

The Hindu Organ.

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS
HAS THE WIDEST CIRCULATION

ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 18, 1889.

(REGISTERED AT THE G. P. O. AS A NEWSPAPER.)

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

VOL. XXII—NO. 44.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY MAY 17, 1911.

PRICE 10 CENTS.

NOTICE.

The Hindu Organ.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION.

	Tam: Ed:	Eng: Ed:	Both Ed:
	Rs. Cts.	Rs. Cts.	Rs. Cts.
Jaffna Town per annum	1-50	3-00	4-00
Outstations and India	2-00	4-00	5-50
Straits Settlements	2-25	4-50	6-25

RATES OF ADVERTISEMENT.

	Rs. Cts.
For one column ... Yearly ...	60-00
do ... Half Yearly ...	35-00
do ... Quarterly ...	20-00
For 1/2 column ... Yearly ...	35-00
do ... Half Yearly ...	20-00
do ... Quarterly ...	12-50
For 1/4 column ... Yearly ...	20-00
do ... Half Yearly ...	12-50
do ... Quarterly ...	7-50
For one column, first insertion ...	7-50
For half column, do ...	4-00
For quarter column, do ...	2-50
For single line, do ...	-08
For subsequent insertions half the above rates.	

Pith Turbans.

Pith Turbans of different patterns always in stock. Prices very cheap. Orders promptly attended. Old turbans repaired.

Apply to:—The Oriental Stores, Grand Bazaar, JAFFNA.

SNAKE-BITE MEDICINE.

WHEN a snake bites, use immediately this medicine externally and internally and use the snuff also as directed in the instruction therein. This will cure, or save the life from danger. It should be kept in every house, and it can be kept for two years.

Price per set Re. 1.
Obtain from

C. Thamotharam Pillay,
Specialist in snake-bite
near Kailaya Pilliar Temple, Nallore,
JAFFNA,
and from Apothecaries Co.,
JAFFNA.

CHILDREN IN CEYLON.

have much to contend with, owing to the enervating climate.

Early in life they need a tonic any reconstructive to aid in developing their little bones and muscles.

SCOTT'S EMULSION.

contains the proper bone and tissue building for children.

The results are noticeable shortly after taking



FOR SALE AT ALL
CHEMISTS.

SCOTT & BOWNE LTD.
MANUFACTURING
CHEMISTS,
LONDON,
ENGLAND.

Always get the Emulsion with this mark—the fishman—the mark of the "Scott" process!

N. S. FERNANDO,
WHOLESALE AGENT, COLOMBO

Hindusthan Co-Operative Insurance Society Ltd.

HEAD OFFICE 30, DALHOUSIE SQ., SOUTH CALCUTTA

A National Concern organised by Maharajahs, Rajahs, and the
Sentry of Northern India.

Authorised Capital - Rs. One Crore.

REGISTERED UNDER THE INDIAN COMPANIES ACT OF 1882.

GENERAL SECRETARY

SURENDRANATH TAGORE, B. A., ZEMINDAR, CALCUTTA

ALL POLICIES PARTICIPATE IN PROFITS, WHICH

WILL BE DISTRIBUTED EVERY FIVE YEARS.

Policies are nonforfeitable and uncontestible, and are entirely unrestricted
as regards sex, travel, occupation, or manner of death.

For further particulars, see Prospectus sent free

K. R. LAWTON,

Manager, Insurance Dept.

S. K. LAWTON & CO.,

Agents for Ceylon.

Main St.

JAFFNA.

CANVASSING REPRESENTATIVE:—

V. Ramanathan, Van-West, Jaffna.

Silk Pitamber Company, Benares City, U. P.

LEADING SILK MANUFACTURERS.

Goods not Approved Taken Back.

Benares Pitamber Sarees or Selais:

16 cubits by 2 1/2 cubits with high class
lace work in borders and front. Colours:
Red, Green, Violet, & Rose. Plain body
Inferior quality Rs. 20 to Rs. 35.
Superior do Rs. 40 to Rs. 200.

Pitamber Butta Sarees:

Same as above with laced flowers or
buttas in body.

Inferior quality Rs. 25 to Rs. 35.
Superior do Rs. 40 to Rs. 250.

Madanapore Sarees:

Same as above with thin texture and
lace work. Prices as above.

Pitamber Ravikais:

Lace borders with flower work. Colours:
Red, Green, Rose, Violet.

Plain body Rs. 2 to Rs. 8.
Butta body Rs. 2/8 to Rs. 25.

Pitamber Duppatas:

6 by 2 1/2 cubits with high class laced
work. Colours: Red, Rose, Green & Violet.
Plain body.

Inferior quality Rs. 7 to Rs. 12.
Superior do Rs. 13 to Rs. 30.

Further particulars and Catalogues on application to

Silk Pitamber Company, Benares City, U. P., India.

Pitamber Butta Duppatas:

Same as above with buttas, lace flowers
in the body.

Inferior quality Rs. 8 to Rs. 15.
Superior do Rs. 16 to Rs. 40.

White Silks:

Dhoties with thin red borders in the
following sizes:

6 by 2 1/2 cubits Rs. 7-8-0
6 by 2 1/2 or 3 " " 10 to Rs. 12.
7 by 2 1/2 " " " 8-8-0
7 by 2 1/2 or 3 " " " 12 to Rs. 15.
8 by 2 1/2 " " " 11
8 by 2 1/2 or 3 " " " 12 to Rs. 16.
Laced borders Rs. 2 to Rs. 4 more than
the above prices.

Best Musk:

Price per tola Rs. 35.

Coating & Shirting Silks:

These silks form fine material for dress
and suits in pieces of 7 yds. by 54 inches.
Samples and prices on application.

Children's Friend.

Beautiful, small, shining toy-vessels 32
in number. Big size Rs. 4. Small set
Rs. 2.

Notice.

BUY through us and you are sure
to save 10 per cent.

Best quality Benares cloths of all
colours, Wedding cloths, Benares
shawls, Madura cloths, Combakonam
silk, Best stylish Ravikai cloth, Kor-
naaddu cloths of modern style and
best and durable colours, Bombay
silk, Tassore silk for coats and all
other ordinary cloths are supplied to
order at reasonable prices.

Quality and real charikai
guaranteed.

Apply to—

THE JAFFNA INDUSTRIAL COY.,
JAFFNA.

Notice.

WE are prepared to buy NUX
VOMICA well dried at
Rs. 4/- to Rs. 5/- per cwt: according
to analysis, delivered Railway Sta-
tion, Colombo.

CH: & A. BOHRINGER,
Colombo.

THE NOTARY'S MANUAL

by S. Katiressu.

Proctor S. C. & Notary, Jaffna.

Price Rs. 12.50.

Opinions—very complete—of considerable
practical utility—carefully prepared—safe and
sufficient guide—clear and lucid—concise—ex-
haustive and comprehensive—well arranged and
excellently go up—has facilitated the work of the
students

Just out!

The English-English-Tamil
Dictionary.



Second Edition, Revised and Enlarged.

GIVING Pronunciation and
accent. Contains all English
words and phrases now in use with
their meanings in English and Tamil.
Demy 8 vo. Pages 1308. The largest
of all the English-Tamil Dictionaries.
Full cloth Gilt. Rs. 3-50.

A. MOOTOOTAMBY PILLAY,
Navalarkottom,
JAFFNA.

NOTICE.

For sale by private treaty

A decent house and compound
situate at Anaikoddai, lying
by the 3rd mile post on the road
from Jaffna to Manipay. This pro-
perty is in extent 52 Lms. and 7
Kulies and is planted with coconuts
mango and other trees. Apply to
the undersigned.

V. Casippillai,
Proctor, Jaffna.

AUCTION SALE

OF two-third parts of the entire
soil and plantation &c. of the portion
lying towards the west of the road of
the land called Thombu Kaluttaruth-
thanam Thalamadagama in extent
Parappu Ilachams 17 1/2 situate at
Vannarpannai, Jaffna at 2 p. m., on
Saturday the 20th day of May 1911
at the spot.

W. P. WILLIAM de SILVA,
Galle, Licensed Auctioneer.
3rd May, 1911.

Hindu College Old Boys' Association.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	Rs. cts.
Mr. S. Vaitiyalingam, B. A., Batticaloa	1-00
" M. Chellappah, "	1-00
" S. Thambapillai, "	1-00
" S. Saravanamuttu, "	1-00
" N. Ponnambalam, "	1-00
" A. Chellappah, Colombo	1-00
" A. Knodiah, "	1-00
" A. Tiruvakarasu, "	1-00
" S. Candiah Pillai, "	1-00
" C. Ponnampalam, Johore	2-00
" T. Canapathippillai, Jelebu	1-00
" S. Sabaretnam, Kandy	1-00

Amount previously acknowledged Total 13-00 170-75

Grand Total 183-75

S. KANDIAH PILLAI,
Treasurer,
H. C. O. B.

17-5-11,



The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 1911.

THE TESAWALAMAI.

The *Tesawalamai* is the customary law of Jaffna. The customs and usages of the Tamils of Jaffna were collected by the order of Governor Van Simons in 1706. By a Proclamation of 1806 the British Government declared them, as collected by Governor Simons, to be in force. But in process of time, some of the customs became obsolete, and others were expressly or impliedly repealed by the Legislature. At present, the *Tesawalamai* is in force chiefly as regards inheritance. After the abolition of the "schedule" system which compelled intending sellers of land to obtain a certificate from a headman, it is doubtful even if the rule as to pre-emption is in force, though there are judgments to the effect that the repeal of the "schedule" system does not involve a repeal of the law of pre-emption. As to dowry, which the *Tesawalamai* empowered the surviving parent to give out of the deceased parent's property, we are not sure that the *Tesawalamai* is in force. For, as soon as a parent dies his or her property is said to devolve, according to modern canons of inheritance, on the children, and the surviving parent cannot give what is already the children's or take away what has been already inherited by them.

It is not easy to say what parts of the *Tesawalamai* are in force and what not. For several years a doubt was felt whether the surviving parent could give his daughters dowry out of the property left behind by the deceased parent. The doubt has been now set at rest by the judgment of the Supreme Court given in case No. 7252 of the District Court of Jaffna. The Supreme Court does not altogether go against modern canons of succession. It holds that "on the death of the wife her dowry property vests in her daughters, subject to his (her husband's) right to apportion it between them as dowry on their marriage". The judgment means that the husband has a right to allot as dowry to his daughters such portions of the dowry property of his deceased wife as he may think fit.

The affirmation by the Supreme Court of the right of the surviving parent (which had been regarded by many as obsolete), to give dowry out of the deceased parent's property, cannot be of much consequence at present, as the *Tesawalamai* rules of inheritance have been codified and passed into law with some modifications, at a sitting of the Legislative Council on the 12th April 1911.

But in the case in question the Supreme Court proceeds to give effect to another principle of the *Tesawalamai* which is now generally understood to be obsolete. The rule that males succeed to males and females to females, is found in the text of the *Tesawalamai* as collected by the Dutch Governor already mentioned and declared to be law by the British Government. For many years past the practice has been to restrict this principle to collaterals, that is to say, sisters and their children succeed to sisters and their children to the exclusion of brothers and their children; and brothers and their children succeed to brothers and their children to the exclusion of sisters and their children. But in the direct line, mother's property has not been taken to devolve on daughters nor father's property on sons. Mother's property has been distributed amongst all her children males or females, and father's property amongst all his children males or females. The original rule of the *Tesawalamai* that females succeed to females and males to males has come to be regarded as obsolete in the case of succession in the direct line. But in the case mentioned, the Supreme Court holds that where a woman dies leaving sons and unmarried daughters, her dowry property in respect of which she died intestate is inherited by the daughters to the exclusion of the sons. The Supreme Court has followed the text of the *Tesawalamai* which was, so late as a few years ago, embodied in the new edition of the Legislative Enactments of Ceylon. It was not brought to their Lordships' notice that in the direct line the principle of males succeeding to males and females to

females does not obtain at present. No evidence, it appears, was led in the lower Court, to show that as regards the direct line of succession the principle has been entrenched upon. How the judgment will affect titles to immoveable property in Jaffna we cannot say at present. It depends on whether the Bar in Jaffna will act on it or not. If the judgment is acted on, titles to land derived by inheritance from parents will be upset in those cases where the daughters not having been dowried in the life-time of the parents, the parents' property was distributed among all the children, males and females, in the belief that the principle of males succeeding to males and females to females does not hold good at present in the direct line. The Ordinance passed this month to regulate succession in Jaffna does not apply to persons married before the coming into operation of that Ordinance, so that, if the judgment is acted on, succession to parents' property in Jaffna will be in an unsettled state for many years to come.

AN EXPLANATION IS NECESSARY EITHER FROM THE GOVERNMENT OR THE "MORNING LEADER."

In the "Ceylon Government Gazette" of the 11th Instant, a list of gentlemen who are accorded the privilege of private entree at Levees is published. The name of Mr. Ramanathan, K. C., C. M. G., does not appear in it, and while the Executive Council is ranked after the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Middleton and Mr. Justice Wood Renton, that body takes precedence of Mr. Justice Grenier. We do not know the reason for this differentiation between the senior and second Puisne Justices and the third Puisne Justice. Another feature of the list is that it contains the name of Mr. W. H. Figg, ex-member of the Legislative Council, while that of Mr. A. de A. Seneviratne, who is also an ex-member of the Legislative Council, is omitted. The name of the P. C. M. O. also is omitted. He cannot be entitled to private entree as a member of the Legislative Council, as he ceased to be so on the arrival of Mr. Cooper, last month.

The reason why we advert to the subject is to show that the action of the Government as regards Mr. Ramanathan calls for some explanation. If the omission was not accidental, the public must know to what it is due. In the "General Orders" published by the authority of the Government of Ceylon, the name of Mr. Ramanathan occurs as that of a gentleman entitled to the privilege of private entree. The 1910 edition of the "General Orders" was compiled by Mr. A. R. Slater, Assistant Colonial Secretary. In the private entree list given on page 232 of that Volume, Mr. Ramanathan's name is included. But the name of Mr. J. Ferguson, C. M. G., is omitted, we do not know for what reason.

As Mr. Ramanathan's name appeared in the list so late as 1910, something must have since occurred to induce the Government to omit his name. The public do not know of anything which has taken place to disentitle him to the privilege of private entree in the year 1911. What has occurred since the private entree list was last published is his candidature for the Ceylonese Seat. The *Morning Leader*, the organ of Dr. Fernando's party, makes much of the omission of Mr. Ramanathan's name and uses it, in a manner, as an electioneering weapon. In this state of things, it becomes the duty of the Government to let the public know why Mr. Ramanathan's name has been taken away. It may be that he has not availed of the privilege of private entree and the Government has therefore withdrawn it, or, the omission may have been purely accidental. But the *Leader* makes use of words which may possibly lead to a misapprehension in the public mind. If the *Leader* is right in its interpretation of the omission, which has been made just on the eve of the election, the Government owes an explanation to the public. Why, of all years, the year 1911 was selected for the withdrawal of the privilege, must be explained. In the absence of such explanation, the Ceylonese will be justified in drawing the attention of the Home Government to the action of the local authorities in eliminating from the list the only Tamil gentleman unconnected with the Legislative Council. The Jaffna Association which invited Mr. Ramanathan to stand for the Ceylonese seat should be the first to take action. One would think the occasion of the Coronation of His Majesty is just the one for enlarging the private entree list. But colonial wisdom has curtailed it. We wait to know the reason.

We may also observe that much care does not seem to have been bestowed on the preparation of the list for the present year. The name of Mr. Wendt, retired Judge of the Supreme Court, is placed after the names of the ex-Attappattu Madaliyars of Colombo and Galle!!!

Since the above was in type, the following statement said to be from the Governor's A. D. C. and published in the *Independent* has come to our hands. It seems that the reason for the omission of Mr. Ramanathan's name is quite different from what the *Morning Leader* stated it to be. But we do not think that Mr. Ramanathan meant any disrespect to the King's Representative in Ceylon by not calling at Queen's House during the last three years. We are glad that the explanation furnished by the *Independent* gives the lie to the malicious insinuations of the *Leader*. It must, however, be stated that the time chosen for the revision of the list and the omission of Mr. Ramanathan's name, is inopportune. The omission could have been made last year when he had been absent from the functions at Queen's House for two years, and before he had been adopted by a large and influential section of his countrymen as a candidate for the Ceylonese Seat. No notice would have been taken of the omission by anybody, if it had been made then. Only the Editor of the *Morning Leader*, who was till recently the greatest admirer of Mr. Ramanathan, would have vehemently protested against that action of the authorities.

The statement referred to:—

"When the private entree list was being revised and brought up-to-date under the direction of H. E. the Governor, it was brought to notice that Mr. Ramanathan, though residing in Colombo, had not called at Queen's House, nor paid his respects to the Governor, for three years, and that his name did not, therefore any longer appear on the Governor's visiting list. Consequently it could no longer be included in the private entree list. If the A. D. C. receives a proper apology for this breach of good manners and want of courtesy, he has received instructions to restore Mr. Ramanathan's name to both the visiting and private entree lists."

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER.—The Drought still continues.

THE GOVERNMENT AGENT.—Mr. H. R. Freeman, the Government Agent, is expected to return here from Mannar in the course of the week.

THE HINDU COLLEGE.—re-opened on Monday last after the New Year holidays. Mr. G. Shiva Rao, the Principal, returned from India via Colombo the previous day.

THE JAFFNA ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Committee and thereafter a special general meeting of the Association were held at the office of Mr. Advocate J. H. Vanniasingham, on the 15th Instant, commencing at 4 P. M. Mr. Vanniasingham, Vice-President, occupied the Chair. There was a good attendance. About half a dozen new members were enrolled. It was unanimously resolved to present an Address on the occasion of His Majesty the King's Coronation. After considerable discussion on the educational policy of the Government, a sub-committee was appointed to draft a memorandum on the subject to be submitted to Government.

THE JAFFNA EXCISE COMMITTEE.—At the meeting of this Committee held on the 12th Instant at the Central College Hall under the presidency of Rev. A. Lockwood, the report of the sub-committee appointed at the last meeting to consider the question of the sale of taverns by auction was presented. The conclusion of the sub-committee that no substitute for the proposed system could be recommended was unanimously adopted. Mr. T. Ponnambalam Pillai then proposed that the duty of Rs. 5 per proof gallon on arrack should be increased to Rs. 7, which should follow upon a proportionate increase that should be effected in the duty on imported liquor. This motion was unanimously carried. Mr. Ponnambalam Pillai also moved that malted liquors produced in Ceylon breweries should be excised in proportion to the duties on arrack and foreign liquors. This motion also was unanimously carried. Mr. Lockwood, the Chairman and Mr. Ponnambalam Pillai, the Secretary, were authorised to draft, sign and forward a memorial to Government, embodying the resolutions passed by the Committee at its various meetings.

THE NORTH CEYLON EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the committee of this body was held yesterday evening at the Central College Hall. It was decided to forward a memorial to the Government embodying the views of the Association on the educational question.

THRODDIPANAI MARIAMMAN KOVIL.—At this temple situated at Vaddukoddai East, the annual celebrations in connection with animal sacrifices, came off on Tuesday the 2nd instant. The residents of the place, who are educated and intelligent, unanimously decided to put a stop to this irreligious practice and did not allow even a single animal to be slaughtered. The Jaffna Saiva Puripalana Sabhai will do well to send out Hindu preachers to such parts of the District where the inhabitants have been and are illiterate from historic times, and then the task of eradicating this evil practice out of the district will be rendered easy.

PARVATHI VIDYASALAI.—An interesting and instructive lecture in Tamil was delivered at this Vernacular School at Chiviaru on Friday last by Mr. Pundit S. Saravanamuttupillai. Mr. A. Canagaret-nam, Proctor, S. C. presided. Remarks were offered by Mr. T. Somasunderam, Assistant Tamil Pundit, Hindu College, Mr. C. Arulambalam, Advocate, and the Chairman.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a beautifully got up wall Calendar of the Hindustan co-operative Insurance Society, Ltd., from its local agents, Messrs. S. K. Lawton & Co. The blocks were specially prepared by Messrs. Lawton & Co., and reflects great credit upon the makers.

THE LAW OF EVIDENCE.—We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of this work in Tamil Metre from the author Mr. N. Sivakoluntu, Proctor of the Supreme Court. He has admirably conveyed the main sense of the law of evidence in Tamil poetry enabling the Tamil reading public also to know by heart the legislation on the subject.

OLD BOYS' DAY AT THE CENTRAL COLLEGE.—The celebration of the Old Boys' Day at the Central College which came off on Saturday last was a decided success. There was a large and brilliant gathering of ladies and gentlemen including old boys, present boys, and guests. After the reception of friends and well-wishers of the College held by the Committee, the general meeting of the Old Boys' Association commenced at 6.30 P. M., in the spacious Hall of the College. Rev. Mr. Wilkes, the Principal, presided. The Report of the Secretary and Treasurer having been read and adopted, the Office bearers and the Committee for the ensuing year were appointed. The speakers on the occasion were Mr. R. H. Leenbruggen, retired Inspector of Schools, Mr. W. Duraiswamy, Advocate, Mr. M. T. Pinto, District Judge, Mr. W. D. Niles, Advocate, and Rev. Mr. G. G. Brown, Principal, Jaffna College.

PERSONAL.—Dr. Isabel H. Curr, L. R. C. P. & S. (Edin) L. E. P. & S. (Glasgow) Officer in charge of the McLeod Hospital, Inuvil, who was away at Kodaikanal has returned and resumed duties.

—Mr. V. Canagasabai, Station Master, Jaffna, who was on a fortnight's leave, resumed duties yesterday. Mr. E. V. Nathaniel of the C. G. R. was acting for Mr. Canagasabai with great acceptance during the latter's leave.

—Mr. A. S. Nalliah, Second Clerk, Revenue Survey Department, Pahang, Kuala Lipis, has come to Jaffna on 7 1/2 months' leave and is staying at Chavakachcheri.

—Mr. S. Nallatamby, Cashier, District Office, Kuala Kubu, has been transferred to Kuala Lipis as Chief Clerk of the Medical Department there.

MATRIMONIAL.—A marriage has been arranged and will take place on the 24th inst. between Mr. A. Rasaiya Francis, brother of B. Francis Mudir, Registrar of Lands, Jaffna, and Miss Annamma, daughter of Mr. B. Manuelpillai, merchant.

—On the same date, Mr. N. Joseph RetnaSingham, Contractor, Forest Department, son of Mr. B. Manuelpillai will be married to Miss Mary Agnes, sister of B. Francis Mudir.

THE GENERAL HOSPITAL, COLOMBO.—Dr. Nath, a Medical Officer from India has been appointed House Surgeon of the General Hospital and has assumed duties.

KARAVEDDI SAIVA VIDYASALAI.—A very able lecture was delivered at the above school on the 9th ultimo by Mr. A. M. Somaskander, Tamil Pandit, Hindu College on "Who am I" with Srimath Tiruganasambantha Kuruggal in the chair.

THE LOW COUNTRY SINHALESE SEAT IN COUNCIL.—Mr. Solomon Seneviratne, late Attappattu Mudaliyar, has been appointed to act for the Hon'ble Sir S. C. Obeyesekere as Low Country Sinhalese Member in the Legislative Council.

THE CHOLERA EPIDEMIC AT THE RAGAMA CAMP.—A serious outbreak of cholera has occurred at this camp. Up to Monday last there were 52 cases and 31 deaths. The authorities are taking vigorous measures to stamp out the disease.

A TAMIL LADY DOCTOR.

RETURN OF MISS NALLAMMA MURUGASAN FROM EDINBURGH.

This talented lady who returned yesterday by the N. Y. K. ss. "Hitchi Mara" after having obtained the triple qualification of L. R. C. P. & S., Edinburgh and L. R. P. & S., Glasgow, besides acquiring special qualifications in midwifery and gynecology and obtaining the L. M. degree at Dublin is one of the first Tamil young ladies, educated in Jaffna, to proceed to Europe. She has won much distinction in her student career and the members of the Tamil community were awaiting to offer her an appropriate welcome but owing to the early arrival of the steamer the arrangements were unsettled and she came ashore with her brother, Mr. Advocate M. A. Arulannandam of Kandy, who had specially come down, Mr. R. Joseph, Mr. Doraisamy and other gentlemen. These have gone to make enquiries from the Agents of the vessel as to the hour of her arrival but were surprised to hear that she entered port as early as 8 a.m. They immediately proceeded on board and accompanied Dr. Miss Murugasan ashore. Miss Murugasan received her early training at the Vempadi Girls' School Jaffna, where she matriculated and joined the Madras University in 1904. She went through a course of five years' study in medicine. On the third of the September 1909 she left Colombo for Edinburgh to obtain British qualifications. This was not the first time that she visited Europe. For while she was studying at Madras, she left Madras for her summer holidays on a visit to Paris and London in connection with the Young Women's Christian Association of Madras, and participated in the World Conference. On the present visit she spent nearly two years at the Edinburgh University. She attended the Medical School for women attached to that University and at the end of her course she proceeded to Dublin where she completed a special course of practical work at the Coombe Hospital, spending three months. It has not been definitely decided where she will practise her profession. She is much in need of rest and will proceed to Kandy with her brother for the present. The president of the Ceylon Tamil Women's Union, Mrs. V. Saravanamuttu, is arranging to hold a formal reception on Saturday the 20th instant, when friends, relations and well-wishers, will have the opportunity of welcoming Dr. Nallamma Murugasan. It was arranged that she should be welcomed yesterday afternoon by a representative gathering, among those who intended to be present being Mr. Nevins Selvadurai, Mr. Saravanamuttu, Proctor of Kandy, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. P. Sandrasegare, Mr. Isaac Tanuliyah, Mr. J. C. V. Ratnam, Mrs. V. Saravanamuttu and Mr. Advocate Talisalingam, but as previously stated the steamer arrived earlier than expected, hence the necessity for a formal reception on the 20th instant.

—The "Morning Leader", May 12.

CORONATION FESTIVITIES.

Pursuant to a notice issued by R. R. B. Kumaraulasinghe Mudaliar, Managing of Valigamam North, a public meeting was held in the Malligam English School Hall on Saturday the 6th inst. at 4 p.m. to concert measures for the celebration of the coronation festivities. Rev. S. Elaintamby was appointed Chairman, Mr. S. A. T. Taylor, Secretary, and S. Mudaliar Visuappah, Treasurer. The meeting was largely and influentially attended. A committee of management and several sub-committees were appointed. A large sum of money was raised on the spot to meet the expenses. —Cor.

SAIVA PIRAKASA VIDYASALAI, PULIANTIVE.

Proceedings of a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Saiva Pirakasa Vidyasalai, Puliantive, held on the 30th April 1911:

There were present Messrs. M. Chinniah, Advocate, (Chairman) K. V. Markandan, Landed Proprietor, A. S. Arambumorthy, Steamer Agent, A. Thuralappah, Landed Proprietor, A. Subramaniam, Contractor, R. N. Arulambalam, Registrar of Lands, T. Chelliah, Clerk, Batticaloa Kuchcheri, T. Sionatamby Mudr., Deputy Fiscal, S. Sionatamby, Inspector of Vaccination, S. Vaithalingam, B. A., Provincial Registrar's Clerk, P. Kanagaratham, Native Physician, S. Kumara-guru, Clerk, P. W. D., K. Velupillai, Estate Conductor, V. Elaintamby, Udayar, M. Chellappah, Clerk, Police Office, and V. Thampi Clerk, Asst. Secretary.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

2. The by-laws framed by the standing committee on 6th February 1911 were read and confirmed, by the Board. The resolutions passed at the Committee meetings held subsequent to the date of the previous meeting of the Board were also read and approved.

3. On the proposition of V. Elaintamby Udayar, seconded by Mr. K. Velupillai and supported by Mr. P. Kanagaratham it was unanimously resolved that Mr. K. V. Markandan be appointed Manager of the said school with effect from 1st May 1911 in place of Mr. C. Mutiyah.

4. Proposed by Mr. T. Chelliah seconded by Mr. A. Subramaniam and supported by Mr. S. Sionatamby that the appointment of the new Manager be communicated to the Director of Public Instruction and that necessary action be taken to give effect to the above resolution. —Cor.

THE DARLEY STUDENTS' UNION.

A meeting of this Union was held on the 6th inst. with Mr. K. Rajanayakam in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed there were recitations by the Junior members and a reading by Mr. P. Amirthalingam. Then an instructive essay on "Influence of Newspapers" was read by Mr. K. Kulathungam. Remarks were offered by Messrs. C. Sunthralingam, S. Elaintamby, N. Selvadurai, K. Apputhurai, P. Arunachalam, S. Ponnudurai, S. Ramalingam and the Chairman. —Cor.

THE KANDY TAMILS' LITERARY ASSOCIATION.

The weekly meeting of the Association was held on Saturday, 13th instant at Katukelle when there was a large attendance of members and visitors. The President Dr. E. T. Hoole delivered a very instructive and highly useful lecture on "Common errors in speaking and writing English." The lecture which occupied nearly an hour and a half in delivering was listened to withrapt attention throughout. Messrs. Suppiah and K. Rajaratnam offered a few comments. The meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer proposed by Mr. Coomarasamy and seconded by Mr. Rajaratnam. —Cor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, CEYLON.

ADDRESS OF HIS EXCELLENCY SIR HENRY E. MCCALLUM, G. C. M. G. TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, APRIL 24, 1911.

(Continued from our last issue.)

JAFFNA TOBACCO.

Early last year the Government of India raised the tobacco tax from 5 per cent. *ad valorem* to a fixed charge of Rs. 1.50 a pound, a measure calculated to seriously injure the Jaffna tobacco industry. In 1909 over six million pounds of unmanufactured tobacco, valued at a little over 20 cents a pound, were exported from Ceylon to British India. Jaffna tobacco finds its principal market in Travancore. The Government of India were asked for full particulars of the proposed measure, and for information as to whether the increased tax would extend to Travancore. Shortly afterwards I received a memorial from Jaffna pointing out the very serious effect the measure would have on their tobacco industry, in which many thousands of the people of the district were employed, the effect being to raise the duty from Rs. 90 to Rs. 900 a candy of 600 pounds. The tobacco trade between Travancore and Jaffna has been of two centuries' duration, and since the abolition of the Government monopoly fifty years ago, and more especially since 1892, when the duty on Coimbatore tobacco was made equal to that on Jaffna tobacco, namely, Rs. 90 a candy, there had been a great impetus to tobacco cultivation, and large tracts of land had been brought into cultivation. The tobacco sent to Travancore is specially prepared for that market, and was used only for chewing, not smoking. It is not imported into nor used in any part of India except Travancore and Cochin, and the proportion sent to Cochin is comparatively small. With these facts before me I lost no time in representing all circumstances to the Government of India, and to the Secretary of State, and in asking for relief, impressed upon the latter the seriousness of the situation, as the tobacco industry was of the utmost importance to the population of the northern portion of the Island, and urged that the situation should be especially brought to the notice of the India Office, to whom the question had been referred. I emphasized the fact that, while the revenues of British India would not be affected by the Travancore tax, that State stood to lose a considerable part of its revenue from tobacco. The increased duty of Rs. 1.50 per pound on the Ceylon article, which cost 25 cents to produce, would undoubtedly kill the Ceylon trade, leaving the wants of the people to be supplied by Coimbatore tobacco, which continued to be taxed at the old rate.

The India Office explained that the Government of India had decided for revenue purposes to raise the duty on tobacco imported into British India, and that no reduction could be made in favour of any particular class of tobacco. The State of Travancore and Cochin were bound by agreement to adopt the British Indian tariff and rates of import duty on all foreign goods imported into them, tobacco being excepted on import into Travancore. In the present case the Travancore Durbar had raised its duty on Jaffna tobacco as an act of courtesy to the suzerain power for the prevention of smuggling. Lord Morley was however satisfied, on the evidence before him, that the action which the Travancore State had taken was, in existing circumstances, such as to inflict a serious injury upon itself, and had there-

fore decided to allow His Highness the Rajah of Travancore to maintain the old rate of duty, on the conditions, firstly, that the Durbar should prohibit the export of Jaffna tobacco, and to the best of its ability make the prohibition effective; and secondly, that the total annual import should be effectively limited to the average quantity hitherto annually imported. The maximum annual import to be allowed under this last condition has been subsequently fixed by the Government of India in consultation with the Government of Madras at 5,745 candies.

I am glad to think that the industrious population of Jaffna has been thus saved from serious disaster, but an important lesson has been taught them, (a) to so improve the quality and curing of the tobacco grown by them that it will have markets other than that of Travancore; and (b) to cultivate other products for export, and to be therefore less dependent on a single commodity.

VILLAGE CO-OPERATIVE BANKS.

You will remember that during my absence in England in 1909 a Committee was appointed to consider how far agricultural banks, on the lines of those established in India and other countries, might with advantage be introduced into Ceylon. This Committee found that the average villager is habitually in a condition of indebtedness to the money-lender, that the establishment of agricultural banks or co-operative credit societies might be expected to afford an effective remedy for this evil, and that the necessary steps for the establishment of such banks could best be taken through the philanthropic endeavours of such persons as might be found to be locally interested. They pointed out that the Ceylon villagers are suspicious and do not at present understand the principles of co-operation; that the Government should in no case take the place of the money-lender, nor, if at the outset financial assistance be given, should the loan exceed the amount actually contributed by the villagers themselves; and that, as in India, co-operation is the keynote of success, with Government encouragement, aid, supervision, and control. From inquiries made by me in different parts of the country it is satisfactory to find that the conditions of the villager's life is steadily improving. His employment on plantations when not engaged on cultivating his own crops is steadily advancing, and large sums, which would otherwise leave the country, now find their way into the village home. As a consequence he and his are better fed and clothed, whilst his surroundings are gradually improving. The Committee recommended the introduction of an Ordinance on the lines of the Co-operative Credit Societies Act of India, and suggested that Government should be prepared to assist the societies formed under such an Ordinance in arranging for the audit of their accounts, besides rendering them such further help as might be found necessary.

The comments of the Government Agents were invited upon the recommendations of the Committee, and in general, though somewhat sceptical of any practical success, they expressed themselves as in agreement with the conclusions arrived at.

Meanwhile, as it has been pointed out that for the whole of India Government financial aid amounts to but a comparatively small sum, the special provision which it was proposed to make from Surplus Balances for this purpose has been reduced from Rs. 1,800,000 to Rs. 600,000.

SELANGOR CEYLON TAMILS' ASSOCIATION.

The XIth Annual General Meeting of the Selangor Ceylon Tamils' Association was held in the Association Hall on Saturday the 22nd ultimo.

The President Mr. Manar occupied the chair. The minutes of the last General Meeting were read and confirmed.

The eleventh Annual Report and the accounts for the year ending 31st March 1911 were then read and passed unanimously.

The President in a short and sweet speech explained that the year ending was a most successful one and attributed it to the good-will and co-operation of many of the members and desired the same relationship between the different Committees and members to continue.

The retiring Committees were heartily thanked for their earnest and sincere work.

Messrs. R. Arumugam and C. Duraiappa were elected Chairman and Secretary *pro tem* to elect Office-bearers and Committee Members for the ensuing year.

The following gentlemen were elected Office-bearers and Committee Members:

General Committee: President, Mr. N. Manar; Vice-President, Mr. D. V. Kar; Honorary Secretary, Mr. M. Kanagaratnam; Honorary Treasurer, Mr. S. Kuthayavel and Messrs. R. Thampipillai, V. Chellappah, S. Karthigesan, K. Nagalingam, C. Duraiappa and S. Chelliah.

Temple Committee: The President, Honorary Deputy Secretary and Treasurer Mr. K. Nagalingam and Messrs. K. Chellappah, S. Kandappoo and S. Sionathurai.

Literary Committee: Honorary Deputy Secretary and Treasurer Mr. C. Duraiappa and Messrs. E. Ramupillai, K. M. Coomarasamy, H. V. Ponniah and S. Arumugam.

Sports Committee: Honorary Deputy Secretary and Treasurer Mr. S. Chelliah and Messrs. A. Duraiappa, A. Chellathurai, A. Ayathurai and K. Chinathurai.

Honorary Auditors: Messrs. S. Marugasu and S. A. Tambiyah.

A vote of thanks to the chairman Mr. R. Arumugam, for the able manner in which he conducted the meeting and another vote of thanks to the Secretary brought the meeting to a close. —Cor.

THE FIFTH HALF-YEARLY REPORT OF THE VIVEKANANDA STUDENTS' HALL, SEREMBAN.

Your Committee beg to submit their report on the working of the Institution for the half year ending 31st March, 1911.

Members:—There are at present 98 members on the roll. Ten new members were enrolled during the half year.

Committee:—Ten Committee Meetings were held during the half year under review. Mr. J. V. Chelliah was elected as Hon. Librarian for the half year in terms of the Rules. He resigned his office owing to his leaving Seremban and Mr. T. P. N. SINGHAM was elected in his place.

Meetings:—There were 22 weekly meetings held and the attendance has been very encouraging. Lively interest was taken by the members in the discussion of religious subjects.

Library:—The strength of the Library remains the same as in the previous half year except with the addition of a few books procured locally.

Finance:—The balance sheet will show you the actual state of affairs. The total assets of the Institution at the end of last half year amounted to \$2,558.74.

General:—The Birthday Anniversary of Sriamati Vivekananda was celebrated on the 29th January 1911. The Committee take this opportunity of expressing their thanks to all those who contributed their help towards the function.

A pamphlet in English entitled "Gleanings from the Vedanta Philosophy" which was got up specially for the occasion by one of our ardent members was printed and distributed gratis.

A house to house collection by a band of members was made on the Theepavali day. The Committee are glad to say that a sum of \$77.21 was realised by this means.

In conclusion the Committee beg to express their indebtedness to members and non-members for the very many valuable assistance rendered to them during their stewardship and hope that they will continue to do so. —Cor.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A REQUEST.

It will not be surprising, if I say, that we have, in our midst, many missionaries and clergymen, who have come to Ceylon, from various parts of Europe and America. We all should agree, that they have come, with a determinate intention of spreading Christianity. The distance, they have travelled, convinces us of their dead earnestness. By various means, they are toiling hard, to increase the number of their respective congregations. May the spirit of God guide them! May the God of Glory crown them with success!

This is the time, when we also, should endeavour to spread our old religion, Hinduism. No doubt, we make attempts to that effect, but not in the same measure as the Christian Missionaries do. They appoint, several Catechists to teach their religion, in villages and in the furthest corners of the haunts of the Vedas, whereas we have only, a limited number of itinerant preachers. On the other hand, there are several vernacular schools under the management of the missionaries, where they pay special attention to the teaching of their scriptures. Thus, most of our young men, are well instructed in the scriptures from their early days.

I do not at all propose to envy at the Missionaries but I do request the Hindus to imitate them in certain respects. To support my request, I beg to suggest, that we should form a Society, whose object shall be to further our religion, and that persons should be sent out to the various provinces to teach Hinduism. If there be such a society in existence at present, it would be advisable to carry out its business. Many call themselves Sivites, but few pretend to know, who should be called a Sivite. I hope my humble suggestion, will be favourably entertained by many of my Hindu friends. This is the wish and request of your humble servant.

Batticaloa,
8-5-11.

P. T. A. Swamy.

THE TWO FRIENDS.

A SERIAL STORY
By

TWO MEMBERS OF THE 'HERPESUS'.

(Continued from our issue of the 15th March.)

The old, varnished clock which was one of the many utensils of the Library-Room we have just now sketched, presently struck "seven" in his usual ding-dong fashion.

"'Tis seven, P. M., my dearest friend; by this time I ought to have been present at home; for you know my brother is—"; hardly before Mr. VaradaRaj thus began his accustomed excuse, my hero now coming before his friend in his plain, perfectly white shirt—interrupted:—

"Enough, Sir;—what do you mean? You promised there,—in what place I cannot recollect and how poor has become my memory!—to stay here this night and sup with me."

"Yes", said Mr. VaradaRaj by way of reply; "I cannot but remember it too well. Ah! we have two bodies, but must have one mind—really one, for my memory also has become

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Messrs. Silk Pitambar Co's advertisement appears on the first page. This well-known firm of Benares supplies the best and the finest silks at moderate prices. Catalogues will be supplied on application.

poor. Just like yours! I have quite forgot that my brother and father too—are gone to Madras."

"So then," began his usually melancholy friend, but now with an arch smile playing on his rosy lips, "I can have the pleasure of your company to-night and, if possible, to-morrow too. God be thanked!—my friend is now my guest."

Our young man whom we have pitched upon as the hero of this story not for any other reason than his extreme kind-heartedness and altruistic devotion to his friends, perhaps that instant became so glad that the hall he was in seemed not sufficiently spacious to hold him. Glad do I say? How faint a word to express what one feels when a friend gives assent to one's request! Only those who have the fortune to possess love-returning friends such as those we have attempted to paint here—only they can comprehend that bliss, as has been more than once pointed out to the reader.

"Govind, my boy!" called out Mr. Swaminathan as loudly as he could, for the boy, who was the family under-cook, used to be by this time in the back portion of the house where the kitchen was a place no less than a hundred feet off from the library room. The boy was rather dull, but a physiognomist could not have failed to notice a sort of mischief gleaming in his eyes all the same. His complexion was dark, his face slightly round, yet as awkward as could be imagined; and he had a furtive appearance into the bargain.

He now stood before his master, (for so Mr. Swaminathan was) and drily said, "At your service, Sir."

Says Mr. VaradaRaj to his friend, *sotto voce*:—"See how rough that fellow is." But Mr. Swaminathan who was kindly disposed to all objects of nature evidently believed that even the hearts of the most obdurate can be turned sympathetic and pious by that never-failing, sweet balm, *Love*; so he was always extremely kind towards that little villain—for a villain he afterwards proved himself to be.

And turning towards the servant-boy, "Fetch me, my dear Boy," said my young master, "two cups full of coffee," and the boy went into the house to do what his master has bidden him. It was a very long time before the boy again made his appearance, and we must now drift the reader to a scene of how the conversation between our "two friends" had turned more and more pleasant by and by.

They were now seated in two arm-chairs facing the vaulted door of the spacious library; between them and the entrance to the library there lay a tolerably large and round, shining table. The candelabrum already referred to, now shone fully upon the figures of the two friends; and now our hero, being free from all the melancholy thoughts that so basely had overclouded his face a few hours ago, perhaps this is the fittest time to describe his personal appearance. He was of a slender make, and his complexion rather sallow. Being neither tall nor too short, he had on the whole a very good appearance; his hair was as black as could be desired, and very long so much so that if left to flow it would have reached almost six inches down below his waist. His forehead was broad and protruded—which indicated, as was but natural, the powerful activity of his brain or mind. Yes, reader and could you have waited but for a moment to read his face, you would have easily noticed he was a man of pure imagination. He had a very beautiful, full, and finely formed mouth, straight nose, and well formed chin, and above all, a child-like innocent expression painted on his face.

Presently he took from his shirt-pocket a letter wrapped in a blue envelope, and placed it on the table, just before his friend whose curiosity had been by this time roused to a very great extent.

"Will you let me," asked his friend very artfully, nevertheless in a mischievous disposition, "see its contents?"

"Will I?" exclaimed Mr. Swaminathan; "and is it my friend who speaks thus to me!"

So Mr. VaradaRaj held the letter in his hand, which was written to the following effect:—

"Trichinopoly,
27th April, 189—

"My dear Mr. Swaminathan,

I am starting for your 'fair city' by to-night's mail to speak with you on some most private matters. Perhaps you will be disengaged day after to-morrow—it being your Sunday holiday. Don't fail, therefore, to wait for me that day morning at the place where we last met—the municipal park.

"Yours very truly,

"Stephens".

"What think you of this epistle, VaradaRaj?" said our hero when his companion had "hammered out" all the sense, and almost all the words it contained.

"Truly, the riddle is hard to read," replied his friend; "What may be the private matters for which the devil comes?"

"Weigh your words, *mon cher*; don't be so rash in your judgment!"

"So that you may go with him abroad—to Rangoon for instance?" said Mr. VaradaRaj, as if he would complete the last sentence of his friend; and he struggled very hard indeed to speak some few words more, but being over-

whelmed with grief that his friend might perchance be led astray by the Christian devil, (for so he called Stephens) he could not utter even a single syllable; and tears, "the true interpreters of unutterable emotion", already stood in his eyes.

The scene was the most painful to be viewed even by the most hard-hearted of human beings, not to speak of Mr. Swaminathan, who was the typical tender-hearted mortal. It seemed very likely that he would almost burst in sobs, but checking himself for a while, he indistinctly pronounced some words accompanied by a tone proceeding from the heart burning with anguish;—

"This was why I had been all this time melancholy. Well, I see your heart would as soon break as see me away from you; and Mr. Stephens is the son of a well-to-do merchant at Rangoon. He is an F. A., and is coming perhaps to get me along with him and go to the Burmese Metropolis, where he is intending to edit two newspapers in English—Yes, there is the perishable money, but here the more valuable "Friendship".

"If you are to go there, said his friend ever so lively, "be sure I would accompany you."

"That is a good boy," answered Mr. Swaminathan, but as he turned his eyes to the back he saw the servant-boy who left the two friends an hour and a half ago (for it was now as long as nine) with the promise to bring two cups of coffee; he now came only to call them for supper; and he was such a scoundrel, blockhead, and scapegrace as to imagine within himself that he was the lord of all the works in the world!

The two friends could now be seen descending down, accompanied by the boy with a candlestick in his hand to show light, to where the supper was served. It was a hall, and in the centre were lying two long plantain leaves with a good amount of boiled rice in each; needless to state what followed, and the supper was finished in less than half an hour, almost in a silence which was now and then broken in by a few remarks from Mr. VaradaRaj on the impertinent servant-boy; and the cook would certainly have become more angry, had he known that his master's guest was a non-Brahmin.

It was nearly ten when they went to bed; for as soon as they went into the Library Room, Mr. Swaminathan who, though an Anglicized Brahmin, was an ardent worshipper of the ancient tradition—Wisdom religion of his country, fell to a spiritual exposition of a few lines which he happened to read, opening at random "Sir Edwin Arnold's beautiful rendering of the Bhagavad Gita":—

"Fearlessness, singleness of soul, the will Always to strive for wisdom; opened hand And governed appetites; and piety, And love of lonely study; humbleness, Uprightness, heed to injure nought which lives, Truthfulness, slowness unto wrath, a mind That lightly letheth go what others prize; And equanimity and charity Which spieth no man's faults; and tenderness Towards all that suffer; a contented heart, Flattered by no desires; a bearing mind, Modest and grave, with manhood nobly mixed With patience, fortitude, and purity; An unrevenging spirit never given To rate itself too high—such be the signs, O, Indian Prince! of him whose feet are set On that fair path which leads to heavenly birth."

Remembering these beautiful lines of the Lord, each went to his bed laid in the eastern apartment of the "Studio," and there they slept distracted by few horrible thoughts, until the Eastern Sun rose in all his glory, before whose brilliant beams the question of their being in the "Fair city" or leaving it was to be decided.

EXTRACT.

TOBACCO CULTIVATION IN CEYLON.

VIEWS OF AN EXPERT.

A GREAT FUTURE FOR THE INDUSTRY.

At present there is in the island a tobacco expert, Mr. J. van Leenhoff, who has had considerable experience of tobacco investigation work in various parts of the world. Mr. van Leenhoff was Chief of the Tobacco Division of the Transvaal and late Government Tobacco Expert of Porto Rico and of the U. S. A. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. He is a holder of the certificate of the "Ecole" Application des Tabacs, Paris, and of the Imperial Tobacco Manufacturers, Strasbourg, Germany, and he has reported on the Tobacco Industries of Cuba, Rhodesia, Orange River Colony and Mauritius.

Mr. van Leenhoff came to Ceylon in January last having been recommended by Professor Wyndham Dunstan to advise and report on the pioneer cultivation of tobacco carried on at Molesworth Brothers' Estates in Trincomalee. The Ceylon Agricultural Society took the opportunity of Mr. van Leenhoff's presence in the Colony to ask him to also report on the tobacco experiment at Maha Illuppalama, while the Ceylon Government also appointed him to visit the various districts in the island and report on the whole industry. Having concluded all three commissions, Mr. van Leenhoff sailed yesterday for Europe.

FUTURE OF TOBACCO IN CEYLON.

Seen by a Press representative Mr. van Leenhoff very courteously expressed his views.

"From samples grown in different districts which I have seen, I think there is a great future for the tobacco industry in Ceylon," said Mr. van Leenhoff. "But you must start systematically from the beginning. You cannot create a sound tobacco industry without carrying it out on scientific lines. It is a very sensitive crop—sensitive to environment, soil, climate, &c., and last but not least, to treatment in the field, shed warehouse, and factory; and it is only a scientifically-trained expert that can appreciate all these points. I have observed that there is a tendency among cultivators in Ceylon, who are keen to try to improve their crops for European taste, to simply import seed which is grown in other countries regardless of the difference in conditions. If they go on like this it will probably take them a great number of years to find out the kind of tobacco likely to give the best results, if at all. In other words,

TRIALS SHOULD NOT BE MADE ON A COMMERCIAL SCALE,

as negative results will cause financial ruin. You can't make a profitable investment of a tobacco plantation, when it is yet unknown in which direction to proceed. For instance, Turkish tobacco seed planted in a heavy clay soil with an abundant rainfall will not produce Turkish tobacco as it is used by cigarette factories. The leaf will be too large too coarse and too dark and of no use whatever for cigarette purposes. The same remark might apply to Sumatra seed, which is not liable to produce a wrapper leaf under conditions totally different to the original country of production. You might out of 1,000 seedlings be lucky to get one or two plants which show adaptability to their new surroundings. The thing has to be carefully watched. That is why I say you must start from the beginning. That means making several trials in small plots in the most promising districts, carefully studying their growth, and final products, and thus ascertaining the leaves that are likely to have the best commercial value, which could be done in co-operation with private planters who are very keen on it, and who appear ready to offer land and buildings. If you get only one kind of tobacco in one particular district then you know exactly where you are."

A VISIT TO JAFFNA.

"You have been to Jaffna, of course?"

"Yes and it seems to me that it is the only place in the island where tobacco is taken up as an industry. The cultivators of the North aim chiefly in producing a chewing tobacco, and as long as they have got a good market for that product I would not advise an alteration in the treatment. An attempt to alter their tobacco might lose for the cultivators the market they have already, and the ruination of the industry would be involved. But as there is a tendency to over-production of tobacco in Jaffna with regard to the market demands, it is absolutely necessary to take immediate steps to produce a kind of tobacco there which is suitable for the European market. The cultivators being very industrious and used to tobacco work, it is my opinion that very good results might be expected of systematic experiments there on the spot. The tobacco used for making cigars, of which the methods for developing the best qualities of the leaf are rather primitive, could very well be used for cigar filter purposes, even for European cigars, if properly developed, sorted, etc."

A MATTER FOR GOVERNMENT TO TAKE UP.

While naturally not wishing to say anything about the experiments at Maha Illuppalama, as his report has just gone to the Agricultural Society, Mr. van Leenhoff is of opinion that proper investigation is a matter that Government should seriously take up. "An expert should be engaged to carry out investigations so as to get sound information at a minimum of time and cost. Only by these means can you arrive at a conclusion as to the best tobacco which can be produced in Ceylon. An expert is necessary, as the question of fertilization, treatment of seed and curing require the most careful attention; while the main point in all districts is to choose the right time for planting as regards rainfall, so as to avoid irrigation expenses and coarseness of leaf as much as possible."

"You are of opinion then that European markets can be found for tobacco grown in Ceylon?"

"Yes, decidedly so. The Jaffna tobacco as it is, if kept in bales for a certain period may be used for blending, as it has the original aroma. I have no doubt that you can create a large industry for planters in Ceylon. The field work lasts only three months. The curing (or drying) takes three to six weeks, and the small planter need not bother about the process of fermenting, as this could be done by the dealers in tobacco or the manufacturers themselves. In any case, the tobacco could simply be baled and kept in a warehouse for a year or so to undergo the ageing process or a slow fermentation."

THE TOBACCO DISTRICTS.

"What are the districts which have struck you as being most suitable for the cultivation of tobacco?"

Dumbara, I consider to be quite suitable for the cultivation of aromatic tobacco, more particularly cigar tobacco, which would, of course, obtain better prices. Certain parts of Trincomalee are also suitable for the grow-

ing of smoking tobacco. But they should not be too near the sea, and the precaution must be taken to experiment with a plot to test the burning qualities. I am of opinion that there are places in Jaffna where smoking tobacco can be grown to advantage; but, as I said, to make the industry pay by finding outside markets you must start from the beginning and find out which tobacco can be most profitably grown according to the conditions of soil and climate where the cultivation is carried out."

Mr. van Leenhoff is taking away with him several samples of Ceylon tobacco leaf, his collection including some very fine specimens of tobacco grown as a catch crop on Messrs. Molesworth Brothers' estates in Trincomalee. His reports on the experiments at Maha Illuppalama sent to the Government will be looked forward to with interest, and should lead to a better understanding of the whole question of tobacco cultivation in Ceylon. It would have been an additional advantage of much value if Mr. van Leenhoff could have carried out practical investigations and demonstrations as he has done in other countries, where he has served the Governments in a practical way and left behind him valuable reports and data. If not actual guides.

—The "Ceylon Independent".

THE LATEST THEORY OF GHOSTS.

IS THIS A SCIENTIFIC BASIS?

MR. MAX RITTENBURG propounds, in *T. P.'s Magazine* for March, what he regards as a scientific basis for believing in the existence and reality of ghosts. After explaining the various theories employed to account for the persistent haunting of places where murder has been committed, Mr. Rittenburg sums up the evidence so as to lead to one deduction: that in the ghost we are dealing not with a conscious mind persisting after death, but with a *persistent sub-conscious mind*.

The conscious mind often gives orders to the sub-conscious mind just before going to sleep, which that sub-conscious mind obeys implicitly. So it obeys automatically the orders given by a hypnotist while the conscious mind is dethroned by trances. Mr. Rittenburg argues that because the sub-conscious mind can use the physical body without the conscious mind having anything to say to the matter, so it may continue to function without a body in the same non-conscious fashion. He says:—

The last order given to the sub-consciousness in case of death by foul play would be: "Tell the world!"

And, on this theory of the ghost, the sub-consciousness, persisting after death, and severed from the Ego as in sleep, in somnambulism or in hypnosis, would carry out the order. It would remain, a store of violent energy, giving out its message in some form of radiation unknown to science, automatically and persistently. It would be as a Marconi transmitter sparking out a "C. Q. D." message for help for a sinking ship.

That message would continue to be given out persistently until the store of energy was exhausted. It would be a blind, unreasoning, automatic action. The sub-consciousness could not more tell that its message was received than an automatic "C. Q. D." apparatus—if such were devised—could know if its signal for help were picked up or not.

This theory gives perfect account for the crass stupidity of the "haunted castle" ghosts. The ghost will go on repeating its message again and again, long after the need for it has passed, because it is a blind, unreasoning sub-consciousness and not a real, living soul. It will persist in one place because the store of energy is located in that one place. It will gradually disappear in the course of ages, because the store of energy will exhaust itself in ethereal radiations.

But Mr. Rittenburg ignores the fact that ghosts can be laid when the object of their haunting has been achieved. He does, however, deal with the objection that the ghost cannot be constantly repeating its message; otherwise it would be constantly heard. He says, justly enough, "the reply would be that though the ghost vibrations are being constantly given out, it is only under exceptional conditions that they make themselves manifest to the conscious mind of the observer."

Mr. Rittenburg's conclusion seems to indicate that he or some of his friends are undertaking experiments the result of which will be awaited with interest. He says:—

The weakest link in the chain, and I admit it frankly and in the scientific spirit, is how far a sub-consciousness with a message to deliver can impress that message on a human brain, hypnotically or telepathically. The matter is one for experiment, and tests are to be undertaken at a favourable opportunity to thresh it out.

If such experiments prove successful, they will open out a new light on the world-old problem of immortality, for if the sub-consciousness or any part of it can persist after death, why not the higher self, the Ego, the soul?

But surely the first question to ascertain is whether the sub-consciousness can subside and make itself vocal, visible, and tangible when the body to which it was attached has long been mouldering in the grave?

—The "Review of Reviews".