VOL. XLV] OCTOBER, 1955. [No. 4

Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

"Eendracht maakt Macht"

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Lorenz and his Twins Afferden
First Instalment

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 fort- night before the date of publication of the Journal.

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WATERWAYS WHICH HAVE MADE HISTORY.

The canals of Ceylon, built by the Dutch over two hundred and fifty years ago, are not merely a romantic link with the past, but are also among the things of reposeful beauty left by a past civilization which knew not the speed and hustle of these troubled times. They are still, though in a restricted way, being maintained as commercial waterways.

Few people living today in Ceylon have travelled by boat along these man-made canals which pass through some of the most picturesque parts of the low-country, through hill and glade, jungle and field—open to the sky, intersected by rivers and losing themselves in palm-fringed lagoons of a beauty which only the tropics know.

The canal system in this country, has however, in the past five decades fallen increasingly into disuse owing to competition by railway and road transport. Here, unlike in the highly canalised countries, such as Holland, Belgium and France, no effective attempt has been made by the Government to afford protection to water-transport by canal against the competition of modern methods of transport. In fact, by building the railway to Puttalam so close to the Negombo-Puttalam canal, the Government virtually killed canal-transport. So near is the railway to the canal that the vibrations from the rail road were found to seriously affect the walls of the latter.

It follows therefore, that in this country canals and water-ways as a means of transport exist more or less only on sufferance where they can compete with the railway. Where they do not, they merely afford pleasant boating excursions to a few enterprising persons. In 1905 there were 163 miles of canal maintained by Government. Today, a very insignificant sum of money is expended annually in de-silting about 125 miles.

From the commercial point of view, the most important canal in the Island is the San Sabastian Canal. It originates from the Kelani Ganga, near Victoria Bridge, and winds its way through Hulftsdorp to the Beira Lake, and thence from the Lake to the Harbour. An enormous amount of copra and rubber, fibre and bricks, is brought along this canal from the Kelani Valley districts. Considering its very

small length, more money is spent annually in the maintenance of this than on any other Waterway. It has to be dredged throught-out the year to prevent silting and the formation of sand-banks, which periodically hold up traffic.

Another important link in the system, is the Colombo to Bolgoda canal. It is 16 miles long, and links up through rivers and lagoons with the Kalutara District. But the longest and most used canal is that which originates in the Kelani Ganga at Hendala and terminates at Puttalam. Fleets of padda boats ply along it from morn until night, with copra, and country-grown paddy, arecanut and fibre. In the boom days, the traffic was exceedingly, heavy, and the voices of the boatmen could be heard singing far into the night as they strained at the barge-poles with which they propelled their boats along the water. Now one only occasionally sees a paddy boat on this stretch. The walls have collapsed in several sections, and the banks have eroded to the wash of water raised in the wake of a passing boat.

One point generally overlooked, is that apart from the usefulness of these canals of the maritime provinces as a means of cheap transport, they offer steady employment to a considerable body of men who in point of physique and independence of character are a romantic throw-back to an age when this was the staple means of transport for the commerce of the low-country.

Even more recently a new menace confronts the authorities whose duty it is to keep the canals in some sort of order. Motor-boat clubs, and week-and excursions by speed-boat, are becoming a feature, and this type of craft is taking the place of the slow-moving padda boat. The violent back-wash they cause which the old canal was never meant to contend with, has caused the banks to sag into the canal more than it ever did before.

Obviously, an increased vote for maintenance is essential, and much more attention to these waterways seems called for, if the highspeed craft referred to, is to be permitted to use them. There have been frequent complaints from the few padda boatmen who still ply on these canals, and some prodding by debates in the old State Council, but little has been done to meet changing conditions. It may happen that the popularity of the waterway as a means of getting to Negombo will result in the development of a regular motor launch service in the future, and similar difficulties may arise in the Colombo-Bolgoda and the Bolgoda-Galpotha Canals, where speed motor boats as a means of recreation are beginning to become evident.

An intriguing story is told of a speed-merchant, who had made it a hobby to speed along the canals in the Kalutara District in a 40 h. p. motor boat. He was doing his bit on one of the canals, when he was abruptly stopped on his reckless career. Pitched headlong into shallow water, he subsequently discovered that his pet craft was a total wreck.

The cause of the calamity was a small rock below the surface. The irate racing motorist is believed to have complained to the P. W. D. engineer, accusing him of neglect, inefficiency and incompetence. We can merly presume that the official reply was to the effect that commercial waterways are not maintained for the use of speed boats.

If the old Dutch canals of Ceylon are to be saved for the future, it seems very clear that they should be prohibited for use by motor launches or speed-boats, until their present limited depth and width have been adjusted for craft propelled at great speeds. To say that they have out-lived their utility, would merely lend itself to admitting that a present generation fails to appreciate the value which other countries place on inland waterways, both from a scenic and economic point of assessment.

It seems appropriated to conclude these observations with the remarks made by the then Governor, when he declared open the Chilaw railway. His Excellency said : "I cannot help thinking that in their enthusiasm for a railway, our friends of Chilaw have been a little unimndful of the magnificent work which was done for the whole of the Low-country Districts by those who built the canals which have now been turned aside. I am perfectly certain, that if the canals had not been in existence, we should not have been privileged to witness the splendid prosperity which it is our privilege to see today; and although we know that the railway is no doubt a much more efficient, and much more certain means of communication than the canal, yet we must not forget the services that have been rendered by the canal, and especially, the services of those who built the canal, and who are responsible for the prosperity of this district".

It is strange that the railway to Chilaw is there no more. But the patient padda-boat man still sings his songs, as he treads the tow-path and pulls his craft along the sluggish waters intermittently blocked by sand-bar and silt.

The objects of the Union shall be :

To prepare and publish a memorial history of the Dutch in Ceylon, descriptive of their social life and customs, their methods of administration, and the influence of these upon existing institutions in the Island.

IMPRESSIONS OF A TRIP TO EUROPE SEVENTY FIVE YEARS AGO

Compiled from a series of notes lent by Miss Grace Van Dort

(Continued from Vol. XLV, No. 2 & 3)

Continuing her narrative, Nellie Siebel, our teenage diarist says:—

"We reached the Eternal City in the afternoon after a pleasant journey by train. As we neared Rome, the first feature to catch my attention were the Aqueducts I had so disliked reading about in our Roman history in school. I was so glad to see these bridges in reality, with moss and fern growing in their crevices, A Catholic father whom we knew in Ceylon was waiting at the terminus station to greet us, and then, we all got into a large omnibus and drove to the Hotel de la Minerva where we had the run of the building to ourselves and were thoroughly at home. It so happened that the very day we arrived was the anniversary of the foundation ef Rome, so after dinner, we were taken to see the grand old Colosseum which was illuminated in commemoration of the event. The place was crowded with people and we could barely get a vantage point to look round. Very fortunately for us an Italian artist whom we got to know in Ceylon—who was very kindly piloting us around Rome, coducted us to a cottage which overlooked the Forum and Colosseum. From here we were able to get a wonderful view of the crowds and the vari-coloured lights which illuminated the greatest Roman amphi-theatre.

There followed another round of visits to Churches in Rome, Our Ceylon maiden under a Presbyterian influence and lacking the longsightedness and balance incident to age, seems to have viewed these venerated historical institutions with a critical eye of her own. Mentioning St. Peters, the greatest church in the world, she adds: "I need not describe that magnificent building, for my ideas would contrast with those any guide-book mentions. St. Peter's toe looked, painfully flat and wasted. The devout Catholics were kissing it as they passed, and I helped by carrying Nell to permit her to do so too as she was, too little to do so by herself."

"I liked St. Paul's" she writes, which was beyond the bridge. To get to it we drove through fields of daisies which I saw for the first time, and Father Cingolani very kindly stopped the carriage and gathered some for me. Everything about St. Paul's had a new look. The four malachite pillars surrounding the altar were worth a sight."

"We drove the same evening to Monte Pincio. We stopped the carriage alongside a parapet wall to listen to a band which was playing; then drove over the place and admired all that was pretty and uncommon."

"The next day Nellie ran in to say that they were going to St. Peters to hear a mass by a great Cardinal, after which they would go to the Vatican picture galleries. In a room in the latter, I found a young lady copying the head of one of the horses belonging to Pharoah's chariots, from a picture which showed them pursuing the Israelites. I could not think what there was in that head to induce her to sketch it. She certainly did not appear to appreciate our intrusion. Of course it is usual to hear every one who visits these galleries say the same thing—that the pictures were splendid, magnificent, exquisite...I had neither the time, nor the judgement, to classify any of the pictures I saw, and finding them all alike, I hurried out with the others into a long corridor overlooking a large garden."

The very phrase: "neither the time nor the judgement" establishes the out-right character of our diarist. It would indeed be pleasant to see a narrative by her after she grew up. But despite her forthright expression of disinterest in art she has more to say about a picture and an artist: "Our guide told us that a room opening in the corridor was the private studio of a reputed artist, who was allowed to do his paintings there. Peeping in, I saw a picture on the easel which we learnt had been done for a gentleman for £ 400...and this man had died just as the picture was completed leaving the artist at a loss about it. The picture itself was nothing very much so far as ideas went, and it was a small one too. It was of a farmyard but the colouriug was perfect and the birds especially seemed quite alive. The back-ground and sky were most effective and had a degree of warmth and shade which only an Italian scene could produce. There were some other pictures I admired very much."

Even that treasure house of the world, the Sistine Chapel, one of the greatest glories of Rome, has evoked no more than a remark lacking in in gravity: "I found several people there and was specially interested a group of ladies, who were I have little doubt, English. It was painful to watch them craning their necks and trying their eye-sight with or without the aid of opera glasses. I looked at them, then up at the ceiling for a few minutes, then again at them with pity, and left the place."

Two or three days later, we got ready to go to the Vatican to be presented to His Holiness the Pope. The ladies, and all of us girls, wore black dresses and black lace veils draped on our heads; mantilla fashion, and set off in two landaus. I dare say we would not have had this private audience if not that Mr. van Langenberg of our party was taking a purse of St. Peter's Pence to present to His Holiness."

"We knew the way up to the Vatican well enough by this. Climbing numerous steps, we came to a corridor in which was a body of Swiss guards. I had the infinite satisfaction of seeing them present arms to us as honoured guests. Then, a Master of Ceremonies took charge of us, and led us into a large room which I later learnt was the general audience chamber We each took a seat, and as it seemed, holding our breath, we looked fearfully about at every door and moving curtain, expecting His Holiness to appear at any moment—but he did not."

"Recovering our composure we regained our spirits, and soon were jesting and laughing over every trivial subject. After a long time someone came up and asked us to follow him—which we of course did. After a tour throuh several rooms and corridors, we entered a long, airy, and cool room with a red curtain at one end of it. An official I took to be a general, got up in great magnificence with medals and ornaments, and attended by a Prince or Count in purple silk robes, were introduced to us, and we were ushered to some chairs placed along the wall. In my excitement, I nearly sat on a red hat ornamented with gold cord left on my chair ; but noticing it, carefully lifted and deposited it on the chair next to mine, thinking it belonged to a young Monsignore. What was my consternation when I later found out that His Holiness would pick it up and cover his head with it before going away—I was so near crushing it !"

"Presently a bell rang, and the curtains were pulled aside. I saw a long bit of the same room, at the end of which was a raised dais covered with crimson. There was a table also covered with a rich cloth on the dais, and by it a chair. By the table, and in the act of placing a little golden bell on it, there stood a figure, with delicate face and white hair, dressed in simple creamy white robe and a cape of broad-cloth. He wore a gold chain and a cross round his neck, and a pair of red and gold slippers on his feet. This venerable figure was His Holiness the Pope."

"We were ranked two according to age—the younger ones going first with Father Cingolani in charge. The elders, also in double file, were behind. We were told to do exactly as Father Cingolani did. Advancing, at every three paces we bent a knee, and that took place about half a dozen times, our last being at the foot of the dais. His Holiness advanced and extended his hand on a finger of which was a ring set with a magnificent amethyst. Following the others, I kissed or rather touched the lovely gem with my lips, noticing the delicate white hand with the blue veins showing, then rose up and stood in a semi-circle which was being formed. Little Nell had the privilege of standing by the side of His Holiness, who held her hand in his the whole time."

"Mr. van Langenberg presented the purse from Ceylon, and Father Cingolani read an address. His Holiness next spoke, very simply and in feeble tone, calling us all his children, and showing less bigotry than many another of a more professedly tolerant sect. Father Cingolani was interpreter for us."

"While these ceremonial proceedings were going on, I could not help noticing to my horror that mama was getting hysterical. I whispered most appealingly to her to control herself. Even little Nell who was opposite, frowned heavily at mama and kept looking unutterable things—venturing in an undertone : "Dont Mrs. Siebel !" Fortunately for us the speeches were over and this was happening at the repeated performance of bending the knee and kissing the ring in farewell ; and while I feared that at any moment the Pope's righteous wrath would fall on Mama, I was re-assured to find that His Holiness was busy blessing numerous articles which some of the party wished to take back for themselves and friends in Ceylon."

"We retired in a more comfortable, and to my mind, more dignified way than we entered. and in the ante-chamber we were told His Holiness wished to give us a parting benediction, We all therefore went down on our knees while His Holiness passed by with his hat on and his garments carried by some attendants followed by a body of the Swiss guards. Mr. Joseph vowed he would never have his beard cut as His Holiness held it in blessing him. We next drove to a photographers and had a group taken in which we are shown in our apparel which each one wore on that occasion."

The next day being a Sunday, there is an entry : "I went to an American Episcopal Church where the services were conducted very much as in other places. On our way back we passed the baths of Caracalla, but I never cared to go and see that, or the Catacombs. I did some shopping in the Corso and saw gloves being made. That evening, we visited the Hotel Costuzi - a larger hotel than ours. We went through many of the rooms and I got into a lift for the first time, just to see what it was like. We went into a garden next and sat there while the Manager gathered us some flowers. There was a pretty little fountain playing near us, and we were reluctant to leave the cool place."

"Three front rooms of our hotel were occupied by the three families. Besides we had a richly furnished drawing room, and another room adjoining it which served as a general sitting room. Mrs Joseph usually retired to this room every day for her siesta—but I could never understand why she thought it necessary to change into her night dress every afternoon. She might have worn even her dressing gown. Well, one day, as usual she was soon fast asleep and we girls were having a chat near one of the windows. Suddenly, we heard a sharp knock at the door—which to our horror was not locked and turning saw it opened from outside before we could rush up and bolt it. In walked our friend, the artist we had known in Ceylon. Little Nellie had the presence of mind to rush up to him with cries of: Don't come in.' Don't come in!! It took some time to ward him off by explaining that Mrs Joseph was sleeping. All this happened while a dignitary from the Palace who had come to visit us stood watching from the half-opened doorway. He must have wondered what the commotion was, but as the men of our party were out they went away.

We had a hearty laugh to think how the Viscount (for we were sure he was no less than that) had so nearly missed seeing Mrs Joseph in her night gown."

"Early in May we left Rome for Florence bidding adieu to our friend and general adviser Father Cingolani. We all were very sorry to part from him and the farewell we bade him must have been most picturesque to the onlookers. We had during our stay in Rome met his Capuchin-monk brother who was a decided blonde and very nice old man. Also his sister: Dina, who was most affectionate and kind to us all. She knew French slightly, but somehow we managed to get on very well as far as conversation went. We reached Florence at dusk, and went to a very nice hotel overlooking the river Arno."

"The races were on at the time and as Pa had tickets for the enclosure we all went in a drag as the races were held out of town. The race-course was an immense green marked with iron rails on either side, and the people on foot, in carriages and on horse-back all stopped along the rails. There were some exceedingly pretty young ladies in the landeaus, and they seemed to belong to the elite of the Florentines. I felt too tired to visit the picture galleries in Florence. I seemed to have a surfeit of pictures since I landed in Europe."

"The next day we set out for Venice, and got there after a hot day's drive feeling tired, sooty and dusty. When I first saw the gondolas at the landing, I was rather disappointed as they looked so funereal in their dull black appearance, and the water looked so slimy. It was different when we stepped into an uncovered gondola and were taken to the Grand Hotel, which I was pleased to know was one of the best, or the best there. The rooms were nice enough. but no sooner had Mrs. J. settled in, she got an ague fit."

Describing the table d' hote, where they were grouped with some English folk visiting the Continent, our diarist recounts that one evening they had three sisters seated vis-a-vis, who were young, and one of them rather pretty. Apparently, they displayed that traditional cold reserve which is so characteristic of their race until they got to know people well, for she writes: "They did not wear even the ghost of a smile while talking to each other, and there was'nt even the semblance of a pleasant gleam in their cold eyes, which rested very enquiringly on us. My brain was busy at work to devise a plan to animate these creations in marble, and as I was coming to my wits end. the little girl of our party unconsciously came to the rescue."

"We were just being served with roast quail on silver skewers' Nell seemed bent on pulling the skewer out, when suddenly, and to our horror, the roasted bird slipped off her plate in the contest and vanished under the table with Nell who instantaneously followed it in jack-in- the box fashion. There was breathless consternation all around us, more so. when she made her reappearance, holding the bird in triumph in her hand and proceeded to place it back on her plate. But I was rewarded, for, lo and behold, looking up. I saw each statue before me wearing a smile which gradually broadened, and ended in all of us

bursting into uncontrolable laughter. The bird was not eaten after all that effort, but it did certainly contribute to making us all a more mirthful party."

Here is another passage recalling the embarassment she felt in seeing statues in the nude: "We visited Doge's palace one noon, and there we had a repetition of pictures and a surfeit of tapestry. When the men expressed their intention to see some rooms containing statues, we resolutely refused to move remembering our adventure in Naples, so sat on a flight of stone steps and chattered until they returned. We went into some famous old library too, and it was from one of its large windows that I had a close-up view of the Bridge of Sighs."

The day after the party arrived at Venice happened to be Ascension day: "We were fortunate enough," says the diarist, "to see the wonderful clock which only goes through all its performances, once a year on Ascension day. We heard several houre strike, and watched: first two brass giants strike the hour with hammers on a huge bell, and underneath them, a figure of the virgin Mary seated with the infant on her lap. Next we saw a door open on our left, as we stood facing the clock, and three figures representing the Magi appear. These pass in front, do obesance to the infant Christ, and then pass out by a door on the right."

"I did not care to visit any more churches," she writes, but captivated by the beauty of Venitian beads, went into a bead manufactory one day: "I saw glass being spun, and how beads were made. We each got a necklace of blue beads done there with our initials in white." Getting back to commonplace, she writes "Every night, during the three days we spent in Venice, we used to go to St. Marc's Square, and hear a military band play. All the beds on the Continent had loose springs to my disgust, and they are so high generally as to be rather inconvenient to climb into." She explains that she solved the problem "by taking a run every night, and by springing into the bed at a bound."

The party would appear to have left Venice early one morning. Everything seems to go down in the diary, so we read: "It was drizzling and we were obliged to have the hooded gondolas under which I was very reluctant to sit." The next stop was at Milan, and is passed over with the pithy remark: "I was too lazy I suppose, or perhaps it was because I could not manage to do so, I saw nothing much of Milan, and the next place on our route was not more favoured. It was rainy and damp, so I did not care to stir out."

Referring to their companions at the table d' hote, at Venice, she says: "We met the statuesque young ladies at the Turin Station the morning we left that place, and they all looked very amiable as if they recognised us at least. We were told that at the two-way station Modane, where one had to change trains, our things might be searched. We were taking so many watches belonging to Ceylon friends to be repaired in England, so we thought it best to wear one each, including

the children. Some of the extra rings, necklaces etc were worn underneath our Ulsters etc. When we got there we each meekly handed our handbags and other little boxes, but the officials were exceedingly good to us and scarcely opened a single bag of ours. I remarked how one of them opened the handbag of an English lady and looked into it while she stood by feeling anything but as serene as myself."

"The connecting train was ready in about half an hour and we nearly lost our fathers and brothers in the party by one lot of us, either they, or we, having got into the train which was going to Geneva. Somehow it came to be known soon enough and the right carriage was entered at the last moment. We later heard that our gentlemen went into a compartment into which two English ladies stepped in. I believe one of our people suggested to the latter the advisibility of going into another compartment where there were ladies, especially as the journey was to be a long one. The elder lady asserted her rights as a true Britisher but the younger one whispered a few sensible and seeming remarks to her companion, which made her rise. Gracefully the two ladies left the six men in possession, thinking discrétion the better part of valour. We went on for a few hours and then stopped at a station where we got down and walked to our numbered bunks. After the train had started again, it was quite dark and by 8 o'clock we prepared to make ourselves comfortable for the night by taking off our hats and loosening our collars."

"Mrs. V. however, made herself comfortable in every way. She had armed herself with a parcel in which she had her dressing gown and slippers, she undressed, wore the above articles and fell fast alseep with parted lips, in utter contentment. We were in a first class compartment and had to sleep bolt upright though Mrs. V. took up the space of two and reclined to advantage. About midnight the train stopped at a station and it seems some young fellows amused themselves at the window of our carriage and an uncommon sight we did present I have no doubt, Mrs. V. being nearest the window. Some footwarmers were thrust in, to my great disgust, as we did not feel cold or even cool, and our poor ayah made herself comfortable by pushing away some of these foot warmers and laying down between them at our feet. I wonder if she dreamed she was in purgatory."

"Early next morning I opened my eyes to see it was dawn and the word "snow" greeted my ears very pleasantly as at the same time I felt cool and nice. I went to the window and peered through glimmering light at the snow which was being rolled down the sides of the hills owing to a thaw in some places. We had passed through the famous Lenis Tunnel the day previous of course. We reached Paris at 6 o'clock feeling sleepy and dusty and it was with infinite pleasure I looked forward to a bath. We went in an omnibus to the Hotel St James in the Rue St Honore. After our baths which we all enjoyed very much, I had a stroll that evening through the Rue de Rivoli and enjoyed the sights very much. The dolls especially took my fancy—they were so beautiful and dressed as only Paris dolls are dressed."

"The next day I went into the *Tuilleries gardens* etc. and the day following I had a drive in the Champs de Elysees and Bois de Bologne. There were about 2000 carriages and the people assembled in crowds almost. It was a pretty sight to see some of the people stretched, or seated, on the grass in shady corners. Three of us were in one carriage, something like a victoria, the others following us. Owing to the number of carriages one horse's nose almost touched the carriage in front of him, and thus in procession we went through the length and breadth of the grounds."

"That afternoon some of us went to the Palace de Noir. One of the palaces belonged to a Cardinal of that name, I believe. I saw some mummies there for the first time. There was Charlemagne's saddle, stirrups and bridle of gold, and some lovely jewels, belonging to a very wealthy old couple named Le Noir. The pictures were also worth seeing and some of the statuary was beautiful. I saw electric lights for the first time, and visited several shops."

"I was taken as interpreter by Mrs V..., the next morning, as she wanted a bonnet. I managed to find our way to the Magazin de Louvre and there after a little difficulty, we were sent up stairs and after a detour reached the room in which the hats and bonnets were. A natty little shop woman who spoke English came to our rescue and after Mrs. V... was suited with a bonnet, we went down to the bureau and gave our address and then went back to our hotel."

"On Wednesday the 19th May, we drove to the station, en route to Calais. When we got there we found a crowd of people all waiting for one of the sister ships which was to take us over to Dover. There was an unusual delay and it was then explained that some of the plates of the ship had broken and were undergoing repair. She could not be brought to the pier and actually over fifty of us were packed into a little pontoon to be conveyed to the steamer beyond the bar. In spite of thec onfusion and consternation prevailing, I managed to overhear an English lady giving expression to her feelings, and turning saw a slim looking lady who had been our fellow passenger from Paris. She turned out to be the great Sarah Bernardt, poetess, sculptor, painter and tragedien. She was within a yard or two of me all the time we were in this pontoon and I had plenty of opportunity to take in notes."

"She seemed to be most struck with our ayah and made a witty remark about her to her sister. She wore a brown costume over which she had a checked ulster, a fancy brown straw bonnet with a red tartan bow and brown gawse strings tied under her chin. She had pretty feet encased in brown lace stockings and dainty brogue shoes. A huge bunch of sweet white moss rose buds was conspiciously placed over her left shoulder and fastened with a large diamond lizard."

"I happened to point out this lizard in admiration to Mrs V. who was near. She turned pale, and exlaimed in horror at it: and then I remember her peculiar antipathy to lizards in general but was not ready to argue the difference between a live reptile, and one represented in diamonds. Mrs V. as soon as she got into the tug, wished to

find the most comfortable place, but that was scarcely possible as we had barely standing room. She managed however to spy out our pile of rugs and pillows and gently sank upon them. The people followed in shoals and while they were pushing one another, I looked round for Mrs V. and found her in a sorry plight indeed. Naturally the pillows sank when a weight descended on them and there was poor Mrs V. down at the very bottom of the boat with her legs over, shedding tears and praying in the most piteous accents, in terror that she would be crushed by the crowd. Somehow her husband found her and pulled her out."

"Just then Mrs J's voice fell on my ear sharp and clear — "My Lord, you will break my leg!" and then a man's calm voice answered: "I am sorry, I cannot help it madam, you are crushing my arm". I heard her continue in plaintive voice just as our overweighted boat was crossing the bar, and it was very evident to my great horror that our lady was on the point of paying tribute in hysterics, when Mr. J. came to the rescue promptly, and dosed her with something from his flask".

"Just as we were getting tired of standing, we sighted the steamer and soon enough we were on board. There was a swell on, and the day was cold and grey and wind was blowing icy blasts, but we did not care. No sooner did Sarah B, get on board, she settled herself in a comfortable chair, wrapped herself up, threw a thick veil all over her head and fell asleep, or kept thinking, at any rate she remained in that position till we anchored at Dover. I noticed great boxes scattered at one end of the ship, boxes big enough to hold a piano inside. We soon discovered they belonged to Sarah B. They were covered over with a sort of yellow canvas with S. B. in large letters over. The thought of seeing England was very delightful, especially as we had near and dear ones to greet us, so when the famous white cliffs of Dover came into sight we gazed with delight at them and in half an hour we were on terra firma once more. We scrambled into a train which had waited beyond its time, and off we went to London as fast as steam could take us."

"Dover struck me as looking particularly grey and cold, owing to the wet foggy day. The hop fields all along Kent was a far prettier sight and when we got to Middlesex, the dome of St. Paul's and other church spires showed like grim giants through the smoke and fog. Mama (Mrs Siebel) and Mrs V. commenced to get red in the eyes at the thought of meeting their boys, and were holding each others hands and weeping literal tears of joy. This was too much for us girls. We tried to divert their attention with very good imitations of cat calls and dog howls. We succeeded so well that smiles chased away the late tears, and by that time we got into Ludgate Hill Station where we were to get out, We thrust our heads out of the carriages as we got into the station and there saw four tall young men standing on the platform with top hats on."

"As soon as the train stopped there were greetings, better imagined than described. We had sense left enough to get out, and then we hired two growlers, or three, and drove off to a hotel in the Strand which I did not care for at all. However we made ourselves as comfortable as possible and went down to dinner. Soon after that happy meal I went upstairs to see the state of affairs there, and I found our ayah coolly seated in the corridor ringing the bell, and ordering the maid for heaps of things. I was amused at the scene and walking into the room, I soon ascertained the cause of it. On the strength of having seen her young master again she had helped herself most liberally to some brandy which had been brought up for some one."

The phrase: "her young master," does perhaps call for a digression at this point. The four lads who had been sent to England for their education were: Wilfred (Willie) van Langenburg and his younger brother James, Ernest Joseph, and Augustus (Gusty) Siebel. The van Langenburgs and Siebel were at Oxford, Joseph was in a Public School. Of the first two persons mentioned, Willie was in later life Assistant to the Colonial Treasurer in Ceylon, while James, who was reading at Merton, was later Solicitor General, and a Commissioner of Assize.

A few men yet living will perhaps remember Ernest Joseph, just recently returned from England, playing rugger for the C. H. & F. C. on the Galle Face grounds. Rugger was then unknown to local sportsmen, and he was the first Ceylonese to participate in the game. Many more people will remember him as a Volunteer Officer in the Ceylon Artillery, and later, as Colonel and Commanding Officer of the Ceylon Garrison Artillery. He was a "club-man", *par excellence*; and was Secretary to the Ceylon Municipal Council.

Gusty Siebel articled himself on his return, to Frederick van Langenburg of Kandy, as a Proctor apprentice. He apparently did not complete his apprenticeship, and later took to freelance journalism. He was a special correspondent to the Independent and the Times, at Kandy. Being versatile in character, he could always be relied on to give a good turn at theatricals.

And with these side-lights on persons, we return to the London of our diarist's day: the capital of an England of tall chimneys bespeaking the industrial employment of its dwellers. Far from being the London of today, it was a city where the traveller felt the shock and heard the roar of cobble-stoned roads; a London of narrow streets through which the coaches and drags forced their way, of two-horsed buses, and hooded gigs or cabs. This is the City our diarist refers to when she says: "the next day we set out to see London with our brothers and went to Regent Street and Piccadilly."

"After a sight of all the shops etc. we returned to our hotel in time for dinner. The next day the older folks went out hunting for lodgings and by evening we were housed in very light airy rooms in a nice locality. We went out to dinner that night. There was a stringed band playing nearly the whole time so we enjoyed being there. The next day we

were taken to the Lombard Hotel and treated to a rice and curry breakfast which we greatly appreciated. I made the acquaintance of a lady lodger a Mrs A who very kindly took me about with her the next day. I first went to a private dressmaker, a French woman, who complimented me on my dress which she could not believe was made out of England or something to that effect. I went to Covent Gardens with Mrs A a few days later and enjoyed seeing the lovely flowers and fruit."

"As a cousin of ours remarked—It was a 1000-pitys we came last to England as we would not care for anything there, after the sights we had seen on the continent, it was a trite remark I felt, as everything struck me in a most homely and familiar fashion. However there were some novelties left which I had not seen elsewhere."

We went to the Strand theatre one night to see *Madame Favart*. I had the satisfaction of being in a box for the first time and liked to see without being seen. Edith and I had the two front seats and I felt sweetly comfortable behind the lace curtains especially when some opposite neighbours thought it worth their while to level their lorguettes at us. We were very early so that we saw the play acted for the benefit of *the gods*, in the pit. It was "Ruth's Romance," and when the romantic part of it commenced, I heard Mr. J. bewailing his apron strings, and the stronger the sentimental words flowed below, with actions to suit, the fiercer grew Mrs J's tones in rebuke. "I would *never* have brought Edith *here* if I knew she was to see this sort of thing!" "Good gracious how ugly!" And with an attempt to pick herself together, "Let us go away!"—I was vastly amused."

"Presently a gentleman friend of ours entered our box, and we were infinitely grateful to him when he assured Mrs J. that *Madame Favart* which was to follow was totally a different thing, and somewhat mollified by his earnest assurances she waited and was really rewarded at the end. Florence St. John and Violet Cameron were the principal characters and the latter sang very sweetly and did her part so well as *Madame Favart*. It was pleasant watching the crush after the play was over. From a corner I watched a sight I had only read of so often in a book and took mental notes of the different people."

"One day, Mrs. A and I went to the Soho Bazaar in Oxford Street. This Bazaar saw me very frequently during our three months sojourn in London. It was an immense building with different departments for everything one wanted. It needed such heaps of money to satisfy wishes at such a place. I patronised the music stall most, which was presided over by an old lady and her daughter. They were very nice and used to allow me to take music home on trial."

We went to Bloomsbury Church the first Sunday and heard Stopford Brooke preach. The second time I went there I heard him again and appreciated his sermon better. There was a wedding at a house opposite soon after we took up abode in lodgings. There were 6 bridesmaids all dressed in cream and the bride looked as well as all brides generally do. Some of the older ladies of our party threw a slipper, and rice from the balcony above. A few days thereafter, we saw

an advertisement in the daily paper about a daily governess and Papa wrote to her. I declared that if she were ugly or old, I would not have her. She called punctually the next day or day after. Protesting I would not have a crosslooking ugly teacher, I took a peep at her. Poor thing, she had such a sweet timid face and looked so slight that I felt quite drawn towards her. I entered the room, much relieved, and was introduced to my future teacher. My younger brother was also under her tuition and Mrs. J and Mrs. V also had her services, but she never seemed happy when she returned from them. She would come and sit down with a relieved smile and chat so nicely to us.

"We visited Madame Tussards one day and I was quite delighted with Mary Queen of Scots and the Empress of Austria. The chambers of horrors had some interest for me because it was so closely connected with history. The horrid man Marat was in his original hip bath and I could not get up a spark of pity for him in spite of his death agony. The Empress Eugenee looked superb in her evening dress of black silk and jet, and a tiara of jet, I think, on her queenly head. The Prince Imperial was standing by, looking very boyish and nice. There were some folks about evidently from the country and I was not a little amused when they came round as we stood once in a group and commenced to examine us most seriously. No sooner did their mistake dawned on us, we smiled, and that dispelled the delusion."

The third Sunday we were in London, we went to St. Andrews Hall, and I was never more taken aback at the proceedings there. There was a band going on and I could not believe whether the people were actors on the stage, or priests. Mrs. J was a subscriber at Mudies, so Edith and I used to go sometimes for books. The building seemed large enough and all the walls from floor to ceiling seemed covered with books. We want to Maskelynes and Cooke one afternoon. I thought the performance very wonderful on the whole. Zoe the lay figure drew a portrait of the Princess so well and two lay figures played on cornets equally well."

"Woburn Church, or rather Christ Church Woburn square was close to ours, so we used to make that our regular church. We went to the City and had a look at all the banks and other places and visited St. Pauls. Of course after St. Peters in Rome, St. Pauls did not strike me as any thing much. We went up the whispering gallery and tried a few whispers which were heard distinctly from one end to another. We next ascended the marble gallery but were in too great a hurry to go on to the golden gallery. I saw the tombs of all the great men below, warriors in particular with the colours of their different regiments hanging all battered, torn and discoloured. Amongst them I noticed one which had belonged to the 57th Regt. which had been in Ceylon."

"Mrs A. took us to Hyde Park. It was our first visit We went walking and sat down on the chairs placed there for the use of the pedestrians. The place seemed full of carriages and horses. A young lady with a brunette complexion and lovely pink cheeks seemed to

create a little sensation amongst the Londoners. She was exceedingly attractive in appearance but I could not imagine what roused the curiousity or admiration of the solid Britishers around."

"The only R. C. chapel I went to in London was an insignificant little one next to the Foundling Hospital. One day, all the men in our party went to see Oxford, and we amused ourselves by taking a drive to Hyde Park. The place seemed unusually full and I had the pleasure of seeing the Princess of Wales drive out with her children. She was dressed in a heliotrope pompadour dress with a toque of the same, trimmed with a band of purple velvet all round. She was looking every inch the Princess she was and I enjoyed seeing her bowing on both sides with such royal grace. The girls wore white dresses with blue sashes but did not look nice enough to be their mother's daughters. The people seemed quite excited and were most loyal in their greetings."

"I admired a victoria drawn by a pair of dark bays very much. The carriage cushions and the livery was claret color and pink or cream. The occupant of the carriage was a lady dressed in black satin, black hat etc. with a tiny morsel of pink somewhere about her dress or hat. Her parasol was black satin too and had a lovely bunch of pink roses on it, to a side. She was not pretty, but there was such a haughtily indifferent look about her eyes and mouth. I admired her much and thought she was quite in keeping with her style on the whole. There were people in landaus who struck me as *nonveau riches*. They were so gorgeously dressed and looked so consequential. Again there were old couples filling up every crevice of the carriage, and some old dames had ugly pups on their laps and some—one fat old lady, attracted my most vivid interest by holding a wee little parasol up to protect her eyes or nose probably."

"Whole riding schools seemed to be out in Rotten Row. I admired one young lady in particular she was accompanied only by her groom. She looked quite a picture in every way as if she came to enjoy her ride and nothing else. We went to the Park twice after that, once in the morning we drove through, and it was a raw chilly day, but there were some children playing with their boats at the Serpentine and several carriages were out, some ladies were driving, but I was not sure whether they belonged to the nobility *nonveau riches*, or the stage—however they drove well and looked well.,,

"One evening we set out on a visit to Cleveland Place, in Hyde Park, to see some friends, but they had left London; so we drove through to Belize Park—I liked St John's Wood immensely. The houses had one floor and looked so like those we see in Cinnamon Gardens with pretty little gardens attached to it. We called to see some friends who lived close by in a nice two storied building with a pretty creeper running over in front. The rooms we were taken into were very pretty, and the garden at the back was such a pretty little one with all the old fashioned sweet scented flowers in it one can think of. There was a tiny summer house at one end, which looked most inviting so I went in and rested for a few minutes. Returning home

we drove through several other parks and saw heaps of people about. We went twice to the Aquarium where we spent some very pleasant hours. The walls inside are immense glass almirahs as it were, filled with water sea weed rocks etc, and fish of every kind swim about. so that one can find these living walls alone a source of interest. It would take too long to mention the numerous and wonderful things we saw. The Zulus were amusingly familiar, and seemed thoroughly at home there, though they were attired in their customary style. The champion skater did his part very well, and had a crowd of admirers."

"I went to Westminster Abbey one Sunday and heard Canon Jarrar preach. The place was very full and I had to find a resting place at the foot of Shakespeare's monument and there I sat till my legs were cramped. My back rested against Shakespear's pedestal and my feet rested on Halland his wife's grave. We got in by the poet's corner and I observed the door leading to a crypt or vault at one's left. I objected very much to the people coming in and going out wherever they pleased. The noise they made was most disturbing."

"Some days after we went to the Crystal Palace. We roamed about through the gardens and looked at every thing that was interesting. A play was being acted called "Betsy" which seemed to be very popular at the time, so we took tickets and spent some time there. I saw some broad sash ribbon being woven—the pattern on it was a cricket field with boys playing on it. There were so many things about, that I could not remember what half of them were. The place is so large that if two bands were placed at either end they would not be heard at the same time. There was a bicycle rack in the grounds also."

"We visited Windsor Castle some days later. We started from Gower Street by the underground railway as far as Paddington, from there we got into another train and went on to Windsor. The Castle was so close that we walked up to the place.....

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The diary ends abruptly here—more's the pity. Many readers may have found, as I have found, that in pursuing these pages it has been possible for a brief while to lose the key to the present. Our diarist has provided a background to seven decades of social revolution. She has afforded us an unbelievable glimpse of an unbelievable era, and an "escape" from the turmoil, stress and strain of a speed-crazy age.

Concluded.

The objects of the Union shall be:

To promote the moral, intellectual, and social well-being of the Dutch descendants in Ceylon.

A WOMAN'S THOUGHTS ABOUT WOMEN.

[By Lillith.]

1. The Gentle Art of Flirting.

A question frequently put is "What is flirting?" If we were to consult a dictionary for a definition of the word, I do not think we would find anything quite satisfactory. "Playing with love," or "playing at courtship," are both definitions that are misleading, and may either mean the heartless trifling with love, of *the real flirt*, or the merry teasing and play between two who really love each other.

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In human nature there is a natural tendency to flirt, and a certain sympathy with flirting. I do not praise or condemn this, but merely state it as a fact that we have got to recognize in life. I would only say this much, that whatever is inherent in human nature, cannot be wrong if rightly used.

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It is this tendency, I think, which explains the puzzling fact that many really nice youths and maidens, not to speak of men and women, are actually flattered at being called flirts. It is as if there is a general idea that to be able to flirt is to attain a certain hall-mark of civilisation.

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On the whole, I think, that flirting is harmless and excusable when it is the outcome of the natural fondness of human nature for play. But just as much as human nature varies, so also are there various types of flirting.

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The flirting that is the result of natural playfulness between girls and boys is as harmless and as natural as laughing on a sunny day. They cannot help flirting because they are young; they find life yet quite a pleasant thing, and when girls realize that they are attractive, they are like flowers who open their petals to the sun of appreciation; and they face the world with joy as they feel their power to charm.

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It is quite natural that young people of opposite sexes should take delight on each other's society should like to please each other, and should feel stimulated to their best when they meet. Well, if all this interchange of pretty speeches, and graceful services, and all the rest of it belonging to this sort of intercourse between young people, is called flirting, so much the better for flirting, for there is no harm in it! The flirting which is only happy-hearted graceful play, or the half-mischievous trying of the callow wings of the very young who are still half children, or yet again the flirting between two who really love each other, and who are about to take on the responsibilities of love for the sake of each other, are the only types of flirting that are harmless and innocent.

It is perhaps someone who studied the latter type who is responsible for the somewhat mis-leading saying that "the flirt makes the best wife," The girl who flirts with the man she loves, and ultimately marries, will certainly make the best wife because she will carry her playfulness into their married life too. Such a girl never flirts for excitement, and she respects herself and others in her most irresponsible moments. She carries her pretty tender teasing lovable play into wife-hood, and often turns a domestic crisis into an impromptu comedy. She will tease her husband over his little faults until he gets rather proud of possessing characteristics which make him ever interesting and amusing to the woman he loves. In short, she appeals to the man's nature not through empty-headed frivolity, but solely bacause she is a womanly understanding woman to whom men appeal as much as she appeals to men.

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The flirting which is harmful and despicable is the play which is the cruellest torture to the feelings of others; the pretended love-making which drains all the sweetness out of another nature, while itself keeping clear of love's obligations, so that when it tires it can go free, after it has got all it wants.

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The flirt who sets himself or herself to track down his or her prey for the sheer gratification of variety or love of excitement, without a thought to the other parties' feelings in the matter, cannot be condemned too harshly. There are some girls or men, who find an incentive in trying to win another's affection, when it is already held by someone else, and whose pleasure in flirting is in exact proportion to the pain they inflict; and to whom no satisfaction equals that of bringing misery both on their dupes and on their rivals. This sort of flirt may rightly be designated a vampire.

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Such flirting is nothing but lightminded cruelty which binds another to its chariot wheels, and enjoys every turn of the wheel which binds on a fresh victim whose sufferings betray themselves by amusing contortions.

Some flirts', usually women, flirt to see what they can catch with a view to matrimony. When the fish is not big enough to be worth her while to marry, she keeps him dangling on her hook until a bigger fish comes near enough to nibble at her attractions, when she jerks the smaller one off without any compunction.

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Ah, yes, there are just as many types of flirting as there are varieties of human nature, and it is this variety in human nature which makes flirting, on the whole, a risky thing to indulge in. Very often a girl may be drawn into it on surprise, in the effort to parry a florid compliment, or check an undesired attention. She may then assume a playful light manner, and if she has to reckon with the stupid or caddish type of men, he will interpret it as a desire to lead him on, or a ruse to

draw him near enough to be caught. This emphasizes two points, that you must be careful *how* you play and with *whom* you play. It is never safe on either side to play with anyone whom you could not for any reason marry. Far better to earn a reputation for shyness, reserve, or "standoffishness," than risk being misunderstood in this way.

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When a flirtation requires management it ceases to be harmless play. The element of danger to the one or the other has crept in, and the nice-minded girl who finds that there is not love enough for the serious part, will give up the play part.

II. Does the Modern Girl Make Herself too Cheap?

It seems to me there must be something wrong with the modern girl, that with all her advantages she attracts men only as a comrade, and not as a wife. She prides herself on her freedom from irksome restraint, and asserts her right to be on terms of equality with her brother's friends by a whole-hearted contempt for conventionality.

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In the accepted code of the day, she has her own special men friends, who look on her as "a jolly good sort," always easy to get on with, always ready at a moment's notice to go about with him, and fall in with all his plans. It is a nice easy "good-fellowship" in which the girl only looks to having a good time.

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This type of girl is usually easy-going and good-natured and much too independent to require of her men friends even, the ordinary courtesies of life, such as rising to open a door for her, carrying her coat, or waiting till she is seated before taking the most comfortable chair in the room.

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He may smoke, lounge, and even swear in her presence without a second thought, because he says: "We are such good friends, that she does not want any tommy-rot of that sort," meaning by "tommy-rot" the courtesies every man ought to observe towards a lady.

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Things are made far too simple and easy for him. He simply looks upon her as a feminine edition of one of his man friends. He has no difficulties to overcome, no sacrifices to make in order to win or keep her friendship.

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No obstacles are put in the way regarding his looking her up at any time of the day to make appointments, taking her about to lunches and teas, and making her parents' house a kind of hotel.

In days gone by, any man who singled out a girl of his acquaintance for such marked attention, could not have continued the friendship to any degree of intimacy, certainly not to the extent of being seen about alone with her, without offending Mrs. Grundy.

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His "intentions" were blandly enquired into by the father of the girl and very properly too, for why should the man spoil the girl's chances of making a good marriage by keeping off other eligible suitors if his attentions are only platonic?

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We, in these days, have done away with Mrs. Grundy and chaperons, as being quite out of date and they have been avenged, by its being made quite possible now for a girl to be monopolised by any man in her particular set, without the least prospect of her being married to him.

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In fact, it usually happens that the man suddenly falls in love with someone else the very opposite of the girl he has been so friendly with, and the latter is left to make the best of a very disappointing situation.

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Far from being of the independent type he has been so familiar with, the girl he marries is too timid that she will not walk out anywhere even by herself. She wears fluffy fussy blouses and ridiculously high-heeled shoes. Her conventional upbringing makes her hold such things as slang and smoking in women as hateful and disgusting, and her only accomplishment is a rather tame rendering of drawing room ballads because her father "likes some music after dinner."

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She takes quite a pride in ordinary housewifely duties, such as washing up glasses, arranging flowers, and making cakes for tea, or a good old Dutch tiffin. You might, in fact, call her quite commonplace.

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But to the man these qualities have the attraction of being altogether novel. Her sweet, serious ways appeal to him. He thinks what a charming restful wife and mother she will make. She captures his heart because she is so essentially feminine.

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Therein lies the secret of the whole matter. While women have been trying to educate themselves up to men's level, meeting him on his own ground in business as well as in sport, resenting any attempt at being looked upon as one of the weaker sex, man's attitude towards her has also altered, but *his idea of women* remains the same as it was in the days of his great-grand-father.

The gentle, sympathetic woman, who likes to be waited on hand and foot, who has to be protected and looked after, who relies on his strength in her own weakness, and calls up all the chivalry and tenderness there is in his nature, that is the woman he regards in his heart of hearts as the ideal wife.

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Her very dependence attracts and keeps him, for most men find it very disagreeable to be reminded of her independence by any woman he is fond of. In his inmost heart he wishes her to be dependent on him for everything, It is his natural instinct, and he cannot get over it.

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Another point in her favour is her inacessibility owing to the conventionalities she hedges herself with. The shyer the bird is the keener the man is to capture her, while the prey that is his too easily is just as easily cast aside.

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For months a man may be content to drift along the easy paths of friendship. But it generally happens that sooner or later some other girl, such as I have described, takes his fancy and off he goes in pursuit of her.

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The conventionality that surrounds her, makes him more eager in his quest. Her parents are of the old-fashioned sort, and have old-fashioned ideas regarding platonic friendship; this means considerable plotting and planning, to get even five minutes alone with his lady-love. Here, there is no meeting him half-way. He must make all the advances and walk warily so as not to give offence.

In the end the quite shy girl makes her capture. The engagement is proudly announced and outsiders wonder why the man treated the other girl so shabbily.

The objects of the Union shall be :

To cause to be prepared and.....printed and published, papers, essays, etc: on questions relating to the history and origin of the Dutch Burghers of Ceylon, and to publish the genealogies of the Dutch families now in Ceylon.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DUTCH RULE IN CEYLON.

A talk given over the Schools' Service of Radio Ceylon

BY DR. G. C. MENDIS

In my last talk I discussed the importance of Portuguese rule in Ceylon. We noted that the Portuguese brought about little change in the sphere of government and administration. They left the Sinhalese and Tamil institutions and customs more or less as they were before. In the economic sphere they merely improved the trade in spices and other articles but made no noteworthy alteration in the system of agriculture. Their main contribution was in the social sphere. They introduced a new form of religion – Roman Catholic Christianity—which differed from Hinduism and Buddhism in organization, dogmas and doctrines, ritual and forms of worship, while some of their manners and customs were adopted by the upper classes and the converts to Christianity. Even these changes were not widespread and were limited mainly to the south-western area and the Jaffna Peninsula. Thus though they checked two important movements, South Indian and Muslim expansion in Ceylon, they did not bring about sufficient changes within the Island so as to make one consider their rule a turning-point in the internal developments of Ceylon.

Did the Dutch then exercise a greater influence ? Was their rule a turning-point in Ceylon history ?

The Dutch undoubtedly ruled for a much longer period from 1658 to 1796. During these 138 years they were involved only in a few wars. They fought with the Kandyan kings first in order to stabilize their position in the territory they conquered from the Portuguese and then towards the end of their occupation when their rule was threatened as a result of the King's negotiations with the British. Their object was to maintain peace, as long as they could carry on the trade. They knew any war would not only hinder their trade but would also involve the Company in heavy expenses which the shareholders would not approve.

Nevertheless we have to remember that they ruled directly only over a small portion of Ceylon, an area much smaller than that which the Portuguese governed. In the south-west they ruled only over the coastal belt extending for about twenty miles inland from the Mahaoya to the Valave Ganga; in the north only over the Jaffna Peninsula and to a lesser extent over the district of Mannar. In other parts they occupied only sea ports such as Trincomalee, Kottiyar, Batticaloa, and Kalpitiya in order to prevent foreigners from entering the Kandyan Kingdom and from taking a share in the trade of the Island.

Even in this limited area over which they ruled directly their influence was not widespread. They established a Dutch form of government only in the towns of Colombo, Galle and Jaffna. It was

only in these that they established law courts such as the Raad van Justitie, Civiel Raad and the Fiscal's courts and enforced Roman-Dutch law. It is true they established Landraads in rural areas to settle the disputes of the Sinhalese and the Tamils relating to lands, contracts and debts. But these courts followed the customs of the Sinhalese and the Tamils, and the judges included Sinhalese and Tamils who were well conversant with these customs.

The rural areas were ruled by the Disavas who were stationed in Colombo, Jaffna and Matara. They dealt with the development of trade, the cultivation of land, the collection of revenue, and the production of commercial crops. They interfered little with the customs of the people and their way of life apart from prohibiting religious practices which they disapproved. They maintained the form of feudalism that came down from the times of the Sinhalese and the Tamil kings and made full use of it. Far from meddling with the medieval system of caste they rigidly observed it to get the cinnamon peeled and other essential services performed. Thus, as under the Portuguese, the Sinhalese and Tamil systems changed little. The structure of government, the general economy and the social system remained more or less as before.

What then did the Dutch do for the development of Ceylon ? In what ways did they modify or change the conditions that prevailed at the time they occupied the Maritime Provinces ?

The Dutch definitely helped the advancement of agriculture in their territory. They repaired irrigation works to help the development of paddy cultivation. We have already referred to the constant warfare of the Portugese who took to fighting as ducks to water. During these wars much of the country was devastated, especially the regions around Colombo, which were abandoned by those who inhabited them. In these the Dutch settled slaves from Tanjore and gave them freedom if they cultivated their lands efficiently. Further they encouraged the people to cultivate in their gardens commercial crops such as coffee, pepper. cardamoms, arecanuts and coconuts. They themselves opened cinnamon plantations instead of depending entirely on what grew wild.

The Dutch improved the means of communication in the south-western parts of the Island. Under the Sinhalese kings little attention was paid to them as there was little trade and the economy of the villages were in the main selfsufficient. The roads constructed were limited mainly to towns. The canals were made primarily for irrigation purposes or to drain marshy lands. The Dutch on the other hand were greatly interested in trade and therefore in transport. They conveyed goods in vessels both by river and by sea along the coast. They opened up a road from Mannar to Matara, building bridges over streams and providing ferry boats across rivers. They improved the canal from Puttalam to Colombo, and in order to transport cinnamon during the southwest monsoon, when it was difficult to ply vessels along the coast owing to the strong winds, they connected the Kelani Ganga with the Kaluganga by means of canals.

The Dutch raised the standard of building in the Island. They were great builders and they erected in Ceylon massive fortresses similar to those built in Europe in the seventeenth century. Some of the houses they built, like the fortresses, can be seen even today. It is from them that we have borrowed the words istoppuva (verandah) soldare (upstairs) and tarappuva (staircase).

The Dutch also developed certain crafts. It was they who established the carpentry industry in Moratuwa. the tile and brick industry in Kelaniya. The word bass used for a master-carpenter is derived from Dutch.

The Dutch introduced considerable social changes in the areas over which they directly ruled. The Portuguese during wars destroyed Buddhist vihares and Hindu devales. They transferred the lands given as endowments to them to their own religious orders. Thus there was little of Buddhism and Hinduism left as a form of public worship within their territories. The Dutch persecuted at first the Roman Catholics and the Muslims the former mainly for political reasons and the latter on economic grounds. Though they helped Kandyan kings to obtain Buddhist bhikshus from Siam to restore the upasampada they discouraged the revival of Buddhism in their own territory.

In this background the Dutch introduced the Protestant form of Christianity—the Dutch Reformed Church, and through it they exercised considerable influence over the people in the south-west and in the Jaffna Peninsula. The organization of the Dutch Reformed Church was different from that of the Roman Catholic Church and followed the form set up by Calvin in Geneva. It was governed by the clergy and the 'elders' elected by the congregation, and the ministers themselves were chosen in Holland by the congregations. Few Dutch clergymen came to Ceylon but the work of spreading Christianity was carried out through schools. The Dutch had a network of schools in their territory and education was imparted in them through the medium of Sinhalese and Tamil. Those who attended the schools learned not only the elements of Christianity but also reading, writing and arithmetic. The Dutch introduced the printing press into Ceylon and printed parts of the Bible in Sinhalese to be used in these schools. Thus a good percentage of the people in Dutch territory became literate.

The Dutch developed a system of government more thorough than any to which the people had been so far accustomed. We have already mentioned how the Portuguese prepared Land Tombos based on the Lekam mitis of the Sinhalese rulers. The Dutch not only compiled Land Tombos describing the lands and gardens of each village within Dutch territory and giving details of high and low lands, buildings, trees and taxes due, but also prepared Hoofd or Head Tombos of the proprietors of the holdings described in the Land Tombos. These gave their age, occupation and the services and taxes due from each. They also kept School Tombos which gave a list of all persons baptized and married in each village. Further they gave details of genealogy, dates of birth, marriage and death.

The Dutch law-courts too were efficiently conducted in comparison with the courts in the Kandyan Kingdom. A Dutch Disava presided over the Landraads making use of Sinhalese and Tamil conversant with custom to assist him in deciding cases. The Dutch codified the customs of the Tamils, Tesavalamai, to enable them to settle cases more easily. Wherever Sinhalese and Tamil customs did not cover a case they applied Roman-Dutch law.

There are two other factors which make Dutch rule important. The Dutch system of government was continued for some decades with little modification by the British and thus the Dutch influence continued beyond their rule. It is to Dutch rule that we have to trace the beginnings of the modern period of Ceylon history.

When the British occupied the Maritime Provinces they did not alter very much the Dutch system. As far as the economy of the Island was concerned they continued the Dutch mercantilist system, and the British East India Company took over the trade of the Dutch Company. In the sphere of agriculture they continued to repair irrigation works and encourage paddy cultivation and the cultivation of commercial crops both in gardens and plantations. They made use of the canals built by the Dutch and continued the construction of roads. They too built fortresses and other buildings and gave work to carpenters and the tile and brick manufacturers. The Protestant Missions that followed the British began to work mainly in the areas where the Dutch Reformed Church had established itself, and thus built their churches on Dutch foundations. They themselves established schools on the lines of the Dutch as a means to spread Christianity, and established printing presses to publish books and journals. The British at first changed little of the Dutch system of government. They established in the towns law courts similar to those that existed in Dutch times. They adopted the Roman Dutch law and gradually began to apply it throughout the Maritime Provinces. As the Dutch had done, they tried to rule the Sinhalese and the Tamils as well as the Muslims according to their ancient institutions and customs and thus did not at first interfere much with either their form of feudalism or their system of caste.

We have already seen that the Portuguese checked the South Indian and Muslim expansion in Ceylon and opened Ceylon to western influences. But the Portuguese themselves did not turn Ceylon in the modern direction. Those of us who have studied European history will remember that European Historians divide the history of Europe into three periods; Ancient history, Medieval history, and Modern history. Ancient history deals mainly with Greek and Roman civilizations. Medieval history begins with the fall of the Roman Empire and ends round about 500 A. D., and Modern history begins with the break up of feudalism and the Voyages of Discovery, the rise of the nation-state, the rule of law, the Renaissance, the Reformation and the use of the printing press.

The Voyages of Discovery are associated with the development of commerce and the break up of feudalism. The Portuguese who came to Ceylon made some of these voyages of discovery. But the coming of the Portuguese to Ceylon did not lead to the break up of feudalism or the development of commerce within the Island to any appreciable extent Hence the Portuguese did not usher in the modern period of Ceylon history. But it is to the Dutch that we owe the beginnings of the modern period. though the changes they introduced affected the people of the Island only to a small extent. The Dutch too preserved the feudal system that existed in the Maritime Provinces, but with this difference. The people of Ceylon up to this time produced crops mainly for consumption, but the Dutch encouraged them to cultivate crops for sale and thereby helped the growth of trade within the Island. There was no Reformation in Buddhism or Hinduism as a result of Dutch rule in Ceylon, but the Dutch introduced tho Reformed Church into Ceylon which cared little for religious ceremonial and stressed the education of the people so that they may read the Bible and learn the teachings of Christianity by themselves. This Church was also responsible for the establishment of the first printing press in Ceylon though it exercised little influence at this time. Though the Dutch system of law courts were limited to towns the Dutch accustomed the people to the rule of law more than ever before. The codification of the Tamil Tesavalamai was a definite step in the modern direction.

Two other features of more recent times in Europe are the development of communications which followed the Industrial Revolution and the spread of elementary education by the State. In both these respects the Dutch were in advance of many European nations, and they brought about similar changes in Ceylon. Even in England during the eighteenth century elementary education was not so widespread as in the Dutch territory of Ceylon.

If we examine Ceylon as it is today, we shall find that the most advanced parts are those that were ruled directly by the Dutch, and at least a part of the credit for this must go to them. What happened in Dutch territory was that many persons became literate and got accustomed to the rule of law and the cultivation of commerical crops, and therefore, were able to benefit more quickly than others by the developments that took place under British rule.

But all these did not lead to any radical changes. On the whole the Dutch left alone the Sinhalese and Tamil systems. It is true they encouraged the cultivation of commerical crops, they developed communications by the construction of canals, they improved the standard of buildings and gave an impetus to the development of crafts, they spread elementary education and accustomed people to the rule of law. But these changes were limited to the area over which they directly ruled, and made little difference to the life of the people as a whole.

LORENZ

AND

HIS TIMES

J. R. TOUSSAINT.

CHARLES AMBROSE LORENZ.

Born 1829. Died 1871.

To many arts his skill he lent,
And none he did not ornament;
On men in kindness he bestowed
What he to Nature's bounty owed.

★ ★ ★

As lawyer, limner, legislator,
Musician, leader, educator,
He shone on earth a very Triton,
A truly Admirable Chrichton.

H. L. R. in the Royal College Magazine.

(Retired Principal, Royal College).

CHARLES AMBROSE LORENZ.

(Lines written on the 50th Anniversary of his Death).

We fain would leave a wreath upon thy grave today,
Feeling thy memory suffereth no decay,
Though half a hundred years have fled away.

Thy goal no earthly plaudits, earthly fame
And still we cherish and revere thy name:
Its beauty and its freshness still the same.

Responsive both to sorrow and to joy,
Dower'd with strong manhood's power—in heart a boy,
A nature strong and true and free from base alloy.

Where of thy gracious life a counterpart we find,
Too early still'd thy heart so wondrous kind:
The genial soul, the large majestic mind.

Courageous ever in the cause of right,
Seeking thy Country' good – that vision bright
Thy constant star, ne'er fading from thy sight.

In every home an honoured, welcome guest,
No miser thou, of effort, strength, or rest,
Obeying naught but love's supreme behest.

Thy friendship bore to struggle and distress
The rich relief of royal gentleness,
Akin to perfect love and tenderness.

Time cannot dim our precious heritage,
It glows with life and power from age to age
On Ceylon's roll of fame, a glorious page.

GUY O. GRENIER.

PREFACE

This work purports to supply, though very inadequately, a want that has existed since the death of Lorenz. No serious effort has been made, until recently, to write a full and connected story, and the lapse of time has added to the difficulty. What has happened is that from time to time a few isolated incidents concerning Lorenz have been brought to light, chiefly on account of their appeal to the popular imagination, and these have been pieced together and taken as the best substitute for a more ambitious work, the articles generally ending with the pious exhortation that "the full story of Lorenz has still to be written". It is quite true that the difficulty is one that does exist, because the material available is spread over a wide field, and sometimes treated with a secrecy worthy of a better cause.

It is not claimed for this work that it is superior to anything that has appeared before, nor has the writer any special qualifications to undertake the task; but it is felt, however unworthy it may be, that the sooner the work is undertaken the better, before all traces of the life of this unique personality are lost. The same old incidents make their re-appearance, but an attempt has been made, as far as possible, to write the story on a chronological basis, so that those who are unacquainted with the life of Lorenz may have before them a connected story.

It has hitherto been thought that Lorenz wrote only five series of mock Christmas Debates, those for the years 1860, 1861, 1863, 1864, 1865, and that they ceased with the last mentioned issue. It has now been found that this surmise is incorrect. Lorenz continued to write the mock debates for the years 1866, 1867, and 1868 also, and published them in the *Examiner*. They have been discovered through the keen enterprise of Muhandiram D. P. E. Hettiaratchi, to whose collaboration I owe a great deal, and they are published as an Appendix to this work. My sincere thanks are due to Mr. H. A. J. Hulugalle, Mr. R. L. Brohier and Mr. Hettiaratchi for their encouragement and advice; to Mr. Guy O. Grenier and others who have placed their valuable Lorenz Manuscripts at my dispoaal; and to Mr. George van Twest for his excellent reproduction of the photographs. I desire also to acknowledge the valuable help I have received in various ways from other sources, especially to the article in the "Ceylon Quarterly Magazine" by Leopold Ludovici, which is the standard work on the subject, and to Mr. E. H. vanDerWall's article on "The Homes of Lorenz." The letters written to Lorenz by his father from Matara when he was a student at the Academy, and from which I have freely gleaned, are of the greatest value. They see the light for the first time in this narrative, and help one to conjure up some of the scenes of Lorenz's boyhood, and the rich bloossoming of those talents and accomplishments that have contributed to his undying fame.

LORENZ AND HIS TIMES

Parentage and Early Education.

I.

Shortly after the death of Charles Lorenz, Lep Ludovici, his closest friend, paid the following tribute to him in the *Ceylon Quarterly Magazine* for September, 1871:—"Truly the men of that generation were men of weight, giants in intellect; but alas! that of the twelve or more who formed the glorious brotherhood, so many should have fallen under the relentless sickle of the mower, their work scarce half done. The sad funeral procession was led by James Stewart, the keen lawyer, the brilliant speaker, whose impetuous eloquence carried everything before it, and even while failing to convince, failed not to call forth the wonder and admiration of his hearers: after him went Dr. Kelaart, the *savant* and *litterateur*, who starting from the humble ranks of the Ceylon Medical Service, rose by sheer dint of application to the top of his profession, and commanded a reputation second only to that of those who have left the highest mark on the scientific history of their times; then came James Alexander Dunuwille, the first of his race, and we fear for many generations to come, the last,* next followed Frederick Nell, a giant in head as he was a giant in limb; and now the greatest of them all, the grave has closed over whatever was mortal of Charles Ambrose Lorenz. But though dead he yet speaketh and the noble mission of his life shall live to distant generations, to inspire the nobler aspirations of his Community." In the following pages an attempt will be made to portray as fully as possible the life of this great Ceylonese, bringing into prominence some aspects of his career that have hitherto not received the attention they deserved.

The arrival of the founder of the Lorenz family in Ceylon is full of romance. Born at Templeburg in Prussian Pomerania in 1772, his parents belonged to the middle rank of life. Johann Freiderick Lorenz was the son of John André Lorenz, a captain of the Schwartz Cuirassiers. His father having fallen in a military engagement when the son was only five years old, and the mother being dead, Johann Freiderick was placed at school in Potsdam, being afterwards transferred to the Military College in Berlin as a free student at the instance of his god-father, who was the Colonel of his father's regiment. Here the son gave promise of the possession of a quick understanding which bore ample fruit in laten years as the following incident will show. It was an examination day, the chief guest being Frederick the Great. It used to be the custom elsewhere, as in Ceylon, in those days for the senior students to be examined in some subject by the chief guest.

* It is only fair to say that this statement is not borne out by subsequent events.—*Note by Author.*

On the day in question, Frederick the Great had composed some verses in honour of the occasion. He called up the dictation class and recited the verses he had prepared for the boys to write down, promising the boy who could do the lines correctly the Royal prize. The head boy stepped forward and wrote off the lines correctly enough, but the King detected a slight error and asked whether any of the other boys found a mistake in the lines. Johann Lorenz stepped forward, rubbed out the small i with which the initial word of the first line "Lieben" was commenced, and wrote a capital L in its place. Highly pleased, the King handed him a book of poems bound in red morocco. Another of Johann's recollections was the death of Freiderick the Great in 1786, when all the students of the Military College were marshalled into the palace yard, and moved in procession to view the body laid out in regal state.

When he was verging on eighteen years old Johann Lorenz decided to leave his home and to seek his fortune in the East Indies, which was in those days supposed to hold promise of speedy riches, or as it was termed in the language of the day "to shake the Pagoda tree to obtain a shower of golden wealth." The presence in India of an uncle of his who had left Germany many years before and was doing well, served as an additional inducement. Johann Lorenz was ill-equipped for such an enterprise. He commenced his journey to the sea coast in mid-winter, a bundle on a stick over his shoulder, very little money in his purse, but wtth a heart beating high with hope and a determination to succeed, He did not minimize the task he had undertaken. It was mid-winter and this added to the dangers of the enterprise. In after-life Johann Lorenz used to say that the hardships and privations which he had to undergo in Ceylon were not to be compared with the difficulties of this journey. He paid his way by playing the flute at the farm houses where he sought food and shelter. Sometimes he would be invited to stay a few days, and he repaid this kindness and hospitality by giving the younger members of the family lessons in music or in writing and helping the old people with their correspondence or accounts.

One day while passing a lonely spot, he met an old Jew who offered to tell his fortune for a penny. Being superstitiously inclined, Johann Lorenz fell in with the proposal and crossing the Jew's hand with a penny, he held out his hand. The Jew scanned the lines and told him to beware of rivers and streams, for death by drowning was written in the map of destiny, unless a happy conjunction of the stars sent a blade of grass to save him.

This forecast of his future was not altogether reassuring. Thoughtful and pensive he continued his journey. The country was all covered with snow and streams, while rivers and bridges were indistinguishable under the white mantle with which the ground was all covered. Towards evening he missed his way and falling into a stream he was carried off by the current. Fortunately a labourer

passing by witnessed the accident and rescuing him took him to a farm house, where under the kind attentions of the occupants he soon came round. On his relating his adventure, the labourer who had rescued him bore testimony to the fact that it was a clump of rushes he had held on to that saved him from drowning.

Johann Lorenz embarked at Amsterdam in 1792, being then twenty years of age, after a perilous voyage, which in those days could only be accomplished by doubling the Cape, and landed at Galle the following year. The Dutch tenure of Ceylon was now reaching its close and the reception he received from the authorities was not very encouraging. He was not, however, easily discouraged. He set about to acquire a knowledge of both Dutch and Portuguese ; and when the British occupation began he took up the study of English. In the course of a few month he had gained so much proficiency that Governor North appointed him Fiscal of Colombo. It is also recorded that he was later appointed Translator and Secretary to the Fiscal, Galle, in June 1801, and Secretary to the Provincial Court of Matara in April, 1803. His English was perfectly idiomatic, though he spoke with a foreign accent, while his Dutch and Portuguese were no less perfect.

So well did he acquit himself in the office of Fiscal that he was next appointed Sitting Magistrate of Morowak Korale in the Matara District. He was next transferred to Gettamane also in the same district near Beliatta, and finally to Matara; from which appointment he retired on pension in 1834. He was highly esteemed by the Judges of the Supreme Court, who regarded him as an active, able, and experienced Magistrate. During his tenure of office under Government he made several valuable reports on the agricultural condition of the districts in which he worked. He also embarked on an ineffectual experiment in the cultivation of wheat.

A word here may be said as to the nature of the office of "Sitting Magistrate" which Johann Lorenz filled so creditably. This was entirely of British origin and took the place of the Dutch Courts. It was felt that in towns, there should be some official whose duty it should be to watch over the Police, and to sit at some convenient hours for the examination and commitment of offenders, the hearing, trying and punishment of trivial offences, and in general for the more ready exercise of all the functions that appertain to a magistrate. It was accordingly decided to appoint an official called the "Sitting Magistrate" to exercise these functions, and in the absence of the President of the Court of the Justice of Peace to act for him and summon the members constituting the Court to assemble and sit for business. These Courts continued to function till 1833 when they were abolished with several other Courts by the Charter of 1833. Several Burghers held these appointments.

During Johann Lorenz's tenure of the office in Matara he was held in high regard. The story is current that on one occasion the Governor, who was on circuit in the 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 was on the bank of the river by the Fort gate, and landed the distinguished visitor at " Lodge Harmony" where the Sitting Magistrate lived. Lorenz rose to the occasion and invited the Governor to be his guest. The Governor yielded to the request 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".

Johann Lorenz was a man with strong domestic instincts. Proof of this is to be found in the reverence and affection with which his children always spoke of him to their friends as well as to the fact that he himself taught them, not only accomplishments such as music, drawing, painting and dancing but also the ordinary subjects of a primary education. Further proof of his love of domesticity, if required, is to be found in the fact that he was married three times. By his first wife (Miss Roosmalecocq) who died three years after marriage, he had two children who pre-deceased her. His second wife (a daughter of Captain J. F. Andre) bore him two daughters, one of whom married Mr. P. J. Ludovici of Galle (father of Mr. Edwin Ludovici, at one time Secretary and Assistant Chairman of the Colombo Municipality), and the other Mr. Charles Alexander Vander-Straaten. His third wife was Anna Petronella Smith to whom he was married in 1813. The following genealogical particulars will not be altogether devoid of interest. It will moreover enable the reader to place the minor personages who flit through these pages in their proper perspective and relationship to Lorenz, whose own domesticity was so pronounced, and which enriched his life at every turn :—

Johann Friedrich Wilhelm Lorenz was thrice married : (1) on the 12 July 1801 at Galle to Susanna Wilhelmina Roosmale Cocq of Galle; (2) on the 29 March 1805 at Galle to Maria Elisabeth Andreæ of Cochin; and (3) on the 21 September 1813 at Matara to Anna Petronella Smith. His first wife was born at Galle in 1784 and died on the 7th May 1803. She was the daughter of Petrus Jacobus Roosmale Cocq of Deccum in Friesland and Susanna Henrietta Leembruggen. Petrus Jacobus Roosmale Cocq died as Sitting Magistrate of Ambalangoda 15 August 1813. He was the son of Capt. Pieter Ambrosius Roosmale Cocq, also of Doccum. The name, as the quarterings on his arms indicate, was due to an alliance between a Mr Cocq and a Miss Roosmale. As regards Susanna Henrietta Leembruggen, she was born at Nagapatnam 31 July 1766, being the daughter of Henricus Leembruggen she was born at Nagapatnam 31 Jully 1766, being the daughter of Henricus Leembruggen of Leyden, the Chief of the Cinnamon Department, by his third wife Dorothea Maria Dies, horn at Colombo 1742, the daughter of Johann Heinrich Dies of Hildesheim and Maria Wilhelmina Blom of Colombo. Her half sister Petronella Jacoba Leembruggen was the wife of Nicolaas Tadema, Chief of Pulicat. The latter, as the arms indicate, was of the same family as the great painter Alma Tadema. Maria Elisabeth Andreæ, born at Cochin 10 January 1788, died at Galle 22 April 1809, was the daughter of Capt. Johann Friedrich Andreæ of Golding (born 5 March 1752, died at Galle 4 July 1790, and buried in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle) by his wife Josina Magdalena van Haren of Cochin, who married secondly at Galle 27 February 1791 Dirk Haiting. She was no doubt the daughter of Reynier van Haren of Campen, Hoof Administrateur of Cochin (born 12 December 1734, and died there 16 March 1789). The arms on his tombstone are :—Argent, a fesse chequy gules and sable.

Anna Petronella Smith was the daughter of Johan Gabriel Smith and Helena Catharina Ernst (born 1775), daughter of George Nicolaas Ernst of Neustadt on the Aisch.

The children of the first marriage were :—

1. Henrietta Rudolphina Lorenz, born 1802.

2. Louis Charles Constantyn Lorenz, born at Calpentyn 12 Jan. 1803.

Both these children died young.

The children of the second marrage were :—

1. Johanna Wilhelmina Justina Lorenz, born 4 Jan. 1806.

2. Anna Sophia Carolina Lorenz, born 24 Dec. 1807.

Johanna Wilhelmina Justina Lorenz was married at Matara on the 24 Nov. 1834 to Petrus Jacobus Ludovici, Secretary of the District of Galle, born 3 Feb. 1791, died July 1875. He was the son of Jan Hendrick Ludovici of Amsterdam, Garrison Surgeon, Matara, and Gertruida Rudolphina Hoffman, the daughter of Christoffel Wilhelm Hoffman of Berlin and Johanna Margareta Meurling, who was the daughter of Johannes Meurling of Westerwick (Sweden). Jan Hendrick Ludovici was the son of Laurens Ludovici of Markt Elback by his wife Johanna Margareta Elsebeen Westernhoff of Fustenau. Anna Sophia Carolina Lorenz married at Matara 24 Nov. 1829 Charles Alexander van der Straaten. He was the son of Pieter Engelbert van der Straaten, boekhouder in the Dutch service, and Maria Elizabeth Kriekenbeek, and grandson of Engelbert van der Straaten of Singen and Susanna Thysz.

The children of the third marriage were :—

1. Margareta Frederica Wilhelmina Lorenz, born 25 Aug. 1814, died 16 July 1857. Married on the 6 March 1832 Andreas Everardus Andree.

2. Lucilla Charlotta Henrietta Lorenz, born 22 Aug. 1815, died 21 Nov. 1890. Married 24 July 1837 Adolphus Wilhelmus Andree, widower of Thomasia Dorothea Adriana Poulier.

3. Nancy Catharina Louisa Lorenz, born 20 Sept. 1816.

4. Adelaide Amelia Lorenz, born 20 Nov. 1817. Married George Poulier, born at Matara 1816.

5. Adriana Charlotte Henrietta Lorenz, born 29 June 1819. Married 26 Nov. 1840 John William Ebert.

6. Harriet Agnes Lorenz, born 12 Dec. 1820. Married John Drieberg.

7. Georgiana Elizabeth Lorenz, born 16 Jan. 1824, died 9 July 1825.

8. John Fredrick Lorenz, born 5 Jan. 1827.

9. Charles Ambrose Lionel Lorenz, born at Matara 8 July 1829 died at Colombo 9 August 1871. Married Eleanor Nell.

Andreas Everhardus Andree and Adolphus Wilhelmus Andree were the sons of Willem Hendrik Andree and Clara Elizabeth van Hoven, and grandsons of Fredrik Andree of Selles and Anne Maria Douwe of Colombo. George Poulier and Thomasia Dorothe Adriana Poulier were children of Gerrit Joan Poulier, Sitting Magistrate of Belligam, and Anna Catharina de Vos. The great-grandfather of Gerit Joan Poulier, Arnout Poulier of Bergen-op-zoom was the original settler in Ceylon, having come out in 1714 in the ship *Schoonewal*.

John Willem Ebert, born 4 May 1811, was the son of Pieter Johannes Ebert and Anna Cornelia Mack and grandson of Rycloff Johannes Ebert, Sitting Magistrate of Kalutura, and Susanna van der Laan. The grandfather of Rycloff Johannes Ebert was the settler in Ceylon. He was Golfried Ebert of Aarneburg (Brandenburg).

John Drieberg, born 17 May 1809, married at Matara 13 July 1841 Harriet Agnes Lorenz. He was the son of Gerard Johan Willem Drieberg and Amelia Frederica de Wolff, and grandson of Johannes Gerrardus Drieberg and Johannes Catharina Horn.

John Frederick Lorenz married a Miss La Brooy and died without issue.

The sponsors at his baptism were Robert Charles Roosmale Cocq, Jacobus Ambrosius Roosmale Cocq, Maria Theresia de Lecuw, widow Elsenhans, and Anna Sophia Carolina Lorenz. His wife Eleanor Nell was the daughter of George Michael Nell and Marie Elizabeth Conderlag, and granddaughter of Frederick August Nell of the Cape of Good Hope. Maria Elizabeth Conderlag, born 1865, was the daughter of Johan Frederick Conderlag and Elizabeth Erfson, and granddaughter of Johannes Conderlag of Hesse Cassel and Susanna Louisa Giller.

Concerning Lorenz's baptism we have the following particulars. On the 2nd. August 1829 the Rev: J. D. Palm paid his annual visit to Matara and baptized seven infants, the first name recorded being that of Charles Ambrose Lorenz, son of Johann Freiderick Lorenz and Anna Petronella Smith. The application for baptism was signed by J. F. Lorenz and bore the following particulars in Dutch:—"Het kind geboren den 8th. July, 1829 te worden genomen Charles Ambrose Lorenz en Anna Petronelle Smith, echte de doop getuizen zign Robert Charles Roosmalecocq, Jacobus Ambrosius Roosmalecocq, en Maria Theresa de Leuwen, widow Elzhens en Anna Sophia Carolina Lorenz".

Johann Lorenz's house in Matara was appropriately named "Lodge Harmony" from the fact that the members of his family whom he had taught to play on different musical instruments were accustomed to "discourse sweet music" to the delight of the residents of Matara. Picture extant shews them engaged in one of their orchestral practices, while the father and mother listen with pardonable pride to the quartette which is being rendered. Apart from the fact that it gives a glimpse of Lodge Harmony, the picture is not without some historical value, illustrating as it does the interior and furnishing of a room of the period, not the least interesting object in it being the spinet (the fore runner of the Piano) with its quaint draping.

It will be readily understood that the upbringing of so large a family, even in an outstation like Matara—on the salary of a "Sitting Magistrate" and subsequently on a reduced income after retirement—did not permit of luxuries, but they were a happy united family, keen in their work and simple recreations and all without exception exhibiting a taste for Art, whether in needlework, music, dancing, painting or drawing.

As a boy Lorenz did not belong to the quiet orderly sort, the favourite of maiden ladies of debatable age, but all who knew him then have learnt to realise the truth that "the child is but the father of the man". Fond of play when play time came round, he was the leader of fun and frolic, and many a trick did he play to the utter discomfiture of his staid juvenile companions whom he enticed into mischief. Lep Ludovici who was about the same age as Lorenz relates how they used to ride bare-back on the horses of the residents, for the owners of the horses were anxious that their animals should be exercised before use on Saturday morning, and how a dozen horsemen could be seen issuing from the Fort gate and scampering away on the Galle or the Tangalle road. Probably Lorenz formed one of this party and used to ride "Old Moses" who was left to graze at his own sweet will in the "Teak Garden". This animal may be identical with "Alvarez" of "The Mysterious Club" formed by some of the boys, and who met with an untimely end.

It should not be a matter for surprise that a boy of quick intelligence like Charles Lorenz, even if as the youngest he was liable to be spoilt, would have his natural wits sharpened amid such surroundings, but it is a fact that he outstripped all his brothers and sisters both in capacity and versatility. If an exception be made in needlework in the artistic branches of which especially the sisters excelled, he would claim, in after years, to have introduced the first sewing machine into the island; and if anything went wrong with it he would rub his hands with glee at the prospect of setting it right himself.

Charles Lorenz and his friends were much given to amateur theatricals and the former's father encouraged their efforts a great deal. Here is a prologue written by the latter for the first play acted in Matara about the year 1840. The effort is a creditable one when it is remembered that it was written by a foreigner in an acquired tongue:—

Ladies and gentlemen, pray how do you do ?
You see I am quite hearty and ready for you.
Your other friends also behind this same scene
They wait for your call, most anxious to be seen,
It is our intention to please, if you let us,
But should we miscarry, pray then forgive us.
The attempt is new and new things, you know,
Are not quite so easy, but come rather slow,
I think you never did see a play
At Matara till this auspicious day
Look at our Theatre, our puny stage,
It will be a marvel in our history's page
I doubt not will shine in next week's *Observer*,
The *Herald* will trumpet our fame with great fervour.
"Stop, stop" you'll say, "you are too quickly running,
First let us behold your art and your cunning."
Well, then, I stop, and doff off my cap,
If we please you, I am sure you will all Clap, Clap, Clap.

Early Days

11

Charles Lorenz lived in Matara up to his thirteenth year and participated in all the youthful activities and outdoor amusements of his day. His father took a personal interest in his education and was mainly responsible for his receiving a good grounding in English, Latin and Mathematics. At the age of thirteen the father felt that the boy was getting beyond him in Latin and Mathematics if not in English, and he decided to send him to Colombo for his education. The charge would have been beyond the means of the old man then on pension at seventy years of age, but it so happened that his youngest surviving daughter was married to Mr. John Drieberg, one of the most prosperous Proctors in Colombo at that time, and she offered her younger brother a home. The happy days he spent in the house at the junction of Old Moor Street and Dam Street, nearly opposite the Colombo Kachcheri, the affection and care bestowed on him by his sister, the strict discipline enforced by his brother-in-law, all this he delighted to speak of in after years. His father continued to take the keenest interest in his welfare and his letters to him breathe of an almost womanly solicitude.

The decision to send Charles to Colombo seemed to have been taken suddenly, for his father attributes to this circumstance the scantiness of his son's wardrobe. "I believe you want a coat very sorely" he says in one letter. "A Moorish shop in the Fort has been opened where I could get cloth for a coat cheap, but how shall I get your measurement, for the breadth of the cloth is different?" Hats and shirts were unprocurable in Matara. As if to console his son for the tenuity of his wardrobe, the father goes on to add: "Your mother has bought you a very nice white cock and hen and is anxious you should come over and see them." He adds inconsequentially, "we eat every day Jumboe for our tree is full of fruits."

In later years Charles Lorenz was always sore about the incorrect spelling of his name. He said there were no asses (s-s) in his family. He inherited this dislike from his father who in a letter to him maks his trenchant remark: "I perceive, that in the enclosed circular you are registered as Master C. Lorensz. For heaven's sake beg your good brother John to have that abominable error rectified and your name properly inserted. Your name is Lorenz and not *Lorensz*. The latter is a Dutch name but the former is a German name." It is interesting to know that all his letters are addressed to "My dear Charly" and end with "your loving Father". The superscription on one letter is, "To my beloved son Master C. A. L. Lorenz".

Charles' wardrobe, or rather the lack of it, continued to occupy his father's thoughts. Not long after the former's departure for Colombo his father writes :—" I regret very much that you have been kept out of your clothes for such a length of time, but it could not have been helped. No cart, no dhony, no cooly was to be had for love or money" A little later he writes :—" I learn from Nancy's last letter that you are very poorly off for want of clothes, which I can well comprehend, considering the scanty quantity you took with you."

Already Johann Freiderick had begun to entertain high hopes of his son's future. In one letter he writes :—" Your letter, my good boy, gives me the greatest satisfaction. Continue in your present praiseworthy career and make once more the name of Lorenz shine forth with some lustre were it but as faint as the tail of the present comet". The reference is probably to Halley's comet. He was at one time opposed to his son's learning Latin, as not likely to be of any practical use to him, but he later says : " I freely give up my opposition for the reason alleged by you and your good sister Nancy, which I cannot disapprove ". The father found some difficulty in providing the son with a box of mathematical instuments, but a " little patience my good boy, and you shall have one by hook or by crook" Another indication of his pride in his son is furnished by the superscription on his letter to him:—" Mr. C. Lorenz, Academician, Colombo,"

Music of course occupied a large place in every letter. In one of them the father in poetical vein writes about " the fiddle which through Lorenz shall the soul of music shed" and inquires whether it still sleeps on the wall because its strings are broken", He cautions his son not to neglect the violin nor the flute. The elder members of the family were now showing signs of age, for the father tells the son that his mother and grandmother are both indisposed and he himself "can stand no longer," for apparently his correspondence was performed in an upright position. In a subsequent letter, hs asks his son-in-law, John Drieberg, to get him an invalid's chair, adding that "at my age the vehicle will lend no assistance long and that term will prove shorter if I do not get it soon."

Johann Lorenz continued to be worried about the spelling of the surname and asks his son to remember to have the entry in the school register correctly written without that d—d snake (s) before the z ". He speaks of having read his friend J. W. Bennett's book "Ceylon and its Capabilities " in which he makes "honourable mention of my poor self in a long article but what does it signify when he spells my name Lorensz ? Who would know whom he meant were it not that he had prefixed to my name my office which I held at the time viz., Sitting Magistrate of the Morowa Korale? " This letter is superscribed: "To my beloved son Charly."

The father is now able to replenish the scanty wardrobe of his son and sends him twelve yards of cloth to be made into jackets and waistcoats. He wants his daughter Nancy to be asked whether the price (six fanams per yard) is cheap or dear in Colombo. If the

latter he will buy no more but will transmit the money. As showing the straits to which he was reduced he sends seven pantaloons belonging to Charles' elder brother Freddy which he had outgrown but which he was sure would fit Charles. Stockings were unprocurable and Nancy is asked to supply the deficiency, but they must not be "unbleached Europe ones, nor Tuticorin ones on any account." Footwear he is unable to procure, he himself being reduced to the necessity of wearing shoes all day in lieu of slippers. He advises his son, if he is out of shoes, to go to a shop in the Fort and buy a pair of " Europe " shoes. He had a good deal more to say, but was prevented "by a sudden fit of oppression in his chest which from time to time overcomes him and which he fears one day will"—he leaves the sentence unfinished.

In the next letter he again speaks of his illness. He congratulates Charles on his "assiduity at school of which the prize he obtained is a sure token ". He reminds him again about the box of mathematical instruments and inquires whether he still requires one ; if he does, he will do his best "to satisfy him in every reasonable wish or desire of his heart ". Charles evidently replied in the affirmative to his father's inquiries about the instrument box, for in his next letter he sends him one that he says is rather rusty.

Charles had now attained his fourteenth birthday (1843) and his father gives him some sound parental advice, thanking at the same time, his two daughters Nancy and Harriet for their good wishes on his last, and in all probability his very last, birthday, as he expresses it. Charles seems to have been a very irregular correspondent for he does not appear to have acknowledged receipt of the box of mathematical instruments. At about this time, Charles gave his father a severe shock by announcing his intention of proceeding to Calcutta to study medicine. "The mention of it to your mother and grandmother occasioned the greatest astonishment to them, and the former was lamenting with tears and sobs your proposal. As for me, I could not conceive how such a sudden impulse could have seized you, to abandon all those to whom you are dear in this country, of whom; after a lapse of five years, a number you would never meet again ; and to think of going to the distance of so many thousand miles, and to dwell among strangers,"

The father goes on to dwell at length on the disadvantages of being a medical man and proceeds :- " Can I, with that precarious amount of emolument which Government allows me, guarantee to equip you as a gentleman in such a City as Calcutta for five long years ?" and much more to the same effect. But there was no need for the father's fears as Dr. Boake would not consent to Charles' proposal, for very good reasons in the opinion of the father. The father takes the opportunity of contrasting his own pastposition as a youth with that of his son. " I was not so fortunate as you in my youth, for my parents died when I was but a child, and brothers and sisters I had none. The little learning which I then picked up has carried me through the world to this very day."

Charles Lorenz was at this time very unsettled in mind as to his future vocation. His father writes very plainly to him: "Your first wish after you left Matara was to enter the Academy and study in it during three years. About a year after you changed your mind and wanted to go to Calcutta. Some time later another whim took possession of you and you wanted to enter the Normal School. Now you make a new proposal". He does not say what this is, but it was probably to study Law. "Far from thwarting you in this, allow me to ask you how long you think this new inclination will occupy your mind and when you suppose you will make a new application to me?" It may be mentioned that the suggestion regarding the Normal School met with srong opposition from one of his uncles.

If you have really made up your mind and intend to accept the very advantageous offer your good brother-in-law has made, I with all my heart, give my full consent to it and wish you joy and God's blessing into the bargain. That you gave up the idea of going to Calcutta I confess was on my representing to you the difficulties, but the business of the Normal School I believe, if I mistake not, I did not advise you to give up finally. Be that as it may, revolve well in your mind what you enter on in binding yourself to the study of the Law. It is the best study here in the Island, that you could have chosen, and under such a Master. But consider my dear boy when you have entered into, and signed your indenture, you must stand by it. There is no retreat unless by a breach of faith."

Charles had now heen a year from home and his relations in Matara began to miss him. "We are all anxious to see your face" says the father and he proposes that his son should pay them a visit in Matara. He is very particular about paying his debts and asks for an account of what is due by him. "If you want any pantaloons and coats of the sort of stuff mine are made request your sister to buy it for you and bring it with you, to have it made up here, where clothes can be made cheaper than in Colombo." He cautions his son against breaking his journey at Kalutara at the risk of losing his seat. He asks him to bring his "fiddle" and he will have it repaired "for I should not like that you should neglect or give it up when you were in such a fair way of becoming proficient in it." He is thoughtful of the boy's comfort and advises him to take some refreshment at Bentota and to avoid getting wet on the road. He proposes to borrow George Poulier's mule and saddle and meet his son at Polwatte on the out-skirts of Matara.

In no letter does he fail to mention his son-in-law Mr. John Drieberg, for whom he entertains the highest regard. He closes his letter by expressing his happiness that his son should have "such a flaming certificate from the Head of the Academy," encloses a one pound note for pocket money, asking him to change it in silver and copper "and to remember the poor on the road." The coach fare was to be advanced by his sister Harriet. We have no record of Charles visit to Matara or whether it ever took place.

In this next letter his father poses the question as to the value of Latin to his son, chiefly on the ground of the expense involved in learning it. "At the end of your studies, of what use will Latin be to you as a lawyer? It cannot add one iota to the better understanding of the Law of Ceylon pleadings. Might we not employ the sum of one pound more profitably to you? After I am dead, will it be easy for your mother to send monthly a one pound note?" He aske his son-in-law John Drieberg for his opinion and advice in the matter. (In the light of after events, a knowledge of Latin was to be of the greatest possible use to Charles Lorenz.)

As was to be expected John Drieberg of course was all in favour of Latin and this, as the father expresses it, had the effect of "mollifying his stubborness," and made him admit that his objection was based on the ground that the money might be spent more profitably on the acquisition of some more useful knowledge like Mathematics, Music, Printing or some other Science. He takes the opportunity of airing his own views in regard to the English pronunciation of Latin. "The French, the Italians, the Portuguese, the Spaniards, who look upon Latin as the mother of their language, all pronounce it in one uniform dialect. The English only have Anglicised it and are therefore not understood by the others. However, as most likely you will have no dealings with other nations, at least in Latin, I shall say no more.',

Johann Frederick now descends from the sublime to the commonplace and asks for two "Europe rat-traps". The habit of snuffing was well established in the family and the father conveys the thanks of Fredy for the snuff box sent to him by Charles, whose wardrobe at the time was a continual source of trouble. The father cautions the son to be very careful about his dress and clothing. "When you were here you were not so attentive to these matters as I could have wished and you were snatched from me before I could correct your deficiency. In January I bought nine pairs of unbleached stockings five of which I gave to Fredy; the other four I wear ever since and they will will serve me another year if I supplement them with others. The smallest hole I immediately mend." He ends the letter by saying "my hand is not so steady as it used to be, but I feel I grow daily a little better." A letter dated the 21st September 1844, written by Johann Lorenz, less than a year before his death, to his son-in law John Drieberg shows more than many words can the exemplry life and the character of Charles Lorenzs Father:—

Matara, 21st Sept., 1844.

My dear John, I write to you on one of the most remarkable days of my life, because I intend to spend it, not as formerly in feasting and pleasure, but as a man of my age and circumstances ought to do, in contentment and quietness. There is something in my mind which whispers that, since my last letter, you look perhaps on me as a whimsical fellow in refusing to accept your and Harriet's splendid offer of a Pony, and I think I ought to give some account of the reasons which induced me to do so. I was once a man of substance and lived according to my rank and station, but never in a manner called splendid. I gave no

dinner parties or balls, was no gambler, no hard drinker, have kept neither horse nor bandy'since nearly thirty years. I was not extravagant in elegant furniture, watches, chains, brooches, rings. But I had with God's blessing a large family, and have sat for years and years at table surrounded by *twelve persons*, eight girls and two sons. Was subject to many removals from one station of the Island to another in my situations under Government. Lost thousand of Rix-dollars by bad debtors and others, several of whom died as beggars, after having made away with sums of money recovered during my long absence from Matura, and lastly in the reduction of my salary, which since 1834 amounts to 7,500 Rds.

I had written thus far when I was interrupted by the arrival of Andreas, who with Mr. Morgan was to plead a case in the Court here. He dined with us and stayed the night over. He has bought a pony which he describes as like that of your father's. He paid 300 Rix-dollars for it and is looking for a carriage. He tells me he expends 21 Rix-dollars a month on the horse. Would mine, if I kept one, cost me less a month? How should I be able to get out of my debts? I have paid to last month 106 £ on account of interest and 35 £ in diminution of capital; and shall therefore not be able to pay anything more living as parsimoniously as I can during the course of a whole year. Now if I do not live so long, which there is a great probability nay an almost certainty of not, what will be the consequence? Why nothing else but that I will leave a curse on the shoulders of my poor family instead of a blessing. And now my dear John, had I accepted your kind present, would I not have acted like a fool? But *basta palavering*.[1] One word to the wise is sufficient. How are you all? How does my Charly behave? Does he please you? I hope to God he does.

Many thanks to Harriet for the *sny boontjes*.[2] Ficky pilfered a hundred at Galle, yet we had enough here for several days, including the 21st of September.

Yours affectionately,

J. F. Lorenz.

Charles Lorenz' letter dated 10th. December, 1844 marked an epoch in the lives of the Lorenz family in Matara. In it Charles announced his intertion of being with the family at Christmas. The father stressed that in whatever kind of vehicle Charles and his party travelled it should not be a bullock cart. Meticulous instructions were given. It is in this letter that the father announces his intention of selling the house in which they lived if he could get two thousand rix dollars for it for it seems to have been mortgaged. He awaits the opinion of his mother-in-law. The subject of the sale had such an effect on him that he was "melancholy by day and absolutely restless by night" He had entirely lost his appetite and could hardly swallow a single meal a day. His wife was precisely in the same condition and would listen to

1. Portuguese for "enough of talk'
2. French beans.

no advice. He hoped that Charles' presence would have an enlivening effect on her. His mother for the first time in this series of letters, writes a short note to her son, expressive of her pleasure at hoping to see him.

Whether this eagerly expected visit ever materialised we are unable to say. The next and the last latter is dated 8th. January 1845 and Johann Freiderick was a sick man now, but not so sick as to be unable to take a lively interest in his son's education. His wife also was ailing for he writes, "I am sorry to say I can give no cheering account of your poor mother." As for himself he says:— "By my ill-formed and ill-favoured letters you will perceive that I am not as well as usual". He continued to take a just pride in his son's scholastic achievements. "I am very pleased with your academical exercises which bear such good marks of approval of your Professor, and also with your drawings, which are much commended by all who have seen them here at Matara.

This was apparently one of the last last letters writen by Lorenz's father, for he died at the age of nearly 73 on 3rd. May, 1845. He was buried in the Dutch cemetery at Galle. The inscription on his tombstone reads; "Sacred to the memory of Johann Freiderick Wilhelm Lorenz, late Sitting Magistrate of Matara. Born at Templeburg in Prussian Pomerania 25th. June 1772," Died at Galle in Ceylon 3rd. May, 1845."

J. F. Lorenz wrote some original verses as well as made translations from German poets.

The following is a specimen of the later written in 1863:—

LIFE'S JOURNEY

(A translation from the German.)

BY JOHANN FREDERICH LORENZ.

Some sages and poets, with reasons prepared,
Our life to a journey by post have compared;
But up to the moment, as far as I've known,
The stages we pass through have never been shown.

The first runs so smoothly through Infancy's borders,
Where, as it were blindfold, kind Nature so orders;
We pass the afflictions which crowd on the way;
And careless of dangers midst flowers we stray.

We then reach the second, with bosoms high beating,
As lads and lasses so joyfully meeting;
Here love takes inside, between us a seat;
And feeds us with morsels, some bitter, some sweet.

In stage number three, the road becomes rugged ;
The yoke matrimonial has to be tugged.
And children require to be clothed and fed,
They run by the coach and clamour for bread.

But stage number four most tiresome will prove ;
When as palsied old women and greybeards we move ;
Death sits as the driver—the vehicle shakes,
And slow and convulsive the progress it makes,

When Youth and Beauty are onward striving,
The sturdy old coachman will not refuse driving:
But all at the Inn of Repose he sets down-
Well, Coachee, if so, drive on—Derry down !

Career at the Academy

III

In the light of this back ground furnished by the life of Charles Lorenz's father and the ideal home atmospher,e that surrounded him during the most impressionable years of his life the reader will be the better able to understand the influence which contributed to the formation of the son's character.

Lorenz was now in Colombo to attend the Acadamy and took up his residence with his brother-in-law, John Drieberg, in his house opposite the Colombo Kachcheri. The grounding he had received from his father stood him in good stead, and although he entered as the last boy in the last class it was not long before he had worked his way up to the first class. Shortly afterwards, when Dr. Boake was appointed Principal, he at once saw the high promise which the intelligent little stranger from Matara gave, and with a father's pride he took the liveliest interest in his studies, directing and assisting his labours with the generous encouragement of a friend. This friendship was cemented by many acts of kindness on both sides in after life. The regard and esteem in which the pupil held the teacher was only equalled by the admiration in which the latter held the success of the former.

At the Academy thrown among young men of ardent minds, Lorenz soon took his place in the first rank and whether at fun or frolic, the manlier sports of the playground or the difficult labours of the day, he soon showed that he was no ordinary boy. His schoolmates and among them boys taller by a head than he, took the measure of his mind and as it were by tacit consent gave him the first place. Prominent among these was Frederick Nell, one of the profoundest minds that Ceylon ever produced, and then came those others who have all more or less indelibly left their mark on their time. Among his first friends were those contemporaries who in many a fair fought fight felt the keen edge of his intellect and learnt to love him for his many noble gifts of head and heart.

While at the Academy he showed such remarkable application that even with a less richly endowed mind he could not have failed to carry everything before him by the sheer force of industry. His was not the irregular diligence which by fits and starts at once betrays the constitutional indisposition to work and the mental capacity which if it only condescends to study can achieve much. Early in life he felt and knew that there waswork for him of a kind of which his countrymen had need and he set about it with an earnestness of mind seldom witnessed in combination with so few years, to qualify himself for the task, and his very school books and exercise books display that love of order, method and neatness which in after life formed so remarkable a feature of his business habits. About the year 1847 when he was but emerging on manhood he was brought into intercourse with Dr. Christopher Elliott and through him introduced to the leading literary men of the day.

Among these was Dr. MacVicar, the Rev : J. D. Palm, the Rev. D. J. Gogerly and the Rev. R. Spence Hardy, and all these at once attracted by the variety and rich promise of his accomplishments became his fast friends, placing their libraries at his service and pressing him with all those kindly attentions which admiration for talent always shows to kindred souls. With Dr. Mac Vicar he was always a special favourite, often spending a whole Sunday with him at his house in Colpetty, and as he sat listening to the brawny old mathematician who combined poetry with metaphysics, he may well have acquired that habit of close reasoning, that logical train of thought which, assiduously cultivated with Dr. Boake, helped to raise him so much above his compeers in his professional career.

At this period of his life, when he ccunted no more than eighteen years, he was literally drowned in work. Not only had he to get up his regular studies for his class, but being now an apprenticed law student he had both to keep up his reading as well as to devote a considerable portion of his time to the mere mechanical drudgery of copying and engrossing. The manysidedness of his mind, however, seemed to be equal to mastering anything placed before him, and he diversified the harder labours of the day by giving every moment he could spare to reading and writing. Dickens, after whom he modelled the style of his earlier writings, became his favourite author. Inheriting the hereditary love of his German ancestry, he took lessons on the flute and the piano, and was soon classed among the best players of his time. Besides these acquirements he turned his attention to drawing, and so rare was this accomplishment considered at the time that whenever a likeness or a sketch was to be taken it was pronounced that none but Lorenz could do it. So facile was his pen that portrait and caricature were often dashed off at a moment's inspiration.

We are indebted to J. B. Siebel for an insight into the days when Lorenz was in the Academy. "When I joined it", Siebel says, "Lorenz was already there and had got to the top of the Third Class in the Upper School. In the course of a year, Lorenz was far ahead of the others and promoted to the First Class, when he had to compete with no ordinary class-mates, e, g., Frederick Nell, Charles Ferdinands, Francis Alvis, Abraham Dias and others. In 1846 the first Turnour prize was competed for, and although Frederick Nell was declared entitled to the prize, yet the merits of Lorenz came so near that the Central School Commission granted him an additional prize. In 1847 the boys of the First Class left the school, having completed their course of studies, but not before Lorenz had made his first venture in literary composition. The class started a paper called "Types, Rypes and Dykes" of which Lorenz was the Editor. It was a weekly paper consisting of original sonnets, epigrams and parodies. Siebel relates that he himself sent in a contribution but that it was returned with the comment "Rejected-beastly stuff"

One of Lorenz's closest friends in the Academy was Edwin Alvis. He was a very promising pupil, and Lorenz and he were often seen together linked arm-in-arm. Their tastes were very much alike and they were congenial spirits. Both possessed great histrionic powers which were seen to advantage on the stage in the Grandpass Theatre, where the young men of the day acted plays. Alvis left the Academy at an early age and entered Government Service. His talents attracted the notice of Sir Richard Morgan and he quickly rose to the post of Assistant Registrar General, long outliving his friend Lorenz.

In addition to Siebel, another friend has left behind some reminiscences of Lorenz. It is J. H. Eaton. "I made Lorenz's acquaintance" he says, "when I went up to Colombo to compete for the School Commission's Mathematical Prize. I was staying at the Royal Hotel (which stood on the site of the General Post Office.) I knew Lorenz only by name then. At the time of his visit to me I think he had left the Academy and was articled to his brother-in-law, Mr. John Drieberg, one of the leading Proctors and Notaries of his day. I well remember how the bright young man with a happy cheery face came up to me walking with quick short steps and introduced himself as Charles Lorenz. After a few moments of friendly converse he left me, promising to return soon. He said he was going to see the Colonial Secretary, Sir James Emerson Tennent, who through Dr. Mac Vicar, the Secretary of the Central School Commission, had asked to be favoured with a perusal of the Latin essays of some of the students of the Colombo Academy. Dr. Boake, who was then at the head of that institution, had sent up some of Nell's and Lorenz's essays, and Sir Emerson Tennent had intimated his wish to see Lorenz. It was in pursuance of this arrangement that Lorenz was on his way to the Council Chamber where the interview was to take place.

"Mr. Lorenz" said Sir Emerson Tennent, "I have read your essays with much pleasure and I think I can say that they are equal to those of some of the best taught lads in England." Lorenz acknowledged the compliment with a bow. Sir Emerson continued, "It is my desire to encourage talent in the young men of Ceylon and I want therefore to offer you the Record-Keepership of the Colonnial Secretary's office." Lorenz pretended to be overcome by the generosity of the offer. The Colonial Secretary went on :—"Perhaps you would like to know what is the salary attached to the office. It is £ 48 a year with the possibility of increase." Lorenz bowed himself out saying : "I will come back when I want £ 48 a year, with the possibility of increase."

Dr. Mac Vicar, who was present at the interview, tried to call Lorenz back, but he was not to be persuaded and continued to repeat what he had said. He returned to the Royal Hotel and related the whole incident to Eaton, re-enacting the scene with a peal of ringing laughter. Little did he know at that time that it would not be long before he would re-mount the same steps in the capacity of a Senator, selected by one of the most gifted and far-seeing of the Governors of Ceylon, to represent in the Council Chamber the interests of a peopel and country proud to recognize him as their trusted representative.

As has already been stated Lorenz's, father died at Galle in Ceylon 3rd May, 1845. There is very little extant, regarding the critical period that followed in the life of Lorenz, all we know being that he continued to live with his sister and brother-in-law, John Drieberg. Considering the tender relations that subsisted between his father and himself, the death of the fourmer must have caused a severe void in Lorenz's life but we can only speculate on the consequences. The sad event however, does not appear to have materially disturbed the even tenour of his life for it was about this time that Lorenz and his companions started a band of their own. To quote Siebel again :— "The two De Waases Charles and William, sons of old Capt De Waas of the S. S. *Seaforth* played the prime violins, I did the second and Napoleon Silvaf (a son of old Hypolite Silvaf) played the Tenor Violin. Lorenz led with the flute (which he played to perfection); Louis Nell played the Cornet; Frederick Kriekenbeck, a born musician played flute (second) and sometimes the Kent Bugle, as the spirit moved him, and old Gabriel Ohlmus (popularly known as "OLD GAB") the instructor of all the young ladies of the time in Colombo (whose knuckles he often rapped for bad playing) was our grand Bass player and his instrument was the Opheicleid. We had practices once a week in Lorenz's "Long Room" in Mr. John Drieberg's house, or sometimes at Frederick Kriekenbeek's corner house at Small Pass. Our fame as musicians had spread all over Colombo and our Band was in frequent request. But we only obliged friends and assisted at Bruilofts* and birthday parties.

Lorenz, although the youngest member of the family, yet took the keenest interest in the education of his elders. While still a student attending College, he says in a letter to his elder brother Frederick :— "I received your letter in which you profess such an aversion to the Post-clerkship of Matura. I am extremely sorry that such a measure was taken by you, in petitioning Mr. Cripps, but you must not mind it. The matter can be settled easily enough. In the meantime I must express my great joy at your obtaining a clerkship under Barton, and I sincerely hope that you will be assisted by him in receiving a good salary. I hope also that you will conduct yourself in such a manner as will please your superiors and be advantageous to yourself, and that you will try to improve yourself by constant application to business so as to fit yourself for the office you now hold".

And there we come to a sore point with Lorenz. Himself an extremely neat person, he could not put up with slovenliness in others. "Try to acquire a better and more legible handwriting, and to write more naturally, since a great deal depends on your writiug. I was half vexed with you when I got your two last letters, for they were written so badly that I was reluctant to show them to anyone" He tempers this criticism by saying: "I am happy to say that your English is much improved of late, and it shews that you have not been idle in your studies. Never forget reading. In the absence of better

*Dutch for Silver Weddings.

instruction, I don't know of a more solid way of improving your style, your diction, and extending your knowledge than by constant and diligent reading. It is reading that has brought you so far, and reading, I am sure, can bring you further".

He goes on to talk of the examination for the Turnour Scholarship, and mentions Nell, Prins, Ferdinands, and himself as the candidates. "I am determined to learn something at this eleventh hour". Writing the next day he says, "I have managed to answer all the questions', but qualifies this the next day by saying :—"I know I answered my papers very badly" but as shewing Lorenz's care-free nature, referring to an entertainment, he goes on to say : "I am sure if I lose the prize, the fun at the Ball will sufficiently compensate for the loss". As we now know, Lorenz' papers were of such high merit, that he shared the prize with Nell.

Siebel relates one or two muscial events. "Having been called upon for our services, we all met at a bungalow in a big garden in Wolvendaal Street. We had a practive there and during the intervals we had large supplies of patties and ginger beer. "Lorenz enjoyed this interlude and remarked to Siebel: "What excellent stuff. They must have a special recipe. Like Oliver Twist, Louis Nell clamoured for more. About midnight they got to a house in Keyser Street and serenaded a young lady, the acknowledged Pettah belle whose birthday anniversary it was.

Another such event was when old Mr. John Van Twest, a well known school-master of his day, asked for the assistance of the Band in connection with the XXV anniversary celebrations of a couple living opposite St. Paul's Church at Kayman's Gate. At zero hour a gun was fired, the doors were opened, and the old tinker and coffin-maker and his wife who had just attained their silver wedding "stood before them attired in their Sunday best and beaming all over with smiles. Suitable congratulations were offered to them in Portuguese. The Band struck up the Wedding march and refreshments were served round. The old couple then introduced their daughter to us, and Lorenz gallantly jumped forward and gave her a hearty kiss, an example which we all followed. The old couple and their daughter wept tears of joy." "I met Lorenz the next day" says Siebel, "and he was in raptures over the fun and the entertainment we had at the Coffin makers, and was decidedly of opinion that old Van Twest was the prince of jolly fellows."

Lorenz had now completed his apprenticeship under his brother-in-law. This gentleman had inculcated in his pupil his own punctilious regard for the interests of his clients, and in 1849 Lorenz was admitted as a Proctor of the Supreme Court, this being the usual avenue in those days for admission to the higher branch of the profession. The examination was purely oral and cannot be said to have been difficult

under present day conditions. It embraced questions on Practice, Ordinances, the Law of Inheritance in Holland, and the English Law of Evidence. The examiners consisted of two Proctors and a Registrar of the Supreme Court. "Sometimes," as James D' Alwis tells in his memoirs, " the examiners had resort to what was known as the *Papegaya*,* a book of questions and answers written in Dutch on abstruse points of the Dutch Law." D'Alwis quaintly adds:—" I have no doubt that the Chief Justice himself would have hesitated, had he not altogether have failed, in answering them". Lorenz found no difficulty with these questions. It is said that some candidates were occasionally admitted on being asked the single question :— " Can you make a Bill of Costs ? "

*Portuguese for "Parrot"

Travels Abroad

IV

It is said that Lorenz's first appearance in the Courts disappointed his many admirers. The older practitioners, who were familiar with the intricacies of native evidence, were more than a match for him, and he felt bound to admit that a theoretical knowledge of jurisprudence was not the only qualification necessary to make a successful lawyer. But he was not the man to admit defeat. He steadily applied himself to the practical details of his profession, and by close concentrated work began to command success in a short time and rose to his proper place among the practising Proctors of the day. Business soon began to flow in upon him and his first twelve months of practice shewed an income of £ 500. Besides the ability with which he conducted his cases, his strict regularity and the scrupulous honour with which he discharged his obligations to his clients, soon proclaimed his name as that of the most honourable young Proctor of the day, and with such a reputation small wonder that business increased and multiplied at a rate to which even his industry seemed unequal. With such large demands on his time and attention he yet continued to keep in touch with the Press, as then represented by the *Observer*, but with a capacity for enjoyment which seemed to grow with every opportunity, he never missed a wedding feast, a social party or a literary engagement, of all of which he was the acknowledged life and soul.

In the midst of these varied occupations he conceived the idea of a local Magazine devoted to literature. The proposal was warmly taken up by young aspirants after literary fame and with Frederick Nell as Editor, the first number of *Young Ceylon* made its appearance in February, 1850. This periodical had but a short career. The combination of talent which formed its literary staff ought to have ensured for it a longer existence than the couple of years it survived, but the fact that its career was terminated not owing to deficiency of literary merit was perhaps some consolation to its founder. At last it was regretfully necessary to announce its cessation. The writers who contributed to its pages were able and willing to continue it, but the public whose support only could give life and permanence to an undertaking of the kind was unappreciative, and it ceased publication as many another has since done owing to a lack of funds to pay the Printer.

Lorenz of course contributed his full share of literary contributions. Closely imitative of Dickens, of whom he remained to the last a most loyal admirer, his style, if wanting in the massive strength of the periods of Frederick Nell, atones for it by the very plainness of its beauty. While reading his articles, so simple yet so terse, the language expressed so homely yet full of pathos, the sentiment so quiet and yet so real, and the spontaneous vein of humour that runs through them all, one is tempted to ask how a mind which seemed to be overflowing with so much fun, could ever have taken kindly to the dull, dry unimaginative study of the Law. He himself answered this question by quoting the words of the great lawyer, Lord Ashburton, that "a mind anxious for the

discovery of truth and information will be amply gratified for the toil of investigating the origin and progress of jurisprudence which has the good of the people for its basis and the accumulated wisdom of ages for its improvement."

In the year 1850 having married Eleanor Nell, the sister of his friends Frederick and Louis, whom he must have often met in their home, he decided on a visit to England, an idea which had often crossed his mind. No one knew better than he that, however highly a man might be educated, books alone could not convey the true life and spirit of a nation's literature. It was necessary to study its currents of thought and to master the intricacies of its language to appreciate whatever was grand and noble in its arts and sciences, and to achieve this a stay in England was essential. He accordingly made arrangements for the voyage which the increasing success in his profession made possible.

On the 10th. February 1853, he embarked on board the *Persia* in company with his wife, the brothers Frederick and George Nell, and his nephew Henry Anderson, the last named of whom did not live to return. Frederick Nell, after a distinguished career at Cambridge, entered Lincoln's Inn, was admitted a Barrister, and returned to Ceylon to live only for a short time. Lorenz of course made the fullest possible use of his opportunities. He kept terms at Lincoln's Inn and in due course was admitted a Barrister. He took the opportunity during the vacations of going over to Holland and making the acquaintance of the greatest minds there in the realm of Law.

Having already a working knowledge of Dutch, he was able to perfect his study of the Dutch jurists and among the treasures which he brought from Holland was Vanderkessel's own manuscript copy of the *Dictata* and *Introductionem*, in six volumes. He also got into communication with a pupil and relation of VanderKessel, a translation into English of whose *Theses Selectae* (Commentary on Grotius' Introduction), a work of high authority in Ceylon, Lorenz was then preparing for the Press. He had an opportunity here of examining in the University of Leyden VanderKeissel's unpublished Manuscript Dictata, being lectures delivered by that learned writer in the University. At the author's request the *Dictata* was never printed, but a manuscript copy of it fell into Lorenz's hands and in 1855 he published a translation of the Theses, dedicating it to his brother-in-law, Mr. John Drieberg, in grateful remembrance of many kindnesses received from him. It is believed that a copy of this work is still extant

Having accomplished the principal object which took him to England, Lorenz's thoughts now turned homeward, but there was yet one thing to be done. He seems to have entertained the idea of securing a Government appointment in Ceylon, and the first hint of this is contained in a letter to Richard Morgan dated the 2nd March 1855. "I called on Sir Anthony Oliphant who was Chief justice of Ceylon from 1860-1867 who said that in case the Government here are willing to employ me, he would give me a charactor. Perfect good nature in him, for he knows as much of me as the man in the moon, judging from his having talked to me for half an hour as the son of

his respected friend Baron Lorenz of the Cape of Good Hope. But things begin to look blooming for Ceylon, I should say, for Lord John Russell is Secretary for the Colonies and Austin Layard, Under-Secretary, and these two wiseacres may be able to knock out something excellent between them.....I must in strict confidence tell you that I am quietly going to slip in a memorial on my own behalf, and I dare say with the assistance of the old judge, who knew my father, the Baron, so intimately at his castle in Bloemfontein, may be able to get a hearing. If so, and if my memorial is referred to Ceylon, will you stand my friend in return for all I have done for you in England (ahem) and put in a kind word here and a kind word there for me ? You will be Sir Henry Ward's right hand man, I dare say, and a hint from you will suffice—item, a wink to MacCarthy, who may remember me as the very efficient Secretary of the Colombo Athenaeum, and a great admirer of his handsome lady who always sat opposite me at St. Peter's".

There are some other passages in the letter which are well worth reproducing, if only for the humour contained in them :—" You will be pleased to hear that I translated half a dozen pages (of Dutch Law) at a run, without referring to a dictionary, and things here have come to such a pass that my wife actually laughed outright a few days ago as she found Bredin and myself gravely conversing for nearly half an hour in good (?) Dutch. I can sing half a dozen street ballads, can imitate all the street cries, can now read the *Courante* * quite seriously, and can, if I choose (but I don't) swear in a manner perfectly horrible. But with all these advantages I am afraid I can't finish the book before I leave England. Another book is over, index, preface, dedication and all. The index is a perfect masterpiece as you will see. I have now only to see the revise and you will have it by a mail or two."

In a later letter he says:—" As regards my return home, things don't look very prosperous." I met Sir Anthony Oliphant some time ago, who told me I should go a second time to Downing Street and interview the Under-Secretary, and I dreamt that night some incoherent dreams about Colt's revolvers and a quaking Irishman hanging himself to a lamp post in Downing Street with a bit of red tape."

*Newspaper (Dutch)

Return to Ceylon

V

Before leaving England, Lorenz interviewed Lord John Russell, who, after listening attentively to his claims, promised that his name should be mentioned to Sir Henry Ward, who was shortly to proceed to Ceylon as Governor. Mrs. Lorenz being in too delicate a state of health to accompany him, he sailed alone by the P. & O. steamer '*Oriental*; and landed at Galle on the 27th October, 1855. Shortly after this he was introduced to Sir Charles MacCarthy, who expressed himself as highly satisfied in regard to the testimonials which Lorenz had brought with him from the learned professors of Leyden, and to the end of his career entertained a very warm opinion of him. The District Judgeship of Chilaw having at this time provisionally fallen vacant, it was offered to Lorenz, who though he had formed no idea of quitting the Bar, yet wanted a few months' leisure to put together and complete his notes which he had prepared from time to time for an "*Introduction of the Roman-Dutch Law*". With this end in view he accepted the appointment, as a residence at a quiet place like Chilaw would just suit him. He always spoke with pleasure of the few months spent by him there, and made many interesting contributions to the Press. Whilst he was at this station, Sir Henry Ward visited the place, and staying with him, personally offered him the seat of Burgher Member of the Legislative Council then about to become vacant by Mr. Morgan's appointment as District Judge of Colombo. Lorenz accepted the honour as much to his own satisfaction as to the gratification of his countrymen, who regarded him as the leader and representative of the Burgher Community.

To a man of his talents and industry, the work in the Chilaw District Court could not have proved onerous and, as has already been seen, he used some of his time in completing the Treatise on Law which he was engaged in writing. In his lighter moments he employed his time in work of a more ephemeral character. To the latter category belongs the poem that follows. The brothers Richard Morgan and William, both advocates, deciding to combine business with pleasure, appeared before him on opposite sides one day in a case which Lorenz was trying as Judge. Lorenz could not help being struck with the humour of the situation, and perhaps, while on the Bench he composed the following verses, for as we have already seen, he had the faculty of doing several different things at one and the same time:—

The Lays of the Law.

It was a case from Calpentyn,
Was pending in Chilaw,
Which though commenced in '39
Had not been heard till now.
"And grant, ye gods" exclaimed the judge,
(Smiting his bosom lustily)
"That I might, on the proofs adduced
Decide the question justly."

The plaintiff had paid some seventy pounds
As fees to R—d M—n,
To come with books and white cravat,
And be his legal organ;
And W—ll—m had got a similar fee,
To keep the other at bay,
"And ho' how happy I'd have been with the one,
Were the other dear brother away."

And thousands came from far and near,
To see this pair of M—s
Talking and thumping and quoting the law
And eyeing each other like gorgons;
And nothing could make it more absurd,
Than the fact that many had seen them,
Dining the night before with the Judge,
Who now sat in judgment before them.

The case went off—as all cases go—
With a sentence of restitution;
And a bill of costs and a notice to tax,
And a motion for execution;
And good luck to the Judge and Proctors two,
And the folks with astonishment dumb, oh!
And good luck to the parties from Calpentyn.
And the advocates from Colombo.

Lorenz was admitted as an Advocate in 1853. The order of the Supreme Court that he be examined was made by Sir Anthony Oliphant, Chief Justice. The petition to the Supreme Court is in Lorenz's own handwriting and states that he was, in the month of July 1850, after having served an apprenticeship of five years under Mr. John Drieberg, admitted as a proctor and practised for two years and upwards. The Court made an order that he be examined by the Deputy Queen's Advocate and the Registrar. These made their report on the 30th December, 1852, and on this report he was admitted.

While in England and Holland, Lorenz never missed an opportunity of becoming the owner of any work that he came across relating to Ceylon, and he had one of the best collections in his Library. He once purchased a copy of Ribeiro's Ceylon and was delighted to find that it was a presentation copy from the Translator, Mr. George Lee, to his father, the former having shortly before died in Amsterdam. Siebel called on Lorenz after his return and was shewn some poems by Lorenz's father which he had translated into English. Lorenz delivered a public lecture on Holland shortly after his return.

" A very peculiar feature of Lorenz's character, says J. H. Eaton " was the almost childish simplicity and delight with which he would let his mind run into some triviality of thought or expression which had tickled his fancy in days gone by and which now came to him out of the lumber room of the past. One could not imagine that any man engaged in some of the most pressing pursuits of life, much less a man such as Lorenz was, whose mind must necessarily have been pre-occupied with the multifarious duties of his profession, would allow his attention to be frittered away on some silly insignificiant topic which would not ordinarily interest a lad in his teens. I can only account for this on the supposition that Lorenz's desire to be master of his will and keep his mind under perfect control, induced in him the determination not to be overcome by any freak of memory in obscuring his recollection of a thing, however trifling and unimportant it may be.

" What leads me to make this observation is that one day, seated by his side at the Bar Table in Colombo, we heard the tom tomming of a Moorish procession passing in the distance. This brought back to Lorenz's recollection the most prominent person in such processions, viz., the man blackened with soot and oil from head to foot with a cumbly wrapped round his waist nether-wards, and his hands knocking together two short black sticks, by the sound of which he leaped about in the most frenzied manner possible. Lorenz asked me if I knew the strange melody of words the man shouted out on such occasions. He himself gave out the first few words and then kept racking his mind to recall the others, giving himself no rest till he got back the whole of that mumbo jumbo collection of words, jotting them down in a corner of his note book. It was a delight to see the feeling of intense satisfaction with which he regarded the accomplishment of this task.

" Akin to this was the marvellous versatility of talent which led him to translate into paraphrastic verse, half Sinhalese, half Portuguese, which was embodied in some suddenly remembered stanza which may have titivated the fancy of boys of a former generation, but which would hardly be remembered by one in ten of the boys or men of the present day. But such was the *dissipation*, as one would say, or conservation of mental energy, as others would say, Lorenz perpetutated the memories of these mongrel ditties in the facetious paraphrases he delighted to jot down."

Another faculty that Lorenz possessed was to do several different things at one and the same time. Eaton relates that he saw him in the District Court of Colombo, writing at article for that day's *Examiner*, at the same time carrying on a conversation with him and taking down in Shorthand anything of importance said by the witnesses in the case he was pleading. " There must be some persons" says Eaton, "who still remember the red leather-covered note book in which he jotted down notes of the evidence. In the briefs supplied to him by the Proctors one often saw a *P* with a number, indicating the page to which reference was to be made in the record. It was on the fly leaf of this book that Lorenz in his own clear and beautiful handwriting had transcribed the following verses from Longfellow :—

" The longing for ignoble things,
The strife for triumph more than truth ;
The hardening of the heart that brings
Irreverence for the dreams of youth,
All these must first he trodden down
Beneath our feet ; if we would gain,
In the bright fields of fair renown
The right of eminent domain."

" His reading of poetry was refreshingly beautiful. When Enoch Arden was given to the world of literature, one of the first copies that reached Ceylon, I think, was the one which came to Lorenz. He went into such raptures over it that he called on me one afternoon and urged me to come to Elie House that evening as he had promised to read "Enoch Arden" to his wife and a few select friends. He was in splendid form that evening. We listened to him with breathless attention. When he came to Enoch's interview with his landlady and the garden scene which followed, a scene which Lorenz parodied cleverly in his *Christmas Debates*), our experience of the lump in the throat testified to the charming manner in which all that was beautiful in that poem was brought home to us by one who made us feel, as he himself so manifestly felt, that "one touch of nature makes the whole world kin." Not the least among his gifts was his ardent love of Music. He played well on the flute and the pianoforte, had a good voice and sang with considerable expression."

Love for Children

VI.

Lorenz or Mrs. Lorenz, is credited with introducing the Christmas Tree into Ceylon. When the news got abroad that they were going to have a Christmas Tree for the little folk in Colombo, many people wondered what it was to be like. The Lorenz family had now moved to Sea Street and the invitation was as follows :—

Mr. and Mrs. the undersigned,
Being a little to pleasure inclined,
As all at this season should be;
And having invested in crackers and toys,
Will give them to all girls and boys,
Who will come to the Christmas Tree.
Will you come to the Tree we have planted for ye,
Your food shall be cakes and your drink shall be tea,
Will you come, will you come,
Will you come to the Tree on Thursday evening at 8 p.m.

C. A. Lorenz,
Eleanor Lorenz".

The Christmas Tree was planted in the middle of the drawing room, the floors in those days not being cemented but bricked. Dr. Boake read out the names and Louis Nell, as the tallest man present, broke off each prize as the numbers were read and handed them out. Lorenz found one of the boys sulking and inquired what was the matter. The reply was:—"I didn't get the marbles; that fat girt has got them." "Now my boy, said Lorenz, "pigs are fat and girls are stout" and he took the sulking boy to the girl and asked her to exchange toys with him.

On another occasion John Prins had arranged for an impromptu dance and an invitation had been sent to the Lorenz's. "We shall all come" said Mr. Lorenz, "except Georgiana" (Mrs. Anderson). When the message was delivered enquiry was made as to the reason why Georgiana was unable to be present. Lorenz took the letter inside and came back with a sheet of paper containing a perfect sketch of Georgiana but with one side of the face swollen with a gumboil. The following superscription was written underneath:—

"*The reason why Mrs. Anderson cannot come.*"