ACCIDENT AT BOMBAY.—A melancholy accident, attended with loss of life, took place yesterday afternoon at the Railway terminus near the Boree Bunder. The terminus, in course of construction, had its roof carried off en masse during the heavy squall of wind, and, descending heavily, brought the whole building down in ruins to the ground. Providentially, the greater number of the workmen were absent at their meals at the time it fell in; one of them was killed on the spot. Ten other coolies were removed from the ruins, more or less wounded,—two of them have their heads fractured, one severely, the other so dangerously that he was not expected to survive many hours; all the other men were not much hurt.—Bombay Times, March 30th.

CITY MISSION.—An effort is now being made to establish a City Mission in Calcutta, the "City of Palaces." This form of benevolent labor, as conducted by city missions, is becoming very common in many of the principal cities of Christian countries, and it seems, by the above named attempt, that city missions are no longer to be confined to Christian lands.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.—F. W. Gisborne, Esq., is appointed to be Acting Commissioner of the Court of Requests and Acting Police Magistrate of Putnam. The venerable J. N. Mooyart, Esq., is appointed a Justice of the Peace for the districts of Kandy, Kornegalle, Colombo, and Ratnapoora.

In America there are 350 and in England only 10 daily papers.—H. London News.

**NEWSPAPER IN A FAMILY.**—A school teacher who has been engaged a long time in his profession and witnessed the influence of a newspaper upon the minds of a family of children, writes as follows:

1. I have found it to be a universal fact, without exception, that those scholars of both sexes, and of all ages, who have had access to newspapers at home, when compared with those who do not, are:

1. Better readers, excelling in pronunciation, and emphasis, and consequently read more understandingly.
2. They are better spellers, and define words with greater ease and accuracy.
3. They obtain a practical knowledge of geography, in almost half the time it requires others, as the newspapers have made them familiar with the location of important places, nations, their government, and doings on the globe.
4. They are better grammarians; for, having become so familiar with every variety of style, in the newspaper, from the common place advertisements to the finished and classical oration of the statesman, they more readily comprehend the text, and consequently analyze its construction with accuracy.
5. They write better compositions, using better language, containing more thoughts, more clearly and connectedly expressed.

These young men who have for years been readers of the newspapers are always taking the lead in the debating society, exhibiting a more extensive knowledge upon a greater variety of subjects, and expressing their views with greater fluency, clearness, and correctness.

**MOVEMENT AMONGST THE JEWS.**—A remarkable change, it is said, is in progress among the Jews in almost every country. Rabbisism, which has enslaved the minds of the people for so many ages, is rapidly losing its influence. Multitudes are throwing aside the Mishna and the Talmud, and betaking themselves to the study of Moses and the Prophets. Among the Jews in London there is, at the present time, great demand for copies of the Old Testament. The subject of their restoration to Palestine, and the nature of the promises on which the expectation is founded, are extensively engaging their attention. In examining into these matters, they have obtained considerable assistance from a Continental Rabbi, who has lately arrived among them, and exhibited a manuscript in which he has endeavored to prove from Scripture that the time has come when the Jews must set about making preparations for returning to the land of their fathers. The said manuscript has been printed in Hebrew and English, and a society has been formed to further the movement proposed by the learned Rabbi.—*London Patriot.*

**HEALTHY OLD AGE.**—Lewis Cass and Thomas H. Benton are two of the most robust and healthy men to be seen in Washington. Both are and have been remarkably temperate from boyhood. Gen. Cass has ever been a cold water man, and looks as if he would last a score of years yet. Benton appears fresh and energetic as ever, and an exchange paper relates the following incident of him:

He said recently in conversation with a gentleman who spoke of his being the last of the group, "Yes," said he, "Clay, Webster and Calhoun are gone; years ago Dr. told me 'when these men are dead, you will be fresh and vigorous as ever.' My habits of living do it; until I was thirty, I drank nothing but water, sir. Since then, I have drank only what circumstances made it fit I should drink. Temperance and moderation keep me in health and strength. Besides, I adopt the Roman regime—bathe with cold water and rub dry. That's exercise. None of your common flesh brushes, but such as they rub horses' legs with, sir!"—*New York Independent.*

**THE ERICSSON.**—The calorific ship Ericsson goes to sea this morning. Her commander has received orders to make a short cruise, the more thoroughly to test her engines, the sea qualities of the ship, &c. We learn that more than four hundred applications have been made, from different parts of the country, for engines, to be built on the Ericsson principle. It being quite impossible, at present, for the inventor to prepare the drawings for this large number, from which to build them, it is his intention to have stereotype plates prepared, from which any number of copies can be taken. Five engines are now in process of construction on this plan, varying from ten to fifteen horse power. By April next, the business is expected to proceed with greater rapidity.

No particular privileges have been granted in any quarter, as it is not the design of Mr. Ericsson to establish a monopoly, but to throw open to the world the benefits which his invention is supposed to confer.

*New York Journal of Commerce, Feb. 15.*

**ERICSSON'S ENGINE.**—The publishers of the *New York Evening Post* have contracted for one of Ericsson's calorific engines. It is to have sufficient power to drive one of Hoe's rotary presses at the rate of 10,000 impressions an hour and four job-offer presses, with a reserve force of two or three horse power, and yet it is to occupy only the space inclosed in a east iron box six feet square and between five and six feet high. It is to be finished and in operation by the middle of April.

**MR. M. CORDY.**—We are gratified to learn from one of his friends that our late minister to Austria, Hon. Mr. Cordy, perfectly retained his intellectual principles while abroad, taking as firm and fearless a stand in defence of the same, at all times, as he did in defence of American rights in the case of Mr. Brace, and sometimes rebuking his own countrymen, who had great fears of the water which God had made in the old countries.—*New York Independent.*

**A MOTHER'S INFLUENCE.**—A young minister referred the case of two fathers of families, members of his church, to an older minister, that he might account for a fact, touching the conversion of the children in those families. Both of the men have large families already grown up. One is an elder and the other a deacon, in the church. The elder is a man of earnest and consistent piety. The deacon is what is called a "hard Christian," giving little if any evidence, of Christian character. "But," said the minister, "there is a strange fact in the history of these two men, one over which I have often puzzled myself in vain, and which I wish you would explain to me. The pious and consistent ruling elder carries his religion into his family, and is faithful in the discharge of parental duties; yet not one of his numerous children gives any appearance, much less makes any profession of having undergone a saving change. They are apparently the most insensible and hopeless of my young people. On the other hand, the deacon is just as careless at home as he is abroad, and, I am sure, does not set the example before his family that he should; yet all of his children who have reached years of discretion, are, with one exception, hopefully pious; and those who are younger give us every reason to believe, that as they advance in years, they will give their hearts to God. Can you tell me the cause of this strange difference?"

The other minister replied by asking, what sort of mothers the two families have. The first clapped his hands and said, the mystery is solved. The elder's wife is a professor of religion, but her light is hid under a bushel. But the deacon's wife is eminently spiritually minded, instant in prayer, and has been diligent in the use of all proper means for the conversion of her children. The whole history of the church is filled with similar cases.—*Boston Recorder.*

**ERICSSON, THE INVENTOR.**—John Ericsson was born in Sweden, in 1803. He early showed a taste for mechanics, and at the age of eleven attracted the notice of Count Platen, who obtained for him a cadet-ship in an engineer corps. He afterwards entered the Swedish army and was employed in the survey of Northern Sweden. While occupied with his favorite study of mechanics, he projected his *Flame Engine*. In 1826, he visited England. While there, in 1829, he competed for the prize offered by the Liverpool and Manchester railway for the best locomotive, and produced an engine that attained the wonderful speed, at that time, of fifty miles an hour. His propeller, his semi-cylindrical engine, his centrifugal blower, his distance instrument for measuring distances at sea, his hydrostatic gauge, his pyrometer, and other ingenious inventions, have already made the name of Ericsson famous in the scientific world. The calorific engine, which has now arrived at the consummation of success, was first brought before the scientific world of London twenty years ago, and was rejected by men of science as an impracticability, and as involving the absurdity of perpetual motion. Faraday, Brunel, and Ure, after a short resistance, finally conceded the practicability of the invention, and Faraday endorsed the calorific engine in those, famous lectures of his, before the London Institution. Fox, whose name is identified with the success of the great London Exhibition, was a pupil of Ericsson.—*Literary World.*

**ITALY.**—The political cauldron in Rome is simmering. The French are thoroughly hated. A few days before Christmas, some scribbling on the wall of a toy shop intimated that the penny soldiers, &c., exposed for sale were fit representatives of the French. The houses of the city were searched to discover the author of this satire on the French, and forty young men were imprisoned on suspicion! *Four thousand young men in Rome are forbidden to be out by night, and their homes are nightly visited by the police.* About thirty men were suddenly seized the other night and imprisoned for no body knows what. Almost every family has some member in prison. A Cardinal remarked to the French General that if the French army should leave Rome, he would leave the day after. "I advise you," said the general, "to leave the day before."

*Rev. J. P. Thompson, Rome, Dec. 29.*

**HAIR-BREADTH ESCAPE OF AN AUTHOR.**—These have an exemplification in the history of the book, "Wide, wide World," written by Miss Warner. "It is a curious fact, that the popularity of that book began with an appreciating notice in a Baptist review. Not only was the manuscript refused by several publishers, but, when published, the book fell dead—and would not sell at all, for weeks and even months. It is said on good authority, that when at length Mr. Putnam received one day, by telegraph, an order for fifty copies, he refused to answer it at first, so sure was he that there was a mistake somewhere. The noble influence of the book cannot be over-stated; and the critic or the journal which gave it its notoriety, may take credit for doing so."

**MADRAS.**—On Sunday last, a large audience, composed of Europeans, East Indians, and natives, met together in the hall of the institution on the Esplanade, to witness the solemn ordinance of baptism administered to no less than eight individuals in connection with the Free Church Mission.

*Madras Athenaeum, March 29.*

**INTERPERANCE AND ITS EFFECTS.**—A few days since I stood by the coffin in which were the disfigured remains of a young man, who, pierced by a knife in the hand of a comrade, fell to the ground and died almost instantaneously. I saw the deeply afflicted parents, the brothers and sister of the murdered—those robbed of one much loved, not by disease, not by the lightning's flash, not by casualty, such in a few months since snatched away another member of the family, but by a cause far more fearful and harrowing.

I then went to the place where a judicial investigation of the affair was in progress, and saw the mauled prize, shivering from the gaze of the spectators, and seeming as he would rejoice to have the earth open and swallow him in ever. Just as the officer was about to convey him to the county jail, his wife, leaving her children with a neighbor, came and with bitter, scalding tears on his bosom. As I looked on this sorrowful sight, and learned that at least five times within ten hours previous to the affray, intoxicating drinks had been put to the lips of the prisoner, his victim, and three companions, I asked, is it possible that the use as a beverage of that, which, coursing through the blood, mounting to the brain, bewilders and impassions, and leads to insult, brawl, and murder, is simply inexpedient, not sinful? And if it is sinful, and the appeals to men to refrain from its use are based only on inexpediency, have we not the key to the reason why interperance so prevails?

*Boston Congregationalist.*

**A PRIEST CONFOUNDED.**—Rev. Dr. Murray, (Kirkman) in his speech at the annual meeting of the New York Bible Society, in illustration of the antagonism between the Bible and Popery, related the following anecdote:—A little girl in Ireland had been to the free school, and had learned to read the Testament. The priest meeting her, asked among other things, whether she prayed to the Virgin, to which she replied in the negative. "Why," said the priest, "do you not pray to the blessed Virgin?" The little girl pulled out her Testament, and turning to the account of Jesus, tarrying behind on the occasion of the visit to the temple, together with the anxiety of the mother, who thought that she was in a high crowd.—"Now," said she, "if Mary did not know where Jesus was, I am not sure that she could have me if I should pray to her!"—*New York Observer.*

**MADEIRA.**—Of the 80,000 inhabitants of the Island, probably 50,000 are now needy, while 40,000 must perish unless assisted from abroad. Such is the statement of the New York papers, and an urgent appeal is made in behalf of the destitute inhabitants of the island.

**FOURTEEN.**—Franklin Pierce is the fourteenth President of the U. S. His initials stand for it, and his name in full comes fourteen letters.

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Civil Risks.				Military* and Naval Risks.			
Age.	Annual premium without profit.	Annual premium with profit.	Age.	Annual premium without profit.	Annual premium with profit.	Age.	Annual premium without profit.
20	£ 3	3	20	£ 11	30	£ 8	2
21	3	10	21	11	31	8	2
22	3	2	22	3	32	10	0
23	3	8	23	3	33	10	0
24	3	4	24	3	34	12	3
25	3	5	25	3	35	13	3
26	3	8	26	3	36	14	5
27	3	7	27	3	37	15	9
28	3	10	28	3	38	17	0
29	3	10	29	3	39	18	6
30	3	11	30	3	40	19	10
31	3	10	31	3	41	19	10
32	3	14	32	3	42	20	14
33	3	15	33	3	43	21	18
34	3	18	34	3	44	22	22
35	3	18	35	3	45	23	26
36	3	22	36	3	46	24	30
37	3	22	37	3	47	25	34
38	3	26	38	3	48	26	38
39	3	26	39	3	49	27	42
40	3	30	40	3	50	28	46
41	3	34	41	3	51	29	50
42	3	34	42	3	52	30	54
43	3	38	43	3	53	31	58
44	3	42	44	3	54	32	62
45	3	46	45	3	55	33	66
46	3	50	46	3	56	34	70
47	3	54	47	3	57	35	74
48	3	58	48	3	58	36	78
49	3	62	49	3	59	37	82
50	3	66	50	3	60	38	86
51	3	70	51	3	61	39	90
52	3	74	52	3	62	40	94
53	3	78	53	3	63	41	98
54	3	82	54	3	64	42	102
55	3	86	55	3	65	43	106
56	3	90	56	3	66	44	110
57	3	94	57	3	67	45	114
58	3	98	58	3	68	46	118
59	3	102	59	3	69	47	122
60	3	106	60	3	70	48	126

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\* Military men holding appointments of a civil character, not requiring military service, are charged the rate applicable to civilians.

Under certain conditions these premiums can also be paid by half yearly, quarterly or monthly instalments: but in the event of the death of a party in any year before a whole year's premium has been paid, the proportion remaining unpaid shall be deducted from the owner at settlement.

Jaflna, August 26, 1852. lyltam16

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