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The Jaffna Catholic Guardian.

கத்தோலிக்கப் பாதுகாவலன்.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

"Nisi Dominus custodierit civitatem frustra vigilat qui custodit eam."

VOL. XVII.

JAFFNA, SATURDAY MAY 28TH 1892

NO. 21

NOTICE.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
ORDER NISI.

Testamentary Jurisdiction } No. 498.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Sabina, wife of Pethurupillai Savirimuttu of Narantanai—Deceased. Pethurupillai Savirimuttu of Narantanai—Petitioner. Marisapillai Santiapillai and wife Anthouyappillai of Narantanai—Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Pethurupillai Savirimuttu of Narantanai praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Sabina, wife of Pethurupillai Savirimuttu of Narantanai, coming on for disposal before Arthur Alwis, Esquire, District Judge, on the 10th day of May 1892, in the presence of Mr. B. Santiapillai Proctor on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated the 7th day of May 1892 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful husband of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall, on or before the 31st day of May 1892, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 10th day of May 1892.
ARTHUR ALWIS
District Judge.

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WONDER

NEW Writing Case of German Silver calculated to be of immense service. This case of writing materials has been recently imported here from England. It has been very nicely got up and serves a variety of useful purposes. This extremely round and narrow case with its chief components, Pen, Pencil, Rubber, Stamping and Pad, is so beautifully struck that one cannot refrain from the temptation of offering thousands of one's best thanks to the inventor. It is curious as a masterpiece of art. Every one should have one or two of these nicely got up dainties for life. In fact, nothing more is required than a piece of paper to one in possession of it. It is very pleasant to say "give a little stress upon one end of it with your finger, you will see all it contains on the other." No more indulgences to great many words. The use will justify all. We can say about it to Students, Pleaders, Teachers, Mnkheters, Doctors, Clerks and other worthies that it is very dearly welcomed now-a-days. Price Rs. 3 per case. Dozen Rs. 30.

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MADHU CHURCH.

The festivals at this Church will begin as usual on the First Sunday of May, and close with the Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, on October 1st. Every Saturday night a Novena will be celebrated at the Sanctuary, and every Sunday after Mass, or in the evening, the Statue of Our Blessed Lady will be carried in procession round the Church.

Persons wishing to take part in those Novenas, or desirous to have a special festival celebrated in their name, are requested kindly to communicate directly with the undersigned.

C. MASSIET O.M.I.

Administrator of Madhu,
Vavunia.

Telegraphic Summary

The Coming General Elections.

London, May 18th. The Morning post states that the general elections will commence at the beginning of July. The Times, however, believes that they will not take place until the end of the sessions.

Indian Matters in Parliament

London, May 18th. In the House of Commons last night, Mr. Curzon, replying to Sir Roper Lethbridge, said that the Behar cadastral survey would not be commenced before October, and that correspondence on the subject would shortly be printed. Sir Roper then gave notice of a resolution respecting the grievances of the Indian Unconquered Service.

The Small Holdings Bill

London, May 18th. The Small Holdings Bill has passed through committee.

Publicans and soldiers in uniform

London, May 19th. A circular has been issued by the Duke of Cambridge to district commanders, calling on them to report cases where publicans have refused to serve soldiers in uniform, with the view of refusing to renew their licenses.

Lord Salisbury's last gasp

Lord Salisbury, speaking at Hastings, said he felt confident regarding the result of the coming elections. With respect to Foreign Affairs his Lordship said they were at present absolutely calm. He deplored the condition of the Labour Market, and earnestly desired that workmen should receive sufficient for their maintenance and comfort. His Lordship said he was in favour of protective measures against countries excluding British products.

Lord Salisbury's views on protection

London, May 19th. Lord Salisbury, in his speech at Hastings, further said that to levy duties on food and raw materials would be impossible; but Government might impose retaliatory duties on luxuries if the nation by an overwhelming majority approved of such a step.

The London Press Presses on Lord Salisbury

London, May 20th. The Times and Standard deprecate Lord Salisbury's suggestion for a departure from Free Trade, as it is calculated to unsettle opinions on the eve of the elections.

The army medical staff

Mr. Curzon, replying to Mr. Hunter in the House of Commons, said that the Government were unwilling to depart from the decision come to, when the grade of Brigade-Surgeon was introduced, of declining to increase the pay above subaltern's rates.

Balfour's Bill unmasked.

London, May 20th. During the debate on the second reading of the Irish Local Government Bill, Mr. Sexton brought forward a motion for its rejection, and in doing so described it as an audacious partisan measure. The Radicals support Mr. Sexton.

Additions to the French Navy

Paris, May 18th. The French Government has asked the Chamber for an extra credit of sixty-two million francs for hastening the building of ships.

The Financial crisis in Persia

London, May 17th. The Persian Government has concluded a loan of half a million sterling with the Imperial Bank of Persia with which to compensate the Imperial Tobacco Corporation for the annulment of the tobacco monopoly. The loan is to be secured by the customs receipts in the Persian gulf.

The Times, in an article on the subject, congratulates Lord Salisbury and the Persian Bank for thus averting the perils which would have been involved by the acceptance of the loan offered by Russia.

CHURCH NOTICE.

HOURS OF DIVINE SERVICE.

TO-MORROW	
AT THE CATHEDRAL.	
Mass.	5 15 A. M.
"	7 30 A. M.
Benediction	5 15 P. M.

AT ST. JAMES'.

Mass	6. 30 A. M.
"	8. 30 A. M.

Thursday.—End of May.—Benediction Friday.—The 1st Friday of June.—Do.

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER.

INTENTION FOR JUNE.—More wide-spread devotion to the Sacred Heart.

Local &c.

Our Supplement contains Archbishop Meurin's Appeal in behalf of the sufferers from the recent cyclone at Mauritius, and interesting items of news, Correspondences, etc.

The Very Rev. Fr. H. Joulain left this by steamer on Tuesday last for his new Mission.

Mrs. Twynam unwell.—We learn with regret that Mrs. Twynam, wife of our esteemed Govt. Agent, is suffering from failing sight. She is at present attended by Dr. Paul and is to leave soon for Europe where she will have to undergo an operation for the removal of the growth which has appeared on the eyes and is increasing in size. We earnestly hope that the operation will be successful and that the voyage to Europe will besides prove beneficial to the ailing lady's general health.

Paddy tax Meeting. A large and influential assembly was present the other day at the meeting, but it was a great pity that the meeting was not carried on in Tamil. Some people remark about this and say that it was entirely got up by the lawyers. I know that among the lawyers there are many who are extensive paddy land owners but they are not known outside or by the Govt. as such. Cor.

St. Joseph's Catholic Library. Last Tuesday night the debate on the execution of Mary Queen of Scots came off. The Revd. Father Wheeler O. M. I. presided. The debaters were Messrs. Joachim and Chrysostom. The subject was warmly contested and a very entertaining evening was spent. Cor.

The Marriage of Mr. Austin Lee C. B. (brother to our District Judge) and Mrs. de Wolf-Taylor of New York took place on the 5th Inst. in Paris, where Mr. Lee is Private Secretary to the British Ambassador. The chief officiating clergyman was the Revd. G. E. Lee, a brother of the bridegroom's. The wedding was quite a grand affair and numerous presents were received by Mr. Lee from the Prince of Wales, Lord and Lady Dufferin, Lady Lytton and many other friends.

Aping Catholic Worship.—It is going the rounds here in these days that certain Protestants are not at all pleased with the new antics of make-believe catholicity played by a recent High Church arrival. And yet he has not gone any further than a crucifix and a few candle sticks. If he had introduced confessionals and Benediction what would these good orthodox Protestants say? And if he went further still and aped the Catholic religion as cleverly as certain Protestants do in England or in other parts of Ceylon, I wonder whether they would protest. The sensible course would be both for the minister and his small flock to give up aping and counterfeiting, and become true Christians by accepting the whole reality of Catholic faith and worship.—Cor.

Mr. R. H. Leembruggen with his Assistants Messrs Thampapillai and Chelappah is carrying on the annual examination of St. Patrick's College.—Cor.

Artesian Wells. There seemed to be gravity enough in the report that went about lately to convince even those who are not generally too expectant that Govt. had at last provided the means and given the sanction required for the boring of Artesian wells in Jaffna. For years and years the practical fitness of at least a trial boring has been urged on Government but in vain. And still in

கையொப்பவிகிதம் ரூ.ச

அறம் க-க்கு முற்பணம்.....4-00

சு-மாசத்துக்கு முற்பணம்...2-00

அறம்-ம், க-க்கு பிற்பணம்.....6-00

சு-மாசத்துக்கு பிற்பணம்...3-00

தபாஸிலவு { இலங்கைக்கு...1-00

{ இந்தியாவுக்கு...1-00

விளம்பர விகிதம்

12 வரிக்குள் வரி-க-க்கு..... 16

12-க்குமேற்படிவ் வரி க-க்கு 10

கால் கொலத்துக்கு (28 வரி.) 300

அரைக்கொலத்துக்கு..... 5-00

முக்காற் கொலத்துக்கு. 7-00

ஒருசலத்துக்கு9-00

vain. We suppose that Govt. refuses to sanction the trial now on the tapis. The well known capability of our present Engineer, who we hope is not going to be transferred as was reported, ought to be a sufficient guarantee to Govt. that the work would be effectively carried on, if he were asked to undertake it.

A Lesson. In a case brought by the Suthumalai Vidhan, two witnesses on the plaintiff's side were found lying and the Judge got the peon to put them out of the witness box and warned them never to step into the court while he was on the bench. I trust that ere long perjury will be a thing of the past. Cor.

Mrs. Mortimer. I am informed that Mrs. Mortimer, eldest daughter of our veteran Government Agent, proceeds next month to Newera Eliya, where she will make a short stay prior to her departure for England. Her object in taking the trip home is to put her children in school. Cor.

Drowning. A middle-aged man was drowned in the Pannai Ferry on Thursday the 26th Inst. and the body was not forthcoming till that evening. The story relating to the mishap, as afloat, runs as follows:

A man came from Allapuddy and wanted to cross over the Pannai Ferry to Jaffna. He got up in the Ferry boat which returned from that side of the Ferry but was stopped by the boatman to wait for the next turn on account of the excess of passengers, and the boat went away. Afterwards the man was noticed by some persons on that shore to swim and all of a sudden to disappear. Soon after that, search was made but to no purpose. I hear the boatman and others connected in this affair are in custody pending inquiry. Whether the man made the attempt owing to impatience at having waited for a long time on that side of the Ferry or was pressed to do so by urgent business that he had to attend to in Jaffna or reaped the reward of a misdirected adventure or otherwise it is high time that the authorities should pay some more attention to the poor Islanders and secure them easy and ready means of crossing over the Ferry and remedy the inconvenience felt by passengers who pass to and fro on account of the absence of bridges and speedy means of carriage. Jaffna, 26. May 1892.

A Fatal accident.—A man who was out fishing the other day in our lagoon was pierced rough the throat by a large fish called Mural and died instantly before any medical aid could be procured.—Cor.

The silver Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Leembruggen was celebrated on the night of the 24th. when several friends and relatives were invited. Cor.

B. I. Notes. Jaffna 24th May 1892. The B. I. Steamer "Aska" arrived at Kangasantalai on Saturday the 21st Inst. after having been away at Colombo for about a fortnight for cleaning purposes. Her passengers on board numbered seventy including 54 for Kangasantalai. The rest of them are bound for Tondi and Paumban. The "Aska" sailed the same day at 10 A. M. taking away a large consignment of tobacco bales for Colombo.—Cor.

Liquor Shops.—I think we have quite enough of these shops and the increase of such shops selling liquor at a cheap rate is putting a temptation in the way of people who have not the powers to exercise self-control and are easily initiated in the ways of intemperance.—Cor.

Bakery.—Sometime ago I wrote to you that our loaves after a few hours became hard and tasteless. I am told by our bakers that this is on account of the heat. I trow not; for bread sent by post from Colombo, I hear, is both soft and delicious in spite of the exposure by transmission.—Cor.

Cholera at Mannar. The Colonial Surgeon left this last Sunday for Mannar on Cholera duty. It has recently broken out in Erukolampitty a place four miles off from Mannar and inhabited chiefly by Moormen. See what the coolie immigration brings. Cor.

[We hear that Cholera has now broken out in the town of Mannar itself. It is unfair for Govt. to expect that Doctors can cope with this scourge while the cause—coolie immigration—is allowed to continue as it is. Ed. J.C.G.]

A Gold Medal to Mr. George Wall. We note with pleasure that the Golden Club have awarded their Gold Medal to Mr. George Wall, the Editor of the Ceylon Independent.

கோயில் தினம்.

ஆசனக்கோயிலில் வைகாசிமீ உக-வ ரூயிற்றுக்கிழமை ஸூ-ம்பூசை காலே ருவ மணிக்கு ௨-ம் " " " எடு " " " சந்தியோசுமைபோர் கோயிலில் ௨-ம் பூசை கூடு மணிக்கு. கூ-ம் " " " அஇ " " " ஆசிரவாதம் சாயந்தரம் ருவ " " " ஆனிமாசம் இரண்டந்தகதி வியாழக்கிழமை சாயந்தரம் ஆசனக்கோயிலில் ஆசிரவாதம். ஆனிமாசம் கூ-வட மாசத்தின் முதல்வெள்ளி.

மருதமடுத்திருப்பதித் திருவிழா.

வழமைப் பிரகாரம் இத்திருப்பதியிலே வைகாசி மாசத்தில் வரும் முதல் ரூயிற்றுக்கிழமையிலே தொடங்கி ஐப்பசிமீ ௨-வட வருஷ செபமாஸுமாதாவின் திருநாளில் முடிபாகும். ஒவ்வொரு சனிக்கிழமையிலும் கொலனை நடத்தி ஒவ்வொரு ரூயிற்றுக்கிழமை காலையில் அல்லது சாயந்தரத்திலே தேவதாயரின திருச்சுநரம் கோயில் வீதிகொண்டு சுற்றப்படும்.

இந்த நோவனைகளிலே சேர விருமடிவோர் அல்லது தங்களுடைய நாமத்திலே விசேஷ திருவிழா நடத்த விரும்புவோர் தாமதமின்றி நேரே நமக்குத் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டியது.

இங்ஙனம்

சீ. மாசியம் O. M. I
திருப்பத்தலைவர்

யாழ்ப்பாணக்

கத்தோலிக்கிருப்பாதுகாவலன்

ககூ௨-ம்(வரு)வைகாசிமீ ௨அவ்

சனிக்கிழமை

தேசாதிபதிக்கு

நன்றி கூறல்.

தங்காலம் நம்மையாளுகின்ற தேசாதிபதியாகிய சேர் ஆதர் கெவ்லக் மன்னவருடைய புகழே பெரும்புகழாக இலங்கையின் கோணங்கொல்லா மெடுத்துப்பேசப்படுகின்றது. நம்மையாளுகின்ற அரசரின் தருகையம்பற்றியவரு நம்மையாண்டு சென்ற அரசர்களெல்லாரும் விசேஷ பேருபகாரியென்ற நன்றிப்பற்றியோம்.

இந்தியாவை ஆண்டுசென்ற மகாதேசாதிபதிகளுலெல்லாம் நிப்பெருமான் விசேஷித்தவராகிய இவரும் நன்றியோடு நினைக்கவும் பேசவும்பட்டுவருகின்றார். அவ்வாறே இலங்கைத்தேசாதிபதியாகிய சேர் ஆதர் கெவ்லக் மன்னவரும் நன்றியோடு நினைக்கவும் பேசவும் போற்றவும்படவேண்டியவராயிருக்கின்றார்.

இலங்கையையாண்டு சென்ற தேசாதிபதிகளுள் கென்றி உவாட்டேசாதிபதியே மகாதேசாதிபதியாய் பிரசுரயங்கருதிய உத்தம மன்னவராயினதாகும் பேசவும் மிக்கவும் பட்டுவந்தனர். அவர் தம்முடைய இராச்சிய பரிபாலனகாலத்திலே இரந்து சகந்து அழிந்துபோய்க்கிடந்த குளங்கள் தெருககள் பாதைகளைத்தருந்தவும் பிரபாசப்பட்டு அதனாலே தானிய விளைவுக்கு வேண்டிய உதவியெல்லாஞ்செய்தவந்தார். அதனாலே, அரசருடைய பரிபாலனமற்ற பரட்டத்திலே சாய்தகிடந்த வேளாண்மைச் செய்கையானது உயிர்பெற்று உற்சாகத் தோடுதலைமீட்டுத் தெழுந்து வளர்ந்து வந்தது. இதனாலே அத்தேசாதிபதியினரும் புழப்படுகின்றார். ஆயின் இவ்வித உதவிகள் அத்தேசாதிபதியுடைய காலத்திலேகிடைத்தபோதும் தானியவரியினுடைய சனங்கள் மறுபுறத்திலே அதிக கஷ்டமனுபவித்தகொண்டிருந்தார்கள். அதனை அவர் நீக்கியோசித்ததினாலே, பின்னர்ச்சாலத்தி வந்த தேசாதிபதிகளும் அவரேயே முன்மாதிரியாகக்கொண்டு அரசு நடத்தித் தானிய வரிக்கஷ்டத்தை மேலும் மேலும் அதிகரிக்கச் செய்தார்களேயன்றி லேசாக்கி விட்டவர்கள் ஒருவருமில்லை. நம்மையிப்போது ஆளுகின்ற தேசாதிபதி அவர்களுடைய கருத்துக்கு முழுமையுடையவராய் பேச்சாலேயல்ல கிரியையாலே காட்டியிருக்கின்றனர். அவர்களோ நீர்பாய்ச்சவேலைகளையும் தானியவரியையும் ஒன்றிலொன்று தங்குவதாகக்கொண்டு தானிய வரியை அழிக்கிறதானால் நீர்பாய்ச்சவேலைகளையும் முற்றாக்கவிட்டாலேயென்று நினைக்கிறார்கள். சேர் ஆதர் கோடன் தேசாதிபதி தானியவரி நீர்பாய்ச்சவேலைகளையும் தானியவரியையும் ஒன்றுடனொன்றுசம்பந்தமிலாதுவெவ்வேறுகக்கொண்டு அதிலுள்ளதையே அழித்துவிட்டபொழுது. நீர்பாய்ச்சவேலைகளை செய்து தானியச்செய்கை முயற்சியை உயர்ச்சியாக்கி விட்ட கென்றி உவாட்டேசாதிபதியைப்பார்க்க சேர் ஆதர் கெவ்லக் தேசாதிபதி இருமடங்கு விசேஷஞ்செய்திருக்கிறார். கமக்காரருக்கு உதவியுஞ்செய்கிறார். அவர்களுடைய கஷ்டத்தைபுர்த்திக்கின்றார். இருவகையாலும்நம்மை விளையத்தக்கவருகையேயுடைய கமக்காரரைக் கஷ்டப்படுத்தி அவர்கள் முயற்சியைக் குறைத்து வறுமையைப் புகுத்தி விடுகின்ற தானியவரியை யழித்து விட்டதோடு நிலலாது தானியச் செய்கையின் முயற்சி அயாச்சியாகாது உயர்ச்சியாவதற்கு வருஷா வருஷம் இடைவிடாது நீர்பாய்ச்ச வேலைகளைச்செய்துகொடுக்கவும் தீர்மானித்தனர். இவ்வாறு ஏழைக்குடிசைகளை கமக்காரர் படும் கஷ்டத்தை எத்தேசாதிபதி விசாரித்தார்? எவர் அறிந்தார்? எவர் உணர்ந்தார்? எவர்பரித்தார்? எவர் அறந்தேசாதிபதியை நன்றி செய்து தானியவரியை யழித்து விட்டதோடு நிலலாது தானியச் செய்கையின் முயற்சி அயாச்சியாகாது உயர்ச்சியாவதற்கு வருஷா வருஷம் இடைவிடாது நீர்பாய்ச்ச வேலைகளைச்செய்துகொடுக்கவும் தீர்மானித்தனர். இவ்வாறு ஏழைக்குடிசைகளை கமக்காரர் படும் கஷ்டத்தை எத்தேசாதிபதி விசாரித்தார்? எவர் அறிந்தார்? எவர் உணர்ந்தார்? எவர்பரித்தார்? எவர் அறந்தேசாதிபதியை நன்றி செய்து தானியவரியை யழித்து விட்டதோடு நிலலாது தானியச் செய்கையின் முயற்சி அயாச்சியாகாது உயர்ச்சியாவதற்கு வருஷா வருஷம் இடைவிடாது நீர்பாய்ச்ச வேலைகளைச்செய்துகொடுக்கவும் தீர்மானித்தனர்.

வ்வித உதவிகள் அத்தேசாதிபதியுடைய காலத்திலேகிடைத்தபோதும் தானியவரியினுடைய சனங்கள் மறுபுறத்திலே அதிக கஷ்டமனுபவித்தகொண்டிருந்தார்கள். அதனை அவர் நீக்கியோசித்ததினாலே, பின்னர்ச்சாலத்தி வந்த தேசாதிபதிகளும் அவரேயே முன்மாதிரியாகக்கொண்டு அரசு நடத்தித் தானிய வரிக்கஷ்டத்தை மேலும் மேலும் அதிகரிக்கச் செய்தார்களேயன்றி லேசாக்கி விட்டவர்கள் ஒருவருமில்லை. நம்மையிப்போது ஆளுகின்ற தேசாதிபதி அவர்களுடைய கருத்துக்கு முழுமையுடையவராய் பேச்சாலேயல்ல கிரியையாலே காட்டியிருக்கின்றனர். அவர்களோ நீர்பாய்ச்சவேலைகளையும் தானியவரியையும் ஒன்றிலொன்று தங்குவதாகக்கொண்டு தானிய வரியை அழிக்கிறதானால் நீர்பாய்ச்சவேலைகளையும் முற்றாக்கவிட்டாலேயென்று நினைக்கிறார்கள். சேர் ஆதர் கோடன் தேசாதிபதி தானியவரி நீர்பாய்ச்சவேலைகளையும் தானியவரியையும் ஒன்றுடனொன்றுசம்பந்தமிலாதுவெவ்வேறுகக்கொண்டு அதிலுள்ளதையே அழித்துவிட்டபொழுது. நீர்பாய்ச்சவேலைகளை செய்து தானியச்செய்கை முயற்சியை உயர்ச்சியாக்கி விட்ட கென்றி உவாட்டேசாதிபதியைப்பார்க்க சேர் ஆதர் கெவ்லக் தேசாதிபதி இருமடங்கு விசேஷஞ்செய்திருக்கிறார். கமக்காரருக்கு உதவியுஞ்செய்கிறார். அவர்களுடைய கஷ்டத்தைபுர்த்திக்கின்றார். இருவகையாலும்நம்மை விளையத்தக்கவருகையேயுடைய கமக்காரரைக் கஷ்டப்படுத்தி அவர்கள் முயற்சியைக் குறைத்து வறுமையைப் புகுத்தி விடுகின்ற தானியவரியை யழித்து விட்டதோடு நிலலாது தானியச் செய்கையின் முயற்சி அயாச்சியாகாது உயர்ச்சியாவதற்கு வருஷா வருஷம் இடைவிடாது நீர்பாய்ச்ச வேலைகளைச்செய்துகொடுக்கவும் தீர்மானித்தனர். இவ்வாறு ஏழைக்குடிசைகளை கமக்காரர் படும் கஷ்டத்தை எத்தேசாதிபதி விசாரித்தார்? எவர் அறிந்தார்? எவர் உணர்ந்தார்? எவர்பரித்தார்? எவர் அறந்தேசாதிபதியை நன்றி செய்து தானியவரியை யழித்து விட்டதோடு நிலலாது தானியச் செய்கையின் முயற்சி அயாச்சியாகாது உயர்ச்சியாவதற்கு வருஷா வருஷம் இடைவிடாது நீர்பாய்ச்ச வேலைகளைச்செய்துகொடுக்கவும் தீர்மானித்தனர்.

Terrible disaster in Mauritius

—மோர்சீசுதிவின் பயங்கர ஆபத்து— முன்னாபயம்பாப் மேற்றிராணியாரியிருந்து அவ்விடத்தால்தாற்றப்பட்டுத் தற்போது மோர்சீசுதிவின் தலைநகரமாகிய போட்சென் லூயிஸ் நகரின் அதிமேற்றிராணியாரியிருக்கின்ற மியூரின ஆண்டவர் சீமைக்குப்போகும் வழியிலே கொளும்பிலேநங்கியிருக்கின்றார். அவருடைய மருமகனான ஆளுகைக்குப்பட்ட சனங்கள் பயங்கர ஆபத்துக்குள்ளாகி பொருள் பண்டம் வீடுவசனமற்ற பரிபட்டினியினாலே வருந்தவேண்டிய நிலைபரம் வந்தமையால் அவர்களுக்குச் சகாயஞ் செய்து வேண்டிமென்று தனவான்கள் குறுவான்களிடம் பொருளிரந்து வாங்கும்படிபொகின்றார். அங்கேபொருள் பிரசுரடமாருதம் வீதி பயங்கர ஆபத்துகளைச் செய்துவிட்டது. மியூரின் ஆண்டவர் சகல தருமவா

ன்களையும் இரங்கும்படி கொளும்பிலே ஒருகடிதம் விடுத்திருக்கின்றார். அதன்மேலே நாமதிகம் பேச வேண்டியதினாலே, அவருடைய கடிதத்தின் சாரத்தைத் தருசலே போதியதாயிருக்கும். அவர் சொல்வது; முன்னொருகாலம் கண்டு கேட்டிராதேசாரத்தினாலே ஒரு பிரசண்டமாருதம் சென்ற மீன் உகூர் உவீசி மோர்சீசுதிவின் பாதிபையப் பாழாக்கி மன்னுயர்களைக்கொன்றவிட்டது. லருஷத்தின் இக்காலத்திலே பிரசண்டமாருதமடிக்குமென்று ஒருவருமருகியிருந்ததில்லை, கரும்பும் கல்ல விளைவுகொண்டிருந்தது. காத்திராப்பிரகாரஞ் சமதியிலெழுந்தகாற்றினது மணித்தியாலத்துக்கு ௨௨ மைல் வீதம் விசுக்கொண்டிருந்து பெருங்காற்றாகி பிரசண்டமாருதமாகி மணித்தியாலமொன்றுக்கு ௧௨கமைல்வரையிலும்சென்றுவீசியது.கடிகாற்றினது மணித்தியாலமொன்றுக்கு ௧௦ மைல் சென்ற வீசும். புச்சுக்காற்று சுர மைல்வீசும். சுழல்காற்று கர மைல்வீசும்; இப்பிரசண்டமாருதமோவெனில் எல்லாவற்றையும்கட்டி ௧௦ மைல் மேலதிகவேகத்தோடு சென்று சண்டப்பிரசண்டமாகிவிட்டது. உக்கிரவாயுவின் ஒருமணித்தியாலவேகவிசேசே பட்டணத்தை நசுக்கு செய்துப்போதியது. இப்பிரசண்டமாருதமானது லட்சாதிபதிக் கரும்பு மரக்களையெல்லாம் வேரோடு துரோடும் பிடுங்கியெறிந்து முறித்துதுவளமாடி, ஏங்குறைய எல்லாக் கோயில்களையும், மடக்களையும், கிறித்தவர்களையும் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களையும், எண்ணிறந்த வீடுகளையும், குடிசைகளையும், கரும்பாலைச்சாலைகளையும் பறித்து மிடித்தும் பாழாக்கி விட்டதும் ஒன்றி அந்த இடிகளைகளுக்குள்ளே ஆறியும் ஏழாயிரம் மனுஷரையும் புதைத்து அத்தொகைக்கு இருமடங்கு மும்மடங்குபர்த்துக்கொண்டிருந்திருந்தது. கடலின் அலைகளெல்லாம் புரண்டு உருண்டு ஒன்றின்மேலொன்றாக ஏறி அவ்வளவு உயரத்துக் கெழுந்தமையால் சாமான்களும் சிப்பங்களும் வள்ளங்களும் பட்டணத்துக்குள் விசியெறியப்பட்டமையால் அவையெல்லாம் குவிந்து தெருக்களையும் நெய்விவையப்பாதைகளையும் மூடின. துறை முகத்திலே வந்து நின்ற பங்களுள் ஒன்றையு சேதமடையாமற் தப்பினதில்லை. சிலகணவியலேறின சிலமோசம்போயின. துறைமுகத்திலும் ரேகி லுமுண்டானபொருட்சேதங்களுக்கோரளவிலே.

ஒன்றைமணிக்குத் தொடங்கிய பிரசண்டமாருதம் இரண்டைமணிக்கு அமைதியாயிற்று. இத்தோடு எல்லாம் முடிந்தது என்ற எல்லாருமெண்ணியிருந்தார்கள். நாமும் அவ்வாறு எண்ணி நாம்வசத்திருந்த மாணிகையின் யன்னல்களைத்திறந்து விட்டோம். சமதியிலெழுந்தபடி முன்வேகத்திலும் அகிவேகத்தினாலே பிரசண்டமாருதம் தொடங்கியது. அப்போது யன்னல்களைப் பூட்டிவைத்து கூடாம்போயிற்று, புச்சலோடு வீழ்ந்தமழைத்தளிகள் சிறு சன்னல்களைப்போல முகத்திலடித்தன. நாமொருயன்ற சலாகையையடுத்துபூட்டப்போனபோதுகைபறிந்து நம்முடைய நெற்றியிலேயடித்துக்காயப்படுத்திவிட்டது. இன்னும் அக்காயம் ஆறுகிருக்கின்றது. வேறொருயன்னலே நாம் பூட்டப்போனபோது யன்னல் முழுதுக்கட்டிவிட்டே பொறிந்து நம்மையும் பத்தடிக்கப்போலே தூக்கியெறிய நம் கீழும் யன்னல் மேலும்யும் வீழ்ந்துஅவஸ்தைப்பட்டு வேலகாரருடைய உதவியினாலே மற்ற யன்னல்களையும் பூட்டி அல்லிவிலைபெற்ற புத்தசாலைக்கு அகிசேதம் வராதிருக்கக் காத்துக்கொண்டோம். வீட்டின் பக்கங்களைப் பிரசண்டமாருதத்துக்கே இரகொடுத்தவிடவேண்டியதாயிற்று. அவைகளிலே யுந்தசாமான்கள் யன்னல்கள் கதவுகள் புத்தக்கங்கள் எல்லாம் கிண்டு பின்னப்பட்டுக் காற்றின்வாய்ப்பட்டன.

நம்முடைய மாணிகையின் நெடுநீர் அசையாமலிருந்ததினால் வேலகாரரும் அவர்களுடைய சமுசாரங்களும் அதிலேவந்து ஒதுங்கி கின்றார்கள். அப்போது நாம் வெளியேயுறிட்டுப்பார்க்க காற்றினது உக்கிரவேகத்தினால் ஒடோ, மரமோ, கல்லோ வஸ்திரமோ என்னென்ன அகப்படுமோ அவைகளெல்லாவற்றையு மாசுபாடியதிலே பறத்திக்கொண்டுபோவதைக்கண்டோம்.

ஐசுவரியவான்களான ஒரு ஐரோப்பிய குடும்பத்தார் தமக்குரிய மூன்று வீட்டிலே ஒதுங்கி அவைகளொன்றின்பின்புறத்திலே வீழ்ந்தமையால் தங்குவதற்கு வேறிடமின்றி நம்முடைய வீட்டுக்கு வஸ்திரமாவது பாதுகாசையாவல்லாமல் வந்தார்கள். அவர்களின் பின்னே நம் எளியவர்களும்வந்தார்கள். எல்லாரும்

அன்றிரவு முழுதும் அங்கே தங்கின்றார்கள். மற்றாட்காலே சீவின் நாலாபகுதிகளிலுமிருந்து மனத்துயரமான சங்கதிகள் வந்துகுவந்தன. நம்முடைய கோயில்களிலே கசு தரைமட்டமாயின. ஒன்பது கோயில்களின் முகங்கள் அந்நரப்படும் உன்னே விழுந்து மற்றச்சாமான்களை நசுக்கு செய்தும் விட்டன. ஒன்பது வேறேகோயில்கள் பழுதாபட்டு மறுபடி கட்டப்படவேண்டிய நிலையிலிருக்கின்றன. பிரதானமான மூன்று கன்னியாஸ்திரிகள் மடத்திலேவெழுப்புகள் கண்டன. வேறொன்பது மடங்களின் கூரைகள் பறிந்துசேதப்பட்டன. மூன்று அநாதசாலைக் கட்டடங்களிலிருந்து வீழ்ந்ததில் இரண்டு கன்னியாஸ்திரிகளும் சிலப்பிள்ளைகளும் நசுக்கி யிறந்தார்கள். சிலர் காயப்பட்டுவந்தார்கள். ஆணியடித்து யன்னல் நசுக்கி நாம் காயப்பட்டவலட்சணகோலமாயிருந்தாலும் அத்தொன்றாம் கன்னியாஸ்திரிகளையும், அநாதபிள்ளைகளையும், வைத்திய சாலையிலே காயப்பட்டுமுக்கிற வர்களையும் போய்ச்சந்தித்தோம். நம்முடைய கண்ணுக்கு எதிர்ப்படும் கிரீப்பாக்கிய நிலைமையைக்குறித்த நாம் பலமுறைமும் கண்ணீர்சொரியவேண்டியிருந்தது. அநாதர்களான ஆண்பிள்ளைகளைக் காண்ப் போகோம். அவர்கள் குருவானவருடைய ஒரு ஒடுக்கமான வீட்டிலிருந்தார்கள். அவர்களுள் நான்குபேர் பட்டண யிறத்திடக்கவும், சிறு கோயல்பட்டிருக்கவும் கசு பேர் மாத்திரமாக யயில்லாதிருக்கவும் கண்டோம். அப்பாட்கன்னியாஸ்திரிகள் மடத்துக்குச் செல்லும்போது இறந்த கன்னியாஸ்திரியின் பிரேதம் கொண்வேருவதை வழியில் சந்தித்தோம். அந்தக்கன்னியாஸ்திரியை யன்றி கசு பெண்பிள்ளைகள் நசிந்திறந்தார்கள். காயப்பட்டவர்கள் அனோக, இறந்தவர்களான நான்குபேருடைய பிரேதம் வெளியேயிடந்தன. மற்றவைகளைக் கிண்டியெடுக்க வேண்டியிருந்தது. வைத்தியசாலைகள் நிறைந்து வழிதின்றன. நம்முடைய அநாதசாலைப் பிள்ளை ஒருவனுடைய கால்களைத்தியர் வேட்டினார். அவ்வாறு செய்யக்க வேளியிலே காத்திருப்போர் மூன்றுபேருக்கு மேலிருந்தனர்.

வீதிகளிலே கொலுதாமார் குறையுயிராகக் கூக்குரலிட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கிறவர்களைத் தேடிக்கிளறியெடுத்தார்கள். இப்போது வந்ததிலை தீர்ப்பும் பெருந்திலை வராதபடி தடுப்பதற்கு சிலர் இறந்த மனிதர் மிருகங்களின் உடல்களை அடக்குஞ்செய்தார்கள். எங்கெங்கும் சனங்கள் தம்முடைய இனசன சேமத்தை விசாரித்துக்கொண்டு திரிந்தார்கள்.

போட்டிலுயில் நகரின் பாதி முற்றாய்ப்பாழ்பட்டுப் போயிற்று. மற்றப்பாதி சிறுசேர்த்துடனிருக்கின்றது. வீடுகளார் வீடுகளாவா அழிக்கவேண்டிய தாயிற்று. நாம் முதலிரவு நம் பேரையும் இரண்டாம் இரவு நம் பேரையும் பின்னே எப்பேரையும் ஆதரிக்க வேண்டியதாய் வந்தது. லோமெத்து சபைக் கன்னியாஸ்திரிகளுக்கு ஒருசிறு கோயில் ஒரு இரத்தினம் போலிருந்தது. அக்கோயிலிலிருந்து வீழ்ந்ததுமன்றி அவர்கள் வித்திருந்த இரண்டு வீடுகளின்கூரைகளும்அந்நரப்பட்டன. நாம் வரும்போது நம்முடைய மாணிகையின் மேல் தட்டிவிட்ட அலாக்களுக்கு வசிக்கும்படி கொடுத்தோம். அம்மாணிகையின்மீழ்த்தட்டிலே பல அன்னியரும் வசிக்கிறார்கள்.

பயங்கரசேதத்துக்குள்ளான நம்முடைய கோயில்கள், குருமார் மனைகள், கன்னியாஸ்திரிமடங்கள், அநாதசாலைகள், வைத்தியசாலைகள், பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் இவைகளை மறுபடி கட்டுகிறதற்கும் பழுதுபார்ப்பதற்கும் ஆறலட்ச ரூபாவளியிலே தேவையாயிருக்கின்றது. இத்தொகையிலேதான் எல்லா ஒருபக்காவது அந்தகிரீப்பாக்கிய மோரீஸ் சீவிலே பெற்றுக்கொண்டதல் கூடாது. அதுதொகை அநாதசாலையார் கரும்புத்தோட்டக்காரருக்கு உதவி செய்யவும் இவ்வேளைக்கு ஆகவேண்டியவைகளை நடத்தவரக்கூட கூடாது. மோர்சீசுதிவோருத்த பூமியையுடையதாகையால் அதிலாவிலே முன்னிலைக்குவந்து விடுமென்பதற்குச் சந்தேகமில்லை.

என்றாலும் கீரியாலும் மதிப்பானும் மிக்க சேர் சாஸன் லே தேசாதிபதி விடுதலைபெற்றுப் போயிருக்கும் வேளை அருக்குப்பதலாக அரசுநடத்திவரும் மேன்மைத்திய கூடேட்ட யெனிக்காரம் என்பவர் எவ்வளவு அன்பும், உதாரணமும், அரியமுயற்சியுடையவரோமானும், தேவாராணை நடத்தவருதற்கும், அநாதசாலை முதலிய வற்றிலே தரும்சுகிலிக்கைகள் நடத்துவருதற்கும், வேண்டிய உதவிபுரிவாரென்று இப்போது காத்திருத்தல் கூடாது.

இந்தநஷ்ட சம்பவம் நடக்க வெருளடக்குரு முன்னேர வைகாசி மீன் எ-ந் சீமைக்குப்புறம் நாம் தீர்மானித்தி

A. Laudes Miracle—ஊ துமாத
துமை—மென, எடவேட் ஐதிலி என்
மொருவரார் எழுதுவதாத—இந்தப் ப
னியீர் கம்—ஈ நான் ஊர் துமாத பெய்
வருந்து அக்க ஒரு புதுமை நடத்த
த என் கண்ணாக்கண்டேன். ஊர் து
க பெய்யிலே கொஞ்சச்சனக்கள் மா
ரயிருந்தார்கள். மிகுந்த பறியுங் கு
மாயப்படியால் அதிகசனங் தக்க
தாமல்போயிற்று. ஒரு பிராஞ்சு
ம்மம் அங்கிருந்த ஒரு விதி வீட்டே
கிதி ஊர் துமாதபேரிலே ஒரு ல்வராத்
சபம் நடத்திக்கொண்டிருந்தார்கள்.
குனியாசம் கம்—ஓ ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை
ன் திவ்ய பூசகனிடே கோயிலிலே
வெளிக்கிடப்போது ஒரு கிறியியைப்
ட்டிலிலே களர்த்தி நாடுவா காஸ்க்
காண்டே வந்தார்கள். அந்த கிறியிலே
ந்தப் பிரேதம்போலக் கிடந்தான். அ
ஞாலய தலையும் அவயவங்களும் வளை
கிருந்தன. இரண்டு கண்ணு் தெரியா
ருடாயிருந்தான். இவனைக் கோயிலு
ட்டே கொண்டுபோக நான்போத்துவிட
என்பவிதி வீட்டுக்குச் சென்றான். கா
விரிதி வீட்டுவாயிலுக்குச் செல்லமுன்
ரே அந்த விதி வீட்டன் எசுமாத்
தேர்த்து ஈர் இப்போது கண்ணுக்கிழ
திர்க்க ஆரோக்கியம் பெற்றான் என்று
சாஸலவே நான்முண்டாய் அல்லட்டுச்செ
யுது அச்சிறியுக்கு நடந்த சக்கதி யெல்
வற்றையும் விசாரித்தேன். அவன் ஆ
வருஷங்களுக்கு முன் தியிராவத்தி
லே வருத்தி பரிசாகியிலுள்ள பேரேதா
கவைத்தியாகினிலே மருந்து செய்
ப்பட்டும் குணமுறது வியதி அதிகரித்
வந்தது. கடைசியாக எட்டுமாதங்க
க்கு முன்னே செனவாவிலுள்ள கடுகி
யுள்ளிலே ஸ்ரானுட் செய்து வரவேண்
மின்றது வைத்தியர் சொல்ல அல்லிட
சென்றது மூன்றாமாசவரையிலே முழுநி
ர ரேய் அதிகப்பட்டதனால் இரான்
கண்ணுங் கெட்டன. கடைசியாக ஊ
ய மாத பெய்க்குப் போகிறதற்குத் தீர்
னித்தது வந்து வகராத செபுதெசுபித்
கட—ஓ கடைசித்தினமது ஆிரா
மயால் வருமெனக் காத்திருந்தது வாரா
மாயல் துன்பங்காரையு மேற்றிச் செ
லும் வளையொன்றை யுடும்பம்படி
வைகளுக்குத் தந்திபெரிவிட்டு அடுத்த
ன் பின்னொருநாளுறது முழு மப்பிக்கை
ன் தீர்த்தமாதலே தேவதாயரு
டய தயவிலுலே தீர்க்க ஆரோக்கியம்
பெற்றான். நான் அச்சிறியியைக் கண்
டன். முழு ஆரோக்கியமுடையவளா
ன்புபுரம நாயகியைத் தறித்ததுக்
காணவர்க்குறான். இவ்வாறு மருந்தி
லே நீக்காத ஊர் துமாத தீர்த்ததி
லே அபுத்தமாக நீக்கியபோய்கள் அன
செய்யாம்.

THE
Jaffna Catholic Guardian
MAY 28TH

OLD YET NEW:

In connection with the proposed Ordinance to amend the "Irrigation and Paddy Cultivation Ordinance, 1886," we said, last week, that without the Railway to Jaffna the Irrigation works will always remain useless. Turning to the address—by the way it is fast becoming "Ancient History"—which the local Railway Committee presented to His Excellency, our present Governor, on the occasion of his first visit to Jaffna, we find the third of the many grounds on which the demand for the Jaffna Railway was based expressed as follows:

"We pray for a Railway (thirdly) to give the Government a means—and the only means—of making the policy of Irrigation a success. Over 400 tanks (some of them the largest known) have been built or repaired in the districts through which the proposed railway is to run. Up to the present the return to Government on Irrigation works has been scant indeed. Supplement them by a railway and they are certain to be a source of continual revenue to the Govt."

His Excellency in the course of his reply answered this portion of the address by saying that:—

"The policy of Irrigation was a rider or supplement to the question of the re-population of the Wanni."

But the Deputation before retiring had happily an opportunity of returning to the point. During the after conference that the Governor was pleased to have with the Deputation the Chairman of the Committee, in answer to questions remarked

"That, the railway being once opened, the Jaffnese would begin the cultivation of the Wanni and settle there when they could see that in cases of illness they would be able to get back to Jaffna with speed for medical treatment etc."

All this is as we have said fast becoming a sort of "Ancient History" but just on that account it may be all the better to renew the subject. It is generally those who cry loudest who get first and best served, more especially when they are in close proximity to the giver; while those who perhaps are most in want, but whose misfortune it is to be placed a great distance off, away on the verge of the hungry crowd, are served worst and last if at all. In fact there are those railways down south which are already being constructed, while we Northerners—well we may derive comfort from the Kurunegala line which anyhow makes in our direction, but how long are we to wait for more? We do not know what our next Governor may be like and the "distant future" is very unsatisfactory and annoying to people who like to utilise the living present.

The fact that the immigrant coolies have again this year brought Cholera into the neighbourhood of Mannar and into villages lying along their route to Kandy is a reminder of the fourth reason urged by the Railway Committee in that important "old" document from which we have been quoting. Here it is:

"We pray for a railway (fourthly) in order to help the Indian coolies to get quickly and safely to their journey's end, and thus preserve the people of the North from periodic visitations of Cholera. The passage of the coolies along the North-Central Road is marked by the heart-rending desolation of ruined homesteads and abandoned villages."

The corresponding portion of the Governor's reply is that

"The immigrant coolies would get sooner to their destination, and that the reasons urged by the Deputation were proper and deserving of consideration."

Another event of our "Ancient History" here suggests itself. It

was the *Independent*, we believe, that once shocked its readers by a ghastly specimen of its survival-of-the-fittest philosophy when, in a moment of temporary aberration, he discoursed on the coolie wayfarers. The long journey from Mannar to Kandy was an excellent thing in that it killed only the weaker among them and secured that the strongest workers alone arrived at the tea plantations. The decimation or rather destruction of the inhabitants of the country through which they passed was ignored as, at the most, but a necessary evil.

It is refreshing to note that His Excellency took the humane and more intelligent view of the dread evils which are every year being sprung upon the inhabitants of the large tract of country lying along the coolie route. The branch line of railway to Mannar, enthusiastically guaranteed to pay at once by our Government Agent, and spoken of by him "in very favourable terms" to His Excellency, is a "rider or supplement" to the Jaffna Railway and until it is constructed, the heart-rending death-cries, ever recurring, of a cholera-stricken people will ring in the ears of Government.

Comments.

We quote the following apt remarks from the leader appearing in the *Independent* of the 20th Inst., which touches on the intimidation and bribery practised on witnesses in our Law Courts:

With regard to this Island, we feel confident that order might be restored and maintained by a comparatively simple means. Let the men who have influence be made responsible for a right use of it, and it will then be used on the side of order, peace, and justice, instead of being, as it is at present, more profitably employed on the other side. Let every headman be made rigorously responsible for the peace and order of his village, or district, and let him feel that his personal interests depend upon the exercise of his authority in the preservation of order, and he will then refuse the small bribes that now enlist his services on the wrong side, and will devote his efforts and influence to the preservation of his post, its honours and emoluments.

Every headman who has held his office for three months knows, or at least he might have known, every bad character in his district. His sanction or active co-operation is essential to the success of every conspiracy that is hatched there.—the concealment of every disorder that is kept secret,—the establishing of every shop or place for the sale of illicit spirits,—the safety of a gambling house,—and for the result of every case that goes to Court. So long, therefore, as a headmanship, even an unpaid one, is sought for the emoluments that it commands which are bribes in the cause of crime, so long will the criminal class have the best of it. If the interests and earnings of the headmen's office were made to depend upon the orderly conduct of the people, and not upon the success of their misdoings,—on the detecting of crime, instead of its concealment,—on bringing criminals to justice, instead of harbouring them and defeating the administration of the law,—there would soon be a reform in the manners of the people. But, so long as headmen, retire from our Courts of Justice, after having successfully screened the wrong-doers, and return to their villages in triumph with them and their host of false witnesses, crime will be in the ascendant, and the mass of the people will suffer through the instrumentality of those whose influence alone could avert the evils they endure.

In reference to the result of a recent case where, as we have learnt indirectly, there were complaints on both sides between some villagers and a section of their neighbours who wielded all the influence in the place, we hear that the poor villagers did not get matters mended to their satisfaction by having recourse to the Law. We have been informed that the evidence given in their support was disbelieved while their opponents it is said got off scot-free. We have been asking ourselves on which side it was more likely that false evidence would have been given and the *Independent* answers: On the side where it was more possible to make use of intimidation or bribery.

Those Few! It is not generally known that the total number of Protestants, including all the sects, is only a tenth part of the number of Christians in Ceylon. There are thus just nine times as many Catholics

as there are non-Catholic Christians. If the English residents and officials be put aside, the insignificance of Protestantism in Ceylon is indeed most apparent. If those among Ceylonese who gain their living by remaining good comfortable Protestants and those younger adherents who get an education as nominal converts are not taken into account, there will be nobody left save the missionaries, male and female. And this is the missionary work that such a fuss is made over. One can easily understand why the Protestants were ashamed at the time of the census to give the names of the particular sects to which they severally belonged. Their combined action did then put certain clerks to a lot of trouble and yet it has not been able to remove their numerical shabbiness.

The Jaffna Public Meeting called for the purpose of giving expression to the gratitude with which the people of the North hail the abolition of the paddy-tax came off as announced on Saturday last in the District Court House. The resolutions which were all duly moved, seconded and supported are here given:

I. That this meeting rejoices in the fact that the Paddy tax which is undoubtedly a burdensome tax is to be abolished by our Government.

II. That this meeting recognises the fact that the abolition of the Paddy tax is due to the meritorious efforts of His Excellency Sir A. E. Havelock K. C. M. G. and to the untiring efforts of Mr. Geo. Wall and other gentlemen who so disinterestedly fought the battle on behalf of the people of this island.

III. That the meeting desires to express its appreciation and its high sense of gratitude to His Excellency the Governor and to Mr. Geo. Wall and other gentlemen for their great service in securing the abolition of the Paddy tax.

IV. That this meeting consider it further necessary and expedient to express their sincere and heart felt gratitude to Her Majesty the Queen and to Her Government for this most gracious act of theirs in thus relieving the farmers of this Island from this burdensome tax and that His Excellency the Governor be requested humbly to convey our gratitude to Her Majesty the Queen and to Her Government.

V. That in view of a representative meeting to be held in Colombo about the 28th Instant for the purpose of considering the best way of shewing our gratitude for the abolition of the Paddy tax this meeting consider it desirable that two or more delegates be sent from Jaffna to represent our Province at the meeting.

VI. That for the purpose of meeting the expenses necessary in sending the delegates etc. a special fund be raised to be called the "Paddy tax abolition Memorial Fund."

VII. That the following gentlemen be requested to represent our Province at the meeting in Colombo as our delegates.

VIII. That the thanks of this meeting be due to the chairman for his very able conduct in the chair.

The upshot of the Jaffna meeting is therefore that three delegates are to represent the North at the Colombo meeting, where the details that will come home not only to the minds of the farmers but also to their pockets will be fully worked out. All the same, it is rather a pity that our member is not to the fore just now; he would no doubt on such an occasion fitly and honourably represent the Jaffnese in whose behalf he is what he is and could nicely avail himself of the opportunity to show what his present attitude is on the abolition question. The resolutions are delightfully innocent of any allusion to his efforts towards this bringing about of the abolition. Whether he is included in that indefinite number of persons called in Resolutions II and III, "Mr. Geo. Wall and other gentlemen" deponent doth not pretend to be able to say.

Meanwhile the delegates chosen have our best wishes and we hope they will represent faithfully and fully the deep and lasting gratitude that is felt and rightly felt by the farmers of the North and their sympathisers, for the "Havelock Blessing."

The India Watchman is a sanctimonious Protestant Missionary paper and has a decidedly old-fashioned bigot as Editor. This dirty fellow has been lately circulating gross charges, all of course unfounded, against Priests and Nuns. Even all the respectable Protestant papers of India, notably the *Bombay Gazette*, have been dealing the cowardly culprit a pommelling suited to his brutish propensities. Most of the papers hint at the punishment that would be duly inflicted on this scoundrel in countries such as New Orleans.

The *Bombay Gazette* tells us that "The police have been sampling the filthy literature by which these singular missionaries pretend to advance the cause of Christianity in the East. There is a provision in the Penal Code which was meant for those (gentlemen?) and it would be a pity if they did not get the benefit of it. It is, at any rate, satisfactory to know that the obscene trash which has been so widely circulated is now under

the consideration of the Public Prosecutor."

The *Advocate of India* says:

"It is really time that the foul throat of the *India Watchman* were choked by the nervous hand of the law..... It is to such men (as the Christian Missionary Editor of the *India Watchman*) that hysterical women and soft-pated men in England and America entrust the task of regenerating—save the mark—the people of India..... But the man who cowardly gives such vile calumny to the world deserves to be whipped at a cart..... It must bring the hot blush of shame to the cheeks of every true Christian to think that any Christian sect should harbour a sectary whose moral fibre is coarser than that of the murderer Deeming".....

The *Deccan Herald* says:

"The *Times* of India of last Friday, has done good service by calling the attention of the Commissioner of Police to the detestable nuisance of filthy pamphlets, published under cover of a religious protest and extensively circulated. Occasionally the books and pamphlets containing vulgar and ignorant attacks on nuns, find their way here, and we pointed out to the police last year, while Dr. Pentecost was holding mission services in East Ceylon, that an agent of the Bombay missionaries was busy in these publications was selling copies of an obscene book, in a religious disguise. The *Times* points out the sections of the Penal Code which deal with this nuisance—if we remember rightly, we also brought them to the notice of the Police last year—and if they did their duty they would find no difficulty in bringing to book those who circulate this garbage. The Indian law is based on the terms of Lord Campbell's Act, (1857), which was put into operation in England for the purpose of more effectually preventing the sale of obscene books, pictures, prints and other articles," but in India those who are bound to see it carried out, have slackened their vigilance to a degree which has almost rendered it a dead letter. The Police Inspector took no steps whatever to arrest the spread of this moral poisoning in Poona; and Chiniquy's book was obtained and perused by numbers of young people and was in high favour amongst the class of Christians who delight in nothing so much as stirring up religious rancour and insulting those who differ from them in religious belief."

We do not know whether any steps have been taken by the Police to prevent the distribution of bad books in Jaffna. But we do know that Chiniquy's books (called "that blackguard Chiniquy" even by Protestants) and other bad books were introduced into the Peninsula some time ago. We were assured that these bad books were introduced by some of the Jaffna Protestant missionaries and distributed among Protestants and Sivites. Copies of two such immoral works were shown to us at the time; they were specimens of the many that had been secretly distributed among Protestants and Sivites and were brought to us by a friend who was shocked and scandalised by the base and cowardly tactics pursued by men calling themselves Christian missionaries. We hope the Govt. in the interest of truth and decency will set the police on the search for those horrid books and punish the unworthy members of society who distribute them.

The Archbishop.—The news regarding the health of His Grace Archbishop Bonjean is not altogether satisfactory. The "Catholic Messenger" of the 20th Inst. says that "His Grace is slightly better having slept a little during the last two nights" but adds directly that, "the low fever which has not left him for the last two or three weeks shows no sign of yielding to the Doctors' treatment."

His Grace Archbishop Meurin was to address a meeting in Colombo, to obtain relief for the distressed inhabitants of Mauritius. He had an interview with His Excellency the Governor, and talked with him on the subject.

The Manager of Brown's Circus and Capt. Duncan Ross, the great wrestler, now in Colombo, have arranged to give a benefit performance, to aid the object of His Grace's mission.

The "Times Office" has also opened a fund for the relief of the sufferers.

The Latest number of the *Times* to hand says that H. G. Archbishop Meurin may not perhaps address a meeting, but send subscription lists round.

His Excellency the Delegate Apostolic—Preparations are being made in Colombo to give H. E. Mgr. Zaleski a grand reception when he returns from Calcutta, after his episcopal consecration,

Printed and published for the Proprietor by C. Andrew, at St. Joseph's Catholic Press, Catholic Mission, Premises Jaffna.

(More Telegrams)

"Orme"

"Orme" is now restored to health; nevertheless the Duke of Westminster considers his chance for the Derby hopeless.

American Purchase of Silver

Washington, May 16th. The Treasury today purchased 216,000 ounces of silver at prices ranging from \$8.40 to \$1.45.

The election in Greece

Athens, May 17th M. Tricoupi has had a complete triumph in the elections, only seven adherents of M. Delanoras have been elected.

Foundering of a Russian Steamer

It has transpired that a Russian steamer named the "Alexander Volhov" foundered in the Caspian Sea on the 29th of March, and that two hundred Persian passengers perished.

The fighting in West Africa

London, May 18th. The latest advices from West Africa state that the expedition which lately left Lagos under the command of Colonel Scott, to operate against the Jebus and Egbas tribes, has had some sharp fighting and stormed two towns, which were afterwards burnt. The loss on our side has been ten friendly killed. Colonel Scott is now advancing on the enemy's capital.

American Purchase of Silver

Washington, May 18th. The Treasury today purchased 201,000 ounces of silver at \$7.85 to \$8.45.

Big Floods in America

New York, May 20th. Immense floods have taken place in the Missouri and Mississippi valleys. The crops have been ruined and many people drowned.

The Behar Cadastral survey.

In the House of Commons, last night, Mr. Curzon, replying to a question put by Sir Roper Lethbridge, said that the cost of the Behar Cadastral Survey was not expected to exceed eight annas an acre, and that the employment of village officials under careful inspection would prevent extortion and oppression. Mr. Curzon also said that no staff beyond that now under Mr. Sandeman will be appointed until October.

A Lord Mayor's fund for the Sufferers at Mauritius.

London, May 21st. The Lord Mayor of London, at the request of Lord Knutsford, has consented to open a fund for the relief of sufferers by the cyclone in Mauritius.

[The number of ridiculous telegrams sent out lately by Reuters' people about the horse "Orme" and its tooth-ache has been so large that it was impossible to send a word about the Mauritius catas trophet O the over-civilised—heathens! Ed.J.C.G.]

Increase of the French and German Armies.

London, May 22nd. Both France and Germany have framed bills for reforming their armies, whereby the strength of the active armies will be increased. The German bill provides for a gradual reduction of the term of service in the infantry to two years.

Mr. Morley on the coming Elections & the old bigot!

London, May 22nd. Mr. Morley, speaking at Huddersfield yesterday said that elections were certain to begin in the first week in July. He bitterly attacked Lord Salisbury for preaching the pestilential Tariff doctrine which, he said, would be disastrous to the country. His Lordship's utterance in regard to Ulster he described as an act of political incendiarism.

The Floods in America.

New York, May 21st. The damage done by the floods at St. Louis and adjacent countries bordering on the Mississippi amounts to eleven million dollars. Fifteen hundred square miles of country have been submerged.

Sinking of a Brazilian Man of War

London, May 23rd. Advices from Rio state that the double turreted Brazilian warship the "Solimoes" has been totally lost at the entrance of the river Plate. One hundred and twenty five of the crew were drowned, and five only were saved.

The Khedive a G. C. B.

The Queen has conferred the Grand Cross of the Bath on the Khedive.

The execution of Deeming

London, May 23rd. Deeming was duly executed at Melbourne this morning.

Fighting in West Africa

London, May 23rd. The Times publishes a despatch from Lagos stating that a severe engagement has taken place between the force under Colonel Scott and the Jebus army, in which the latter were defeated with a loss of four hundred killed, in addition to which the British captured their King. The British, lost several in killed, whilst Captain Owen, Captain Hardinge, Lieutenant Laurie, and thirty men were wounded.

The dispute between Canada and Newfoundland.

Ottawa, May 22nd. The dispute between Canada and Newfoundland has been settled, and full reciprocity restored.

Destruction of cotton in Egypt

Cairo, May 22nd. Several cotton shooshas have been destroyed by fire at Miniet-el-Basen in Egypt. The damage is estimated at over a hundred thousand pounds.

LOCAL & OUTSTATION.

A pressing want. The inconvenience to which people who are summoned to the Court as witnesses are put is very great. At present Government having done nothing to accommodate them they are obliged to stand out under the shade of a few mangrove trees in the Esplanade. It would be better if Govt. put up a small cadjan shed close by for the convenience of the witnesses. *Cor.*

I understand that with the permission of the authorities tea and other things are sold within the Court premises for the convenience of the people who call there. *Cor.*

The Mannar Salt store. In consequence, we believe, of the abolition of the paddy tax, Philippillai Supramania Modir, Adigar of Mantotte applied for the vacant post of salt store-keeper, Mannar, and has been recommended by the Govt. Agent.

A few cases of Chicken-pox have occurred at Araly.

Extract from Season Report for April 1892, as published in the Gazette of May 20,

Jaffna.—Condition of Crop.—Threshing of paddy continued in Karachi and Panakari divisions.

Remarks.—There was rain almost throughout the district—heavy in some parts and light in others—on the 13th, 14th, 18th, and 23rd accompanied by thunder and lightning; and some partial showers on the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 19th which proved of great benefit to the dry grain and tobacco crops, and enabled the cultivators to plough their paddy fields. The heat during the month, more especially the first fortnight, has been very oppressive. The south-west wind, which set in on March 23, continued till 12th and then set in from north and became variable. Since the 23rd it set in from south and south-west.

Mannar.—Condition of Crop.—The kalapokam crops have all been reaped and stacked. There is prospect of a small stipokam cultivation in some of the villages on the mainland.

Remarks.—Tobacco crops have been gathered and are good.

Vavuniya.—Condition of Crop.—Crop prospects continue good: A good idai pokam will, it is hoped, make up for a comparatively small kalapokam; crop now in plants doing well.

A little gingelly is being grown.

Mullaitivu.—Condition of Crop.—Kalapokam paddy reaped and stacked; crops generally good. Idai pokam sown in only three villages.

No cultivation.

On dit.—Mr. Means of the New O. B. C. Ltd. is going home on a year's furlough. His successor is not as yet known.—*Cor.*

22nd May 1892.

THE WEATHER.—Oh! the monsoon, the stormy South-west monsoon. It thrusts the saline sea-shore dusts into our throats and dwellings, it licks away the water in our pools and wells and dries up vegetation and men's countenances. But it amuses the kite-flier pretty well.

WAYWARD YOUTHS.—Some parents here do but little dream of the various evils resulting from the disobedience of their children. They do not care whether their children frequent schools regularly or not. If gone out during school hours for a hackery drive, a kite play, a fishing, a shooting or for a chat with some wicked companions, the parents pay as little heed to it as they take pains to care for the soul-less chickens that have strayed out of their compounds. What is still more shockingly detrimental to their children is, that when they are flogged in school for disobedience, non-attendance or neglect of studies, the parents blame the teachers for having punished them. In this respect, the parents only pave the way to their children's temporal and spiritual ruin. They seldom think that school is a furnace where children are melted like gold till the impure ore is cleared away by the purifying effects of education and kindly counsels.

OUR CEMETERY.—We have now a cemetery, a worthy sight for a town. It is walled around. The height of the walls gives it an appearance a little defective. The wall is not built high enough, which only strikes a spectator with the knowledge of economy, perhaps for want of sufficient funds. Any Govt. Agent and some charitable residents, a long-felt want has been supplied. The present state of the cemetery reminds me of the following editorial comments, ancient the Mannar cemetery, in the "Guardian" of 19th January 1884, "Anyone who has visited Mannar, must have been shocked at the disgraceful state of the cemetery. It has no enclosure of any kind. It is overgrown with weeds and were it not that death causes it to be visited, it would soon become jungle. It is a crying shame that a Christian Government should allow this burial ground to remain in such a wretched state when it could be properly enclosed for about Rs. 2,000"

THE REST HOUSE.—The rest-house is but slowly building. It is nearly one and a half years since the first foundation stone was laid. The excuse urged for the work going on at a snail's

course, is the want of materials. Truly an important building like this, near the quaint Dutch fort, best meant to admit a good sea-breeze for the forlorn sons of Adam, should not be so tardily managed.

AN APPOINTMENT.—I understand that Mr. E. Q. Jan., one of the candidates who came out successful lately at the final examination in the Ceylon Medical College, is offered the post of Medical assistant, Badulla, on a salary of 90 Rs. per mensem and allowance. The young gentleman intends proceeding shortly to Badulla to take up duties.

THE TOO-LATE HAWKERS.—The "Thayitkarers" or card sellers, here, are called the "too-late hawkers. From 6 P. M. to 10.30 P. M., they do their work, carrying each on their heads a basket into which is arranged a number of beautiful card pots and while passing the byways and thoroughfares of the town, they cry aloud with all possible might "Thayiroo, 'Thayiroo'. They are soon welcomed by the words "Kondava, Kondava". This kind of trade is practised by the inhabitants living at the north-western extremity of the town who are so wise and thrifty as to turn a hollow metal into valuable account.

IDLE TALK.—Some Mannarians seem to indulge themselves freely in idle talk, as if they were naturally born to it, for instance one who is alive, is reported to be dead, an honest man is talked of very badly. I suppose, it is these men that tempt the devil. It will be better if these men devote their time to matters that would keep them quite out of this evil tendency whereby they may discern things in their true light.—*Cor.*

KANKESANTURAI NOTES.

THE CEYLON STEAM SHIP CO. has entered into an agreement with the Government to remove by the company steamers 14,000 cwts of salt from Thondaimannar to Hamantotta. 2000 cwts will be removed at each trip of the steamers. The Govt. Agent together with Mr. S. Bastiampillai of the Kacheheri has I am told proceeded to Thondaimannar to superintend the weighing and to arrange shipment.

A POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK was opened at Kankesanturai lately and several have already opened accounts with the same. Kankesanturai is gradually rising in importance receiving one by one the privileges enjoyed by other towns.

THIRU NADA RASA PURAVI, the vessel which was reported to have collided with the S. S. "Lady Gordon" is being detained at the port of Kays by the Master Attendant until the question is thoroughly inquired into. The delay consequent upon the long pending enquiry is perhaps hard on the owners and tindal of the native vessel.—*Cor.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves answerable for correspondents' opinions.

THE PADDY TAX MEETING

Jaffna 24th May 1892.

The Editor "J. C. Guardian"

Sir, I was present at the Paddy Tax meeting held last Saturday afternoon, at the Jaffna District Court House. At the close of the Meeting, a point was raised, which I am sorry, was not settled at the meeting itself. One of the resolutions had regard to the delegates to be sent to Colombo to represent Jaffna at the forthcoming general meeting there. I have nothing to say against the choice the meeting has made. After the resolution was moved seconded and supported, and when it was put to the vote by the Chairman who asked for a show of hands from those who were for it, Mr. Pedripillai rose and proposed that the name of Mr. Advocate Nagalingam be also added to the list. Mr. Advocate Canagasabai took up the proposal of Mr. Pedripillai and spoke at some length on the wisdom of Mr. Pedripillai's suggestion. Mr. Canagasabai was overruled by the Chairman, who took up the point forwarded by the supporter of the resolution. Mr. Hensman of the Jaffna College, and said that an amendment, or alteration or emendation cannot be accepted, after a resolution had been moved, seconded and supported. Mr. Pedripillai by way of contention said—though what he said was lost in the noise and commotion caused by the discussion of the point in question—that the mover, seconder and supporter followed each other so closely on their heels in giving out their speeches, that he thought it not proper to interrupt them, and so he waited for a fit opportunity to make his proposal. This he found when the resolution was put to the vote of the meeting. If as remarked by the supporter of the resolution and maintained by the Chairman, that no proposal or amendment or alteration or suggestion can

be accepted or entertained after a resolution has been moved, seconded and supported, and if the mover, seconder and supporter is all that is requisite towards the final adoption of a resolution, Mr. Pedripillai was unable to understand why after the resolution had duly undergone the process above mentioned, it should be put to the vote of the meeting and the members present be asked to show hands "for" and "against" it. Mr. P's contention, though tenable to some degree was lost in the hubbub accelerated and strengthened by the acoustic tendencies of the Hall. The proposal was not recalled and the meeting closed. I for one hold the same view as Mr. P. I am not well versed or posted up in the rules and formalities of public meetings. I shall therefore feel obliged if you will kindly say a word or two of what you think on this question.

Yours truly

AN INQUIRER.

[We would refer our correspondent to the account of the great Jaffna Railway meeting in Colombo where a suggestion made by Mr. Ramanathan that the Committee should be vested "with power to add to their number" was accepted by the Chairman after the original resolution had been seconded & was finally adopted by the meeting. The rest is plain. Ed. J.C.G.]

A CRYING EVIL.

Jaffna May 25th 1892.

To the Editor "J. C. Guardian."

Dear Sir, Your correspondent D. T. having been no doubt roused by what appeared in your issue of the 14th inst. in connection with the above heading has come out with a quasi-defence. In his letter appearing in your issue of the 21st he says that I have failed to give the definite number of cigar factories where the obnoxious practice of reading bad books has been done away with. It is a matter of fact that some of our Catholic cigar merchants have strictly prohibited the reading of obscene books and what I complained of was that D. T. without sufficiently inquiring into the matter rushed into print and charged all the cigar merchants with allowing the reading of these books within their walls. It is also a question whether some of the books read in the factories are really bad ones. So far as I have ascertained I am told they are not bad ones and the reading of these prevents the cigar rollers from talking idle things which would be the case otherwise. The number of Catholic cigar merchants who use real religious books is so small that, it does not deserve to be mentioned here; but good Catholics ought to feel it a great consolation now that the way has been paved by some of our firebrand cigar merchants whose good example we doubt not will in God's own time be imitated by others.

With regard to D. T's objection to the Lives of the Saints being read, your editorial remark is well suited. Why D. T. wonders whether I was the person who suggested the substitution of the Lives of the Saints, I leave the readers of the "Guardian" to judge.

Yours truly

H.

DISASTROUS CYCLONE AT MAURITIUS.

A cyclone of unheard-of violence has been blowing over the Island of Mauritius. The papers contain the most heart-rending details. We quote the following from the "Ceylon Catholic Messenger," of May 20 which has been favoured with a communication on the subject, from His Grace Archbishop Meurin himself.

Archbishop Meurin.

is now in Colombo, where he arrived yesterday from Mauritius by the B. I. steamer "Umballa," with the hope of leaving at once this port for Europe; but he was disappointed in finding that no B. I. steamer will leave before the 31st. His Grace is the guest of the RR. Fathers of the Kotahena Mission. The object for which the distinguished prelate goes to Europe may be best understood by perusing the appeal, which we publish below, under his signature. The calamity which has befallen the Island of Mauritius is really appalling, and the earnest appeal of the eloquent Bishop in favour of his ruined churches, orphanages and convents, cannot be heard without emotion and corresponding sympathy. We shall gladly receive any offering that may be sent us for the relief of the poor Mauritians and the receipt of the same shall be acknowledged in this paper. His Grace desires us to request all our Indian Catholic exchanges to reproduce this appeal, and the request is one with which we have no doubt they will very willingly comply.

PRESSING APPEAL OF ARCHBISHOP MEURIN

On the 29th of April a cyclone of unheard-of violence destroyed one half of the prosperous Island of Mauritius, sowing broadcast death among the whole population and destruction upon their property.

At a period of the year, when hurricanes seldom, if ever, occur, and when no planter feared any more for this year's splendid crop of the sugar cane, on that day, the velocity of the wind rose unexpectedly, within a few hours, from 22 to over 121 miles per hour. At 9 p. m. it came down again to 26 miles. The usual reckoning is 30 miles per hour for a strong breeze, 60 for a gale and 90 for a hurricane. This cyclone surpassed the ordinary velocity by more than 30 miles per hour.

At 1.20 p. m. the rate was of 104 miles; but from 1.25 to 2.30 p. m. there was a treacherous lull, the velocity decreasing to 43 miles. It then began suddenly to increase again and raged, within one short hour, with that terrific ferocity the climax of which reached the unheard-of rate of more than 121 miles per hour. The barometer fell to less than 28 inches.

That one hour sufficed to destroy most of the sugar crop, to uproot millions of trees, and to smash, to pieces one half of the city of Port-Louis, almost all the churches, chapels, presbyteries, convents and schools of the island, numberless houses, hats and sugar manufactories, burying under their ruins from 6 to 7,000 people and maiming or wounding twice or thrice that number.

The might of the hurricane heaped waves upon waves; the sea in the harbour rose to such a height that a number of heavy cargo and other boats were swept into the town, blocking the railway line, streets and public places. Not one of the numerous ships in harbour escaped uninjured; almost all of them have been stranded and are lost. The destruction of goods in the harbour and in the wharfs is incalculable.

The lull was the centre of the cyclone. Almost everyone who neglected to observe the barometer, which remained stationary at the lowest possible point, mistook that comparative calm for the end of the storm. I too was deceived and opened all the windows of my stately palace.

When suddenly the second part of the cyclone broke upon the town, it was almost too late to close the wooden shutters upon the windows; the frightful fierceness of the wind, together with the drops of rain flung into one's face like so much small shot, prevented nearly every one from protecting his house efficaciously. A square inch iron bar, which I had lifted up to fix the shutters, was violently wrested from my hand and struck heavily my forehead, causing a wound not yet healed. Whilst I was trying to shut another window, the whole of it was torn out of its socket to gether with the entire framework which fixed it to the walls, and was flung upon me carrying me ten paces into the room, and burying me under its weight. Extricating myself from the splinters, although bruised all over, I succeeded with the assistance of the servants to close the shutters and thus to save the interior of the principal building with its valuable library from utter destruction. The two sidewings of the house were abandoned to the fury of the elements. Everything in them, windows, doors, furniture, oil paintings, pictures, books was scattered to the winds, torn to shreds or broken into a thousand pieces.

Taking, with the servants and their families, refuge into the central building which stood the storm, I could only look on the rage of the elements without. The air carried, like in the wildest whirlwind, hundreds of things in its, fierce way onward, tiles, timber, bricks, vestments, and whatever it could get hold of.

A rich European family, after seeing three of their houses to which they had subsequently fled, blown down came undressed and barefoot to take refuge under my roof; and, after them, some thirty poor people asked for shelter and remained with me during the whole night.

The next day, a stream of messengers poured into the palace, bringing from every part of the island the most harrowing news. Sixteen of our churches and chapels were completely levelled to the ground; nine had their roofs carried away or thrown down into the building smashing every thing that was in it; nine others were seriously damaged and will have to be rebuilt; the remainder have suffered comparatively less. Our three principal convents are mere wrecks, the other forty are unroofed or otherwise damaged. The buildings of our three orphanages crumbled to death two Sisters and a certain number of children, severely wounding others.

Although bruised all over and wholly disfigured, I went out the following day to visit the Sisters, the orphans and the wounded in the hospitals. More than once I had to battle against an outbreak of my feelings at the sight of the extreme misery that presented itself to my eyes. When reaching the orphan boys, now lodged in the narrow and much damaged presbytery of the founder of the orphanage, I found four of them killed on the spot, forty-five wounded, and only eleven left unhurt. Going to the convent that was the girls' orphanage, I met the funeral procession which took Sister Candida to the grave. Besides her, eleven girls had been crushed to death, and a very great number wounded. Four were still lying there on the ground, whilst others had yet to be extricated from beneath the ruins. In the hospitals, full to overflowing, I saw the leg of one of our orphan boys being amputated. Some three hundred other people were waiting for their turn.

In the streets the soldiers were endeavouring to rescue from beneath the fallen houses numbers of still living persons groaning under their sufferings and crying for help. Others tried to get at the dead bodies of men and animals, lest some epidemic might add to the already overwhelming misery of the population. Everywhere people were wandering about seeking some dear relatives, not knowing whether they were dead or alive.

One half of the city of Port Louis was lying in ruins, the other half being more or less injured. The houses still standing had to open their doors to the houseless. During the first night I sheltered some thirty persons, during the second some fifty, and subsequently about seventy people.

The Loreto Nuns had their chapel, a real gem, blown down, and their two houses unroofed. On leaving, I gave them the upper story of my palace, its ground floor being occupied by all sorts of strangers.

This frightful disaster necessitates an outlay of 600,000 rupees for reconstructing or repairing our churches, chapels, presbyteries, convents, orphanages, hospitals and schools. The utter impossibility of raising even the hundredth part of that sum is unfortunate Mauritius itself, is evident from the necessity under which its Government lies of contracting a loan ten times that figure, in order to assist the sugar planters in facing the exigencies of their present circumstances. Happily the recuperative powers of the Colony and the fertility of the Mauritian soil are so great that there is no fear of the complete ruin of the island.

However, our government cannot be expected to do at present the needful to secure the continuation of our divine service and the maintenance of our orphanages and other charitable asylums, notwithstanding the kind benevolence and rare energy of His Honor, Hubert Jerningham, the Officer Administering the Government of Mauritius during the leave of absence of Sir Charles Lee, our just and esteemed Governor.

For several reasons I had, long before the day of this disaster, determined to leave for Europe on the 7th of May. The urgent necessity of providing means for the erection everywhere, of at least some temporary, accommodation for the houseless orphans and poor, and for the celebration of our divine service, has become an additional reason for the voyage, the principal object of which has now become the collection of alms from the charity of the merciful, and from the gratitude of those to whom, in their own time of

trial, Mauritius has compassionately held out a helping hand. During the great famine which ravaged India a few years ago, the Mauritians sent large sums of money to India for alleviating the sufferings of the famine-stricken people.

In this bitter trial I entreat, then, my venerable colleagues, the Bishops of India, every member of the Clergy, all Societies of benevolence, and the generosity of every charitable soul, to send, for God's sake, a speedy help to distressed Mauritians.

In order to save unnecessary delay, the gifts may be sent through the Most Reverend Archbishops of Colombo and Bombay, or through the Oriental or the Commercial Bank directly to the Honorable H. Adam, Member of the Legislative Council, Port-Louis, for the Archbishop's Committee of Relief.

May Almighty God, even whilst visiting our prevarications, show His mercy by inclining the hearts of all, the rich and the poor, to give what they can, and to give it at once. Their generosity will be a great blessing to both themselves and the unfortunate Mauritians.

†LEO MEURIN, S. J.,

Archbishop of Nisibi, Bishop of Port-Louis,—Colombo, May 19, 1892.

CEYLON NEWS.

H. E. the Governor and suite returned to Colombo on Friday evening the 20th. **A sad death.** Mr. A. G. K. Borron, a prominent planter of Matale was on the 19th Inst. found dead near Dankanda estate in a gully down a precipice. The corpse was in a decomposed state. The news has been received with very general regret.

Public Meeting.—Messrs. J. B. Pauabokke, M. C. Abdul Rahman and P. Coomaraswamy, have advertised a public meeting to be held at 3 p. m. on the 26th Inst. at the Floral Hall; to consider the best way of commemorating the event of the abolition of the paddy-tax.

The Revenue. A statement published in the "Gazette" shows that the net increase in the revenue of the Island for 1891 over 1890 is Rs. 1,733,941 the revenue for 1891 being Rs. 17,262, 710.

Well-sinking. Preliminary experiments in well-sinking are being made in the neighbourhood of Negombo in connection with a scheme to improve the water-supply.

A new laundry owned by a company have begun operations in Colombo.

Military sanitarium. It has been decided to adopt Bandarawela as the site of a military sanitarium.

Immigrant Coolies. According to a return published in the "Gazette," over the signature of the G. A., Jaffna, 8,615 Immigrant coolies arrived from the coast during the month of April last.

Technical Institute. The Government have finally decided not to accept the offer made by the De Soysa family, of the Prince of Wales' College at Moratuwa in connection with the proposed Technical Institute.

Immigrant Coolies and Telegraphic Money Orders.—We understand that a Telegraphic Money Order system to India, is at present under the consideration of Government. The immigrant coolie arriving from India is said to suffer a good deal at the hands of the native traders and boutique-keepers there, owing to want of sufficient funds or advances from those who have engaged them. On the arrival of the coolies at Paumben, and on the kanaganis referring to their employer for a remittance, it takes it is said, over a week before that remittance is received and during this period the boutique-keepers double the prices of rice &c., and consequently the coolie is mulcted heavily. The matter has been brought to the attention of the Immigration Officer at Paumben who has communicated the matter to the Government Agent of the Northern Province, and it is now said to be under the consideration of Government.—Times.

Two Grand Meetings have been held, at Matale and Batticaloa, to consider how the appreciation of the public should be shown to His Excellency Sir Arthur Havelock and the gentlemen who brought about the abolition of the Paddy Tax. Both meetings were largely attended and very well conducted. At Matale it was resolved (1) to present a memorial of thanks to H. E. the Governor, (2) to heartily thank, the Cobden Club, Messrs Schwann M. P. George Wall, Wm. Digby-C. I. E., J. H. Starey, A. G. K. Borron, Robert Atherton, Le Mesurier, Fisher, Christie and the Editors of the *Evangelist* and the *Catholic Messenger*, and (3) to raise a subscription for the purpose of presenting a purse to Mr. George Wall. Mr. Van Starre who moved these resolutions, clearly observed that the thanks of the meeting were also due

to the editors of the *Observer*, who had from the commencement opposed the abolition. Were it not for the strong opposition of the abolitionists, he added, not half the facts, figures and arguments in favor of the abolition would ever have come to light.

The Meeting at Batticaloa was convened by Mr. Advocate Tisseverasinghe. Enthusiastic speeches were delivered and in addition to the proposal to present a memorial to H. E. the Governor, the expression of thanks to the gentlemen chiefly instrumental in getting the paddy tax abolished, and the decision to give Mr. George Wall some substantial token of appreciation, it was resolved that, the name of Sir A. E. Havelock should be associated with whatever is done to commemorate the event of the abolition. The closing resolution in both meetings was that certain gentlemen be sent as delegates to represent the Matale and Batticaloa communities at the General Meeting to be held in Colombo.

Ceylones away from the Island Has there ever been a time before now at which so many prominent Ceylones have been away from the island together? Here is a list, hastily put together: Attorney-General and one of his lesser lights, Colonial Secretary, Treasurer, Mayor, I. G. 2, Senior Puisne J., and no less than three unofficial M. L. Cs. The poor Legislature is indeed in a sad way with some officials removed from their own departments, and three sections of the people utterly "unrepresented." What a chance for the anti-elective-principles!

The Wrestling match between Captain Ross and Mahood Khan, which commenced on Wednesday night the 18th Inst. and seemed to be turning in favor of the Amir's Pylevan, ended on Friday night in a win for Captain Ross.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(Wednesday, May 25th, 1892, 2-30 p. m.)
NOTICE OF QUESTION.

The Hon. Mr. L. H. KELLY to ask "whether it is the case that coolies have frequently been detained, notably at Matale station, even after tickets have been issued to them, owing to an insufficiency of accommodation, even as recently as the 8th of April, when, I am informed, a number were booked by the 5-50 train but were not carried by that train."

NOTICES OF MOTIONS.

The Hon. Dr. P. D. ANTHONIZ to move "that it is desirable that the proposed increased rate of 40 cents per cwt. on salt be reduced to 20 cents; and that the difference of Rs 70,000 be recovered by increasing the duty on cotton goods."

The COLONIAL SECRETARY to move the 'rst reading of "An Ordinance to amend The Irrigation and Paddy Cultivation Ordinance, 1889."

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

(1) "An Ordinance for the enrolment of Coast Defence Volunteers."—(Committee.)

(2) "An Ordinance to amend 'The Ceylon Penal Code'."—(Committee.)

(3) "An Ordinance to abolish the Paddy Tax."—(Committee.)

(4) "An Ordinance to re-adjust the Customs Duties leviable on Kerosine Oil, Spirits, and Tobacco."—(Committee.)

(5) "An Ordinance for imposing Succession and Legacy Duties and increasing the Duties on certain Deeds of gift or Settlement."—(Committee.)

AROUND THE WORLD

It now appears to be certain that the Dissolution of Parliament will take place in July.

Seven of the French Bishops have received notice that their stipends which figured in the Budget have been stopped. It is evident that the Government intend to exhaust every means of petty persecution against the Church.

According to the "Annual of the Missions," published by the Propaganda Press the number of Catholics in the United States is 8,913,610; in Canada, 2,075,366; in the Chinese Empire, 569,551; in Australia, 610,080; and the whole of Oceania, 780,530.

The Archbishop of Westminster, speaking at the annual meeting of the Manchester Art Museum on Monday, said they had two works to carry out—viz., to destroy the danbs and horror found in our schools and in the homes of the poor, and to replace them by real art productions, so as to educate the people in the right way. Art, however, was not religion, but auxiliary to the whole work of religion.

Cardinal Lavigerie has received a telegram from Father Bresson, of Zanzibar, stating that the *Standard's* report with regard to the situation in Uganda was quite incorrect, and that the responsibility for the disaster which has occurred lies with the agents of the English company. The *Paris Temps* of Saturday published a telegram from Zanzibar which says:—According to intelligence from Uganda, dated February 2nd, six French missionaries were then being detained as prisoners by Captain Lugard at the British Fort at Kampala. Two nuns were also being treated by their Protestant fellow countrymen as slaves. Groups of women and children of the Catholic Faith with French missionaries in their midst, have been fired on by Captain William with Maxim guns. The missionaries, however, escaped unhurt.