





**MORNING STAR.**

Jaffna, Thursday, October 12, 1854.

**INTERESTING OCCASION.**

We had the pleasure on Wednesday, the 27th ult., of attending the closing exercises of the two days examination of the students in the Batticoota Seminary. It is always a matter of interest to be present at an examination of the students of this institution, and to see the marked progress such a large number are making in science and in religious knowledge, but on this occasion the interest was considerably augmented by the fact that ten students were graduated, and received certificates to this effect, having been in the institution the full term of eight years. Good remarks were made to the scholars in general by Rev. Mr. Sanders, of the Examining Committee, and particular and very valuable suggestions were directed to the graduates, urging them to keep up their habits of study, and warning them not to think their education was finished, but rather to feel that it was *just begun*. Much stress was laid upon the cultivation of the moral powers by the constant study and use of the Bible, and they were very earnestly cautioned against the disregard of the Sabbath. They who keep God's Sabbaths, God will keep. The Principal of the Seminary, Rev. E. P. Hastings, on giving the certificates, having commended the conduct of the graduating class during the time they had been under his care, spoke feelingly to them of what was hoped and expected from them in the way of being useful men and of honoring Christianity, in the truths of which they had there been taught, and of which to a large number were professors, and also urged them to take good heed that they, as too many have done, do not dishonor true religion and the institution in which they have spent so long a period.

Rev. Mr. Poor then offered some remarks, and happily alluded to the fact that the present was the 31st anniversary of the institution, and that it was 28 years since the first class of sixteen graduated from the seminary. He deemed it a happy circumstance that a person now present who was one of the sixteen, had two sons who were to graduate at this time. He then gave each member of the class a copy of the Jubilee Bible, which present was accompanied by good advice, and having read a brief portion of John's Gospel, (see chap. 3: 17-21) he concluded the exercises of the day with prayer.

We have thought it worth our while to give this account of the occasion, hoping it may interest our readers, particularly that portion of them who were once members of the Batticoota Seminary, and who have there, times without number, listened to instructions and warnings from teachers, some of whom are sleeping in death, others far away in America, never to return, and others still and laboring for your salvation. Yes, graduates of Batticoota Seminary, we would like to call up to your minds past scenes, past warnings, past calls of God's Holy Spirit, and to ask you, how stands the account with you to-day? Have you no thought of God and heaven? Has conscience ceased to warn you to flee from the wrath to come? Is there no whisper to your inmost soul to forsake all heathenism, superstition and every refuge of lies, and to hasten to Christ, that blessed name to whom we long sighed, perhaps even blasphemed? Oh, if these whisperings of conscience and the Holy Spirit are still felt within you, slight them not, cherish them as the apple of your eye, and turn to the Lord Jesus while there is hope.

Call, while he may be found,  
Oh seek him while he's near;  
Serve him with all thy heart and mind,  
And worship him with fear.  
If thou wilt seek his face,  
His ear will hear thy cry;  
Thou shalt find his mercy sure,  
His grace for ever free.

But if thou leave thy God,  
Nor cease the pain to endure;  
Then shalt thou perish in thy sins,  
And never be forgiven."

**SUPREME COURT, JAFFNA.**

The second criminal session of the court for this year was opened at Jaffna, on the 25th of the month. His Honor Sir WILLIAM O. CAREW, *Chief Justice*, presided.

**No. 1.** *Robbery and Riot and Assault.* Committed in the Island of Karative. Eight prisoners were committed to the gaol, the owners of the vessels, origin in a dispute between vellees and low castes, the fishers having very properly resisted any contribution of fish unjustly demanded made by the vellees, who vied vengeance, and soon thereafter proceeded to execute it. They engaged, and soon thereupon armed themselves with sticks, marched in a body in broad day, commenced by the pike vedha, to the quarter of the village occupied by the individual fishers. Their malice was directed against the owner of the vessel, and he was the first to be seized. He was in the first dwelling they invaded, but seeing their approach and dreading their object escaped. Enraged at his escape, they seized and tied to posts his near relations, the owner of the compound and his wife, and then the witnesses entered, entered the house and took therefrom a quantity of property. De-

termined on punishing the offending fisher, they next visited his own compound, where, not finding him, they broke into his house, assaulted his wife and took away or destroyed property. And so in succession did they invade and pillage eight separate adjoining dwellings, inhabited by poor and helpless people, until they caught their prey. The principal objects of the foray, had gone to inform the police vedhan of the neighboring village. Warrants of apprehension were issued for the whole party, but only the eight tried could be found, the others having absconded. The public prosecutor did not lay much stress on the charge of robbery, thinking that probably the complainant had exaggerated. They were, however, clearly proved, and with respect to these, the *Chief Justice* charged for a conviction; but the jury which was "English," and consisted of several vellees, strangely acquitted by a majority, the whole of the prisoners. They had a narrow escape, and it is to be hoped that the trial, ending thus, will be a salutary and timely warning to the rest of the district, not by placing themselves again in a similar predicament.

**No. 2. Theft and Receiving Stolen Property,** against Raman chetty and Nagapper Moorogaser of Vaanarpomme. Raman chetty, instigated and aided by Nagapper Moorogaser, stole one night from his master, a Natusotta chetty, 600 rupees in cash, and about 250 worth of jewels. Nagapper Moorogaser, the thief, was caught at Wilvondy, and there left him and the property in concealment till an opportunity offered to slip him to the coast. The master in the morning, missed his servant and his property, and immediately instituted a search. Various places were inspected, and, at last suspicion was directed to the jungle in question, which was also searched; but in vain, as the Moorogaser had contrived to join some other party, and succeeded when they were within a few feet of the thief's hiding place, in leading them off the scent. The jungle, however, was watched, and the following night Raman chetty was caught emerging therefrom with all the jewels and the greater portion of the money on his person. He confessed, and said he had been duped of Nagapper Moorogaser, who had persuaded him to go to the jungle. Raman chetty was found guilty, but the evidence of active participation in the theft or receiving against Nagapper Moorogaser not being clear, he was acquitted and tried again, and convicted as an accessory after the fact. (See No. 13.)

**No. 3. Burglary in a carjan house at Arialle** against two prisoners. Both accomplices, against Calthirgama Vallyaher of Neervely, who pleaded not guilty. The deceased had the prisoner and many others were at a native ear wedding; and the prisoner, to "beautify" the festival, had a small gun or match lock, which he was firing carelessly and recklessly among the crowd, although warned of the danger and cautioned to desist. The fire came from one of the discharges against the deceased, who was close by, on the side, laying open a portion of his bowels. The deceased was carried to the hospital, and every aid given, but he died next day. The prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to one year's hard labor.

**No. 4. Night Robbery**, from Tanakaraicherry, against three prisoners. The evidence was disbelieved by Judge and jury, and an acquittal followed.

**No. 5. Murder**, from Carembereicherry in Chavengherry, against 1. Caderavaleer Canavady, 2. Caderavaleer Venedict, and 3. Weraguylah Cadamoor. The prisoners pleaded not guilty. The deceased and the prisoners had paddy fields adjoining each other, and there was some previous dispute about a trespass. The prisoners, one evening, waylaid the deceased and beat him with sticks, and with such severity as to bring on erysipelas and mortification, of which the deceased died in hospital about a fortnight afterwards. The 1st and 2d prisoners pleaded not guilty of manslaughter, and were sentenced to the first 2 years, and the third 13 months hard labor. The 2d prisoner was acquitted, probably because he did not take so active or violent a share in the assault.

**No. 6. Murder**, from Oodopoity, against Punnar Comarao and three others. The fatal assault had place in a dispute about a palm-leaf garden. The first prisoner, Punnar Comarao, pleaded guilty of manslaughter, and the public prosecutor accepted the plea. Sentence, two years hard labor. The other prisoners were discharged.

**No. 7. Burglary**, from Mollagann, against six persons, Plea not guilty. The two first witnesses broke down, and fully contradicted their depositions before the examining magistrate. The public prosecutor withdrew the case, having no witnesses, made an unsuccessful effort to get the judge to interfere in order to the summary punishment of the false witnesses.

**No. 10. Forgery**, from Pully, against 1. Cadrigam Tillepar, 2. Cadaver Maregar, (Notary), 3. Armogettan and 4. Cadaver Ramalingam. Plea not guilty. The document alleged to have been forged was a receipt for £1. But, in purporting to have been granted by the complainant to the 1st prisoner. The 2d prisoner was the executive Notary and the 3rd and 4th prisoners the attesting witnesses. All the prisoners urged the genuineness of the receipt, which the complainant denied. The evidence led to the view that on the day and at the house in question, the receipt was alleged to have been written and signed, in the presence of the 1st prisoner, he was then in a different place, sitting on an inquest on the body of a relative who had died of a snake bite. The Judge's charge leaned towards conviction, but the Tamil jury acquitted.

**No. 11. Robbery and Riot and Assault**, from Trincomlee against 30 Malays. The complainant, on his passage to Trincomlee, down the Tambarungas lake or river in a boat laden with a large quantity of paddy and straw, and while at anchor at night in shallow water, midway near the village of Kineeh, where the prisoners reside, was surrounded by 30 Malays, who, under the leadership of a Rectorum, armed with guns and knives, they boarded the complainant's boat, and he and his crew into silence, and then after throwing the straw overboard, deliberately removed the whole cargo of paddy, consisting of 20 or 30 ammoniums, into their own boats and then made off to their village. There were about 50 robbers but the 25 prisoners only were identified. The evidence was clear and the jury found the whole guilty. The ev-

il has been sentenced to three years' hard labor in chains. It seems fortunate for the future peace of Trincomlee that the prisoners have been convicted. The Malay population in that district are numerous, and of late years this population has been lawless and unruly, and the public prosecutor, during the trial, stated that large gangs of Malays, with fire arms and crosses, were wont to sally forth and invade the Tamil village, frightening the inhabitants by the discharging of guns, into the jungle, then pillaging the houses at leisure and without fear of detection, and the local authorities seemed unable to check such outrages as the fact of the assailant cut off all chance of evidence being procured against him.

**No. 12. Burglary**, from Karroor, which was postponed in consequence of the absence of a material witness.

**No. 12. For being an accessory after the fact to Theft**, against Nagapper Muregasar the 2d prisoner in No. 2. He pleaded not guilty but was convicted, and sentenced to 2 years hard labor.

Jaffna October, 10, 1854.

**Correspondence of the Morning Star.**

**REJOINDER TO "A CROW'S APPEAL."**  
*BY A. W. TATE, Sept. 16.*

"I shall not eat Jean Jacques Rousseau  
 If birds can emulate or be;  
 'Tis clear that they were always able  
 To hold discourse, at least in fables  
 And even the child, who knows no better,  
 Than to interpret, by the letter,  
 A story of a cock and his bull,  
 Must have a most uncommon skill."

DEAR SIR:—  
 "The sn had scarcely in the lap  
 Of "Dixies gone to take his nap,"  
 when my black bird came flying from the post with your number of September 14th. Having a good deal to do in the line, and being moreover somewhat of a hater of the crudities displayed in your editorial conduct, I am obliged to keep my pen in connection with the post.

There being no moon last night, I got my friend the butcher-hair to make a few glow-worms on the burns of a vidualt bush near me; and thus by the light of nature, (which you know we Catholics make good use of), set to work to peruse your paper, in just the posture of a "Book of the never-to-be-forgettable Sir John Lubbock, resting on one leg with your Star upheld in the other.

Sad work, indeed, did your articles make of my poor, weak brain; *Brachius* and *Bomb Shields*, *Caste* and *Pilgrim's Progress*, *Jubilee Bibles* and *Sarajines* put them into a state of most admired confusion, whilst the long list of "Ills that flesh is heir to" made me rejoice that as Paul, the "Big" is the only disease to which my eye is subject. At last my eye fell on "Crow's Nest." Ah! think I, here's some thing to my liking, and as "a fellow-feeling makes us wondrous kind," I determined to enlighten the benighted "Corlix" on the subject of his enquiries; but the fatigues of the day and the excitement of reading so overpowered me, that "nature's soft nurse" started me up in the arms of Mr. Jones, without even having taken off my spurs, (for which I had secured the country in the hope of serping up something to feed on in these hard times) and with my coat still in my hand, (for you must know that I have my head combed every night before I retire to rest,) so that I have got up early and with the "Morning Star" before me, reply to "Corlix."

There are some who want to aver that our priests, when they come to the east, leave their religion, such as it is, where sailors leave their Sundays—in five fathoms water; that they become converts to heathenism when they arrive in India, and such as Xavier tried to pull off upon the "Persian monarch;" and that these converts, and even those who profess the word of God, so that the "Bible" is the only source of Christianity and heathenism for true and undefiled religion; but a church which can boast of so many converts as ours, and can bring within the pale of salvation all sprinkled with water, even by heretics, (1) with the form of words used in baptism, and the intention to baptize, can well afford to treat with contempt the "aviduous scooners" of "accursed heretics," and glory in their conversion.

How much a priest who has been sent to Rome (2)  
 Exceeds a priest who has been kept at home,  
 (Cooper, slightly accommodated.)

The sneers in which "Corlix" indulges against Catholics pronounce him to be a heretic, so, I would say to him in the words of Dr. Athanasius, I enter on the discussion with you or your friends, I am bound, dear sir, in conformity with my rule of faith, as explained by the Fathers, . . . to protest against you and their right to argue from Scripture; and of course must deny that there is any necessity of the public confession of the faith, or the reading of the whole business of the Church, or the holding of the Roman Catholic Church, and the alone, by confounding the several passages with each other, and by the help of tradition, authoritatively explains them. Hence it is impossible that the real sense of Scripture should ever be against her and her doctrines, and hence I might easily object which you can draw from any passage in it by this short method—the Church understands the meaning differently from you; therefore you mistake its meaning."

A staid bird, waxing in years," like Corlix, who rises so early in the morning, should have known better than to suppose that we deduce any of our peculiar "sarasthetic dogmas" from the Bible. We have a most pure ward of promise from the Bible, which shines as light in a dark place—*TRADITION*—which shows light upon passages of Scripture, which could not without it be understood, (in our sense) and which supplies proofs of those of our dogmas, which are not to be found in the Bible. In the words of the Bishop of Meaux, I say, "The Catholic Christian forms not his faith on Scripture—his faith is already formed before he reads its reading serves

1. Si quis dixerit, baptismum, quoniam, datur ab hereticis in nomine Patris, et Filii, et Spiritus Sancti, cum intentione faciendi quod fecit Ecclesia, non esse verum baptismum; anathema sit—*Concilium, De bapt. Cap. 1.*  
 2. In nomine Domini, Amen. G. P. S.  
 3. End of Controversy, 8th ed. p. 77.

only to confirm what he before believed; that is the doctrine which the Church has delivered to him." "The royal prophet laughed at the gods of the Gentiles, because they could not speak: those who make the Scriptures the sole judge of controversies, expose them to similar contempt, because, at the best, they are but a dumb judge, and, consequently, unable to pronounce."<sup>(4)</sup>

Does the Bible "command this mode of worship?" asks Cornix. What have we to do with the Bible? When Cornix wants something to fill his crop, does he go to a jeweller's shop and scratch amongst the precious jewels and glittering gems? Does he not rather fly to the gutters and frequent the "back sluts" for congenial filth? Does he not go where he knows he will get it? Just so we go for our scrolls (where we know we can get them) to the Fishers and Doctors of our church, (who heretics calumniate as common sewers, and receptacles for the filth of humanity,) for, though we may, in grubbing among them, become spattered with the pollutions of the world, yet we care not for this, as our "Divine Monarch," (5) the Pope keeps a large whitewash pot, constantly replenished, wherewith he bedaubus us and thus makes us as clean as "whited sepulchres."

Having thus disposed of one subject, I proceed to another, the worship of saints. Our (pagan Roman) forefathers had their Di majores and minores, their lares, penates and genii which they prayed to, and were protected by. Would it not have been a poor exchange for them, if they embraced a religion with but one God, the hearer and answerer of prayer? Would they not have been in the same sad plight as the good old woman, who, having lost her rosary and crucifix, had nothing left (with her I pen the words) but Jesus Christ? To meet this predicament, the worship of saints and images was substituted for the worship of the pagan deities, and thus the converts could worship old friends under new faces, and retain the spirit of their old religion under the new form. Now that the pagan gods required to leave their altars, specially erected to their devotees, lest (1 Kings xvii; 27) "they should be talking or pursuing, or in a long sleep or peradventure be sleeping and need to be waked." Just so, our saint worship we shout, and let off sky-rockets to arrest their attention, whilst the ringing of bells (*bella, horrida bella*) those horrid bells, of which Cornix complains so sadly, has a two-fold object—to attract the attention of saints, and to keep off the devil, who, Cornix should know, dares not come within ear-shot of a church bell. (6) Yet, Cornix complains that he is within the influence of such a potent devil dispeller!

I will now proceed to give the authorities for our mode of worship; presenting that, as the spirit of our religion is derived from ancient Rome, so the traits of our church are not Eusebians, Irenaeus, or even Polycarp, but the philosophers and poets of the golden (Augustine) age of Rome: but of the many I might adduce, I shall only give the following Extracts from the Fathers, freely translated for the benefit of the unlearned.

Et thure, et fidibus, juvat placare, et vituli, cario(7) . . . . . deos.  
Utilem bellum ubi.  
Tot bella per orbem (8) tam multo scelerum facies.  
Tu nullus nonnunquam levior quam bellum.  
Triste lignum caducum in . . . . . caput immeritis.

After this array of authorities in their favor, all good Catholics will continue to worship saints after the manner taught by the unanimous consent of the Fathers, even though Cornix should say . . .

He et infans se positit quicunque primium, et sacrilega manu produxit bellum (8) in uoluptu pernicium, opprobriis que pagi, illum et parentis credidit sapi, iragrisse cervicem . . . . .

[In consequence of the length of the *Supreme Court Record*, received at a late hour, we are reluctantly obliged to omit the latter part of the "Rejoinder" to "Cornix" by "A Jangle Cock;" but expect to give it in our next issue.—*Ed. M. Star.*]

4. Mr. Maguire's controversy with Mr. Pope. p. 51.  
5. "Divinus Monarchia."—*Ferraris*.  
6. The bell "is a solemn warning to imps of every description; the most impudent succubus of them all dare as well dip his claws in holy water, as come within the verge of its sound. Old Nick himself, if he sets any value at all upon his tail, has best convey himself clear out of hearing, and leave the imp to open to paradise."—*Irregularis Legale*, p. 373.  
7. Some editions read "sanguine;" but it seems to me only tantamount to an equivalent, for (1.) by a common rule, one part is taken for the whole, and so one part is as good as another. (2.) I submit to philologists that the English of skin, comes from sanguine (thus sanguine; guine, squin, skin. 3.) Heretics will find these words slightly different (*forben* and *arbor*) in their versions, but (1.) I would remind them that "if they differ from our church" they must be wrong. (2.) Not having the benefit of an "Index Expuratoriois," they cannot say what corruptions and mutilations are in their versions.

FINE.—Mr. Garrett Toussaint, one of the Pretors of the District Court of Jaffna, was on Saturday last, sentenced by the Honorable the Chief Justice to pay a fine of £10 for contempt of Court in making false statements in a petition of appeal, affecting the character of P. E. Granger. Ever the secretary of the District Court. This fine was imposed after a severe reprimand from His Lordship, who said it was at one time his intention, and that of his brother judge, to suspend or dismiss Mr. Toussaint.—*Com.*

THE TELEGRAPH.—The *Delhi Gazette* publishes a long Telegraphic Message. It contains a most concise and excellent summary of the European intelligence, and reached Delhi within twenty-four hours of the arrival of the steamer at Bombay. This, he it remembered, is in the rainy weather, and by wires carried on bamboos and posts without insulators.—*Friend of India.*

THE WEATHER.—Heavy showers have lately fallen in our neighborhood, but, with the exception of an hour's rain on Saturday, the 30th ult., the town and immediate vicinity are yet unvisited; our prospects therefore are unimproved. Sickness is decreasing.

PUBLIC MEETING.—The annual meeting of the Jaffia Friend-in-Need Society was held in the Supreme Court House, on Thursday, the 23th ult., P. A. Dyke, Esq., the president in the chair. The meeting was well attended. The chairman commenced the business of the evening with a few practical observations on the position of this institution, the fruits of which, although it appeals to all classes for support, are, we regret to say, not commensurate with its claims. The Rev. K. D. Griffith, the secretary, read extracts from the report, which is in fact a summary of the past history and present state of the society, and which clearly demonstrates the extensive usefulness of the institution, and the laborious efforts of the committee to maintain its high character.

The first resolution was moved by E. Vytlingam, Esq., seconded by P. Paripanyagan, Modr., and supported by the Rev. D. Poor—the last gentleman asserting that in a moral sense the institution is as beneficial to the donors, as it is in a physical sense to the receivers.

The Rev. B. C. Meigs ally supported the second resolution, which had been moved by F. C. Gremier, Esq., and efficiently seconded in a Tamil address, delivered by P. Bastimpey, Esq. Mr. Meigs brought to bear upon the subject the latest results of thirty years' experience amongst a people utterly ignorant, to mention nothing further, of the most common surgical operations.

In proposing a vote of thanks to the president, Dr. Cowen, referring to his own approaching departure, warmly attested his personal knowledge for the last five years of that unwearied assiduity in promoting the interests of this public institution, which has distinguished the Government Agent, L. Liesching, Esq., after a few remarks on the superiority of the voluntary system of benevolence, seconded the resolution, which was then briefly but energetically put to the meeting by the secretary, and passed with acclamation, all standing up.

Mr. Dyke concluded the proceedings by an acknowledgment, making a favorable reference to the co-operation of the officers and committee of the society.—*ECHO.*

SMALL POX.—Although there are not many new cases of small pox in the pettah, yet it is evident that the disease is spreading in and about other places in its neighborhood. Among the few cases of small pox that have terminated fatally during the fortnight, is that of Sautagopillay Lewis, the head servant of the Government Agent, whose death is much regretted.

A BRASSER SOCIETY.—We are glad to know that a meeting has been held for the purpose of taking into consideration the formation of a brass association to the Jaffia Friend-in-Need Society. We wish great success to the undertaking, and would fain hope that the example of Mr. Martyn and others will find imitators; for there is scarcely any other institution to which every inhabitant owes so much, and in which all have so much interest in common as the Jaffia Hospital; and we should really be sorry to see its means of more extensive usefulness crippled for want of proper pecuniary support.—*S. J.*

A SCENE AT SEA.—The following description, by Charles Dickens, of a vessel in rough weather at sea, will be found to be to the life, by all who have been "down to the sea in ships and done business in the great waters," with the sailor, "Whose home is o'er the mountain wave,

Whose home is on the deep?"

The extract is not a bad one for any who are blue, and is commended to those who are anxious "to go to sea." "It is the third morning. I am awakened out of my sleep by a dismal shriek from my wife, who demands to know whether there is any danger. I rouse myself, and look out of bed. The water-jug is plunging and leaping like a lively dolphin; all the smaller articles are afloat, except my shoes, which are stranded on a carpet-bag, high and dry, like a couple of coal-barges. Suddenly I see them spring into the air, and behold the looking glass, which is nailed to the wall, sticking fast upon the ceiling. At the same time the door entirely disappears, and a new one is opened in the floor. Then I begin to comprehend that the state-room is standing on its head. Before it is possible to make any arrangement at all compatible with this novel state of things, the ship rights. All can now say "Thank Heaven!" she wrings again. Before one can cry she is wrong, she seems to have started forward, and to be a creature actively running of its own accord, with broken knees and falling legs, through every variety of hole and pitfall, and stumbling constantly. Before one can so much as wonder, she takes a high leap into the air. Before she has well done that, she takes a deep dive into the water. Before she has gained the surface, she throws a summerset. The instant she is on her legs, she rushes backward. As so, she goes on staggering, leaping, wrestling, leaping, diving, jumping, pitching, rolling, and rocking; and going through all these movements, sometimes by turns, and sometimes altogether, until one feels disposed to roar for mercy."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"Thalia's" poetry is received, but we decline its insertion, as the merits of the piece are not obvious.—As "An Eye Witness," did not authenticate his article, we cannot insert it.—We may say the same of "Sopio Americanus," and we remark to do so, and all anonymous correspondents that they will do well to let us have their names, privately, if they expect their articles to see the light.—We doubt whether "A Spectator" is justified in reporting unasked for that purpose.—"Bibliophilus" is received.

AUSTRALIA.—The proprietors of the *Melbourne Argus* have been compelled to import Applegarth's cylindrical rotating machine driven by steam. The circulation of the *Argus* has risen almost to a level with that of the *London Times*, and the ordinary machines are unable to supply the demand.

THE JEWS.—The Jews in Jerusalem are said to be in a very destitute state. Acorns, melons and other herbs are sold for food. In three months more than 1400 persons have died of small pox.

OVERLAND INTELLIGENCE.

Our foreign news is down to Aug. 25. The war is still the great topic. There have been some successes on the part of the allies, but Sevastopol and Cronstadt were still untaken and unattacked. In the taking of Bomarsund, the principal stronghold of the Aland Isles, 2000 Russians and 100 cannon were captured. The Russians are re-crossing the river Pruth and returning to their own borders. In Asia the Turks have been defeated, with the loss of 15,000 men and 3000 killed; 8 superior officers and 2500 men were taken, and that in one case at least the Russians have been decided victors. Sevastopol was to be attacked, and 60,000 men had embarked for the place. The cholera had prevailed much at Varua, and it is said that 5000 French and 500 English soldiers had died by it.

GERMANY.—The king of Saxony has died from a kick of his horse.

AMERICA.—In the American Congress, a vote was taken upon abolishing the "agrog rations" in the Navy, and there was a tie. The speaker ultimately gave his casting vote in favor, so his curse to the sailors and to the country will be continued for a time at least. However, Congress so near as this is regarded by temperance men as quite a triumph.—Russia has sent commissioners to the U. S. to offer for sale her territories in the north of America.—The cholera was prevailing a good deal in many of the States. In one week in New York city, during July, there were 241 deaths. Among those deceased by cholera was the daughter of Ex-President Fillmore.—Greytown, a place in Central America, was bombarded and entirely destroyed, July 13th, by the U. S. sloop-of-war, *Cyane*. The people had all left the town previously, so no lives were lost, but the whole affair is regarded as a disgraceful one, and seems to have grown out of a real or supposed insult to the American consul, Mr. Bollard.

VALUE OF RAILWAYS.—The following item from the *Boston Journal*, we recommend to our Colombo contemporaries, as a striking fact to aid them in their advocacy of a railway in Ceylon, and as showing very clearly the immense power there sometimes is in a railway to raise the value of real estate:

At present there are but two railroads completed running through the State of Michigan. These are the "Southern Michigan" and the "Central Michigan." These roads were completed and in operation early in the year 1852. The assessed value of real estate of the State of Michigan was, in 1851, \$21,926,957. In 1853 the assessed value had risen to \$70,735,495, being an increase of over two hundred and fifty per cent, in two years. Of seventy counties of Michigan, these railroads run through only twelve, and therefore these would be entitled to only one-sixth of the increase. But mark what the assessment discloses, viz: that the increase in the value of the real estate of the State in these twelve counties is nearly two thirds of the entire valuation of the whole State. In other words, the increase in the value of lands and townships in these twelve counties through which these railroads run is, in two years, more than forty millions, thus: value in 1851, \$16,250,000; value in 1853, \$57,513,000. Increase \$42,263,000. Value of whole State, seventy counties, \$70,735,000."

SEN LEAVES HIS MARK.—Mr. Gough, (the famous temperance lecturer, of whom we have before spoken in the *Star*) in a lecture before the Young Men's Christian Association of London, denouncing upon the corrupting influences of bad associates, alluded to the inevitable penalty of mental suffering which every transgressor incurs. "What you learn from bad habits and in bad society," said he, "will you never forget, and it will be a lasting pang to you. I will never forget, not as in the excitement of a speech, but as I would confess and have confessed before God, I would give my right hand to-night if I could forget that which I have learned in evil society.—I could tear from my remembrance the scenes which I have witnessed, the transactions which have taken place before me. You cannot take away the effect of a single bad thought that has lodged and harbored in your heart. You may try to get against it, and, by God's grace, conquer it; but it will always be a thorn in the flesh to you, and will cause you bitterness and anguish."

PENSION.—Mr. R. D'Hoedt, Clerk of the Police Court and Court of Requests of Pt. Pedro, has been recommended by Mr. Liesching, to be placed on pension, and his son to fill the vacant situation. There are several other applicants for the office.—*x.*

NEW BOOKS.  
JUST received new Books and Maps in Tamil, namely: Iqob's Ancient History, at 10½ pence; Schaffier's Palestine, at 4s. 6d.; Maps of Palestine and of St. Paul's Travels, at 1s. 9d. each.  
Also a new supply of that most invaluable book WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY, unabridged. Price, as before, £1 10 plain, and £1 16 6 Russia. Apply to T. S. BURNELL, Maneply Depository, Oct. 12, 1854. 2p19

FOR SALE,  
IN whole or in part or to be let on lease for one year or longer, that pleasant and well situated LAND at the north east end of Point Pedro, facing and close to the sea, at a distance of about a mile from the Custom House, containing in extent 25 acres. The whole land is planted with cocoanut and other useful trees. It has on its premises two tiled dwelling houses, and the necessary out houses.  
To those who wish to embark in oil, coir, and copra, this is a desirable property.  
For further particulars apply to the owner P. F. TOUSSAINT at Point Pedro, or to his son P. F. TOUSSAINT, Jr., at Jaffna. Sept. 20, 1854. 2p18  
Printed and published at the American Mission Press, Maneply, Jaffna, Ceylon, by THOMAS S. BURNELL.