

The Journal

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The Dutch in Ceylon

BY

R. G. ANTHONISZ, I.S.O.

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APRIL, 1930.

[No. 5.

Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.



"Eendracht maakt Macht"

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
1. The Dutch Stock in the United States of America ...	187
2. Jacob Burnand	194
3. Remains of Dutch Governors... ..	200
4. A Glimpse at some Indian Peoples (Contd.) ...	206
5. By the Way	214
6. Annual General Meeting	218
7. D. B. U. of Ceylon, 22nd Annual Report ...	224
8. Our Late President	230
9. Notes and Queries	235
10. Notes of Events	237
11. Editorial Notes	239

Contributions are invited from members on subjects calculated to be of interest to the Union. MSS. must be written on one side of the paper only and must reach the Editor at least a fortnight before the date of publication of the Journal.

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VOL. XIX.]

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THE DUTCH STOCK IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

BY DR. HENRY BEETS, DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS, CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH, U. S. A.

By "stock" we understand here what in the Holland language is called "stam". That signifies the trunk of a tree, with its branches. There are people of this stock in almost every part of the Western hemisphere. Hollanders are found in Brazil. Quite recently Prof. Knappert wrote about them in "Neerlandia".

Some Dutchmen are scattered in Chile. In the Argentine Republic there are several Reformed congregations, forming a Classis or Presbytery.

The Pastor of these Churches is the Rev. A. C. Sonneveld of Buenos Aires, who also edits a monthly, called "Kerkblad van Zuid Amerika".

In Central America there are some Hollanders. In Mexico several Dutch families make their home there. An increasing number of people has been coming in recent years to Canada—annually about 1300 souls.

Many of these people are of the Reformed persuasion and are gathered together in such places as Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Chatham and Hamilton.

But the largest number of people of Dutch stock are in the *United States of America*.

There are two branches of this "stam".

The oldest of these branches was planted nearly three hundred years ago in the district watered by the Hudson River and its branches, now forming the States of New York and New Jersey.

About a dozen years after Henry Hudson on his Dutch ship "Halve Maan" (Half Moon) had discovered the river named after him (1608), the *Dutch West India Company*, which he was serving at the time, tried to form a permanent settlement at the mouth of the Hudson.

They succeeded in forming a town called "Nieuw Amsterdam", now known as New York. But they found it difficult to persuade the Dutch to settle permanently in the region which they had called "Nieuw Nederland". Consequently some Belgians were sent and Reformed Germans and a number of Huguenots.

The "Patroon System" was invented, a sort of revival of the feudal system. Some rich Dutch families received large estates in the Hudson valley on consideration of bringing poor Hollanders across the Atlantic to settle on their lands. This led to the founding of what is now called Albany, and other places in the State of New York.

These settlers needed spiritual leaders, but it was difficult to obtain them. At first, as at the Cape, comforters of sick served, notably Bastiaan Krol.

In 1628 the first ordained pastor was obtained in the Rev. Jonas Michaelius, who had come from Brazil, which the Dutch at the time were surrendering to the Portuguese. Rev. Michaelius and his people had a meeting place in the fort of New Amsterdam—just like the first place for religious worship in Colombo, before the Wolvendaal Church was built, was found in the fort of that place.

These Dutch settlers had at first a struggle on their hands with the Indians—leading to more than one massacre of the not too numerous people of Holland stock.

At times the Governors of the Dutch West India Company acted in an arbitrary, if not tyrannical way. That was one of the reasons why many of the settlers of New Amsterdam were not unwilling to surrender to the English fleet, which in 1664 appeared in the harbour of their city under command of the Duke of York, after whom the town was rechristened "New York".

But when the British were in control and the Church of England became the "State Church", patronized by the English aristocracy, the old Dutch Reformed Church lost some of its best blood. The "social pull" proved too strong for the younger element. Moreover, the fact that Dutch was maintained too long in an exclusive way in church services caused some to forsake the church of the fathers. They did not know enough of the Holland language to follow the preaching in it.

Moreover, there were not as many preachers as there should have been to care for the spiritual interests of the ever expanding and increasing Dutch settlements. The fact that these ministers, or most of them, were imported from the Netherlands and were unable to preach in English, retarded the change as to the language used in church services.

Some of the more progressive Dutch people asked that their preachers should be trained and ordained in America. They formed what was called the "*Coetus* Party." Their opponents, styled the "*Conferentie* Party" insisted that, as in the past, every minister should be educated in the Netherlands and ordained by the Dutch Church authorities there.

Disgraceful scenes, unseemly quarrels, followed, until the Rev. J. H. Livingstone, American born but trained at the University of Utrecht, waved the wand of peace and brought unity. That was in about 1764.

Soon after, the American Revolution wrought havoc in the Dutch Churches. The field of many battles was around New York City—the chief territory of the Reformed Church. The consequence was burned church buildings, scattered congregations, and ministers who had to flee for their lives because they had sided with the insurgents.

After the Revolutionary War, however, things improved perceptibly. Ministers were trained in the home land, in New Brunswick Seminary, in New Jersey. Leading men, such as the Frelinghuysens and President Van Buren, put the old Church on the map, socially speaking. It soon became an honour to be called "Dutch", and to trace one's ancestors back to the "Knickerbockers" of the New Netherlands was to many the same as obtaining a patent of nobility.

President Roosevelt shed new luster on the Dutch name and Church, and the old denomination was able recently thankfully to

celebrate its tercentenary. It was on that occasion that the Rev. David Tweed was present to represent the old Dutch churches of Ceylon.

The Dutch Reformed Church, officially known as the *Reformed Church of America*, now enrolls some 800 congregations, from ocean to ocean. It supports three weekly papers, "The Christian Intelligencer" published in New York City, and "The Leader" and "The Hope" published in Holland, Mich.

Extensive missionary work is carried on by the Church, not alone in the homeland but in Arabia, Japan, China and India. The Arcott Mission in the last named country recently celebrated the diamond jubilee of its founding. Besides the New Brunswick Seminary in New Jersey, already alluded to, the denomination maintains its "Western Seminary", at Holland, Mich., besides Rutgers, Hope and Central Colleges, and some Middle Schools.

It was during the middle of the nineteenth century that a second branch of the Dutch "stam" was planted in the United States of America.

In the year 1834 a Secession had taken place in the Netherlands. A number of God-fearing men and women had become dissatisfied with the doctrine and discipline of the old Reformed church of their fathers, and felt bound in conscience to leave it. They founded a denomination which some years later came to be known as the *Christian Reformed Church*.

These Seceders were prosecuted by the government, ostracized socially, and hurt in their business in various ways. In addition to this, times were hard during the middle part of the nineteenth century in Holland. Many were unable to make ends meet and began to think of migrating to some other land. The Dutch East Indies were mentioned as a future home, but the Government refused permission for settling. South Africa seemed far away, and social conditions there were also deemed a barrier. Unfortunately nobody thought of beautiful Ceylon to join its Burghers.

Encouraging reports from Dutch people already in the United States caused the poor and persecuted Seceders and others who felt of one mind and heart with them to look to North America. Hundreds arrived there in 1846 and following years, settling in the State of Michigan, under the Rev. A. C. Van Raalte, and in the

State of Iowa under the Rev. H. P. Scholte. Before long there were several Dutch clergymen in the Michigan settlements which were named after places in the homeland, such as Holland, Zeeland, Vriesland, New Groningen, Overisel, Zutphen, Haarlem, North Holland, &c.

The Iowa colony named its settlement Pella. In the course of the next twenty-five years some of the Pella Dutchmen founded the town of Orange City, in North-Western Iowa, and named other places or townships "Maurice," "Nassau," &c.

Some twenty-five years later people from Orange City and other places went to the State of South Dakota to found such settlements as New Holland and Joubert. In fact, wherever our people have gone into new districts, they perpetuated old Dutch names of places, including Rotterdam and Amsterdam as well as South Holland, &c. Such settlements are now found in many northern States of the American Union, from ocean to ocean, as well as in more southern States, such as Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico and California.

There are about 37,000 people of the Dutch stock who belong to Roman Catholic congregations, but the great bulk of the Holland immigrants of 1846 and their descendents, at least about 200,000 of them, belong to either one or other of the two Reformed churches, viz., the Dutch Reformed Church already named, or the Christian Reformed Church.

Besides these there are thousands of people of the Dutch stock who have joined other bodies, such as the Presbyterian Church, and, sad but true, many thousands more continue without any church connections.

It was pointed out by Dr. L. A. Prins in an article in the "Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union" for October 1927, "What is that which has kept us together as a community? It is the Dutch Church."

That applies also in North America.

We have already related several things about the Dutch Reformed Church, and need not say more about that historic denomination. But now as to the other body named the *Christian Reformed Church*. It originated in 1857. Some eight years before that date the Reformed Hollanders in Michigan, under the Rev. Van Raalte, had, on invitation, joined the Dutch Reformed Church of the

eastern part of the U.S. The clergyman extending the invitation had stated that if they at any time discovered that the union he proposed was contrary to their religious enjoyment and prosperity, they would be allowed to bid a fraternal adieu to the Reformed body and be again by themselves. That statement was made in 1849. In the course of the next few years, one clergyman and people of four churches reached the conclusion that it were better for them to be by themselves again, and so, as we have already said, in 1857, they started denominational church life anew. In the course of time they adopted the name of the Church of their brethren across the sea: *Christian Reformed*. That name they bear to this day, although their fellow-believers in Holland, at a Church Union formed in 1882, adopted the name "*Reformed Churches in the Netherlands*." Those churches by the way now number about half a million souls, in 800 congregations. They have their schools for training ministers in Amsterdam (Free University) and at Kampen, (Theological School.) They carry on a flourishing and extensive mission work on the island of Java.

But, to return to the American body—the Christian Reformed Church at first had to struggle for its existence. After 1820, however, due to heavy immigration of fellow-believers from the Netherlands, and the efforts of home missionaries to gather them into churches, the denomination began to grow considerably in numbers and influence. At present it has an enrolment of over 100,000 souls, in 265 congregations, shepherded by 250 pastors. These ministers are trained in Calvin College and Theological School, located at Grand Rapids, Mich., in which city alone there are twenty Christian Reformed congregations, with as many ministers, all under separate consistories.

The denomination numbers 15 Classes or Presbyteries. Delegates of these bodies meet every other year, as a Synod, the broadest Church Court.

In 1930 its regular meeting will be held in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Some of the Christian Reformed maintain Grundy College and Hull Academy in Iowa, and several High Schools, (Middle Schools) as well as about 75 Christian Primary Schools with about 10,000 pupils.

Much stress is laid on teaching the youth in weekly *catechism classes*. A series of text books for these classes, in the English language, has been written during the last 30 years.

The denomination carries on mission work, not alone among the scattered Reformed people of the United States and Canada, but also maintains two Jewish mission plants, while extensive work is done among the Indians of New Mexico—the Navajoes and Zunies.

In 1922 mission work was begun in Northern China, above Shanghai, with the city of Jukao, Kiangsu province, as centre.

It was in connection with a visit to this field that the writer of these lines saw the way opened to visit Colombo, and he was delighted to spend a day there.

The denomination publishes two weeklies, one in English, "*The Banner*" and one in Dutch "*De Wachter*"—both printed in Grand Rapids, Mich.

The "*Missionary Monthly*", formerly called "*De Heidenwereld*", a Reformed Review, serves both the denominations here briefly described. Its business address is Grand Rapids, Mich., U.S.A.

The people of the two Dutch churches, in the western part of the U.S.A., maintain several "Homes for the Aged", two institutions for the insane, and one for tuberculosis sufferers.

To prove that the Dutch language is not yet dead in America, we may mention that there are about a dozen weeklies published in the Holland tongue, while part of the "*Missionary Monthly*" is in the language of the old country. There is also a surprisingly large Holland-American literature, principally of a religious character, while poetry and history and some fiction was printed in the course of time. Many Dutch books are being imported from the Netherlands.

In conclusion we may say, in the words of the writer of an article in the JOURNAL for January 1928, p. 135; "We have preserved our traditions as a Dutch community, held fast to the belief of our fathers, and have remained an independent, self-supporting and self-governing body", to which we may add: "expanding, through our schools and missionary endeavor as well."

JACOB BURNAND.

A circumstance which cannot fail to strike the student of Dutch history in Ceylon is that while something at least is known of the lives of the Dutch Governors of Ceylon, very little indeed is extant concerning the services of officers lower down the scale who in their own small way contributed to make history. Mr. R. G. Anthonisz, Mr. F. H. de Vos, Mr. Edmund Reimers and other writers have given us an insight into the lives of Governors Maatzuyker, van Goens, van der Graaff, Falck and van Angelbeek—to name only a few—but the deeds of the Opperkoopmans and Onderkoopmans who helped in the administration of this island are, with one solitary exception, viz., Jacob Burnand, a closed book to us. Even the details of Burnand's career are not very copious, but what is available is of such a nature as to atone in some measure for the lack of information concerning other officers of his class.

Jacob Burnand arrived in Ceylon in 1778 as Onderkoopman or Junior Merchant. He was then about 25 years of age, and appears to have had a good scientific education or at least a leaning for the sciences, if one may judge from his subsequent achievements. The agricultural problems of Batticaloa offered full scope for his attainments, and the record of his services in that district is one of which any man may well be proud. Unfortunately there is very little contemporary evidence to show what he did in the cause of agriculture, and we have therefore to rely on reports which were made on the irrigation works constructed by him by people who saw them many years afterwards. Reporting on the irrigation of the fields dependent on the Pattipola Aar in 1856, Mr. J. W. Birch, one of the ablest of the Government Agents of the Eastern Province, wrote as follows:—

“Along the banks of the River are situated four natural hollow plains, each capable of containing a very large quantity of water, here called “Villoos”, viz., Condewattavan Villoo, Ambare Villoo, Ericamam Villoo, and Cudi Villoo. I have been unable to ascertain the history of these natural reservoirs previous to the Dutch dynasty, but it is certain that a Mr. Francké when Chief of this District, erected certain dams at Cudi Villoo and Ambare Villoo, closing the debouchures of these reservoirs and rendering them cap-

able of retaining a large amount of water, which was husbanded till the season of drought, and then led off to the fields of Carrewagoo and Samantoere plains. Mr. Burnand, the most intelligent and most able and active of all the Dutch Chiefs, and whose name is still known and revered by all the people of this District, repaired that of Ambare, and erected a large dam at Ericamam Villoo, converting that into a splendid reservoir, and by far the finest of all. Cudi Villoo was then abandoned, and some intention (tradition says) was entertained of forming Condewattavan Villoo into a reservoir, but the British taking possession interfered with this liberal minded officer's views, and the work was not even commenced.”

This is not the only tribute paid by Mr. Birch to Burnand's engineering skill. In a report on the Kalaar dam Mr. Birch wrote:—“I must ask here the attention of Government to a work, not exactly a work of irrigation, but one so materially affecting a large extent of paddy cultivation that I feel I may properly introduce it as a work of the first importance in the District. It is, like these Irrigation works, one constructed by that able Chief, Mr. Burnand, and left uncompleted, commonly called the Dutch Wall at Kalaar.” He then goes on to describe the work and concludes as follows: “Mr. Burnand, with a view to remedy these evils, commenced a wall, which he succeeded in erecting across the southernmost opening, and the work is now in existence from the mainland to the island, though fast falling to pieces.”

With such a capable Engineer as Burnand, it is not surprising that the Dutch Government were able to initiate an irrigation policy in the Batticaloa District which evoked the admiration of that distinguished Governor, Sir Henry Ward, whose name is so closely associated with irrigation in Ceylon. In a despatch to the Secretary of State dated 27th February, 1857, Sir Henry Ward wrote:—“Certain it is that the practice of the Dutch Government, which was not wanting in sagacity, was directly at variance with our own; and that the points upon which it was most at variance are those in which it is held by the natives to have been most distinctly right. For example, in the case of the Pattipola Aar (River), the care of the Dutch Government was incessant. That of the British Government has been absolutely null (? nil). The Dutch Government by wise regulations combined the labour of the rice growing districts for the maintenance of the Dams and Canals, upon which the

common prosperity depended. The British Government proclaimed (Mr. Huskisson's Proclamation) by beat of tom toms, that no community of labour was required, and that any Headman who called out the working men of his district for the purpose of repairing Dams or keeping up the banks of Canals, would be dismissed. The Dutch Government required, and received, a series of half-yearly reports upon the works connected with the Pattipola River, which it considered, naturally and properly, as the principal source of its Revenue from grain in the Eastern Province. The British Government so completely ignored its existence, that I doubt whether the name be better known now to nine-tenths of the English residents in Colombo, than it was to me in 1885."

In another place Sir Henry Ward speaks of "the ablest and most scientific of the Dutch Commissioners, Mr. Burnand, whose name is still remembered here as the greatest benefactor of the Province."

But Burnand's claims to fame do not rest solely on his skill as an Engineer. He was also a born administrator, and had he lived in our day would have proved a formidable rival to Mr. (now Sir Edward) Denham as a Director of Food Production. The steps taken by him to increase paddy cultivation were so effective that the revenue from paddy during his administration of the Batticaloa District was more than quadrupled. In the memorial delivered to the new Governor, van Angelbeek, by the departing Governor, van de Graaff, the following tribute to Burnand's energy and enterprise occurs:—"Batticaloa, until the Senior Merchant Burnand was appointed Chief there, did not produce to Government more than 16,250 (parrahs) yearly; the paddy duty produced last year in the Batticaloa District 61,062 $\frac{2}{9}$ parrahs. According to private information from the aforesaid Chief, there is reason to expect that the paddy duty will produce this year more or less 75,000 parrahs, and should the mode of administration established by Mr. Burnand be continued, he is of opinion that within a few years the Paddy Duty will produce 100,000 parrahs yearly."

Very early in his career in Batticaloa, Burnand took steps to establish a *Staats Vergadering*, i.e., a species of deliberative council composed of the Chiefs of the Mookwas, who form a class by themselves in the Batticaloa District. "Though very defective in its powers," says Pridham, "it soon gave proofs of its utility. The natives were quick to perceive that their interest was now identified

with the due administration of Government; they ceased to display any jealousy towards other colonists, and the progress of the Province was so rapid that in a few years its population had doubled, its produce in grain had quadrupled, and a part of the Colony, which had before been considered next to valueless, became, under this beneficent stimulus, remarkable for the contentment of its people, the number of cattle it reared, and the abundance of grain it produced."

To Burnand also belongs the credit of having fostered the weaving industry in Batticaloa, which still forms one of the minor industries of the District. In the memorial left by Governor van de Graaff already referred to he writes:—"The Chief of Batticaloa, Mr. Burnand, has introduced there a great deal of regularity among the weavers; a tolerable quantity of coarse cloth is made at that place, which is consumed both there and in the Trincomalee District; and to judge from the small sum that the Cloth Farm yields on the east part of the island, it must be supposed that the lower class is supplied for the greatest part from the Cloth manufacturers at Batticaloa."

Burnand was also responsible for improving the cultivation of the cacao tree in Ceylon. Bennett in his book "Ceylon and its Capabilities" says:—"The soil is also admirably adapted to the growth of the hitherto much neglected chocolate-nut tree (*Theobroma Cacao, L.*), which, in the course of a few years, might rank as a staple of the Island. I have had very fine specimens of the fruit in my own garden, from trees planted by the late Jacobus Burnand, Esq., a Dutch gentleman, whose name is deservedly remembered at Ceylon with respect and regard; for he was distinguished, both by his zeal for the welfare of the Island, through the introduction of the culture of valuable exotics from the Malay Peninsula, and the Dutch Islands of Java, Banda, and Amboyna, and by his botanical acquirements. The nuts were equal to the finest I had seen at Penang and Malacca, or in the Western Indies, and in no degree inferior, either in size or nutritious properties, to the best productions of South America."

Burnand was in due course, on account of his superior local knowledge, promoted to the high office of Dissawe of Jaffnapatnam, but unfortunately there is no record of his services in that capacity. When the Governor and Council of Ceylon requested Sir Alexander

Johnston to go to England officially in 1809 for the purpose of explaining to Lord Londonderry, Secretary of State for the Colonies, the real state of Ceylon and the nature of the different alterations and improvements which were deemed necessary by Governor Maitland and himself (he being one of the members of Council) in every Department of Government, Sir Alexander, after acquainting them with the object with which he was going to England, requested all the Dutch and native inhabitants of the Island candidly to give him their detailed opinions upon those subjects with which they were respectively the most conversant. In accordance with this request, Burnand furnished Sir Alexander Johnston with an able Memoir entitled "Fragments of the ancient and modern state of the Island of Ceylon and its Agriculture; on the Liabilities to Service of its Inhabitants; its Revenue in General; and some considerations on the establishment of the permanent system of Taxation for the interior of the Island." Sir Alexander Johnston, at the request of Lord Londonderry, caused an English translation to be made of this Memoir, which he considered one of the most useful documents which Lord Londonderry could read on the subject of Ceylon.

On his retirement Burnand removed to Colombo where he settled down. We wish we were given an insight into the manner in which this distinguished Civil Servant spent those quiet days which succeeded his strenuous official life. All that has come down to us however in regard to this period of his life is in connection with two transactions relating to the selling and buying of house property. Burnand seems to have been a careful man, who was able to put by sufficient money to buy landed property in the town of Colombo. The date of the purchase is not known, but in 1803 he decided to sell the property to Mr. Gualterus Schneider. As a matter of historical interest we give in full the deed by which the transfer was effected.

"Know all men by these Presents that I, Jacob Burnand, Inhabitant of Colombo, in consideration of the Sum of One Thousand Two hundred and Fifty Rixdollars, to me in hand paid by Mr. Gualterus Schneider (the receipt of which I the said Jacob Burnand do hereby acknowledge) do grant, bargain and sell unto the said Mr. Gualterus Schneider his Heirs Executors and Assigns for ever: A garden situated and lying at Hultsdorp, within the four gravets of Colombo, and bounded to the north by the high

road leading to garden house of His Excellency, to the east by the late Landraad belonging to the Government, to the south by the garden of Samarakoon Moodliar, and to the west by the house and garden of the said Mr. Schneider, containing in its extent three square roods and twenty-six square poles, according to the annexed figure duly authenticated; with all and singular the appurtenances thereto belonging, and all the right title and estate whatsoever by me the said Jacob Burnand in and to the same and every part hereof: To Have and to Hold the said garden and all and singular the said premises above mentioned with the appurtenances, unto the said Mr. Gualterus Schneider his heirs and assigns, to the use and behoof of him the said Mr. Gualterus Schneider his heirs and assigns for ever; subject however to all such taxes charges and impositions as now exist and such also as Government may judge proper hereafter to establish, and I the said Jacob Burnand for myself and my heirs all and singular the said premises with their and every of their rights members and appurtenances against me the said Jacob Burnand and my heirs, and against all and every other person and persons whatsoever, to the said Mr. Gualterus Schneider his heirs and assigns, shall and will warrant and for ever defend by these presents.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my signature and seal at Colombo this twenty-eighth day of May in the Year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and three.

Signed sealed
and delivered
in the presence of

(Signed) J. BURNAND."

(Signed) W. W. Felsingher

(Signed) L. H. Lourensz

The other transaction referred to is in reference to the purchase of a house by Burnand. This was a building in the fort of Colombo "situated in the street leading to the Main Gate, bounded on the north by Coernedo Street, east by houses of Mr. Max, etc." The purchase was made by Burnand on 14th July 1809, the price paid being 9,000 rix dollars, "money of Ceylon paid to him for the use of His Majesty." The names of Mr. Smith, Mr. Mack, and Mr. Uhlenbeck appear in the deed.

Burnand died in Colombo, in March, 1816, at the age of 64 years. The "Asiatic Journal" in recording the event and giving a very brief account of his career, adds that his death was "universally regretted."

REMAINS OF DUTCH GOVERNORS.

THE TORCH LIGHT FUNERAL PROCESSION IN 1813
ON THE REMOVAL OF THE REMAINS OF THE DUTCH GOVERNORS
AND OTHERS FROM THE OLD CHURCH ON THE SITE OF
THE PRESENT GORDON GARDENS TO THE
WOLVENDAAL CHURCH.

BY A. N. WEINMAN.

It is not generally known that there was a very old church within the Castle of Colombo, standing on the Gordon Gardens of to-day, and that it only disappeared after the removal to Wolvendaal in 1818 of the remains of the Dutch Governors and others who had been interred there.

Cordiner, who wrote in 1807, refers to this old church, which he describes as a building of a "heavy appearance" standing on one side of the parade ground. It is said to have been in a very bad state of repair, the roof having fallen in even before the British took Colombo, and is undoubtedly the same old church referred to by the Belgian Physician Daalmans, who visited Ceylon in 1687, according to whom it was "the one relic of the fifty churches that, in the time of the Portuguese, stood in the districts of Colombo, Negambo and Galle, and it did not differ much from them, but was also in ruins when I was there."

It is reasonable to suppose that this church, which had been built by the Portuguese, was repaired or even rebuilt by the Dutch, for it is pretty certain that it became the chief church of the Company, and continued to be the principal place of worship for many years, as the Wolvendaal Church, which superseded it as the official Church of the Dutch Company, took eighteen years in the building, and was not dedicated for public worship till 1757. The crypt and vaults of the old church in the Fort, however, continued to serve as a place of sepulture for the exalted, and even the remains of Governor van Angelbeek, the last of the Dutch Governors of Ceylon, found a resting place there.

The situation of the Wolvendaal Church appears to indicate that it was intended for the convenience of those living in the "Oude Stad" and "Buiten" (outside), and was therefore

designated the "Buiten Kerk," (outside church), to distinguish it from the "Binnen Kerk," (inside church). The name "Wolvendaal" is the Dutch rendering of the Portuguese "Agoa de Loupe" meaning "The Dale of Wolves", possibly a marsh infested with jackals. The church is supposed to have been originally built for the use of the native Christians, but if this was so, it is quite certain that the intention was not adhered to, for it eventually became the official church of the Dutch, special pews being provided for the Governor and higher officials.

Both Cordiner and Percival give a few interesting details about the old church within the Fort. Divine Service, we are told, continued to be held within its roofless walls, for some time after the British took Colombo, at the rather early hour of half past six in the morning. Interruptions by frequent showers of rain, however, led to this building being given up, and "Government House," then in the occupation of General Macdowal, was converted into a church on his vacating it in 1804. This massive old building, facing the harbour, formerly the residence of the Dutch Governors and where all Council Meetings took place, is easily identified as the S. Peter's¹ of to-day. The Service was subsequently transferred to Wolvendaal Church, but on account of the inconvenience to the troops of the march to Wolvendaal "in this sultry climate", S. Peter's was reverted to after a short time. The picture by Reimers in the Rijks Museum, Amsterdam, a copy of which hangs in the Colombo Museum, shows the interior of this building on the occasion of the audience given by Governor Falck to the Kandyan Ambassadors in 1772.

The floor of the roofless old church (in the Gordon Gardens) was covered with grave stones, under which lay the family vaults of the principal Dutch inhabitants. Flat stones were laid across the mouth of the vault, after the coffin was lowered, but no earth was placed inside. In describing the funeral of Governor van Angelbeek which took place on the 3rd September, 1799, Cordiner says it was attended by a party of mourners in black, as well as a large number of Europeans and natives of the Settlement, and that the body was deposited in the family vault, side by side with that of his wife, whose skeleton was seen through a glass in the cover of her coffin.

1. The first Chaplain of St. Peter's was the Rev. James Cordiner, author of the Book on Ceylon.

It is most probable that there were no burials in the compound of the old church, excepting of course within the walls of the church itself. The "Kerkhof" was situated, in accordance with Dutch Custom, outside the Fort, and corresponds with our Pettah Burial Ground, where, no doubt, all those who were unable to pay the high charge for interment within the church were buried. In Dutch times it was divided into two portions: "Het binnen Kerkhof" for the Dutch and "Het buiten Kerkhof" for Christian natives, but both portions of the cemetery were in the same enclosure without a dividing wall.

As there is no record of any further burials in the old Fort church, it may be presumed that there were no others after that of Governor van Angelbeek. The lapse of a few more years, and the neglected and desolate appearance of this bit of consecrated ground, once the site of a Christian Church, became a matter of concern to many, and it was noticed with regret that the tombs of several men, eminent in their day, were fast crumbling up through exposure to the elements, whose ravages they were not constructed nor intended to resist, having originally been placed under the shelter of a roof. The authorities lost no time in consulting representatives of the principal Dutch families, and, with their approval and consent, it was decided to remove the coffins with their remains, and the tombstones, to the Church at Wolvendaal where proper vaults had been prepared for their accommodation.

In accordance with this decision, the remains of five Dutch Governors, of their relatives and others, were removed to Wolvendaal Church with considerable pomp, the ceremony taking place by torch light¹ on the night of Saturday, 4th September, 1813, at 6 o'clock, the procedure being laid down in the following order published in the Gazette of September 2nd, 1813:—

"Order for the ceremonial of the removal of their Excellencies The Dutch Governors from the Old Burial Ground adjoining the Parade within the Fort of Colombo, to the Church of Wolvendaal.

Troops of Cavalry.

Military Music.

A Captain's Guard of Honour
of His Majesty's 19th Regiment.

G e n t l e m e n	D {	The B. dies borne by Soldiers of His Majesty's 19th Regiment. Clergymen of the Colony,	D n t l c h m e n
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1. This ceremony was accorded to members of very high rank by the Dutch.

Dutch Burghers.

Gentlemen of the late Dutch Govern-
ment.

The Modeliars of the Cutcherry of
Colombo.

The Modeliars of the Commissioner of
Revenue.

The Modeliars of the Chief Secretary.

The Modeliars of the Supreme Court
of Judicature.

The Modeliars of the Governor's Gate.
Military Officers of the Garrison of
Colombo,

moving in files two deep,
The Junior ranks leading.

The Civil Servants of His Majesty's
Government.

The Members of His Majesty's Council
in their Carriages.

The Military Staff and Aides de Camp
of His Excellency the Governor.

The Governor in his Carriage accom-
panied by the Hon'ble the Chief
and Puisne Justices.

A Subaltern's Guard of His Majesty's
19th Regiment.

Orderly Dragoons.

The Ceremony to be conducted by
Capt. Hardy, A.D.C. to His Excellency
the Governor, aided by Lieut. Cox,
Fort Adjutant.

A list of names of the deceased Governors with the dates of their deaths, a list of their relations, etc., is also published in the Gazette referred to above, and is as follows:—

The Hon'ble Mr. Hertenberg ¹	died	1725
The Hon'ble Mr. Vreeland ²	„	1752
The Hon'ble Baron Van Eck ³	„	1765
The Hon'ble Mr. Falck ⁴	„	1785
The Hon'ble Mr. Van Angelbeek ⁵	„	1802 (?)

Relations of Governor Vreeland

Mr. L. Schmidt

Mrs. Schmidt

Two sons of the late Commander of Galle Mr. Fretz.

Relations of Governor Baron Van Eck.

Mr. de Lannoy

Mrs. de Lannoy.

Relations of Governor Falck.

Colonel Paravacini

Mrs. Paravacini

(Formerly widow of Governor Falck.)

Wife and Relations of Governor van Angelbeek.

Mrs. van Angelbeek

Mrs. van de Graff

Mrs. Lever

Governor Schreuder's daughter.

Other persons whose remains have been ascertained.

Head Administrator Van Minnen

The son of Governor Domburg

Mrs. Loten, wife of Governor Loten

Messrs. Alebos, Linderborn, Holst

and the remains of three persons whose names are unknown.

1. Johannes Hertenberg, Governor, January, 12, 1724.
2. Gerrard Joan Vreeland, Extraordinary Councillor of India and Governor, March, 6 1751.
3. Lubbert Jan Baron Van Eck, Governor. (He conquered the Kingdom of Kandy in February, 1765.) Nov. 11, 1762.
4. Iman William Falck, Governor and Director of India, August 9, 1765
5. Joan Gerard van Angelbeek, Ordinary Councillor of India and Governor until Feb. 16th 1796, when Colombo surrendered to the Arms of His Britannic Majesty, July, 15, 1794.

The above list appears to contain several inaccuracies, but it is not proposed to point out more than one or two. Firstly, the year of Governor van Angelbeek's death is 1799 and not 1802 as stated, and secondly the Mr. Holst would appear to be no other than General Hulft, who was in supreme command of the Naval and Military forces of the Dutch during a very eventful period of their rule in Ceylon, namely, the siege and conquest of Colombo. The day after his return from a visit to the Kandyan Court he was killed by a chance shot from one of the Portuguese bastions, while he was going round inspecting the defences. His body was taken to Galle by sea and laid to rest in the "Groote Kerk" there, but was brought back to Colombo after the siege, when a second funeral took place.

The memorials of several eminent persons, including General Hulft whose remains were removed to Wolvendaal, have, strange to say, completely disappeared. Whether lost or used for other purposes—a by no means unusual end for a tomb-stone—the fact remains that there is no trace whatever of these memorials.

A GLIMPSE AT SOME INDIAN PEOPLES.

BY J. A. POULIER, JR.

(Continued from page 145.)

Reference has already been made to the Dravidians with whom the early Aryan invaders came in contact. They are supposed to be the descendants of an early Mediterranean race that migrated into India years before the advent of the Aryans. Here they inter-married with the Negroid types extant, giving rise to a progeny of dark skin, but without the uncouth appearance of the savage aborigines. The Dravidians soon spread themselves out over the length and breadth of the land and disseminated their culture and language, which was in a fairly well developed stage when the Aryans encountered them.

Proving a more powerful force than the Dravidians, the Aryans overpowered them in the North, and almost completely destroyed their language and culture, which were replaced by those of the conqueror. And so we find today that the people of North India, though not necessarily Aryan by race, are nevertheless so in culture and language, though much of the Dravidian grammatical forms survived, especially in the conjugation of the verbs, and very often one finds Dravidian idiom clothed in Sanskrit terminology. The Sanskrit, the complicated language of the early Aryan settlers, gradually but surely deteriorated into several dialects, each Province or kingdom having its particular vernacular which they used in social intercourse with one another, instead of the old Sanskrit which became the language of the Church and the Priesthood.

Bengali, Marati, Hindi, Punjabi and Gujarati are developments from these ancient and corrupted Sanskrit dialects tinged with Dravidian idiom and expression, for the people who adopted them were Dravidians. And this destructive work of the Aryans would have expelled Dravidianism altogether from India but that the Vindhya Range and the dense forests of the interior, which acted as barriers, hindered the march of the invaders further South, and so Dravidianism was allowed to live, and flourished in

the South alongside of its rival in the North. But though it did not succeed in altogether exterminating Dravidianism, the new cultural system influenced the South to a very great extent, if not culturally and linguistically, certainly religiously, for even the greatest master-pieces of Dravidian literature have as their themes matter drawn from the religion of the Northern Aryas, and although Tamil remains to this day the purest of all the Dravidian tongues, the others, Telugu, Kanarese, and Malayalam have been influenced to a very large extent by Sanskrit.

India then divides itself culturally and linguistically into two parts—an Aryan North, and a Dravidian South, and we shall now review the peoples of each of these parts, but in doing so we must also remember that India was later invaded by Scythian and Mongol peoples and Arabs who entered with the Mughal conquerors, and all these elements merged in the already existing medley of races.

Comprising the class Dravidian are four races all inhabiting South India—Tamils, Telugus, Kanarese, Malayalees.

The Tamil country extends from Cape Comorin in the South, and East of the Western Ghats through the Salem and Arcot Districts to Madras in the North, comprising in ancient times the Pandya and Chola kingdoms. Strange to say, although the Tamil country is very Dravidian both in language and race, it is a district where the caste system is very keenly adhered to, especially in such centres as Kumbakonam and Conjeevaram, which are also centres of orthodox Brahminism in the South, and renowned for ages as great religious centres containing some of the oldest Temples in India. Madura has been for years the centre of Tamil learning, and Chidambaram of pilgrimage.

Whether as a servant of the highest rank or a labourer in the worst soil, the Tamil is noted for his diligence and powers of patience and endurance in any task, and his mental agility, coupled with an astounding memory, makes many a business man show him preference as a clerk or copyist.

The Tamils are extremely friendly towards strangers. In no way inclined towards reserve, they are free and open hearted, and will quickly make the stranger in their midst feel quite at home. Their language is very mellifluous and usually spoken rapidly, with the words running into each other, and when spoken by a scholar sounds very pleasant.

Tamil is said to possess the best literature among the Dravidian languages and also the purest.

The Telugus or Andhras belonged originally to the Andhra Desa, a kingdom stretching from the Godaveri on the North to the Krishna further South. Today it is bounded on the North by the confines of Bengal, and on the South Madras, and extending from the East coast as far inland as the Deccan.

Though primarily a Dravidian language, Telugu, by reason perhaps of its greater proximity to the North, has been very largely influenced by Sanskrit, and while possessing a form of writing quite different in appearance to the Tamil, introduces the Sanskrit aspirates which the Tamil does not.

Telugu, by a preponderance of soft vowel sounds at the end of almost all its words, is extremely dulcet, and has often been spoken of as the "Italian of the East," a very characteristic ending of words being a short "oo", *pustakamu*, book; *addamu*, mirror; *uttaramu*, letter; *povatsunaru*, you go; *ostunadu*, he comes; while those words of which there are cognate ones in Tamil usually end in "m" characteristic of Tamil. *Pustakamu* becomes in Tamil *pustakam*, and *uttaramu*, *uttaram*.

Though possessing very much the same colour, Telugus are always distinguishable from Tamils, especially by those who have been amongst the two pleasant peoples sufficiently long. In dress too they are not very different, although the Telugu usually wears his cloth as a "Dhoti" instead of a "verti" so common in the Tamil country. In the Northern Telugu country, however, the people are more inclined to affect the high turbans, loose shirts, and curious sandals of the sturdier Maratas.

The Kanarese, called by themselves "Kannada," are the inhabitants of the Mysore State, though some of them are also found in Mangalore and its environs, and not a few are scattered in the Western confines of the Haidarabad State.

The Kanarese seem to have cut out lines for themselves, and are rather clearly noticeable among the Dravidian races, by possessing facial characteristics and ways of life that remind one of the North. In fact the Kanarese country is a stepping stone from Dravidian India to Aryan.

The women not only wear jackets or loose blouses under their sarees, which the Tamils of the lower classes do not, but also tie their hair in large knots at the back of their heads, over which they usually fasten little garlands of creamy white flowers after the fashion of the Maratas.

Starting from the Native State of Travancore on the South to the confines of Goa on the North, and West of the Western Ghats, lies the Malabar Coast, renowned from the days of old as one of the marts of the ancient Phoeniceans, Greeks and Arabs. The Malayalee, fairer of skin than other Dravidians, especially if he belong to Cochin or British Malabar, ever dressed in his "*mundu*"—a single fold of white linen, is known all over India as the greatest adventurer among India's sons. Whether it be in Bombay, or Calcutta, or Madras, the fame of the Malayalee in the culinary art is beyond question. But it is not as a cook alone that he ranks high in the estimation of others, for Kerala can boast of many a lettered son that has won laurels for his race at the Universities of Madras and Bombay. Shri Shankar, one of the greatest of India's savants and philosophers, hailed from Kerala.

Between the kingdom of Rajputana on the North, and Mysore on the South, lies the country of the Maratas.

Large, high turbans, blue, red, yellow, or white, rising above, and half secluding sullen, stolid faces, flowing loose shirts of Sholapur linen enclosing frames of grit and muscle, short, pleated dhotis facilitating quick movement, patterned oriental sandals with

curled-up toe bespeaking status and rank, the filibuster Marata plods on with unperturbed pace, the path of Progress and Achievement.

Reserved and collected by Nature, not easily moved by impulse, slow to make friends, seldom enticed by the allurements of pleasure, quick to adopt reforms, and merciless in the destruction of old abuses, the Marata throws out a ray of celestial hope that promises a better India.

Bengalis have been spoken of as possessing intellects comparable with those of the most erudite of the human race, but the Marata is practical; the man who says little but does much, who knows what to do at the right time, and does not scruple to do it. Justice Bhandarkar, Justice Ranade, Pandita Ramabai Saraswati, the Crown of India's Womanhood, Gokhale, the founder of the "Servants of India Society," and countless others connected with, and to a large measure responsible for, social and moral uplift among the depressed—Maratas.

Maratas have been renowned in the annals of India as fighters of the first rank. One has only to pick up a reliable history of India, and the worth of the Marata stands written in letters of gold. One need hardly speak of Sivaji, the hero of Maharashtra, who taught illiterate farmers the meaning of war and self defence and trained them in the art of becoming masters by making common cause with themselves instead of languishing as slaves, and the result was that when the Mughal threatened to overwhelm South India, Sivaji appealed to the strong religious unity of the Marata, for which Tukaram, the Hindu Saint of Maharashtra was responsible, and the Muslim trembled. It was Tukaram who woke the hearts of his people to a common worship of their national deity, and whose poems are an inspiration and a mine of spiritual wealth to Hindu and Christian alike. If Sivaji and the Marata people have done anything, they have made him look foolish who said that the Hindu was a "dreamer of dreams."

As neighbours of the Maratas, occupying the Northern districts of the Bombay Presidency and Katiawar are the Gujaratis

—calm, calculating business men. Humble, thrifty, not doing unto others as they would they should not do unto them, firm of purpose, and dogged of nature, the Gujaratis have for years lived in mutual friendship with the Maratas from whom they are at once distinguishable by their colour, which is of a paler shade, and their features which are far more pointed and Grecian-like than those of the Maratas.

Maharashtra has given India Sivaji, and Gujarat Mahatma Gandhi. Not a Napoleon who tried to attain his goal by wading through the blood of millions, nor a Julius Caesar, before whose triumphal car many an innocent captive of war trembled awe-struck, ever expecting death instantaneous at the executioner's heavy blow, or everlasting serfdom in the den of a devotee of Bacchus—Rome, the monster drunk with the blood of Martyrs, and the abominations of the earth, not a Milton of literary fame, nor a Dante soaring in the realms of imagery and romance—but great in that his greatness consists in love—a *human*.

The Sikhs of the Panjab are members of a religious community, being the disciples of Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikh religion. The word "Sikh" comes from a root meaning to "read or learn," and hence to "follow," so the Sikh is one who follows the teachings of Guru Nanak and his successors such as Kabir, whose hymns remind one so much of the Psalms of David both in style and theology.

The Sikh religion is a very noble one, teaching belief in a good God who is the Maker and Creator of all things; idolatry of any kind is strongly condemned, and moral purity demanded of every one of its adherents.

Inasmuch as almost all the followers of this great teacher belong to the Kshatri caste, the Sikh Church has become more or less a class among Indian peoples, having a head-dress of their own, making their turbans in a way that is peculiarly attractive. The head-quarters of their sect is in the city of Amritsar in the Panjab, where the Sikh Bible is placed upon an ornamented stand, and treated with great reverence; it is fanned during the day, and put

to sleep at night. This Book is never read from at the religious services, for which another copy is used; the original is regarded by the Sikhs with worshipful reverence. Though wishing to say something more of this noble religion and its loyal, faithful, and honest followers, I must refrain from doing so for lack of space and pass on.

Maharashtra has given us soldiers, Gujerat business men, but Bengal men of letters; and the Bengali believes that the pen is mightier than the sword.

The Bengalis like many other Indian peoples have an almost insatiable thirst for study, and it has been said that intellectually the Bengalis have no equals in India and few superiors throughout the world. It is the Bengali who has done much for India in interpreting her spirit to the West. It is the Bengali who has often encountered those who offended India's peoples by words of depreciation and affronts.

Much has been said deploring the so called "misguided zeal" of the farmers, cobblers and other poor artisans of Bengal, who in order to defray the expenses necessary for giving their sons a university education, sometimes even deprive themselves of the bare necessities of life such as food and medicine, in order to save an anna or a pie here and there for their infant son when he comes of age, and has to enter the Calcutta University.

This has made the Unemployment Problem of Bengal acute they say, but the very presence of this spirit among the Bengali people promises a great future, for after everything is said and done, it must be remembered that the Calcutta University is one of the few in India that has caught the spirit of research and original thought. One has only to think of Jagadis Chandra Bose who proved to mankind that plants feel, and Rabindranath Tagore who takes his seat amongst the foremost of poets that the world has ever known.

But one danger looms ahead of the Bengali. While he is at his books, the Marwadi robs him of his petty trade; while he is busy with social reform, the Sikh creeps in as cab-driver; while

he watches a game of football, the Telugu fills up every vacancy in the jute mills; while he is busy at his music, the Gujarati opens big business firms, and takes the reins of business into his hands; while he is fascinated by a drama depicting the heroism of ancient Wanga, he is a debtor to the Chettiar of Madras; while he dreams of Swaraj, the Eurasian becomes the driver of the locomotive; while he is busy writing a pungent article, the Santali sweeps the streets of his city—all this happens in Calcutta, the Capital of the Bengalis.

But it is not for us to throw stones at the Bengali. The Bengali has certainly done a great deal towards raising India up from the position she was in years ago. It is the Bengali who understands what patriotism is, it is the Bengali who realizes the meaning of the word "Nation." It is the Bengali who has seen the importance of preserving and developing one's mother tongue and literature. The Bengalis are among the few peoples who have fortified the citadel of their national life against the batterings of Western Influence.

The Bengali is attracted by all that is beautiful and noble in thought and action, and needless to say the first to wage war against some of the abuses of Hindu society was a Bengali—Raja Ram Mohan Rai.

(Concluded).

BY THE WAY.

NOTES BY NIEMAND

The election of our new President marks a definite stage in the progress of the Union. There is no break with the past, for Dr. Prins was associated with the work of the Union from its very beginning. No one knows better than he its traditions and its aims, and no one is more keenly interested in the full realization of the special objects for which the Union was established, and he is not so absorbed in the past that he cannot foresee the difficulties and possibilities of the future.

Dr. Prins is the sixth of our Presidents. Every President holds office, of course, for one year only, but there is no rule against his re-election to the office. Our first President was Mr. F. C. Loos, who was elected on the 18th January 1908. When he died on the 21st August 1911, a special general meeting, held on the 30th September 1911, elected Mr. H. L. Wendt as his successor. But Mr. Wendt died two months after his election, and at the annual general meeting on the 24th February 1912 Mr. F. H. de Vos of Galle was elected. He gave place next year to Sir Hector VanCuylenburg, who died on the 10th December 1915. Mr. R. G. Anthonisz was elected at a Special General Meeting on the 15th January 1916, and the election was confirmed at the annual meeting in February. It will be observed that Mr. Anthonisz held this high office for fourteen years.

The Union has never had a Vice-President. The constitution has never provided for a Vice-President.

I read somewhere lately that the French have a saying: "Act always in such sort that you do not *betray* your ancestors." The English word *betray* has an ambiguous interpretation which the usual lucidity of the French possibly avoids. For one thing, it

may imply that when a man is habitually vicious he reveals that there was something wrong with his ancestors. His tendencies and disposition betray his antecedents.

But that is not the meaning intended, though that meaning is proverbially true. What the saying properly suggests is that men should not be false to their ancestors, or, in modern phrase, let them down; should do nothing which would bring them into disrepute. This is worth thinking about.

Epictetus the Stoic may have had this in mind when he said, "*Nomina debita.*" Names are debts. Those who bear great names have also great obligations which the world rightly expects them to pay.

We have all heard about the Zuider Zee, that large inlet of the sea on the North-West of the Netherlands, caused by irruptions of the North Sea during the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries. As far back as 1897 it was decided that this area should be reclaimed. Preparations went on, and now the work has begun. This year 20,000,000 cubic yards of water will be drained from the Wieringen Lake, and a polder will be formed—the smallest of four—which will add some eighty square miles of cultivable land.

A writer in the "Sunday News" (London), moved to admiration by the stolid, patient courage shewn in this enterprise, puts forth a new version of Canning's epigram:

"Pray let us emulate the 'fault' of the Dutch,
Which now is talking so little and doing so much."

In 1836 the Dutch reclaimed Haarlem Lake and the adjoining smaller lakes, and added fifty square miles of cultivable land to their little territory. When the whole Zuider Zee is reclaimed

there will be 860 square miles of reclaimed land, with a lake of 500 square miles enclosed in it. The new land will be half the size of our Western Province.

Whenever the reclamation schemes of the Dutch are spoken of, I am reminded of the Rev. G. H. P. Leembruggen's eloquent and inspiring words:—

"Had the Hollanders said, 'It is too late, the sea has encroached too much, and the water is too deep now for anything to be done,' there would perhaps be no Holland to-day worth speaking of. In the same way let us too the work of Reclamation—reclaiming from oblivion those customs and traditions that will help us, reclaiming to general use the lost art of our language and of our literature, and bringing together our people, till we have established in Ceylon a Holland of men and women who will be true to our traditions and to our nation."

If anyone is uncertain as to the ideals of the Union, here they are stated in the plainest terms.

One can hardly take up an English magazine or newspaper without coming on a reference to Holland or one of the Dutch painters. Anthony van Dyck was born at Antwerp on the 22nd March 1599, that is, 331 years ago. He spent much of his life in England, where he was knighted and pensioned by Charles I. He died in London and was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral.

In December last year a wreath, bearing the inscription, "Antwerpia Memor," was hung underneath his memorial in the crypt chapel, and unveiled by the Burgomaster of Antwerp. Dean Inge, in accepting the gift, said that though Van Dyck belonged by birth and descent to Belgium, the English had annexed him as far as was possible to their hearts.

Another visitor from Java has given us the pleasure of his presence—Dr. J. van Kan, Dean of the Faculty of Law in the

University of Batavia. His object is to examine and report on Dutch records, and after visiting towns in India, where he spent nearly three months and found very little, he came to Ceylon, where he intended to stay six weeks. But a telegram from Batavia hurried him back, for he had been appointed a Member of the Supreme Council of the Nederland Indies.

He stayed long enough, however, to visit Kalutara, Galle, and Matara, and to examine, or at least look over, the Dutch records in the Colombo Archives. These he found both valuable and well preserved. "They are generally speaking," he is reported to have said, "in a very good state of preservation. Perhaps that is due to your climate which seems better suited for the purpose of preserving old documents. In Java the documents are preserved at great cost to the Government."

But he regretted that the documents here are not catalogued. By this he probably meant that there is not so complete and detailed a catalogue as is found at the Hague and probably in Batavia; for Mr. R. G. Anthonisz published a list of the various catalogues and indexes compiled by him. One of these catalogues (of the Galle records) was printed in 1906. "When this work was completed," wrote Mr. Anthonisz, "I went over the whole series of the Colombo records, several thousands in number, glancing through the contents of each volume and prepared a Press list from which I afterwards compiled a list in chronological order." And he mentions five other indexes.

What, then, is the reason that two visitors from Java should successively complain of the lack of a catalogue? It is possible that a general catalogue of a special kind is wanted, or we are driven to the conclusion that our visitors did not notice the catalogues made by Mr. Anthonisz; which is hardly likely.

Dr. van Kan said (according to a newspaper report) that the Java Government proposed to print the records of the Dutch East India Company in Java and in every other part of the former Dutch Eastern Empire: and he hoped that the Ceylon Government would co-operate in this task. That hope should not be in vain.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Proceedings of the Twenty-second Annual General Meeting of the Dutch Burgher Union held in the Union Hall on Friday, 28th February, 1930, at 6 p.m.

Mr. E. H. Vanderwall was voted to the Chair, and there were about fifty members present.

The Honorary Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The minutes of the Special General Meeting held on 5th November, 1929, were next read and confirmed.

Chairman's Address.

The Chairman then addressed the meeting. He said: We are met this evening under the shadow of a very grievous loss. The void that has been caused by the death of our late President, Mr. Anthonisz, is very difficult to fill adequately. He was not only the greatest authority on all matters connected with the Dutch administration of this island, but he was also the most loyal and the most earnest worker in the cause of our Community. He devoted his life to the creation and maintenance of this Union, and the message that we receive from his dead lips is that we should maintain this great movement of which he was the creator. We can do this in two ways: first of all by our own loyal adherence to the objects of the Union, and also by exhorting those who come after us to carry on the great traditions of the Dutch Burgher Union.

On reading through the report we see that the various activities of the Union have been vigorously maintained. The only sad feature in it is the financial difficulty in which the Union is placed by the defalcation of the Clerk. Great efforts have been made to get the accounts into order, and while appreciating the work done towards this end by many members of this Union, I think special mention should be made of one who unstintingly devoted evening after evening to the work of getting our accounts into order. I am sure

he would be the last person to wish his name to be mentioned, but I feel I must refer to the great services of Mr. Edgar Vander Straaten. I think we owe him a debt of very great gratitude for getting our accounts into some practical form.

Adoption of Report and Accounts.

On the motion of Mr. J. R. Toussaint, seconded by Mr. Basil Driberg, the Report and Accounts for 1930 were taken as read and confirmed.

Election of President.

THE CHAIRMAN. We have now reached the most important item in our agenda—the election of our President. The importance of the matter cannot be over-emphasised, because the Union draws its inspiration from the character and the personality of its President. The difficulty of a suitable selection is increased by the outstanding authority and influence which Mr. R. G. Anthonisz's name always carried.

But it must be said to the credit of our community that we have never failed to supply men to fill the most responsible positions whenever the need arose.

What are the qualifications we seek in our President?

Do we need a man who supported the Union from the very start, ready to risk misunderstanding and even the loss of valued friends in his allegiance to the cause? We have many such. Do we need a man who worked whole-heartedly for the Union in any of its various activities. Hear again we have many such.

Do we need a man of outstanding public position? Ladies and gentlemen, this is the golden age of the Burghers and you are well aware how distinguished a roll of our community falls under this head.

Do we need a man with administrative ability, one able to reconcile differences of opinion, to smooth down the asperities of debate which occasionally arise and to give a strong personal lead? We have many such.

De we need a knowledge of Dutch? Here we have some but not many who hold this qualification.

The choice of a suitable President may be bewildering with such a wide field of selection.

But if we look for a man in whom all these qualities are happily blended, then we can point unerringly to one and one alone, as the most suitable candidate. Need I say, ladies and gentlemen, that I refer to Dr. Lorenz Prins.

He was one of the co-creators of the Union and in the preliminary proceedings he was joint secretary with Mr. R. G. Anthonisz. He has worked a great deal to encourage the study of Dutch, to attract the younger members of our community to forms of allegiance and useful service, and to enrich the pages of our Journal by his translations and other contributions.

Dr. Prins holds a very prominent place in the public service. He was one of the pioneers in the Medical Department to win his way into the ranks of appointments reserved for officers recruited in Europe.

On the administrative side Dr. Prins has had considerable experience, and it would be hard to find a man with clearer insight and a more even temper.

Dr. Prins is every one's friend and no one's enemy, and has just the kind of broad sympathies which are necessary in him who fills the important office of President.

Dr. Prins is probably the most accomplished Dutch scholar in our community. He not only reads and writes but speaks Dutch with remarkable ease and freedom.

There are besides two personal points which tell strongly in Dr. Prins, favour. When he was approached by various members of the Union with a request that he should accept the office of President, he always replied that he was unworthy of that high office and suggested other names. This is an attitude of mind which reveals not only the humility of the man but also his realisation of his duties, and is probably Dr. Prins' strongest qualification.

Again, when our late President was on his last bed of sickness and the brave spirit was fighting its last fight with the frail body, it was to Dr. Prins that he turned for support and to whom he wrote his very last letter, a short note in Dutch calling for his help. Dr. Prins gently ministered to our late President up to the end.

Is it not then fitting, ladies and gentlemen, that the mantle of Elijah should fall on Elishah?

I feel I have some right to speak to you about Dr. Prins, as I have known him for a longer time than most of those present here today.

Forty years ago he and I sat on the same benches of a famous public school, forty years on, growing older and older, shorter in wind though in memories strong. I can visualise Dr. Prins as he then was, pink and white cheeks, a happy smile, a genial heart and the best of good fellows.

The years have only matured his excellent qualities and he stands today respected and loved by all who know him.

We have every confidence in him and are ready to follow his leadership.

I call upon you to elect Dr. Prins to the Presidential Chair by your unanimous vote.—(Loud applause.)

The motion was seconded by Dr. Michael de Jong and supported by Mr. L. E. Blazé, and Mr. J. R. Toussaint.

Mr. Blazé, in the course of his remarks, said that Dr. de Jong had anticipated him, but he gladly and heartily supported the motion. The Dutch Burgher Union stood for an ideal—the consolidation and progress of the Community. That ideal had been sometimes ridiculed by those outside, and even some inside were half-hearted. It was good that their President should be one who wholeheartedly believed in it, and was ready to work ungrudgingly for it. They knew with what princely liberality Dr. Prins had given his time, his thought, his energy, and his money to the cause.

He had not worked for himself but for them all. That was why they honoured him and trusted him, and were ready to accept his guidance as President of the Union.—(Applause).

Dr. Prins then occupied the Presidential Chair amidst loud applause and thanked the meeting for having elected him to that high office. His only qualification was that he had helped Mr. Anthonisz in the formation of the Union, but that was a qualification shared by many others. On the other hand his disqualifications were many. He had not the riches and honours possessed by many of his fellow Dutch Burghers, nor was he in touch with the powers in the land. He however, hoped to do his best during the short time that he would be holding the office. He concluded by exhorting the members to take a pride in the achievements of their Dutch ancestors in Ceylon.

Election of Secretary.

Mr. J. G. Paulusz proposed and Mr. A. E. Keuneman seconded the election of Mr. A. N. Weinman as Honorary Secretary. Mr. Keuneman referred to the sporting manner in which Mr. Paulusz had come forward to fill the gap last year, and to the enthusiasm with which he had carried out his duties. The motion was carried unanimously.

Election of Treasurer.

Mr. Rosslyn Koch was unanimously elected Honorary Treasurer on the motion of Dr. R. L. Spittel seconded by Mr. W. Ludovici.

Election of Committee.

On the motion of Mr. J. Ludovici, seconded by Mr. T. W. Collette, the following gentlemen were elected to serve on the Committee of Management during the year 1930 :—

Colombo :

Messrs. D. V. Attendorff, L. E. Blazé, O.B.E., W. S. Christofelsz, I.S.O., Basil Driberg, N. E. Ernst, E. O. Felsing, Dr. F. Foenander, Messrs. F. C. W. VanGeyzel, G. H. Gratiaen, W. W.

Beling, Col. E. H. Joseph, Mr. A. E. Keuneman, Dr. H. U. Leembruggen, Messrs. O. L. de Kretser, W. Ludovici, Hon. Mr. L. M. Maartensz, Messrs. Gerald Mack, T. D. Mack, Wace de Niese, F. E. Loos, J. A. V. Modder, F. W. de Vos, Sir Stewart Schneider, Dr. R. L. Spittel, Messrs. E. A. Vander Straaten, I.S.O., J. R. Toussaint, E. H. VanderWall, Lt. Col. W. E. V. de Rooy, Hon. Mr. G. A. Wille, Col. V. VanLangenberg, and Mr. J. G. Paulusz.

Outstations :

Messrs. G. H. Altendorff, C. P. Brohier, E. J. Buultjens, W. Herft, G. P. Keuneman, Dr. E. Ludovici, Messrs. R. L. Brohier, L. G. Poulier, Gladwin Koch, Dr. A. Nell, Hon. Mr. C. E. de Vos, Col. A. C. B. Jonklaas, Dr. H. Ludovici and Dr. I. E. Meier.

Election of Auditors.

Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Thornton and Co., were appointed Auditors on the motion of Mr. Basil Driberg, which was duly seconded.

Amendment of Constitution.

Pursuant to notice, Colonel E. H. Joseph proposed and Mr. A. E. Keuneman seconded the amendment of rule 4 of the Constitution by the addition of the following words at the end thereof :—"in addition to the Secretaries of the Standing Committees, who shall be *ex-officio* members of the General Committee."

The motion was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Vote of Thanks to Chair.

On the motion of Mr. T. D. Mack, duly seconded, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Chair.

A collection was then taken in aid of the Social Service Fund and realised Rs. 50.

DUTCH BURGHER UNION OF CEYLON

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

Your Committee beg to submit the following report for the year 1929:—

Membership—The total number of members—active and non-active—on the roll was 535 in December, 1928. During the year 1929 there were 21 new admissions, 7 deaths, and 3 resignations, bringing the present total up to 546: of these the total number of active members now is 330, as against 317 in December, 1928.

General Committee—Twelve meetings were held during the year, the average attendance at each meeting being 11, or a trifle over 33 per cent. Considering that the Colombo Committee is composed of 30 members, this seems a very poor average: but it is partly accounted for by the fact that many of the members of the Committee either left the Island or went into residence out of Colombo.

Changes among Office-Bearers—Dr. J. R. Blazé resigned his post as Treasurer in August prior to his departure for England, and Mr. J. Ludovici was appointed in his stead. Mr. Ludovici, however, was obliged to resign the appointment shortly afterwards, and Colonel A. C. B. Jonklaas kindly took over the duties with effect from 1st October.

Committee for Ethical and Literary Purposes—This Committee arranged for three lectures during the year, viz.: (1) Dr. Molsbergen's "Peeps into the Past"; (2) Dr. J. R. Blazé's "Some Exquisite Nonsense"; and (3) Mr. E. H. van der Wall's "Chas. Ambrose Lorenz", in celebration of the Lorenz Centenary, with appropriate songs composed by Lorenz and sung by a special choir.

Honour conferred on a Member of the Union—During the course of the year a well deserved honour was conferred on a

member of the Union in the person of Mr. L. E. Blazé, who was made an Officer of the British Empire by H. M. the King.

Committee for Genealogical Research—Seven meetings were held during the year and 21 applications were dealt with, one very hopeful feature of the applications being the large number of young persons, i.e., those between 21 and 25, who have joined.

Committee for Purposes of Social Service—Mrs. E. G. Gratiaen continued to fill the office of Secretary with great efficiency. The Committee have now 20 on their pension list, and provide fees for 22 school children, expending in all the sum of Rs. 265.00 monthly.

Though the balance carried over is Rs. 447.71, funds are urgently needed to carry on this work. Owing to lack of funds and to misappropriations by the late clerk, the Committee were compelled to curtail their pension list and limit the payment of school fees for only one member of each family. With the sanction of the General Committee this Committee appointed their own Treasurer, Mr. Wace de Niese filling that office most capably.

Committee for Purposes of Entertainment—A billiard tournament and a Russian pool tournament were arranged during the year, and were completed successfully. The Annual August Dance fell through for want of support, as did the Bridge Tournament. The New Year's Eve Dance was, however, an unqualified success, owing to the energy and spirit of Col. Jonklaas and his band of willing helpers. Dr. Foenander, the Entertainment Secretary, and Mrs. Foenander organised a successful and enjoyable concert in October, the proceeds of which, amounting to Rs. 250.65, went into the funds of the Social Service.

St. Nicolaas's Fete—Mrs. E. H. Joseph once again undertook the control of this popular function, and with the help of several other ladies made it as pleasant and enjoyable a feature as previous fetes had been, to young and old alike. A balance of Rs. 141.02 was, with the sanction of the General Committee, handed over to the Social Service Fund.

Young Dutch Burgher Comrades—This band seems to have fallen into a state of lethargy, and needs rousing into some useful form of activity. A concert organised by them in July showed a profit of Rs. 125.00, which sum is intended to swell the funds of the Social Service.

The D. B. U. Journal—This publication has continued to appear with regularity: interest in it is still maintained as deeply as before.

The Reading Room and Library—The Reading Room continues to be well patronised. The periodicals are numerous and varied: but if members are willing to assist, the number and variety of these can be still further increased. The thanks of the Union are due to Miss Grace van Dort for the many periodicals ungrudgingly lent by her. The Library does not attract anything like the patronage and attention it deserves, the number taking books out being only about a dozen.

Dutch Classes—These Classes were continued throughout the year, and one of its members secured a pass in Dutch at the Junior Cambridge Local held in December, 1928. Dr. Prins and a few assistants are labouring unweariedly to extend the knowledge of this language among the members of the Union. It is to be feared, however, that the services of these gentlemen, offered free, are not properly appreciated.

Armistice Day—A wreath was again this year placed on the cenotaph on behalf of the Union.

Death of our President—The Committee record with deep regret the death of our President, Mr. R. G. Anthonisz, I.S.O., on 4th January last. Mr. Anthonisz was not only the principal inspiring force in bringing the Union into existence, but also served as its first Secretary from 1908 to 1915, and was President from 1916 until his death. Of his work in connexion with the Union it is unnecessary to give any account here, but in every department of the activities of the Union he has played an inestimable part. A full appreciation of his work will be soon available in a special number of the Journal.

THE DUTCH BURGHIER UNION.

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1929.

C

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
		Rs.	c.			Rs.	c.
To Expenditure—				By Income—			
Rent	...	2,100	00	Entrance Fees	...	90	00
Taxes	...	525	00	Subscriptions	...	5,904	50
		2,625	00				5,994 50
Less Rent earned for the year	...	540	00	Billiards	...	1,231	36
			2,085 00	Less Cost of Coir Matting round Billiard Table	...	24	10
Salaries and Wages—							1,207 26
Salary of Clerks	...	960	00	Cards	...		147 35
Wages of Butler, Waiters, Markers and Garden Cooly	...	1,752	50	Refreshments	...		252 57
			2,712 50	Entertainments—			
Commissions paid for collecting subscriptions	...		175 65	Amount received	...	47	86
Lights and Fans—				Less Refreshment to Lorenz Centenary	...	47	57
Electric Current for lighting and fans	...	769	20				29
Repairs to Fans, Lights and Bulbs	...	68	95	Bridge Tournament	...	60	00
Less Recoveries	...		817 15	Less Prizes	...	53	00
Telephone	...		225 00				7 00
Books and Stationery	...		382 32	Profit on—			
Stamps	...		111 24	Spirits	...		754 66
Dinner A/c	...	212	67	Wines	...		158 28
Less Recoveries	...	90	00	Liqueurs	...		268 85
			122 67	Cigars and Cigarettes	...		55 77
Refreshments	...	253	40	Sundry Profits	...		8 00
Gas consumed and Rent of Cooker and Meter	...	52	44	Lease of Trees	...		21 18
			305 84	Interest on Current A/c	...		
Payment to Press for Advertising Meetings, etc.	...		60 45				
General Charges—							
Repairs to Lavatory, Notice Boards, Wax Polish, Hire of Chairs, Rickshaw Hire etc.	...	270	97				
Lawn Mower	...	22	50				
2 Wreaths	...	20	00				
Linen and Crockery	...	11	00				
			324 47				
			7,322 29				
Balance Excess Income over Expenditure	...		2,164 27				
		Rs.	9,486 56			Rs.	9,486 56

By order,
A. C. B. JONKLAAS,
Hony. Treasurer.

Finances—The Committee regret to have to report that during the course of the year a serious misappropriation of money by the clerk employed by the Union took place. Owing to the absence from the island of Dr. J. R. Blazé, who officiated as Treasurer during the period covered by the irregularities, great difficulty has been experienced in tracing the various sums misappropriated: but so far as investigations have proceeded, the total sum misappropriated amounts approximately to Rs. 1,300'00. Criminal proceedings were taken against the clerk, who has absconded. Dr. Blazé has very generously assumed full responsibility for the loss, and has expressed his willingness to pay such sum as the Committee may hold him liable for.

Owing to the irregularities mentioned above and the frequent changes which occurred in the Treasurership during the year, it has not been possible to have the accounts ready for audit by Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Thornton & Co., the auditors appointed at the last annual meeting. The accounts now presented have therefore been checked by an independent private Auditor, and the Committee believe that they exhibit the true state of affairs.

Since the occurrence of these irregularities a permanent Advisory Board of Finance has been appointed, composed of Messrs. J. R. Toussaint, F. E. Loos, Wace de Niese, Colonel W. E. V. de Rooy, Messrs. W. Ludovici and E. A. van der Straaten, I.S.O., Secretary and Convener. This Committee has already done much useful work towards setting things right, and it is hoped that the whole system of accounts will soon be placed on a more satisfactory footing.

JAMES G. PAULUSZ,

Hon'y. Secretary.

15th February, 1930.

OUR LATE PRESIDENT.

The Memorial Number of the JOURNAL which appeared at the end of February gave expression to the irreparable loss which the Dutch Burghier Community in general and the Union in particular have sustained by the death of Mr. R. G. Anthonisz. We now publish some of the tributes paid to our departed President by the outside public.

“As the pioneer Archivist of Ceylon the name of the late Mr. R. G. Anthonisz, I.S.O., will go down to posterity. Those who know the value of the work he has done amid the musty tomes alone can fully appreciate its value. The state of the archives today is a monument to his devotion to the task the country committed to his charge, which he carried out in a manner characteristic of the unostentatiousness which marked his work in other directions. Mr. Anthonisz's career is one of those striking instances of a personality who without ever being in the limelight can be held up to his community as an inspiring example.” *Times of Ceylon.*

“F. L.” writes in “The Times of Ceylon” :—“The New Year has opened with a sad loss to Ceylon through the death of Mr. R. G. Anthonisz.

“Though perhaps, in consequence of his shy and retiring disposition Mr. R. G. Anthonisz was but little known to the general community, yet to those who had the privilege of his acquaintance he was ever a kind friend, and always a mine of information when it was solicited.

“Born in October, 1852, Mr. Anthonisz appears in 1892 to have occupied the post of Assistant Registrar-General, and five years later we find him as Police Magistrate at Matara, from which post he went to Ratnapura as Office Assistant to the Government Agent of Sabaragamuwa.

“In 1899 he was, in consequence of his profound knowledge of Dutch affairs, specially seconded for service as examiner of Dutch Records, and it was in connexion with that important

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1929.

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
DEBTS PAYABLE:—		FURNITURE:—	
Colombo Gas & Water Co., Ltd. and Fentons Ltd. ...	17 84	As per last Balance Sheet...	704 00
Mr. J. G. Paulusz H. O. Beven 4/- and Mrs. H. U. Leembruggen 5/- Contribution to S. Nicolaas' Fete) ...	9 00	Add Addition for the year ...	50 00
Frewin & Co. ...	184 75		754 00
Mr. A. C. B. Jonklaas (Dance a/c 1927, Supper 65/-, Electric Bulbs 12/50, Refreshments at Lorenz Centenary 47/57) ...	125 07	PIANO:—	
Director of Electrical Undertakings ...	126 40	As per last Balance Sheet...	750 00
Benevolent Fund ...	54 06	DEBTS RECEIVABLE:—	
K. P. Joseph (Club Waiter) ...	12 22	Members ...	6,588 30
Cargills Limited. ...	1,150 61	S. Nicolaas' Fete ...	82 28
Miller & Co., Ltd. ...	340 15	Less Amount received ...	4 38
Pure Ice & Aerated Water Manufactory ...	212 83		77 90
Dutch Burgher Union Buildings Co., Ltd., a/c Rent ...	525 00	K. P. Joseph (Club Waiter) a/c Loan ...	40 00
Dance Committee ...	29 80		6,706 20
Butler for amount overspent ...	22 22	Amount misappropriated by former clerk, S. Perumal, as far as ascertainable ...	1,308 17
Debenture, as per Balance Sheet ...	557 66	PAYMENT IN ADVANCE:—	
Library Deposit ...	22 50	Telephone, unexpired portion for the year ...	105 27
Belting Memorial Fund ...	475 86	STOCKS:—	
SURPLUS A/c:—		Value of Spirits, Wines, Liqueurs, etc. ...	504 56
As per last Balance Sheet ...	6,090 35	CASH:—	
Less Audit Fee received short for year 1928 ...	50 00	At Chartered Bank of India, Ltd., Current A/c ...	1,118 28
	6,040 35	At Imperial Bank of India, Ltd. ...	500 00
Add Balance as per Income and Expenditure A/c ...	2,164 27	Deposit with Director of Electrical Undertakings ...	100 00
		Cash with Butler, a/c Cash Sale, etc., 31-12-29 ...	133 84
	Rs. 12,080 32		Rs. 12,080 32

By order,

A. C. B. JONKLAAS,

Hony. Treasurer.

undertaking that the deceased gentleman performed the greatest service to the Government and the public, in reducing to order a chaotic mass of dust-hidden papers, that he found himself destined to grapple with. With characteristic patience and ability he set about the task of sorting, filing, and collating this mass of papers, that for want of space, and lack of helpers, had been relegated into little-known corners where they were left.

"The labour involved in sorting out this voluminous mass of material can hardly be conceived by any but librarians; yet that was Mr. Anthonisz's job. Nor was this all. He was in constant requisition to transcribe and report on numberless so-called Dutch grants that were constantly being put forward in support of claims to land. Yet this work he carried out, unassisted, in addition to his substantive duties. Busy as this made him, Mr. Anthonisz still continued to find the time to compile papers of great importance to the student of the Dutch period, while to the Asiatic Society and other Associations he contributed a very great deal, as the columns of the journal of the Dutch Burgher Union testify to as well as the R.A.S.

"Kindly in all his ways, modest to a fault, and conscientious to the last degree, the late Mr. R. G. Anthonisz was a well beloved member of his community, and it may well be said of him that Ceylon, as a whole, has lost a very valuable and honoured servant by his lamented death."

A correspondent to "A Ceylon Causerie" writes as follows:—

"The death of Mr. R. G. Anthonisz, who retired from the post of Government Archivist some years ago, leaving a splendid record of work behind, creates a wide gap in the ranks of the Burgher community in Ceylon. He has been described as one of the old school, but what of that when it can with truth be said of him that he did no harm to any man, and was loyal to both his country and his friends. Beginning life as a school master, he qualified as a lawyer, but, never settled down to practice. He served for some years

in the Registrar General's Office, and rose to be Assistant to the head of the Department. Later he was attached to the Ratnapura Kachcheri, but eventually was placed in charge of Dutch Records, and became the first Government Archivist. As such he found congenial work for which he was eminently well fitted, and for his meritorious services he was granted the Imperial Service Order in 1919.

"Mr. Anthonisz was pre-eminently a student and was known as an elegant writer. On his appointment as Archivist he found the Dutch records in a hopeless state of chaos so that the task before him was of a Herculean character. With the thoroughness that characterised everything he undertook he soon reduced the archives to a state of order and so laid a foundation for others to build on.

"The late Mr. Anthonisz was mainly responsible for the Dutch Burgher Union, which will always serve as a monument to his memory. Of strong views and high principles he bore a character *sans peur et sans reproche*."

At a meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society (C.B.) Dr. Paul Peiris proposed a vote of condolence on the death of Mr. R. G. Anthonisz. He said: "We have lost one of our earliest and most valued members. For forty one years the interest which Mr. R. G. Anthonisz took in the Society never diminished. His advice in your Council was always helpful and for a term of years he was your Vice-President. His wide knowledge of the Dutch language resulted in important contributions, and not only to the Society's journal. The translations issued under his supervision from the Archives of which he was in charge are in the front rank of our sources of historical information. A scholar's scrupulousness perhaps tended to reduce the output. No man knew more about the community to which he belonged. In that community he took a pride which was inspiring and intense. As intense perhaps was his personal modesty: it was only those to whom his shy spirit revealed itself, who could fully appreciate its sweetness. I move that we do place on record an expression of our deep regret at the loss this Society has sustained by the death of Richard Gerald Anthonisz."

His Excellency the Governor, who was in the chair, said:—"You have heard the motion and I am sure you all desire to associate yourselves with the appropriate terms in which it has been proposed. I take it by rising from your seats you signify your acceptance of the motion and desire it to be recorded in the minutes."

The vote was carried in silence, all present standing.

The following is a translation of an appreciative reference to Mr. Anthonisz appearing in the March issue of *Neerlandia* under the title "The Footprints of our Fathers":—

"In R. G. Anthonisz, the founder and President of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon, who died on the 3rd of January (the announcement of his death reached us just after we had recorded his initial recovery) the Dutch stock has lost one of its most zealous champions. What vigour he had developed notwithstanding his burden of more than eighty years and notwithstanding an innate conservatism that aroused opposition from many. His scheme was ridiculed—it would create discord—what good could be achieved by a union of Dutch descendants? But he overcame these and other objections and spurred on the younger generation to form a "Hollandsche Gezelschap." This drove a breach in the wall and, in 1907, was founded the Union which up to the present day has been steadily growing in strength. Anthonisz felt that the Dutch descendants were losing their distinctive character, that the community was threatening to fall apart. By restoring the tie of kinship, the tie which forms also a link with the parent land, he won abiding merit.

"In the "Ceylon Daily News" various writers paid homage to the memory of Anthonisz. They hold, however, that he lived too much in the past, and they contrast with this the Dutch in Holland and in the Far East. "The planters of Batavia" writes one of them "are ahead of all the planters in the East. Might we not take lessons from them and not live wholly or even mainly on the glorious past?" If it was a "burgher" who wrote this we may read in it a promise that, on the foundations laid by Anthonisz,

the Union will build a superstructure in the spirit of the modern age.

"The memory of Mr. Anthonisz was recalled at the Royal Asiatic Society of Ceylon. His profound knowledge of the Dutch language and his admirable work at the Archives were extolled. No one understood better than he the community to which he belonged. The meeting rose to its feet in doing homage to his merits.

"Mr. Anthonisz was married to Miss Deutrom of Colombo and, after her death, to Miss Sophia Pieters of Amsterdam, who died in 1921. Two years ago his portrait, which we reproduce here, was unveiled in the Union building amid sincere manifestations of respect. Recently we chronicled the appearance of the first volume of his great publication on the Dutch period in Ceylon. It is to be hoped that this work will not remain unfinished."

The following letter was received by the Committee from Dr. J. C. Overvoorde, Archivist of Leiden and Director of the Lakenhal Museum, and we give it in the language in which it was written.

"Met groote deelneming nam ik kennis van het bericht van overlijden van uwen geachten voorzitter R. G. Anthonisz, mijn gewaardeerden ambtgenoot te Colombo, met wien ik bij mijn bezoek aldaar in 1911 met waardeering mocht kennis maken en wiens deskundige voorlichting ik zeer op prijs leerde stellen.

"Ik hoop dat sinds lang eene verbetering moge gekomen zijn in de opberging der oude archieven, waarvoor de toen beschikbare ruimten al zeer weinig aan het doel beantwoorden. Ik weet hoe mijn ambtgenoot zelf onder leed, doch voor eene betere opberging der zoo belangrijke registers niet de voldoende medewerking kon krijgen. Mocht onverhoopt nog geen voldoende verbetering zijn aangebracht, daar zoude ik het eene mooie eerschuld achten tegen uw oud-voorzitter, om niet te rusten, voordat hierin het mogelijk is bereikt."

NOTES AND QUERIES

Our New President: We offer our hearty congratulations to Dr. L. A. Prins on his election as President of the Dutch Burghier Union. Dr. Prins possesses in a remarkable degree all the qualities needed to fill that high office, while he is also assured of the whole-hearted support of every member in carrying out the objects of the Union. Dr. Prins is fortunate in having during his tenure of office two such co-workers as Mr. A. N. Weinman and Mr. Rosslyn Koch as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. With such a trio at the head of affairs, the Union has a bright future in store.

Ceylon in "Neerlandia." In the issue of "Neerlandia" for January it is stated that Dr. H. U. Leembruggen (who was on a visit to Holland and has since returned to Ceylon) had been given an opportunity of being present at a St. Nicolaas Fete at the Hague and that he had left Holland with a collection of lantern slides depicting Dutch Art, in addition to a stock of reading and lesson books for Dutch classes.

The issue for February contains appreciative references to the contents of the issue of our Journal for January, mention being made of the articles by Mr. L. E. Blazé, Mr. R. L. Brohier and Mr. A. E. Buultjens.

Dutch Furniture: In a paper by Dr. Joseph Pearson appearing in the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society Vol. XXXI, No. 81, entitled "European Chairs in Ceylon in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries" there are some interesting things said about Dutch Furniture. "Undoubtedly" says the writer, "the development of European furniture has been affected to a preponderating degree by the influence of the Dutch, and it may be of interest to examine the reasons why this was so.

"The chief reason was that the period of the Dutch occupation of Ceylon coincided with the "golden age" of furniture development in Europe. In mediaeval times the great houses of European countries were built more with a view to strength than

to comfort, and such furniture as there was pertained more or less to the architecture of the house and was massive. Ultimately a less rigorous and austere standard of living asserted itself. The taste for luxury was manifested in the lighter style of the new houses and a corresponding change in the character of the furniture and "movables," and there followed a period of artistic activity never equalled either before or since in the history of furniture, a period which, as stated above, was synchronous with the Dutch occupation of Ceylon.

"Another reason for the preponderance of Dutch furniture in Ceylon is that the Dutch had a genius for transferring to their Colonies and settlements the atmosphere of their own country. For example, they adopted the architectural styles of their fatherland to suit the conditions under which they lived in Cape Colony, Ceylon, and the Dutch East Indies in general. In Ceylon we have numerous examples of Dutch buildings shewing typical Dutch gables, fan-lights and door mouldings. Further, the Dutch were famous for the pride which they took in the interior of their houses. This is abundantly shewn in the Dutch paintings of the seventeenth century which emphasized in a remarkable degree the importance with which the interior of the house was regarded, and it is confirmed by the account of travellers in the seventeenth century, who spoke with amazement of the inordinate pride with which the Dutch *huisvrouw* showed in her furniture and china. We have already seen that the Dutchmen were in the habit of taking with them to the Dutch Colonies and settlements articles of furniture, and these doubtless formed the models from which the furniture in their Colonial houses was designed."

NOTES OF EVENTS

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Tuesday, 12th November 1929: 1. A vote of thanks was passed to Dr. and Mrs. F. Foenander on the successful Concert organised by them in aid of Social Service Funds. 2. Messrs. V. C. Kelaart and Willem Ludovici were elected members.

Tuesday, 17th December 1929: 1. Votes of condolence were passed on the deaths of Messrs. Cecil Speldewinde and T. K. Carron. 2. Dr. van Romer, Messrs. F. W. E. de Vos and Aelian VanderStraaten were elected members. 3. Resolved that in future the meetings of the Committee be held on the third Tuesday of each month. 4. Mr. J. Ludovici was elected to serve on the Committee in place of Mr. Gladwin Koch who had left Colombo. 5. Resolved that Rs. 250 be expended on repairs etc. to the billiard table.

Tuesday, 21st January 1930: 1. The Chairman proposed a vote of condolence on the death of Mr. R. G. Anthonisz and a Committee was appointed to examine the documents left behind by Mr. Anthonisz and to put them to the best possible use in the interests of the Union. 2. A Committee was appointed to collect funds for the endowment of a scholarship to perpetuate Mr. Anthonisz's name. 3. Messrs. E. A. VanderStraaten, I.S.O., J. R. Toussaint, F. E. Loos, Wace de Niese, W. E. V. de Rooy and W. Ludovici were appointed to form an Advisory Board of Finance. 4. The accounts in connection with the 1929 St. Nicolaas' Fete were laid on the table and shewed a credit balance of Rs. 141.02, which the Fete Committee desired should be transferred to the Social Service Fund. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. E. H. Joseph and her Committee of helpers. 5. Resolved that the Butler's salary be raised to Rs. 65 from February 1930. 6. A Sub-Committee consisting of Dr. Prins, Messrs. E. H. van der Wall, A. E. Keuneman, and J. R. Toussaint was

appointed to draw up the Annual Report in association with the Honorary Secretary. 7. Mr. M. H. E. Koch was elected a member of the Union.

Tuesday, 11th February 1930. The draft Annual Report was passed, and the Annual General Meeting was fixed for 28th February.

Tuesday, 25th February: 1. Mr. Eugene Rosé was elected a member of the Union. 2. Resolved that Mrs. E. H. Ohlmus and Mrs. T. K. Carron be informed that being widows of deceased members, they may enjoy such privileges as they had during their husbands' lifetime.

The Algemeen Nederlandsch Verbond: We are glad to learn that steps have been taken to bring together the local members of the A. N. V. A preliminary meeting was held on 1st April, when the members present formed themselves into an Association with Dr. L. A. Prins as President and Mr. E. Reimers as Secretary and Treasurer. The next meeting has been fixed for 1st May when a programme of work will be arranged. We wish the new venture all success.

Dinner to Colonel A. C. B. Jonklaas, V.D.—As a send-off to Col. A. C. B. Jonklaas on the eve of his departure for Batticaloa to assume the duties of Provincial Engineer, his friends entertained him at the Union Hall on Saturday, the 22nd February. Dr. V. VanLangenberg presided, and in proposing the toast of the guest referred to the services rendered by Mr. Jonklaas, first as Secretary of the Entertainment Committee and later as Treasurer of the Union. Mr. Jonklaas in reply thanked his friends for the honour they had done him. Mr. E. H. VanderWall in a happy speech proposed the toast of the Chairman, who in turn thanked the Dinner Secretaries, Messrs. Mervyn Joseph and F. C. W. VanGeyzel, for their successful organisation. These gentlemen suitably replied.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths.—Members of the Union are entitled, free of charge, to the insertion of notices of domestic occurrences. These notices must be restricted to a bare statement of the name or names, place, and date of occurrence, and must be sent to the Honorary Secretary of the Dutch Burgher Union.

Standing Committee for Ethical and Literary Purposes.—The attention of members is invited to the need for co-operation in carrying out the object laid down in sub-section (f) of Rule 2 of the Constitution. Any suggestions on this subject are to be addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the Committee for Literary Purposes, Mr. L. E. Blaze, Arthur's Place, Bambalapitiya.

The Journal will be issued at the end of every quarter, post free, to each member of the Union who pays a subscription of Rs. 5/- per annum towards its cost of publication. Literary and other contributions are invited and should be sent to Mr. J. R. Toussaint, "Muresk," Clifford Place, Bambalapitiya to whom also all remittances on account of the Journal should be made.

Changes of address.—All changes of address (especially within the last three years) should be notified without delay to the Honorary Secretary of the Union, Dutch Burgher Union Hall, Reid Avenue, Colombo, or to the Honorary Treasurer of the Union. This will ensure the safe receipt by members of all Notices, invitations, reports etc.

Remittances.—Remittances, whether of subscriptions due to the Union or contributions for special objects, must be made to the Honorary Treasurer of the Union, Mr. Rosslyn Koch, Havelock Road.

Remittances on the account of the Social Service Fund must be made to Mrs. E. G. Gratiaen, Ward Place, Cinnamon Gardens, the Honorary Secretary of the Standing Committee for purposes of Social Service.

Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon Buildings Co., Ltd.—All communications should be addressed to G. H. Gratiaen, Esq., Secretary of the Company, D. B. U. Hall, Reid Avenue, Colombo.