

Third. That there still existed some differences with the Court which should have been settled at the time, but they wished in the meantime that Your Excellency should settle the first, and by that means give the Court an opportunity to show more favour to Your Excellency. I promised to inform Your Excellency of the same, but added that, in case the Court had first given satisfaction, its requests could have been addressed direct to Your Excellency, and to no other quarter. Touching the request made at the first Audience upon the points which are not yet settled, they replied that they had been settled before. I mentioned that a merchant of Bengal had assured Your Excellency that, in order to make a profit any where, no more than Rds. 50 would be given for a picul of Elephant tusks. They said that that was right, but that they mooted the subject as the price was heretofore higher. After which I again at the request went to the Hall of refreshment and after remaining there a little while I returned, and was by the first Adigar and other Court Officers conducted to the aforesaid Banyan Tree in the middle of the City. From this point I returned together with the Nanayakkara Mohottale, and two other courtiers about four o'clock to the Rest House.

On Thursday the 15th. February, at two o'clock in the afternoon, came the chief Adigar of Kandy, and the Court Officers went with me and met him at the steps leading from the river. Having arrived at the Rest House he intimated to me His Majesty's order to prepare for my departure. I departed at 4 o'clock from hence and the first Adigar and other gentlemen accompanied me in a very satisfactory manner to the place where he first received me. Here he brought forward a tusked Elephant which he said His Majesty has made a present of, at the last Audience. After the usual compliments I took leave of the Imperial Minister, and with the Weddekare Mohottale, the Rataralee of Tumpane, and Ireeyagama, I set out on my returned journey, and arrived at half past eight o'clock in the night at Wallawagodde and on the 19th. February at Sitawaka, where I took leave of my companions, wishing them a speedy and safe return; and having again set out on my journey, I had happiness on Tuesday the 20th day of February, in the afternoon to appear before Your Excellency, and give an account of my commission and deliver my Report.

I close this Report, commending Your Excellency to the protection of the Almighty: and I beg, with all possible regard and respect to subscribe myself.

Right Hon'ble and Respectful
Sir,

Your Excellency's Most Obedient
and Humble Servant,

F. A. PRINS.

Note by Editor:—

A misprint in the penultimate sentence in the earlier part of this article (page II of Vol. LIII, No: 1 & 2), is regretted. It should read: This translation is the one that appeared in the "Examiner", and is said to have been obtained from a Kandyan gentleman who found it in the *Hallangoda Walauwe in Dumbera*.

APPENDIX

GENEALOGY OF THE PRINS FAMILY OF CEYLON

(I)

Cornelis Arnoldus Prins was a relative of Willem Prins, Secretary to the Court of Directors of the Dutch East India Company and was sent out of Ceylon by him. In the roll of the Company's Servants of 1720, found in the Colonial Archives of Holland, the name of Cornelis Arnoldus appears as "Adsisistent" at Trincomalie. It also says that he entered the Company's service as "Soldaat Aan de pen" in 1703 and that he came from Galle to Trincomalie. Eventually he rose to the office of "Secretaries van Politie en Justitie" at Trincomalie. He had a son Francois Albertus Prins.

(II)

Francois Albertus Prins who married

- (1) Jongvrow Johanna Cornelia Suijk on the 13th February 1742.
- (2) Jongeockter Johanna Lydia Tijewitz on the 8th. October 1769.

1734 He joined the O.I.C. Service as Soldaat Aan de pen

1744 He became Vaandig

1754 Lieutenant

1757 Kaptein

1767 Major

1770, January 15th. he was sent as "Gesant" or Ambassador to the King of Kandy.

He died in 1779.

In the Dutch Colonial Archives Vol. No. 5114 the last will of Francois Albertus Prins and his wife Johanna Lydia Tijewitz is to be found and from it, it appears that he had two children.

- (1) Wilhelmina Getrudia, baptized in 1772 married in 1789 to Abraham Cornelis Frobus. Both left for Batavia after the surrender of the Island to the British.
- (2) Cornelis Arnoldus (who follows under III).

(III)

Cornelis Arnoldus Prins was baptized in Colombo on 15th. December, 1770. At the time of the surrender of the Island, he was holding the post of "Boekhouder". He took service under the British as "Proctor for Prisoners and Paupers" and acted for sometime as Advocate Fiseal. He married (1) Maria Cornelia Walles, also known as Maria Cornelia Deegan and had one child, Aletta Johanna Magdalena but mother and child died soon after; (2) Gerraidiana Maria Goldestein and by her:—

1. Cornelis Arnoldus
2. Francois Albertus Wilhelm (who follows under IV)
3. Johannes David Theobald (who follows under V)
4. Arnoldus Hermanus Ernst
5. Charlette Wilhelmina Aletta
6. Henri Carmichael (who follows under VI)
7. George Richard
8. Platina Ottalina & William Rudd.

(IV)

Francois Albertus Willem m Petronella Theodora Vander Straaten. He had by her:

1. Francis.
2. Charlotte Frances m W. M. Conderlag
3. Francis Albert m Adeline Muller
4. Eugene Godwin
5. Agnes Catherine m A. van Cuylenburg
6. Georgiana Maria m Kriekenbeck

(V)

Johannes Daniel Theobald m Henrietta Cornelia Ferdinands. He had by her:—

1. John Frederick m Elizabeth Hortensia Dornhorst
2. Phillip (went to India)
3. Richard Theobald m S. E. Newman
4. Son settled in New Zealand
5. Clara Henrietta m David Ernest de Saram
6. Edward H m Louisa Mariana Dornhorst.

(VI)

Henry Carmichael m Ulrica Wilhelmina Reekerman and had by her:—

1. Maria Elizabeth m William Wright Beling
2. Hennela Eleanor
3. Cornelis Arnoldus
4. John Henry
5. Clara Amelia.

NEWS AND NOTES

Pybus :—

In 1762, when the maritime regions of Ceylon were in the hands of the Dutch, the British East India Company at Madras endeavoured to enter into diplomatic relations with the Kandyan King. They entrusted the mission to a Mr. Pybus, who after undergoing much tribulation, (which is all told in a diary this envoy kept) eventually reached Kandy. He vividly describes his audience with the despot in the historic Audience Hall of the Kings of Kandy.

Appropriately enough, it is a night scene, for the Kandyan Kings held their receptions in that hall, at night-time, being doubtless conscious of the greater mystery and scenic effect that could be produced by doing so. It was about 11-30 p.m. before he got near the King's Palace, and it must have been long past midnight before "at length a white curtain at the door was drawn up, behind which, a few yards advanced in the hall, was a red one, and so on for six different curtains which discovered the end of the hall, where was a door with another white curtain before it. A few minutes afterwards, this was drawn, and discovered to us the King seated on a throne, which was a large chair, handsomely carved and gilt, raised about three feet from the floor".

"Upon the drawing of this last curtain" Pybus writes, "I continued standing with the silver dish (on which reposed the letters he carried) on my head, till I was pulled down by the skirts of my coat, and forced to kneel upon one knee on the bare ground. The hall had five larches formed across it, with bamboo or some other kind of wood, which were covered with white muslin, intermixed with pieces of red silk spotted Bengal handkerchiefs, puffed much in the same manner as a lady's ruff for her neck. The walls, ceiling and floor were all covered with white cloth, and I should have been well enough pleased with the appearance it made, had I been in a more agreeable situation".

Pybus eventually returned to Madras, having actually accomplished very little.

★ ★ ★

Boyd :

Twenty-one years later a much better known personage, Mr. Hugh Boyd—long reputed to be the author of "the Letters of Junius"—appeared in this same Audience Hall on a similar mission from the Madras Government early in 1782. He too describes the "long hall almost covered with a fine large carpet; the ceiling divided by arches that extended from side to side. Within the pillars were ranged the courtiers, sitting, in their