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Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.



"Eendracht maakt Macht"

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

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The Inscription on the Hindu Pillar, Swami Rock, Trincomalee.

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[No. 1.

THE STORY OF FRANCINA VAN REEDE.*

BY M. W. JURRIAANSE.

It is rather disconcerting to find that the only Dutch woman who seems to have impressed the population of this island to such an extent that her fame has survived the ages should have achieved this merely by committing suicide because of an unfortunate love affair. To say the least of it, it is not fair!

The story of Francina van Reede, Lady of the Manor of Mydrecht, has been told over and over again uncritically and with more eye to romance than to the truth. This has done no harm, as it has appeared merely to be a legend about the daughter of a foreigner who has been forgotten long ago—the name "van Reede" has apparently conveyed nothing to the Ceylon historians. Posterity is often ungrateful. The somewhat melancholy last phrase in the leading article in the "Daily News" of 21st January, 1941: "Though history may repeat itself, historians only repeat each other", might have been written *à propos* of the history of the Lady of Trincomalee...if only it had been history! Although I cannot solve the problem presented by the mysterious pillar erected above the Swami Rock, an effort to straighten out the facts and to place the persons in their proper surrounding may help to do justice to people who should not be forgotten by the inhabitants of Ceylon.

Those who are not familiar with the situation should know that, like most of the forts in this island, the fort at Trincomalee, nowadays called Fort Frederick, is of Portuguese origin but

*Reproduced by kind courtesy of the "Ceylon Daily News", the title only being altered.

was completely rebuilt by the Dutch. Here the coastline, broken by the windings of the Inner Harbour, throws out on the North the rocky peninsula from which Trincomalee derives its name. On this triangular hill ages ago three pagodas were erected, the central one being "one of the most venerated in India, worshipped by the idolatrous navigators who descry it from the sea .." "The pagans are so fanatical in their false devotion that from the Pagoda .., they throw themselves down in sacrifice to their idols, reaching the bottom in pieces, being persuaded that by that leap into Hell they are lifted to Paradise", reveals the strict Roman Catholic Portuguese historian, de Queyroz¹.

The popular belief of today is that down below, where the sea breaks against the rocks, a temple has disappeared. Devoted Hindus, guided by a Brahman priest, regularly worship on the rock. Just beyond the place where the priest performs the ceremonies, on the summit of the Swami Rock, a tall pillar has been raised with the inscription: "Tot gedaghtenis van Francina van Reede, Iofr. van Mydregt, dezen A° 1687 24 April opgeregt", or in English: "This has been erected on the 24th April 1687 to commemorate Francina van Reede, Lady of the Manor of Mydrecht".

Guided by the thought that commemorations usually take place after death, and perhaps owing to too great familiarity with Dutch tombstones, so common in this Island, an early English historian, Major Forbes, was guilty of recording the strange story of the Lady of Trincomalee for the first time. In his book "Eleven years in Ceylon", which was published in London in 1841, he calls this memorial "the monument of suicide"². He says that "tradition fills up the particulars of the catastrophe", but undoubtedly it is Major Forbes who is trying to fill a gap in his own knowledge about this pillar, when he writes that Francina, seeing from her apartment that the man to whom she was betrothed was sailing away, rushed out and flew along the cliffs. After describing how the ship had to tack before it passed along the line of the precipices, he makes poor Francina poise herself on a projecting crag and plunge from the dizzy height. He even seems to know that her mangled remains were rescued!

1. Vol. I, p. 66.

2. Vol. II, p. 46.

Major Forbes does not mention his sources. The connection, however, between his account of Francina's pillar and de Queyroz' account of the pagoda-hill is obvious. In Major Forbes' account, de Queyroz' sailors are represented by the unfaithful fiancé who sailed away past the precipice, the devoted Hindus who threw themselves down from the rock by the unfortunate Dutch woman who is said to have been in love with him.

However much this narrative may appeal to the taste of the public, in view of the fact that it is a rehash of the history of the pagodas and was made up into its present form between 1810 and 1840, no one will be surprised to find that the historians of the period know nothing about it. In fact, the classical Dutch writers on the history of Ceylon after 1687—the year of the Lady's death—van Dam who wrote in 1701 and Valentijn who wrote in 1726, do not mention the story. Even Haafner, the last author to write Ceylon history in Dutch, whose book was printed in 1810 and who is a notorious old gossip in the matter of romantic love-affairs, does not relate this one. As far as I know, the stone pillar is mentioned in the Dutch records once only, in the beautiful and well written diary of Governor van Imhoff's tour of the island in 1738, two manuscript copies of which are preserved in the Ceylon Government Archives³. The Governor is on his way to Jaffna and pays a short visit to Trincomalee, arriving by boat from Batticaloa. His main object is to meet the Wannia chiefs and to inspect the fortifications of the place. He necessarily goes to "Pagoodsberg" (the pagoda hill). Under Saturday, the 31st of May, his secretary notes down: "went to the pagoda hill where the name of Francina van Reede, daughter of the late Commissaris Generaal van Reede, was found cut on a shaft, with the year 1687, which shows that she too came as far as this. Nothing else worth mentioning .." This entry is interesting, particularly for what it does not tell us.

In 1738 Hendrik Adriaan van Reede was not yet forgotten in Ceylon, as he was after 1810. The young and capable Governor van Imhoff must have been forcibly impressed when he saw the name "van Reede" written on the "shaft" as the diary calls the pillar. The Governor must have remembered

3. Prel. nos. 1170 and 4061.

in detail the facts, not perhaps about the girl to whom the inscription refers, but about the man who is said to have been her father, and the influence of whose work and ideas was still felt by the Government of this island in 1738. Let us try to follow Governor van Imhoff's thoughts.

Although his name is not found in the list of the Governors of Ceylon and although today one will look in vain for his portrait in Queen's House, Hendrik Adriaan, baron van Reede tot Drakesteyn, was one of the most remarkable of the Dutchmen who came out to the East. As regards his antecedents, he has more to his credit than being just a member of a noble Dutch land-owning family. He was educated, not in one of the prosperous towns of the province of Holland, but in Utrecht, the most aristocratic province of the Low Countries, where the gentry, though at that time strict Protestants, retained the cultural background of the Roman Catholic centre which the province had been before the Reformation.

The standing of the family, which had been of more than local importance since the Middle Ages, attained great heights during the "Glorious Revolution" in England, when a van Reede, the future first Earl of Athlone, and a closely related Bentinck, the future first Duke of Portland, accompanied William III on his expedition. Hendrik Adriaan himself was a younger son in a family of eleven children. He was an orphan at the age of four and a runaway at fourteen. In 1657, just a year after the Dutch captured Colombo, he joined a ship of the Dutch East India Company, generally called the V. O. C., as an ensign. The rapidity of his promotion bears out the suggestion that among the rough crowds of Dutchmen coming out to the colonies in those days good breeding helped to tip the scale on the side of success. He was discovered by Admiral Rijklof van Goens when the latter was besieging Cochin in 1663. He made the young man, who had already distinguished himself, Ragiador to the King of Cochin, and it was probably on his recommendations that Hendrik Adriaan was soon afterwards made "Commandeur" of the Malabar Coast of India⁴. It looked as if he would become Rijklof van Goens' pupil in colonial policy. When, however, we read that he was reproved

4. A report by him during that period to Rijklof van Goens, translated Ceylon Literary Register III, pp. 47-102.

for building his new residence in Cochin in too luxurious a style, we understand at once that he was a man of a different type from the tough warrior van Goens⁵.

During his lifetime he must have been held in high honour because of the appointment which he received in 1684 as the Company's High Commissioner, by virtue of which office for seven years he was the most powerful man in the Western agencies. The splendour of his position, however, vanished with his sudden death in 1691. He, however really immortalised his name by the interest which he took in the flora of India. His publication, the "Hortus Malabaricus", a book written in Latin in twelve volumes, and containing nearly 1800 copper engravings of plants growing on the Malabar coast, is the first attempt to describe the flora in that part of India in a scientific way. This hobby of the Commandeur's called for a staff of trained assistants, and although Hendrik Adriaan cannot properly be called the author of the book, it is quite right that his name should appear on the title page and that his portrait should be included in one of the volumes, not only because he took the initiative in the preparation of this important and voluminous publication, but because he treated it as the apple of his eye, brought the manuscript to Holland, and saw to the printing of it, which he paid for largely out of his own pocket. The first volume appeared in Amsterdam in 1687, and the publication of the book was completed only in 1703, long after his death.

His strong humanistic instincts left their mark in Ceylon too. Apart from the able general reports on this island which have been preserved in the State Archives at the Hague, we have a report by him, which has been printed lately and which is of particular interest on the pearl-fishery and the qualities of the pearls⁶. He also wrote an illuminating description of the dyeing of cloth on the East (Coromandel) coast of India, whence the knowledge of this kind of dyeing was brought to Ceylon. Even today, in Painters' street near Mannar, a man named Anthony Thamayampulai is dyeing sarees for a few old-fashioned Muslim ladies in the district by exactly the

5. A. Galletti, A. J. van der Burg, P. de Groot, The Dutch in Malabar, Madras 1911.

6. Van Dam II², p. 410.

methods which Hendrick Adriaan described in the seventeenth century.

From the foregoing it is not difficult to guess that Francina's father had an open mind and took a pleasant interest in everything noteworthy that came his way. However, it is also quite certain that Governor van Imhoff, whom we left in meditation near the pillar, saw, when he thought about Hendrik Adriaan, a picture quite different from that portrait of a humanist, which I have just drawn from a consideration of Hendrik Adriaan's hobbies. He saw him as a, for those days, modern coloniser with large powers, who dared to carry out his idea in practice. As long as he was subordinate to Rijklof van Goens, who was the strongest influence in the East and especially in these quarters, there had been little opportunity for him to show his talents. The Malabar coast, though proclaimed to be directly under the Government in Batavia, could not escape this strong influence of the man who had conquered it and who, stationed in Colombo, was so near to it. For half a century to come, Ceylon and the Malabar coast were to be regarded by the Dutch, for the purposes of their military plans, as forming one unit.

Hendrik Adriaan travelled about in India, and the evidences of his political activities are to be found in the numerous treaties with Indian Princes which were drawn up and signed by him on behalf of the Company⁷. He again fought side by side with Rijklof van Goens when the French took Trincomalee and together they defeated the enemy. When the danger was over and Rijklof van Goens went to Batavia to be Governor General, leaving his son Rijklof to succeed him as the Governor of Ceylon, it became clear, especially with regard to the administration of Ceylon in general and the policy adopted vis-à-vis the Kandyan Court in particular, that van Goens and van Reede stood for two different ideals. In 1675 the Governor General sent home a description of Ceylon⁸ in which he showed that, like Pygmalion he had fallen in love with his own creation; he said that Ceylon ought to become the navel of the Dutch empire and he grossly exaggerated the favourable conditions in this Island. He also lost his sense of proportion when he

7. *Corpus Diplomaticum Neerlandico-Indicum*, II and III.

8. *Valentijn* V², p. 204.

claimed that the Company was strong enough to defeat Raja Sinha and to occupy the whole of the Island.

This view of the position was not in accordance with Hendrik Adriaan's summing up of the situation. In order better to inform the board of managers at home of the state of affairs here, Hendrik Adriaan wrote his "Considerations"⁹, in which he suggested not only reorganization of the defences of the Company's possessions in the Island, but also reconsideration of its relations with the Kandyan king. If questions relating to the Kandyan kingdom were not handled more tactfully, catastrophe for the Dutch in the Island would, he feared, become unavoidable.

Hendrik Adriaan's views were in harmony with the pacific inclinations then prevailing in Holland, where the Ceylon accounts, which continuously showed a deficit, were of more concern to the board of managers than glory. The memorandum brought van Reede's star into the ascendant. The new policy for the Government in Colombo vis-à-vis the Kandyan court was proclaimed at Batavia in 1681 and formally adopted in Colombo in 1683, as the elaborate Council Minutes in the Archives show¹⁰. This tolerant attitude now adopted was to last for 80 years or more, with consequent yearly exchange of embassies and presents between Colombo and Kandy.

After writing his Considerations, Hendrik Adriaan sailed for home. He had been out in the East 21 years without intermission and during that period he had not only visited the Western regions of the Dutch empire, to which Ceylon belonged, but had also been to Batavia and other places. In Holland, where as a rule colonial officials did not count for very much, Hendrik Adriaan, owing to the fortunate circumstance that he combined good birth with high standing in the colonial empire, became the favourite at the conference table of the Company's managing body in Amsterdam.

This board, known as "Heeren XVII", was at a pass where it badly wanted advice. Corruption among its European servants was sweeping over the East like an infectious disease, which the Board had to fight from office chairs. Its only

9. *Loc. cit.*, p. 247.

10. *Prel. no.* 19.

weapons were long dispatches which took at least six months to reach their destination. All efforts to put a check upon the colonists and stop them filling their own pockets instead of the Company's coffers had hitherto failed. With the arrival of van Reede, the Board of Directors obtained the opportunity of discussing their problems with one who was fully competent and reliable, and who had a wide knowledge of the East and of their Western Agencies in particular. They seized their opportunity, and convinced Hendrik Adriaan that he was the man to go out to the East as their High Commissioner to fight their battle and, as far as he might be able to do so, bring order into the Company's affairs in the Western portion of the Empire.

It may be that they found an easy victim in him. While at home Hendrik Adriaan took as lively an interest in things as he had while he was in the East. He purchased from an elderly female relation the manor of Mydrecht and this purchase not only later on gave Francina her territorial title, but made Hendrik Adriaan himself a member of the Government or "Staten van Utrecht", a position which had been occupied by several of his ancestors.

Although he got his book printed and may have enjoyed many of the pleasures which the East does not share with the West, it may be supposed that he felt cramped in Holland and that the offer made by the Board of Directors was readily accepted. An elaborate set of instructions was handed to him on his appointment as High Commissioner for the Western Agencies, and a contemporary copy of them is still to be seen in the Ceylon Archives¹¹. They gave him practically dictatorial powers to combat dishonesty and corruption of all kinds. They also indicated the route which he was to follow in making his inspection. He was to go first to Bengal, where the largest amount of work had to be done. Cormandel North and South. Ceylon with Madura, Malabar and Gujarat were also included in his programme. Owing to the situation of Ceylon he of course had to visit this island several times, and these visits were to prove to be so many tours of inspection during which he gave his orders in detail to his faithful follower, Governor Pijl. His influence was felt not only in respect of the internal affairs of this island, but also in matters of trade and defence

11. Prel.no. 3130.

and in regard to the relations of Ceylon with the other Agencies. The relations with the Kandyan Kingdom, which were just then strained because the King had thought it appropriate to keep the Company's ambassador in captivity, just as he had kept several other Europeans in captivity, arranging them in a sort of zoo, were closely watched. The correspondence between the High Commissioner and Governor Pijl regarding the Company's relations with the Kandyan Court has been preserved in the form of contemporary excerpts from their letters¹². The original correspondence with the unfortunate ambassador is still in existence, and affords most pathetic reading for the research-worker in history¹³.

Hendrik Adriaan's firm attitude towards the Company's officials helped to safeguard its interests in this part of the Empire; but even he could not root out the evil of corruption. How much thorough investigation was feared appeared when six years later, he went to make an inspection in Gujarat, where the Company had important settlements in Surat and other places elsewhere. Apparently the high officials felt themselves so deeply compromised, and the fear of discovery and dishonour was so acute, that the only way of escape that presented itself to them was to do away with the High Commissioner, and they succeeded in poisoning him aboard ship before he could set foot ashore. The sorrow and shame which this crime aroused all over the Dutch Empire found expression in an ornate monument which was raised over his grave in Surat¹⁴, and which is still to be seen there. It is another monument in the East to the van Reede family; but although the monument to the father is far more pompous, it is far less interesting, than the simple, well cut stone erected above the Swami Rock, from which we took our departure to follow the thoughts of Governor van Imhoff when he visited the spot.

The secret of this elegant pillar, which is reckoned to be of Hindu origin, made after the twelfth century, can be unravelled only in part. The best Dutch biography available at present assures us that Hendrik Adriaan never married. The girl who is mentioned as his daughter, our Francina, appears as the child

12. Prel.no. 4948.

13. Prel.no. 3261.

14. Daniel Havart, *Op-en ondergang van Cormandel III*, p. 89.

of a local woman and an unknown father, adopted by Hendrik Adriaan as the result of the fall of the dice when he was gambling with friends. When this happened history does not say. At present there is no way of checking this information. It is, however, clear that the girl was treated in every way as Hendrik Adriaan's own child, and both her title and her two marriages—her second marriage took place in 1694, seven years after she is supposed to have made away with herself—show that she was accepted in the social circle in which her adoptive father moved.

In the first half of the year 1687 the High Commissioner planned an elaborate tour of inspection in Jaffna. In April he was in Batticaloa and a report dated 20th April on that place and on Trincomalee, found among loose papers in the Archives, was certainly intended for his information on that occasion¹⁵. A letter from the High Commissioner to Governor Pijl from Negapatam and dated the 29th of the same month¹⁶ explains that he had been obliged to leave for Coromandel at short notice, because of disturbances which had broken out there. He arrived at Trincomalee on his way to Negapatam on the 22nd, and in a later letter to the Board of Mapagers in Amsterdam¹⁷ he informs them that he had found time to inspect the fortifications and had visited the "Pagoodsberg". He also praises Trincomalee harbour as the most beautiful in the world, and mentions that he had given orders for the building of two small fortifications and a wall to separate off the "Pagoodsberg", in order to improve the defences. He says that he left Trincomalee on the 23rd with the object of arriving at Point Pedro on the 25th. Does this mean that he sailed on the 23rd? Is it not much more likely that he went on board that night and sailed on the morning of the 24th April 1687—the date carved on the "Monument of Suicide"?

Mr. J. P. Lewis, in his very accurate book on the Tombstones and Monuments in Ceylon, jokingly remarks that the old Dutchman has succeeded in effectually pulling the leg of posterity over this monument of his¹⁸. The intentions of the

unknown person who re-erected the old Hindu pillar and carved the inscription on it were of course far more seemly. What he wanted to commemorate we shall probably never know; but that there is a connection between Hendrik Adriaan's visit to the Swami Rock and the pillar bearing Francina's name is pretty well certain. Is it a commemoration of Francina's having climbed the crag to wave goodbye to her father as he sailed past? Whatever the facts may be, everything indicates that instead of being a monument of suicide this pillar was erected as a token of human affection. And this being the case, the shaft of the "Lady of Trincomalee" is a most cheerful monument. This stone finger pointing to the blue sky seems to indicate the better future which is on the way.

15. Prel. no. 7040.

16. Prel. no. 1444.

17. Prel. no. 7053.

18. P. 258.

AN ACCOUNT OF CEYLON.

BY THOMAS PENNANT.

[The account given below is taken from Thomas Pennant's great work, "The View of Hindoostan", in two volumes, published in 1798. Pennant was born at Downing near Holywell, Flintshire, on 14th June, 1726. He was a great traveller. His many tours included visits to Ireland (1754), the Continent (1765), Scotland (1769 and 1772), and the Isle of Man (1774), besides rambles through England and Wales. From boyhood a naturalist, for years a correspondent of Linnaeus, Pennant published *British Zoology* (1765-77), *British Quadrupeds* (1771), *Arctic Zoology* (1785), *History of London* (1790), and other works, including a sketch of his literary life (1793). It is believed that his account of Ceylon has never been reproduced before].

From Cape Comorin I take my departure for the island of Ceylon, the nearest part of which, the isle of Calpentyn, is about a hundred and fifty miles distant. The intervening sea is the gulph of Manaar, which grows narrower and narrower till it reaches the fragments of the prior junction with the Continent, of which Cape Koel, a large promontary of the Marawars, and various rocks, are parts. The Cape will be described in my progress from Cape Comorin along the eastern coasts of Hindoostan.

Before Cape Koel is the *insula-solis* of Pliny, lib. vi, 22, the isle of Ramana Koel, or the isle of the temple of the God Rama, founded near the edge of the water, and on the vast stones, to break the force of that element. Rama had the right to a temple opposite to Ceylon, for he killed the giant Ravanen, King of that island, and placed his brother, Vibouchanen, on the throne. Rama was highly venerated in this country. The capital of the Marawars, and the residence of the prince, was named, in honour of the deity, Ramana-dabaram. The passage between this island and the continent is called Ojioroa passage. It is extremely short, about five miles broad, and not exceeding in depth three feet.

From the eastern end of the isle of Ramana Koel, is a chain of rocks which runs quite across the narrow channel to the isle of Manaar, almost adjacent to the Ceylonese shore; the length is about thirty miles, but the whole chain is frequently interrupted by narrow passages, so very shallow, says d'Apres, in his *Neptune Oriental*, p. 85, as to be navigable only by the small craft of the neighbouring shore, and that only in calm weather, so disturbed is the channel in gales by a dreadful surf. The little vessels that wish to make the passage, go under Manaar, where they must unload,

pay duty to the Dutch, get their vessel dragged through the pass, and take in their cargo on the other side. It is very probable, that this succession of rocks was part of an isthmus, which in very early times had united Ceylon and the continent; for the water on each side of this chain, does not exceed thirteen or fourteen feet. Pliny, in the passage before cited, takes notice of the greenish cast of this part of the channel, of its being filled with shrubs, that is, with corals; and of its being so shallow, that the rowers often brushed off the tops with their oars.

This chain of rocks is called Adam's Bridge; the tradition is that our common father, after his transgression, was cast down from Paradise, and fell upon Ceylon; but that afterwards, this bridge was made by angels for him to pass over to the Continent.

Manaar is, as the name implies, sandy. The little channel is on the eastern side, and defended by a strong fort, garrisoned with a hundred men, notwithstanding it is impassable for any vessels which draw more than four or five feet water. It had on it seven Churches built by the Portuguese. The natives were converted by St. Francis Xavier, and still continue professors of Christianity, notwithstanding that they have labored under many persecutions. The pearl mussel is found in great abundance on this coast, and the fishery has, at different times, been attended with good success, since the Dutch have become masters. Pliny says, that the greatest plenty were found in his days on the coasts of Taprobana, and Toidis, and Perimula, on the peninsula of Malacca.

A species of *Manati* is certainly found here. Baldaeus, a learned clergyman, who resided long in Ceylon, describes it (Churchill's Coll. iii. 793) so exactly, that we cannot mistake the animal he intended. "Here is a peculiar fish (properly a sea-calf) of an amphibious nature; the females have breasts, and give suck, and the flesh, when well boil'd tastes not unlike our sturgeon, and might easily be mistaken for veal."

From Manaar is the very short passage into the great island of Ceylon, known to the ancients by the name of Taprobana. I will not attempt to expose their mistakes in respect to extent, and some other particulars, so long as the identity of the isle is ascertained. Strabo mentions it in lib. xv., p. 1013, noticing the awkwardness of the inhabitants in sailing, and fitting their masts in their vessels. Along the coasts are observed various amphibious

animals, among which he plainly includes *Manati*; some he compares to oxen, others to horses, and other land animals; the Dugung, (De Buffon, xiii. 374, tab. lvi.) may possibly have been among them. This Strabo delivers from the account left by Onesicritus, a follower of Alexander the Great, who sent him on a voyage to India, where he informed himself of many things, among which is no small share of fable, or misrepresented accounts.

Mela speaks of this island as the part of another world, and that it was never circumnavigated.

Pliny, lib. vi. c. 22. gives us a large chapter on the subject of this island: he not only gives the authority of Megasthenes, who had written a history of India, and of Eratosthenes, a famous geometer, who pretended to give the circumference of Ceylon, but has drawn many lights from the four ambassadors actually sent from this island to Rome, in the time of Claudius. By accident, a freed slave of a farmer of the Roman customs in the Red Sea, was driven to the coast of Ceylon by a storm; such an impression did he make on the King of the island by his favourable report of the Romans, that determined him to send these envoys. From them many particulars were learned; they were not sparing of any thing which tended to exalt the glory of their country: they said that it contained five hundred cities; the chief was Palesimundum, that had two hundred thousand citizens. For other particulars I refer to the old historian; more is beyond my plan.

Ptolemy comes next, who is particular as to the productions of this great island. He mentions rice, honey, ginger, beryls, hyacinths; and gold, silver, and other metals; and he agrees with Pliny about its producing elephants and tigers. He also says, the antient name of Ceylon was Symondi, but in his days it was called Salice, still in some measure retained in its Indian appellation Selan-Dive. The principal places named by the geographer, are Anurogrammum, of which the Cingalese say there are great remains in the vestiges of the antient city Anarodgurro.

Maragrammon, the capital town, which answers to the modern Candy; *Talacoris emporium*, and Nagadiba, *Prasodis sinus*, and numbers of other places¹, which shew how well known this island was to the Romans, either by their fleet from the Red Sea, or their coasting traders from the western side of India. I will only men-

¹ Ptolem. Geograph.

tion Malea Mons, or the modern Yale, famous for the *Pascua Elephantum*² *Bumasani*, the great haunt of elephants, and which were driven, and probably shipped, at a port still called by the Dutch, *Geyeweys of Elephants van plaets*, and transported in vast ships to Calinga³, probably the same with the modern Calingapatam, a city and port on the coast of the northern Circars.

El. Edrisi, p. 31, speaks of this island under the name of Serandib, and Marco Polo under that of Seilam. It is celebrated by each for its rich gems. By mistake the Nubian Geographer places the diamond among them; but all the rest it produces in high perfection, and several kinds of aromatics or spices. Silk was also exported from hence in his days. He speaks highly of the ruling monarch, who had sixteen privy counsellors, four of his own people, four Christians, four Mahometans, and four Jews; such was the moderation of this excellent prince! He loved good wine, which he procured from Parthia and Persia, and dispersed among his subjects. He was indulgent in this gift of heaven, but a most severe enemy to incontinence.

The Portuguese were the first of the European nations who visited Ceylon. It was discovered by Laurence Almeyda in 1505, who was driven accidentally from his cruize off the Maldivé isles, by the violence of the currents, into a port called by the natives Gabalican⁴. The ruling prince was, as he is now styled, emperor, and is lord paramount over the lesser kings; he is styled most great, invincible, and *tailed*⁵, the first of his race coming from Ceylon, with a tail a foot long, pendent from behind; his posterity in due time (according to Lord Monboddo's system) shed their tails, and became as capable of the arts of government, as any European monarch whatsoever. Almeyda was received by the Governor with the utmost courtesy. He sent Pelagio Souza, one of his officers, to the royal residence at Colombo, where he was introduced to the emperor. He met with a most favourable reception, formed a league with his imperial majesty, who agreed to pay Emmanuel annually two hundred and fifty thousand pounds weight of cinnamon; on condition, that the fleets of Portugal should defend his coasts from all hostile invasions. It is well known that the Portuguese soon after made themselves masters of the principal ports,

² Ptolem. Geograph Aelian, Nat. Anim. lib. xvi. c. 18

³ The same.

⁴ Osorio i. p. 253.

⁵ Wolf's Ceylon, p. 221.

and engrossed the whole trade of the valuable bark. The Moors, or Arabs, exerted every effort to prevent them from establishing themselves in Ceylon. This highly concerned the Arabs, who before that time were the sole vendors of the cinnamon, which they carried to Suez, from whence it was conveyed over the isthmus, and from Alexandria to all parts of Europe; all their endeavours were to no purpose; that rich trade became monopolized by these new rivals.

The Dutch first landed here in 1603, and visited the emperor. In 1632 they received a formal invitation from the ruling monarch, and in consequence appeared off the coast with a potent fleet. They confederated with the King of Ceylon, and after a struggle of several years, and after great bloodshed, they expelled the Portuguese, whose power ended in the taking of Colombo, in 1656, after a siege of seven months, in which the Portuguese exerted all that spirit and valour which originally made them lords of the Indies. The emperor repaid the Dutch all the expence in cinnamon, and other productions of the island; and invested them with many privileges; and in return found himself in exactly the same dependent state as he was before his victories. The Dutch fortified every one of his ports. They have besides a grant of coast round the island, twelve miles in breadth, reckoning from the sea.⁶ His majesty maintains a magnificent court at Candy, but at any time his good allies, by the sole interdiction of the article salt, may make him and his subjects to submit to any terms they are pleased to dictate.⁷

The form and extent of the isle of Ceylon, are very much undetermined. The figure which is generally adopted in the maps, is that of a pear, with the stalk turned towards the north. The length, from Dondra-head south, to Tellipeli north, is about two hundred and eighty miles; the greatest breadth, or from Colombo to Trincoli, is about a hundred and sixty. The latitudes of the two extremes in length, are between $5^{\circ} 50' 0''$, and $9^{\circ} 51'$. Its extremes of longitude are $79^{\circ} 50'$ and $82^{\circ} 10'$.

The island rises from on every side to the mountains, which run in chains, principally from North to South. The highest and rudest tract is the Kingdom of Conde Uda, which is impervious, by reason of rocks and forests, except by narrow paths, which are also impeded by gates of thorns, closely watched by guards. At

⁶ Wolf, p. 244.

⁷ Elschelkroon, in Wolf's book, p. 331.

the Western skirt of these mountains soars Hamalell, and, in the European language, Adam's Peak. It rises pre-eminent above all the rest, in the form of a sugar loaf. Le Brun, ii, p. 81, gives a view as it appears from the Sea. On the summit is a flat stone, with an impression resembling a human foot, two feet long, it is called that of our great and common ancestor. The Cingalese, or aborigines of Ceylon, say that it is of Buddo, their great deity, when he ascended into heaven, from whom they expect salvation. The Mahometan tradition is, that Adam was cast down from Paradise (we make his Paradise an earthly one) and fell on this summit, and Eve near Judda, in Arabia. They were separated two hundred years, after which he found his wife, and conducted her to his old retreat; there he died, and there he was buried, and there are two large tombs. To this day many votaries visit his imaginary sepulchre; the Mahometans out of respect to our common father; the Cingalese under the notion I have just mentioned. Is there not a trace of Christianity in the opinion of the Cingalese respecting Buddo, of the necessity of a mediator, which they might have collected from the Christians of St. Thomas? Here they light lamps, and offer sacrifices, which, by antient custom, are given to the Moorish Pilgrims. All the visitants are, in places, obliged to be drawn up by chains, so rude and inaccessible is the way to this mount of sanctity.

From this mountain rushes the great river *Mavila-Ganga*, or Ganges, which passes unnavigable, close to Candy, a very long and rocky course to the sea at Trincomale.

All the rest of the isle, except some marshy flats adapted to the culture of rice, are broken into thousands of hills, beautifully clothed with wood. The intervening valleys are often morassy, or consisting of a rich fat soil; but the fertility of the open parts is astonishingly great.

The account given by Ptolemy of the mineral or fossil productions, is, in a great measure, confirmed. Iron and copper are found here, as is black lead. A gold mine is said to be latent in one of the great mountains, but the working prohibited by the emperor. Of gems, the ruby, sapphire, topaz, the electric tourmalin, *Croustedt*. Ed. *Magellan*. sect 85; and the cats eye, or *Pseud-opal*, and hyacinth, are met with. But what occasions the neglect of the mines, and of the gems, is the attention to the great staple of the

island, the important bark of the cinnamon. Doctor Thunberg is very exact in his account of the gems of Ceylon, Travels iv. 215. They are dug up about Matura, and the liberty of search is farmed for no more than one hundred and eight rix-dollars a year. Amethysts, and an infinite variety of crystals and crystalline gems, are found in that neighbourhood. The account of my able correspondent well merits perusal.

The inhabitants are Cingalese; these are aboriginal, and differ totally in language from the people of Malabar, or any other neighbouring nation. Their features more like Europeans than any other. Their hair long, most commonly turned up. They are black, but well made, and with good countenances, and of excellent morals, and of great piety. Their religion is derived from Buddo, a proselyte of the great *Indian Foe*: his doctrine spread over Japan and Siam, as well as that of Foe.⁸ It consists of the wildest idolatry, and the idols, the objects of their worship, are the most monstrous and phantastic. The pagodas are numerous, and many of them, like several in India, of hewn-stone, most richly and exquisitely carved. The Cingalese believe Buddo to have come upon earth; and that to him belonged the salvation of souls: all human happiness, say they, proceeds from him: all evil, from the devil, to whom he permits the power of punishment. When sick, they dedicate a red cock to that being, as the Romans did one to Esculapius. During the time he inhabited the earth, they tell us, that he usually sat under the shade of the *ficus religiosa*, which, in honour of him, is called in the Cingalese tongue, *Budaghaha*. His religion is the established religion of the island.

The Civil Government is monarchical. The emperor, in the time of Knox, was absolute, and claimed the most undisputable right over the lives and fortunes of all his subjects. He was a most barbarous tyrant, and took a diabolical delight in putting his subjects to the most cruel and lingering deaths. Elephants were often the executioners of his vengeance, and were directed to pull the unhappy criminals limb from limb with their trunks, and scatter them to the birds of the air, or beasts of the field. The emperor's residence was at Candy, nearly in the center of the island; but he was, in Knox's time, by the rebellion of his subjects, obliged to desert that city. The Government is said, by Wolff, p. 235, to be at present very mild, and regulated by the statute laws of the land, the joint production of divers wise princes, and are consider-

ed as sacred by the Cingalese. It is possible that the tyrant, in the days of Knox, had destroyed the liberties of his country, which were afterwards restored. The author Robert Knox is a writer fully to be depended on; a plain honest man, who, in 1657, sailed in one of the East India Company's ships to Madras; and on the return, in 1659, was forced by a storm into Ceylon, to refit: when his father (who was captured) went on shore, and, with sixteen more of the crew, were seized by the emperor's soldiers, and detained. The Captain died in a year's time. Our author lived nineteen years in the island, and saw the greatest part of it. At length, with difficulty, he escaped, and arrived safe in England, in September 1680. His history of the island, and of his adventures, were published in 1680; and appears to be the only authentic account of the internal parts, and the only one that can be entirely relied on.

(To be Continued.)

8. Knox, 72, 73, 75. Kaempfer's Hist. Japan, i. 241.

CEYLON, IN MAPS.

BY

R. L. BROHIER, F.R.G.S.

(Continued from Volume XXI, No. 4.)

In the early Portuguese map by Constantine de Sa, Galle is shown to be surrounded on three sides by water, with the harbour, or bay, studded with shoals and rocks. The descriptive text explains that the bay has "water sufficiently deep for the greatest ships, but no more than two galleons can winter there because it is unsheltered to the south which is rough."

The text accompanying the map states that the fort (fortaleza) included "two warehouses large enough to hold sufficient victuals and ammunition for a long siege, a house for the Captain, and a well. A line of ramparts with a moat and three bastions is also shown on this map, extending from the shore of the bay on the one side, to the sea on the other. This was obviously intended to cover any land attack on the Fort, and to protect the *povoacao* (town) which stood on the peninsula cut off by this line of defence. Nothing but the written description helps to establish the claim that the "plan shows the town to be 3,000 fathoms in circuit, its bay and coast 2,830, and the neck of land 160 fathoms." The plan also shows that a breastwork had been erected off the rocky shore, where until recently (1940) there stood a light-house. It was intended to prevent a landing from the sea.

In the report which accompanied his Maps, Constantine de Sa states: "The Fort, the bulwarks, and the breastwork..... have I had built for Your Majesty, at the time that I was general of this Island for the first time. To Your Majesty has some other information been given by some one, who, so it appears, would profit by another's merits."

Proceeding to study this map more critically with the historical data of the period, it seems clear that the Fort is the original *retirada* (retreat) built in 1589 on the orders of the Viceroy Matbias de Albuquerque. In 1612, a Spanish Captain, Antonio Martinus, reported on the fortifications at Galle to Philip III of Spain. He referred to the fort at the "Point of Galle", as "a matter of little moment, since any ship could destroy or capture it without any re-

sistance....." and urged, besides strengthening the point with good walls and bastions, that a battery should be constructed on one of the two islets at the mouth of the bay in order that the entrance to it could be guarded. Constantine de Sa's claim to have carried out these projects during his first term of service provides a clue to the probable date of this map, namely 1618-20.

A map showing Galle and the harbour two decades later (circa 1640) was produced by Barretto de Resende.¹ According to this cartographer, the fortaleza (1) stood on the rocky spit which in the Dutch period was called Zwart (black) Bastion, now used as the Police Office. The map shows it had a gateway over which was a high tower on the land side, a similar tower being at the other end jutting into the sea. A monastery, Misericordia, (2) occupied the space between the fortaleza and the bastion which the Dutch later erected and named Akersloot. The *feitoria*, or factory, (3) stood on a site presently occupied by the Kacheheri. Opposite this to the north, there was a large monastery, St. Pedro (4). The Cathedral (*Se*) (5) was to the west of St. Pedro, not far from the spot where a Mosque now stands. In line proceeding westwards there were two more prominent buildings, St. Domingo (6) where Pedlar Street ends on the ramparts, and St. Francisco (7).

The Ramparts extending from the shores of the bay to the sea, erected to protect the town from the land side, had two gates, Porta da Traisao (8) and Porta da Muro (9). The Surgidouro (10) was the anchorage in the bay. The Entrada da Barra (11) is the entrance to the harbour.

The following words lettered on the map: "*A boca desta Bahia te eu quinze legoa*," (12) indicate the width of the navigable channel at the entrance. Buona Vista and the Unuwatuna chain of hills are referred to as the "Serra do Nauto" (13).

The fish market (14) is shown occupying a site on which the present Bazaar has expanded. In keeping with the traditions of old-time cartography, the mapmaker has endeavoured to add vividness to the above reference on the map by a drawing, which is intended to show a man chopping fish on a table. The rocks (B6) are named the "Kaudie Rocks", known to-day as Cawade Duwa. It will also be noticed that Galle is spelt GVALE (15).²

¹ Referenced, Sloane Ms 197, in the British Museum.

² This map appears as a frontispiece to Volume V. Part II of the D.B.U. Jul. (1912) and is described therein in an introductory note.



Map of Galle by Barretto de Resende, Circa 1640.

The Portuguese period of Galle terminated with the arrival of twelve Dutch ships under Admiral Willem Jacobsz Coster of Akersloot, and the successful landing of 2,000 men at Unuwatuna on the 8th of March 1640. The town was occupied by force four days later, and remained the Headquarters of the Dutch Government in Ceylon until the conquest of Colombo, 1655-56.

During the Dutch period, the cartography of Galle was placed on firmer ground. There are plans which help the student to trace, step by step, how the town and district attached to it grew in importance and resources, until it developed from the little citadel it was under the Portuguese, to the fortified township and city it became before the Dutch handed over the Government to the British 156 years later.

Progressive advancement in cartography over this period appears to have been steadily maintained, and the material for comparison is by no means meagre, as the following compilation from the catalogue of Galle maps at the Hague and from other records show:—

- 1053³ Plan of Galle City with projects for fortifying it. M. S. with references and notes by H. E. Ryckloff van Goens and Adrian van der Meyden. (Circa 1653—75).
- The Town of Punto Galle—from Valentyn's Oud en Nieuw Oost—Indien 1726. This is a plan of the town as it stood in 1663.⁴
- The south-west coast of the Island of Ceylon (off Galle) by Joannes van Keulen—Circa 1670.
- 1054 Plan of Galle City, showing the disadvantageous heights, rocky hills etc., M.S. Atlas Amsterdam East India Co. with views (a) View of Galle City (b) View of Galle Bay.
- 1055 Map of a portion of the City etc., of Galle between the ramparts Uytrecht and Vlagge Klip.
- 1056 Plan of Galle City and thence to Kraal Bay.
M. S. with references. This map shows an inset. The extreme corner of Oneawatuna (Unawatuna)
- Heydt (Allerneuster Geographisch und Topographisch Schau Platz von Africa und Ostindien, Leipsic, 1767), gives a Ground plan of the fort of Galle in 1736.
- 1057 Plan of the proposed moat and hidden way and also of the small redoubt for fortifying Galle City landwards, and enlarging Star Point. M.S. with many references.
- 1058 Plan of Galle—eight sheets.
Plan of Galle, relative to the project of 1787, 4 sheets.
Profiles, relative to the project of 1787.
Plan of Galle Harbour and its defences, relative to the project of 1787.
- 1059 These plans (numbers 1059—1061) are described as "copies by La Goupiltiere, with many references." Contemporary references
- 1060 show that De la Lustriere, Director of Fortifications, Pondicherry,
- 1061 was responsible for the maps relating to the projects of 1787. In the circumstances La Goupiltiere was possibly the surveyor who worked under his direction.

³ These are the numbers assigned to the records in the Hague collection.

⁴ Reproduced in Volume XI, page 233 (No. 39 of 1889) Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society (C.B.)

- 1062 Chief Project, Plan for renewal of the defences etc., for Galle. There is a note on this map which reads: "This plan is contrary to the one by De La Lustriere." This bears out the remark made regarding the maps numbered 1059—1061.
- 1063 Plan of Galle, relative to the project by Reimer.
- 1064 Profile, relative to the project by Reimer.
- 1065 { Chief Plan of the scheme for improving the landward Defences at
1066 { Galle similar to the one contrived by Vaillant, Verhuell and Gravensteyn, Military Commissaries, copy by Reimer.
- 1067 Plan and sections of the proposed improvement of the levels of Galle, copy from Reimer.
- 1068 Section and Profile of Chief Plan in various sizes and measurements. Copy by Reimer.
- 1069 { Plan for fortifying the extreme corner of Oenawattuwa (Unawatu-
1070 { wana) with the view of defending the entrance to Galle Bay and also of the other side. Copy by Reimer.
These plans (1063 to 1070) appear to have been produced from surveys by Engineer Major Reimer, about the year 1789.
- 1071 Plan of Galle Fort and the situation surrounding according to re-surveys made in the year 1790. Surveys done by G. E. Schenck.

A close comparison of the foregoing list, with the list of the maps of Colombo in the Imperial Archives of the Netherlands, printed on pages 14 and 15 of the previous issue of this Journal, discloses that on each occasion new schemes were projected for Colombo, similar action was initiated in regard to Galle. The special periods of activity in map production introduced by consciousness of the nearness of war, coincide, and are equally emphasized in the two lists.

The "Plan of Galle City with projects for fortifying it," which heads the list, and is associated with Ryckloff van Goens and Adrian Van der Meyden, might very well be accepted as the first attempt by the Dutch to map Galle. Rather unfortunately there is no copy of this map in any of the local collections. Nevertheless, Valentyn's map of 1663, in some measure atones for the deficiency. It is a contemporary record, and may be expected to give some idea of the development at that period, and to contain most of the projects for fortifying the town which the Dutch started to build in 1641 and plotted on their first map.

This plan by Valentyn shows that the town had not been completely enclosed by ramparts in 1663. The "Sun," "Moon" and "Star" bastions commanding the land approach, although not

known by these names until three years later, were in reality the primary fortification.⁵

Valentyn's plan shows a *fausse braie*⁶ running from the salient angle of the Sun Bastion along the exterior of the entire length of the fortifications, on the land side, terminating at the salient angle of the Star Bastion. The old *fausse braie* can yet be traced, except round the Moon Bastion, which seems to have later been enlarged and built on a higher elevation. Fronting the *fausse braie* the plan shows a "wet ditch" or moat, said to have been eighteen feet wide.

Off the shores of the harbour, the wall seems to have extended from the Sun Bastion to Zwart Bastion (or Black Fort). Aker Slood, named after the birth-place of Commandeur Coster, is depicted as an isolated work. On the sea side, the rampart at that time did not extend beyond Eolus, which is described on the plan as "new bastion." Beyond this, Klippenburg is shown as a breast work and named "new work".

There were apparently two gates, both on the harbour flank of the Fort. One is located at an angle in the wall where now stands the belfry of the Dutch Church. It is named the Waterpoort and also Strandpoort. Contemporary records state that this was used to let people in and out during the night. The other gate, called Barrier Gate or *Hek poort*, was on the southern face of the Sun Bastion. Access to this gate from the mainland was provided by a draw-bridge spanning the "wet ditch" or moat.⁷

5. 4th August 1667. It being considered in Council that as the three new bastions had not been named as yet, it was resolved that Juffrouw Hester de Solemne (widow of the Director Adrichem), the wife of the Commandeur Roothaas, and the eldest daughter of the Commandeur, should go out and name the bastions. The Middelpunt was called the Moon, the bastion by the harbour the Sun and the bastion on the sea side the Star.

On the Sun bastion was fired the first cannon by Juffrouw Solemne, a second was fired on the Moon by Juffrouw Roothaas, and a third on the Star by the eldest daughter aforesaid.

This pleasing function seems to have heralded the announcement seven days later of the engagement of the Governor Van Goens, with Hester de Solemne. (Summarised from the diary of Commandeur Roothaas, of Galle and a reference to it by Mr. F. H. de Vos, D. B. U. Journal, Volume 1, No. 3, 1908).

6. A secondary and advanced rampart.

7. The date 1669, below the monogram and Dutch Arms of Galle, over the old gate, proves that this entrance to the Fort was constructed 6 years after Valentyn's plan was made. The other two gates were possibly filled up.

Passing from the fortifications to the buildings shown on Valentyn's map, the first to catch the eye is the *Groote kerk* or the Great Church, the first Protestant place of worship to be established in Ceylon. Presuming that the drawing on the plan which shows a building viewed from a side is not merely a draughtsman's convention, the impression one may form of this time-honoured Church, all trace of which has long vanished, is that it conformed to the unpretentious meeting-house type, which was calculated to touch the most responsive chord of national sentiments, and harmonize with the simplicity of the doctrinal standards and canons of the Dutch Reformed Faith. The entrance to the church faced north, leading on to Lynbaan Cross Street, while length-wise it was built parallel to Kerk Straat.

The factory, hospital, doctor's quarters and a feature described as "Invalid's Garden" are shown on the plan in positions corresponding to the present Kachcheri buildings. Two buildings are shown close to the present District Judge's quarters in the locality then known as the "Zee Punt," and described as "Church" and "Spinning House" respectively. The Present public works Department Stores is disclosed by this plan to have served in those days as a powder Magazine. The Governor's House stood on the site of the lawn tennis courts of the Galle Gymkana Club.

The streets and squares shown in Valentyn's map convincingly prove that, from the point of view of town or civic planning, the Fort is today almost identically what it was nearly three centuries ago. The present day names of the streets are merely translations of the old names. Middle Street and Church Street correspond to Middel Straat and Kerk Straat⁸ of the Dutch plans. Pedler's Street was named Kramer's Straat. Zeeburg Straat was the Dutch name for Light House Street. Leyn Baan Street takes its name from the circumstance that it was originally the "rope walk", and Modera Baay Straat is a corruption of the Dutch rendering of "Muddy Bay Street."

Heydt's plan is a witness to the surface delineation of the Fort of Galle as it appeared 75 years after Valentyn's record, and is dated 1736. There are several copies of this map in local collections.⁹

8. This name should be associated with the *Groote Kerk*.

9. A close study and review of this map has been omitted, as most of the copies are in private collections and have in the present emergency been removed to places of safety.

The cartographic material relating to the projects of 1787 cannot be found in the local collections of maps of the Dutch period, and only one map, a copy of which is in the Survey Department Collection,¹⁰ affords an idea of the type of production forming the mass of material associated with the surveys by Reimer. This map is a modern facsimile of the original, and the title, translated from Dutch, explains that it is "A Plan of the Fortress of Galle with its Environs as established by the re-survey carried out in the year 1790 by Engineer Major Reimer and the undersigned:— C. E. Schenck." It is a very pleasing coloured plan which exhibits in very great detail the structure of the town of Galle, and affords a comprehensive picture of the fortifications which the Dutch finally raised on the ruins of the Portuguese defences. The inference to be drawn from the minute delineation of hill and valley in the environs of the Fort, besides ramparts, bastions and moat, is that the emergency of war must have called for a comprehensive map, and it seems likely from the special attention given to the survey of the hills and approaches on the land side that the defence had grater reasons to fear danger of attack from that quarter than from the sea.

This complete cartographical guide to Galle can be used to great advantage as a background for projecting back pages of history which were written before the close of the Dutch period. There is consequently justification for reviewing it from this angle, rather than by critically examining its virtues as an old-time map. The features which have lent themselves best to mapping are naturally the defences. Their story is eloquent of adventure and excitement.

The lines of defences shown on the map on the land side, or across the isthmus, consist of the central bastion (*de Maan*, or the Moon), with the cavalier which in more recent times the Dutch built over it. The two half bastions named *de Zon* (the Sun) and *de star* (the star), with their salient angles appured to harbour and sea respectively, are shown at the two ends.

Fausse braies and two curtains link these half bastions to the whole bastion in the middle of the defences. A wide band of blue is shown on the map fronting these works, connecting through an outlet to the harbour and held in check on the sea front below Star Bastion by an outcrop of rocks. This ditch has been reclaimed in recent years when the "new gate" was tunnelled on the side of the Moon Bastion and the esplanade was made more spacious.

10. Numbered 68 in the local catalogue of maps by M. F. N. Rottevell, 1907.

On the edge of the peninsula facing the sea, which is rocky and bluff, the defences consist of substantial lines of ramparts, the base of which is constantly washed by the surf. Several bastions built no doubt to command an attack from the sea and to guard against escalade, are delineated on this flank. Starting from the Star Bastion, which incidentally is more frequently referred to in the records as the "Crab Hole," the next one shown on the map is named Eolus, recognised by the modern corruption Aeolus Bastion. This is the "new bastion" referred to in Valentyn's plan (1663), Bastion Klippenburg (modern Clippenburg) comes next. This seems to have been raised on the breast-work, described as "New work" by Valentyn.

The next two spots which are shown in irregular profile are named Neptunus Bastion and Triton Bastion respectively, and appear to have been built about 1729. The former is where the modern signal station has been erected, and the latter was selected as a site for a wind-mill, which old-timers of Galle recall. Its function was to raise sea water for flushing the drains of the town, before twentieth century conditions rendered the system too obsolete to be continued.

Vlagge-Klip (Flag-rock) Bastion, named after the fact that the Dutch used this jut of rock as a signal station as well, stands at the southern end of Light House Street. The Light-house built in British times on this point was recently demolished, and a new structure now stands on point Utrecht or Utrecht Bastion, which is the next work named on the Dutch map. This part of the fortification was also called the Vischer's Hoek, (Fisher's Corner). Nearby, there still stands a building shown on the map and described Kruyt-kelders (Powder cellars). This building bears the inscription "AD. Galle den 1st Zeber (September) 1787."

Aurora Bastion, opposite the eastern end of Pedlar Street, together with Point Utrecht, dominated the Bay. They were both considered strategic points since their canonade would prevent the entry of enemy ships. Both these forts were, according to records, overhauled and strengthened in 1728.

Akersloot Bastion and 'T Zwart Fort come next in order. The former is also called Sailor's Point, and the name (Aker Slood) engraved on a stone is still to be seen at the spot. To judge from the date on this inscription, it seems to have been cut long after

the Bastion was erected. Concerning the Zwart (Black) Fort, much has already been said. 'T Waterpas erected here by the Dutch has been shown and described on the map.

The line of ramparts between Sun Bastion and 'T Zwart Fort was fortified at two points. Bastion Vismark (The Fish Mark Bastion) occupied the angle opposite the N. O. H., and Bastion Commandement, the angle near the Dutch Church belfry.

The Gate-way is shown flanked by buildings described as Dis-pense (Stores) and Equipage pakhuis (Naval warehouse).

The following names, eye-copied from the map, represent the more prominent details within the Fort, which are numerically referenced:—

Gewezene Kruytmolen (Former powder mill). Near the District Judge's Bungalow.

Gereformeerde Kerk (Reformed Church). This was erected in 1754.

Commandeurs-woning (Commandeur's Residence) (In the block of buildings south of Queen's Street)

'T Secretary (The Secretariat)

Hoofd-wagt (Main Guard House)

'T Raadhuis (Town Hall). Facing Church Street, south of the Anglican Church.

Gerechts-plaats (Court House). On site of present Anglican Church.

The only name lettered on the plan within the Fort is "Modder-Baay," to the east of the modern Rampart Street, and north of Chandoo Street.

The hilly ground on the land approach to the Fort has been effectively treated in the tradition of 18th century maps, by hachuring. On the crest of the high ground off Kaluwela, St. Mary's Cathedral, or more rightly the building over which the cathedral was raised, is shown and described as Roomsche-Kerk. On the Weliwatta hills, the "orphanage" below the modern Residency proves that it is a building older than the map, and on the road to Matara, prominence has been given to the group of buildings which in the early British period served as the Provincial Kachcheri.

The British acquired Galle in terms of the capitulation signed at Colombo on the 15th of February 1796. Eight days later, the Fort was occupied by troops under Capt. Macquarne of the 77th. The entire mediaeval fortifications, along with most of the buildings of the town of Galle as depicted in the last Dutch map, have, in spite of inutility, survived the ruthless hand of vandals and the ravages of time. They are a little weathered perhaps, but still retain their picturesque massiveness. How very near Galle came to sacrificing its spectacular heritage, is told by Cordiner, and supported by the first map of Galle produced in British times.

Narrating a tour he made "in company with his excellency the honourable Frederic North, governor of the British settlements in the Island", starting from Colombo on the 21st of June, 1800, Cordiner recounts: "The works at Point de Galle are substantial and extensive, and it would be a place of great strength were it not overlooked by some adjacent eminences. One hill, at only the distance of a musket shot, completely commands part of the fort: this might have been fortified, but it is also commanded by another. For these reasons a design was formed to destroy all the fortifications of this place except those bastions which immediately guard the entrance into the harbour."

The information conveyed by the earliest British map indicates to what extent this "design" was given effect to: "By order of Lieut. Col. Logan, Commdt.—A Plan of the Fort of Pt. de Galle and of the Esplanade cleared to the distance of 700 yards by order of His Excellency the Hon. Fredric North, Governor etc. 10th September, 1802, copied by Johan Adam Meurling."¹¹

It is very doubtful if this plan was produced from actual surveys, as a fact, on comparing this production with the last Dutch map, there is good reason to conclude that it is an enlargement of the earlier map by Schenck. The same system of relief representation has been used to show the hills outside the town.

There is no need to repeat what has already been said in a previous number about the lag in scientific map production in the early British period.

Getting past this void, the number and quality of the maps of Galle in common with other towns of Ceylon, and of regional surveys, admirably illustrate the revival brought about within the last two decades. Methods have developed side by side as the need for maps has developed. But to that growing body of people who are taking to-day a serious interest in the history of their home regions, the old maps will continue to provide an artistry and a story, which is full of picturesque sidelights.

11. Numbered 31 in the local (S.G.O.) catalogue of maps.

(To be continued).

GENEALOGY OF THE MEURLING FAMILY OF CEYLON.

(Compiled by Mr. D. V. Attendorff).

I.

Johannes Meurling, born in 1726 at Westerwyk in Sweden, son of Nicolaas Meurling and Margarita Steller-Stjerna, living in Ceylon 1745—1802. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. I, page 88, and Vol. II, page 105), Assistant in the Service of the Dutch East India Company, married:—

(a) Casandra Pietersz.

(b) In the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 22nd April 1759, Maria Joosten.

Of the first marriage, he had:—

1. Johanna Margaretha, baptised 22nd October 1747, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 30th April 1769, Christoffel Wilhelm Hoffman, born at Berlin, 11th October 1747, (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. III, pages 48 and 60).
2. Abraham Nicolaas, baptised 30th November 1748.
3. Maria Christina, baptised 6th August 1750.
4. Petronella Elisabeth, baptised 12th May 1754, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 27th October 1776, Willem de Lange of Gouda.
5. Johan Hendrik, baptised 16th January 1757.
6. Laura Christiana, baptised 27th August 1758.

Of the second marriage, he had:—

7. Gerrit, who follows under II.
8. Pierre Anthonie, baptised 17th October 1761.
9. Johan Adam, who follows under III.
10. Barend Nicolaas, baptised 14th April 1782.

II.

Gerrit Meurling, baptised 12th September 1760, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 16th April 1786, Maria Buultjens, born 28th March 1764, died 7th May 1824, daughter of Willem Buultjens of Notreboom in Kleefland, Flanders, and Elisabeth Adriaansz. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXX, page 21). He had by her:—

- 1 Gerardus Jacobus, baptised 20th July 1788.
- 2 Johanna Elisabeth, baptised 28th January 1790.
- 3 Maria Gertruida, baptised 17th October 1791.

III.

Johan Adam Meurling, baptised 13th October 1765, died 1828, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 2nd May 1809, Margarietha Elisabeth Peyster. He had by her:—

- 1 William Charles, who follows under IV.

IV.

William Charles Meurling, Proctor and Notary Public, died 15th March 1862, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle:—

- (a) 2nd September 1827, Charlotta Luvina Arnoldina Perera.
- (b) 12th September 1844, Charlotte Frederica Smith, born 15th September 1819, daughter of William David Smith and Johanna Cornelia Malmberg. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIV, page 102).

Of the first marriage, he had:—

- 1 Merciana Henrietha, born 4th May 1829.
- 2 Richard Gerald, who follows under V.
- 3 John William, born 1835, died 13th February 1882.
- 4 Anna Frederica, born 1839, died 22nd March 1876, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 13th December 1858, Archibald William Kellar.
- 5 Victor Charles, who follows under VI.

Of the second marriage, he had:—

- 6 Amelia Sophia Adelaide, born 18th May 1845, died 30th April 1896, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 25th May 1871, Cyrus Henricus Jansz, born 18th July 1830, widower of Merciana Johanna Dorothea Speldevinde, and son of Albert Jansz and Christina Wilhelmina Scheffer.
- 7 Charlotte Merciana, born 14th March 1852.

V.

Richard Gerald Meurling, Notary Public, born 30th November 1830, died 18th May 1873, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 5th February 1857, Harriet Charlotte Kellar. He had by her:—

- 1 Evelyn Charlotte, born 17th September 1858, died 13th May 1942.
- 2 Frances Janet, born 13th January 1860, died 15th August 1931.
- 3 Hannah Isabella, born 22nd September 1862.
- 4 Harriet Lucilla, born 15th May 1865, died 14th February 1924 married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Matara, 22nd October 1903, Thomas Brady Claasz, born 1st June 1860, widower of Catherine Rose Jansz, and son of John William Claasz and Margaret Leonora Van Schoonbeek.
- 5 Chetwynd Lionel, Proctor, born 15th October 1867, died 3rd August 1909, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Matara, 14th June 1899, Grace Victoria Altendorff, born 17th November 1869, daughter of Charles Henry Bartholomew Altendorff, Justice of the Peace for the Island, Crown Proctor, Matara, and Charlotte Henrietta Victoria Ludekens. (D. B. U. Journal, Vol. II, page 103, Vol. XI, page 59, and Vol. XXIII, page 170).
- 6 Eugene Julius, who follows under VII.
- 7 Richard Oscar, Government Land Surveyor, born 5th September 1871, died 15th May 1939.

VI.

Victor Charles Meurling, born 1843, died 1873, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 4th April 1866, Julia Sarah Wittensleger. He had by her:—

- 1 Lydia Seraphina, born 22nd August 1868.
- 2 Charlotte Eleanor, born 19th December 1869, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 21st October 1891, Andrew Lionel Jansz.
- 3 Angelina Eliza Beatrice, born 7th November 1871.
- 4 William Charles, born 27th May 1873.

VII.

Eugene Julius Meurling, Inspector, Irrigation Department, born 11th March 1870, married in the Methodist Church, Mannar, 11th April 1898, Nancy Mabel Werkmeester, born 5th February 1879, daughter of Richard John Werkmeester and Agnes Sarah Honter. He had by her:—

- 1 Werkmeester Denzil, who follows under VIII.
- 2 Hertha Elna, born 5th October 1906, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 11th June 1931, Samuel Vernon Claasz, born 21st February 1902, son of Samuel William Walton Claasz and Alexandra Una May Roelofs.
- 3 Berda Sigrid, born 28th August 1908, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Matara, 11th April 1934, Andrew Clement Koch, born 1907, son of Cyrus Alfred Tous-saint Koch and Madge Jansz. (D. B. U. Journal, Vol. X, page 132).

VIII.

Werkmeester Denzil Meurling, M.B.E., (Military Division), Lieutenant in the Ceylon Engineers, C.D.F., Surveyor in the Way and Works Department, C. G. R., born 8th February 1899 married in St. Mary's Cathedral, Galle, 5th April 1926, Vera Charity Corteling, born 6th July 1904, daughter of Lawrence Corteling and Mabel Robertson. He had by her:—

- 1 Carlton St. John, born 14th June 1927.
- 2 Erik Oscar Lorenz, born 23rd February 1931.
- 3 Dennis Sven, born 15th September 1936.
- 4 Moritz Bernard Edward, born 13th May 1938.

NOTES:—(1) Cyrus Henricus Jansz, referred to under IV, 6, married Merciana Johanna Dorothea Speldewinde in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, on 11th February 1852. The latter was the daughter of Johan Godfried Speldewinde and Anna Leonora Anthonisz, who were married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, on 7th June 1828.

- (2) Julia Sarah Meurling nee Wittensleger, referred to under VI, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 9th September 1878, Vitranga James Anthonisz, widower, son of Gualterus Henricus Anthonisz and Anna Robertina Perera, who were married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, on 24th October 1839.

NOTES OF EVENTS.

Summary of Proceedings of the General Committee, 18th November, 1941:—(1) Votes of condolence were passed on the deaths of Messrs. R. L. Ephraums and Alfred Driberg. (2) Mr. R. S. V. Poulier reported that the nett profits of the Cinema Show organised by him had been allotted as follows:—Tank Fund, Rs. 64.61; Purchase of Shares, Rs. 94. (3) Mrs. M. R. Christoffelsz and Mr. E. W. H. Deutrom were elected members of the Union.

16th December, 1941:—(1) It was decided that the arrangements for an adequate black-out at the Union premises be entrusted to Mr. E. A. vanderStraaten. (2) It was decided that the Secretary of the Rotary Club should be asked for 50 hampers for the poor of our Community. (3) Mr. F. F. N. Toussaint was elected a member of the Union.

20th January, 1942:—(1) A vote of condolence was passed on the death of Mr. L. M. Maartensz. (2) It was decided that the Union should be "At Home" to Dr. & Mrs. R. L. Spittel in appreciation of the honour of C.B.E. conferred on the former. (3) A letter from Mr. C. L. H. Paulusz resigning from the post of Assistant Secretary was tabled. (4) It was decided to allow the Butler to resign as soon as a successor could be appointed and to call for applications for the post on a salary of Rs. 40/- per mensem, with Rs. 250 as cash security. (5) It was decided to allow the Comrades certain facilities for recreation in the Union premises. (6) Mrs. Frances Amelia Anthonisz was elected a member of the Union.

17th February, 1942:—(1) The rules for affiliation were passed subject to some slight amendments (they are printed at the end of these proceedings). (2) A Sub-Committee consisting of Mr. H. E. de Kretser, Dr. H. A. Dirckze, Mr. A. J. Martin, the Honorary Treasurer, and the Honorary Secretary, was authorised to carry out an A.R.P. Scheme at a cost not exceeding Rs. 100.

17th March, 1942:—(1) A vote of condolence was passed on the death of Dr. E. Ludovici. (2) The resignation of Mr. T. J. M. Cooke and Miss D. N. M. de Kretser from membership was

accepted. (3) Messrs. W. J. P. Grenier, A. C. Collette and Miss M. E. Piachaud were elected as members.

1st April 1942 :—(1) Mr. W. J. F. LaBrooy was elected Assistant Secretary, Mr. O. L. de Kretser (Jr.) Assistant Treasurer, and Mr. E. A. vanderStraaten, I.S.O., Bar Secretary. (2) It was decided that some form of entertainment for the troops should be organised, and a Sub-Committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

21st April, 1942 :—(1) A vote of condolence was passed on the death of Miss Ellen vanGeyzel. (2) Mr. C. E. Foenander was appointed a member of the General Committee *vice* Mr. J. F. Jansz resigned. (3) A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. P. D. Siebel for a collection of plants presented to the Union. (4) Mrs. Z. Martin was elected a member and Mr. V. C. Kelaart was re-elected a member.

19th May, 1942 :—(1) The Secretary reported that the Schneider Scholarship Sub-Committee had met and had decided on certain action in connection with the Scholarships. (2) It was decided that the Troops should be entertained from time to time. (3) A gift of the coat-of-arms of the De Jong family from Mrs. Jessie de Jong was accepted with thanks. (4) A gift from Mr. L. A. Vollenhoven of a collection of newspaper cuttings belonging to C. A. Lorenz was accepted with thanks.

16th June, 1942 :—(1) Resolved on the recommendation of the Treasurer that a sum of Rs. 100 be transferred to Reserve. (2) Resolved that the officers of certain military units in the island be invited to be honorary members of the Union during their stay in the island, and that applications for membership from them should be dealt with in the usual way. (3) Mr. E. I. M. de Kretser was re-admitted a member of the Union. (4) The Secretary reported that a sum of Rs. 197.50 had been collected from the members of the Union towards the Gloucester Fund.

RULES OF AFFILIATION.

- (1) No affiliation fee be charged.
- (2) Rule 10 of the Union will be observed by affiliated clubs, societies or associations on the question of eligibility for membership, provided that the right of a member to have been elected to membership of the affiliated club, society or association prior to the date of affiliation cannot be questioned by the Union after affiliation has been accomplished.
- (3) On all matters relating to genealogy, the decision of the Genealogical Committee of the Union shall be final. Affiliated bodies will refer all applications to this Committee for decision, and the Committee will give all the assistance within its power.
- (4) Any affiliated body may be disaffiliated from the Union either on its own motion or that of the Union, but only if it is ratified at a general meeting of the body or of the Union, as the case may be, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present at such meeting. Two months' notice of such meeting shall be given in either case.
- (5) The Union and the affiliated bodies shall endeavour to assist each other by providing each other, whenever possible, with such facilities as they properly can and in such manner as does not interfere with rights of their own members.
- (6) The annual reports of affiliated bodies, together with a balance sheet and a statement of income and expenditure, shall be published as Appendices to the annual report of the Union. They shall be published for information only and shall not be open to discussion at any General Meeting of the Union. The General Committee of the Union shall, however, have the power to refer back for reconsideration a report which in their opinion is lacking in propriety and may refuse to publish the report if it is not amended to their satisfaction. The General Committee may not question the accounts. Three copies of the Union report shall be sent to each of the affiliated bodies for the information of their members.
- (7) No affiliated bodies shall have any rules or by-laws inconsistent with the objects of the Union. The Union, on the other hand, will give notice to the affiliated bodies of any motion to amend any rules which have any bearing on the affiliated bodies, so that representations may be made. No such motion shall be entertained of such a meeting unless two months' notice of such motion had been previously given to the other party to the affiliation.
- (8) Except so far as provided in these rules, the administration of each affiliated body shall be independent of the Union.
- (9) The executive of each affiliated body will make every effort to encourage their members to join the Union as members, and the General Committee of the Union on its part will endeavour to induce members of the Union to join affiliated bodies.
- (10) Questions not covered by these rules shall be settled by discussion between representatives of the General Committee of the Union and of the Committee of the body concerned, subject to confirmation by the respective Committees.