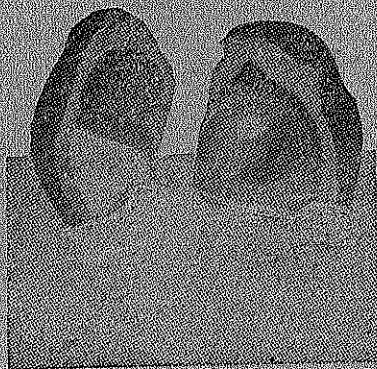


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# Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.



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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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— THE —  
**DUTCH IN CEYLON**

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VOL. I.

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

*Copies may be had at the D.B.U. Hall  
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**THE HOMES OF LORENZ.**

E. H. V.

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Many names of places acquire a special significance and interest from their association with the lives of celebrated persons.

Stratford-on-Avon would have hardly found a place on the map had it not been the birthplace of Shakespeare.

While obscure places acquire name and fame from association with great persons, places that already possess some claim to recognition receive added lustre for the same reason.

Kitchener of Khartoum, Arnold of Rugby, The Maid of Orleans and, with due reverence, Jesus of Nazareth, furnish apt illustrations.

When towns or villages in which great persons were born or acquired greatness are thus immortalised a strong element of human interest is furnished by the homes in which they lived and the scenes familiar to their eyes in their daily round of duty.

Matara has many claims to public recognition but none greater than the fact that it is the birthplace of Lorenz.

"The greatest Ceylonese of all times" first saw the light of day at "Rose Cottage", which is situated about half a mile from the Matara Fort, on the right bank of the Nilwala-Ganga, and not on the left bank, as erroneously stated by Digby and repeated by several other writers. "Rose Cottage" is a single-storeyed house of moderate size with a fairly large compound reaching to the river, which at this point is bifurcated by Medagoda, the picturesque spit of land on which now stands the town residence of Mr. Edward Buultjens.

Some years later, the Lorenz family moved to "Lodge Harmony" the larger and more commodious two-storeyed house which adjoins "Rose Cottage". "Lodge Harmony" is equipped with a

double drawing room and a large number of large, lofty and well-ventilated rooms. A sketch of one of the rooms published in the Lorenz centenary monograph in 1929 explains how "Lodge Harmony" acquired its name, for one daughter is seen playing on the spinet, the forerunner of the piano, another on the harp, the elder son on the 'cello and the younger son, Charles Ambrose himself, on the flute, on which he was a most skilled performer. The parents are seen listening, the quaint costumes of the period and the furnishing of the room giving an added charm to the picture.

Lorenz's father, who was Sitting Magistrate at Matara for many years, was probably one of the best known officials of that town, as the following incident will show.

The Governor, who was on circuit in Matara District was coming down by boat from Akuressa to Matara, and had instructed his boatmen to pull up at the residence of the Assistant Government Agent, who was expecting him to dinner. The boatmen however passed the Residency, which lay by the Fort Gate and landed their distinguished passenger at "Lodge Harmony", where the Sitting Magistrate lived. Not to be outdone in politeness, Lorenz *vere* pressed the Governor to be his guest and the Governor yielded to the request, only when the Assistant Government Agent, who had by this time arrived on the scene, agreed to form one of the dinner party at "Lodge Harmony".

"Lodge Harmony" had once again a distinguished occupant, when J. H. Ernst, a leading Proctor and townsman, and also a kinsman and friend of Lorenz, lived there from 1894 to 1900. At this period, I was a master at the Royal College and regularly spent my holidays at "Lodge Harmony", of which I have the happiest recollections. From the back compound one gets excellent fishing and crab-catching and I have no doubt that these furnished an agreeable pastime to the youthful Lorenz just as they did to me.

To quote from Digby's sketch of Lorenz: "Whenever it was his good fortune to escape from the incessant calls of business and take a holiday, he enjoyed no journey more than one that had a visit to Matara for its object. Returning after an interval of many years, he would walk out in search of the familiar old places and old faces of his boyhood days and with the eager relish of a boy just let loose from school would he revisit scenes and recall memories which seemed to be ever present to his mind."

We may be sure that in these rambles the rooms and the grounds of his old home "Lodge Harmony" had a prominent place.

I am tempted to add a story here to show how strong a hold the historic old house, which bore the name "Lodge Harmony" on its gates, had on the popular imagination.

It was many years ago when I was a school-boy in the good old town of Matara and when teachers and teaching methods were not up to the high standard of modern day requirements. "Meaning books" were in great demand and the memorising of synonyms of all kinds of words was not an easy task. The master demanded the meaning of "Lodge" and directed his question at one of my class-mates, who later attained a prominent position in public life. With a ready smile of assurance there came the instant reply "Harmony!"

When Lorenz was a student, his long room in Mr. John Driberg's home which was near the Colombo Kacheheri, was well-known to his numerous friends. It was in this room that Lorenz's band met for practice.

Before Lorenz left for England he lived at a house in Sea Street, which was then a respectable residential quarter of Colombo. Commerce and the claims of the harbour have made it now rank among the items of disappearing Colombo.

When Lorenz lived in England he took lodgings in Kensington, which is one of the pleasantest districts of London. We could picture him walking down its quiet streets or taking the air in Kensington Gardens and Hyde Park. Probably he lingered as one sometimes does near Kensington Palace, the home of Queen Victoria's childhood or sat on a seat by the Round Pond watching the toy argosies making their perilous voyages to points on the opposite shore.

But whatever Lorenz did during his visit to England, which extended from 1853 to 1855, this would be perhaps a suitable opportunity to correct a popular misconception and to point out that there was one thing he did not do and that is to write "The Wishing Well".

Various correspondents to the newspapers who ascribe the authorship of this poem to Lorenz have stated that it was publish-

ed in 1854, when Lorenz was known to be in England. But a bound volume of Frazer's Magazine in the possession of Mr. Charles Vanderwall of Kandy shows that the "The Wishing Well" was published in that Magazine in September 1864 or ten years later.

It is true the poem is signed C. A. L. but it is well-known that Lorenz never referred to it himself and that no one ever connected it with his name in his life-time. After all, why should C. A. L. be the one and only known to us in Ceylon? I say this in the interests of historical truth.

There is an old Singhalese saying that happy is the man who is born at Matara and bred at Kalutara. And happy must Lorenz have been who was born at Matara and had his well-known holiday home at Kalutara.

"Teak Bungalow", so called from the fine teak trees which still stand on its grounds, is situated on a hill about a mile and a half from the Kalutara Rest House and commands a glorious view of the sea, the smoothly flowing Kaluganga and wide stretching paddy fields.

The grounds cover an extent of about nine acres, but part of these are now, alas, used as a Government Excise Warehouse.

"Teak Bungalow", was originally known as "Mount Layard" and belonged to Charles Edward Layard, of the Ceylon Civil Service, father of Sir C. P. Layard, Government Agent of the Western Province. Charles Edward Layard, who at the age of 20 married Barbara Bridgetina Mooyart, a lady whose ancestors came out to Ceylon in the Dutch Service, and by whom he had 26 children, occupied "Mount Layard" during the period 1808—1814 when he was Collector of Kalutara.

The property still belonged to him in 1825 when Bishop Heber visited Ceylon for Mrs. Heber's journal refers to "Caltura, where in a very pretty bungalow, belonging to Mr. Layard, commanding a beautiful view of the river and the sea, we breakfasted."

Perhaps memories of "Mount Layard" had a place in the good Bishop's mind when he wrote his famous and much debated lines:

"Where every prospect pleases  
And only man is vile."

Shortly after the death of Charles Edward Layard, Lorenz bought the property and renamed it "Teak Bungalow." Along with this property Lorenz also bought some adjoining lands and paddy fields, and appointed as Superintendent his nephew, Edwin Poulier, who maintained them in an excellent condition.

Every year for six weeks during the Easter Recess Lorenz resided at "Teak Bungalow", dispensing hospitality to his many friends. Among his particular Kalutara friends were the two vanCuylenburgs, the Medical Officer, and the headmaster of the Government Boys' School at Kalutara. The former was father of Sir Hector vanCuylenburg, the latter father of Arthur vanCuylenburg, Inspector of Schools. F. S. Thomas, the well-known Kalutara Proctor, was also an intimate friend and a frequent visitor at "Teak Bungalow". In addition to the Easter Recess, Lorenz spent nearly every week-end at "Teak Bungalow", entertaining his friends with shooting parties and giving his numerous nephews and nieces a good time.

A most interesting book of pen and ink sketches in my possession was evidently produced by Lorenz at "Teak Bungalow", to judge by the month, April (1862) and also by the persons immortalised in its pages.

There are sketches of Dr. vanCuylenburg, his daughters, Cornelia, who married Abram de Saram, and Ada Rosella, who married John Koch, Eliza Juliet LaBrooy, Lorenz's housekeeper, who married Cecil Morgan, Emmy LaBrooy, who married J. F. Lorenz (junior), Eddy Poulier and his sisters, F. S. Thomasz and finally Richard Morgan, a distinguished visitor from Colombo.

A verse is addressed to Cornelia vanCuylenburg, with a humorous suggestion regarding the derivation of her name:

Your father went to Adam's Peak  
And hence was said to *toil on a berg*,  
And those who couldn't distinctly speak  
Mistook the name for Cuylenburg.

Eliza Juliet LaBrooy, the housekeeper, had no doubt occasions on which she deemed it necessary to offer salutary advice or objections to procedure. She is shown lying on an easy chair reading Mrs. Caudle's Lectures.

Flying foxes still abound in "Teak Bungalow" and its neighbourhood and destroy the produce of fruit trees. So did they in the days of Lorenz to judge by a sketch, with the following verse:

One Emma and two Alices  
Leaving pleasures and palaces  
Are observing Edwin Powlia  
Shooting at a Vowlia

An old Kalutara resident, who has a clear recollection of Lorenz and his visits to "Teak Bungalow" has supplied me with the following additional details.

Lorenz frequently visited "Teak Bungalow" for week-ends, travelling by stages in his charabanc with two gray horses and accompanied by "a multitude of his nephews and nieces."

Almost invariably on the day of arrival, Mrs. F. S. Thomasz, who was previously notified, supplied a string-hopper breakfast. This breakfast was served in the large dining room and the guests were seated on magales, which were large mats used for drying paddy. Lorenz also sat on a mat at the head of the party.

No knives, spoons or forks were used at this repast, the use of fingers being *de rigueur*.

The walls of "Teak Bungalow" were decorated with sketches by Lorenz of his numerous friends, Christoffels de Saram, District Judge, Dr. vanCuylenburg, etc.

During his last illness Lorenz spent a good deal of his time at "Teak Bungalow", hoping to derive some benefit from its far-famed climate.

Here it was that he wrote the third volume of his Law Reports and a letter to a friend in April 1870 from which the following extract is taken: "Reporting is great fun. I can make Judge T—talk the veriest rot in the world with impunity; but he sometimes beats me according to my contemporaneous notes!"

Lorenz owned the land on which "Teak Bungalow" stood and the opposite block which was planted with coconut, also the surrounding paddy fields.

Haltota Veda, a native doctor for whom Lorenz appeared successfully in a case, repaid the great Advocate by cultivating his fields free. Later, Haltota Veda was made an Arachchi on his carrying a single recommendation from Lorenz to Layard, the Government Agent.

"Teak Bungalow" was for some time rented as the official residence of the Assistant Government Agent, Kalutara.

Later an attempt on the part of the Government to acquire the property failed, the Appeal Court holding that the property was not required for a public purpose.

Before Lorenz moved to his well-known and historic residence "Elie House" he lived for some years at "Gatherum", which is situated at Maradana and has the seclusion of a house in the heart of a forest. The name is no doubt derived from the fact that Lorenz had numerous friends and he used to gather 'em for convivial meetings at this house.

"Elie House", which has countless associations with the name of Lorenz and where he dispensed such princely hospitality, was built by the Hon. Mr. Philip Anstruther, Colonial Secretary, popularly known as the one-armed Rajah. The grounds which covers an extent of over 14 acres were planted with a variety of tropical fruit trees, specially imported from Singapore.

"Elie House", derives its name from the fact that Mr. Anstruther was grand-son of the third baronet of "Elie House" in the county of Fife, and boasts of a roll of distinguished occupants. Besides Lorenz, with whom the name of "Elie House" is imperishably associated, the following among others lived at "Elie House", at various times of its eventful history: Sir Emerson Tennant, Colonial Secretary and historian, George Wall, politician and journalist, Sampson Rajapakse, philanthropist and Sir Solomon Dias Bandaranayaka, the courtly A.D.C. and Maha Mudaliyar.

Near the fine gates of "Elie House" there stood a small house known "Elie Cottage".

When George Wall met with his financial reverses he shewed the true greatness of his character by electing to live at "Elie Cottage", from which the broad drive leading to "Elie House" could be seen. It was a reversal of the principle "From Log Cabin to White House" and was a difficult situation, but George Wall was a great man and stood the test nobly.

I first saw George Wall when he lived at "Elie Cottage" and I have a very clear recollection of the frail man, with his abundant white hair, sitting bolt upright in his rickshaw.

"Elie House" had a great boundary wall, one of the most substantial ever built in Colombo, and was erected under the personal supervision of Edwin Poulter, when Lorenz was in occupation. Poulter was one of the first factory apprentices and knew his work thoroughly well.

Like all historic mansions "Elie House" had its ghost. A correspondent to a local newspaper in 1914 reported:

"On the day in question (in 1863) at midnight a mysterious figure appeared at the foot of a bed on which a lady was sleeping in one of the principal bed-rooms of "Elie House" in Mutwal, which it is said, was built by the late Philip Anstruther and in which he resided all the time he was in Ceylon. The sleeping lady was awakened by some noise and she distinctly saw a figure by her bed-side, which was that of an elderly gentleman who looked steadfastly at her for a few seconds and silently moved away and disappeared through an open door. "Elie House" was then tenanted (sic) by the late Charles Lorenz. The lady mentioned the circumstance next morning to Lorenz who became greatly interested in the matter. He questioned the lady further and ascertained from her that she had seen the face of the person who had appeared to her so distinctly that she quite remembered every feature almost of the face and if she saw a portrait she would be able to recognise it. Lorenz remembered that his friend Sir Richard Morgan, had a portrait of Philip Anstruther and he got it over and placed it, all unknown to the lady, with a number of other portraits on the billiard table. The lady was asked to look at the portraits and at once, without any hesitation, pointed to Philip Anstruther's portrait as the facsimile of the face of the person who had appeared to her the night before. Inquiries were instituted and it was found out that Mr. Philip Anstruther had died in London on the very day the apparition appeared in Ceylon at "Elie House."

The ghost continued to flit through the chambers of "Elie House" to judge from a communication to a newspaper in 1916 from a friend of Lorenz—"one who knew him at school and thereafter", probably the late J. B. Siebel of Kandy.

"In this connection L related to me a ghost story. Not being able to sleep one night, he walked downstairs with his briefs into his office and kept on reading them till the small hours of the

morning when he fell asleep from sheer exhaustion with his head on the table. A cold, creepy sensation across his back woke him, and "on my honour", he added, "I saw old P—pass by me and the hair of my flesh stood still. As I opened my eyes very wide, thinking it was all a dream, I observed the door behind me ajar. I had forgotten to close it and the cold air as well as the ghost had come in through that, and had given me that creepy sensation. When morning dawned the servants turned up and they swore they saw the Ath-Kotte-Rajuruwo (the short handed chief) go through the house at the time at which the ghost had appeared to me".

A few descriptive sketches would help our readers to realise the immense popularity of Lorenz and the various types of callers at "Elie House".

Numerous carriages would line up of a morning in the avenue of nutmeg trees leading to "Elie House". These no doubt carried professional and business visitors mainly.

Let us now change the scene. "One who knew him at school and thereafter" writes: "I strolled on towards "Elie House". When I got there I found a large motley gathering of all sorts and conditions occupying the long outer verandah and hall—mostly Appuhamies, their wives and children in gay apparel. Evidently families whose cases my friend had won and whom he had assisted in a hundred different ways were there to testify their gratitude to their Swami (Lord). As I was looking round for him, he suddenly emerged from a remote corner where he was saying some kind things to a very interesting group of women and children, who were looking up to him with their hands raised over their heads. "I was holding a Levee" he explained.

Let us change the scene once more to one of the most convivial gatherings ever held at "Elie House" when Lorenz celebrated his thirty-ninth birthday on the 8th of July, 1868.

Samuel Grenier had started a paper to make a presentation to Lorenz, to which nearly the whole of the Bench and the Bar of Colombo had contributed. The amount collected was £59 and some odd shillings, and a gift consisting of the following articles was bought for £54 the balance being handed in cash with the

gift: A gold watch by James McCabe, on the lid of which was inscribed:

C. A. Lorenz,  
Elie House  
Mutwal  
8th July, 1868.

A gold chain, a gold pencil case and a gold seal with the initial C. A. L.

As a rule Lorenz kept high festival on his birthdays. The birthday under reference was altogether one of the most hilarious of these.

The following extract from the last will of Lorenz dated 13th April, 1871, will show the disposition of this gift:

"I give and bequeath to my dear brother John Frederick Lorenz my gold watch and chain with the seal and gold pencil case, attached to it and all my own and my father's letters and papers contained in the "Frazer" book case and in the lowest right-hand shelf of my large almirah of papers, also any other books, pictures and papers he may choose from my collection."

This gift and, in addition, a gold signet ring marked E. H. L., the initials of Mrs. Lorenz, and a gold seal with arms, initials J. F. L. and motto *Labor Omnia Vincit*, which belonged to Lorenz's father, some-time Sitting Magistrate of Matara, next passed into the possession of Charles Cannon of Church Cross Street, Galle, who still owned them in 1895.

J. F. Lorenz (Junior), the elder brother of Lorenz, from whose possession these articles passed to Charles Cannon was for many years a resident of Galle and retired from the Public Service as Registrar of Lands, Galle.

Lorenz was a people's man and his memory belongs to the people, who love and revere it. Is it not possible to repurchase some of his personal and family belongings, and place them under suitable guardianship, in a specially constructed room in "Elie House" grounds, to be seen by the people?

A show case in the Colombo Museum could, of course, be made available, but there is a special suitability in "Elie House" grounds, and as part of these is now laid out as a park, such a

selection would be admirable. England is full of similar memorials for its illustrious dead. A house used by Carlyle, No. 5, Great Cheyne Row, Chelsea London, containing much material of interest is now a Public Museum and so is No. 47, City Road, London, once occupied by John Wesley.

No. 1, Mile End Terrace (now 393, Commercial Road) Portsmouth where Dickens was born is now a Dickens Public Museum and Lorenz has been called the Dickens of Ceylon.

There was a stone at the entrance to one of the rooms at "Elie House" with the inscription "Stads Waight A° 1702". This stone was probably brought from the Fort by Lorenz when the Dutch Fort was dismantled and set up in "Elie House".

I understand that this stone was set up on "Elie House" grounds after the main building was pulled down and the reservoir works were completed. A Lorenz Museum consisting of one room, could be the repository for this stone.

I stated earlier in this article that part of "Teak Bungalow" grounds was now an Excise Warehouse. "Elie House" grounds have served a nobler end and one worthier of Lorenz for though the well-known buildings have disappeared, they provide a people's park and a water supply for the people.

When the rate of exchange was ten rupees to the pound, Lorenz bought "Elie House" in 1858 for £2,500. The property next went in 1874 to Mudaliyar Sampson Rajapakse who paid Rs. 33,000 for it. In 1902 the Ceylon Government bought it from his son Mudaliyar Tudor Rajapakse for Rs. 150,000 for the purpose of providing a supplementary reservoir for the town water supply. It will be seen that the Ceylon Government paid six times the sum paid by Lorenz 44 years earlier.

"Karlsruhe", the last home of Lorenz has pathetic associations.

The property originally consisted of two blocks of land which covered an extent of 11 $\frac{1}{4}$  acres and was purchased by Lorenz from Drs. Dickman and Wambeek.

Lorenz was already broken in health when he acquired the land and was building on it his spacious and well-appointed home in 1870-1871. He came into residence early in 1871 but "Karlsruhe" was his home for only a few months, for on the 9th of

August of that year his great Spirit took its flight and his frail body was laid out in the spacious hall, ready for burial.

"Karlsruhe" was the great original of a house name which has produced a ceaseless stream of imitators in Ceylon, some of which are amusing and others faulty in their etymology. It would be sufficient for me to observe here that the German word for Rest is Ruhe and Rhue!

"Karlsruhe" had an appropriate and two-fold significance in the case of Lorenz. In the first place his family derived its origin from a Prussian source and the use of the German language was both natural and correct. In the next place Karlsruhe means Charles' rest, the place where the great man hoped to find rest and possibly regain his health and strength.

"Karlsruhe" was gifted to Eliza LaBrooy, the constant companion and friend of Lorenz's wife, who was a confirmed invalid.

Eliza LaBrooy, who subsequently married Cecil Morgan, a well-known Proctor in his day, died in 1895.

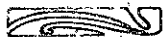
Louis Pieris, the next owner, sold the land in blocks, reserving the house with nearly five acres of land, which passed into the possession of the Wesleyan Mission. It is the new home of Wesley College.

Let us now picture the final scene, when all that was mortal of Lorenz left his last earthly home.

The sad hearse moves out of "Karlsruhe" grounds followed by a countless crowd of mourners, while the following gentlemen step silently by its side as pall-bearers,

The Hon'ble Mr. C. P. Layard  
R. V. Dunlop Esq.  
H. Dias Esq.

The Hon'ble Mr. R. F. Morgan  
J. Swan Esq.  
T. Hudson Esq.



## THE DUTCH OCCUPATION OF KANDY IN 1765.

[The article which follows was found among Mr. R. G. Anthonisz's papers, and is printed as found. It is evidently the rough draft of a lecture he intended to deliver, and it will be found useful by students of the history of the Dutch in Ceylon.—ED.]

The story of this achievement has been told before, but no true or complete account of all the connected facts and circumstances appears to have yet been published. Of published materials so far, the most valuable contribution to the subject has been the "Journal of Governor van Eck's Expedition to Kandy," with a series of contemporary letters contained in a paper read by the late Mr. A. E. Bultjens at a meeting of the Ceylon Branch of the R. A. S. in 1899 and afterwards printed in Vol. XVI, No. 50, of the Society's Journal. Besides this there is a considerable number of unpublished papers dealing with the subject in the Government Archives which have never seen the light. A concise narrative of all the events leading up to and closing this important incident in the history of the Dutch rule in Ceylon will therefore be no doubt acceptable to students of Ceylon History.

It is hardly necessary to go into the history of the cause and origin of the conflict between the Dutch and the Kandyans during this period, of which the capture of Kandy by the Dutch formed but one episode. The subject of that conflict would require further and more comprehensive treatment than can be attempted here. So nothing further will be dealt with at present than a recital of the facts and events connected with the capture and occupation of Kandy by the Dutch during part of the year 1765. The opportunity must first be taken to point out a couple of errors which appear in some of the accounts of these events which have been hitherto accepted. One of these is the date of the expedition, which Sir Emerson Tennent has given as 1763 and which has been repeated over and over again in several places. This is a manifest error, at variance with all the authentic records and inconsistent with the course of events in the history of the period.

Even Governor van Eck's first project of proceeding to Kandy, which he had to give up after advancing a short distance on ac-



count of the rains, took place in 1764. It has been pointed out that Sir Emerson Tennent was guided in this by Pridham, Forbes, and Marshall before him; but in any case an error of this nature in a serious historian must be considered somewhat inexcusable. The other is a trifling error of no great importance, but which ought also to be mentioned to show what little reliance is to be placed on statements made by certain casual writers on the subject. In reference to Marten Rein, the officer appointed Commandant of Kandy by Governor van Eck, Donald Ferguson, in a note to Buultjens' paper, quoted a passage from *Wolff's Travels* to the effect that "Rein had been a traitor before he was appointed Commandant of Trincomalee, and very skilful in making clothes for the wives of state officials." It is not known whence Wolff got this story, but it is entirely at variance with the recorded facts relating to Rein, who is proved to have belonged to a good family entitled to court armour. He came out from his native town Hesse Cassel in 1730 in a military capacity, and served here in several important posts till he was appointed Opperhoofd of Trincomalee. The Dutch records do not show that he had any opportunity to practise the trade of a tailor. This may seem a trivial matter to mention here, but the story has been seriously taken up in a modern historical work, and it is well therefore to draw attention to it as a sample of the manner in which reckless and unfounded statements made by irresponsible writers of the type of Wolff, Eschelsroon, and others may gain currency, and thus lead to misrepresentation and falsehood where we want the real truth in regard to past events.

The following narrative is based entirely on the Dutch authorities. It is doubtful if there are any other reliable sources of information giving details of the circumstances. Seeing that these authorities consist partly of Minutes of Council, recorded with scrupulous care and attested by the the highest officials present, partly of diaries of events entered day by day immediately after the occurrences, and partly of confidential correspondence carried on with no view to publication, it does not appear likely that any question can be raised as to their genuineness or any suggestion made of bias or wilful perversion of truth.

During the year 1763, there was a comparative lull in the activities of the war, although the smouldering fire now and then emitted sparks here and there. In the previous year the Dutch had succeeded in retaking Matara which they had lost in 1761, and the forces with which this was accomplished were out on a punitive expedition through the district which had revolted against the authority of the Company. Captain van den Borne had been pushing his way from Matara to Dickwelle and on to Tangalla, Katuwana, and the Kolonna Korle. In other parts of the island, Captain Bersky was in the neighbourhood of Bentota, Captain Drodowsky at Chilaw, Captain Tournay at Puttalam, Captain von Frytag at Trincomalee, each with instructions to subdue the rebels and bring them back to their allegiance. The newly appointed Mudaliyar of the Hina Korle, Don Francisco Dias, was given the conduct of the expedition against the rebels there. Meanwhile letters were constantly passing between the Kandyan Dessave of the Three and Four Korles (who always acted as the medium of communication) and the Dutch authorities at Colombo. In January 1763, a letter was received from the Dessave to the effect that an embassy would soon be sent to make peace proposals. Having waited nearly two months and no embassy having arrived, orders were issued by the Dutch Government for the Company's forces to carry the war into the King's dominions. In March Captain van den Borne crossed the Walawe river into the King's territory and was proceeding along the bank, when on the 27th of that month there came a letter from the Dessave of the Three and Four Korles asking for a cessation of hostilities as the King wished to come to an understanding with the Company. As a result of this an armistice was granted and the Dutch authorities set themselves to wait for an embassy, which however seemed to be long in coming. Letter after letter came from the Dessave explaining the delay, but the Dutch authorities were becoming suspicious. Various rumours had reached them, more or less of an uncertain nature, that communications were being carried on between the King of Kandy and some British agents in the neighbourhood. Colour seemed to be given to this rumour by the fact that when Captain van den Borne in February the same year had pursued the Kandyan Adigar into the Atakalan Korle, he found that the cartridges used in firing upon his men had been made of English writing

paper, and a little later he came upon a number of houses from which the inhabitants had fled, in which were found a quantity of provisions and among other things two barrels of European gun powder. Meanwhile the advices from Batavia repeatedly urged on the Ceylon Government a conclusion of the war on amicable terms with the King. The Governor-General and Council of India were not in favour of Governor van Eck's proposal to compel the King by bringing him under subjection. Yet the state of things did not seem to promise a speedy termination of hostilities. It was reported that even just after the armistice had been proclaimed the Kandyan Dessave had received orders to attack the Company's troops wherever they were, and as soon as possible. It was gathered from the later letters of the Dessave of the Three and Four Korles that there would be a possible interference by the British or some other European power on behalf of the Kandyan King. At last, at a secret meeting of the Political Council held on the 14th October, 1763, the project of an expedition against Kandy was seriously considered, and by January the route was decided upon and all arrangements were made. On the 3rd February, 1764, Governor van Eck left Colombo for Negombo on his tour, ostensibly for the purpose of having an interview with the King as to a settlement of their differences. He was accompanied by two Military officers, and the Onderkoopman van Angelbeek as Field Secretary. Several troops had preceded them to Goenawille whence the army was to march forward. But nothing came of this expedition as the Governor was compelled to make a speedy return owing to the heavy rains and the impassable roads, and he was back again in Colombo on the 6th of March. The Kandyans shortly after this began advancing on the outposts of the Company at Goenawille, which encampment was now placed under the command of Captain Duffo. There were however no encounters. At a meeting of the Secret Council on the 5th April the Governor proposed that they should discuss the measures meanwhile to be taken to force the King to make peace, now that the expedition to Kandy had to be given up; but the Councillors were divided in opinion and the question was deferred to a later meeting. At this meeting, held a few days after, it was decided to go on strengthening the army against eventualities. Two battalions of Sepoys and a thousand other troops were to be recruited in India and application

was to be made to Batavia for funds, ammunition, etc., as well as 400 soldiers and 20 officers. Venelose Bay<sup>1</sup>, Jaffna, Trincomalee, and Batticaloa were to be protected against the possibility of any foreign attack. These measures were prompted by rumours which reached the ears of the Dutch authorities of the King being in communication with the English; and it was even mentioned that an English embassy had at this time gone to Kandy. A conversation between certain Kandyan chiefs was also overheard and reported, to the effect that it would be impossible for them (the Kandyans) to continue the war against the Company without the help of another nation. Yet the Dessave of the Three and Four Korles at a private interview which he sought made the Dutch understand that the Kandyans longed for peace but did not wish to be the first to propose it. Meantime the preparations for a campaign were steadily pursued, and among other measures Captain Duffo was to proceed to the Coromandel Coast and recruit a sufficient number of men to form a second French Company, the former Company having been found most effective and useful. It was finally decided on the 14th September, 1764 that an expedition was to proceed against Kandy as soon as the arrangements were complete. Punitive measures had been taken against the rebel subjects of the Company in the Hapitigam Korle, the Udugaha and Medde Pattoes, and the Hina Korle, while Alutkuru Korle appeared to be still in a state of revolt. At this juncture the Company found they were able to rely on the loyalty of some of the highly-placed Mudaliyars. Ilangakoon, who in the early stages of the war had been under suspicion and suffered in consequence, was now ready to proceed against the Kandyans, and Tennekoon was so incensed against them that he was prepared to leave his wife and family in Matara and join the advancing army. He had suffered a gross indignity at the hands of the Kandyan Adigar during the time the Kandyans were in occupation of Matara in 1761, an indignity which he felt the more as he and his family claimed to be of higher birth than the present adherents of the Kandyan Court, being as they said of kinship with the ancient Royal Family of Kandy.

On the 30th October Lieut.-Colonel Feber proceeded to Negombo and thence to Tamanawille and Goenawille to review the

<sup>1</sup> Vendeloos Bay, North of Batticaloa.

troops in these places and to prepare separate Companies of the eastern soldiers according to nationality, the existing formation of the troops being somewhat mixed. The army which was to proceed from Goenewille in the march up-country, including servants and coolies, numbered 6,000 men who were to be joined by 2,000 more from Puttalam. At this stage came another letter from the Dessave of the Three and Four Korles, and an embassy was said to be ready to start from Kandy. Dessave Barent and Secretary van Angelbeek were thereupon deputed to proceed to Sitavaque<sup>2</sup> to meet the ambassadors and discuss the preliminaries of the peace proposals with them there; but a month elapsed and there was no embassy, a rumour having been current in the meantime that the Kandyans had appealed for help to the British. The preparations for the march then proceeded. Governor van Eck thought it was time for him to communicate to the Councillors a plan he had had in view and in regard to which he had already secretly made some enquiries. He informed them that in 1762 there was a proposal to have the present King of Kandy deposed and a Prince of Siam placed on the throne. The matter had been conducted with some secrecy but appeared to have leaked out. So the papers on the subject had been temporarily suppressed. He would now wish the Councillors to go into the correspondence and express their views on the subject. Ambassadors had already gone to Mergui to submit the proposals to the Court of Siam, and he might mention that the Onderkoopman Damast van Limberger who in July last had embarked, ostensibly on a secret mission to Batavia, had really proceeded in order to invite the Prince of Siam here. After some deliberation the Councillors were also of opinion that this plan of bringing the Prince of Siam to the throne seemed a more desirable one to pursue than any attempt at making peace with the present King. It must be mentioned at once, here, that this project could not be proceeded with. On the 26th December following, a communication was received from Damast van Limberger that through some agency the Prince was kept in such close surveillance that it was impossible to approach him. This for the time being seemed to put an end to any views entertained with regard to this prince's succession.

<sup>2</sup> Sitawaka

Lt.-Colonel Feber and the Dessave now received orders to complete all the army arrangements for a campaign; so that if there was a failure in the peace proposals owing to the delay in the arrival of the embassy, no time might be lost in proceeding with the war. The Kandyans it was reported were at this time encamped among the mountains at Etamby within strong entrenchments of batteries, and a detachment was also stationed between Yatika and Girandalle. This Captain Bodenschalk was ordered to attack from Chilaw while at the same time the main army advanced from Goenawille. In the South the offers of lascorins made by the Korala of Katuwana and the Mudaliyar Dissanaike were accepted, and a number of these were ordered to cross the Walawe river and take possession of the salt pans and certain other lands. The rumour was gaining ground that the Sinhalese people were tired of the war and longed to see the end of it. In view of this Mudaliyar Ilangakoon was instructed to spread the rumour that the Dutch Company was preparing to depose the present King of Kandy, and to place on the throne some one more acceptable to the people and better disposed towards the Company.

On the 13th January, 1765, Governor van Eck set out on his tour, accompanied by the Koopman John Gerard van Angelbeek as Secretary and other officials.<sup>3</sup> He was proceeding to join the main army at Gonampa, and arrived that evening at Negombo. Here he received a letter from Lt.-Colonel Feber from Goenawille reporting the success of a patrol party which had proceeded up to a mile and a half from Katugampola.<sup>4</sup> They found the roads all beset by gingals, and forcing their way through were shot at by the enemy, who, however, took to flight leaving 10 or 12 dead and 2 prisoners. The number of wounded, which it was not possible to estimate, appeared to be very large. Marching towards Etampola they came upon a heap of about 500 iron bullets, old spears, etc., and four large store-houses, containing nely (paddy). All these provisions and ammunition were conveyed to the camp.

Leaving Negombo on the 15th the Governor arrived at Tambirawille at 10 a.m. and there received a letter from Major Medeler at Puttalam addressed to him at Colombo, reporting the outbreak

<sup>3</sup> Van Eck's Kandyan Expedition Journal, O. B. R. A. S. Vol. XVI. p. 38.  
<sup>4</sup> Letters from various stations, Government Archives, 2399 D.

of fever among the troops and applying for relief. At 2 o'clock the Governor started for Goenawille which he reached at 6 p.m. Here he tarried awhile and during his stay received a number of letters from different places. Major van Wesel had only that morning set out with the necessary forces to take Wisnawe. The Governor received from Marten Rein, the temporary President of the Council at Colombo, a translation of an ola from the Mudaliyar of the Gangaboda Pattu and Udugaha Pattu in the Hina Corle, in which it was stated that on both sides of the river at Ruwanwella the Kandyans had constructed four batteries manned by a large number of men; and that at a place near Mitrigala in the Gangaboda Pattu a post had been installed with a strong guard of men. The same day Captain J. H. Maurer wrote from Ballagalla to say that the enemy had stationed himself between Allauwa and Ettampola. On the 17th the Governor received another letter from Marten Rein from Colombo forwarding a letter from the Commandant of Hangwella, Adrian Moens, reporting that in the village Horrandola in the Atakulan Korle three batteries had been erected by the Kandyans, and that a quantity of timber had been cut for the construction of more batteries. The Dessave of the Three and Four Korles was said to be in readiness to go to Sitawaka. The Commandant also complained that there were constant incursions of Sinhalese from the Kandyan country in his direction, who returned with salt and other commodities; and he thought measures should be taken to stop this.

The same day (17th) Major van Wesel reported from Wisnawe that he had reached there that day at noon and taken possession of the place without a single casualty. He passed five batteries, but the enemy after firing a few shots from their gingals took to flight, so he and his men entered the place with drums beating and flags flying. The Governor also received the following report of two Moors who were sent out on the 16th instant to reconnoitre: "Starting from Goenawille at 7 o'clock in the evening we reached Mutugala about one and a half miles in the jungle and proceeded towards Wisnawe. When we approached the place we saw from a distance, in a nely field, a store of nely and about 2,000 people, most of whom were armed with bows and arrows. We then proposed to take a straight course to Miwewa Galkadula, but found this impossible owing to the road being strongly guarded, so we

turned to the jungle again and reached Oehoeim which is about one and a half miles from Miwewa Galkadula. Here also there were crowds of people; so, still keeping to the jungle, we proceeded to Magura Oya where there were many people, and, among them lascorins provided with canes with small silver hooks. With these they beat the people to drive them down hither. We could not get beyond Magura Oya as the passage was strongly guarded by Kandyans." On the 19th January the Governor received the following letter from Captain Maurer from Allauwe: "On receiving information that some of the enemy were here, I came up with all speed at 5 o'clock this evening (18th). On the way we saw two watch houses and there captured a Sinhalese, who, being sharply questioned by me, stated that the Dessave of the Seven Korles with his men were at Hamenagala, south of Wisnawe. We also saw some fascines, which lay there clearly for making batteries, and also about 20 or 30 Sinhalese with weapons. We could not get at them owing to the steep cliff it would have been necessary to climb. This place has a beautiful situation but there are no houses, and so we are obliged to camp on the river side. There is no nely here in large quantity. I find that the people of the place have all disappeared and betaken themselves to Kurunegala and Naripo where they keep to the hills. We have killed two of the enemy. The distance from this to Wisnawe is 12 miles and to Naripo 27 miles. I shall give information of my arrival here to Majors van Wesel and van Reder; but doubt if my letter will reach them because of the enemy's forces being about." <sup>5</sup>

When at Goenawille the Governor received intimation of the illness of Major van Reder at Katugumpola and Major Medeler at Puttalam. The former was so ill that he was compelled to ask for leave to go to Colombo; <sup>6</sup> but Major Medeler, who was suffering from a severe fever, which made him so weak that "he could scarcely stand" was yet in hopes of being able to join in the march. From Wisnawe Major van Wesel reported that his patrols had daily skirmishes with the enemy, who however never dared to approach within three miles of the camp. A company of "free Moors" (Uliyers) was out foraging when 25 of them were captured by the Sinhalese. A report was also received from the Command-

<sup>5</sup> Letters from various Stations, Government Archives, 2899 D.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

ing officer at Chilaw, Lieutenant Deirk, giving particulars of some activities there. The Vidane of Kakkapalliya had ascertained that a force of the enemy consisting of a Mudaliyar, 3 Korales, and 300 men was posted at Odabatta, but had not yet erected any defences. At Grantarapati defences had been thrown up but the strength of the force was only 60 men with 3 Korales, and the Vidane had succeeded with his lascorins in destroying the post and driving the men away. There were still posted about four miles on the road to Puttalam 50 men of whom 25 were armed. In the neighbourhood of Wisnawe it was said that seven Dessaves were gathered together, who with a strong detachment were contemplating an attack on Chilaw, knowing that the garrison there was a small one. Lieutenant Deirk announced "if they should attempt this I hope to receive them with my small force and my four cannon in such a way that their black skins would soon be red".

On the morning of the 20th January the Governor left Goenawille with the main army commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Feber, and arrived at Katugampola at 2 p.m., where Major de Reder was encamped and where, as mentioned before, he was then ill. Arrangements were therefore made for his departure to Colombo and the temporary command of the camp was given to Lieutenant van der Veen. Here a letter was received from Captain Maurer from Allauwa who reported that he had made daily incursions in the neighbourhood with much success, and that he had that day brought back so much nely that it would suffice for all his people till the 26th. The previous evening five Sinhalese had appeared with a white flag, followed by five others in the morning. These whom he had under arrest, informed him that the enemy was stationed between Kurunegala and Naripo. Another letter from Captain Maurer next day stated that he had over 40 prisoners, and that the enemy had attacked one of his reconnoitring parties and wounded one of the marines. Letters were also received from Major van Wesel at Wisnawe in which he mentioned that he had been sending out men to reconnoitre every day and that these were attacked by the enemy but without any effect. He had commenced the building of lodging houses and ammunition stores.

On the 23rd January at 3 p.m. the Governor with the army arrived at the chief camp at Wisnawe, having halted on the way at Ettembole. On the 24th at 4-30 in the early morning Major van

Wesel set out with the advance guard by the direct road to Ohomia while Captain Frankena made a detour to the right. The intention was to make a simultaneous attack on the enemy in the front and the flank. With the same object the Governor also advanced with the main army, and they came upon him in good time at a place near Ohomia. The Dutch attacked with great ardour and compelled the enemy to take to flight, although their forces greatly exceeded those of the Dutch. In this action one European who was in the service of the enemy was struck by a bullet but managed to make his escape. The casualties on the side of the Dutch were one dead and three wounded of the cavalry corps: the losses of the enemy appeared to have been great, for the patrols sent out later discovered first 20 and then 12 dead in the jungle.

On the 2nd February the Governor left Wisnawe at 2 p.m. with the main army under Lieut.-Colonel Feber, and arrived at Pedroewella, two leagues farther, at 7 p.m. In the early morning of the 6th, Lieut.-Colonel Feber marched out with the advanced guard from Pedroewella towards Kurunegala, while Captain Tournai, who had set out from Puttalam with a body of 800 men, also reached Kurunegala on the other side of the rock. Upon a given signal from both sides, an attack was made on the enemy from the front and the rear; and he, caught between two fires, was compelled to take to flight, after firing a few shots at the attackers. The troops under Captain Tournai now formed a junction with those of the Lieutenant-Colonel, and a march was made towards Tilliagonne, the Sinhalese attacking them with great force all the way till a small plain before Tilliagonne was reached. Here the firing became more fierce, the Dutch troops breaking up into small parties. One of these under Captain Van Sweinhauben pursued the enemy for three quarters of a league up to a hill called Periakondewilla where they drove him out of a battery. This skirmish cost the Dutch four dead and seven wounded: the loss of the enemy could not be ascertained, though much blood was found along the footpaths. During this engagement the army under Lieut.-Colonel Feber had been encamped at Tilliagonne, and Major van Wesel had come with the reserve corps from Pedrowilla and taken his position behind the hill at Kurunegala; but in view of the success which had attended the movements of the advance guard he received orders to return to Pedrowilla. On the 7th the Governor himself came to

Tilliagonne accompanying Major van Wesel's forces from Pedro-wila. On the 9th, in the afternoon, the Lieut.-Colonel marched out with a force of 1800 men with a view to attack the enemy next morning and encamped for the night at Periakondewilla. A runaway slave of the late Predicant Potken, who had been in concealment in Kandy for four years, appeared at Tilliagonne at noon on the 10th, and gave the information that the King had fled from his palace, and the inhabitants, through fear of war, had scattered themselves about the Kingdom, but that some were yet prepared to defend the capital. Lieut.-Colonel Feber marched out from Periakondewille early in the morning, and slowly approached a plain where the enemy were in waiting, having drawn themselves up in order of battle. The Lieut.-Colonel ordered the cavalry with a company of Malays to advance on the left and the company of Marines with two companies of Malays to proceed to the right. Whilst these harassed the enemy on the flanks, the main body of the army attacked in front, the field pieces being dragged under cover of the companies. The engagement which followed did not last long, for the Sinhalese soon took to flight with the loss of many of their men. It was learnt they would have retired earlier but for the Adigar who was present at the action and restrained them. After this victory, without any loss of men, the Lieut.-Colonel advanced to Weuda, capturing three batteries on the way; and on the 12th the Governor arrived at Weuda with the rest of the army. Here, shortly after, an embassy from Kandy consisting of the chief Adigar and the Dessaves waited on him, and, after a conference, departed. The purport of this and the subsequent short conferences held by Governor van Eck with the Kandyan deputation will be seen from the letter of the Governor which will appear later. The Koraaie of the place and some headmen also came and declared their willingness to submit to the Company. In the course of the day the Governor visited the hill of Galegedara, situated 6 miles farther, which had been captured by Captain van Sweinhausen the previous day, as well as six batteries erected one behind the other across the road. This hill had a square fortress of masonry with two gates, the ascent to which was by a steep hill which could hardly be climbed even by clambering with hands and feet. On the 13th the Lieut.-Colonel again set out for the hill fortress of Giriagama which he reached without any resistance,

although the enemy was well able to defend the fort, which is impregnable by nature. Meanwhile another embassy arrived at Weuda from Kandy bringing an ola and departed with a reply. On the 15th the Governor left Weuda with the main body of the army and, passing Galagedera, arrived at Giriagama at 7 p.m. Having spent the night here he crossed the Hoenay Oya next morning (16th) and arrived at the camp of Lieut.-Colonel Feber at the pass of Katugastota on the bank of the Mahaweliganga. Here he occupied the pleasure house of the King, where he received a messenger from the other side of the river who came to ask, in the name of the magnates of the Court, if he would receive them in order to discuss terms of peace. Permission having been granted and an audience appointed for 4-30 that evening, there appeared the Chief Adigar, the three Dessaves of Uva, Udapalata, and Matale, the King's Maha Mohottiar or Chief Secretary, and the Mohandiram of the Royal Guard. At this audience the Governor had beside him the Lieutenant-Colonel, Major van Wesel, and the Secretary van Angelbeek. The conference lasted about half an hour, and the deputation departed in order to bring a signed authority from the King, which the Governor required for the conclusion of a binding peace. On the 17th the Governor was able to write and inform the Council at Colombo of the success of the Company's aims, and to request that a service of thanksgiving be held in the church to commemorate the event. He received visits both that day and the following day from the Dessave of Udapalata, who on the second occasion was accompanied by the Dessave of Uva. These conferred with the Governor and departed.

On the morning of the 19th the troops were transported across the river, and the Governor also crossed over at 10 a.m. without any hindrance and took possession of the King's palace, which he made his residence. The conduct of the common soldiers on this occasion could hardly be defended. It is stated that they "turned everything topsy-turvy" and spent that day and the day after in carrying out a rich booty, which consisted of "all kinds of the most valuable stuffs and the finest linen, of precious stones, gold and silver ware, and jewels, and even pieces of gold money". Parties of Kandyans with white flags appeared before the Governor the two following days and submitted themselves to the Company.

On the 22nd February the Governor made the following appointments :

Marten Rein, Opperkoopman, acting as President of the Political Council at Colombo in the Governor's absence, to be Commandeur of Kandy with a status corresponding to that of the Commandeurs of Jaffna and Galle.

Lieutenant-Colonel Feber promoted to the rank of Colonel.

Major van Wesel promoted Lieutenant-Colonel.

Captain Frankena promoted Major.

Koopman Johan Gerard van Angelbeek, Secretary of the Political Council, to the rank of Opperkoopman.

The same day news was received that the King was at Hanguranketta, 30 miles from Kandy, and that there was a second palace some 9 miles away. To this place Captain van Aruin was despatched with some sepoy, but they returned without any success and meeting with no opposition. On the 24th Lieut.-Colonel van Wesel set out with a flying corps of 700 men in order to dislodge the King from his palace at Hanguranketta, and to destroy the palace. Having halted for the night on the way, the next day they captured several fortresses of the enemy, and arriving at Hanguranketta saw a considerable number of people escaping to the mountains with elephants and palanquins. One of these palanquins might have been captured if the sound of the drums calling in the scattered Dutch forces had not given the alarm. On the 28th on the return march the force of Lieut.-Colonel van Wesel was surprised by the enemy and attacked on all sides, particularly the rear guard which lost at once ten horsemen and several marines, French and Javanese, and among others wounded was Lieut. Stroebel, severely. The Sinhalese probably observed that the Dutch were short of ammunition, and so they pursued them to within a mile and a half of Kandy, firing on them constantly till they came into the camp, famished and half-dead. The Dutch lost in this expedition in dead and wounded over 48 men. A Lieutenant who had been despatched on the 25th to a fourth palace in which report said the Royal Family was concealed returned on the 27th without having had any hostile encounter and having found no living creature at the palace in question. On the 1st March Major Frankena with a small force made a tour into the

Four Korles. He returned the same day having lost one man and some of the native soldiers wounded. On the return march he came across two spies of the Dutch hanged, and in retaliation the Governor ordered three Sinhalese spies who had been caught by chance to be put to a similar death.

On the 2nd March the Governor despatched the following letter to the Assembly of Magnates of the Court: 'You are aware of the demands of the Honourable Company communicated to the Ambassadors at my Army Headquarters on the Mahaweli-ganga. The Dessaves of Uva and Udapalata appeared before me at my camp two days later and begged that I would somewhat modify these demands, especially the claim to the Wannu of Nagure, because one of the most famous temples stood there, and to reduce further some of the costs of the war. I informed them that as they had brought no authority from the King I could not treat with them in the matter; and, as I saw that this authority was not forwarded, I merely requested these gentlemen to remain in Kandy, and that I would treat with them in regard to the demands when I came to them there. But up to now none of these gentlemen have appeared; so that I conclude His Majesty has not favoured the proposal. And now let me again ask you, for the last time, to settle this matter in a friendly manner. Are you in earnest or not about making peace? If so, I answer that I entirely waive the claim to Nagure as well as to the expenses of the war, of which I have already informed the Dessave of Udapalata. I am also inclined, from a love of peace, to withdraw my claim to some of the inland provinces previously demanded, and to treat of the matter in a friendly spirit with His Majesty's Ambassadors who shall bring me his written authority. It will be an advantage to you if you will carefully consider this proposal and send me a reply thereto. And as I am on my return journey to Colombo I have nominated and appointed Mr. Marten Rein to be Commandeur of Kandy and to hold and keep in our possession and power this residential city of the Kingdom during the war. You may therefore communicate with him.'

*(To be concluded).*

## BATAVIA MONEY.

BY J. R. T.

Very nearly a century ago a question which deeply agitated the minds of our Dutch ancestors in Ceylon was the distribution of a sum of money received from Batavia for the relief of the widows and orphans of officers employed under the Dutch Government, who were not already in receipt of pensions. It is not clear how these widows and orphans had maintained themselves during the period which elapsed between the death of the bread-winner and the application for relief, but judging from the eagerness with which they looked forward to the money from Batavia, which in our day would be considered a comparatively trifling sum, their plight must have been a very sad one. The earlier records relating to this episode are not available, but it is gathered that these poor people, not being in a position to meet the cost of even the barest necessaries of life, resolved to apply for assistance to Batavia, whether some of their relations had departed soon after the capitulation of the Island. Their confidence in the sympathy of their friends across the seas was not misplaced, for a sum of £ 488 was in due course sent through the Government of Batavia to the local Government for distribution. The latter appointed a committee consisting of Messrs. D. C. Fretz<sup>1</sup>, J. F. Giffening<sup>2</sup>, E. J. Jongbloed<sup>3</sup> and P. Gratiaen<sup>4</sup> to prepare and submit a scheme of distribution, and on 24th December, 1832, these gentlemen submitted their report, together with a list "of the widows and orphans who have most claims on the Dutch Government and not included in the List of Pensioners paid by the said Government, showing the amount to which each is entitled." The amounts recommended for payment ranged from Rds. 60 to Rds. 7 to be distributed among some 400 persons, and the Committee's proposals were approved by the Ceylon Government.

1. Diedrich Cornelis Fretz, born at Matara, 6 May 1787, died at Colombo 5th June 1836.

2. Johan Frederick Giffening, Proctor and Member of the Legislative Council.

3. No information is available regarding this gentleman.

4. Pieter Liebert Gratiaen, Assistant Accountant-General, born at Galle 10th May, 1795, died at Colombo 1st March, 1852.

One would have wished that this episode had terminated with the distribution of the amounts awarded, but it is a well known fact that in matters involving the distribution of money, there will always be found people who are only too ready to assert that A had received too much or B too little or that C was not deserving of anything at all. And so it happened in this case. The ball was set rolling by a letter from a correspondent to the "Colombo Journal" who complained that "it is much to be regretted that the gentlemen appointed to make the distribution have not bestowed proper attention and consideration on the merits and demerits of the respective claimants; for what on earth could have entitled rich widows who live well upon the interest of their money, and under the receipt of handsome pensions from this Government to a share, and a large one, of the money, but their high-sounding names and opulent state? These it is evident have had greater weight on the minds of those gentlemen than the really wretched state of most of the claimants. Would these gentlemen conscientiously say that they have discharged their duty impartially and that all the persons in the list are proper objects of charity?"

This challenge called forth a very dignified reply from a person signing himself "One of the Committee", and who perhaps, if we may be permitted to venture a surmise, was Mr. D. C. Fretz. Convinced of his own honesty of purpose and of that of his fellow Committee members, and burning with indignation at the injustice of the charges brought against them, the writer says:—"I, as well as my colleagues, did not think it worth our while to vindicate ourselves from the imputations of your anonymous correspondents until I saw the observations you were pleased to make in the Journal of this day on the communication of a "Sympathiser" and others that you say have been made to you, both verbally and by letters, on the same subject. I must now therefore beg leave to state for the information of the parties by whom you were addressed on this subject, anonymously and personally, that the Committee do not hold themselves responsible for their conduct in the appropriation of this money, to any party dissatisfied with their report, except to that high authority from which they have received their commission, and that to him alone they are ready to explain the motives by which they were actuated in the discharge of the trust reposed in them, namely, a most anxious and zealous desire to do impartial



justice to every individual claimant. The Committee cannot help declaring to you, however, by this opportunity, their own conviction that they have discharged their duty in the best manner possible, as far as they have been able to collect the necessary information, and to the best of their understanding and judgment of the meaning and intention of the donors of this charity, as signified in the letter of the Governor-General of Batavia, and that they are very sorry they have not been able, consistently with justice, to satisfy the expectation of every claimant, and to allot to each individual according to his own picture of the merits of her case. If the parties who find themselves aggrieved by our report would but refer themselves to the proper authority, they cannot fail to obtain redress, either by another and more unobjectionable division of the money, through what they may deem a more impartial Committee, or by a reference to the Government of Batavia, to ascertain more fully for what particular class of individuals this bounty was intended; whether, according to their rank, to the widows and orphans of the respectable Dutch functionaries, who, although it may be said by Liamanis<sup>5</sup> and others of his kind, that they are living upon the interest of their money and upon pensions from this Government, are in our opinion the sufferers in reality, though not in appearance, or only to that swarm of paupers who, claiming descent from soldiers, sailors, and artificers in the Dutch service, have been admitted to share in the bounty to the prejudice of the more respectable classes."

A more effective reply could not possibly have been given, and one would have thought that it would have silenced further discussion, but two correspondents were determined to carry on the struggle to the bitter end. The Editor, however, expressing himself as being satisfied that he had already done sufficient to call the attention of those concerned to the distribution of the Batavia money, declared the correspondence closed.

But there was another and a more humorous side to this episode. In the course of the lengthy correspondence which took place on the subject of the "Batavia money" as it was called, one of the correspondents stated that some of the widows and orphans were anxious to draw their share of the money in order to purchase "*new cambayas, sayas, and cabaya curtos.*" This taunt was too

5. The *nom-de-plume* adopted by one of the correspondents.

much for another correspondent, who entered a strong protest against this sartorial libel. "Although" he said, "these sorts of dress were considered highly rich and fashionable by the Dutch in Ceylon in the olden times, they became quite out of use since the present fashion was introduced by the English, and only a few of our old ladies have from motives of respect to their age retained the old fashion." He then goes on to trace the historical development of this strange attire. "*Cambaya, saya, and cabaya curto* are at present in general use among such people commonly called in Ceylon country Portuguese and their descendants, some of whose parents and husbands were employed under the Dutch Government in the lower offices, such as soldiers and sailors, etc. So that there is a difference between these sort of people and the real Dutch families. Such, I believe, Mr. Editor, or something like it, is also the case (if I am correct) in Batavia and many other places in India under the possession of the Dutch." He entertains grave apprehensions as to the effect which this libel might have on the minds of the authorities in Batavia, who he fears might conclude that there are no better Dutch families in Ceylon than such as wear *cambaya, saya and cabaya curto*. He therefore states for the information and satisfaction of the Government of Batavia, that there are thousands of respectable Dutch descendants here, whose parents and husbands hold various situations of high rank. And though many of them are not among the candidates on the list for a share of the Batavia money, still there are others who can employ the money, however trifling the share may be, to better purpose than in the purchase of those objectionable articles of wearing apparel.

A new correspondent now entered the lists, and controverting the statement of the last correspondent, proceeded to take a more practical view of the matter. "It is a well-known fact" he says, "that *saya and cabaya curto* are still the favourite dresses of several distinguished persons of the Dutch families in the island, and with whom I believe the Batavian Government would be more pleased as retaining their original costume than with the recent imitators of ton and fashion." No further letters being received on the subject, the controversy was closed, but what interests us at the present day is whether the *cambaya, saya and cabaya curto* were in general use among the Dutch a century ago, or

whether they were worn by a few individuals only on the grounds of convenience, or as one of the correspondents put it "from motives of respect to their age". From what we know of the early life and habits of the Dutch in Ceylon, we are inclined to think that the latter is the more probable explanation.

As being of historical interest, we give below the names of some of the widows and orphans who were included in the list of those entitled to share in the Batavia money. We have included only the names of existing Dutch families.

### Report

Of the Widows and Orphans who have most claims on the Dutch Government and not included in the list of Pensions paid by the said Government, showing the amount to which each is entitled.

### Colombo.

	Amount allowed.
	Rds. F.
Maria Isabella Ludekens, widow of Mr. Jacob Burnand, Senior Merchant and Collector of Jaffnapatam	60 0
E. C. Van Dort, widow of J. de Run, a Book-keeper	30 0
J. C. M. Reckerman, widow of Johannes Cornelis Vandendriesen, a Cadet	35 0
Dorothea Spaar and Henrietta Spaar, daughters of C. A. Spaar, Book-keeper	40 0
C. D. Martensz and E. E. Martensz, daughters of Willem Martensz, a junior merchant	40 0
A. M. Van Eyck and D. C. Van Eyck, daughters of A. Van Eyck, a Book-keeper	35 0
F. H. J. Mack, daughter of John Pieter Mack, a Book-keeper	25 0
Cornelia Helena Ledulx, widow of Johannes Frederic Dickman, a Surgeon	35 0
A. E. de Jong, widow of Jacobus Alexander Pompeus, a Book-keeper	25 0
Widow of Dirk Jacob de Moor, Secretary of the Council of Jaffna	40 0
M. E. de Jong, widow of J. A. H. Sizilles, a sworn Clerk and Secretary of the Weescamer	35 0
M. E. Engelbert, widow of Johannes Elias Edema, a Captain Lieut. of the Marine	50 0

	Amount allowed.
	Rds. F.
Johanna Jacoba Loos, daughter of Johannes Jacobus Loos, a Book-keeper	25 0
A. E. Vanderstraet, widow of Vanderstraet, a Captain	50 0
C. H. Van Velp, widow of Cornelis Johannes Ide, a Factor and Sworn Clerk of the Court of Justice	40 0
E. de Jong, widow of R. J. Kriekenbeek, a Book-keeper	35 0
Anna Catharina Lindeman, widow of Robert Aldons, a Book-keeper	35 0
Maria P. C. de Waas, widow of Jan Christoffel Goldesteyn, a Book-keeper	35 0
Judith Gerodina Hoffman, daughter of Jan Leopold Hoffman, a Book-keeper	30 0
Margaritta Meynert, widow of Johan Frederic Beleke, a Clerk	20 0
Sarah Johanna Koelmeyer, daughter of Cornelis Koelmeyer, Interpreter to the Chief of Negombo	20 0
Margaritha Angenita Fretsz, widow of Johannes Keller, a Sergeant of Grenadiers	12 0
Anna Christina Voogd, widow of Gabriel Felsing, a Clerk	20 0
J. A. Cramer, widow of Lourens Albertus Pompeus, a Clerk in the Secretary's Office	20 0
C. Kriekenbeek, widow of P. VanderStraaten, an Assistant in the Trade Office	20 0
Engeltina Peglotte, widow of B. A. Blume, a Clerk in the Mint Department	12 0
Wilhelmina Metzeling, widow of Andries Caspersz, an Artificer	7 0
Anna Maria Demmer, widow of Peter Beyer, a soldier	7 0
Petronella de Haan, daughter of William de Haan, a Ship Carpenter's Mate	10 0
Francina Christina Oosten Meyer, widow of Johannes Oosten Meyer, a Serjeant	12 0
Johanna Catharina Spring, widow of Christian Martyn Schumacher, a Printer	7 0
Elizabeth Neydorff, daughter of Johannes Neydorff, a Sailor	7 0

	Amount allowed.
	Rds. F.
J. H. Freyer, daughter of Robt. Reynier Freyer ...	12 0
Arnoldina Josina widow Vandersmagt, daughter of Pieter Johan Muller, a Book-keeper ...	25 0
A. W. widow Hansen, daughter of G. F. Claasz, a Book-keeper ...	20 0

**Caltura.**

Geertruida Lourens, widow of Maginis Jansz, a Private ...	7 0
Wilhelmina Adrians, widow of Johannes de Jood, a Private ...	7 0

**Galle.**

Maria Sophia Fretz, widow of Carel Augustus Conrady, Junior Merchant ...	60 0
Dorothea Rudolphina Hofman, widow of Jan Hendrick Ludovice, Assistant Surgeon ...	30 0
Maria Agnita Starkenberg, widow of Johannes Martinus Anthonisz, Book-keeper. ...	35 0
Helena Buultjens, widow of Peter Hendrik Ryhart, Book-keeper ...	30 0
Johanna Susanna Lourensz, widow of Gerrardus Henricus Anthonisz, Clerk ...	30 0
Helena Sebella Christiansz, widow of Johannes Adrianus Vander Hoeven, Clerk ...	20 0
Clara Elizabeth Van Hoeven, widow of Willem Hendrick Andree, 3rd Hospital Assistant ...	20 0
Margaritta Deutrom, widow of Frederick Peter Schols, Organist ...	20 0
Maria Wilhelmina Juriensz, widow of Hendrik Woutersz, Soldier ...	7 0

**Tangalle.**

Mrs. Vollenhoven, widow of Mr. J. Vollenhoven, a Clerk ...	20 0
Mrs. Moltrecht, widow of Mr. C. F. Moltrecht, a Clerk ...	20 0
Miss Huybertsz, daughter of Mr. G. Huybertsz, a Clerk ...	20 0

**Batticaloa.**

Anna Jacobo Struys, widow of an Engineer ...	35 0
Catharina Balthazar, widow of a Lance Corporal ...	12 0

	Amount allowed.
	Rds. F.
Anna Mariya Oudschoorn, widow of a Soldier ...	7 0
Catharina Barthalot, widow of a Soldier ...	7 0

**Trincomalee.**

Mrs. G. A. P. Harts, widow of Mr. Anthony Maartensz, Senior Merchant ...	50 0
Mrs. Francina, widow of Christiaan Dornhorst, Serjeant Major ...	12 0

**Jaffna.**

J. A. Theile, widow of Lieutenant J. E. Theile ...	50 0
L. Herft, widow of Adjutant L. Herft ...	35 0
M. E. Gratiaen, widow of G. A. Gratiaen, Resident at Manepar ...	40 0
J. G. Toussaint, widow of B. J. Toussaint, Resident at Point Pedro ...	40 0
C. D. Koch and S. J. Koch, orphan children of Lieutenant J. P. Koch ...	50 0
M. M. Modder, widow of W. Modder, Medical Sub-Assistant ...	20 0
C. E. Bartholomeusz, widow of D. Bartholomeusz, Clerk ...	20 0
E. Koelman, widow of Sergeant J. H. Koelman ...	12 0

**Mannar.**

A. G. Vandergucht, widow of A. Dirksz, Sergeant ...	12 0
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**Calpentyn.**

J. E. Jacobs, widow of Gunner F. Shelbush ...	7 0
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**Chilaw.**

A. W. Pietersz, widow of J. Gorne, Secretary of the Commandant. ...	20 0
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## A SILVER WEDDING.

(Communicated).

The celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of marriage is a good old institution derived from the days of the Dutch and is an occasion for much rejoicing and congratulation. The 25th anniversary celebrations of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Toussaint took place on the 12th December, and the large and representative array of guests who assembled at the Colombo Town Hall in response to the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Toussaint bore evidence to their wide popularity.

A charming bevy of stewardesses, escorted by stewards, dispensed lavish hospitality, while a fine band enlivened the proceedings, which continued to a late hour of the evening.

In the course of the proceedings a purse towards which numerous friends of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Toussaint had contributed was handed over by Dr. L. A. Prins, President of the Dutch Burgher Union. Mr. and Mrs. Toussaint are so much a part of the Dutch Burgher Union that it was fitting that the presentation should be made by its President.

In handing over the purse Dr. Prins said :

" Mr. and Mrs. Toussaint :—Your friends and admirers have done me the honour to ask me to be their spokesman on this happy occasion. It gives me great pleasure to convey to you their felicitations and to tell you how happy they are in being asked to join you in celebrating the anniversary of the happiest day of your lives.

On this occasion we naturally like to look back to the day when you stood side by side, with hearts full of hope, and the joy of life shining brightly in your eyes. Now when we look at you we could with difficulty believe that 25 years have passed since that happy day ; if we could shut our eyes to the stalwart sons and pretty daughter by you, we could well imagine ourselves at your wedding day. Twenty-five years in thus passing have touched you both lightly—a clear proof that these 25 years have been very happy. Mr. and Mrs. Toussaint—it is with reluctance you consented to this little side-show ; you do not like to be in the limelight—you are too modest—a virtue you share with many of our community, perhaps to our loss. Anyway to-day we place you in

the limelight. In you are united two old and well-known families, Toussaint and de Vos, both from the *Nederlanders*. Matheus Toussaint, your first ancestor in Ceylon, came out in 1688. Your people have occupied high positions in the *Vereenigde Oost Indische Kompanie*. Any man reading the history of your families will come across the words *Koopman*, *Onderkoopman*, *Resident*, showing the responsible posts occupied by members of the two families in the good old days when our fathers, *dienaren van de edele Kompanie*, maintained the honour of the land of their fathers. Do you know Mrs. Toussaint, if we were living in those days of yore, we would have serenaded you, roused you from your slumbers with violins, flute and harp, and *bandharina* ; at midnight the neighbouring houses would have been lit up—hefty Dutch burghers with stately *vrouws* clothed in silk with Chinese shawls thrown lightly over their heads, adorned with high tortoise shell combs, would have marched to your house—they would have placed a massive silver chain, dangling a silver medal, round the neck of your husband, and put a diamond ring on your finger, and then offered their presents in large silver *bande-zees*. Alas ! these and many other customs have disappeared, but we would fain preserve the right to offer you our gift for old sake's sake and for the good work you both have done for the Dutch Community here. You, Mrs. Toussaint, you are my idea of a Ceylon Dutch *Vrouw*. You look after hearth and home, your husband and your children—you have no desire to enter the Council of State. You have helped the D.B.U. in all its social activities ; you have rendered valuable help in the celebration of St. Nikolaas' Day. You, Mr. Toussaint, you are one of the few who burn the midnight oil in gathering bits of history of our fathers' rule in this Island from musty moth-eaten Dutch manuscripts ; you have been the Hon'ble Secretary of the D.B.U. for many years and devoted much of your valuable time to keep it going ; you are Editor of our magazine for many years, and have raised it to so high a standard that learned Societies are glad to exchange their publications for our magazine. Your official career reminds me of that of some of your ancestors. Starting from the lowest rung of the ladder as *zoldaat bij de pen* or *aankweekeling*, they rose to *adsistent*, *boekhouder*, *onderkoopman*, *koopman*, *Resident*, *opperkoopman*. So you, beginning in the Clerical Service, have by your ability, application, untiring energy, loyalty, forced your way into that abode

of the blessed, the Civil Service of the Island. You are an example to our boys. Well, I do not wish to bring so many blushes to your cheeks, and so shall bring my simple speech to an end.

We beg you to accept this little present in appreciation of the good work you have done amongst us. In handing you this little token of our goodwill we pray that God will gift you with many happy years". (Applause).

In concluding his remarks Dr. Prins called upon Mr. E. H. vanderWall to offer some remarks.

Mr. E. H. vanderWall said :

" I consider it an honour and a privilege to be able to say something on this occasion. I regard Mr. Toussaint as my old familiar friend with whom I have worked not only officially at the Education Office, but also and more particularly in matters connected with the Dutch Burgher Union. My association with Mr. Toussaint has impressed me with his fine gifts of ability, industry and character.

Mr. Toussaint is a representative of that type of men who are the salt of the earth, and of whom our community has produced some distinguished examples.

Born of respectable parentage, he began life as so many Dutch Burghers do, in the lower ranks of the Government Service. But he quickly won his way to the top, not by adventitious aid but by his own undoubted merits. With quiet dignity he now graces the ranks of the Ceylon Civil Service, of which he is a distinguished ornament.

His services to the community have been rendered not by fits and starts but in a steady continuous stream of active loyalty. After a service of many years as the Secretary of the Dutch Burgher Union, he is now the Editor of its Journal. I would only add that he has brought distinction to both these offices.

Mrs. Toussaint is the daughter of a highly respected father, who was well known in the Public Service and also as an active member of the Dutch Burgher Union. In the duties connected with her own sphere, she is as indispensable at the Dutch Burgher Union as Mr. Toussaint himself.

Looking at Mr. and Mrs. Toussaint to-day, I feel they look young enough to be married over again. They are a fine illustra-

tion of the saying that work, unlike worry, means health. When the day comes, and I hope that day is far distant, when Mr. and Mrs. Toussaint will retire from the strenuous activities of life, I trust they will have the happiness, the greatest happiness that parents can have, of seeing their children continue the good work they have begun.

On behalf of this large and distinguished assembly and of my own I offer my sincerest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Toussaint, with the added hope that many, many more years of happy wedded life are before them". (Applause)

In reply Mr. Toussaint said :

" Dr. Prins, Mr. vanderWall, ladies and gentlemen—My wife and I thank you from our hearts for the very handsome way in which our health has been proposed. To-day marks a very important epoch in our lives, and our first feeling is one of deep thankfulness to the Giver of all good gifts for His mercy in sparing us in health and strength to see this day. When we look back upon the long vista of years that lie behind us, we feel that we have much to be thankful for. It is true we have not been exempt from the cares and anxieties incidental to married life, but on the whole our voyage has been a calm and uneventful one, and we have now reached the first stage of our journey. During this long voyage my dear wife has proved a very efficient Chief Officer and has often cheered the Captain when he has been inclined to give way to despondency. We have also been very fortunate in our friends, so many of whom we are so proud and glad to see around us here this evening. Some of you have known us from childhood, others from a later stage in our lives, but we know that each and every one of you have followed our fortunes with the deepest interest. We now begin the second stage of our journey confident in the knowledge that your good wishes follow us, and that whatever may be in store for us, our friends will be true to us in the future as they have been in the past.

Very kind reference has been made to our work in connection with the Dutch Burgher Union. We are glad to know that the very slight services we have been able to render have been so highly appreciated, though we feel that there are many others who have rendered more valuable service than ourselves.

My wife and I thank you very much indeed for this handsome purse with which you have presented us. We do assure you that your good wishes alone and your presence here this evening would have been quite sufficient, but we appreciate the motives which have prompted you in this matter, and we accept this gift in the spirit in which it is offered.

Once again we thank you."

## OUR DUTCH CORNER.

STAMBOEK VAN DE FAMILIE VAN AUGUST CAREL FREDERICK  
GRAAF VAN RANZOW.

(Letterlyk overgenomen van het origineel)

In het jaar 1750 den 13 September ben ik\* August Carel Fredrick Graaf van Ranzow te Holsminder in het hertogdom Bronswyk geboren, mijne doop getuygens zijn geweest—

- (1) Elisabetta Ernestina Anthonietta Hertogin van Saxon Sonderstansen, abdisen van Gander stein.
- (2) August Wilhelm Hertog van Brunswijk .....Gouverneur van Stetien
- (3) De regeerende vorst Johan Fredrick van Swartburg Roedolstad
- (4) De Hertogt Carel van Brunswijk.....Gouverneur van Koppenhage
- (5) De Baroness van Brockenbourg

Anno 1777. Den 9 May ben ik in Coninklijke Pruisische diensten onder het inventory regiment van Haak als vaandel jonkheer in dienst getreden.

Anno 1778. Den 31 Maart tot vaendring van gedagte regiment bevordert.

1781. Den 13 Junij mynen ontslag uit pruisische diensten genomen en als volentair by de Amiraliteit van Amsterdam den Engelschen oorlog bygewoond tot dat ik in anno 1785 den 3 Maj in St. Haage door de Heeren Staaten van Holland onder de brie-gaarde van Hessen Darmstat als premier Luytenant by de inventory in dienst agesteld en in A° 1785 de 17. 7 ber wegens de groote onlusten in Holland te Grave mynen ontslag van voornoemde Regiment genoemen en na Kleef tot mijne familie gegaan ben, alwaar ik my tot het jaar 1787 opgehouden totdat ik voor de admiraliteit van Rotterdam wederom als Luytenant ter zee met het oorlogs fregaat de Orange Saal na Batavia vertrokken en den 26. 7 ber gaarri-veert ben, alwaar ik wegens groote onpasselijkheid mijne ontslag uit 's lands dienst van gem: bodem genomen hebbe, en mij da'r zoo lang opgehouden totdat ik weder hersteld en in het jaar 1788 den

14 Junij in het edele Oost Indische Comps. schip te Batavia als passagier na Ceylon vertrokken en den 17 September aldaar gearri-veerd, alwaar ik den 27 Dec. 1789 med de jonge juffw. †Elisabetta Cornelia Engelbracht dogter van den gewezenen boekhouder en lit van den landraad Harmanus Engelbrecht in den egt getreden ben, die geboren is te Gale den 26 Augustus Anno 1773 en in anno 1790 den 26 Maj ben ik als boekhouder in dienst van de edele Comp. aangesteld en het selfde jaar met stilstaan van gagie wederom uit den dienst gegaan.

A° 1791. Op Maandag den 7 Februarij voor de middag omtrent negen en drie-uart uur is mijne vrouw door Gods goedheid van een welgeschapene dogterje getukkelijk verlost en de welke den 6 Maart agtermiddag in de Wolvendaelsche Kerk, door den Eerw. Heer Kauwerts den heiligen doop ontvangen heeft, en is door ons ouderen zelfs daar na toegebracht en heeft daar in den naam ontvangen van Loewisa Henrietta, haare doop getuijgen zijn den Weledel: Achtbare Heer Pieter Sluijsken, Commandeur van Stat en lande van Gale en Mature. Tweedens den Hoog geboren Heer A. C. A. Graaf van Ranzow, boekhouder en lit van den Eerw. landraad te Mature. Derdens de Jonge Juffrv. Johanna van Dort (overleden te Columbo op Maandag den 19 Maart 1838 omstreeks 5 uur 's avonds oud zijnde 47 jaar.)

A° 1792. Op Zaterdag den 17 November 's morgens omtrent sevenen drie-uart uren is mijne vrouw door Gods goedheid ten andermaal van een dogterje gelukkig verlost en de welk den Maj 1793 agtermiddag in den Wolvendaels Kerk door den Eerw. Heer Kauwertz de heilige doop ontvangen en haar in de namen bekomen heeft van Johanna Catherina Dorothea, haar doop getuijgens zijn eerstens haar oom de Hoog Geb. Heer D. D. Graaff van Ranzow eerste Pakhuismeester mitsgaders politiege lid in raade van Kolombo en tweedens dezelfs dogter Johanna Robbertina gravin van Ranzow, gemalin van den Manh: Heer Udo Brands, Luitenant by de Granadier Kompanie Nationaal, door welke zij ook ter doop gehouden is (Zij is overleden op Maandag op 27 den October 1817 in den avond stonde omtrent 7 uren na een onpaslijkheid van 5 daagen en eene daarop gekomen zwaare trekking, met volle kennis en dat als een waare Christen bittende en zij is Dingsdag den 28de op den Kerkhof van Columbo ter aarde bestelt).

† Overleden te Columbo 's avonds den 5de Maart 1829 oud zijnde 56 jaar

\* Died on Wednesday, 27th March, 1884, half past 6 p.m.

A<sup>o</sup> 1794. Op Kolombo Zaterdag den 20 September het nademiddag een quart over vier uren is mijne vrouw door Gods goedheid ten derde maal van een zoontje gelukkiglijk verlost, welke den 2 November agtermiddag in de Wolvendaalse Kerk door den Eerw. Herr Philipsz de heilige doop ontvangen, en daar in de namen bekomen heeft van Carel Ferdinand Theodorus. Zijne doopgetuijgen zijn geweest De Weledele Heer onderkoopman en Lid van Justitie Gualtherus Petrus Theodorus van Rossum en Mevrouw Carolina Henrietta Frederice Gravin van Ranzow. (Overleden te Colombo op Sondag 's morgens den 25 Augustus 1850 oud zijnde 56 jaar).

A<sup>o</sup> 1796. Op Dingsdag den 31 Maij 's avonds omtrent negen en drie quart uur is mijne vrouw door Gods goedheid ten vierde maal van een dogterje gelukkiglijk verlost, welk den 26 Junij voor de middag in den Wolvendaalse Kerk door den Eerw. Heer Meijer de Heilige doop ontvangen en daar in de namen bekomen heeft van Anna Louisa Isabella, hare doop getuijgen zijn geweest De Weledele Heer James Hallet Generaal peinstster van de Bombayse troepen in dienst van de Engelsche Oost Indische Komp. geboren te London, en Louisa Henrietta Gravin van Ranzow.

(Died in Colombo on the 15th June, 1879, Anna Louisa Isabella, relict of the late Captain P. Brohier and the last surviving issue of Augustus Carl Frederick Count van Ranzow, aged 83 years.)

A<sup>o</sup> 1799. Kolombo op Dingsdag de 21 Maij 's morgens omtrent seven minuten over vier uren is mijne vrouw door Gods goedheid ten vijfde maal van een Dogtertje gelukkiglijk verlost, welke den 20 Oktober voor de middag in de Wolvendaalse Kerk door den Eerw. Heer Philipsz de Heilige doop ontvangen, en daar in de namen bekomen heeft van Anthonetta Elisà Frederica, haare doopgetuijgen Zijn geweest De Hoog geb. Heer Julius Frederik Lodewijk Graff van Ranzow, Koninklijke Deensche Ritmeester bij de Kavallerij en dezelfs gemalin Mevrouw N. N. Gravin van Ranzow geboren De Wint en Mevrouw Anthonetta Petronella Gravin van Ranzow geb. de Bordes.

(Overleden te Colombo op dingsdag de 28 October 1845 om 11 uren s'nagts oud zynde 46 jaar).

(in hetzelfde boek door een dame geschreven)

Johanna Frederica. Geboren te Colombo op Woensdag den 20 November 1805 's morgens omstreeks 10 uren en overleden op den 7 de Maij 1807 omstreeks 8 uren in de morgen stonde.

## BY THE WAY.

NOTES BY NIEMAND.

The transfer of votes at the General Election in the British Isles has been on an unprecedented scale. No former Government has had so large a following as 554 and a majority of 493 in a House numbering 615. Never before did the Conservatives number so many as 473. The "National Government" is not likely to last long as such, but the response of the nation to Mr. Ramsay Macdonald's appeal to national unity and support has been magnificent. As always in serious crises, the British have placed the nation above party, great principles above personal prejudices. There was a call for sacrifice, and the sacrifice readily and decisively made was not merely a sacrifice of money, but a sacrifice also of long-cherished economic beliefs and party interests.

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It is not the nation only that has answered the call magnificently; as magnificently have the leaders risen to the occasion. The Premier has now a party following of 13, the faithful few of a governing party of 287; the Conservatives have increased from 259 to 473. How comes it that the leader of a perfectly negligible thirteen takes first place in a Government which includes another leader who has a host of 473 behind him? How comes it that this more powerful leader is content to take second place, even till the crisis is over? Such a thing would be impossible in Ceylon.

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Mr. Ramsay Macdonald's courage and Mr. Stanley Baldwin's chivalry are a lesson to all leaders and would-be leaders. No wonder the nation was quick to appreciate the value of men who placed self-sacrifice before self-interest. These leaders had a sense of responsibility—not responsibility to those merely who elected them to office, but responsibility to the whole rather than to the few, to the nation rather than to their own or any other section of it. When national interests were in danger they ignored their own. England to herself has proved but true.

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The duty of sacrifice is shewn again in the voluntary surrender of personal income and property by many people in England, including His Majesty the King. "His Majesty's action", comments

the *London Times*, "marks the crisis, defines the common task in terms of the simplest civic duty, and holds up the pattern of 'each for all.' As in the War itself, the citizen is summoned to ask, *not whether his neighbour is doing as much as himself, but whether he is doing as much as his neighbour*—the question on which a true democracy is founded."

The same newspaper quotes a letter from Disraeli to his Private Secretary in 1863, which throws some light on his opinions: "If it be true, as I hear, that the New Club is to be managed in an aristocratic spirit and not to fulfil the purpose contemplated, I beg to withdraw my name from any connection with it. I require on this matter precise information, as I am resolved, so far as my influence can operate, to sanction no exclusive political society. What we want is a rallying point for our working friends in the country, and not a gilded receptacle for town loungers."

I have come across more definitions, or descriptions of the Burghers in Ceylon. One is from a quite recently published book on Geography for use in Ceylon schools. It says, "The Dutch were more purely traders, and many of them settled and mixed with the people, forming the active community now called Burghers, who have been a powerful influence in Ceylon, and who used the Dutch language until comparatively recent times."

This somewhat cryptic reference is more fully developed in later pages where the various peoples of the Island are quaintly described in detail. It is said that the Dutch Government "encouraged the settlement of Dutch citizens in all their colonies, *even to the extent of advocating inter-marriage with the native population*. Through this there came to be a considerable number of people whose fathers, at any rate, were Dutch." A considerable amount of analytical description follows, which does not bear on the matter now in hand, but which makes amusing reading.

It is apparent that the writer does not mean unkindly, but that her information is based on what she has heard from others. In the Preface some of these are named, but not one of these can be accepted as any sort of authority on the Burghers of Ceylon, properly so called. Why foreigners who feel driven to write on the

Burghers do not get their facts from the Burghers themselves, we cannot understand. In the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon there are always responsible people who can supply the facts, together with the evidence for the facts. The President or the Secretary is the right person to whom application might be made, not irresponsibles who are either ignorant or ignorantly swayed by racial prejudices, nor even to those "Burghers" to whom "occasionally a child is born almost pure white and looks just like the English or the Dutch", or who "try to marry Europeans".

If this is a duty incumbent on people unconnected with the Dutch, it is necessarily much more to be expected from the Dutch themselves, some of whom appear to be thoroughly Anglicized, and unaware of even the most elementary facts. In the "Koloniale Geschiedenis" (eerste deel) by Dr. H. T. Colenbrander, it is stated that among the Communal members of the old Legislative Council "is one representing the Burghers, 'afstammelingen van vrijburgers uit den Nederlandschen tijd en inlandsche vrouwen'. That a Dutch Doctor should commit himself to so ridiculous a statement, in its application to Ceylon, is a matter for serious reflection.





## NOTES AND QUERIES.

**Postal Arrangements in Ceylon in Early British Times.**—Shortly after the capitulation the British Government was faced with the problem of finding Civil employment for a large number of persons who had served the Dutch in a military capacity. The postal arrangements at this time were very primitive, there being Post Offices only at the principal stations like Colombo, Galle and Jaffna, and no postal facilities at inter-mediate stations. The mails were carried by tappal peons in stages, but this arrangement does not appear to have worked satisfactorily owing to the want of proper supervision. The Colonial Secretary of the day therefore inquired from the Postmaster-General whether Dutch non-commissioned officers or soldiers could not be employed with advantage as Superintendants of the tappal peons. The suggestion met with the warm approval of the Postmaster-General, who was asked to apply to the Town Mayor of Colombo and the Fort Adjutant of Galle for the men best qualified for the purpose. The under-mentioned list gives the names of the persons eventually employed on this service.

List of Europeans posted on the different roads to Superintend the Tappal peons:—

**Between Point de Galle and Colombo.**

		Allee. as In-		Proposed add.	
		valids.		allice.	
		Rds.	Stiv.	Rds.	Stiv.
Gindura	Sergt. Learman	9	24	1	36
Icotti	„ Bronhurst	9	24	1	36
Ambelangedde	„ Philas	5	00	2	24
Kosgodde	„ Kock	5	00	2	24
Caltura	„ Meynert	9	24	1	36
Pantura	„ Constant	5	00	2	24
Galkiste	„ Meyer	7	24	1	24

**Between Colombo and Jaffnapatam.**

Passpital	Sergt. Müller	7	24	1	24
Jaille	„ Andries	7	24	1	24
Negombo	„ Steinkoll	5	00	2	24
Kaymella	„ Itchnor	5	00	2	24

		Allee. as In-		Proposed add.	
		valids.		allice.	
		Rds.	Stiv.	Rds.	Stiv.
Maravelli	„ Risir	5	00	2	24
Chilaw	„ Gaar	5	00	11	12
Ariquel	„ Callens	5	00	7	24
Andipane	„ Kerler	5	00	2	24
Nawerkod	„ Swob	5	00	2	24
Pomparipy	„ Osterman	5	00	2	24
Mariskatty	„ Bergen	5	00	2	24
Collar	„ Reinwold	5	00	2	24
Arippo	„ Van Wijten	5	00	2	24
Bungalle	„ Livera	5	00	7	24
Mantotte	„ Ispordekan	5	00	7	24
Vertitive	„ Klynn	5	00	7	24
Ipogara	„ Klieff	5	00	7	24
Pallewrecotta	„ De Wegel	5	00	7	24
Pooneryn	„ Siegman	5	00	7	24

**Stamboeken.**—In dit nummer vinden onzer lezers een publicatie van een origineel stamboek van de familie van August Carl Frederick Graaf van Ranzow, waarvan nog afstammelingen in Ceylon woonachtig zijn. Wij zijn van plan meerdere stamboeken te publiceeren en verzoeken onzer lezers die een stamboek in hun bezit mochten hebben, dit ons toe te sturen om alsnog in ons blad opgenomen te worden.

## NOTES OF EVENTS.

### SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

*Tuesday, 25th August, 1931:*—(1) Passed a vote of condolence on the death of Mr. Gladwin Koch. (2) Considered a report by Mr. Wace de Niese, Honorary Secretary and Convener, Social Service Committee, on the activities of his Committee. Resolved to recommend to that Committee that as far as possible relief should be restricted to the orphans and children of parents whose emoluments do not exceed Rs. 75/- per mensem. (3) The names of two members in default were taken off the books. (4) The Honorary Secretary tabled the Entertainment Committee account for July shewing a credit balance of Rs. 15/85, and the Governor's Cup Sweep Account shewing a credit balance of Rs. 213/25. (5) Mr. M. S. Christoffelsz and Dr. L. O. Weinman were elected members of the General Committee as well as District representatives for Galle and Haputale respectively. Dr. V. H. L. Anthonisz, Mr. G. H. Altendorff and Dr. E. L. Christoffelsz were appointed District Representatives for Kandy, Matara, and Nuwara Eliya respectively. (6) Read letter from Mr. Mervyn Koch resigning his membership. Resolved to inform him that the Committee would be glad if he could see his way to become an outstation member. (7) The resignations of Messrs. C. H. Eball, W. H. Hepponstall, and Willem Ludovici were accepted with regret. (8) The Honorary Treasurer was authorised to purchase an iron safe for the club.

*Tuesday, 22nd September, 1931:*—(1) Passed votes of condolence on the deaths of Mr. H. H. Bartholomeusz and Dr. Cyril de Vos. (2) The Chairman stated that there was a great shortage of funds for Social Service work, and expressed the hope that there would be a ready response to an appeal which it was proposed to make for contributions. (3) Approved the Honorary Secretary's action in defraying the cost of mural decorations out of funds to the credit of the Entertainment Committee. (4) The following committees were appointed to make arrangements for St. Nicolaas Fête on 5th December:—

*Chairman of Committee.*—Mr. Rosslyn Koch

*Hony. Secretary and Convener.*—Mr. J. R. Toussaint

*Hony. Treasurer.*—Mrs. H. U. Leembruggen

**Members.**—Dr. L. A. Prins, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Loos, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Toussaint, Dr. and Mrs. H. U. Leembruggen, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Mack, Dr. and Mrs. F. Foenander, Dr. and Mrs. W. Arndt, Misses Ethel Kriekenbeek, Ray Balze, Ella Brohier, Gladys Leembruggen, Mrs. Rosslyn Koch, Mrs. T. D. Mack, Mrs. Clive Schokman, Mrs. M. M. Anthonisz, Dr. M. de Jong, Mr. E. A. vander Straaten, Mr. W. W. Beling, and Mr. A. N. Weinman.

**Refreshment Committee.**—Mrs. R. Koch assisted by Mrs. F. Foenander, Mrs. J. R. Toussaint, Mrs. de Hoedt, and Miss Ethel Kriekenbeek. (Subsequently Mrs. F. Foenander took charge of this Committee owing to Mrs. Koch's inability to do so owing to illness at home).

**Toy Committee.**—Mrs. Frank Loos assisted by Mrs. T. D. Mack, Miss Ella Brohier, and Miss Ray Blaze.

**Committee in charge of Entertainment and Hall.**—Dr. M. de Jong assisted by Messrs. E. A. Vander Straaten, W. W. Beling, F. E. Loos, Mrs. W. G. Mack, Miss Gladys Leembruggen, Mrs. R. Koch.

**Committee Responsible for choir to sing in Dutch Costume.**—Dr. F. Foenander assisted by Miss Olive Rode, Miss Gladys Leembruggen, Mrs. M. M. Anthonisz, and Miss E. Kriekenbeek.

*Tuesday, 27th October, 1931:*—(1) The following were admitted as members:—Messrs. L. G. P. Paulusz, C. L. N. Toussaint, E. P. Swan, and C. J. Woutersz. (2) Resolved that the President do make a special appeal to members to pay up their arrears of subscription, and that a Sub-Committee consisting of Messrs. E. A. Vander Straaten, Rosslyn Koch, and A. N. Weinman be appointed to report on possible means of cutting down expenditure.

**D. B. U. Lectures.**—An interesting lecture on "The Christian" by Hall Caine was delivered by Mr. Guy O. Grenier at the Union Hall on Friday, 16th October, the chair being taken by Mr. R. A. Kriekenbeek. At the conclusion of the lecture remarks were offered by Mr. O. L. de Kretser, Mr. J. R. Toussaint and the Chairman.

A lecture on "Curiosities of Early British Legislation in Ceylon" by Mr. J. R. Toussaint, which was fixed for 20th November, had to be postponed on account of bad weather.

**Successes of our Young Men.**—We note with pleasure the following successes in the final examinations in Arts and Science of the London University held in June last.

B. A. (HONOURS) CLASSICS (THIRD CLASS).—Mr. Oswald Leslie de Kretser.

B. A. (HONOURS) HISTORY, BRANCH II (SECOND CLASS UPPER DIVISION).—Mr. William Justin Frank LaBrooy.

B. A. (HONOURS) HISTORY, BRANCH II (SECOND CLASS LOWER DIVISION).—Mr. Arthur VanLangenberg.

INTERMEDIATE IN ARTS.—Mr. Eric Douglas Toussaint, Mr. Casparus Leonhard Hugo Paulusz and Miss A. P. M. Oorloff.

**St. Nicolaas' Fete.**—This Annual festival was celebrated on 5th December, in the customary manner. The children were on arrival conducted to the garden at the back where two jugglers performed their tricks to the great amusement of the little ones. A band of ladies under the capable management of Mrs. F. Foenander served cakes and cool drinks to young as well as old, and the general verdict was that no better sweets or a more hard-working Committee could have been found. When the jugglers had exhausted their repertory of tricks, the whole gathering adjourned to the Hall, which the efficient and ever resourceful Secretary had, with the aid of paper decorations and vari-coloured electric jets, converted into a veritable fairyland. At the four corners of the Hall Mrs. F. E. Loos and her helpers had entrenched themselves behind gaily decorated baskets containing an excellent selection of toys for the children, who waited on the tip-toe of expectation for the arrival of St. Nicolaas which was to be the signal for the distribution of the toys. At last the good Bishop arrived in full habiliments, accompanied by his black boy, and engaged in conversation with the children while they examined the toys which they had received. A band of musicians stationed in the Hall now began to assert themselves, and as the tiny members of the gathering began to leave the Hall carrying their presents home with them, the young ladies and gentlemen took advantage of the music and danced for an hour or two. The large gathering then dispersed, voting the 1931 Fête as successful a one as any of its predecessors.

**Birth.**—At "Allesbeste", Tzaneen, Northern Transvaal, on 6th November, to Dr. and Mrs. Adalbert Ernst, a daughter.

**Obituary.**—We regret to record the death of Mr. Walter Denis de Vos, son of the late Mr. Henry Walter de Vos, Chief Clerk and Accountant of the Provincial Road Committee, Central

Province. The deceased was born on 28th February, 1885, and was married to a daughter of Mr. C. E. Albrecht. We offer our sympathy to the bereaved wife and children.

**Variety Entertainment.**—A very successful variety entertainment, organized by Mr. L. C. Van Geyzel, was held at the D. B. U. Hall on Saturday, 7th November. There was a good attendance, and the audience appreciated the excellent programme provided. The first part of it consisted of some vocal items, piano solos and a couple of dances, and after the interval W. W. Jacobs's one act play, "The Monkey's Paw", was staged.

The Sea-Shanties, with which the first part of the programme opened, was rather a novel item, very well rendered. Mrs. E. F. N. Gratiaen's dances were extremely good, particularly the Torch Dance, and Mrs. Fred Toussaint's songs gave much pleasure, especially the second one, "I know a lovely garden". Mention must also be made of the piano solos by Miss Claasz, which were given in a very finished manner.

The little play, which took up the second part of the programme, was distinctly good, the acting of the various characters being above the average, and the interest in the play being well sustained. Mrs. E. G. Gratiaen scored a distinct success as Mrs. White, identifying herself completely with the part, notably in the tragic aspect of it. The three men were also excellent in their rôles, contributing in a marked degree to the success of the play. The stage managers were Mr. Henry Van Langenberg and Mr. John Martin, and the accompanists during the first part of the programme were Miss Freda Toussaint and Miss Irene Sansoni.

The following was the programme:—

#### Programme.

1. Chorus.....Sea-Shanties.....arr. Richard Terry
  - (a) Blow the man down (b) Rio Grande
  - (c) When Johnny comes down to Hilo
  - (d) Tom's gone to Hilo (e) What shall we do with the drunken sailor?
  - (f) Shenandoah
2. Spanish Dance.....Mrs. E. F. N. Gratiaen
3. Two Songs.....(a) Buy my strawberries (b) I know a lovely garden. Mrs. Fred Toussaint
4. Torch Dance.....Mrs. E. F. N. Gratiaen
5. Piano Solos...Cubana.....Falla Cervantse.

- Three Cuban Dances  
 (a) The jealous one  
 (b) Funeral Vigil  
 (c) A peal of laughter  
 Miss Analeen Claasz.

Accompanists :—Miss Freda Toussaint, Miss Irene Sansoni.

### INTERVAL.

THE MONKEY'S PAW.

[a play in one act]

(BY W. W. JACOBS.)

Mr. White.....Mr. Hans Lourenz  
 Mrs. White.....Mrs. E. G. Gratiaen  
 Herbert.....Mr. Arthur Van Langenberg  
 Sergeant-Major Morris.....Mr. L. C. Van Geysel  
 Mr. Sampson.....Mr. L. C. Van Geysel.

Scene :—The sitting room in the White's cottage.

Stage Managers :—Mr. Henry Van Langenberg, and Mr. John Martin.



## EDITORIAL NOTES.

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

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

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

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

*Remittances.*—Remittances, whether of subscriptions due to the Union or contributions for special objects, must be made to the Honorary Treasurer of the Union, Mr. Rosslyn Koch, Havelock Road, and not to the Honorary Secretary.

Remittances on the account of the Social Service Fund must be made to Mr. Wace de Niese, Bambalapitiya, the Honorary Treasurer of the Standing Committee for purposes of Social Service.

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