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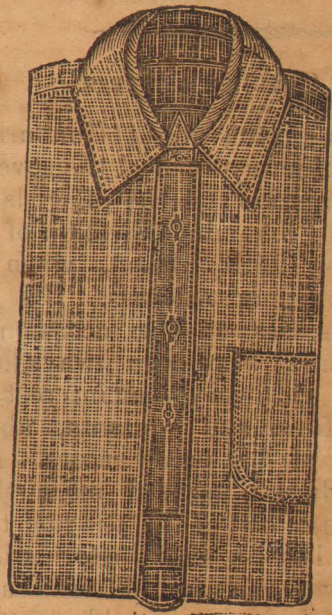
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THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1903

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE OPENING ADDRESS.

His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir J. West Ridgeway opened the seventh and the last session of the Legislative Council during his administration of the Colony, on the 26th ultimo, when he delivered his opening Address. His Excellency's Addresses on the occasion of opening the Council have been always looked forward to with very great interest, as they were in form and contents, above the Addresses of his predecessors. But this year's Address aroused more than ordinary interest owing to the fact that this was the last session over which His Excellency would preside, and as it was reported that he would on the opening day of this session review the History of the Colony during the unprecedentedly long period of his office in Ceylon. The Address, however, which he delivered on the 26th ultimo disappointed the large assembly which gathered in the Council Chamber on the occasion. It was only a review of the more salient features of the year which has elapsed since the opening of Council last year. But the long looked for review of His Excellency's eight years Administration is yet to come—it was only deferred, but not abandoned, till the day His Excellency will bid farewell to the Members of the Legislative Council.

As regards revenue and expenditure His Excellency said:—

It is a great satisfaction to me to be able to tell you that the last year of my administration has been exceptionally prosperous, and that the revenue and anticipated surplus will exceed the record of any year of my administration, including that of the year 1900, hitherto the high-water mark of your prosperity.

The estimated revenue for 1902 was Rs. 26,500,000; the actual revenue exceeded this estimate by Rs. 698,056 and amounted to Rs. 27,198,056, or within Rs. 127,874 of the revenue of 1900. The surplus revenue for 1902 amounted to Rs. 856,178, notwithstanding a large supplementary vote of Rs. 2,284,797, made up of Rs. 1,969,797 met from current revenue and Rs. 315,000, being half-year's interest on the new loan, from past savings.

The expenditure for 1902 was Rs. 26,341,878, exclusive of expenditure from surplus funds, or Rs. 445,284 more than that of 1901, and Rs. 137,180 in excess of our estimated expenditure for 1902. The principal heads under which the expenditure of 1902 exceeded that of 1901 were Public Debt Rs. 294,373, Miscellaneous Services Rs. 286,857, Railways Rs. 171,822, Irrigation Department Rs. 106,093, Pensions Rs. 93,243, Post Office and Telegraphs Rs. 72,460, and Education Rs. 44,282.

The estimated revenue of this year was Rs. 27,044,380, or Rs. 153,676 less than the actual revenue of 1902; but I am glad to inform you that the actual revenue of the first nine months of 1903 shows an increase of Rs. 1,940,556 over the corresponding period of 1902, and I shall be disappointed if your surplus this year does not reach 2½ millions of rupees. The increases have been under the following heads: Customs Rs. 186,628, Licenses Rs. 390,181, Railways Rs. 278,164, Interest Rs. 13,707, Sale of Government Property Rs. 872,872, which includes the proceeds of the pearl fishery, amounting to Rs. 827,278. You will notice that even apart from the pearl fishery receipts the revenue for the first nine months of 1903 exceeds the revenue for the corresponding period of last year by Rs. 1,113,278.

The ordinary expenditure for 1903 was estimated at Rs. 26,667,291. It is not possible at present to say whether the estimate will be exceeded. I am glad to inform you, however, that it has been found practicable this year very materially to restrict the amount of supplementary expenditure. The total amount of the items noted for supplementary provision up to the 31st August was only Rs. 769,036-17, as compared with Rs. 1,736,746-36 for the corresponding period of 1902. The latter sum, it is true, included Rs. 630,000 on account of charges on the new loan, but, even allowing for that, the current year's figures show a very satisfactory reduction. Nevertheless, I consider that it should be possible in future to restrict this supplementary expenditure still further. The Supplementary Supply Bill should be strictly confined to items of an unforeseen yet urgent nature. The estimates of expenditure for next year have been framed with this object more directly in view than has perhaps hitherto been the case; that is to say, an endeavour has been made to forecast and provide somewhat more completely the full amount which should be required for departmental expenditure for the year, instead of trusting to the Supplementary Supply Bill of the coming year to make up deficiencies. The estimates for 1904 are in consequence a little larger, but there will be a corresponding decrease in next year's supplementary expenditure.

The revenue for 1904 is estimated at Rs. 28,651,370 and the ordinary expenditure at Rs. 27,970,050. In addition, it is proposed to spend from surplus funds a sum of Rs. 682,780, chiefly on account of railway feeder roads, works on the Kadugannawa incline, &c. The details will be explained when the Estimates are laid before you.

The public debt of the Colony on 1st January 1903, at the current rate of exchange was Rs. 74,374,642, or Rs. 20,370,789 more than on 1st January 1902, the increase being due to the new loan which was raised in January 1902. Of this debt 41 millions were on account of railway construction, 25½ millions on account of harbour, and the balance 8 millions for water works and irrigation.

On 1st August 1902, the total cash balance of Government, after raising the loan of £1,400,000 amounted to Rs. 8,486,409; on 1st August 1903, it was Rs. 3,697,462. This cash balance does not include the currency and note reserve, and cash in the hands of Heads of Departments. Besides the cash balance, the Government held on 1st August 1903, Indian and other securities to the value of Rs. 6,037,206, as against Rs. 5,979,710 on 1st August 1902. The amount to the credit of the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund on 1st August 1903, was Rs. 3,323,786. The total investments on account of note currency reserve on 1st August, not included in the above total, amounted to Rs. 5,943,280.

In regard to the trade of the Colony the Governor said:—

The trade of the Colony continues to flourish, the value for the first three quarters of 1903, excluding specie, being estimated at Rs. 161,265,708, the value of exports exceeding the value of imports by Rs. 11,421,896.

The value of the trade of the Colony in 1895 was 1,624 lacs, so that the trade of three quarters of my last year of office is nearly equal to the trade of the whole of my first year.

The value of imports for the first seven months of 1903, specie being deducted, amounts to Rs. 58,796,832, being Rs. 2,039,178 more than in 1902. The value of the exports was Rs. 67,865,621, or Rs. 4,751,095 in excess of last year.

The Customs revenue for the first seven months of 1903 is more than that of 1902 by Rs. 221,787-77, the increase being attributable to larger imports of grain, cotton manufactures, spirits and cordials, and sugar, and also to larger exports of arrack. Harbour dues collected at Colombo amounted to Rs. 679,146-91,

being Rs. 568-39 less than in 1902. In port dues collected at outports there is an increase of Rs. 865-16 as compared with last year. The recoveries under the Medical Wants Ordinance amounted to Rs. 86,373-25, as compared with Rs. 90,182-31, a decrease of Rs. 3,809-06, due to a falling off in the export of tea of nearly 5 million pounds.

Turning to imports cotton manufactures were valued at Rs. 3,679,422, being more than the imports of 1902 by Rs. 380,515. Comparing the value of imports from various countries, it is found that there is an increase of Rs. 271,710 from the United Kingdom, of Rs. 10,371 from British Colonies, and of Rs. 98,434 from foreign countries. There is a decrease in the imports of coal. In 1903 the quantity imported was 364,066 tons, against 385,816 tons in 1902. In kerosine oil the quantity entered for home consumption in 1903 was less than in 1902 by 269,827 gallons. There is an increase in the importation of rice, the duty amounting to Rs. 1,702,333-73 in 1903, being Rs. 37,549-32 more than in 1902. Machinery shows an increase in value of Rs. 252,300, and an increase of Rs. 164,149 is shown in the value of metals.

In spirits the quantity entered for home consumption was 112,286 gallons, against 101,637 gallons, an increase of 10,649 gallons. The quantity of wines imported was less than in 1902 by 345 gallons. Sugar imported shows an increase of 8,170 cwt. in quantity as compared with 1902. The imports of specie increased by 67 per cent. during 1903, the value being Rs. 8,701,800, against Rs. 5,201,327, gold showing an increase of 15 lacs and silver an increase of 20 lacs. In woollens there was an increase in value of Rs. 26,806.

As regards the exports of the Colony, in the first seven months of the current year there were exported 91,263,746 lb. of tea, against 96,231,924 lb. in the corresponding period of 1902, the exports being distributed as follows:—

	1903. lb	1902. lb
United Kingdom...	63,459,470	68,525,612
British Colonies ...	14,582,645	14,782,080
Foreign countries...	13,221,631	12,924,232
	91,263,746	96,231,924

Of the products of the cocoanut palm, there was a very satisfactory increase in the exports of desiccated cocoanuts from 70,516 cwt. in 1902 to 99,487 in 1903; arrack from 31,869 gallons to 37,276 gallons; fibre, yarn, and rope from 125,265 cwt. to 139,675 cwt.. More notable still are the advances in export of copperah from 174,209 cwt. to 285,680 cwt.; oil from 253,652 cwt. to 385,856 cwt.; poonac from 115,053 cwt. to 171,195 cwt.. On the other hand, cocoanuts have decreased from 8,779,961 nuts to 6,639,860 nuts. Considering the products of the cocoanut palm as a whole, there has been a remarkable increase in value as compared with 1902. The value of exports in the seven months January to July, 1902, was Rs. 9,476,268; for the corresponding period of this year the amount is Rs. 14,274,203.

His Excellency's reference to the Northern Railway was as follows:—

The work on the Northern railway, which was begun in May, 1900, may now be said to be about two-thirds done. The estimated cost is Rs. 11,029,376; the expenditure, including certain charges connected with feeder roads to stations and a new carriage shed, Colombo, was at the end of July last approximately Rs. 8,171,000.

At the northern end a section, Kankasanturai to Pallai, 35 miles in length, is open for public traffic. At the end of July the rails were laid 24 miles to the south beyond Pallai. At the southern end the rails have reached 49 miles from Kurunegalla, the total length of rails laid being 108 miles, so that only 89 miles and 33 chains now remain to be laid. I hope to-morrow to have the satisfaction of travelling to within four miles of Anuradhapura by the railway, when I shall have an opportunity of appreciating its advantage over the present necessarily show method of reaching the capital of the North-Central Province.

The progress of the work was much interfered with by the excessive rains of the last north-east monsoon. Labour is now fairly plentiful, but sickness due to the climate, notwithstanding that there are medical officers and apothecaries on the line, is, I regret to say, as prevalent as ever.

THE QUARANTINE REGULATIONS.

It is now five years since passengers from India were prevented from landing in any of the Jaffna ports as a precautionary measure against the introduction of the plague into the Northern Province. Although it was done by the Government with the best of intentions, yet the people of Jaffna have suffered and are still suffering untold hardships and immense loss by free intercourse with their mother country being thus fettered and by being obliged to come to Jaffna via

Tutucorin and Colombo. Experience has shown that, under proper safeguards, Indian passengers can be landed in any part of Ceylon without endangering public health. Although hundreds of passengers are daily landed in Colombo from all parts of India, yet the plague has not been yet introduced into Ceylon. There is not also any restriction as to the landing of these passengers in any other parts of the Island than Jaffna. The Colonial Steamer on their north-about trips take a large number of passengers from Paumban to Trincomalie and Batticaloa and they mix up freely with the hundreds of Ceylon passengers to Jaffna, some of whom stealthily land in Jaffna with the other passengers, while the others are allowed to land in the Eastern ports of the Island without any restriction whatever. The vast majority of the passengers who get on board the steamers at Paumban are Jaffnese who land in Trincomalie, and, after waiting there for a few days, come to Jaffna by the Southabout trips of the Colonial steamers. There were twenty six such passengers from Trincomalie on our return from Batticaloa at the end of September last, by the Lady Havelock. Even in Jaffna coolies required for the P. W. D. and Railway works could be landed. But the restriction is only in regard to natives of Jaffna employed under the Indian Government and Native States, merchants, tourists and pilgrims who return to Jaffna from India. Surely this is an anomaly which in the fitness of things should be put an end to.

Memoials have been addressed to His Excellency the Governor praying for the removal or relaxation of the vexatious regulations which prevents the landing of Indian passengers in Jaffna, and hopes were given by the Government of their relaxation at an early date. The people of Jaffna had heard sometime ago with feelings of great relief and thankfulness that the Government were going to allow the landing of passengers from India in one of the Jaffna ports and that inquiries were made from the Government Agent as to which port should be selected for the purpose. Some months have now elapsed since these steps were taken by the Government. But the Quarantine Regulations are still in force here. It is earnestly to be hoped that His Excellency the Governor under whose administration these Regulations came into force would relax them before he leaves the Island in the course of a few days.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS. PLEASE NOTE.

1. We are very sorry that our earnest appeal calling for prompt payment of arrear subscriptions due to the Hindu Organ has not had the desired effect. The 15th September last, was the date, before which we asked our subscribers to remit the subscription in full, due for Vol. XIV. We tender our thanks to those who responded to our call, but to those who treated our appeal with studied indifference, we mean to give them another date, viz.,

31ST DECEMBER 1903.

before which date, we earnestly solicit each and all of our subscribers to remit their dues to this paper in full.

2. Our subscribers in arrears are par-

ticularly requested to note that, unless they pay and settle their dues before the 31st December 1903, their names will be struck off our list of subscribers and in due course steps will be taken to recover them.

LOCAL & GENERAL

The Weather—There has been no rain here for the last few days. The paddy plants very badly require rains. It rained heavily and floods were caused at a time when excessive rains were not required for the crop. Except lowlying lands the others suffer for want of rain. Since the above was in type a shower of rain fell yesterday in some parts of the Peninsula.

Public Health—Fever is prevailing in the Peninsula to some extent but not yet in an epidemic form as it did last year.

The Police Magistrate of Jaffna—It is reported that Mr. T. M. Tampoe who has acted for some years past as Police Magistrate of Jaffna with very great acceptance to the public will retire from the office by the end of this year. We have no doubt that the Government will grant to him a gratuity, as was done in the case of Mr. Eaton who acted as Police Magistrate of Matla, and of Mr. Northmore who was acting Police Magistrate of Hatton.

Police Court of Kaiti—Mr. Muttiah has assumed duties as Interpreter at Kaiti, and Mr. Valupillai who protested against his appointment to Kurunagala has been ordered to proceed to that place and assume his new duties.

Mr. Advocate Tirunavukarasu—This Gentleman left for Colombo on the 28th ultimo by the Lady Havelock to represent the people of Jaffna at the farewell functions to be given to His Excellency the Governor on the eve of his departure from Ceylon. At a meeting held on the 27th in the Jaffna Library under the presidency of Mr. Advocate Kanagasabai Mr. Tirunavukarasu was chosen to represent the Jaffna public on the occasion.

Hindu College—We are glad to learn that Mr. G. Vetharajam Pillai, Deputy Post Master, Madurai, has collected Rs. 43 to the Laboratory fund of this College. We hope he will be successful in collecting a larger amount to this fund.

Riot at Thunnalai—While the Vellales of Thunnalai prevented some people belonging to the potter caste of that place from taking Kavady to a Temple with active music and tom-tom, a riot ensued which resulted in several people on both sides being severely assaulted.

Birthday Honours in Ceylon—We are glad to learn that among those who will be invested with the rank of Mudaliyar on the occasion of His Majesty's Birthday is Mr. R. Arumugam, Head Clerk of the Fiscal's Office, Trincomalie, who has earned this distinction by honest and faithful services to Government in more than one District in Ceylon. He is a native of Jaffna and brother-in-law of Mr. S. Sanmugam retired Head Clerk of the Fiscal's Office, Jaffna and of Mr. A. Vettivalu, retired Interpreter Mudaliyar of the District Court, Batticaloa.

Appointment of a New Vidhan—Mr. A. Kasilingam of Kopay has been appointed as the Police Vidhan of Kopay North in the place Mr. Arumugam retired.

Mr. P. Arulampalam—This gentleman who was Apothecary and Dispenser of the Government Hospital at Vavonia has been transferred to Madawatchi.

The Solicitor General—Mr. P. Ramanathan C. M. G., K. C., has obtained three months leave of absence and Mr. Crown Counsel Templer acts for him. Mr. Wardsworth a rising Tamil Advocate from Jaffna, who practises in Colombo acts for Mr. Templer. We congratulate Mr. Wardsworth on his appointment as acting Crown Counsel.

Ten Rupees for one Cart Load of Sand—A carter who collected sand from the excavations by the side of the railway line at Kokovil was fined Rs. 10 by the Police Magistrate of Jaffna on the 2nd Inst. on the complaint of the Police Vidhan of that place.

The Anuradhapura Riots—The accused who were convicted in this case have been sentenced

to imprisonment from seven years to one year. Ratwatte Ratambhatmaya got three years and a fine of Rs. 300. But His Excellency the Governor has remitted the sentence of imprisonment on this chief.

Obituary—We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. V. Muttiah, Notary Public, Karaitivu which took place at his residence at Karaitivu on the 4th ultimo. He was only lately transferred from Mannar to Karaitivu. He was a quite intelligent young man and we tender our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved widow and others who bemoan his loss.—Cor.

A New Epidemic at Delft—We hear that a new epidemic has broken out at Delft and those who are attacked with it die within ten days. The mortality among children is said to be very great.

Success of a Jaffnese in India—Mr. D. Chelliah Hensman B. A., Chief Superintendent of the Accountant General's Department, Madras, has been deputed as Auditor of the State accounts of Cochin on a salary of Rs. 9000 per annum, special orders from the Government of India. He is the brother-in-law of Prof. Sathianadhan M. A., LL.D. and brother of Mr. James Hensman B. A.—Cor.

SRI RAMAKRISHNA'S TEACHINGS.

Devotion to God would increase in the same proportion as attachment to sense objects would decrease.

The more Radha neared Sri Krishna, the stronger did she perceive a sweet fragrance. The nearer one approaches God, the more is one's heart flooded with blessed feeling and love for Him. The nearer a river comes to the ocean, it is marked with more ebb and flow.

The Ganges of even current flows in the heart of the Jnani. To him it is all like a dream, he remains absorbed in his own Self. But in Bhakta, it is not so; he has the ebb and flow in him, he laughs, cries, dances and sings, moved by different emotions. The Bhakta loves to live in and enjoy God's Presence—in that Ocean of Bliss he loves to cast himself, sometimes swimming, sometimes sinking, and again floating, like as a block of ice dances in water, tossing up and down.

To B.:—The renunciation of karma comes of itself when the love of God swells up in the heart. Let them work who are made to do so by God. The time is ripe for you to do away with it. Renounce everything and say "O my mind, come and let us together watch the Divinity installed in the heart."

Take refuge in God and forsake shame and fear. "If I dance in the name of God, what would others say?"—cast off all such ideas.

God can never appear where there are shame, hatred and fear.

It is a rare thing—this love of God. Bhakti can only occur when there is a whole-hearted devotedness to God like that of a wife for her husband. Pure Bhakti is so very difficult to obtain. In Bhakti, the mind and the soul must be absorbed in God. Then comes Bhava, (the higher form of Bhakti). In Bhava a man becomes speechless, his breath is stilled, the *Kumbhaka* (a process of Yoga) sets in of itself, like as when one shoots at an aim one becomes speechless and one's breath is stopped.
—Awakened India.

DR. CUTHBERT HALL TELLS OF HIS TRIP TO INDIA.

DEEP RESPECT FOR ORIENTAL THOUGHT.

The Rev. Dr. C. Cuthbert Hall, of the First Presbyterian Church, President of the Union Theological Seminary, made some hitherto unpublished statements on Sunday night in the First Congregational Church Montclair, regarding his trip to India as the representative of

the College of Comparative Religion in the University of Chicago.

Speaking first of the trip itself, he said:—

"The fascination of so great a journey is quite indescribable, the turning from the Western to the Eastern civilization enlarges one's scope of living for all time to come. He ought to be a more loveable man for ever. I took with me my wife and three children, and, though we were in all kinds of climates, we had not one day of illness. Nothing is more fascinating than that first touch of the East in the morning light, with the Arabs coming out in their fishing boats, and the coconut palm literally rising out of the sea.

"My work began in Ceylon in the most oppressive heat. I was sent, not as a representative of any religion, but as a sympathiser with the universal desire to know goodness.

"A deputation of Buddhists met me, and we repaired to a hall, where we discussed the sacrifice of Christ for the redemption of the world to an audience 80 per cent. non-Christian and 90 per cent. non-European. The place was so crowded that the doors and even windows were packed in the stifling heat to hear an argument opposed to all their own. Such is the evidence of the open-mindedness of the East. I travelled 8,000 miles in the Indian Empire, and in close relations with the leaders of non-Christian thought of every Eastern creed. I was there nearly four months and made ninety addresses to University circles, where it was not necessary to have an interpreter. I never heard the English language spoken so elegantly as by educated Hindus, who speak it in the models set by Maculay and Burke. It is strange we speak of them as a barbaric race, for you do not go among a semibarbaric people in India.

"What are one's impressions after making a journey under Oriental conditions? Remember that I lived in constant personal touch with the native. I was ever their guest, and not once was I allowed to go inside a hotel. The first impression left is the chastening influence of world contact. One comes back a much humbler man from the East. The West has much to learn and receive from it whether from India, China, or Japan. Many times during my intercourse with them with their gracious customs and reverence for all religion, I felt that I was the clumsy barbarian. We who see only the lower grade of Eastern civilization know nothing of what the East means—of its grasp upon the mighty past. The East is the place where religion is the chief business of life, where the things not seen are the things to live for and love. Their poverty strikes us with compassion. But they look upon our worship of things with high disdain, looking down on us as children that must be pleased with toys. I am not idealizing the system in the least.

"We are impressed with the essential unity of the race of man, God has made of one blood every race of man." Meredith Townsend comes to the conclusion that there is too great a gulf fixed, not of tradition, but psychological line of cleavage, for either race to understand the other; Indians themselves repudiate this idea from the bottom."—*Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, September 18th.

DOES INDIA NEED CHRISTIANITY? BY A. B. SHETTE.

"But as regards the wholesale conversion of India that Missionaries aim at by the old exploded orthodox forms of Christianity with its hundreds of irreconcilable, not to say bitterly opposed sects, it would, looking at its present results all over Christendom, be most undesirable. It is therefore futile and indeed ridiculous for these conflicting sectarian Missionaries to be trying year after year to convert to their respective creeds a shrewd and intelligent people, which creeds being in their nature incredible and unreasonable the 'intellect' of their own country has long since rejected." Dr. William Sharpe.

It has become the fashion with Christian Missionaries to speak of India as 'an idolatrous land,' to call the Eastern creeds 'demoniacal superstitious religions,' to apply the contemptuous epithet of 'poor benighted heathens' to all non-Christian people and to use abusive language of a most unpardonable character in their street sermons.

As Prof. Rungachariar said, it has become a part of the common faith of the common Christian that those, who in respect of their religious creeds and dogmas are not with him, are in reality against him and that the non-Christian has, by the very reason of his being such, deprived himself of all chances of securing for himself any accommodation in the many mansions of God who is the Father of All in Heaven.

Some of the methods adopted by the Christian missionaries for raising money in America and Europe show us the low depths to

which misguided religious zeal can descend. Our late beloved countryman Svami Vivekananda has told us that in the school-books for children in America there are pictures of Hindu mothers throwing their babies to the crocodiles in the Ganges and pictures of huge cars crushing Hindu devotees. The missionaries are said to teach little children to hate all non-Christians as the children of Satan. It is painful to see the followers of Christ doing us such injustice and behaving so uncharitably towards men wending their way to the same goal. It almost seems as if between these fanatical missionaries and other religionists there were a great gulf fixed, over which nothing but hate can pass. Only a few months back that well-known itinerating Lady Missionary, Mrs. Bishop, delivered a speech in London denouncing all Eastern religions as demoniacal superstitious creeds and all Eastern people as abjectly degraded. In a tone of lofty pity and benevolent contempt she spoke of the cruelties and barbarities practised under the name of medicine in China, Tibet, Upper India and elsewhere. Alas! how much do these ministers of religion misrepresent facts for the glorification of their particular God? According to this fanatical lady the only thing that can save the degraded heathens from eternal damnation is the Christian religion. She asked her fellow-workers to enter upon a gigantic enterprise for converting the Eastern people, especially the Chinese. True to the Biblical saying: "Unto the pure all things are pure; but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure" every thing foreign seems wretched, miserable and ugly to the sordid soul. Some of these Christian peoples regard themselves as demigods and look down upon conquered races. The sectarianism and bigotry of our missionary brethren has passed into a by-word. They seem nothing assimilable or praiseworthy in the religion of others. Though some of the greatest Hindu Sanskrit scholars stagger in explaining clearly many of the Vedic passages even after a life-long study, some of the missionaries who do not know a single line of Sanskrit dare to read learned papers criticising the Hindu religion. The extreme section orthodox missionaries laugh to scorn at the Vedas, the Upanishads, the Vedanta and the Gita which have elicited the highest admiration of right-thinking people all over the world. As to the fact that most of these zealots Christians denounce the Hindus and heap contempt on their religion without thoroughly investigating and understanding it we have the testimony of a Christian oriental scholar. Thus writes Monier Williams in his *Religious thought and life in India*:—"I am deeply convinced that the more we learn about the ideas, feelings, drift of thought, religious development, eccentricities and even errors and superstitions of the natives of India, the less ready shall we be to judge them by our own conventional European standards; the less disposed to regard ourselves as the sole depositaries of all the true knowledge, learning, virtue and refinement existing on the earth, the men who compiled the laws of Manu, one of the most literary productions of the world; who thought out systems of ethics worthy of Christianity; who composed the Ramayana and Mahabharata, poems in some respects outrivalling the Iliad and the Odyssey; who invented for themselves the science of grammar, arithmetic, astronomy, logic and who elaborated independently six most subtle systems of philosophy. Above all, the less inclined shall we be to stigmatize as benighted heathens the authors of two religions which are at this moment professed by half the human race. We can avoid denouncing in strong language what we have never thoroughly investigated and do not thoroughly understand. We have never studied their vast sacred literature stretching over a period of more than 3000 years. We underestimate their comprehensiveness, their subtlety, their recuperative hydra-like vitality; we are too much given to include the whole system under sweeping expressions such as 'heathenism' or 'idolatry' as if every idea it contains was to be eradicated root and branch." The italics are ours. Let our Missionary friends and others who feel similarly disposed ponder deeply over these wise remarks of the Oxford professor and keep a good tongue in their head. Let them drink deep or taste not the Pierian spring.

The Christian has never met the Hindu in open discussion. When a few months back Mr. Thakur Chandra Varma, a fellow of the Arya Samaj, challenged the missionaries at Ahmednagar to, prove openly in a public meeting the historical existence of Jesus no missionary took up the gauntlet. If Christianity is the only true religion in the opinion of our mission-

ary critics and if they consider it superior to all other religions, let them prove it in open discussion rather than condemn us ever and anon in a cowardly fashion.

—The Brahmadarin.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

There have been so many changes in Mr. Balfour's Ministry that many readers will no doubt be glad to have a list of members of the old and the new Ministry side by side. The Marquis of Hamilton has been appointed Treasurer of the Household, but that office, of course, does not make the holder a member of the Ministry.

The New Ministry.	The Late Ministry.
Mr. Balfour.	Mr. Balfour.
Lord Halsbury.	Lord Halsbury.
Lord Ashbourne.	Lord Ashbourne.
Lord Londonderry.	Duke of Devonshire.
Lord Salisbury.	Mr. Balfour.
Mr. Balfour.	Mr. Balfour.
Earl of Selborne.	Earl of Selborne.
Mr. A. Akers-Douglas.	Mr. A. Akers Douglas.
Marquis of Lansdowne.	Marquis of Lansdowne.
Mr. Arnold-Forster.	Hon. St. J. Brodrick.
Hon. A. Lyttleton.	Mr. J. Chamberlain.
Hon. St. J. Brodrick.	Lord G. Hamilton.
Mr. G. Wyndham.	Mr. G. Wyndham.
Mr. Austin Chamberlain.	Mr. C. T. Ritchie.
Mr. Graham Murray.	Lord Balfour of Burleigh.
Mr. G. W. Balfour.	Mr. G. W. Balfour.
Mr. W. H. Long.	Mr. W. H. Long.
Lord Onslow.	Lord Onslow.
Marquis of Londonderry.	Marquis of Londonderry.
Lord Stanley.	Mr. A. Chamberlain.
(The above form and formed the Cabinet.)	
Sir W. H. Walrond.	Sir W. H. Walrond.
Lord Windsor.	Lord Windsor.
Lord Balfour.	Mr. H. T. Anstruther.
Hon. A. Fellowes.	Hon. A. Fellowes.
Mr. H. W. Forster.	Mr. H. W. Forster.
Mr. Victor Cavendish.	Mr. Arthur Elliot.
Sir A. A. Hood.	Sir A. A. Hood Bart.
Sir Francis Jenne.	Sir Francis Jenne.
Mr. A. H. Lee.	Capt. E. G. Pretymann.
Capt. E. G. Pretymann.	Mr. H. O. Arnold Forster.
Hon. T. Cochrane.	Hon. T. Cochrane.
Earl Percy.	Viscount Cranborne.
Earl of Donoughmore.	Earl of Hardwicke.
Duke of Marlborough.	Duke of Marlborough.
Earl of Hardwicke.	Earl Percy.
Mr. A. B. Law.	Mr. A. B. Law.
Mr. J. G. Lawson.	Mr. J. G. Lawson.
Sir W. R. Anson, Bt.	Sir W. R. Anson, Bt.
Mr. Bremley-Davenport.	Lord Stanley.
Sir R. B. Finlay.	Sir R. B. Finlay.
Sir E. H. Carson.	Sir F. H. Carson.
Mr. C. S. Dickson.	Mr. A. G. Murray.
Mr. David Dundas.	Mr. C. S. Dickson.
Earl of Dudley.	Earl of Dudley.
Mr. John Atkinson.	Mr. Atkinson.
Mr. J. H. M. Campbell.	Mr. J. H. M. Campbell.