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No. 3.

# Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

“Eendracht maakt Macht”

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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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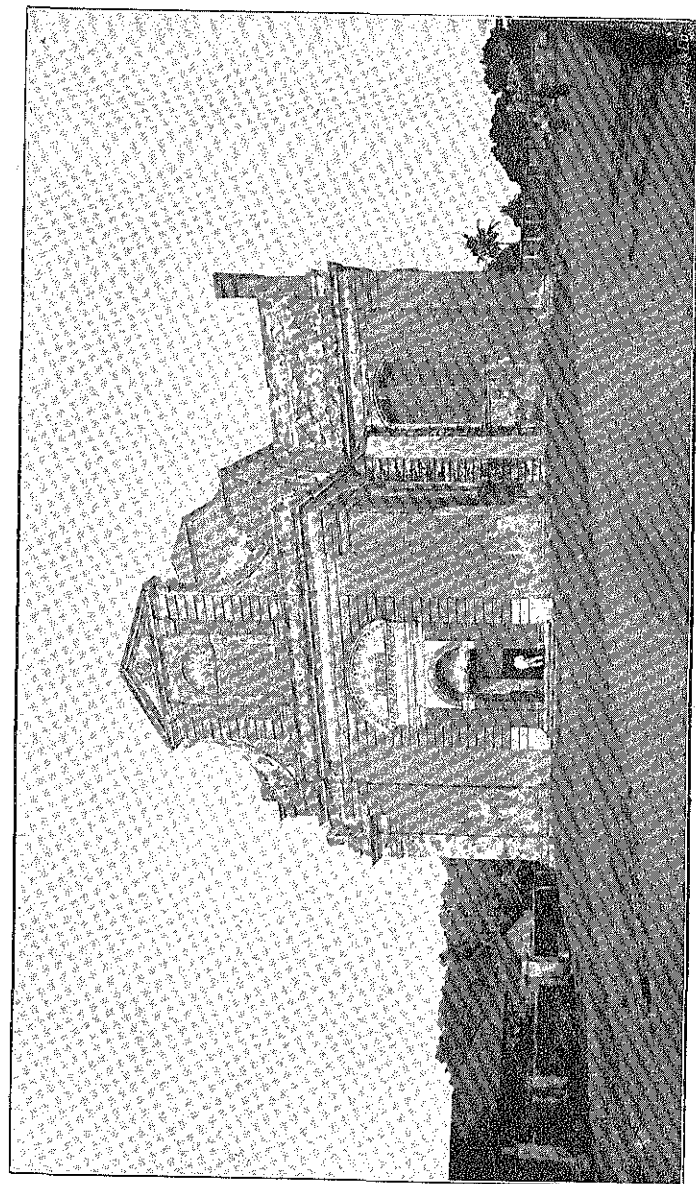
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DUTCH CHURCH AT WOLVENDAAL, COLOMBO.

# Journal of the . . . . .

## Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

VOL. I.]

SEPTEMBER 30, 1908.

[No. 3.

### WOLVENDAAL CHURCH.

IN presenting our readers with a photograph of Wolvendaal Church we take the opportunity to give a few brief particulars relating to the origin and history of the building, which, with the churches at Jaffna and Galle, has always been a link to bind the Dutch Burghers of the present day with the *Hollandsche Natie*, or Dutch Community, established here during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Time and circumstances have effected a great many changes in the religious sentiments and opinions of the Dutch who remained here after the British occupation; for many families of the Dutch Burghers in Ceylon no longer belong to the communion of what is still called the "Dutch Reformed Church" here; but to all of the race, whether worshippers within its walls or members of other congregations, this noble edifice will ever remain a precious relic of the days of their forefathers.

The date of the Church, as inscribed on a stone in the outer wall of the building, is 1749. This, and the initial letters I. V. S. V. G., on one of the side gables, associate the building with the name of the Governor Julius Valentyn Stein van Gollenesse, who ruled from 11th May 1743 to 6th March 1751. But it is proved by other records that the church was not open for public worship until many years later, viz., 1757. We may therefore safely infer that 1749 was the date of the laying of the foundation stone of the building. It would appear that so far back as 1736 the Governor



of Ceylon, Baron van Imhoff, appealed to Batavia for authority to build a new church in Colombo, on the ground that the old church within the Fort, which stood on the site of a part of the Gordon Gardens, was falling into decay and becoming dangerous for use. The proposal, as far as the correspondence indicates, was to demolish the old church and build the new one on its site. The Supreme Government at Batavia did not approve of the proposal, and the matter appears to have remained at a standstill until the arrival of Governor van Gollenesse in 1743. It was no doubt due to his zeal and interest in the subject that the building of Wolvendaal Church was commenced.

The choice of the site is easily explained when it is mentioned that Wolvendaal had from the time of the Dutch occupation of Colombo in 1656 been a parish of the Church. That a small church or school-room, for teaching on week days and for services on Sundays, had always been maintained there in behalf of the Native Christians is a well-established fact. When, therefore, we read of ministrations of the clergy at Wolvendaal before the year 1757, it must be remembered that these ministrations had nothing to do with the present edifice. This is a fact which had been entirely lost sight of during the dispute between the Sinhalese of the Anglican Communion and the Dutch Consistory sixty years ago.

The present church, which took eighteen years in completing, was dedicated for public worship on the 6th March, 1757. The event is thus recorded in the public diary for the year:—"De nieuwe kerk op Wolvendaal door des Heeren zeegen voltooyt geraakt zynde, is deselve door de Eerwaarde Wirmelskircher ingeweygd, nemende Zyn Eerw: tot zyne text applicabel tot zulken gelegenheid uyt Gen. 28. v. 22., lietende de Weledele Heeren Gouverneurs neffen de Heeren Politicque Leeden en de Eerw: Predikanten zig ook aldaar bevinden, de welke by een rondraage ten dien einde verzogt waaren." The venerable clergyman who conducted the service was the Reverend Matthias Wirmelskircher, the learned rector of the Colombo Seminary, who, sad to say, did not long survive the event, his death occurring on the 29th June following. He was accompanied by the following Clergy, the Reverends Gerrard Potken, Bernardus Engelbert, Joannes Joachim Fybrands, Johannes Jacobus Meyer, and Philippus de Melho. There were also present the two Governors, Joan Gideon Loten, who was just relinquishing the Government, and his successor Jan Schreuder, who had recently arrived in the

island: the members of the Political Council; Abraham Samland, *Hoofd Administrateur*; Robertus Cramer, *Dessave*; Major Ulrich Hemmingson, Commanding the Forces; Albert Burgart de Joncheer, *Fiscaal*; Huybert Hoogerwaard, *Koopman*; Andreas Jacobus de Ly, Civil Paymaster; Joannes Blaauwestein, Chief Warehousekeeper; Godfried Kretschmar, Trade Commissioner; and Justinus Rutgaard Kriekenbeek, Political Secretary. Besides these there was a numerous assembly of the Civil and Military servants of the Company, the leading Burghers, and their families, all of whom had been specially invited. The service was of a most imposing character, and the sermon a very impressive one, based upon the text from 28. Genesis 22, read out from the old black letter Bible: "**Ende dese steen dien ick tot een opgerrecht teecken geset hebbe sal een Huys Godts wesen.**" ("And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house.")

From that date up to the present Wolvendaal Church has stood on the summit of the hill which bears its name, braving the elements and commanding one of the finest views across the town and over the sea, a monument to the religious sentiment and the architectural skill of our forefathers. We cannot refrain from quoting here a passage from an excellent paper entitled "Dutch Architecture in Ceylon", contributed by the Honourable Mr. J. P. Lewis to the *Architectural Review* in 1902:—"While on this subject I must take leave to dissent, at any rate as regards Ceylon, from an opinion expressed by no less an authority than Mr. James Fergusson in his *History of the Modern Styles of Architecture* (p. 468), 'that the Dutch have done very little in their settlements. Their churches, which are few and far between, are of the worst class of meeting-house architecture'. On the contrary, wherever they had a station of any importance the Dutch in Ceylon erected a church, and the church was the best building in the station. It was always substantially built, and one is rather surprised to find that the Dutch, though Calvinists, have departed so far as they have done from the meeting-house type in their ecclesiastical buildings. The churches at Colombo (Wolvendahl) and at Jaffna are large cruciform buildings with a central tower or lantern; large door-ways and windows with arched lintels; pulpit, not in the centre of the wall as in the meeting-house, but at the intersection of the transept and what we should call the chancel or choir, with carved sounding-boards over

them, and large pews or stalls for the civil and military officials and for the elders and deacons.....At Wolvendhal the pulpit occupies one corner of the intersection and a large pew or stall each of the other three corners. On the walls are memorial tablets of stone or wood, with armorial bearings blazoned in colours, supplemented by insignia such as batons, swords, and spurs. Though these buildings are of course designed in the quasi-classical or Renaissance style of the period, they are instinct with the mediæval spirit, and their interiors, with their massive walls and deeply recessed and heavily mullioned and many-paned windows, are solemn and church-like, with little of the meeting-house about them. Both the masonry and the wood-work are solid and substantial; and altogether these two buildings and the church at Galle contrast favourably with churches erected in the island at a later period for the use of the Anglican Church."

From the date of its building up to the end of the Dutch rule in Ceylon, Wolvendaal Church was the principal place of worship in the city. This is at least borne out by the fact that special pews were provided in it for the Governor and other high officials. The old church in the Fort, built by the Portuguese, with its crypts and vaults, continued to be used only as the burial place of the great—the Westminster Abbey of Colombo. It was so used to the last, even Governor van Angelbeek, who died here in 1799, three years after the British occupation, finding his resting place in the vault beside his wife, who had predeceased him in 1793.

With the later history of the Church, or with that of the worthy men who, during a long succession of years, ministered in it we regret we have neither the time nor the space to deal here. Two events which occurred since the British occupation may however be referred to. One was the removal in 1813 of the bodies of the Governors and others buried in the old church to Wolvendaal. By that time the old church appears to have been reduced to a roofless ruin; and, as the tombs "were exposed to the destructive violence of the tropical rains, which they were neither constructed nor intended to resist", the British authorities, after consultation with the principal Dutch inhabitants, and "with their consent and approbation", determined to remove the bodies to the church at Wolvendaal, where proper vaults were prepared for their reception. With the bodies were also removed the large grave stones with sculptured armorial bearings which now

pave the floor of the church. Some of the grave stones—the older ones—because apparently no traces of any remains were found beneath them, were left outside the church. After remaining there nearly a hundred years they were recently removed to the south-east corner of the churchyard and erected against the outside wall there. We may mention in passing that the two emblazoned heraldic achievements on the church walls on either side of the east entrance, in memory of Jacomina Lever, wife of Governor van Angelbeek, and her daughter Christina Elizabeth van Angelbeek, wife of Governor van de Graaf, were placed there in 1805 by the Honourable George Melvill Leslie, Paymaster-General of Ceylon in the British service, who had married Jacomina Gertruida van de Graaf, daughter of the Governor of that name. He was a son of the sixth Earl of Leven.

The other event which we referred to is the celebration of the centenary of the building of Wolvendaal Church in 1849 by a commemorative service held by the late Dr. MacVicar. We regret we have not been able to obtain any particulars of this interesting event. Most unfortunately all the newspaper files of this period have been destroyed by vermin, and our efforts to obtain the information elsewhere have been fruitless.

To members of the present Consistory of the Dutch Reformed Church in Colombo the Dutch Burgher Union is indebted for much sympathy and interest shown from the time of its foundation last year. The Rev. Mr. Tweed, the President of the Consistory, who has personally laid the Union under deep obligation for several kind acts of courtesy, has thus expressed himself in his Annual Report of the church: "An event of importance outside the church has been the formation of a Dutch Burgher Union. Started under favourable auspices, with considerable enthusiasm, and seeking worthy ends, it has the hearty good-wishes of the oldest Dutch institution in Ceylon—The Dutch Reformed Church." That our efforts to revive a proper Dutch sentiment among the members of the community and to work for their moral and social improvement are looked upon with favour by an institution with which we have so many things in common is indeed very gratifying. It will, we are sure, be equally gratifying to our members to learn that the Committee of the Union have arranged with the Consistory for holding a special annual service at Wolvendaal Church on the Sunday next preceding or following the Foundation Day of the Union, viz.,

18th January. This announcement will, we trust, be a welcome one to all our members of whatever creed or congregation. The assembling together once a year of the members of the Dutch Burgher Union within the historic walls of the church of their forefathers, to commemorate by a religious service the auspicious event of the formation of their Union, seems to us to be both an appropriate and a desirable function.

### OLD GALLE.\*

A LECTURE DELIVERED BY MR. F. H. DE VOS

IN AID OF THE GALLE BRANCH OF THE Y. M. C. A.

THE popular derivation of the name Galle, the *avium promontorium* of the ancients, is from the Sinhalese *gala*, a rock. The early Portuguese writers described the Fort as built on a rock, and rocks in the harbour are unfortunately not unknown to us. Magalle, the suburb north of the harbour, is a contracted form of *maha-gala*, the big rock. Wakgalmodere is the name of the mouth of the canal at the foot of Buona Vista hill. According to tradition Kuveni and her children are said to have sought shelter there after their expulsion from the court of King Wijayo, the first King of Lanka. Again, a tract of land close to Magalle is called Pettigallawatte, the garden with a basket-shaped rock. The necessities of latter day road-making no doubt account for the disappearance of this rock. Another spot, not far from the Fort, is known as Tuwakkugawatte, from a rock on it shaped like the butt end of a gun. Galwadugoda, on the north-east, has from early times attracted many workers in stone, who formed a settlement there.

Another derivation is *gala*, a cattle pen. The Sinhalese pronunciation of Galle lends some support to this theory, even the Portuguese and the Dutch spelling it with one *l*. The old cattle pen of Rawenna is supposed to have been the

Victoria Park. It was called Pattiawela, and Pattiapalama is the name of the bridge close to the Railway Station.

Nearly two centuries B. C. one of Duttugamune's generals proceeded to Galle and killed Dighabaya, a Tamil warrior of the Dravidian King Elara. A Tamil settlement in the Southern Province is proved by the presence (Dewatura) of a class of people known as Hedidemalas.

Galle was known to the Grecians, Romans, Persians, and other nations long before the Portuguese established themselves in the Island.

PORTUGUESE PERIOD.—Before the arrival of the Portuguese, at the commencement of the 16th century, the Arab traders settled here had enclosed the peninsula (the present fort) with a palisade. The Portuguese, struck by the similarity in the sound of the word *galla* with their word *gallo* (*gallus*, a cock), would seem to have connected the name with the bird referred to, and the Dutch who succeeded them kept up the idea by adopting the cock as a charge on the arms which they assigned to the town. These arms, which appear in Anthonisz's *Report on the Dutch Records*, are a shield *argent* or silver with a cock standing on a rock, all in natural colours, thus suggesting the two theories of the derivation of the name. The Viceroy of Goa, Francisco de Almeyda, sent his son Lorenzo (Ao. 1505) with nine ships to the Maldives to keep an eye on the Moorish vessels which were in the habit of passing that way to Arabia. He was cast by contrary winds and currents on the coast of Ceylon, and, according to some writers, anchored at Galle, where he entered into a treaty with the King of Colombo, who promised a yearly supply of 250,000 pounds of cinnamon to King Emmanuel of Portugal. A *padrao* (stone pillar) was set up, as usual, with the arms of the King of Portugal engraved on it—a memorial of the past, which has unfortunately disappeared. According to the Sloane MS. 197, fol. 367, in the British Museum, the Fort of Galle was built on the orders of the Viceroy Mathias de Albuquerque in the year 1589. As will be seen by the plan of Barretto de Resende (*circa* 1640) attached to the MS., the Fort proper (*Fortaleza*) was where the Zwart (*black*) Fort of the Dutch stood and the present Police quarters now stand. It was really a *retirada* (retreat), and not a Fort, and was entered from inside the present Fort by a gateway over which was a high tower mounted with cannon, a similar tower being at the other end jutting out into the sea. The rest of the peninsula, cut off by a line

\* Works consulted in the preparation of this paper:—Baldeus' *Ceylon*; Valentyn's *Oost-Indien*; *Ceylon Literary Register*; Heydt's *Schauplatz*; Galle Dutch Church Records; De Queiros' *Conquista Temporal e Espiritual de Ceilao*; Bruin's *De Herfornde Kerk*; Bruin's *Biographische Woordenboek der O. I. Predikanten*; Vorsterman van Oyen's *Aanzienlyke Ned. Familien*; Journal of the R. A. S.; *De Navorscher*.

of wall facing the land side, was the *povoacao* (town). The bastion at the end of the town was called Santa Cruz, and was most probably where the present Utrecht bastion stands. On the left of the present Sun bastion, and below it, was a gate called *Porta do Muro* (the gate of the wall), and must have occupied the site of the present sallyport with the date 1697 on it, and where the present new gate is there was a gate called the *Porta da Traisao*. The space between the *fortaleza* and the present Akersloot bastion was the site of the monastery *Misericordia*; St. Pedro occupied the site of the buildings opposite the Kaechcheri, where stood the *feitoria* (factory). The Cathedral (*se*) was not far from the spot where the Mosque now stands, and St. Domingo must have stood about where Pedlar Street ends towards the west, and St. Francisco more towards the north.

According to the description of Fernão de Queiros, S. J. (Ao. 1640) the Star bastion was called *St. Antonio*, the Moon bastion *Conceicao*, and the Sun bastion *St. Jago*.

Ribeiro (Pieris' translation, part iii.) describes the fort of Galle as follows:—"The fortress of Galle was built on a point of land with the sea on two sides and a steep line of rocks on the north, where there was no other defence. On the south side there was a bay, and here it was protected by a stockade of pointed stakes. A line of ramparts with its moat and three bastions cut across the land side from sea to sea; in the middle there was a gate with a draw-bridge, and the position could be defended with this fortification. The inhabitants called it a city, but it was only a fortress. After the Hollanders occupied it they did nothing more than build the bastions anew and enlarge and deepen the moat. There were within 260 families of Portuguese, 600 of various service-holders, all Christians, the captain of the garrison, the adjutant, a parish priest, the Convent of St. Francisco, the House of Santa Misericordia, the Hospital, the Custom House, the Factor and his clerk."

About the year 1612 a Spanish Captain, Antonio Martins, writes to Philip III. of Spain as follows:—"And on this Point of Galle Your Majesty has a small fortification of palm trees and mud in which only 50 men were stationed as a garrison, and it is an affair of little moment since any ship could destroy and capture it without any resistance..... I would also, Sire, point out that it is very necessary that Your Majesty should send word by land to the Viceroy that he should speedily provide the said Point of Galle with

troops and artillery, and that he should not delay to do so. ....Wherefore the best and safest is that the Viceroy should help with troops and artillery, as has been said, and that the said Point be fortified with good walls and bastions, and that a spring of water, which is separated from the fortress by a distance of a musket shot, should be fortified and made into a fort and stronghold inasmuch as this Point has no other water. And that besides a battery should be constructed on one of the two islets that be in the mouth of the bay in order that the entrance thereof may be defended."

Mr. Pieris (Ribeiro p. 5 note) says, Galle was fortified 1621-25, the foundation being laid in 1619 (ib. p. 168). This was no doubt due to the old fort built in 1587 being, as Martins states (Ao. 1612), in an unsatisfactory condition.

Very little is known of the history of Galle during the Portuguese occupation; at least I have not been able to gather much from the sources available in Ceylon.

De Quieros says:—"In Galle the Fathers had the Church of Conceição with cloisters and dormitories, where they administered the Sacrament to more than 2,000 Christians who lived outside."

A graphic and detailed account of the siege of Galle by the Dutch (Ao. 1640) is given by de Quieros. The Dutch Admiral Willem Jacobsz Coster of Akersloot, with a fleet of 12 ships and 2,000 men, landed in Galle on the 8th March, 1640, close to Unuwatuna, and encamped and entrenched themselves in Magalle. The Portuguese General Antonio Mascarenhas sent Captain Major Francisco de Mendona Manoel by land from Colombo to Galle to meet the enemy with a force of 323 Portuguese, divided into 12 companies. He was joined by four Dissaves with 1,600 lascoryns, and the Rana with 200 Canarese musketeers and 100 Caffre archers. Lourenco Ferreira de Brito was Captain of the Fort, which was ill-prepared in every respect to stand a siege, the garrison in the Fort consisting of 80 Portuguese *casados*, 30 soldiers of the train-bands, and 30 lascoryns. Gunpowder and ball were scarce, and the guns indifferent. The more the Captain Major (de Mandona) pressed on, the quicker the enemy arrived. He therefore sent on from Alutgama (Alião) the Dissave of the Galle Castle, Francisco Antones, with his lascoryns, who reached Galle on the morning of the 8th. A bombardment then began by sea, under cover of which the Dutch landed their men and guns. The Cap-

tain of the Fort (Brito) sent the Dissave to meet the enemy where they landed, but he and his force were driven back by 700 European musketeers and 400 Javanese and Bandanese. The Dissave thereupon joined forces with the Captain Major at Gintotte, having arranged to attack the enemy the next morning on a signal from a gun in the Fort. The Dutch had by now taken up a good position at Petigala in the bazaar. Before advancing the Captain Major arranged his men, approached to within musket shot of the Dutch position, and awaited the signal from the Fort. But, it is said, the enemy (the Dutch) having bribed the natives, was as well prepared as the attackers. The signal having been given at daybreak three companies with 80 Caffres and 300 lascoryns, who had arrived the night before under their Captain Manoel Braz from Matara, getting out of the Fort attacked the enemy; but, on the Dutch returning their artillery fire, the lascoryns and Caffres ran away. The Portuguese, however, gained the position; but the enemy being reinforced obliged the Portuguese to retire with the loss of Captains Francisco de Silva and Francisco Vallades, two ensigns, and some soldiers. The Captain of the Fort seeing the retirement, ordered the advance, and retired to the Fort with the wounded. The firing line was in command of Captain Jorge Fernandes, who was associated with three other Captains and the Dissaves of the 4 Corles and of Saffragam, viz., Antonio de Fonseca Pereira and Francisco de Faria. The enemy had in their entrenchments three companies of Hollanders and 100 Bandanese under the command of Captain Fritz. In the engagement which followed the Dissave of Saffragam was killed and Captain Jorge Fernandes wounded and taken prisoner together with Captain João de Siqueira and some soldiers. The Captain Major, the Dissave of Matara, the Dissave of the 7 Corles, Francisco de Silva, the Rana with his 200 Canarese also joined the attacking force and advanced against the Dutch, who were altogether 800 Europeans in eight companies with Topazes and Bandanese under Commander Coster and Adriaan Anthonisz. "Our men," says de Quieros, "advanced with the courage equal to that of their gallant Captain, and then there took place one of the bloodiest battles that were ever fought in the Indies." The Dutch lost 900 men—the "whole scene being a hell" (to quote the writer)—and it is said that the Dutch were about to raise the white flag "when the Captain Major was hit with such effect on the head with a bullet from one of the boats that, giving a horrible leap, he fell down dead", an incident which caused

great disorder in the Portuguese ranks and a cessation of fire, thus giving the Dutch time to prepare themselves for another attack. The Dutch now trained against the 3 bastions, six cannons and other guns "battering with most fury and persistency the bastions St. Jago and Conceição." A Council of War was held to decide whether they should advance out of the Fort and attack the enemy; but it was resolved not to do so, and the Captain of Kalutara, Sebastião d'Orta, was sent in a light boat to the General in Colombo to inform him of the state of affairs in Galle and to ask for the necessary succours in money and ammunition. The enemy, in the meantime, surrounded the Fort by land and sea, thus preventing the detached positions in the Fort from assisting each other, and the attack on the bastion St. Jago was kept up. Coconut palms in the compounds were cut down, and with them the faces of the bastion St. Jago and Conceição were revetted, but the enemy kept throwing in grenades at night, causing great conflagrations. In this state of affairs the natives ran out of the Fort and deserted to the Dutch, as did some of the Dissaves. On the 11th reinforcements arrived to the Dutch in the shape of three ships, which landed 600 musketeers at Magalle. On the 12th a Dutchman came towards the ramparts with a drum and white flag to seek whether the Portuguese desired to surrender. He was fired at from the Fort, when the Dutch swore that they would not give any quarter to the Portuguese, when they conquered them and resolved to scale the walls. Having made an attack on the bastion Sta. Cruz, to divert the besieged, they set up ladders against the bastions St. Jago and Conceição with the help of 1,100 Dutch musketeers and 300 Bandanese. Determined not to retreat, the officers threatened with death those who attempted to do so, and filled the Asiatics with arrack mixed with gunpowder in place of bhang. "And this," says de Quieros, "is the race with which God has chastened us." The battle cry of the Dutch was "Conquer or die". The bastion St. Jago was battered away and the bastion Conceição discurtain-ed, the Dutch entered the Fort, and after some resistance from scattered parties of Portuguese the latter were obliged to surrender. The order not to give quarter was cancelled, "which," says de Quieros, "they interpreted in the manner previously detailed by him, i.e., by killing Captain Lourenco Costa in cold blood. The native soldiers fled to the villages or to Colombo, the Portuguese who escaped were either killed by the natives or taken as prisoners to the King of Kandy."



"The place," says de Quieros, "was attacked during the third watch of the 13th March, 1640; the battle lasted two hours on our walls and the escalade ten. There died at their posts and in the places to which they were afterwards summoned, and whither they hastened, Captain Manoel Barbozo, Bernardo, Gonsalves, Domingo de Sa, Lourenzo Velloso, Antonio de Andrade, Antonio Lourenzo Forte, Bartholomeus d'Eca, Fransisco de La, and Lourenco de Costa. In the defence of the walls there died twenty-four *casados*. They killed in cold blood Joaô Rodrigues Leitão, Captain, who was of that fort and was sick in his house with two others. Nine Portuguese youths, sons of Galle, died. The soldiers killed seventy-two. There also died some natives. The devastation in the Dutch ranks was so great that they could not rejoice in their victory and kept saying: '*Em Malacca muito ouro: em Galle muito pelouro*.' (In Malacca much gold: in Galle much lead.) The prisoners of war were shipped to Batavia and other places, and there is a suggestion that many died of the effects of chunam being mixed with their rice. Children were not spared, and two European women, Dona Thomasia Coutinho and Joanna de Couto, fainted away at the sight of the carnage and died. The streets of Galle were strewn with dead Portuguese and Dutch, some burnt with fire, others broken in pieces by cannon balls, others pierced by bullets, and it was necessary to engage Caffres for three days to bury them ten to twelve together in one grave. The Council ordered that all boys and girls, orphans as well as widows, should be assembled in the Orphan Chamber and instructed in Calvinistic doctrines. The execution of these orders caused unavailing lamentations in the street of the slaves, among the Catholic women, and also moved the infidels themselves to pity. They carried them by force and compelled them with blows to go to their *kerk*."<sup>\*</sup>

\* The following account of the incidents attending the siege and capture of Galle, taken from Ribeiro (Lee's Translation, pp. 100-101) may be compared with the above:—"As our General was convinced that their destination was Galle, 280 soldiers were hastily collected and despatched thither immediately; but on their arrival there they found the Dutch already landed and within a cannon-shot distance from the fort. Though they exceeded us greatly in number, yet we at once attacked them, and a bloody engagement ensued. The Dutch remained masters of the field, but they purchased it dearly: we killed 400 of their men, ourselves losing our Marshal, and almost all our officers; and only 48 men escaped, who made good their entrance into the fort, which was besieged by the Dutch on the following day.

The above is the Portuguese account according to de Quieros summarized. Little is known of the social manners and customs of the Portuguese in Ceylon; but if we accept the account of their life in Goa, the men were haughty, and

Their batteries were soon set up, and our defences as quickly ruined. Captain Lourenco Ferreira de Brito, who commanded in the fort, was present on all sides, and animated every one by his example; but all his exertions only served to keep the natives within the fort. The enemy's fire did not lessen for eighteen days, at the end of which time all our bastions were thrown down and there were breaches on every side. The Dutch then assaulted the fort at break of day, and though we were not wanting in resistance, they effected their entrance and killed many of the garrison. Those of the Portuguese who could escape withdrew within the church, and an incident happened on this occasion which I am not willing to leave unrelated. Captain Lourenco Ferreira de Brito was a married man, and his wife was with him in the fort; their union was one of the happiest possible; his wife would never leave him, but accompanied him whenever he visited the different posts; sometimes of his own free will he took her with him, and it chanced that she was present on the night when the assault took place which we have just described. The commandant did his duty on that occasion as on every other; he received five wounds one of which broke his thigh and threw him to the ground; some Dutch soldiers were on the point of killing him, when his wife threw herself on his body and entreated them to spare him or to kill her first. Amid the din of arms and the cries of the dying and wounded her voice was not unheard, and a Dutch officer drove away the soldiers raised her up, and promised her security, and her husband his life if his wounds were not already mortal. The news of this was carried to the Dutch General, who put an end to the slaughter and gave a promise of safety to all who had taken refuge in the church. He sent his own surgeon to Lourenco de Brito, with everything requisite for his wounds; and when, some days after, the surgeon pronounced him out of danger and that he could be safely removed, he ordered the captain of one of the best frigates in the flotilla to give up his own cabin to our wounded chief, and to treat him and his wife with the same consideration on board his vessel as he would his own general; he took care also that nothing necessary for his comfort was wanting. The remaining Portuguese were dispersed among the other ships, and all reached Batavia well satisfied with the manner in which they had been treated. A corvette had preceded the flotilla to convey the good news, and among other matters this incident respecting de Brito and his wife had become known, so that many persons of distinction went to meet them and accompanied them to good quarters which had been prepared for their reception. They were fourteen months in Batavia, during which time all their wants were anticipated, and every attention possible was shown them. They were then sent back to Colombo, where I became acquainted with Lourenco de Brito as marshal of our camp, and from himself I heard all that I have now recorded.

called themselves *fidalgos*, deriving their income from the manual labour of their slaves; the women kept to a large extent in seclusion through the jealousy of their husbands, passing their time in frivolous pursuits and gossiping with their slaves.

DUTCH PERIOD.—I shall now pass on to the Dutch Period, and here we are on firmer ground, thanks to the preservation of the Dutch records in the Archives of Holland, Batavia, and Ceylon, the Portuguese records of Ceylon having been burnt by the Secretary van Toll on the verbal orders of, it was said, Governor de Heer (1700).<sup>\*</sup> In treating of this period I think I cannot do better than draw largely from a paper on Galle contributed by me some years ago to the *Ceylon Literary Register* (vol. II.).

The following contemporaneous record preserved in the Archives (Colombo) gives the Dutch version of the events of the 12th March, 1640 :—

#### RESOLUTION.

Whereas since the 9th we have been bombarding the town and fortifications of Sta. Cruz de Gale, and the enemy are nightly filling up with palm trees and osier-work the breaches made by us in the day-time, without our being able to prevent them from doing so, and as it is greatly feared that the besieged will find means to strengthen themselves more and more on those points where they have to expect our attacks, therefore at the instance and proposal of the Lord Commandeur it has been unanimously resolved to storm this place in the name of God to-morrow early before daybreak in manner following to wit :—

The general storming party to consist of 4 detachments: first the vanguard commanded by Commissaris Jan Thysen to attack with all possible means the point St. Ascension and to conquer it with the help of God.

Secondly, the centre detachment commanded by Minne Willemsz Caertekoe to surprise the point St. Juan and the curtain between Ascension and St. Juan.

Thirdly, the rear guard to give aid and follow up the storming wherever occasion may require, the said rear to be commanded by the *Opferkoopman* Simon de Wit.

<sup>\*</sup> Vide Anthonisz's *Report on the Dutch Records in the Government Archives at Colombo*, p. 2.

Fourthly, the reserve detachment to remain in quarters in charge of the artillery in case of repulse or unexpected disaster: said reserve to be commanded by the Fiscal Gerard Herbers, heretofore Commandeur of the Fort of Trincomalie, and to consist of two companies of natives and all the musketeers and carpenters.

Thus done and resolved on board the ship "*Utrecht*" datum *ut supra*, Willem Jacobsz Coster, A. Anthonisz, Minne Willem Caertekoe, Gerrard Herbers, Hendrick Lievertsz, Dominicus Bouwens, and Gerrit Moutmaker, Secretary.

By Ascension (Portuguese *Ascensao*) is no doubt meant *Conceicao* (conception), the Dutch having been misled by the similarity in sound of the words. So that St. Juan must be the bastion St. Jago.

The victory of the Dutch was duly celebrated by a thanksgiving service, when the following prayer was offered up, most likely by the Predikant Molineus :—Merciful God and Heavenly Father, everlasting light shining in darkness, who givest wisdom unto children and light unto the eyes of the blind; Forasmuch as we have now been charged and entrusted with the government of this place and are by nature unfit therefor, we pray Thee with Thy Holy Ghost to vouchsafe to preside over our assembly and to enlighten our darkened understanding; let Thy word be a lamp before our feet and a light on our path: put away from us all covetousness, ambition, obstinacy, vainglory, in short all carnal wisdom, so that our deliberations may lend to the honour and glory of Thy name, to the welfare of our beloved country, to the benefit of our neighbours, together with the well-being and prosperity of our chiefs and those who have entrusted these things unto us. All this we entreat of Thee in the name of Thy Son Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray as follows: Our Father, etc.

The news of the conquest of Galle, which the Dutch at once made the head-quarters of their Government, was carried to Batavia by the ships *Middelburg* and *Utrecht*, which also conveyed Mr. Gerrard Herbers as the Council's emissary. The victory was celebrated in Batavia on the 29th April, 1640, with great military display. But during the early part of their occupation of Galle the Dutch were continually harassed by the Portuguese. In 1641 a foraging party was surprised at Wackwelle and 27 men killed. Some desertions to the enemy at Colombo also took place, and the Portuguese

General Mascarenhas even attempted to induce Jan Thysz, the Governor of Galle, to treacherously surrender the place to him under promise of certain favours, which proposal was characteristically repelled by the bluff Dutch sailor. But on the surrender of Colombo in 1656, and of Jaffna in 1658, the might of the "haughty Lusitanian" in Ceylon was broken and the Dutch left masters of the coast.

Soon after their conquest the Dutch set about repairing and rebuilding the fortifications, as the following extract from the Journal kept in Batavia shews:—

26TH MAY, 1641.—They were busy daily fortifying Galle more and more. The point Gelderlant, which lay on a tolerable height, had the hill escarped round and earth brought up again and a half-moon made round the bulwark with sods according to the Dutch fashion, so that at present no one can come to the aforesaid point without first climbing the hill and then over the half-moon, 10 feet high and 10 feet thick up on the summit. It was also intended to place on the point Selandia a cannon-shot-proof half-moon, also another small one for the protection of the gate which will, humanly speaking, put it in a tolerable state of defence. There were landed from the "Valckenburch" 2 brass *hulvecartouwen* to protect the bay together with 3 light guns of 4 lb. iron among them one of brass to flank along the curtains in case of a storm.

In a letter dated Batticaloa, 14th June, 1638, two years before the conquest of Galle, to the Governor-General van Diemen, Coster describes Galle as follows:—

Galle, so far as we could gather, and have partly seen, lies on a little hillock in a bay like a peninsula, being on the north joined to the other land. This hillock is, round it, provided with batteries and guns as also on its summit. The valley extending to the other land is fully a musket-shot wide. Here again there is high land like the promontory, so that one can easily fire with guns from there at the city and the principal fort, and, as far as we can gather, can throw (grenades) with mortars, and we shall be obliged to take it in this manner. The coast on the north is like that round about Colombo, generally rocky with some sand-plains, where we shall have to land our forces, for it does not in my opinion look as if we could do so in the bay, for they can generally command it with their guns, and there are many rocks in it unknown to us. Therefore it is imprudent. Galle has generally no soldiers save the married and natives,

among whom are many Moors, who are all counted as good soldiers. Round about Galle there are very beautiful gardens, and much cocoanut, arecanut, pepper, and cinnamon grow there.

Johann Jacob Saar, Ao. 1647, writes of Galle as follows:—"On the 4th October, after a good voyage, we arrived at the harbour of Galle, at that time the capital of Ceylon.....Overlooking the harbour is a fort called the Black Fort, originally erected by the Portuguese under a false pretext to the King of Kandy.....but is now well strengthened with additional bastions by the Hollanders, who took it by storm from the Portuguese in 1640. To the left as one approaches is now the hospital, where formerly the Portuguese had their mint. Still nearer the town is the bastion Akersloot, mounting 8 guns which command the whole harbour. Further up on the shore is the above-mentioned Black Fort rising high. Within is the arsenal, and here live all the artisans and slaves.

"Beneath the Black Fort and considerably lower is the 'Water Bulwark' directly facing the space where all ships must anchor. This was erected in 1653 by the Governor of the time, Jacob van Kittenstein, a native of Delft, and is armed with 6 pieces each carrying a 12 lb. shot. On the inner side of this is a small gate called the 'Water Gate', through which people can be let in and out during the night. Here also are the Governor's house and the main guard (always 60 to 70 men strong), from this a kind of gallery on posts, boarded and covered with a roof called the wooden *Wambus*, is carried 40 paces into the harbour. To the right of this, on the land side, where the town is surrounded by strong high walls, a deep moat is dug, eighteen feet wide and crossed by a draw-bridge. Towering above is seen the central bastion carrying 9 or 10 guns commanding partly the main guard and partly the landward walls; and below it moreover a lunette. The sea bastion is the last on the landside. Here the greatest number of guns are placed, and here a corporal and six men have to be on guard every night. This place is never called otherwise than the Crab Hole.

"Between the sea fort and another new work, near the Government Store, a spring of good fresh water flows out of a rock, and a step away from it the sea plays up to the rocks, so that you can stand with one foot in fresh and the other in salt water."

Valentyn's description (1720) agrees in the main with Saar's. He says in addition:—"Galle has really only three regular bastions—the Sun, the Moon, and the Star, between which there comes the city gate, after which are seen the other bastions, Matroosen (sailors') bastion, Utrecht, Vlaggeklip, Venus, Mars, Eolus." Valentyn gives a plan of the fort of Galle as it stood in 1663. The names of Zeelandia and Gelderlandt do not occur there, but they were most probably no other than the Moon and Sun bastions.

It seems that the names of Sun, Moon, and Star were given in 1667, as the following extract from the Diary of the Commandeur (Roothaas) of Galle shows:—*4 Aug., 1667.* "It being considered in Council that as the three new bastions had not been named as yet it was resolved that the Governor accompanied by the Commandeur and Council together with Juffrouw Hester de Solemne (widow of the Director Adrichem), the wife of the Commandeur Roothaas, Maria Wenninx, and the eldest daughter of the aforesaid Commandeur Roothaas should go out and name the new bastions: and the Middelpunt was called the Moon: the bastion by the harbour the Sun: and the bastion on the sea side the Star. On the Sun bastion was fired the first cannon by Juffrouw de Solemne; a second was fired on the Moon by Juffrouw Roothaas; and a third on the Star by the eldest daughter aforesaid." This pleasing function seems to have led to some results, viz., the announcement on the 11th August of the engagement of the Governor van Goens with Hester de Solemne. The first publication of the banns of marriage was on the 14th, and the marriage in Colombo took place on the 8th September, the intended bride having left Galle for Colombo on the 23rd August.

Christopper Langhan gives the following account of Galle in 1695:—

The fortress of *Galle* lies on the south coast of the island, and is by nature a strong place, as well as one of the best seaports that the Company possess on the Island of *Ceylon*. At the entrance of the harbour or the bay the fortress has a peculiar water-pass, on which always stand 8 brass pieces, by means of which the water-way can be commanded or fired upon. The fortress itself consists largely of rocks, parts of which are included in the walls; it is surrounded by water; on the sea-side the fort lies high, and on the land-side low; there is also a dam from the land-gate to the mainland. Most of the houses in the fort were built by the Portuguese,

as also a church and a monastery, which the Hollanders now use as storehouses; there are moreover many ruined buildings there, which are infested by large numbers of musk-rats. The civilians or citizens of this place keep these rats, like birds, in iron cages, from which everyday with a small spoon they take the musk, which they have between the hindlegs in a kind of little bag, and on account of this profit they are esteemed very highly, and as that of this place has a very strong odour, it can be more readily adulterated than in other places. A garrison of 200 men is generally stationed here, and as the land in this neighbourhood is very fruitful, living is very cheap, and hence the soldiers can easily live on their pay. The whole neighbourhood round *Punto Galle* is very pleasant and fertile, on which account a number of Hollanders have settled here and formed regular farms, at which also the sea-faring folk, when they come on shore, can put up and enjoy themselves, for one can be very well fed at these civilians' places at small cost, and besides all kinds of drinks are to be had from them. \* \* \*

Let us now enter the Fort through the old gate. On the top of the gateway on its outer side have been placed the arms of Great Britain and Ireland of the reign of George III. On the inner side there is a shield charged with the monogram V. O. C. (*Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie*) with two lions as supporters and a cock as a crest. It bears under it the date 1669. Turning to the left we ascend on to the Zwart Bastion or Black Fort, which, according to Heydt, derived its name from the fact that it had become blackened by the smoke and charcoal of the smiths who worked there.\* Its rounded shape proclaims its Portuguese origin. It consists of two bastions, one lower than the other, communicating with each other by a sally port. Going towards Hospital Street we first pass the Akersloot Bastion, named after the birth-place of Commandeur Coster. The name of the bastion is still to be seen engraved on a stone, but bearing date long subsequent to its erection. The next bastion opposite Eglinton House is the Aurora. The bastion next to this is the Utrecht Bastion, but also called the Visscher's Hoek or Fishers' Corner, and is close to the powder magazine. The bastion where the windmill is erected is called Triton, and

\* This has been recently corroborated by the discovery close to this bastion of various strata of charcoal whilst preparing the foundation for an *annexe* to the present District Court.



that on which the flagstaff stands Neptuneus. The next bastion is the Klippenburg, and next to that Eolus, and these are called the new work and new bastion respectively in Valentyn's map. Although he mentions the Matroosen, Vlaggeklip, Venus, Mars, and Eolus, he does not shew them in his map, and these must therefore have been built subsequent to 1663.

The Star Bastion, also called the Crab Hole, the Moon Bastion, also called the Middle Bastion, and the Sun Bastion, also called the Mainguard, defended the Fort on the land side. Even now can be seen traces of an old building on the Sun Bastion, perhaps the site of the guard room. Valentyn in his plan depicts the *fausse braie* being a secondary and advanced rampart running from the salient angle of the Sun Bastion, along the exterior of the fortifications on the land side, and terminating at the salient angle of the Star Bastion. The old *fausse braie* still stands, but terminates at the right flank of the Moon Bastion (which stands on a higher elevation) but commences again to run from the Moon Bastion as far as the Star Bastion. A sally port, bearing date 1697, connects the Sun Bastion with the *fausse braie*, and *fausse braie* and a little gate at the left flank of the Moon Bastion brings one at once to the *fausse braie* again, which is in a good state of preservation, the interval between the two ramparts being broad enough to have allowed room for the Dutch artillery. There was formerly a canal running along the walls from the present old gate as far as the foot of the Sun Bastion. At the angle where now stands the belfry of the Dutch church was a gate called the Waterpoort and also Strandpoort. Before the Sun Bastion was reached there was seen another gate called the Waterpoortje. There are at present to be seen traces of an old gate here, the passage having been filled up with stones. Old residents will remember a wall, the summit of which was reached by steps on its inner side and which ran parallel with the right face of the Sun Bastion. There was formerly a gate here called the Barrier Gate or *Hek poort* closing up the passage between the wall and the side of the bastion, the only remains of which now consists of a stone socket at the right shoulder of the Sun Bastion. The *Wooden Wambus* was a pier used as a promenade, which ran some distance into the harbour from the other end of the wall already referred to.

According to Valentyn's plan somewhere close to the present office of the Municipality there stood the tannery. The factory, hospital, doctor's quarters, and the hospital

garden stood in a line where the present Kachcheri buildings stand. The *groote kerk* stood opposite the present writer's residence. There was a church close to the present District Judge's quarters, the spinning house being on the back of the house occupied by Messrs. Volkart Brothers. The powder magazine was the present Public Works Store next to the Croquet Lawn. The Governor's house stood on the site of the present lawn tennis court close to the New Gate.

The spring referred to by Saar is perhaps the well close to the bathing place opposite the District Judge's residence, and close to the latter there was a pond to within 25 years ago called the *Fransche lagune*.

The Public Works Store was used as an Ordnance Store for many years. It bears two dates, 1683 and 1777. The old Queen's House (present Clark, Spence & Co.'s Office) has at one of its entrances over the doorway a large stone slab with the date 1683 surmounted by the figure of a cock. The *Pakhuis* or Store House extends from the Galle Club to the District Court, various parts of it bearing dates from 1671. The billiard room of the Hotel bears date 1686, and a stone slab under the Dutch belfry 1701. The Post Office was the house of the Administrateur. The only traces of the *Groote Kerk* at one time discernible were a number of grave stones placed side by side and parallel to each other. In the year 1853, when the Consistory of the Dutch Church decided on removing the bones of the Dutch interred in the old cemetery (the present Fort Municipal Market, which bears the date 1710) to the present church, these stones were also removed and used to pave the floor of the building. Within recent times the tombstone of Captain Burchard Lambertsz Cocq, born in 1599 (who was killed by a soldier in Galle, 24th July 1662) was found in the site of the *Groote Kerk*. He was a native of Wezel, went on an embassy in 1649 to Kandy, a perilous undertaking in those days. The King of Kandy sent for his sister, a renowned sorceress, to find out which party would ultimately get the ascendancy in Ceylon, the Portuguese, Sinhalese, or Dutch. Three game cocks were brought in: a red one to represent the Portuguese; a black, the Sinhalese; a white, the Dutch. The black cock defeated the red; but between the white and the black cock the battle was a drawn one: from which it was deduced that the Dutch would be masters of the seaboard, and the King of Kandy would remain lord of the hill country. He thereupon released the Dutch prisoners, giving each a gold ring, and sent them

back with the Captain to Galle. Burchard Cocq arrived in India in 1639 in the ship *Wezel* as a sergeant.

It was in the *Groote Kerk* that the body of General Hulft was temporarily laid during the continuance of the siege of Colombo by the Dutch in 1656. The historian Baldeus relates that it was first deposited in a vault underground, evidently outside the church, and that in 1657, by the order of the Governor Adriaan van der Meyden, it was interred with great solemnity inside the church near the pulpit, his arms, buckler, sword, and spurs being hung against the wall. The remains were afterwards in 1658, after the capture of Colombo, removed there and finally laid under a stately monument. No traces however of this monument are now to be found. There is reason to believe that the *Groote Kerk* occupied a much larger site than that shown by the plot of ground already referred to; and it is a curious fact that when some years ago the drain under Leyn Baan Cross Street, adjoining the site, was laid open, several grave stones with inscriptions and armorial bearings, and dates corresponding to that of the *Groote Kerk*, were found underground.

Two buildings in the Fort deserve some mention, as having initials of the owner worked into a monogram in the fan-light over the door. The house in Middle Street (the shop of Mr. Ephraums) has the initials of A. D. L. i. e., of Arnoldus de Ly of Bergen-op-Zoom, Commandeur of Galle. The initials over the other in Leyn Baan Street seem to be C. J. L. The names of most of the streets in the Fort are mere translations of the old names, e. g., Middle Street (Middel Straat), Church Street (Kerk Straat), Pedlar's Street (Kramers Straat), Church Cross Street (Kerkdwars Straat). Zeeburg Straat was the old name for Light House Street, Leyn Baan Straat means Rope Walk Street, and the derivation of Chandos Street is obvious. Modera Baay Straat (a corruption of *modderigbaai*) is the Muddy Bay Street.

The present Dutch Church it is stated occupies the site of a Portuguese Capuchin Convent. Heydt (*Allerneußer Geographisch und Topographisch Schau Platz von Africa und Ostindien, Leipsic, 1767*) gives a ground plan of the Fort of Galle in 1736, in which a piece of open ground occupies the site of the present church. The convent must have been previously to this demolished by the Dutch. The following extracts from the Galle Diary (1752-4) give some particulars as to the erection of the church.

MONDAY, 4 JULY, 1752. "Beginning of the erection of the new church".....

FRIDAY, 24 MAY, 1754. "The walls of the New Reformed Church, which is now being erected at the expense of His Excellency the Hon. Casparus de Jong, having been through God's blessing, thus far, without any mishap, raised to their appropriate height and become dry, a beginning is made with the construction of the roof by the architect of that building, Abraham Anthonisz, the respected Superintendent over the ships' carpenters and house builders of this town. May the good Lord crown this holy work further with His gracious blessing and with good success. May He preserve all those who are engaged in the work against misfortune and suffering till the founder's anxious object is achieved and successfully completed to the honour of God's Holy Name."

The tradition is that it was built by de Jong as a thank-offering to God for the birth of a daughter, the couple having been for many years childless; but this is hardly borne out by the facts, as the daughter was baptised in Galle, 24 August, 1755. Casparus de Jong, Lord of Spanbroek, was a native of Amsterdam, having come out to the Indies as a *convooi-looper*, in 1731, in the ship "Reigersbroek", and was married to Gertruida Adriana le Grand. His last office was that of Commandeur of the Malabar Coast. The Superintendent Abraham Anthonisz was also a native of Amsterdam, and arrived in Galle in 1736 in the ship "Westerwyk". He held an office similar to that of a Provincial Engineer of the Public Works, and was also a Lieutenant of the Burgery (Militia). His descendants are still in Ceylon and other parts of the British dominions.

The church has a high vaulted ceiling, which in former years was painted of a beautiful cerulean blue and studded with stars of gold to represent the heavens. An organ loft with an elaborately painted front representing an organ runs across one end of the church towards its main entrance, and here up to the middle of the last century stood an old Dutch organ, a huge cumbrous instrument, blown by means of detached bellows and worked by the feet of coolies. The last of the Dutch organists who survived the cession of the island to the British was Fredrik Pieter Schols, a popular figure, known to people of a bygone generation as "Oom Schols". Underneath the floor of the opposite end of the church, covering the whole area of the head of the cross-shaped

floor, is the burial vault of the church. In the time of the Dutch, burials were regulated by a scale of fees, the highest fee being for a burial inside the vault, the next for a burial in a grave dug in the body of the church, and the lowest for one in the vault outside. After the British occupation it appears that a few of the leading Dutch families claimed the exclusive right of burial in the vault inside the church from having some member of the family buried there, and the fee was a high one; while burials in the body of the church continued to be allowed to those who cared to pay the fees, which according to Dr. Daalmans, a Belgian physician who was travelling in Ceylon about the end of the 17th century, was 100 rix dollars in Colombo. The vault outside the church appears to have been in disuse for a very long time. It extends from the walls of the church to the parapet wall of the church garden, and is roofed over with a pavement. It is supposed to consist of two chambers: the one on the church side has never been opened within the memory of anyone living, but up to a few years ago, the other chamber could have at any time been entered by an underground flight of steps, though no traces of any human remains were visible. The last burial in the vault inside took place in 1863.

In former times a line of high pews ran along the walls of the entire church, the seats in which were reserved for the civil and military officers of the Company and the Dutch private gentry. The rest of the congregation were accommodated in parallel rows of seats in the body of the church. This arrangement was carried on for several years after the British occupation of the island; and so conservative were some of these old Dutchmen in this matter, that it is related of a certain old gentleman that he, on going to church one day, and finding in the Commandeur's pew a person who apparently had not, by former association, any claim to such a high seat, ceased attending the services from that date. His regard for the fitness of things was so great that he could not by his presence assent to such a usurpation.

The church records are, comparatively speaking, in a good state of preservation. A baptismal register has been kept up without interruption since the year 1678. The marriage register proper commences in the year 1748, but the proceedings of the Commissioners of Marriage Causes for earlier years have been preserved, though the series is incomplete. The Consistorial records require arrange-

ment, but a considerable number are found, and are sure to afford very interesting information to local antiquarians.

(To be continued.)

## THE PAINTERS OF HOLLAND :

AN APPRECIATION.

[BY W. W. BELING.]

If it be true that nations, like individuals, have hobbies, the hobby of the Hollander is painting. And history furnishes abundant proof of the fact that it is a hobby or pursuit in which he has excelled.

It is interesting to trace the natural causes which have contributed to make the Dutch painters, and not artists merely; and then to follow, as it were, the path they have trodden, so that we may rightly appreciate the excellence of their work and understand the just estimation in which Dutch pictures are held today in the civilized world. That they do hold a place of honour in the world of art, even if they have not established a school of their own, will nowhere be denied. It is not, however, our purpose here to enquire whether or not there is a distinct Dutch school of painting at the present day. Instead of this we will endeavour to see why the Dutchman paints, and what he means to give us as pictures by his painting. Then, taking his pictures, we will try, in as short a space as possible, to realize his method of work and the appeal his pictures make to the artistic world.

It is said that for so small a country the percentage of painters, professional and amateur, is very large. Now, there must be a reason for this. If we are to discover this reason, it must be found in the life they live and the country in which they live. It would perhaps be more correct to take these in the reverse order, and we will then find the cause to be the wonderful, hazy atmosphere of the country—its invitation to the artistic soul—and the simple, pastoral life of the people. The very quaintness of the people, their slow-moving, even if lazy, kind of life has much to do with it. "Two-thirds sky and one-third land" is the apt description of the aspect of the country by a traveller of the *nil admirari* type who recently passed through Holland. Yes, it is that

large open sky, with its ever-varying effect of light and shade, reflecting its wonderful colours in the waterways of this country, that you will find has left its influence on the Dutch picture. The broad, simple landscape of pasture land, with the apple-coloured cattle, so cleverly painted by more than one master; the soft, hazy atmosphere; the straggling, low-roofed farmhouse, thatched and nestling in a group of trees; a rustic bridge; a quaint blue-coated figure leading a flock of sheep to pasture; not to mention the omnipresent windmill;—and you have the material of composition. But it is the master alone who can give the colour—the accidental kind of broken colour so charming in the landscape, sparkling like wet stones in the light of the joyous morning sun, the freshness of tint vibrating, till, in soft gradation, it breaks into the blue distance of our picture.

Holland can show a distinguished list of landscape painters—powerful technicians in the art of painting, whose colouring, full of that subdued richness, is never vulgar; whose breadth of handling is to less gifted men a marvel. Our minds must needs dwell on such names as of the brothers Maris, of Roelofs, of Mauve, of Gabriel, of Bless, of Rochusen, and a succession of others. The art of Holland is nothing if not for the stamp of sincerity given to it by earnest workers. It is nothing if such men had not devoted their lives—and most of them are old men—in solving for themselves the problems of nature.

It is to the great open-air painters of France, of the Barbizon School, that they are much indebted; but once shown the value of direct work from nature, they saw with their own eyes, and their hands transferred to canvas that individuality without which also the art of Holland would have counted for nothing.

Individuality is undoubtedly a strong feature in Dutch painting,—that individuality born of sincerity, and a child of love. They have played seemingly with paint, like children, and, like children's play, the sincerity of it is there.

Take any one of the works of Mauve or Maris, exhibited perhaps in half a dozen countries, yet always drawing admiring groups at every show. We may well ask,—what is it that attracts our attention to these pictures? It is the truth of description, the ease of handling, and the beauty of colouring. Everywhere, given an artistic people, these qualities bear the impress of truth. They are present, not in fidelity of that detail for which the pre-Raphaelite was

noted, not in that expression of every minute particle of nature which the eyes see, not in that matter-of-fact laying down of what one may call the view of nature, which every man in the street ordinarily sees; but rather in that selective conception of a subject which the painter born, like the poet, alone knows will appeal to his sense of right and wrong—of essential and non-essential.

In the arrangement of light and shade the painters of Holland find delight. They are fond of concentrated light and luminous shadow. Who that has seen a Rembrandt can forget the beautiful light and shade there brought out? The works of this great master defy analysis. It is difficult to fix on the method of his work. What secrets in craftsmanship must have perished with that indomitable worker, for we have never seen another Rembrandt after him!

Then, if not purely as animal painters, they have excelled in the treatment of animals in relation to landscape. Have not such men as Roelofs, Storlenbeeker, Gabriel, and Briemer placed this beyond doubt? Again, in the painting of their skies even the casual observer will notice many beauties. The soft, tender colouring, the broad sense of space, the atmosphere, as it were, of the whole picture is influenced by the treatment of sky, whether morning, or noon, or evening, whether storm or sunshine. The truth is there, and one feels it.

They have revelled in sunshine, albeit in a low key; yet the values being so true, the effect is in perfect accord with nature.

But it is not in landscape only that the Dutch painters have found inspiration. The ordinary round of daily life, the life of the peasant, the farmer, the toiler on the deep, has been sufficient to make the reputations of a great many of these painters. When we mention the name of Josef Israels, what homely subjects come before us? This grand old man of Holland has never selected imposing subjects. The picture that made a great impression in far away Chicago, in the World's Columbian Exposition, was a simple thing—the title, as simple as the picture, was "Alone in the World". The subject, a lonely peasant by the bedside of his dead wife. The extraordinary depth of feeling, marked on the anxious face, carries our sympathy with the thoughts, which, so to speak, run in the mind of the subject. There he sits, his face turned away from the last farewell that has just been taken,



wistfully gazing into space, his cap thrown on the floor. Behind him lies on a simple cot the cause and the effect; the pallor on the woman's face declares that all is over with her; the anxiety on the man's, that the worst has just begun for him! Truly he, like all men, born to the life of simple contentment, feels that he is alone, cast into the world to fight alone the battle that hitherto was shared with him by the good woman of his house. This, the subject of the picture, can be described, but we cannot describe the soul that entered into the making of it.

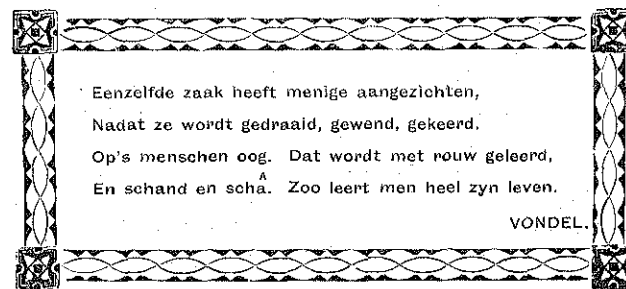
This picture has never been exhibited without drawing a crowd of sympathetic admirers. It is hoped that it will never leave the land of its birth. So likewise have been the pictures of other painters, now renowned in Europe. They were simple in subject. "All great art," as Ruskin said, "was simple." It could not be simple if not sincere. The disciples of Israels, Neuhuys, and Artsz, having followed the master in selection of subject, have made their reputation; but in no-wise can it be said that they have slavishly copied him.

In yet another section of painting, that of portraiture, we have but to mention the name of Therese Schwartze, and before our mind's eye are presented her works, handled with vigour and scintillating with brightness. This lady-artist, like another, to be now referred to, has made her name—"has arrived," as the French say—in the world of art. Henriette Ronner, the great cat painter, whose works having been published in various forms in illustrated periodicals are so familiar to all, is perhaps the only specialist in this subject among the recent painters of Holland. The charm of her works needs no praise; for even that great country of artists, France, has honoured her with the highest awards; and, in England, the walls of the Royal Academy were frequently graced by her pictures. Her cats were always cats: there was art in the work and poetry withal. The mother-cat and her kittens playing with a ribbon: note the interest in her eyes, and the mischief in those of the playing kittens; note the careful but broad and powerful handling; the texture of every article so well rendered, whether ribbon, or old casket, or fur. Note also the care with which the composition is arranged. No wonder that her pictures are admired. For she has that genius which takes no account of hard work to attain the end in view. One can imagine what concentration of mind was required, what training of hand in unison with that of brain, to give effect to such work as hers. We must

also not forget that in her early days she had heavy odds to contend with. Her art career was not a bed of roses. Yet the days of old age were richly crowned with recognition—a recompense which is more than gold to the true painter.

To conclude this rough sketch, we must not omit the works of the great banker-artist, of the Hague, W. H. Mesdag. In his able canvases the subject is almost always the sea and those that go down to the deep—the fisher-folk—and their quaint boats. Large and simple as is the handling, so is the effect broad and bold. The solemn grandeur of the mighty ocean has been his theme, and he has shown it in every mood in his works. He is regarded as one of the foremost marine painters on the Continent, and justly so; for his work bears the stamp of art in every square-inch of the large canvases he is wont to paint, whether it is an impending storm or a quiet morning on the beach at Scheveningen. The large natural facts of the scene are presented in his works with the power of a close observer of nature in his own, almost inimitable, way.

Last, but by no means least, we have the name of a man England has honoured, but whom Holland may claim namely, Sir Laurence Alma-Tadema, R. A., who may be called the magic revivalist of the days of ancient Rome. His knowledge of archæology is only second to his ability as a painter. He has chosen his special domain, he has surrounded himself with every object that can keep his topic before him. In his home in England he has built up as it were a Roman atmosphere, placing himself in touch, in his daily life, with almost every feature available, of the life of these ancients. And no wonder his work has succeeded in giving us what, pictorially, is a true transcript of the way the world wagged in those days.



## SKETCHES OF DUTCH HISTORY.

[BY MISS S. PIETERS.]

(Continued from page 92.)

## THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HEREDITARY COUNTSHIPS.—

After the death of Louis the Pious his three sons fought for the division of his dominions. By the treaty of Verdun, in 843, Charles obtained the western part, Louis the eastern, and Lotharius, the eldest son, the rest, with the title of Emperor. Of the Netherlands, Flanders and Artois went to Charles, and the remaining parts fell to the share of Lotharius. The Frankish kingdom now ceased to exist.

During the 9th and 10th centuries, most of the fiefs in the Netherlands, which up to that time had been granted for a lifetime only by the Emperor, became hereditary in the grantees, who were now strong enough to keep them by force. The vassals, who were more dependent on their immediate lords than on their distant rulers, easily acquiesced in this arrangement. More than once however there were difficulties as to the succession, when the question arose whether a certain county was a "*sword*" or a "*spindle*" fief, *i. e.*, whether it was to descend in the male line only, or could pass to females. The dignity of Count by hereditary right was thus established, and from thence arose the noble families. Some of these families became extinct when, by intermarriage, or in other ways, their lands were united under one count. In the 12th century the whole of the Netherlands was divided between the Counts of Gelder and of Holland and the Bishop of Utrecht. In the Southern Netherlands various states became independent, as, for instance, the Dukedom of Brabant and the Counties of Namur and Hainault. In the east the Bishoprics of Liege, Limburg and Luxemburg were at first counties, but in the course of time were constituted dukedoms. The House of Holland, or of the Counts of Holland properly speaking, is said to have been founded in 1018 by Dirk III.

The Bishops also became more and more powerful, first by large grants of land being made to them from time to time by the Emperor, and secondly as they made better masters than the lay rulers. The poor freemen who needed protection would rather go to them than attach themselves to the counts.

Between the Merwede and the Old Meuse lay a marshy forest, which the Bishops of Utrecht and Liege held conjointly. Dirk, who up to that time had been known as Count of Friesland, built here a stronghold to guard the rivers, and demanded toll from the passing ships. This stronghold in later times became the town of Dordrecht. The marshy country was known as *Holland*, from which the counts in future took their title, and which name they now applied to the whole of their domains. On the importunities of the Bishops, the Emperor endeavoured to check the encroachments of his vassal, but found himself unable to do so. He therefore gave to the Bishop of Utrecht as compensation for the loss of territory the Province of Drenthe, although this did not put an end to the feud between Utrecht and Holland. In 1096 Dordrecht was taken by Bishop Bernulf, and retaken shortly after by Count Dirk IV., who paid for his victory with his life. On the death of Dirk's brother and successor, Floris I., the whole country went into foreign hands by the marriage of his widow Gertrude of Saxony with Robbert, a son of the Count of Flanders. Some time after this the Bishop induced the Emperor to declare Holland a fief of Utrecht.

It was the poor people who, as it always happened, suffered most under these continual wars. The ordinary freemen, whose number was considerably reduced by the invasions of the Normans, became fewer still, because many of them were now obliged for their protection to attach themselves to some nobleman, so as to be allowed to live around the castle within which they could take refuge in case of attack. The power of the nobles thus increased, and they did as they pleased, and obtained what they desired by means of influence and by the might of the sword. The freeman either carried on trade, or applied himself to some handicraft, and thus maintained his independence; but the poor bondsman had to work without remuneration, and suffered great poverty. In spite of the beneficial influence exercised on the people by Christianity, their manners were rough; the clergy and the nobility alone shewed some refinement. At the end of the eleventh century signs of a change, which was calculated to effect great improvement, shewed themselves. These arose from the Crusades, which brought about altered conditions in every country in Europe.

THE CRUSADES.—On the invitation of Pope Urban II., who preached the first crusade in 1096, every Christian,

whether noble, freeman or slave, was at liberty to embark in the righteous war. Thousands enthusiastically put on their arms, and no master could refuse his subject the leave to go. To obtain freedom, fame, riches, but also in real zeal for their religion, large numbers of men joined in the expedition. From all parts of the Netherlands people came together for this purpose, some well, others badly, armed. They crossed the seas in ships used thus far for the transport of merchandise. One army, led by Peter the Hermit and *Wouter Zonder have* (Wouter without property) succumbed almost entirely to fatigue, famine, and the sword. A second, better disciplined and equipped, lead by the Duke of Lorraine and Godfried of Boulogne, joined by many other princes, among them the Count of Flanders, as well as by a large number of nobles from the houses of Holland, Zeeland, and Friesland, had more success. On the 15th July 1099 Jerusalem was taken, and the noble Duke of Lorraine was proclaimed king; but he refused to wear a golden crown in the place where Christ had worn one of thorns.

Dirk VII., at the head of an army of Hollanders and Frisians, took part in an expedition against Dalmatia, in order from there to attack Syria and Palestine. After a long siege the town was taken in 1219, but lost again two years after. In commemoration of its capture brass clocks have hung in the St. Bavo's Church at Haarlem since 1550, and these are still regularly rung every evening and on special occasions. They are called *Damiaaljes*, not because they came from Dalmatia (*Damiale*), but because they were placed there as a memorial of that expedition.

The Crusades lasted about two centuries, and among the many warriors who became famous in these were several Counts of Holland, one of whom, Floris III., died before Antioch.

**THE LIBERATION OF BONDSMEN AND SLAVES.**—In spite of the enormous loss of life in these wars, they proved in the long run a blessing to Europe. In the first place they gave rise to the order of knighthood and chivalry, which did much to promote refinement; secondly, they raised from their abject position the bondsmen, and gave a status to the poorer freemen, who thus far had been hardly considered as a class, for the nobles valued even their war-horse more than their servants. Every slave or bondsman who decided to join in the Crusades became at once free by Papal Decree, and this alone induced thousands to range themselves under the

Banner of the Cross. Many nobles, seeing the loss they would thus suffer, offered their servants freedom on certain conditions. Others, requiring funds to join in the wars, sold their property and servants to the church, and the clergy granted to these people more freedom than they had before. Thus encouraged, and finding that in future industry would promote their own welfare, they applied themselves to trade and handicrafts. They still had to perform some service, and to pay some taxes; but they could now make provision for their children, which thus far they could not, because at their death even the little they possessed became the property of their masters. The villages which were favourably situated became towns, and people who carried on the same trade combined together, laying the foundation of the guilds of later times.

**THE RISE OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**—To the Crusades may thus be traced the rise and growth of the middle class. They reduced the power as well as the number of the nobility, many of whom fell in Palestine. Some of the counts gave privileges to the towns in return for assistance in armed men or funds, and it became a rule that any slave or bondsman who took refuge within a town became free if he was not claimed by his master within a year and a day. He then obtained personal rights, could marry as he pleased, and dispose of his property. The Count who did most for this class of people was Floris V. He incurred the deadly hatred of some of the nobles for liberating 40 slaves at one time, and for consulting the people of the towns in matters of government, a thing then unheard of. They nicknamed him "*Der keeren god*" i. e., "the idol of the churls". They were also angry with him for assisting some nobles of Utrecht in a war they waged against the powerful chiefs Gezobrecht van Amstel and Herman van Woerden, in which the latter were defeated. Their property in Utrecht fell into the hands of Floris, who then let them have these again only as fiefs. Another, Gerard van Velsen, hated him because he held him responsible for the death of a nephew, for which he felt bound to take revenge. They found an ally in Edward I., King of England, who took the opportunity to remove the English wool market from Dordrecht to Burges and Malines. Floris now joined France against England, and King Edward prevailed on the Dutch nobles to make a prisoner of their countryman and convey him to England. He was taken near Utrecht in 1296 and kept a prisoner for a few days, but

when he was to be taken on board an English vessel, the people, hearing of it, endeavoured to set him free. In their fear of losing their victim, the nobles fell upon him and brutally murdered him, which they had not at first intended to do. Some of the murderers were killed by the enraged people, others were sentenced to death, a few escaped. The actions of Floris, though somewhat arbitrary as regards his dealings with the other nobles, proved a blessing to the people, and laid the foundation for their future freedom.

(To be continued.)

### DUTCH EXTRACTS AND THE DUTCH COMPANY IN THE MATARA DISTRICT.

[BY THE HON. J. P. LEWIS.]

If a few years ago in the Matara District the villager were asked on what title he based his rather belated claim to high land or forest, the reply would have been, in nine cases out of ten: "There is an *extrakku*." And when this document was produced it would turn out to be an extract written in Dutch from the Thombo Book of the village. The document was often so dilapidated that when it was unfolded it became almost as difficult as Humpty Dumpty to put together again. Further, on examination it would be found that, except in the case of lands situated in the Morawa Korale, it contained no reference whatever to chena lands, but only to gardens and fields. Sometimes an English document of the earlier years of the last century was produced as the "*extrakku*", and sometimes none at all was produced, and the claim was based on the ghost of an extract that was said to have been stolen or burnt or eaten by white ants 50 years before.

For many years but small value was attached to these documents as evidence of title either by Government officers or their possessors. As long as there were few restrictions placed on chenaing and every villager could obtain a chena license, the villagers were content, and did not think of setting up claims based on the possession of a Dutch extract the contents of which were practically a sealed book to them, and, it may be added, to officials and lawyers as well.

But when about 1895-6 chena lands became valuable, owing to a boom in citronella oil, and at the same time the pressure of poverty was felt by people whose paddy lands had been sold to the capitalists of the district, with the result that there were hardly any private chena lands available, these extracts acquired a fictitious importance, and they were produced in all sides in support of claims to high lands.

The great majority of them were genuine enough, but referred only to gardens and fields, and were therefore at most only additional evidence of title to lands already in possession of the claimants. Some were merely records showing that the ancestors of the claimants had held rank as headmen or lascoryns under the Dutch Company, while others were merely stamped petitions addressed to the Land Raad or to the chief Dutch officer of the District.

It was in many cases impossible to identify the lands referred to in the extract with any lands now known. But the mere fact of the existence of an "extract" was in a very short time considered by the people sufficient to show title, not merely to fields and gardens, but to forest and chena lands.

So far did this go that in 1896-8, as will be shown hereafter, a regular trade in forged extracts sprang up in the Matara District, and extended into the Galle and Hambantota Districts.

In addition to the genuine extracts in the possession of villagers, there is, or was, a large number of them lying in the offices of the Land Registration Department throughout the low-country, and especially in those of the Matara office.

These documents had been produced in hundreds in the years 1874-5, in consequence of measures taken to enforce the provisions of the Ordinances No. 6 of 1866 and 15 of 1867, which required that all old deeds executed prior to 1st February 1840 be produced for registration before 1st February 1875.\*

Many were thus registered until it was held by the Supreme Court that as they purported to be extracts from public records registration was not necessary.

But having once deposited them at the Land Registry, their owners in many instances never took the trouble to

\* 74,130 deeds were deposited for registration.—*Report of Registrar-General, 1875.*



remove them after registration, and there some hundreds of them still remain,\* and their existence would probably have been forgotten had not the discovery of a number of forgeries of a similar appearance rendered them useful for the purpose of comparison.

The present writer has examined all those still reposing in the almirahs of the Matara Land Registry, as well as many others produced by claimants in that District. He has also had occasion to examine the Dutch records which were still to be found in the Matara Kachcheri,† and he thinks he will be able to show that these musty and often dilapidated documents throw an interesting light on the doings at Matara of the "VEREENIGDE OOST-INDISCHE COMPAGNIE," whose monogram in the shape of a stamp they all bear.

Most of the Extracts are certified copies of entries in the Thombo books which were kept by the Company as a register of lands in the different villages allowed by it to headman or native soldiers, but some are copies of minutes of the proceedings of the Land Raad or Civil Land Court of the district, or certificates issued by the Land Raad to applicants who wanted evidence of title.

The latter were usually in printed forms in Dutch and Sinhalese (or Tamil), and such a certificate was granted to any person "who had before the Land Raad here sufficiently maintained his lawful ownership" of the gardens or other lands to which it referred. It was given to him "to serve as a proof that he may avail himself thereof at all times as may be required".

We will proceed now to examine these extracts and the records from which they were taken in greater detail.

First come the Thombos, of which there were many. The earliest mentioned is "*de oude Thombo van anno 1682*" (the old Thombo of the year 1682), otherwise described as "*Het Thombo Boek van anno 1682 dat alhier ter Secretarje is berustende*" (The Thombo Book of the year 1682 which is

\* Or at least were there in 1897-1901. I believe they have since been removed to the Head Office.

† These were:—A list of cocoanut gardens of 1725; a list of arecanut lands; lists of *accomodessan* and other fields; a roll of mayoraals, etc., etc., in the Matara District. They have since been examined and catalogued by Mr. R.G. Anthonisz, Government Archivist, and removed to his office at Colombo.

lying here at the Secretariat, *i. e.*, of Matara. It seems to have been a general Thombo for the District, but later on there were Thombos of the Morowa Korle of 1730, 1740, and 1791; a "Specificatie der Baygams" of 1708, a "School Thombo of Akuressa" of 1716, and one of "de Maturese Vier Gravetten" (the Four Gravets of Matara) of 1740.

We find also a series of separate Thombos for villages, *e.g.* an "old Thombo" of 1740 for the village Pasgodde Bengammoewe in Morowa Korle and new Thombos for the villages Marambe (1744), Pate Aperaacke (1775), Paletoeuwe (1776), Paredoegamme (1780), Dickwella (1785), Kirinde (1786), Mangemoene (1788), and Owiettegammoeuwe (1789); as well as Thombos, whether old or new is not stated, of Kekkenedoere (1774) and Paletoeuwe (1776), Tibbotoeawe (1780), and of Epittkaddoeuwe (1786).

There was also a "Roll of parvenie diwels, mallepalla and ratmaherre" fields and tythes of villages and fields of the Morowa Korle" which was compiled in 1755 by the "Modliaar en Koraal der Morowa Korle," Don Diogee Wijesingha Dissenayake by order of the Dessave Jan Bauert.

Probably every village had or was intended ultimately to have a Thombo, but these are the only names of villages having them which I have come across in Extracts.

Besides the Thombos there were "Rols" or "Rolles" (both forms are used indifferently) of land allowed to native troops such as the Lascoryns and the "*Inlandse Krygers*", or to headmen such as the Mayoraals.

There was for instance a "Rolle der Lascoryns van de Belligam Corle, Dollesdas † en Morrua Corle" which was compiled in 1663; and an "incomplete" (*defecte*) Lascoryns' Roll of 1712; a "New Lascoryns' Roll of 1745 made by order of the Dissave Gerrardus Kersse"; "a newly begun and unfinished" (*Onvoltooyde*) Lascoryns' Roll of 1746; and finally a "Lascoryns' Roll of 1755".

\* As to the different land tenures decided by these terms, see Cleghorn's *Report of the Different Tenures of Land and Modes of Inheritance in the District of Matara*, dated 1st June, 1799, published in the Ceylon Calendar for 1819, and Cairn's *Minute of 11th June, 1869*.

† I have been unable to find out what part of the country was referred to as the "Dollesdas" Corle, but apparently it comprises the Gangaboda, Kandaboda, and Welaboda Pattus.

It appears from these latter documents that the Lascoryns were under the command of the "Mohandiram of the Attepattoe", and were divided into "Rantjes," each under an "Aratje". Every Lascoryn was enrolled in one of these "Rantjes".

The Mohandirams had as their immediate superior the Maha Mudaliyar of Matara, for there appears to have been such a functionary there.

The Lascoryns are described in an Extract of 1756 as being under "Sinnewiratna Modliaar Adigaar van Mature".\* So that there would appear also to have been at one time an Adigaar of Matara. One of these Mohandirams was "Mohandiram van de Adigaar Mandoe", which consisted of a body of Lascoryns; but the Maha Mudaliyar was "Hoofd (head) of the Adigaar Mande", so that the Maha Mudaliyar was also Adigaar of Matara. Reference is made to a "Modliaar of the Guard". Each Modliar in fact seems to have had a body of Lascoryns under him, and so also had the "Mohandiram der Koditoek of Springhaan Dragers".†

What the "Inlandse Krygers", of whom a list was in 1742 lying at the Matara "Secretary", were exactly I do not know, but I suppose they were a sort of native militia. A Roll of their "Ratmaherre" and "Mallepalle" fields of so many of them as were "ongecommedeerde" ‡ was compiled in 1721, when Arnout Van de Cruys was Dessave, by order of Governor Rumpf.

Now we come to the Mayoraals' Rolls. I have only come across two of these—the Roll of 1749, and an unfinished "Mayoraals Beschryving" (writing) of 1769.

All these extracts usually bear a stamp of six stuivers ("een zegel van 6 stuivers") or sometimes of 12 or 24 stuivers, §

\* Don Juan Alwis Widjewardene Senoviratne was probably the first Maha Mudaliyar in the Island. See *Ceylon Literary Register*, vol. 2, p. 195.

† Originally catapult carriers. See *Journal, R. A. S. (C. B.)* vol. XVI, p. 76, Notes on VanEck's Expedition.

‡ "Unaccommodated" probably means without accomodessens lands. For a definition of "accomodessens" see Cleghorn's Minute.

§ There were 48 stuivers to the rix dollar and 4 stuivers to the fanam, so that the stuiver was worth more than a cent and a half. It was equivalent to the doit or "doodie" of early British times, the Sinhalese *tuttukasi*, and to the Indian pice. One recalls the common Sinhalese expression "tuttu deka" for 3 cents.

that is to say they were written on paper bearing a stamp of either of these amounts impressed on it by a dye. It exhibited the monogram of the Company (V. O. C.) with the value of the stamp enclosed within an ornamental circle roughly executed in black ink, and one of much the same appearance was used by the British Government of Ceylon during the first 15 or 20 years of British rule. Owing to the appearance of these stamps, Dutch Extracts as well as English deeds of the periods referred to are known among the Sinhalese as "*kalumuddara oppu*", "black stamp deeds". It was usual for the *Hoofd Administrateur* \* in the Dutch Company to sign or impress his name over or along one side of this stamp, and same practice was followed in British times when a similar stamp was used, the functionary in the latter case being the Governor. Usually the Dutch officials in this case only signed their surnames, after the continental fashion.

The stamp was sometimes not on the Extract itself but on a detached piece of paper which was tied to it, and superscribed: "This seal belongs to the annexed Thombo Extract of so and so."

Petitions appear to have borne a six stuiver stamp on each sheet.

Sometimes on an extract already stamped: "*mits gebrek van 12 st. zegels is hier by nog ge anxeerde een zegel van 6st*".

\*The names of the following *Hoofd Administrateurs* appear at the head of these Matara Extracts:—

Van Sanden.	Moens.
Lebeck.	Raket.
Samlandt.	Schuttrup.
Sluysken.	Bok.

And the following names of Dessaves and Secretaries of the Land Raad at Matara appear in the body or at the bottom of the documents:—

J. Busschop.....	1740-1746.
J. Van Sohsten.....	1750-1757.
N. B. Martheze.....	1755-1758.
M. F. Palm.....	1792-1793.
P. A. de Moor.....	1765-1782.
D. Burnat (Dessave) ...	1764-1767.
M. Engelbregt	—

Six of these were Secretaries of the Land Road at Matara or Galle; one (Burnat) was Dessave of Matara.

An extract from a Thombo or Roll was always drawn up in a particular form.

It was headed by a title stating from what record it purported to be an extract, and also the name of the village.

It then gave the name and description\* of the headman or other person in whose favour it was issued with the names of all the members of his family, wife, children, and others living on the same land, in fact even of "his sisters, his cousins, and his aunts", with their respective ages and relationships.

These particulars are followed by the names and extents of the lands belonging to the head of the family in the following order:—

- (1) Gardens with the number of cocoanut and jak trees in each.
- (2) Fields with their sowing extents in amunams and kurunies.
- (3) Chenas with their extents similarly given.

Lastly a statement of the taxes † which the holder of the lands had to pay.

All these particulars were of course simply a copy of what was entered in the Thombos under the name of the person who applied for the extract.

\* The usual description is "*Christen*" or "*Heiden*", thus:—"Don Diegoe Coste Wellale Christen oud 56 Jaaren. Gegerege Kire Caste Wellala heyden en Weduwe."

† The taxes payable were some or all of the following:—  
*Mahanadappu*—varying from  $\frac{1}{4}$ , in the instances I have met with, of a laryn to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  laryn, or from half a stuiver to 9 stuivers. A laryn was a Persian coin, value about 6d., which the Portuguese had introduced. What the Mahanadappu was I have no information, except that it was the Government share.

*Aloetdeccum*—varying from  $\frac{1}{2}$  a stuiver to 3 stuivers.  
Sometimes they are described as "ligte stuivers"; sometimes merely as stuivers. In one instance the tax is referred to as the "Dessave's Aloetdeccum".

*Gan* or *Dorps deccum*, from 1 to 4 laryns.  
*Vidane deccum*—from 2 light stuivers or stuivers to 9 or from 1 to 2 laryns.

*Aswenne deccum*—1 stuiver.

*Cottalbedde deccum*—5 laryns.

*Corle deccum* or *Attoe Corle deccum*— $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  laryn or 6 stuivers.

An attestation was appended stating at whose instance the extract had been issued, and this was signed at the foot by the "Thombo Holder" or "*g'authoriseerde*" person, and the document was also signed in the left hand corner by a clerk as "examined" (*nagezien*). The attestation always began with the word "*Akkordeert*", agreed.

These extracts show that there were many minor officials and headmen. For instance we find that there were at Matara a "Schryver Araatje of the Attepattoe" and a "Schryver of the Four Gravettes", and there was a "Vidane of the Beigams" to look after those villages; also a "Schryver Araatje of the Morowa Korle". There was probably one for each Korle and Pattu. Every village possessed several headmen, functionaries and lascoryns.

Thus at Kebiliyapola we find a "Dorps Vidane", a "Dorps Graanmeeter",\* a "Kangaan of the Atepattoe", two Mayoraals, a "Dorps Nainde", a "Dorps Kanneeldraeger", † a "Pottebakker van de Rest Huys", ‡ a "Dorps Tamblinzero", § and a "Rantje Lascoryn".

At Urugamuwa there were a "Vidane Araatje", a "Dorps Schryver", two "Mayoraals", six "Dorps Naindes", three "Naindes and Houtjagers", and 3 Naindes of the common works" (*gemeene werken*), a "Dorps Kangaan" and a "Dorps Smit", a "Graanmeeter", 2 "Kanneel Draggers", and a "Rantje Lascoryn".

In other places we have a "Hoornblazer" and a "Bood Schaplooper", a "Mosqueden Pannikia", a "Steen Kopper", a

*Mayoraals deccum*—(Mayoraal's Hoewandiram) 1 to 6 stuivers. Dorps deccum is also called Mayoraal's deccum in one place. I presume Gan deccum is the same as Dorps deccum.

*Thuyens Geregtigheid* payable by gardens; also referred to as "Wattoebadde", 1 to 8 stuivers, 1 laryn 22 rix dollars, 8 to 12 canneccassen.

*Ottoe* (paid by fields)  $\frac{1}{4}$  to 15 stuivers.

*Korle Bantoenoe* paid to the Korle Officer or Clerk (right of residence).

*Joy tax*—I have seen this mentioned in one instance. Deccum, Sinhalese *Dekma*—giving.

\* Measurer of grain.

† Cinnamon carrier.

‡ Literally "Potter of the Resthouse".

§ *Tamboelijn*, diminutive of *Tamboelijn*=tambourine. Valentijn has *tamblinjeros*, *tablenjeros*, *tammelijnspelers*—See *Royal Asiatic Journal*, Vol. X., p. 168. note 6.

"Smit aatjari nainde", and several "tamblinzeros of the guard" of the Commandeur of Galle.

The usual title of a Mayoraal was "Pattirannahe" - in one instance it is "Raale". The Mayoraals were appointed by the Dessaves or by the Commandeur, or sometimes by the Governor.

The portion of country at present forming the Matara District with the addition of the "Girreways" and from 1766, when it was ceded to the Company by the King of Kandy, of the Magam Pattu \* in the present Hambantota District, constituted the "Dissavonie of Matara", sometimes referred to as "de Maturese landen" or "de Fortresse Mature".

The divisions of the dissavonie are described as the "*Korles en Pattoes mitsgaders Heerlijkheden en Vidanien alle sorteereade onder deze Dessavoni*".

The Korles and Pattoes were sub-divided into Walakadas, the Girreways into Rest Houses. There were three "rest houses", those of Walasmoelle, Kahawatte, and Marakadde.

The lordships Heerlijkheden referred to were two—those of Weligama (Heerlijkheid van Belligam) which was separate from the Weligam Korle and comprised twelve villages, and of Dondra (Heerlijkheid van Dondure) which comprised but two.

The Dutch official in charge was called "Heer Dessave"† and he held the rank of "opperkoopman en secunde van't Gaal's Commandement", being of course subordinate to the Commandeur of Galle, who was styled "de Edelste Heer Commandeur der Stad en Landen van Gale, Mature," etc. The Dessave had a Deputy or "Lieutenant Dessave".

There were besides stationed at Matara a Commandant, generally a Lieutenant, and an ensign (*vaandrig*) and sometimes an "ordinaire vuurwerker",‡ a "chirurgyn", a "consumptie boekhouder" and other boekhouders, e. g., a bookhouder who was also "gecommitteerde by de tombo", "a book-

houder en tombo-houder," a "boekhouder en gesworen tombo scriba".

The "consumptie boekhouder" appears to have been "onderklerk" as well. We also come across an oppermeester and an ondercoopman as well as (in 1794) a vendumeester.

Finally there was the "Sekretaris" of the Land Raad of Matara, who is described as "*ge-athoriseerde te deese Maturese Sacretarie*". The Land Raad (de Agtbare Raad van Justitie or "de Eerwarde Maturese Landraad") was constituted of most of these officials together with three to seven native members ("*permanente leden uit den Eerwarden Landraad*").

There were the Maha Modliaar (when there was one, as in 1781 and 1793), "the Jacht en Zaaymeester der Girreways mitsgaders Gagenaik" (sowing master and master of the elephant hunt), "the Hoofd of the Girawapattu", "the Hoofd van de Vier Gravetten" and of each Korle or Pattu. These were the Weligam Korle, the Morowa Korale, the Ganga-boda Pattu (with the Four Baigams) and the Kande-boda Pattu. The chief of the Morowa Korale bore the title of "Moodliar en Koraal".

After the acquisition of the Magam Pattu the "Resident" of that Pattu also sat a Member of the Land Raad.

A sitting of that body (*ordinair land raad's vergadering*) was apparently held every morning, sometimes as early as half-past eight or at nine, sometimes as late as eleven, when causes were heard and decided.

The Secretary of the Land Raad seems to have been the next most important official to the Dessave.

(To be continued.)

St. Nicolaas' Feſte :

5th December, 1908

\* The headquarters of the Magam Pattu were at Beragama near Amblantota.

† This is an instance of the Company's adopting Kandyan titles for their officials; another is that of the "Modliaar en Koraal" mentioned above.

‡ The rank of "Lieutenant vuurwerker" in the Artillery was inferior to that of Lieutenant. The rank of "Lieutenant Fireworker" existed in the British army up to the early nineteenth century.



**LIST OF SOME OF THE FOUNDERS OF  
FAMILIES WHICH SETTLED IN CEYLON  
FROM EUROPE DURING THE  
DUTCH ADMINISTRATION, A. D. 1640—1796.**

[COMPILED BY F. H. DE VOS, ADVOCATE.]

(Continued from p. 88.)

- DE NEYS, Jacob; born at Amsterdam. Living in Ceylon 1783—1798.
- OPPENHEIMER, Johannes Casparus; born at Groswinterheim. Living in Ceylon 1771—1784.
- OHLMUS, Jan Carel; born at Hildesheim. Arrived 1760 in the *Amelisvaart*. Living in Ceylon 1760—1780.
- VAN DER PARRA, Rombout; born at Amsterdam. Living in Ceylon 1683—1714.
- POULIER, Arnout; born at Bergen-op-Zoon. Arrived 1714 in the *Schooneval*. Living in Ceylon 1714—1726.
- POTGER, Everhard Lodewyk; born at Brandenburg. Living in Ceylon 1751—1761.
- PFEIFFER, Joan Christoffel; born at Maagdenburg. Arrived 1739 in the *Nieuwekerk*. Living in Ceylon 1739—1772.
- PARAVICINI DI CAPELLI, Elias; born at Breda; baptized there 29th June, 1733; son of Johan Caspar Paravicini di Capelli and Isabella Maria van Woensel (married at Breda, 24th September, 1716). Living in Ceylon 1766—1787.
- PIACHAUD, Francois; born at Nion (Switzerland). Living in Ceylon 1795—?
- ROOSMALE COCQ, Petrus Jacobus; born at Dokkum (Friesland); son of Pieter Ambrosius Roosmale Cocq. Living in Ceylon 1764—1813.
- RABINEL, Jean David; born at Middelburg. Living in Ceylon 1790—1800.
- VON RANZOW (Christoff), Ferdinand Anthon, Count; born at Berenberg, 26th March, 1711; son of Alexander Leopold Anthon, Count von Ranzow and Catharine Sophia von Hoyaen-Rhoden (married 1702). Living in Ceylon 1737—1758.

- VON RANZOW, August Carl Fredrik, Count; born at Holzminden, 13th September, 1760; son of Christoff Ferdinand Anthon Count von Ranzow and Louisa Henrietta Baroness von Brockenburg (married 30th July, 1759). Living in Ceylon 1789—1844.
- RUDOLPH, Jan Theodosius; born at Wyzenzee. Living in Ceylon 1765—1787.
- RECKERMAN, Jan Hendrik; born at Onna. Living in Ceylon 1763—1770.
- ROERBACH, Christiaan; born at Weingarten. Living in Ceylon 1772—1780.
- RUNSTORFF, Everhard; born at Riddershoede. Living in Ceylon 1732—?
- RODE, Balthazar; born at Hamburg. Living in Ceylon 1739—?
- SCHOKMAN, Jan Arentsz; born at Amsterdam. Living in Ceylon 1697—1712.
- SULYSKEN, Pieter; born at Amsterdam. Living in Ceylon 1759—1807.
- STORK, Jan Philip; born at Oldenzaal; son of Gerrard Willem Stork and Agneta Potken (married at Oldenzaal, 9th April, 1717). Living in Ceylon 1771—1785.
- SCHRADER, Julius; born at Brunswick, 25th September, 1683. Living in Ceylon 1713—1736.
- SCHNEIDER, Johan Hendrik; born at Kirekheim (Hesse-Cassel) 15th July, 1753; son of Hendrik Schneider. Living in Ceylon 1772—1794.
- VAN DER SMAGT, Ary Carelsz; born at Sassenhoven. Living in Ceylon 1736—1745.
- SELA, Albert; born at Hertogenbosch. Living in Ceylon 1763—1780.
- SAMLANT, Barent Barentsz; born at Haarlem. Living in Ceylon 1677—1687.
- SISSOUW, Marinus; born at Middelburg (Zeeland). Living in Ceylon 1784—1800.
- VAN SCHULER, Pieter Willem Ferdinand Adriaan; born at Utrecht, 2nd November, 1757; son of Jan van Schuler and Adriana Sophia van Reede van Oudshoorn. Living in Ceylon 1783—1799.
- SCHROTER, Frederik; born at Hildesheim. Arrived 1751 in the *Spandewal*. Living in Ceylon 1751—1805.

SCHARFF, Jan Christoffel; born at Sangerhausen. Living in Ceylon 1743—1754.

VAN SPRANG, Arnoldus; born at Vlissingen (Flushing). Living in Ceylon 1747—1751.

SPITTEL, Jan Lourens; born at Weimar, 8th July, 1734. Arrived 1760 in the *Laprienenburg*. Living in Ceylon 1760—1805.

VAN DER STRAATEN, Engelbert; born at Singen. Arrived 1742 in the *Rynsburg*. Living in Ceylon 1742—1790.

SMITZ, Joseph; born at Dusseldorf. Living in Ceylon 1790—1805.

SCHUMAKER, Frederik Willem; born at Maagdeburg. Living in Ceylon 1772—1778.

TREK, Gillis Woutersz; born at Rotterdam. Living in Ceylon 1690—1705.

TRANCHELL, Johannes; born at Romelanda (Sweden) in 1754; son of Per Tranchell and Brita Maria Ring. Arrived 1779 in the *Huisen*. Living in Ceylon 1779—1805.

TOUSSAINT, Mattheus; born at Tournay. Living in Ceylon 1688—1699.

DE VOS, Olivier; born at Bruges, 13th February, 1653; son of Victor de Vos and Maria Joris (married at Bruges, 27th December, 1642). Arrived 1673 in 't *Wapen van der Goes*. Living in Ceylon 1673—1699.

VOLLENHOVEN, Hendrick; born at Utrecht. Arrived 1766 in the *Borselen*. Living in Ceylon 1766—1784.

VEENEKAM, Carl Lodewyk; born at Mecklenburg. Living in Ceylon 1792—1805.

WENDT, George; born at Lauenburg (Prus. Pom.) 5th April, 1765. Arrived 4th October, 1792, in the *Vasco da Gama*. Living in Ceylon 1792—1815.

WOLFDAAL, Johan Hendrick; born at Elven. Living in Ceylon 1786—1796.

VAN ZITTER, Claas; born at Haarlem. Arrived 1700 in the *Hanboog*. Living in Ceylon 1700—1713.

ZEEHUYZEN, Johannes; born at Nymegen. Living in Ceylon 1792—1799.

(End of First Series.)

## VIEWS OF NORTH HOLLAND.

[NOTES OF A LANTERN EXHIBITION,  
BY DR. ANDREAS NELL.]

Messrs. A. E. Staley & Co., of Thavies Inn, London, E. C., held an exhibition in their photographic depot last year; the prints shown were the result of an amateur photographer's holiday trip in North Holland. The exhibition was favourably noticed in the photographic and lay press as proof of the excellence of Messrs. Staley's Euryplan lens which was used during the holiday. Owing to the merits of the pictures and the great interest they excited, Messrs. A. E. Staley & Co. were persuaded to make a set of lantern slides with a short descriptive lecture. This lantern set circulated last winter among London and provincial photographic societies doing a big round, until the summer set in, when evenings were free for camera work, but were heavily booked for the [year 1908-09] lantern season during the coming winter. The vacant period enabled Messrs. A. E. Staley & Co. to kindly comply with a local application for the loan of the lantern slides specially for the Dutch Burgher Union. They were lent free, only freight and insurance had to be paid by the borrower of the slides; and this expenditure was more than repaid, firstly, by the excellence of the slides which proclaimed the merits of the Euryplan lens; secondly, by the great appreciation members of the Dutch Burgher Union displayed in the pictures. The hundred and sixty-four slides were not all shown—several canal scenes and street scenes, to the number of over forty—were omitted at our exhibition, only to save time and prevent fatigue; the hundred and twenty lantern slides shown were all of high quality, and even such difficult subjects as the famous pictures "The Lesson in Anatomy" and "The Descent from the Cross" were very well rendered. The fisher lads and lasses of Volendam, their quaint costumes and characteristic caps, and the people of Friesland made a very interesting section. Canal views, barges, and poplar-bordered avenues were fully represented, and gave an idea of the life on the water which many Hollanders lead. The famous buildings and principal streets of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and Antwerp were sharply photographed. Views of quaint old Delft, the real Dutch Delft, where the crockery came from, were specially included in the series; nor was Broek forgotten,

the cleanest town in Holland, where all the towns are clean. Spotlessly clean and scrupulously tidy interiors of houses in Delft and Broek were grand object lessons of Dutch cleanliness. The dairy centre, from which the *yellow* globular Dutch cheeses come, and Edam, from whence the glowing *red* globular Dutch cheeses come, were pictured. Churches, public buildings, historic monuments, the Zuyder Zee, dykes, fishing fleets, altar pieces, and pastoral scenes were all included in the series of pictures. When it is remembered that the fortunate possessor of the Euryplan lens had only a short fortnight in Holland, the results show how much one in earnest could see in and learn of Holland in even a short time. How many Ceylon students in London and Edinburgh, whose holiday trips extend to the seaside resorts of South England, or to well-worn paths on the Continent, are aware that so many places in Holland could be intelligently seen within a fortnight's holiday! If their relatives and friends could remind them, a couple of holiday trips of a fortnight in Holland, or a whole month in one holiday, is the thing to be recommended. We can leave it to the charms of the country to ensure further visits or longer stays; but the lantern slide pictures of a mere fortnight included views of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Antwerp, the Hague, Delft, Broek, Volendam, and of all aspects of Dutch life. Is not this sufficient inducement for our students in Britain to spend even one holiday in Holland? One hopes that it will prove more than sufficient.

### SHORT NOTICES.

*Hollandsche Vereeniging op Ceylon.*—In noticing the 1st number of the JOURNAL OF THE DUTCH BURGHER UNION OF CEYLON, *Neerlandia*, the organ of the "Algemeen Nederlandsch Verbond", for July last, thus expresses itself:

"Het bloed kruipt waar het niet gaan kan.

"Ceylon, eens een onzer prachtigste bezettingen, sedert den Franschen tijd verengelscht, heeft nog een kern van gezinnen, by wie niet onze taal, maar de herinnering aan Nederland wakker is gebleven. Dat is plotseling zichtbaar geworden door de stichting van The Dutch Burgher Union, en door haar tijdschrift, dat in het Engelsch geschreven, in goed Hollandsch tot kernspreuk draagt 'Eendracht maakt Macht'.

"Het A. N. V. begroet deze Vereeniging met groote ingenomenheid, en zal haar, noch in *Neerlandia*, noch elders vergeten."

From an appreciative article in *Ons Volksbestaan*, the organ of the "Groep Ned. Indie" of the A. N. V., we extract the following:—

"De thans bestaande Dutch Burgher Union wil ten eerste allen die van Nederlandschen oorsprong zijn vereenigen ter onderscheiding van hen die op Ceylon met den zelfden naam worden aangeduid doch niets gemeen hebben met de Dutch Burghers, en tweede maatregelen beramen tot verhooging van zedelijk en stoffelijk welzijn der leden. ... Wy betreuren het dat de meesten van hen niet meer in staat zijn de taal hunner voorouders te lezen, zoodat hun orgaan in het Engelsch moet verschynen, maar van de anderen kant verhoogen wy ons in het feit dat de Burghers zich hun afstamming nog herinneren en dat zij zich thans hebben aangesloten om elkaars zedelijk en stoffelijk welzijn te verhoogen.

"Van ganser harte roepen wy onzen stamgenooten op Ceylon een welgemeen heil en voorspoed toe by hunne pogingen, moge vooral hun devies 'Eendracht maakt Macht' steeds door hen in 't oog worden gehouden, dan zal het hun zonder twyfel gelukken elkaars welzinte verhoogen!"

*The Indische Mercur* of the 28th July last also makes a kindly reference to our Union.

### NOTES OF EVENTS.

*Meetings of the Committee.*—The monthly meetings of the Committee were held at the Rooms of the Union, Kollupitiya, on the 4th July, 1st August, and 5th September, and were well attended.

*Resignation of Mr. Sam. de Heer, Honorary Treasurer.*—At the last meeting of the Committee Mr. Sam. de Heer, who had so ably and zealously performed the duties of Honorary Treasurer, was compelled, owing to pressure of other work, to apply to be relieved of his duties. It was with much regret the Committee had to accept his resignation, a regret which will no doubt be shared by all our members. Mr. de Heer will, however, continue to serve on the Committee, his office as Treasurer being filled by Mr. R. A. Brohier, Jr.

*New Members.*—The following new members were elected:—

Mr. G. H. Altendorff	...	Matara
" A. R. T. Arndt	...	Kandy
" A. B. Bartholomeusz	...	Colombo

Mr. G. F. Felsing	...	Kandy
Dr. Hugh Joseph	...	Colombo
Mr. O. L. de Kretser	...	Matara
" S. M. Leembruggen	...	Colombo
" E. G. Meurling	...	Kurunegalle
" J. G. Paulusz	...	Colombo
" R. E. Reimers	...	"
" A. E. Rode	...	"
Dr. G. P. Schokman	...	Kandy
Mr. J. F. Toussaint	...	Colombo
Hon. Mr. H. L. Wendt	...	"

*Sub-Committees.*—The Sub-Committee for Purposes of Social Service have just laid out a sum of Rs. 200, raised by special contributions, towards giving relief in a case of great distress. It is hoped that the new Social Service Fund which is to be created will enable the Committee to deal with other urgent and deserving cases which may be brought to their notice. It may, however, be pointed out that this department of the Union's operations will not be solely confined to the giving of pecuniary help. When fully organized and brought into proper working order, the Social Service Scheme will, it is hoped, carry out by degrees all the numerous objects detailed in the Lecture delivered by Dr. vanDort, which appeared in the 1st number of this Journal.

The Sub-Committee for Ethical and Literary Purposes have, in addition to the publication of this Journal, recently taken up the subject of the Dutch classes. The supply of books ordered out has arrived, and the Committee propose, as a beginning, to open two classes, one at Bambalapitiya and one at Wolvendaal, for instruction in the Dutch language. These classes will for the present be confined to adult members, the question of infant classes being deferred till the success of the present course is assured. All information relating to this subject may be obtained on application to the Managers of the two branches respectively, viz., Mr. E. H. Schokman for Bambalapitiya, and Mr. H. P. Beling for Wolvendaal.

By a resolution of the General Committee, it was decided to limit the public entertainments of the Union to two in each year, viz., one for adult members, in or about the month of June, and one for children, on St Nicolaas Eve, 5th December. Preparations are being made for the celebration of this latter event this year. The Honorary Secretary of the Entertainment Committee, Mr. P. D. Siebel, is now pre-

pared to receive from members a statement showing the number, ages, and sex of the children in each family eligible to participate in the function—the ages being 4 to 11 inclusive. He will also be glad to be furnished with the names of the adult members of the family to whom invitations to the fête are required.

*Lantern Exhibition of Views of North Holland.*—As announced in our last number, Dr. Andreas Nell gave an exhibition of Views of North Holland from slides specially lent to him by a firm of photographers in England. The function, which took place at Sea View, Kollupitiya, on Friday, the 7th August last, was very largely attended and greatly appreciated. We would refer to Dr. Nell's own Notes on the subject of the lecture, which appear elsewhere in this number.

*Obituary.*—Two worthy ladies of the Dutch Burgher Community, both of ripe age, and held in high esteem by a large circle of friends, have gone to join the majority since the date of the publication of our last number.

Anna Maria Wilhelmina Alexandrina Fretz, widow of the late Mr. Henry Robert Fretz of the Educational Service, died at Colombo on the 28th July last, at the age of 78. She was a daughter of Mr. Charles Alexander van der Straaten, some time District Judge of the Wanny. Her husband was the grandson of the Honourable Dieterich Thomas Fretz, the last Dutch Commandeur of Galle, mentioned in art. 16 of the Capitulation of 1796.

Elizabeth Theresa Philippina Speldewinde, widow of Mr. Cyrus Henry Speldewinde, of Galle, died at Galle on the 7th September last, at the age of 84. She was a daughter of Mr. Leonardus Henricus Anthonisz, of the Customs Department at Galle, and was a sister of the late Dr. P. D. Anthonisz, C. M. G., some time Burgher Representative in the Legislative Council.

## EDITORIAL NOTE.

We regret that want of space compels us to hold over for publication in the next number several interesting items under "Notes and Queries". We thank the writers for their contributions, and trust they will accept this our apology for the delay in publication.

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404 (b) Luetzow	18th Oct.	410 (b) Buelow	10th Jan.
302 (a) Gneisenau	23rd "	305 (a) Roon	15th "
405 (a) Zieten	1st Nov.	411 (c) Derfflinger	24th "
406 (b) Prinzess Alice	15th "	412 (b) Prinz Eitel	
303 (a) Seydlitz	20th "	Friedrich	7th Feb.
407 (c) Kleist	29th "	306 (a) Yorck	12th "
408 (b) Prinz Ludwig	13th Dec.	413 (c) Luetzow	21st "
304 (a) Bremen	18th "	414 (b) Prinz Regent	
409 (c) Goeben	27th "	Luitpold	7th Mar.
		307 (a) Friedrich Der	
		Grosse	12th "

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## For Straits, China & Japan.

407 Kleist	11th Oct.		1909.
408 Prinz Ludwig	25th "	413 Luetzow	3rd Jan.
409 Goeben	8th Nov.	414 Prinz Regent	
410 Buelow	22nd "	Luitpold	17th "
411 Derfflinger	6th Dec.	415 Prinzess Alice	31st "
412 Prinz Eitel	20th "	416 Kleist	14th Feb.

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## For Australia.

304 Bremen	27th Oct.		1909.
305 Roon	24th Nov.	307 Friedrich der Grosse	19th Jan.
306 Yorck	22nd Dec.	308 Bremen	16th Feb.

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