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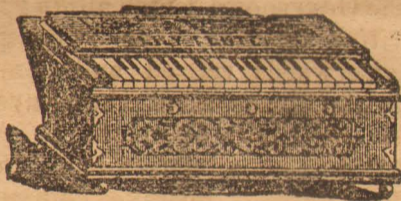
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## THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY JUNE 6 1900

### Progressive Government in Ceylon.

Elsewhere we publish a remarkable article on Ceylon affairs from the pen of Mr. Frank Smith, a member of the London County Council, contributed to the "Labour Leader," in reply to some of his critics. It appears from similar articles extracted from London papers and correspondences published by our Colombo contemporaries, that Mr. Frank Smith takes a warm interest in the welfare of Her Majesty's native subjects in Ceylon, and that he is carrying on an agitation in England to bring about the much desired reform in the constitution of the Legislature of the Colony. The best thanks of the Ceylonese are, therefore, due to this gentleman for his labour of love to ameliorate their political condition. It is for want of liberal-minded and philanthropic men like Mr. Smith, to espouse the cause of the Ceylonese in England, Ceylon has lagged far behind other countries similarly situated as Ceylon in the race of political progress. Mr. Smith may be wrong in some of his subsidiary facts and his language is certainly strong in its application to the colonial authorities, but it cannot be denied that there is ample room and a great necessity for constitutional reforms. We do not ourselves join in Mr. Smith's wholesale condemnation of everything pertaining to the Government of Ceylon, but what we say is that there are many things in his writings which should commend themselves to the serious attention of the Ceylon Government and the public, especially his strictures on the unenviable position of the so-called people's representatives in the Legislative Council and on the almost despotic powers exercised by the Governor in the selection of the Unofficial Members.

Although Mr. Smith's ideal of "the Government of the people, by the people, for the people," may not be easily attainable in Ceylon, on account of the disinclination of the ruling power to grant such privilege to a community composed of a majority of natives, however intelligent and advanced they may be, yet there is ample room for reform in the direction of enlarging the Legislative Council, equalizing the official and unofficial seats, and making the latter elective under a restrictive franchise. In His Excellency Sir J. West Ridgeway, it is true, we have an able and brilliant Administrator who has the welfare of Her Majesty's native subjects at heart, as it has already been proved by his railway and irrigation policy, and his larger employment of natives in offices of trust and responsibility; but it is equally true that, under the present constitution, and during the present regime, the political rights of the people have not received due recognition, as His Excellency's appointments of unofficial members in defiance of the wishes of the people, and his interference by means of Circulars, not unfrequently, with the discretion of the judiciary in the Colony, would

show. The Council has never been in such a state of weakness as regards unofficial representation as it is now. This is due chiefly owing to His Excellency's policy of selecting those whom he considers safe men to represent native interests, in Council, instead of appointing the people's nominees, as was done in the time of his predecessors. The circumstances in which the present Tamil Member was appointed when this seat last fell vacant, and the manner in which Mr. A. M. Sheriff was appointed Muhammedan Member, soon after the death of his predecessor, by Sir Noel Walker, before that community had time to express their views on the subject of their representation, are so peculiarly despotic and detrimental to their interests that the Ceylonese should try by all constitutional means to make such appointments impossible in future. Experience has proved that these appointments have not been conducive to the promotion of the best interests of the communities directly concerned. The Tamil member who was pensioned in order to enable him to become a legislator is not a success in Council, as he knows very little of the wants of the different Tamil Provinces, being not in touch with the leading men of his community. The Muhammedan Member, after holding the seat for a few months, and feeling, no doubt, his unsuitability for it, has resigned it and gone to his native District. If the people had a voice in the choice of their representatives in Council, we have no doubt that only men of sterling ability and real public spirit will be returned as Members.

Mr. Smith evidently refers to the last appointment to the Tamil Seat when he says, "Take what happened at the last election, or, rather selection. The native Sinhalese presented to the Governor three names, from which a choice could be made, but the Governor rejected all and appointed a British Official, then on full pay, who was afterwards retired and pensioned to enable him to represent the native Sinhalese." Mr. Smith seems to be under the impression that all native races in Ceylon are Sinhalese—a mistake common to all strangers who have not lived in the Colony—and that the present Tamil member is not a native, judging by the name he bears, Dr. W. G. Rockwood. Surely Mr. Smith is ignorant of the fact that the vast majority of Tamil converts to Christianity, in changing their faith, assume European names. The three candidates for the Tamil Seat on the last occasion were Mr. P. Coomaraswamy, Mr. W. N. S. Aserappa, and Mr. E. S. W. Senathiraja.

Ceylon has made ample strides in every point of view since the present form of Government and Legislature was established sixty four years ago. The population has since trebled and the trade has increased tenfold. The number of scholars in schools sixty years ago was 10,000 while it is now 180,000. Sir Robert Wilmot Horton was obliged in 1837 to pension his Tamil and Sinhalese Interpreters in order to make them independent Legislators, as there were at that time no native gentlemen out of Government employ competent to perform the duties of legislators. At present there are scores of men among the natives who could worthily represent the interests of their countrymen in the Legislature. In spite of these changes the constitution of the Legislative Council remains in the same state in which it was more than sixty years ago, except in regard to the addition of two unofficial seats a few years ago by Sir Arthur Gordon; and even the most intelligent, educated and propertied among the natives cannot elect their own representatives to the Legislative Council.

Our big neighbour, India, was far behind us till lately in regard to political privileges.

There was a time when Ceylon was ahead of India in every respect. Before 1892 her Legislative Councils were greater shams than ours. By Lord Cross' Act of 1892 the Provincial and Supreme Councils of India have been reconstructed and enlarged on a liberal basis, providing for the election of a number of unofficial members. The independence and public spirit shown by the elected members of the Indian Legislative Councils in the discharge of their duties as Representatives of the people, are a perfect contrast to the utter want of those qualities in our present day unofficial members in Ceylon. Our so-called Representatives are, for the most part, men without adequate training and the required qualifications for the office, and such of them as possess some abilities, when they enter the Council, think it safe and profitable to observe a policy of reserve, as such a policy is sure to pave the way, at least, for their own advancement. The Indians, not content with the important reforms they have secured recently, continue to agitate, as is done in all progressive countries, and as is the privilege of all British subjects, for further reforms in the constitution of their Councils. The Ceylonese however, not only do not take any concerted action themselves to secure the privileges of at least electing their own Representatives to the Legislature of the Colony, but do not seem to sufficiently appreciate the services of generous and warm hearted gentlemen like Mr. Frank Smith who is, we think, actuated solely by philanthropy to espouse our cause and to agitate for constitutional reforms in our Government and Legislature. Mr. Smith's wholesale condemnation of the Government of Ceylon, his strong language concerning the executive officials of the Colony, and his exaggerated view of the poverty of the natives, are certainly to be deplored, as we have already stated; but his laudable effort to secure the reform of the Legislative Council should be welcomed by every one who has a stake in the country and who has been taught, by the history of the great and liberty loving nation in whose hands our destinies have been placed, to value political privileges at their true worth. It is the present system of Government in Ceylon which concentrates the whole power of the state in one person without any effective check by the Legislature, that is at fault and should be condemned. If the Council be, as a first measure, reformed, by doing away with the present racial representation by nomination, and substituting for it Provincial representation by election under a restrictive franchise, not only will a forward step be achieved, but the Legislature will be sufficiently strong and representative to afford the required check and control over the executive, even if the Governor be allowed to possess his present almost absolute powers.

The natives of Ceylon sufficiently appreciate the innumerable blessing and privileges which they enjoy as British subjects. But to keep pace with the growing wants of the times and to ensure their further progress, the reform of the Legislature on a partly elective basis, following the precedent of India, has become a necessity.

Such of the Colombo dailies as adversely criticize Mr. Smith's proposal for Legislative Council reform in Ceylon represent only the sections who are interested in the continuance of the present state of affairs. We hope to shew on a future occasion that the leader on this subject in the "Observer" of the 18th Ultimo contains grave misstatement of facts intended solely for home consumption, and in perfect contrast to its previous pronouncements on the question of Council Reform.

### THE JAFFNA F. N. S. HOSPITAL.

The first meeting of the new Managing Committee of this Institution was held yesterday commencing at 3 P. M. at the Committee Room of the Society, under the presidency of Dr. Moraes, Colonial Surgeon, Northern Province. There were present twenty-five members. The immediate necessity for the holding of this meeting was the appointment of a Resident Surgeon in succession to the late Dr. William Paul. The first business done was the passing of a Resolution, expressing the great regret felt by the Committee at the death of Dr. Paul who was Resident Surgeon of the Hospital for the last 25 years. Mr. J. Rudd's letter tendering his resignation of the offices of Secretary and Treasurer of the Institution, was read. The Rev. Mr. Trimmer was appointed Secretary and Mr. Rudd was asked to continue to act as Treasurer. There were seven applicants for the office of Resident Surgeon. But after considerable discussion lasting till 5-30 P. M. it was resolved to postpone the appointment of the Resident Surgeon for six weeks to enable possible applicants from outstations to send in their applications for this office which is one of great responsibility and honour in Jaffna. This postponement was made at the instance of some of the members with the object of securing the services of the best available person as Resident Surgeon. The Secretary was authorized to advertise the vacancy in all the Colombo dailies and to call for applications. Dr. Kailasapillai was appointed to do the duties of the Resident Surgeon till a permanent arrangement is made, and Dr. M. Candiah and Mr. K. O. Kadiramer were made Visiting members for one month.

### THE WAR.

It will be seen from the telegraphic summary published in another column that the war is now practically over. The Orange Free State has been conquered and ceded to the British Empire, and the Transvaal also is now at the mercy of that great and powerful nation, with Johannesburg captured and Pretoria within easy reach of Lord Robert's army. There were tall talks of the immense strength and impregnable position of the Transvaal Capital, and it was even said that it could stand a siege of two years. Everything has now collapsed, and the two Republics will form part of the vast Empire of which our Island forms a part. Every loyal British subject will rejoice at the successful and glorious termination of this war which is one of the greatest ever undertaken by the British and which at one time threatened to bring about the collapse of the British Empire itself. The enemies of Great Britain who silently encouraged the Boers and desired her downfall will now be discomfited by this result, and would learn that the British nation cannot be slighted with impunity by any other nation. The Boers, no doubt, have done everything in their power to maintain their independence. The unexpected valour they have shown in the battle field and their resources as antagonists have surprised everybody. But they were of no avail before the might and power of Britain which was able to put on the field more than 200,000 trained soldiers and spend any amount of money required for the successful completion of the campaign. It was sheer madness on the part of the Boers to have, with their limited resources, and number of men, defied such an Empire as the British Empire—the greatest Empire the world has ever seen.

Since the above was in type telegraphic intelligence has been locally received from Colombo of the fall of Pretoria.

### LOCAL & GENERAL.

**The Weather**—On the night of the 3rd instant rain fell in some parts of the District. In Town there were vivid flashes of lightning and loud thunder claps throughout the greater part of the night. But the rainfall here was not heavy.

**The Government Agent**—The appointment of Mr. E. T. Noyes as acting Government Agent of the Northern Province is notified in the last Gazette.

**The Jaffna Railway**—A steamer arrived at Kankasanturai last week with railway materials and they are now being landed by the contractor for this work Mr. William Mather. Another steamer is expected in the course of the week with the same materials.

**Hindu College**—Mr. N. Selvadurai Pillai B. A. has returned to Jaffna from Madras and resumed duties as Principal of the College.

**Point Pedro Customs**—Mr. A. Chellappa Pillai, Shroff of the Customs, Point Pedro, is

acting as Sub-Collector in the place of Mr. Denton who has gone to Colombo on leave. He is the only surviving son of the late Mr. Arunachalam, Sub-collector for several years at Kankasanturai.

**Personal**—Mr. T. Elankayer, Head Clerk, Mullaitivu Kachcheri, is in Jaffna on leave.

**Mr. Sithamparanatha Mudaliyar**—Mr. C. A. Murray, the Government Agent, Eastern Province, thus refers to this gentleman in his Administration Report for 1899:—

"The President of Batticaloa South, Mr. M. Sithamparanathar, retired on pension after a long and useful career in Government service of thirty-nine years, seventeen of which were spent as President of Batticaloa South. The rank of Mudaliyar was conferred upon him before retiring in recognition of his faithful and meritorious services to Government."

**The Railway to Trincomalee**—Mr. O. M. Lushington, Assistant Government Agent of Trincomalee, in his annual report on the District strongly urges the need of connecting Trincomalee by rail with Colombo. Both the late Admiral of the Station, and Admiral Bosanquet appear to favour the scheme strongly.

**A New Advocate**—Mr. M. Chinniah has been sworn an Advocate of the Supreme Court and returned to Trincomalee his native place. We wish him success in the practice of his profession.

**The Postal Department**—Mr. John Fox who has been appointed Accountant of the General Post Office, is expected to arrive in the Colony in the middle of this month.

**The Muhammadan Seat**—The Colombo Muhammadans have put forward the name of Mr. Advocate Bawa as their nominee for the vacant Muhammadan Seat in Council. If His Excellency the Governor would appoint Mr. Bawa as Muhammadan Member that community should be considered fortunate in securing the services of so able and competent a person to represent them in the Legislative Council.

**The Indian Famine**—The Ceylon fund in aid of those suffering from famine in India has amounted to Rs 13,000. We have no doubt that this fund will exceed the amount collected for the same purpose in 1897 when Rs 50,000 was collected by public subscriptions and Rs 50,000 was voted by the Legislative Council.

### TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

#### THE WAR

London, May 28th.

Lord Robert's despatch from Vereeniging, dated 27th says:—"We crossed the Vaal River this morning, and are now encamped on the north bank. The advance of our troops only just prevented the destruction of the coal-mines on both banks. Our casualties were only four. General Baden-Powell reports that the Railway from Mafeking to Bulawayo has been restored and supplies arriving."

London, May 27th.

Rumours are reiterated, both on the Natal and Free State borders, that President Kruger is seriously considering the question of surrender.

London, May 28th.

General Rundle's Division is moving steadily eastward in three columns, and occupied Senekal on 27th instant. General Rundle, with General Campbell, is advancing from Trommel, General Boyes on the left, from Bester's flat, and General Brabant from Ficksburg. Over 200 Boers have surrendered in the last ten days.

Reuter, from Newcastle, states that detachments of the enemy are frequently appearing near Ingogo. We have blocked Van Reenan's Pass, and the enemy hold Muller's and Botha's Passes.

A despatch from Lord Roberts mentions incidentally that our troops at Heilbron have been temporarily withdrawn. Other reports add that the Boers have re-occupied Heilbron.

A "Standard" despatch from Vredefort Road, dated the 24th instant, says that the enemy entered Lindley as our troops left.

Reuter's correspondent with General Hamilton says that the position at Klip River, which the enemy were believed to be occupying, is only a few miles from Johannesburg.

London, May 29th.

A despatch from Lord Roberts, dated from Klip River, 28th, says:—"We marched twenty miles to-day, and are now eighteen from Johannesburg. The enemy had prepared positions intending to oppose us, but abandoned them successively. We pressed them so hard that they only had time to get five guns into the train and leave as the West Australians dashed in. General French and General Hamilton's force are apparently engaging the enemy ten miles to the left, as firing has been heard since noon."

London, May 30th.

The annexation proclamation was read at Bloemfontein to-day, and henceforward the Orange Free State will be known as the Orange River Colony.

London, May 31st.

Reuter, in a despatch from Lourenco Marques, dated the 30th, says that all the Portuguese troops have been ordered to be in readiness to proceed to the frontier and the Portuguese warships to concentrate there.

Reuter, wiring from Pretoria on the 30th instant, says that the British Officers are now at Johannesburg dictating terms of surrender. Our advance guard is

half-way to Pretoria. President Kruger has gone to Waterbalken.

A "Daily Mail" telegram from Pretoria, dated the 30th morning, says that Pretoria will be occupied in two hours unresisted, and that the Burgomaster has been authorised to receive the British.

This morning the newspapers regard the War as over. It is believed that President Kruger has escaped to Delagoa Bay. The "Daily Mail's" correspondent at Lourenco Marques telegraphs that Johannesburg has surrendered to the British.

All the Boers have been dismissed from the forts round Pretoria and the British force has reached Huthley, thus cutting the Railway communication between Pretoria and Delagoa Bay, but it is believed that ex-President Kruger got through previously. The British Prisoners remain at Waterval, there having been no time to remove them.

A despatch from General Roberts, dated Germiston, on Wednesday night, states, that, at the urgent request of the Commandant, he has deferred occupying Johannesburg for 24 hours, desiring to avoid disturbances inside the town, in which there are many armed burghers.

Moreover, the enemy is holding the adjacent hills. General Ian Hamilton had a severe fight yesterday until dark, to westward of Johannesburg.

The Boers were strongly entrenched and blocked the road.

The Gordons cleared the kopjes with great gallantry, exciting the admiration of all, the enemy resisting most obstinately.

General Hamilton is now at Florida, to westward of Johannesburg.

General French is a few miles further to the north-east. Our troops occupy the heights, north and south of the town.

Lord Roberts, in a despatch from Johannesburg, says that at 2 o'clock this afternoon our troops occupied the town and the British flag now floats over the Government Buildings.

General Ian Hamilton's casualties in the fighting on the 30th included Captain Mayric of the Gordons and Lieut. Fife of the Cornwalls killed.

London, June 1st.

The "Daily Mail" publishes a telegram from Lourenco Marques, of yesterday's date, stating, that the seat of the Transvaal Government has been removed to Midburg. There was fighting yesterday at Kaalfontein, midway between Pretoria and Johannesburg.

The German Emperor has telegraphed his warmest congratulations to the Queen upon the success of Lord Roberts.

### SELECTIONS.

#### FRANK SMITH AND HIS CEYLON CRITIC.

The *Labour Leader* of May 12 contains the following:—

"I am pleased to note that my articles on Ceylon have attracted sufficient attention in the island and elsewhere to cause the defenders of the present system to attack me, in reply. It has given me the opportunity to defend my position in the local press, which is an advantage, because it will not only promote discussion between those who believe with me that the present system requires drastic reform and those who believe, or profess to believe, that in Ceylon all that is British is beautiful, and all that native is nasty."

My critic starts by telling us "He was annoyed, very much so," at my statements, which annoyance was, however, turned an "amusement" when he found that the writer had only been in the country "a few days." Accuracy, I would suggest, to him, is not altogether unnecessary, even in a critic, and therefore, I suggest he would accept nearly two months as an amendment to his "few days"—a period, I venture to suggest, amply sufficient to enable me to arrive at accurate conclusions. He complains that I have written "about the members of our (Ceylon) Executive and Legislative Council as though they were all blackguards." If my critic will do me the favour of reading my article without reading into it something that is not there, he will see that I have done nothing of the kind. The criticism I have passed upon the Executive and Legislative Councilors is that they are selected by the Governor, and not elected by the people, and that, therefore, they cannot be said to represent anyone but the Governor, and any opinions that the Governor's opinions, since they have neither Executive responsibilities or Legislative privileges, but the framing and carrying out of such "Ordinances" as are first approved or proposed by the Governor. To suggest that I in any way called them "blackguards" is a gross misrepresentation. I may have expressed an opinion as to the sense of dignity these Councilors may have in occupying the position of mere puppets to be patted on the back, when they do what they are told, or to have their decisions vetoed when they don't; but to suggest that they are "blackguards" in consequence is my critic's opinion of them, not mine. As regards the foundation facts of my complaint, however, my critic says, "He (Frank Smith) is right." "But," he proceeds to add, "the Governor is a man appointed by the Home Government sans peur et sans reproche," which in plain English means a man without fear and without reproach. Supposing that the present Governor is all he claims, that does not alter facts. Will he assert that all the Governors and deputy Governors of Ceylon, past and present, are also entitled to the same exalted tribute? And even if they were, and are, that is not the point, which is, that the possession of absolute power, such as is invested in the Governor of Ceylon, and who acts in his name, is opposed to reason, common sense, and good government, since the power to act autocratically is the temptation.

He tell us that the Governor "selects" his Councilors "from the representative classes." Quite so. And that he "selects" safe men from his standpoint of view goes without saying. But my critic is simply trying to throw dust in my eyes when he says that "the names of the Councilors are always put forward by the people, and the ultimate selection is the man, who will most further his party's aims." It is true the people do from time to time nominate their choice, but my complaint against even this "*sans peur et sans reproche*" Governor is that the nominees of the natives are rejected, the "ultimate selection" falling upon the Governor's nominee! Take what happened at the last election, or, rather selection. The native Sinhalese presented to the Governor three names, from which a choice could be made, but the Governor rejected all and appointed a British official, then on full pay, who was afterwards retired and pensioned to enable him to represent the native Sinhalese! Will my critic challenge that statement? and, if not, does it not prove that it is he, and not I, who is wrong? My critic's ideas of what constitutes sound principles of government may be gathered from his expressed opinion that "election by vote in a country like this (Ceylon), where there are so many communities and so many castes would be a farce." Yet he contends that the Councilors are nominated by the various communities. Sure if the natives have sufficient judgment to select a man, they have judgment to vote for him? The fact is, the Councils are not representative of any community except the British community, and as to castes, no one asks that religions, as such, shall be represented. But if, as he seems to suggest that, countries where there are a variety of religions ought not to have the franchise, then, I suppose, he will propose that the people of England should also cease to have elections by the vote, since we here have Jews, Protestants, Catholics, Theosophists, and heaven knows how many more castes or religions.

Then he asks, with delightful innocence, which, however, is scarcely convincing, "Who is the most competent to choose—a Governor or a crowd of ignorant Sinhalese, who only a short century ago were practically uncivilized?" To which I reply, not a Governor who is appointed simply for five years, and who on his arrival in Ceylon has no knowledge of the people, their customs, and wishes, and cannot even speak their language when he departs, and who is dependent for his knowledge of local conditions upon the advice of the paid permanent officials, whose, as a rule, only interest is their own, and whose only anxiety is to get their pension and return home to enjoy it at the earliest possible moment. If I am asked to give an opinion as to which of the two are the best judge of what is required—the officials or the natives—I unhesitatingly say the natives. But our critic comes in here, and with that air of superiority—which is characteristic of his race especially in the East—says the natives are "a crowd of ignorant Sinhalese who but a short century ago were practically uncivilized." If this were true, which it is not, could there be a more complete demonstration of the justice of my criticism? If after 100 years of control by men "*sans peur et sans reproche*" we have not been able to justify our control by teaching the natives the principles of good self-government? The statement is in itself sufficient condemnation of our system.

My critic also objects to my statement that it is "the abject poverty which makes Ceylon the hell it is," and he declares there is no such thing as abject poverty in Ceylon. There are only "a few professional beggars, who if they were at home, would be locked up," and then he dishes up a nice little story about a conversation he had with "the man who holds the highest position of all Sinhalese in the island," with whom he discussed my "wretched article." I am not surprised that the gentleman who holds the highest position objected to my article. Of course, if he did not support the powers that be, he would soon cease to hold the "highest position." If our critic had given us the opinion of some one who held no official position, and was, consequently, unbiased, it would have been worth something; as it is, such a testimonial is worthless. He says "poverty is unknown in the interior." Supposing it is, which I deny, what of Colombo, the seat of Government, and other cities and centres? It is possible that in the remote rural districts, where foreign influence have not contaminated the natives, and where they have been left to follow out the native ideal, and with the soil of their forefathers responding to their efforts, raise enough for themselves, and families. That only proves—that left to themselves, to live out their own life with no claims to satisfy but the claims of their Creator through nature, that "abject" poverty may be absent.

As a matter of fact, what are the evidences of this bloated wealth which our imaginative critic suggests that the native in the interior possesses? His habitation is a shed of sticks covered with plaited vegetation or reed mats, with a floor provided by Mother Earth, his household effects being a wooden bench to sleep on, and a "made-in-Germany" tin bowl to eat from: while his personal belongings consist of a rush hat and a piece of cotton loin cloth!

As a proof that the natives are wealthy, he tells us that "all the houses we (the European community) live in are the property of the natives," and then he raises a bitter cry over his own trials. He is "sorry

to say that since I have been here the rents have gone up 75 per cent.," which means that when our critic gets a taste of the results of our glorious civilization he does not like it, and because a few of the natives have learned the ways of their masters sufficiently well to turn capitalists and exploit him he is "sorry." He asserts that "under no Government, but the British would the condition of the natives be so prosperous as they are now." It is all a question of what is understood by "prosperity."

A "prosperity," which reckons one rupee (1s 4d.) an almost extravagant wage for a skilled artisan of high ability, which considers 25 cents (4d.) a proper day's wage for an ordinary worker; which taxes heavily his rice, his salt, his barest necessities of life; which, taxes the bit of cotton rag he ties round his loins; which condemns hundreds of thousands of Tamil and other coolies to be housed in compounds like cattle; which imposes a "road-tax," or exacts a term of enforced labour in lieu of payment; a prosperity which gives the Governor power by aid of a "waste land Ordinance" to turn the native from the land of his forefathers and sell it to the alien capitalist; a prosperity which gives the Governor power to vote the findings of the Courts of Justice, that permits him to make Judges of men with no legal training, and that pays him 80,000 rupees per annum, with three palaces, with a deputy to help him in receipt of 40,000 rupees per annum—prosperity of this kind does not attract me. Conditions of prosperity such as these may be, as he says, "possible under no government but the British." I hope that is so. And it is against conditions as those which I protest, and refuse by silence to give consent.

In conclusion, he winds, up his letter with the declaration that "the native life is quite happy one," and I cannot refrain from hoping that he may be induced to permanently remain in Ceylon, living as a native, accepting native rate of pay. I advise him to live in the interior, where all is so lovely and "prosperous," I suggest he give up his European garb and don the loin cloth, and patronise the mat shanty, thereby escaping the extortions of the wicked natives who have increased rents. 75 per cent; and then, perhaps, when on his 25 cents a-day, squatting on a mud floor or toiling in the chain gang to make up the roads for his masters to ride over, he will be able to write again and tell us whether he believes that "the life of the native is quite a happy one" in reality or only when contemplated at a distance.

FRANK SMITH.

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## NOTICE.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.  
ORDER No. 1

Testamentary }  
Jurisdiction. } No 1070

Class I

In the Matter of the Estate of the late  
Fanny Ponnamma wife of Joseph Proctor of  
Vannarponnai

Deceased

John Edward of Vannarponnai

Petitioner

Vs

1. Joseph Proctor of Chankanai
2. Louisa alias Nagamuttu wife of John Edward of Vannarponnai
3. Arumngam Thampaiya and his wife
4. Francis Chellam of Kwala-lampore in Straits Settlements.

Respondents

This matter of the Petition of John Edward of Vannarponnai praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Fanny Ponnamma wife of Joseph Proctor of Vannarponnai coming on for disposal before C. Eardley Wilmot Esquire, District Judge, on the 25th day of May 1900 in the presence of Messrs. Casipillai & Cathiravela Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 25th day of May 1900 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the husband of one of the heirs of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or, before the 26th day of July 1900 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 25th day of May 1900

Signed C. EARDLEY WILMOT  
District Judge.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary }  
Jurisdiction } No. 1072

In the Matter of the Estate of the late  
Parupathappillai widow of Sinnattampar of  
Alaveddi

Deceased

Between

Sinnattampar Kantappillai of Alaveddi

Petitioner

and

1. Visuvanathar Kasipillai and wife
2. Viyatalachippillai of Alaveddi
3. Velayutar Arulambalam and wife
4. Sinnattankam of Alaveddi
5. Velayutar Ilaiyestampi and wife
6. Ponnu of Alaveddi
7. Arulambalam Nannittamby and wife
8. Chellachippillai of Alaveddi
9. Kantar Irugupillai Assistant Sheriff, National Bank Colombo and wife
10. Teivanaipillai of Cottahena Colombo
11. Arunasalam Kartigasar of Do

Respondents

This matter of the Petition of Sinnattampar Kantappillai of Alaveddi praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Parupathappillai widow of Sinnattampar coming on for disposal before C. Eardley Wilmot Esquire, District Judge, on the 31st day of May 1900 in the presence of Mr. A. Canagaratnam Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 30th day of May 1900 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the son and sole heir of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other persons shall on or, before the 29th day of June 1900 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 31st day of May 1900

Signed C. EARDLEY WILMOT  
District Judge.

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