

Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.



"Eendracht maakt Macht"

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

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Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

VOL. XLIX.]

JULY — OCTOBER, 1959.

[Nos. 3 & 4

OUR NEW PRESIDENT.

We appreciate that with his characteristic modesty which abhors the lime-light of publicity, our new President will object to personal allusions being made to him in these pages. It would however be unworthy of us if we are to let pass this privilege of referring to our gratification that he has come forward to give of his time and labour to the cause of the Community and the Union. The election of Dr. Eric Brohier to fill the office of President of the Union has very naturally met with universal acceptance. It is as much a tribute to his qualities of head and heart as it is to the sound judgment displayed by the members in the difficult task which faced them in finding a successor to fill the highest office in their power to offer a fellow member of our Community. Dr. Brohier has family traditions which bind him closely to the Union. His parents were Founder Members and he has grown with the Union. By virtue of regular attendance at the General Committee and sub-Committee meetings he knows all there is to know about its internal workings and is therefore well fitted to maintain its activities at a high level. He brings with him still other fruits of experience gained in other spheres, in the Colombo Branch of the Red Cross Society of which he has for some years been Chairman, and from other allied sources. But there is one other characteristic which augurs well and will make him the ideal President: his old-world courtesy which is seen equally in his dealings with the high in the land and with the lowest, with the young as well as with the old. These many qualities should be of inestimable advantage to him, and we look forward with confidence to Dr. Brohier's term of office as President of the Union.

A word must also be said of the Immediate Past President Mr. Aubrey Martensz who retires after two years tenure of office. He had always accepted the Union as the symbol or rather the sign manual of the Dutch Burgher Community and had always taken the keenest interest in it. He brought with him to his office not merely a name made for himself in legal and diplomatic spheres, but much experience gained through his being a *persona grata* with all the other communities in the Island. It is a source of deep regret, as much to him as to the members of the Union, that his health deprived him of regular

presence at meetings and social gatherings of the Union, but members were compensated for that as he was ever ready to help and advise them personally or by letter whenever his assistance was sought. He had just the kind of broad sympathies which are necessary in a man who fills the important office of President. His uniform courtesy and conciliatory methods will always be remembered. He left to join the other members of his family in Australia at the end of last year and it must be a matter of great regret to him that he did not find it possible to round off his second year of office.

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.

GLEANINGS IN A LIBRARY.

[BY A. N.]

COSMAS INDICOPLEUSTES

[Continued from Vol: XLIX. p. 50.]

"Concerning the Island of Taprobane" (from Book XI. of the "Christian Topography" of Cosmas Indicopleustes).—This is a large oceanic island lying in the Indian sea. By the Indians it is called Sielediba, but by the Greeks Taprobane, and therein is found the hyacinth stone¹. Around it are numerous small islands² all having freshwater and coconut trees. They nearly all have deep water close up to their shores. The great island, as the natives report, has a length of three hundred *gadia*, that is of nine hundred miles, and it is of the like extent in breadth³. There are two kings in the island and they are at feud with one another⁴. The one has the hyacinth country, and the other the rest of the country where the harbour is, and the centre of trade⁵. It is a great mart for the people in those parts. The island has also a church of Persian Christians⁶ who have settled there, and a Presbyter who is appointed from Persia, and a Deacon and a complete ecclesiastical ritual. But the natives and their kings are heathens. In this island they have many temples, and on one, which stands on an eminence, there is a hyacinth as large as a great pinecone, fiery red, and when seen flashing from a distance, especially if the sun's rays are playing round it, a matchless sight⁷. The Island being, as it is, in a central position, is much frequented by ships from all parts of India and from Persia and Ethiopia, and it likewise sends out many of its own and from the remotest countries⁸, I mean Tzinista⁹ and other trading places; it receives silk, aloes, cloves, sandalwood, and other products, and these again are passed on to marts on this side, such as Male,¹⁰ where pepper grows, and to Calliana¹¹ which exports copper and sesame-logs, and cloth for making dresses, for it also is a great place of business. And to Sindu¹² also, where musk and castor is procured and Androstachys¹³ and to Persia and the Homerite country¹⁴, and to Adule¹⁵ and the island receives imports from all these marts which we have mentioned and passes them on to the remoter ports, while, at the same time, exporting its own produce in both directions. Sindu is on the frontier of India, for the river Indus, that is the Phison, which discharges into the Persian Gulf, forms the boundary between Persia¹⁵ and India. The most notable places of trade in India are these:—Sindu, Orrrhotha¹⁶ Calliana, Sibor¹⁷ and then the five marts of Male which export pepper: Parti, Mangaronth¹⁸ Salopatana, Nalopatana, Poudopatana¹⁹. Then out in the ocean, at the distance of about five days and nights from the continent, lies Sielediba, that is Taprobane. And then again on the continent is Marallo, a mart exporting chank shells, then Caber²⁰ which exports alabandenum²¹, and then further away is the clove country, then Tzinista which produces the silk. Beyond this there

is no other country, for the ocean surrounds it on the east. This same Siedidiba then, placed as one may say, in the centre of the Indies, and possessing the hyacinth receives imports from all the seats of commerce and in turn exports to them, and is thus itself a great seat of commerce.

Now I must here relate what happened to one of our countrymen, a merchant named Sopatrus, who used to go thither on business, but who to our knowledge has now been dead these five and thirty years past. Once on a time he came to this island of Taprobane on business, and as it chanced a vessel from Persia put into port at the same time with himself. So the men from Adule with whom Sopatrus was, went ashore, as did likewise the people of Persia, with whom came a person of venerable age and appearance. Then, as the way there was, the chief men of the place and the custom-house officers received them and brought them to the king²². The king having admitted them to an audience and received their salutations, requested them to be seated. Then he asked them; In what state are your countries, and how go things with them? To this they replied, they go well. Afterwards, as the conversation proceeded, the king inquired which of your kings is the greater and the more powerful? The elderly Persian snatching the word answered: Our king is both the more powerful and the greater and richer, and indeed is king of kings, and whatsoever he desires, that he is able to do. Sopatrus on the other hand sat mute. So the king asked: Have you, Roman²³, nothing to say? What have I to say, he rejoined, when he there has said such things? but if you wish to learn the truth you have the two kings here present. Examine each and you will see which of them is the grander and the more powerful. The king on hearing this was amazed at his words and asked, How say you that I have both the kings here? You have replied Sopatrus, the money²⁴ of both—the nomisma²⁵ of the one, and the drachma, that is the miliarision²⁶ of the other. Examine the image of each and you will see the truth. The king thought well of the suggestion and, nodding his consent, ordered both the coins to be produced. Now the Roman coin had a right good ring, was of bright metal and finely shaped, for pieces of this kind are picked for export to the island. But the miliarision to say it in one word, was of silver, and not to be compared with the gold coin. So the king after he had turned them this way and that, and had attentively examined both, highly commended the nomisma, saying that the Romans were certainly a splendid, powerful, and sagacious people²⁷. So he ordered great honour to be paid to Sopatrus, causing him to be mounted on an elephant, and conducted round the city with drums beating and high state. These circumstances were told us by Sopatrus himself and his companions, who had accompanied him to that island from Adule; and as they told the story, the Persian was deeply chagrined at what had occurred.

.....(about the White Huns in India)The kings of various places in India keep elephants, such as the king of Arrrotha, and the king of Calliana, and the kings of Sindu, Sibor, and Male.

They may have each six hundred, or five hundred, some more, some fewer. Now the King of Siedidiba gives a good price both for the elephants and for the horses that he has. The elephants he pays for by cubic measurement. For the height is measured from the ground, and the price is reckoned at so many *nomismata* for each cubit, fifty may be, or a hundred or even more. Horses they bring to him from Persia, and he buys them, exempting the importers of them from paying custom.

NOTES

1. Some take this to be not the jacinth, but rather the sapphire, others take it to be the amethyst.
2. The *Laccadives*; the name means *islands by the hundred thousand*.
3. An over-estimate common to the Hindu, Classical and Arab writers, and even made by Ptolemy who gives correctly the general form and outline of the island and its position in relation to the continent. The extreme length from north to south is $271\frac{1}{2}$ miles, its greatest width $137\frac{1}{2}$ miles, its circuit somewhat under 700 miles, and its area one sixth smaller than that of Ireland.
4. Tennent rendered this passage "ruling at opposite ends of the island."
5. The king who possessed the wonderful gem (called by Gibbon the *luminous carbuncle*) ruled the *Pihiti* part of Lanka. The emporium according to Gibbon was *Trinquemalé*, but Tennent takes it to be *Point de Galle*, in *Ruhuna*; why not Colombo in *Maya*?
6. Nestorian Christians.
7. See the travels of *Hsien Tsiang*, and of *Marco Polo*, which will appear in these columns, with notes.
8. Countries *inside* of Cape Comorin, i.e. east of it.
9. China.
10. The Malabar littoral.
11. Now Kalyana near Bombay; named in the Kanheri Buddha cave inscription; mentioned in the *Periplus of the Erythrean sea*, which states that it was raised to the rank of a regular mart in the times of the elder Saragones, who was probably one of the great Satakarni or Andrabhritiya dynasty.
12. Probably Diul-Sind at the mouth of the Indus.
13. A word not met with elsewhere, probably an error in transcription for '*nardostachum*' (Latin *spica nardi* whence *spikenard*).
- 14a. In Arabia Felix.
- 14b. Or Adulis (the modern Zula or Thulla), the seaport of Axum, the capital of Ethiopia at the time; situated near Annesley Bay, and distant from the capital about 120 miles or an 8-days' journey; visited by Cosmas in A.D. 525, when the King of Axum was preparing an expedition against the Homerites in Arabia.
15. The Persia of Darius and Alexander the Great.
16. Some place on the Western coast of the peninsula of Gujarat, (not Surat); Pliny's '*Horata*' is a transcription of *Sorath*, the popular form of Sourashtra, (in the *Periplus* and in Ptolemy, *Surastrene*.) i.e. Gujarat.
17. Chaul or Chenwal, 23 miles to the south of Bombay; the Simylla of Ptolemy, and the Saimur or Jaimur of the Arabian geographers.

18. Now Mangalor.

19. Three ports on the coast of *Cottonarike*, the pepper country, somewhere between Mangalor and Calicut: *patana* means "town"; *Pondopatana* means "New town," and may be identified with Ptolemy's *Podoperoura*.

20. The emporium called by Ptolemy Chaveris, which Dr. Burnell identified with *Kaveripattam*, a place a little to the north of Tranquebar, at the mouth of the Podu-Kaveri (new Kaveri). Kavera is the Sanskrit word for saffron.

21. What *alabandenum* was is still unknown.

22. Cosmas writing between A.D. 545 and A.D. 550, alludes to an occurrence of about forty years earlier. The kings of Ceylon of that period were:—A.D. 497 to A.D. 515, Moggallāna who deposed Kasyapa the Parricide; A.D. 515. Kumara Dhatusena who immolated himself; A.D. 524 Kittisena murdered by his maternal uncle Siva who on the 25th day of his reign was murdered by his brother-in-law Upatissa who reigned A.D. 525 to A.D. 526 when his son-in-law Sitakala usurped the throne. Sitakala appointed two sons viceroys of the Eastern country and Southern country and kept one son by him (the murders and suicides continued for centuries). Sopatrus' visit cannot be exactly dated.

23. "Roomi" a term applied from time immemorial in India to the state and people of Constantinople, whether Roman, Christian or Mohammedan.

24. In the Greek *Monitas*, a Latin word (should be *monetas*); *Moneta* was a name of Juno, in whose temple money was coined.

25. An *aureus*; Constantine the Great (A.D. 323 to A.D. 337) fixed its standard at 72 to the pound of gold, a standard which remained to the end of the empire.

26. A silver *drachma*, of which 20 make a *daric* which was equivalent to an attic *stater*.

27. Tennent regarded this story as traditional, as the elder Pliny A.D. 23 to A.D. 79 "relates a somewhat similar anecdote of the ambassadors from Ceylon in the reign of Claudius A.D. 41 to A.D. 54."

NOTE BY Editor:—This article is from the pen of the late Dr. Andreas Nell. We publish it with considerable pleasure both for its intrinsic as well as its sentimental value.

The objects of the Union shall be :

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

A CEYLON CELEBRITY.

— DR. QUINT ONDAATJE —

[In Volume XL of the Journal, pp. 104, and 105, there have been made some "Citations about the Ondaatjes" of Ceylon. We have referred therein to the subject of this sketch. There are many fresh details of the important services he rendered to Holland in the article which follows.—EDITOR.]

The name of Quint Ondaatje is no less famous in Dutch history than that of John Hampden in English history. In this respect he holds the unique distinction of being, not merely the only Ceylonese, but the only Asian, to hold a prominent place in the political life of Europe. His parents were the Rev. William Jurgen Ondaatje and Hermina Quint of Amsterdam. The Rev. William Jurgen Ondaatje was himself a celebrated man. Educated at the famous Colombo Seminary, of which he was later appointed Rector, he was one of the scholars sent out by the Dutch Government to Holland to be educated for the ministry. His fellow student at the University of Utrecht was Iman Willeam Falck, who came out to Ceylon as Governor, and always remained his friend and benefactor.

The subject of this sketch, who was born on the 18th June, 1758, was baptised as Pieter Philip Jurgen, but added the name of Quint on the death of his maternal grand-father. Like his father, Quint Ondaatje was intended for the Church, and after a preliminary education at the Colombo Seminary was sent out by the Government to Holland at the early age of fifteen. After a course at the Greek and Latin schools of Amsterdam, he went up to the University of Utrecht.

To quote a quaint old chronicler: "On the 20th of September, 1778, presented himself for admission at the gates of the University of Utrecht, a youth, already verging into manhood, whose animated countenance and full dark eye, if betraying somewhat of ardent passion and impetuous temperament gave token of surpassing talent, courage and energy; while his black silken locks and deeply embrowned complexion spoke of the sunny clime which gave him birth."

This was Peter Philip Juriaan (or Jurgen) Ondaatje, destined to bear no insignificant part in the stirring events which, a few years after, rendered that quiet and ecclesiastical looking city, the scene of political strife.

Quint Ondaatje's academical career was one of high distinction. At the age of twenty-four he took the degrees of Master of the Liberal Arts and Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Utrecht, and five years later the degree of Doctor of the Civil and Canon Law at the University of the Leyden. But these were stirring times in Holland and he was soon diverted from the quiet parts of study and preparation for the ministry to the field of political activity. The House of Orange which had rendered such inestimable service to the Dutch Republic, was falling on evil days. The fact that the office of Stadtholder had become hereditary and not to be distinguished from that of a King was creating uneasiness. And the unfortunate marriages of the House of Orange led the Dutch into wasteful wars, which dimmed the old glories of the Republic.

Then there arose the Patriot Party, whose aim was the restoration of the brave days of old, and of this party Quint Ondaatje was a distinguished leader. His gifts of intellect, energy and enthusiasm made him a natural leader of men and he fought for the Cause with tongue, pen and sword.

Quint Ondaatje had obtained the right of citizenship at Utrecht, and at Wyk and at various times he held the offices of the armed Burgher Corps, Captain of Infantry, Adjutant-General of the collected troops in Utrecht, Director-General of the Department of Confidential Correspondence of the General Staff, Under-Secretary of the War Department and a Director of the Dutch East India Company.

But the cause of the Patriot Party did not prosper finally. The French, on whom they relied for support, were in the throes of their own revolution and proved but a bruised reed. After the chances and changes of war, revolution and counter-revolution, Holland despaired of republican institutions and resolved to accept a limited monarchy.

In the course of the strife Quint Ondaatje, who was recognised as a prominent republican leader, was declared guilty of high treason and banished for life from Holland. But though he was an exile from the land of his adoption, the Stadtholder himself had to flee not long after for sanctuary in England, in the eventful days when Ceylon came under British rule. When monarchy was established in Holland with the Prince of Orange as William I, Quint Ondaatje had an audience with him at Paris and proffered his services on behalf of Holland, which the Prince accepted.

But, finding that his political enemies had not forgotten his earlier patriotic proceedings and that he would be subject to danger and persecution at their hands, Quint Ondaatje sought and accepted a

colonial appointment in the first class of the Dutch East India Company's service, as Councillor of the Supreme Court of Justice in Batavia. On his way out in H.M. ship "De Nassau" he fell seriously ill, but though he reached Batavia and assumed duties he never regained his health and he died on the 30th April, 1818.

Had the Patriot party triumphed at the end, it would be interesting to speculate on the altered course of Quint Ondaatje's life. Certain it is that so outstanding a man had as fair a chance as any other, of being elected President of the re-established Dutch Republic. But events were ordered otherwise, and as matters turned out he has left a record which will illuminate him and the land of his birth for all time.

Professor G. W. Vreede says of Quint Ondaatje: "In whatsoever light we consider Ondaatje, as a student of the University of Utrecht, as the friend of Bellamy, as the valiant Burgher whose zeal and energy aroused his contemporaries and exercised an unmistakable influence on the conditions of the Netherlands in general, and Utrecht in particular, his name will never be blotted out from the memory of the inhabitants of the country."

The objects of the Union shall be :

- (f) *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.*

GENEALOGY OF THE FAMILY OF ARNDT OF CEYLON

(Compiled by Mr. F. H. de Vos. in 1914; revised by
Mr. D. V. Altendorff in 1959)

I.

Johann Carel Arndt of Wusterhausen (Brandenburg) Resident of Point Pedro, married 1762, Antonetta Victoria de Melho, baptised at Colombo, 16th October 1752, daughter of Reverend Philip de Melho, born at Colombo, 23rd April 1723, died 9th October 1790, and Magdalena Ondaatje. He had by her:

- 1 Magdalena Elizabeth, born 4th September 1766, died 1850, married at Jaffna:
 - (a) 6th April 1786, Hendrik Steenkelder, son of Lieutenant Hendrik Steenkelder and Betseba Schrader. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VI, page 69).
 - (b) 2nd December 1798, Christiaan Julius Schrader, Boekhouder, born at Jaffna in 1759, died 2nd December 1816, son of Hendrik Schrader and Anna Catharina van Mierop (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VI, pages 69 and 70).
- 2 Bernard Christiaan, who follows under II.

II

Bernard Christiaan Arndt, Sitting Magistrate, Mullattivu, born 1771, died 1826, married 8th September 1799, Anna Elizabeth de Niese, daughter of Benjamine de Niese. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLVII, page 73). He had by her:

- 1 Johan Carel, who follows under III.
- 2 Magdalena Elizabeth, born 6th December 1801, died 29th April 1878, married at Colombo by Governor's licence No. 986 dated 29th April 1828, George Justus Schrader born 25th November 1801, died 26th October 1886, son of Frederick Justus Schrader and Sara Cornelia Muller. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VI, pages 70 and 71).

III

Johan Carel Arndt, Colonial Chaplain, Jaffna, married 15th September 1828, Johanna Rudolphina van Hek, born at Galle, 10th February 1812, died at Jaffna, 24th April 1852, daughter of Hendrik van Hek of Amsterdam, Assistant Customs Master at Galle and Magdalena Maria Helena de Vos (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVII, page 132). He had by her:

- 1 Helena Susanna Cornelia, born 6th June 1836, died at Gampola, 16th April 1859, married at Jaffna, 19th April 1853, George Justus Schrader, L.L.D., Archdeacon of Colombo and Bishop's Commissary, born 1829, died at Galle, 18th February 1875, son of George Justus Schrader and Magdalena Elizabeth Arndt, vide section II, 2, supra, and D.B.U. Journal Vol. VI, page 71.
- 2 George Francis, who follows under IV.
- 3 Maria Sophia, born 29th May 1839, married Edward Christopher La Brooy, Clerk in Holy Orders, born 1st December 1823, son of Philippus Jacobus La Brooy and Petronella Catharina Jansz—(D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIV, pages 70 and 71).
- 4 William Thomas, who follows under V.
- 5 John Charles, born 19th June 1841.

IV

George Francis Arndt, born 28th September 1829, died 13th September 1889, married at Jaffna, 18th September 1853, Eliza Merciana Toussaint, born 26th March 1833, daughter of Pieter Fredrik Toussaint and Anna Elizabeth Gratiaen. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. IV, pages 38 and 48, and Vol. VI, page 18). He had by her:

- 1 Charles Frederick, who follows under VI.
- 2 Francis Samuel, who follows under VII.
- 3 George Archibald Henry, who follows under VIII.
- 4 Edward Lionel, born 25th August 1862, died 5th October 1884.
- 5 Arthur Robert Theodore, who follows under IX.

V

William Thomas Arndt, born 1840, married in Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, 9th July 1868. Maria Garvin, born 24th May 1848, daughter of George Garvin and Anna Margareta Gerlach. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXIV, page 110). He had by her:

- 1 William.
- 2 Adeline Rosamond, born 13th October 1874, died 24th January 1903, married 8th October 1896, Robert James Pereira, born 17th May 1869, died 31st July 1937.

VI

Charles Frederick Arndt, born 27th September 1854, died 10th August 1916, married in Christ Church Cathedral Colombo, 11th May 1881, Julia Harriet Ludekens, born 3rd October 1853, died 17th July 1928, daughter of Johannes Robeetus Ludekens and Harriet Reckerman. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXVI, page 81). He had by her:

- 1 Edith Mary, born 8th June 1882, married in Christ Church Cathedral, Colombo, 27th December 1907, Guy Spencer Felsing, Proctor, born 2nd February 1881, died 8th February 1912, son of James Louis Felsing, Secretary of the District Court, Kurunegalle, and Tabitha Ondaatje. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVIII, pages 126 and 129).
- 2 Ethel Dora, born 3rd March 1884, died 12th September 1896.
- 3 Cecil Osmund, born 23rd December 1885.
- 4 Vernon Eugene Frederick, who follows under X
- 5 Ruth, born 30th July 1890, died 28th January 1892.

VII

Francis Samuel Arndt, born 28th January 1856, died 17th June 1902, married :

- (a) 12th December 1878, Marie Rosaline Foenander, daughter of Joseph Sansoni Foenander and Ellen Julia Sansoni. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXVIII, pages 94 and 95, and Vol. XLIX, page 86).
- (b) 12th January 1885, Agnes Cecilia Alice Pereira, widow of Charles John Parry, and daughter of John Pereira and Emily de Haan.

Of the first marriage, he had :

- 1 Charles Eric, who follows under XI.
- 2 Bertha Irene, born 1st February 1881, married at Kuala Lumpur Federated Malay States, Gerald Leopold Felsing, born 23rd March 1878, son of Michael Alfred Felsing and Emelia Sophia Godlieb. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVIII, pages 125 and 126).
- 3 Frances, born 2nd June 1882.

Of the second marriage, he had :

- 4 Rosaline, born 22nd August 1886, died 27th August 1886.
- 5 Stella Muriel, born 14th August 1887, died 11th January 1922, married in St. Michael's and All Angels' Church, Colombo, 26th December 1911, Arthur Percival Leopold Rowlands, born 3rd October 1885, son of Richard William Rowlands and Charlotte Caroline Don.
- 6 Gertrude Florence, born 1st February 1889, died 7th December 1912, married in St. Michael's and All Angels' Church, Colombo 5th August 1907, John Richard Edward Hobbs, born 28th May 1880, died 10th February 1927, son of Richard Hobbs of Survey, England, and Rosaline Corner.
- 7 Edward Wilford, who follows under XII.
- 8 Alice May, born 11th July 1894.
- 9 Frances (Fyvie) born 4th March 1896.
- 10 Ruth Vivienne, born 13th December 1898.

VIII

George Archibald Henry Arndt, M.A. (Calcutta), Clerk in Holy Orders, Sub-Warden of St. Thomas' College, Mutwal, Colombo, born 30th July 1857, died 22nd October 1932, married in Christ Church Cathedral, Colombo, 22nd November 1883, Henrietta Hortense Josephine Prins, born 4th October 1859, died 23rd May 1938, daughter of John Ferdinand Prins, Proctor and Notary Public, and Elizabeth Hortense Dornhorst. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VI, page 105 and Vol. XL, page 10). He had, by her :

- 1 George Edward Hubert, who follows under XIII.
- 2 Ernest Frederick, born 22nd October 1885, died 6th November 1951, married in Christ Church, Galkissa, January 1945, Florence Peiris nee Juriansz.
- 3 Lawrence Henry, India Civil Service, born 6th September 1887, died in England in 1946, married :
 - (a) At Bombay, 1st January 1920, Phyllis Humphreys
 - (b) In England, Dorothy.....
- 4 Leonard Archibald, who follows under XIV.
- 5 Ulic, born 18th August 1890, died 12th March 1928.
- 6 Elinor Margaret Hortense, born 4th September 1892, married in St. Paul's Church Milagiriya, 15th October 1921, Victor Altendorff Van Cuylenburg, born 21st September 1890, died 23rd May 1945, son of Victor Albert Van Cuylenburg, Government Surveyor, and Drusilla Lucretia Altendorff. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VII, page 82 and Vol. XXXIII, page 102).

IX

Arthur Robert Theodore Arndt, Secretary of the Municipal Council, Galle, born 4th September 1868, died 29th May 1935, married in St. Mark's Church, Badulla, 15th December 1892, Alice Mabel Felsing, born 10th October 1872, died 20th August 1924, daughter of James Louis Felsing, Secretary of the District Court, Kurunegalle, and Tabitha Ondaatje. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVIII, page 26). He had by her :

- 1 Arthur Everard, born 14th September 1893, died 14th March 1957, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 21st April 1927, Dorothy Mary Lourensz, born 29th February 1904, daughter of Johnson Ball Lourensz and Lucy Mary Cooke (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLII, page 185).
- 2 Alicia Muriel, born 22nd August 1904, married in All Saints' Church, Galle, 6th October 1923, William Henry Edwin Ludovici, Proctor, born 23rd February 1896, son of Edwin Ludovici L.M.S. (Ceylon), and Catherina Charlotte Selina Hole. (D.B.U. Journal Vol. III, page 63).

- 3 Carl Evan, Ceylon Civil Service, Brevet Colonel, Ceylon Engineers, Ceylon Defence Force, born 28th May 1896, married in Christ Church, Galle Face, Colombo, 21st September 1921, Enid Muriel Van Dort, born 11th November 1901, daughter of Ernest Francis Van Dort and Rosaline Harriet Ondaatje. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVIII, pages 31 and 32).
- 4 Claribel Louise, born 2nd December 1899, married in All Saints' Church Galle, 19th April 1923, Louis Gerard Blazé, O.B.E., L.M.S. (Ceylon), L.R.C.P. and S. (Edin) L.R.F.P. and S. (Glas), Ceylon Medical Department, born 26th July 1894, son of Robert Ezekiel Blazé, Proctor, and Annie Laura Paulusz. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XL, page 95 and Vol. XLI, page 170).
- 5 George Herbert, who follows under XV.
- 6 Mabel, born 28th October 1903, married in the Methodist Church, Kollupitiya, 23rd August 1924, Samuel Arthur Stanley Misso, born 21st November 1899, son of Arthur John Misso, Government Surveyor, and Angelina Marian Foenander. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIX, pages 62 and 69, and Vol. XXXVIII, page 96).
- 7 Beryl Joan, born 28th August 1906, married:
 - (a) In St. Mary's Cathedral Galle, 4th April 1931, Arthur James Schofield.
 - (b) In the Registrar's Office, Nugegoda, 3rd May 1947, Edwin Francis Christoffel Kelaart, born 12th January 1916, son of Charles Edwin Kelaart and Evelyn Muriel Alice Hesse. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLVI, page 128).
- 8 Sylvia Schrader born 9th November 1908, married in All Saints' Church, Galle 19th January 1929, Charles Eardley Van Rooyen, Assistant Superintendent of Police, born 13th May 1905 son of Frederick John Wesley Van Rooyen, J.P., Proctor and Matilda Florence Pompeus. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLI, page 23).
- 9 Hortense, born 14th October 1910, married in St. Mary's Church Dehiwela, 12th January 1938, Evan Walter Heriot Deutrom, born 18th March 1912, son of Ellis Stanley Deutrom and Jessie Constance Ivy Poulier. (D.B.U. Journal Vol. XXXI, pages 68 and 70, and Vol. XLIX, page 21).

X

Vernon Eugene Frederick Arndt, I.S.O., Ceylon Civil Service, born 18th November 1887, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 10th December 1919, Joselynnne Anne Brohier, born 27th September 1898, daughter of Richard Annesley Brohier, V.D., Major in the Ceylon Light Infantry, Assistant Postmaster General and Almera Marian de Boer. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXI, page 203, and Vol. XXXIV, page 79). He had by her:

- 1 Charles Richard, who follows under XVI.
- 2 Arnold Frederick who follows under XVII.

- 3 Douglas Vernon, who follows under XVIII.
- 4 George Francis born 22nd February 1932.

XI

Charles Eric Arndt, born 3rd December 1879, married in St. Paul's Church, Kandy, 25th April 1907, Ida Eliza Koch, born 22nd October 1882, died at Calcutta, 5th January 1951, daughter of Ebenezer Theodore Koch and Georgiana Elizabeth Schokman nee Schubert. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. X, pages 132 and 133, and Vol. XXV, page 112). He had by her:

- 1 Horace Koch, who follows under XIX.
- 2 Norman Leonard, who follows under XX.

XII

Edward Wilford Arndt, L.M.S. (Ceylon), M.R.C.S. (Eng), L.R.C.P. (Lond), D.O.M.S., B.C.P. and S. (Eng), Surgeon in charge of the Victoria Memorial Eye Hospital, Colombo, born 30th September 1891, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 24th September 1927, Maria Florence Catherine de Rooy, born 5th February 1905, daughter of Hendrikus Georgius de Rooy and Mary Helen Strantenberg. He had by her:

- 1 Wilford Francis, born 14th August 1928.
- 2 Louise Alice Catherine, born 30th October 1932.

XIII

George Edward Hubert Arndt, M.A. (Cantab), Clerk in Holy Orders born 3rd September 1884, married in Christ Church, Kurunegalle, 14th June 1913, Nora Markus, born 7th February 1890, died 26th November 1949, daughter of Charles Peter Markus, Proctor, and Caroline Evelyn Daniels. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVIII, page 150). He had by her:

- 1 Hephzibah Ethel Marguerite Noreen, born 24th April 1914, married Amar Dewindre Singh, died 27th November 1949 in an air crash in India.
- 2 George Evan John, born 10th May 1916.
- 3 Douglas Charles David Paul, born 5th January 1918.

XIV.

Leonard Archibald Arndt, B.A. (Lond.). Diploma in Education (Ceylon), Assistant Master, St. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia, born 5th January 1889, died 18th February 1955, married in St. Stephen's Church, Negombo, 2nd September 1914, Daisy Florence Hepponstall, born 21st July 1890, daughter of Frederick George Hepponstall and Electra Rosamond Van Zyl. He had by her:

- 1 Ruth Mary, born 29th January 1917, married in St. Paul's Church, Milagiriya, 4th January 1950, Rex Miliani Sansoni, born 16th November 1921, son of Victor Dudley Sansoni and Edith Rosamond Hepponstall. (D.B.U. Journal Vol. XLIX pages 41 and 45).

- 2 Leonard Archibald Henry, who follows under XXI.
- 3 Frederick George Llewellyn, who follows under XXII.
- 4 Francis Samuel, who follows under XXIII.

XV.

George Herbert Arndt, D.T.M. and H. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. and S. (Edin), L.R.F.P. and S. (Glas.), L.M.S. (Ceylon), Medical Officer of Health, Galle Municipality, born 23rd March 1902, married in All Saints' Church, Galle 30th January 1929, Verena Laura Chorine Ephraums, born 2nd January 1904, daughter of Richard Lionel Ephraums and Elsie Norma Beata Daniel. (D. B. U. Journal, Vol. XXIV, page 111. He had by her:

- 1 George Arthur Richard, who follows under XXIV.
- 2 Christopher Louis, born 27th September 1931.
- 3 Gillian Cecile, born 21st October 1941.

XVI.

Charles Richard Arndt, Superintendent of Police, born 27th October 1920, married in St. Paul's Church, Kynsey Road, Colombo 19th October 1946, Amybelle Bertha d'Silva, born 20th February 1923, daughter of Hector Cyril d'Silva and Florence Mildred Von Hagt. He had by her:

- 1 Graham Richard, born 7th May 1950.
- 2 Charles Vernon, born 22nd July 1951.

XVII.

Arnold Frederick Arndt, born 14th December 1922, married in the Old Clee Church, Cleethorpes in Lincoln, England, 20th December 1947, Joanne Agnes Buckden, born 16th June 1927, daughter of Allan Baden Buckden and Nellie Burnham. He had by her:

- 1 Gillian, born 9th August 1953.
- 2 Richard Vernon, born 25th August 1956.

XVIII.

Douglas Vernon Arndt, born 9th January 1927, married in St. Mary's Church, Dehiwala, 1st October 1952, Vilma Yvonne Terese Nugara, born 21st February 1930, daughter of Julian Welhester Nugara and Edna Constance Fernando. He had by her:

- 1 Douglas Frederick, born 2nd November 1953.
- 2 Christopher Derek, born 2nd November 1955.
- 3 Philip Dave, born 8th August 1958.

XIX.

Horace Koch Arndt, born 23rd June 1909, married in St. Lucia's Cathedral, Colombo, 22nd August 1932, Thelma Delicia Audeline Andriesz, born 18th June 1909, daughter of Dunstan Godwin Andriesz and Sybil Bessie Elizabeth Holmes. He had by her:

- 1 Allan Charles Dunstan, born at Calcutta, 9th September 1933.
- 2 Ida Maureen Elizabeth, born at Colombo, 29th January 1935.
- 3 George Cecil, born at Colombo, 7th November 1938.
- 4 Kenneth Horace, born at Colombo, 7th July 1944.
- 5 Mary Nadmi Anid, born at Colombo, 18th September 1950.

XX.

Norman Leonard Arndt, born 13th October 1914, married in the Office of the Registrar General, Colombo, 7th July 1936, Mary Anne Flanderka Koch, born 1st December 1917, daughter of Edwin Godfried Koch and Ida Marguerite Garvin. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIV, page 112). He had by her:

- 1 Anita Louise, born at Barrackpore in Calcutta, 21st January 1937, married in the Church of Our Lady Help of Christians, Tarleton, Preston Lancashire, 1st November 1958, Kevin Bernard Sweeney of Lancashire.

XXI.

Leonard Archibald Henry Arndt, born 25th September 1918, married in St. Stephen's Church, Negombo, 27th December 1944, Enid Mona Sansoni, born 30th June 1920, daughter of Victor Dudley Sansoni and Edith Rosamond Hepponstall. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLIX, page 41). He had by her:

- 1 Hal Peter, born 16th May 1954.
- 2 Timothy Leonard, born 1st January 1957.

XXII.

Frederick George Llewellyn Arndt, Clerk in Holy Orders, Associate of King's College, London (1951), born 1st October 1920, married in the Church of St. Stephen, Rochester Row, Westminster, London, 14th December 1950, Irene Muriel Frances Ondaatje, D.R.C. Obst and Gyn (Great Britain), M.B.B.S. (Ceylon), born 30th June 1919, daughter of Ebenezer Ondaatje and Gertrude Alice Muriel Beven. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLII, page 116). He had by her:

- 1 Theonie Frances, born in London, 15th January 1954.
- 2 Nodine Michele, born in Ceylon, 16th December 1955.
- 3 Margot Helene, born in Ceylon, 3rd June 1958.

XXIII.

Francis Samuel Arndt, born at Sourabaya in Java, 23rd May 1926, married in St. Philip's Church, Auburn in Sydney, Australia, 14th December 1952, Barbara Mc Gee of Guildford in Sydney. He had by her:

- 1 Jennifer Anne, born in Sydney 9th November 1953.
- 2 Alison Ruth, born in Hobart, 19th March 1956.
- 3 Ingrid Frances, born in Sydney, 22nd May 1958.

XXIV.

George Arthur Richard Arndt, Planter, born 22nd October 1929, married:

- (a) In the Chapel of the Transfiguration, Mount Lavinia 24th November 1951, Patricia Dorothy Weinman, born 6th April 1930, daughter of Eustace Ainslie Weinman, Superintendent of Excise, and Dorothy Anne Selina Piachaud. (D. B. U. Journal, Vol. XLIII, page 173).
- (b) In St. Andrew's Scots Kirk, Colombo, 4th April 1959, Jeannette, Ethel Austin, born 2nd April 1941, daughter of Lester Drogo Cameron Austin, L.M.S. (Ceylon), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), Civil Medical Department, and Alice Eleanor Loos. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXIX, page 117, and Vol. XLIII, page 25).

Of the first marriage, he had:

- 1 Janice Patricia, born 11th August 1952.
- 2 Sharon Jeannette, born 6th July 1955.

Notes:—(1) The Venerable George Justus Schrader, L.L.D., referred to in section III, 1, was Chaplain of Pussellawa, 1859—1861, and of Galle, 1861—1875, where he was instrumental in building All Saints' Church, the finest ecclesiastical edifice of the Anglican Church in Ceylon, now the Church of Ceylon. He was a good preacher and much respected. The family is derived from Justus Schrader of Brunswick, who settled in Ceylon about 1710 and married at Jaffna, Christina Rockloff. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VI, page 69).

- (2) On retirement from Government Service, Edward Wilford Arndt, referred to in section XII, left Ceylon with his family for Australia and settled in Perth, where he continued to practise his profession.

- (3) Hendrikus Georgius de Rooy, referred to in the same section was a Boer prisoner of war, and was interned in Ceylon. He held the rank of Lieutenant. On the cessation of war, he took out papers under the Naturalisation Ordinance, secured employment in the Ceylon Government Railway, and retired after many years of service. He married in St. Mary's Church, Cathedral, Jaffna, on 27th August 1902, Mary Helen Strantenberg, born at Jaffna, 18th April 1880, died at Colombo, 19th April 1945. She was a daughter of Charles Alphonsus Strantenberg, Proctor, born at Jaffna, 20th November 1833, died at Kandy 8th September 1909, married in St. Mary's Cathedral Jaffna, 27th June 1861, Mary Louisa Jan, born 22nd May 1846, died at Jaffna, 3rd November 1907.

- (4) Reverend George Edward Hubert Arndt, referred to in section XIII, was educated at St. Thomas' College in Mutwal, Colombo. He won the University Scholarship in 1903 and proceeded to England. He entered the Cambridge University where he graduated as Master of Arts. He decided to take to Holy Orders, and was ordained priest on 20th December 1908, at Southwark Cathedral by Bishop Edward Stuart Talbot, who had ordained him Deacon in the same Cathedral fifteen months earlier. He served as Curate under Canon Charles Edward Brooke in Camberwell, Southwark, and at the Church of St. John the Divine at Kensington. On returning to Ceylon, he was appointed to the Incumbency of Christ Church at Kurunegala in succession to the Reverend Francis Lorenz Beven. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLII, page 116), who was appointed Archdeacon of Colombo. He served at Kurunegalle for several years. From December 1923 for over fifteen years, he was Vicar of Christ Church Cathedral, Colombo. He edited the "Ceylon Churchman" for nineteen years. In his retirement he was frequently called by the Diocese to assist in Church services and fill gaps in parochial staffs.

GENEALOGY OF THE FAMILY OF OORLOFF OF CEYLON

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

I.

Andris Andriesz Oorloff of Rypdewack, arrived in Ceylon in 1761 in the ship "Fransz Elizabeth", married Anna Catherina Fernando. He had by her:

1. Cornelis Andries, baptised 11th December 1768.
2. Susanna Catharina, baptised 17th May 1772.
3. Jan Hendrik who follows under II.

II.

Jan Hendrik Oorloff, baptised 15th July 1781, died 19th June 1850, married:

- (a) In the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 16th February 1800, Johanna Jacoba Conderlag, baptised 23rd February 1783, daughter of Johannes Conderlag and Susanna Louisa Giller. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXV. page 159).
- (b) At Badulla (recorded in the marriage Register of Holy Trinity Church, Nuwara Eliya), 16th March 1846, Punchy Ettane Haminey Wilmina.

Of the first marriage, he had:

1. Jacoba Cornelia, born 29th April 1801.
2. Johannes Cornelis, who follows under III.
3. Johanna Cornelia, baptised 12th July 1812.
4. Donatianus Henricus, who follows under IV.

Of the second marriage, he had:

5. Alexander, who follows under V.
6. George Henry, who follows under VI.

III.

Johannes Cornelis Oorloff, born 29th March, 1802, baptised 2nd October 1803, died 4th December 1853, married in St. Peter's Church, Colombo.

- (a) 25th November 1822, Anna Christina Singer, daughter of Ludowyk Singer and Maria Christina Mortier.
- (b) 19th November 1832, Petronella Gerhardina de Boer, born 29th April 1813, died 3rd April 1851, daughter of Lourens de Boer of Amsterdam and Clara Gertruyda Schoorman. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXIV, page 78.)

Of the first marriage, he had.

1. George Frederick, born 6th September 1823.
2. Francois, born 2nd August 1824.
3. Charles Nathaniel, who follows under VII.
4. Peter Emanuel, born 17th December 1826.
5. Anna Matilda, born 16th July 1828, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 5th April 1869, Charles Edwin Ebert, widower of Lucy Cornelia Oorloff referred to in item 11 below.
6. James Oliver, who follows under VIII.

Of the second marriage, he had:

7. William Henry, born 23rd October 1833.
8. Charlotte Felicia, born 14th August 1835.
9. Maria Catherine, born 22nd May 1839, died 7th February 1871, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 12th March 1857, James William Potger, born 18th March 1830, died 16th February 1890, son of Johan Godfried Potger and Adolphina Johanna Martensz. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVII, page 109, and Vol. XL, page 146).
10. Owen Henry Bernard Oorloff, who follows under IX.
11. Lucy Cornelia, born 14th June 1842, married in Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, 25th May 1857, Charles Edwin Ebert, born 10th May 1836, son of Jacobus Godfried Ebert and Emelia Elizabeth Jansen. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLV, pages 28 and 34).
12. George Frederica, born 27th November 1843, died 13th December 1860, married in Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, 22nd November 1860, Coenraad Benjamin Kelaart, Proctor born 15th October 1826, died 18th August 1873, widower of Maria Elizabeth Reimers. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXIII, page 47,) and son of Samuel Kelaart and Frederica Bernardina Schneider. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLII, page 63).

IV.

Donatiaus Henricus Oorloff, baptised 6th November 1814, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 24th March 1834, Charlotta Cornelia Pieres, daughter of Isaac Augustinus Pieres and Maria Johanna Erfson. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. IX, page 71). He had by her:

1. Henrietta Cornelia Gerhardina, born 8th June 1835, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 6th September 1855, Andrew Cornelis Pereira.
2. Georgiana Elizabeth, born 1st February 1838, died 4th December 1859.
3. Sophia Eleanor, born 1st November 1841.

V.

Alexander Oorloff, born 1st June 1829, died 21st December 1877 married in St. Mark's Church, Badulla, Anthonetta Helen Balthazar born 1835, died 3rd August 1860, daughter of John Joseph Balthazar. He had by her:

- 1 Charlotte Elizabeth, born 1852, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 21st December 1870, William Philip de Jonk, born 1842, son of Johannes Hendrik de Jonk and Catharina Ettroyda.
- 2 Emily Helen, born 21st July 1854, died 29th April 1946, married in St. Mark's Church, Badulla, 18th May 1876, Jacob Henry Vanderwert, born 4th March 1851, died 22nd April 1903, son of Emmanuel Henry Vanderwert and Sally Alexander. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLVI, pages 115 and 116).

VI.

George Henry Oorloff, born 8th September 1832, died 19th April 1908, married in St. Mark's Church, Badulla, 9th April 1860, Charlotte, Cecilia Balthazar, born 11th May 1841, died 14th August 1882, daughter of John Joseph Balthazar. He had by her:

- 1 George Louis Alexander, who follows under X.
- 2 Cecil Henry, who follows under XI.
- 3 Charles Joseph, who follows under XII.
- 4 Emelia Maud, born 31st March 1875, died 11th March 1902, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 4th February 1897, Walter Harris de Kretser, born 23rd January 1874 died 12th July 1948, son of Peter Cornelis de Kretser and Emily Henrietta Jansz. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLVII, pages 61, and 69).

VII.

Charles Nathaniel Oorloff, Proctor, born 25th July 1825, married Elizabeth Johanna Hoffman, daughter of Carel Willem Hoffman and Elizabeth Spencer. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLI, pages 175 and 176). He had by her:

- 1 Smollet Francis Louis, born 26th August 1855, died 16th July 1904, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 1st November 1877, Margaret Eleanor Kern.
- 2 Agnes Carolina Georgiana Grace, born 30th November 1857, married George Dunsford.
- 3 Cyrus Watkin Millie, who follows under XIII.
- 4 Norman Livingstone Sproule, who follows under XIV.

VIII.

James Oliver Oorloff, born 29th January 1830, died 7th July 1877, married in Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, 21st May 1855, Sarah Henrietta Caroline de Jong, born 2nd December 1833, daughter of Casparus Adrianus de Jong and Johanna Catharina Goldestein. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. IX, page 125. He had by her:

- 1 Alice Laura Sophia, born 26th May 1857, died 28th June 1884, married in Christ Church, Galle Face, Colombo, 24th May 1880, Cyrus Watkin Millie Oorloff, who follows under XIII.
- 2 Florence Grace Rosalind, born 9th April 1859, married in Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, 5th February 1883, James Samuel de Bruin, born 1st May 1855, died 2nd September 1922, son of James Philip de Bruin and Evangeline Jansz. (D.B.U. Journal Vol. XLII, page 123).
- 3 Arthur Felix, who follows under XV.
- 4 Eugenie Caroline, born 9th May 1863, died 1st October 1864.
- 5 Maria Eugenie, born 21st November 1864.
- 6 Elizabeth Clara, born 10th February 1867, died 29th December 1926, married in the Methodist Church, Colpetty, 11th April 1887, Cyrus Watkin Millie Oorloff, widower of Alice Laura Sophia Oorloff, mentioned in item 1 supra.
- 7 Winifred Henrietta, born 19th June 1868, married in Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, Osmond Julian Van Hoff, born 21st December 1862, died 19th February 1905, son of James Van Hoff and Seraphina Lucy Scheffer.
- 8 James Uzzial Norman, who follows under XVI.
- 9 Louis Oliver, born 29th July 1872, died 10th October 1900.
- 10 Anna Caroline, born 14th March 1874, died 23rd November 1905, married in Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, 28th July 1892, James Alfred de Bruin, born 1st February 1862, died 23rd January 1932, son of James Philip de Bruin and Dorothea Johanna Peterson. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLII, page 123).
- 11 Forrest Lloyd, born 29th March 1877.

IX.

Owen Henry Bernard Oorloff, born 7th November 1840, died 31st July 1895, married:

- (a) In Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, 8th October 1863, Cecilia Raffa, born 1845, died 3rd January 1876, daughter of Peter Cornelius Raffa and Irsina Petronella Dickman. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVI, page 125).
- (b) In the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 23rd May 1878, Adela Wydeman, died 26th October 1878, daughter of Emmanuel Lambertus Wydeman and Petronella Charlotta Aldons. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVI, page 74).

- (c) In Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, 31st July 1879, Agnes Eleanor Conderlag born 5th October 1856, died 12th April 1885, daughter of Johannes William Conderlag and Maria Elizabeth Doebratz. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXV, page 160).

Of the first marriage, he had:

- 1 James Owen, who follows under XVII.
- 2 Walter Owen, who follows under XVIII.
- 3 Cecil Owen, who follows under XIX.
- 4 Louis Alexander de Boer Owen, who follows under XX.

Of the third marriage, he had:

- 5 George Arthur born 14th March 1881.
- 6 Mary Henrietta Jane, born 8th April 1882, died 2nd October 1932.
- 7 Arthur Hamilton, born 24th June 1884.

X.

George Louis Alexander Oorloff, born 15th September 1865, died 17th February 1918, married in St. Paul's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 8th January 1891, Elizabeth Harriet Vanderwert, born 11th July 1866, died 8th August 1938, daughter of Emanuel Henry Vanderwert and Harriet Engeltina Ginger. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLVI, pages 115 and 116). He had by her:

- 1 Samuel Herbert who follows under XXI.
- 2 George Louis Alexander, who follows under XXII

XI.

Cecil Henry Oorloff, born 17th October 1867, died 17th April 1914, married in St. Anthony's Cathedral, Kandy, 20th October 1892, Mary Helen Dirckze, born 6th January 1869, died 29th January 1947, daughter of Edward Stephen Dirckze and Ursula Ebert. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLV, page 36). He had by her:

- 1 Mary Helen, born 18th February 1894.
- 2 Cecil Henry, who follows under XXIII.
- 3 Ursula Cecilie Nobel, born 27th August 1896, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 20th April 1921. Henry Percival Brohier, born 6th October 1896, son of Evan Hugh Brohier and Mary Elizabeth Brohier.
- 4 St. George Stephen Louis, born 23rd January 1898.
- 5 Augustine, born 16th February 1899, died 23rd February 1899.

- 6 Bridget Beryl Inez born 21st July 1901, died 30th August 1949, married in St. Lawrence's Church, Wellawatte, 3rd June 1939, Edmund Reginald Vere de Bruin, born 2nd January 1901, widower of Rhoda Anne Beatrice Bartholomeusz, (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLVIII, page 53,) and son of Edmund Walvin de Bruin and Jane Catherine Vanden Driesen. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXV, page 58 and Vol. XLII, pages 124 and 126).
- 7 Guildford Dudley who follows under XXIV.
- 8 Doreen Bright, born 23rd October 1912, married in St. Mary's Church, Dehiwala, 12th August 1937, Earle Lawrie Pereira.

XII.

Charles Joseph Oorloff, born 24th February 1873, died 27th July 1932, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 5th February 1898, Louise Wilhelmina de la Harpe, born 31st October 1875, died 31st October 1926, daughter of James Francois de la Harpe and Louisa Wilhelmina de Jonk. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXX, page 46). He had by her:

- 1 George Henry.
- 2 Cecilia Charlotte, born 18th July 1901, married in St. Paul's Church, Milagiriya, 28th December 1923, William Altendorff Van Cuylenburg, born 23rd July 1894, died 11th November 1949, son of Victor Albert Van Cuylenburg and Drucilla Lucretia Altendorff. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VII, page 82, and Vol. XXXIII, page 102).
- 3 Thelma Irene, born 28th November 1902, married in St. Paul's Church, Milagiriya, 12th July 1924, Clarence Walter Schokman Claessen, born 26th June 1892, son of James Gerald Claessen and Adeline Maud Schokman. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXV, page 109, and Vol. XXXV, pages 119 and 122).
- 4 Kingsley Victor.
- 5 Terrence Russel.
- 6 Charles Joseph.

XIII.

Cyrus Watkin Millie Oorloff, Secretary, Ceylon Savings Bank, born 27th September 1860, died 9th January 1913, married:

- (a) In Christ Church, Galle Face, Colombo, 24th May 1880, Alice Laura Sophia Oorloff, mentioned in section VIII, 1, supra.
- (b) In the Methodist Church, Kollupitiya, Colombo, 11th April 1887, Elizabeth Clara Oorloff, mentioned in section VIII, 6, supra.

Of the first marriage, he had :

- 1 Roy Hester (Helstone Granville) who follows under XXV.

Of the second marriage, he had :

- 2 Darling Clare, 14th January 1894, married in St. Paul's Church Milagiriya, 3rd July 1914, Dudley Walston de Kretser, born 10th May 1892, son of Arthur Colvin de Kretser and Adeline Maude Kelaart. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLII, page 67, and Vol. XLVII, pages 64 and 74),
- 3 Arthur Godwin Leslie, who follows under XXVI.
- 4 Mildred Morgan, born 20th May 1897.
- 5 Cyrus Watkin Millie, who follows under XXVII.
- 6 Hector Stanley, who follows under XXVIII.
- 7 Ian Ernest, F.R.H.S., born 22nd August 1904, died in London, 18th October 1958.
- 8 Alice Ina, born 5th September 1905, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 29th June 1933, Percival Doyle Diaz, born 1st February 1902, son of Bernard Luke Diaz and Anne Maria Fernando.
- 9 Lady Felicia, born 19th October 1909, died 12th August 1913.

XIV.

Norman Livingstone Sproule Oorloff, born 21st August 1863, married :

- (a) In St. John's Church, Kalutara, 21st October 1889, Susan Fanny Harriet Jumeaux, born 9th April 1868, died 14th May 1895, daughter of Arthur Jumeaux and Harriet Lydia Thomasz.
- (b) In St. Peter's Church, Colombo, 7th June 1906, Clarice Isabel de Breard born 26th November 1877, died 15th April 1916, daughter of Edward de Breard and Amelia Elizabeth Kriekenbeek. (D.B.U. Journal Vol. V, page 73).

Of the first marriage, he had :

- 1 Arthur Norman Jumeaux, born 16th November 1890.
- 2 Mabel Gertruda, born 29th November 1891, married in the Methodist Church, Kollupitiya, Colombo, 1910, John Martinus Pereira, Proctor.
- 3 Agnes Christobel, born 27th January 1893.
- 4 Harry Morgan, born 7th May 1895, married Merle Moreira.

XV.

Arthur Felix Oorloff, M.B., C.M., (Aber), Provincial Surgeon, Civil Medical Department, born 5th August 1860, married in St. John's Church, Kalutara, 4th May 1882, Agnes Maud Thomasz, born 27th January 1861, daughter of Francis Stephen Thomasz, Proctor and Seraphina Gertruida Le Dulx. He had by her :

- 1 Alice Maud, born 11th July 1884, died 16th June 1905
- 2 Arthur Kingsley, died in the Straits Settlement.
- 3 Arthur Felix, settled in Canada.
- 4 Constance Maud, born 10th September 1889, married in St. George's Church, Penang, 12th October 1912, Reginald Stephen Potger, born 18th August 1881, son of Barend Lodewyk Potger and Anna Rosella Van Langenberg. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVII, page 110, and 112 and Vol. XLI, page 59).
- 5 Christopher Felix, who follows under XXIX.

XVI.

James Uzzial Norman Oorloff, born 11th July 1870, died 29th February 1912, married in the Methodist Church, Kollupitiya, Colombo 27th December 1892, Amelia Matilda Newman, born 12th May 1875, daughter of Samuel William Newman and Georgiana Maria..... He had by her :

- 1 James Reginald Felix, born 16th September 1896.
- 2 James Lancelot Denzil, who follows under XXX.

XVII.

James Owen Oorloff, District Engineer, Public Works Department, born 29th July 1865, died 14th June 1953, married in St. Thomas' Church, Matara, 24th January 1895, Ellen Marion Vollenhoven, born 21st November 1870, died 25th April 1957, daughter of James Edward Vollenhoven and Emmeline Louisa Andree. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIII, page 94 and Vol. XL, page 48). He had by her :

- 1 Linda Rose, Inspectress of House Craft, Education Department, born 6th February 1896.
- 2 Ellen Gladys, born 28th January 1897, died 24th April 1901.
- 3 Rena May, born 30th July 1898, died 22nd April 1901.
- 4 Enid Phyllis Hope, born 13th October 1903.
- 5 Cedric James, B.A. (Lond.), Ceylon Civil Service, Principal of Wesley College, Colombo, Principal of Trinity College, Kandy, born 5th December 1906, married in Christ Church, Galle Face Colombo, 28th December 1936, Christobelle Enid Lembruggen, B.A., (Lond.), born 3rd July 1907, daughter of the Reverend Gerard Henry Percival Leembruggen and Enid Alice Raffel. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. IV, page 27, and Vol. XLVII, page 64).
- 6 Gwendoline Frances, born 31st March 1908, married in the Registrar General's Office, Colombo, 15th April 1950, Edward Kingsley Berenger, born 21st February 1895, son of Edward James Berenger and Augusta Hope da Silva. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLIII, page 166).
- 7 Olga Rene, born 26th September 1911, died 4th May 1912.
- 8 Eileen Philippa May, B.A., (Lond.), born 1st May 1912.

XVIII.

Walter Owen Oorloff, born 6th June 1868, died 7th February 1941 married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 26th December 1895, Julia Rosamond Joseph, born 9th March 1870, died 12th July 1951, daughter of Eugene Joseph and Georgiana Jemima Ohlmus. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVIII, page 169, and Vol. XLIV, page 179). He had by her:

- 1 Julia Vivienne St. Clair, born 17th September 1897, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 5th April 1920, Victor Stanley de Kretser, I.S.O., Ceylon Civil Service, born 2nd December 1889, died 1st July 1949, son of Lloyd Loftus de Kretser and Adeline Augusta Claessen. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXV, page 116, and Vol. XLVII, pages 63 and 73).
- 2 Walter Douglas Owen, who follows under XXXI.
- 3 Estelle Alexandra, born 29th August 1902, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 19th August 1925, Edward George Samuel Kelaart, born 30th December 1900, son of Harris Colvin Kelaart and Ada Joseph. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLII, pages 72 and 78, and Vol. XLIV, page 178).
- 4 George Henley St. Elmo, born 19th June 1906, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 11th December 1937, Phyllis Koch, born 22nd January 1918, daughter of Samuel Arthur Koch and Pearl Elizabeth de Silva. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. X, page 133).

XIX.

Cecil Owen Oorloff, born 24th November 1869, died 28th January 1936, married in St. Paul's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 8th April 1896, Sarah Eliza Nugara, born 14th June 1872, died 23rd January 1935, daughter of George Nugara and Lucretia Pronk. He had by her:

- 1 Felix Egerton Owen, born 21st January 1897.
- 2 Rupert Clarence George Owen, born 4th July 1898.
- 3 Shelton Frederick Owen, born 13th September 1899, died 18th August 1935.
- 4 Percival Amyrald Owen, born 14th December 1900.
- 5 Osmond Edward Owen, born 21st May 1902.
- 6 Bertram Lloyd Owen, born 6th July 1903.
- 7 Dodwell Owen, born 14th February 1905.
- 8 Cecilia Marie Irene, born 2nd February 1909.
- 9 Noel Christobel, born 25th December 1910, died 26th June 1911.
- 10 Noeline Cecilia, born 26th December 1911.
- 11 Lionel Owen, born 26th November 1913.
- 12 Robert Alison Owen, born 24th November 1915.

XX.

Louis Alexander de Boer Owen Oorloff, born 20th November 1871, married in Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, 30th December 1899, Constance Georgiana Coomarawel. He had by her:

- 1 Louis Denzil Owen, born 17th November 1900.
- 2 Constance Sylvia Ersina, born 14th January 1904, married in St. Paul's Church, Milagiriya, 23rd January 1932, George Justus Lorenz Schrader, born 14th October 1902, son of Philip George Schrader and Charlotte Henrietta Lorenz Daniel.

XXI.

Samuel Herbert Oorloff, born 5th September 1897, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 18th December 1924, Myra Amybelle Foenander, born 5th September 1899, daughter of Clarence Vander Smagt Foenander and Lena Mabel Elders. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXVIII, pages 97 and 98). He had by her:

- 1 Psyche Millicent, born 12th November 1925, married in St. Paul's Church, Milagiriya, 6th August 1948, Theodore Cecil Bartholomeusz, born 9th February 1923, son of Frederick Roland Bartholomeusz and Harriet Ann Atwell. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLVIII, pages 59 and 65).

XXII.

George Louis Alexander Oorloff, born 1st November 1906, married in St. Paul's Church, Milagiriya, 28th March 1932, Irene Blanche Kelaart, born 28th June 1911, daughter of Edward Phineas Hussey Kelaart and Ada Belle Vanderwert. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLII, page 74 and Vol. XLVI, page 116). He had by her:

- 1 Maurice Louis Gerald, born 12th October 1933.
- 2 Lauraine, born 7th December 1941, died 7th December 1947.
- 3 Gwyneth Blanche, born 9th September 1943.

XXIII.

Cecil Henry Oorloff, born 20th July 1895, married in St. Mary's Church, Dehiwala, 23rd June 1923, Stella Mildred Nugara, born 6th September 1903, daughter of Walter Godfrey Nugara and Ethel Clare Garnier. He had by her:

- 1 Sheila Mildred, born 13th March 1924, died 24th July 1925.
- 2 Cecil Glenville, born 14th August 1925, married in St. Mary's Church, Dehiwala, 26th December 1951, Delsey Therese de Niese.
- 3 Henry St. Clair, who follows under XXXII.
- 4 Doris Yvonne, born 5th June 1932.
- 5 Barbara Caryl, born 7th August 1936.

XXIV.

Guildford Dudley Oorloff, born 1st September 1902, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 27th February 1930. Rita Dulcie Gray, born 8th November 1907, daughter of Crosby William Gray and Avice Hester Gomes. He had by her:

- 1 Dudley William, born 10th December 1930.
- 2 Rita May, born 26th May 1935.
- 3 Gerald Morrison, born 30th January 1942.
- 4 Herbert Anthony, born 31st March 1945.
- 5 Ronald Michael, born 4th August 1951.

XXV.

Roy Hester (Helstone Glenville) Oorloff, born 12th November 1882, died 30th March 1923, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 1st June 1911, Margaret Emily de Run, born 10th April 1892, daughter of Owen Algernon de Run and Clara Marion Foenander. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXVIII, page 93). He had by her:

- 1 Adora Alice Claribel, born 13th March 1912, died 21st March 1957, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 16th November 1935, Victor Owen Harris Poppenbeek, born 4th May 1897, son of Harris Oscar Poppenbeek and Emma Drusila Van Langenberg. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXIX, pages 23 and 24, and Vol. XLI, page 64).
- 2 Eustace Frederick Foenander, born 29th April 1915.
- 3 Cynthia Myra Christobel, born 30th July 1920.

XXVI.

Arthur Godwin Leslie Oorloff, born 21st July 1895, died 9th April 1937, married in St. John's Church, Kalutara, 9th November 1920, Adelaide Louise Marguerite Ebert, born 27th November 1897, daughter of Edgar Charles Ebert and Stella Marguerite Morgan Jumeaux. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLI, page 38). He had by her:

- 1 Edgar Leslie Melville, born 18th November 1921.
- 2 Ashley Ivor Carlyle, born 27th June 1923.

XXVII.

Cyrus Watkin Millie Oorloff, O.S.I., M.B.E., born 8th September 1898, married in St. Paul's Church, Milagiriya, 27th April 1927, Esme Charlotte Lorenz Schrader, born 2nd February 1905, daughter of Philip George Schrader and Charlotte Henrietta Lorenz Daniel. He had by her:

- 1 Sheila Audrey Lorenz, born 20th May 1928, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 23rd April 1949, Carlyle Harris Vanderwert de Kretser, born 16th February 1926, son of Walter Harris de Kretser and Janet Gladys Alexandra Vanderwert. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLVI, page 117 and Vol. XLVII, pages 80 and 85).

- 2 Joan Lynette Lorenz, born 29th July 1929.
- 3 Charmaine Lorenz, born 23rd March 1934.

XXVIII.

Hector Stanley Oorloff, born 10th December 1903, died 27th March 1954, married in Christ Church, Galkissa, 3rd October 1922, Mavis Blanche White, born 29th April 1907, daughter of Thomas Boake White and Anne Edina Poulter. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLIX, page 18). He had by her:

- 1 Hector Stanley, born 17th July 1924.
- 2 Audrey Ernest, born 9th January 1926.
- 3 Jean Muriel, born, 11th April 1934.

XXIX.

Christopher Felix Oorloff, Barrister at Law, born 16th October 1890, married in St. Paul's Church, Milagiriya, 26th December 1917, Violet May LaBrooy, born 19th April 1894, daughter of Evan George LaBrooy and Julia Rosamond Mack. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIV, page 76, and Vol. XXXVIII, page 137). He had by her:

- 1 Felix Christopher, born 24th August 1918.
- 2 Violet Mavourneen, born 20th March 1920.
- 3 Christobel Violet, born 2nd June 1921.
- 4 Dagmar Constance Yvonne, born 12th January 1924.

XXX.

James Lancelot Denzil Oorloff, born 25th October 1899, married in St. Paul's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 13th May 1925, Dorothy Augusta Potger, born 23rd December 1901, daughter of James Emanuel Potger and Agnes Sebastian D'Oliveira. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVII, page 111). He had by her:

- 1 James Linett Potger, born 5th February 1926.
- 2 Dorothy Clare, born 13th February 1927, died 13th September 1927.
- 3 Dorothy Millicent, born 10th February 1928.
- 4 James Oliver, born 20th December 1929.
- 5 Gladwin Felix, born 19th January 1931.
- 6 Douglas Rienzi, born 1st January 1932.
- 7 Benetta Clare, born 13th May 1934, died 19th May 1934.
- 8 Carlyle Emerson Dennis, born 17th December 1935.

XXXI.

Walter Douglas Owen Oorloff, born 1st January 1900, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 8th September 1926, Bernice de Kretser, born 7th October 1899, daughter of Lloyd Loftus de Kretser and Adeline Augusta Claessen. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXV, page 116, and Vol. XLVII, page 63). He had by her:

1 Sonia Doreen, born 26th July 1927, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 2nd August 1952, Rodney Stewart de Saram, born 6th August 1929, son of Ivor Stewart de Saram and Hilma Marzie Pereira.

2 Conrad Vyvyan, born 1st April 1932.

XXXII.

Henry St. Clair Oorloff, born 27th November 1930, married in St. Rita's Church, Ratmalana, 26th March 1951, Rachel Terese Loos, born 15th December 1924, daughter of Andrew Wilhelm Loos and Augusta Helen Marguerite Berenger. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXIX, pages 117, and 118). He had by her:

1 Cecil Henry, born 11th January 1952.

2 Andrew Wilhelm, born 24th April 1953.

Note: - Roy Hester (Helstone Granville) Oorloff, referred to under XXV, served in The Great War, 1914-1918, as a Sergeant in the Ceylon Sanitary Corps. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XIV, page 5).

THE CALL OF AUSTRALIA

A large number of our Community who are not young, if we may not yet call them old, are exiling themselves from Ceylon today: or rather transplanting themselves though youth has past, with hope of enrichment to Australia. They call it migrating, "getting out of the country", making a new life or seeking better opportunities.

The most recent personality to do so, *persona grata* to the Burghier Community is Mr. Kenneth de Kretser, C. M. G. retired Director of Public Works, who for over half a century has been an outstanding figure in the public, social and sporting life of Ceylon, and in the Dutch Burghier Union. He sailed for Australia in the P & O "Iberia," which left Colombo on the 26th of April to make a new home for himself in Brisbane. He was accompanied by his son Ronnie, and his sister, Mrs. Zillie Martin.

One cannot refer to Mr. de Kretser without referring to the Public Works Department for which he did so much. The Department has an honourable record of service to which the Ceylonese have contributed in no small measure. In the earlier days of British rule, road and building construction was attended to by the Royal Engineers or other Military Officers. The present Public Works Department is the offspring of a small Civil Department subsequently formed, the head of which was styled Civil Engineer and Commissioner of Roads, combining in his own person the duties of Surveyor General as well. In 1867 the designation "Department of Public Works" was adopted, its head being styled "Director of Public Works". Among those who held this office under its earlier designation was Major Thomas Skinner, the great road builder of whom it was said that "to him more than to any living man the Colony is indebted for its present prosperity". But the resources of the Engineer at that early period were very limited, judging by the state of the Kandy Road in 1820, which called forth the following caustic remarks in verse by a former Chief Justice, Sir Hardinge Giffard:—

"Marshes and quagmires, puddles, pools, and swamps,
Dark matted jungles and long plashy plains,
Exhaling foetid airs and mortal damps,
By Kandian perfidy miscalled a road,
Through which the luckless traveller must wade,
Uncheered by sight of man—or man's abode".

With the change of designation in 1867 the Department may be said to have entered on a new phase of its existence. The office of District Engineer now began to be held by persons with a scientific training, and the Department kept pace with the latest developments in road and building construction. Preference was given to those possessing British Engineering qualifications in filling the posts of

Engineers, and for some time such persons had to be recruited from England. But by the year 1900 Ceylonese too had begun to qualify for such appointments by proceeding to England to undergo a training. Among the earliest of these was the subject of this sketch, Mr. Herbert Kenneth de Kretser. Leaving for England at the early age of twenty, Kenny de Kretser obtained his Engineering qualifications within the shortest possible time. Returning to Ceylon in 1904, he went through the usual routine of a Roads Officer, filling the post of District Engineer in many stations of the Island. Everywhere his work was characterised by thoroughness and a keen sense of duty. He enjoyed a well-deserved reputation for courtesy to his subordinates as well as to the public at large. From Jaffna in the North to Matara in the South, from Batticaloa in the East to Colombo in the West, he earned nothing but praise for adherence to these high ideals. With such a creditable record it is not surprising that Mr. de Kretser's promotion in the Department should have been rapid. Within a little over twenty years of his entering the Department, he had risen to the rank of Provincial Engineer, to be followed by that of First Assistant Director of Public Works, Deputy Director, and finally of Director, he being the second Ceylonese to fill this high appointment.

As Director, Mr. de Kretser maintained the high standard set by his predecessors in office. The work of the Department had by now increased in volume as well as in complexity, the War having made new demands which had to be satisfied, and satisfied they were in a manner which left no ground for complaint. Among these may be mentioned the construction of the Aerodrome at Ratmalana, the first work of its kind, which called for the highest technical skill. This was forthcoming, and today the Aerodrome is able to meet calls on it which were not contemplated when the scheme was first projected. Mr. de Kretser saw the completion of other large schemes as well, and when he laid down office on reaching the age limit he had the satisfaction of knowing that he had done his duty in a manner deserving of the highest praise.

But he was not allowed to enjoy for long the ease which he had so well earned. After retirement as Director of the P.W.D. he served for nine years on war emergency duties. In 1942 he accepted the office of President of the Dutch Burgher Union, and we quote as follows from the report of the meeting at which he was elected:—"Mr. G. A. Wille, who occupied the Chair *pro tem* enlarged on the eminent services rendered by Mr. de Kretser as Head of the Public Works Department, and felt sure he would fill his new office with same ability as his predecessors". Mr. de Kretser more than justified this expectation, and when at the end of four years he retired, it was said of him that "he has every reason to be satisfied with his tenure of office which synchronised with the War years. This brought about conditions which imposed a heavy strain on the resources of the Union. But Mr. de Kretser was equal to any emergency, and his calm and unruffled bearing inspired confidence in others, with the result that

the Union emerged from the ordeal without any ill consequences. His uniform courtesy and conciliatory methods will always be remembered as his best qualifications for the office he so worthily filled".

In addition to his other qualifications. Mr. de Kretser is a good raconteur. In an article contributed to the *Journal* he has given some interesting reminiscences of his life as an Engineer. He tells how, when he first joined the Department, travelling was done by bullock cart, and how once, when traversing flooded country, all his food and equipment was carried away by the rushing waters and he himself was in danger of his life. His next mode of conveyance was a horse and carriage, and even this improved method of progression once nearly had serious consequences for him. His horse was in the habit of standing on his hind legs and pawing the air before starting, and on one occasion fell backwards and nearly crushed him. It was the same horse that some time later fell dead in the Railway Station when about to be transported by train. On another occasion an elephant, which was being employed to draw a road roller, fell dead, and the whole labour force had to be summoned to dig a grave. On yet another occasion an attempt was made by a dismissed servant to poison him when he was on circuit. This nefarious design was thwarted in time and ended by Mr. de Kretser, rather than wasting time in the Courts, taking the law into his own hands and administering a severe whipping to the erring servant. Such was the life of a P.W.D. Officer in the olden days.

Mr. Kenneth de Kretser won the distinction of C.M.G., awarded each year to members of the Public Service for long and meritorious service, in 1950. He was a prominent Rotarian since the inception of the Colombo Rotary Club and one time President of the Club. An enthusiastic sportsman, he was at one time President of the Ceylonese Rugby Football Union. He was also a senior Elder of the Dutch Reformed Church.

In the light of this long and meritorious connection with Ceylon, whether we call it "exile" or "migration", Mr. de Kretser's going forth had been voluntary, and no Government decree prevents his return to the land in which he has laboured so long and left a host of friends. None will gainsay that Mr. de Kretser will in time make new friends, good friends, but they can never become old friends. We therefore cannot but feel that he will always have a divided heart.

PROCEEDINGS AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—1959

The 51st Annual General Meeting of the Union was held in the Union Hall on Saturday, 11th April 1959. There was a fair attendance of Members.

In the absence of the President, Mr. J. A. Martensz, who had left the Island some months earlier, Mr. R. S. V. Poulier, C.B.E. occupied the Chair.

The Notice convening the Meeting was read. The Minutes of the 50th Annual General Meeting held on 29th March 1958 were then read and confirmed subject to the addition of the following paragraph with reference to the Schneider Scholarships:—"The Warden had informed Mr. Grenier that in 1958, 14 Dutch Burgher boys had been granted scholarships. The number in 1957 was 11 and in 1956, 20"

The Chairman, Mr. R. S. V. Poulier then addressed the Meeting. (The text of this address has been printed elsewhere in this number of the *Journal*).

The Annual Report and the Accounts for 1958 were next presented to the Meeting. Mr. R. L. Brohier and Dr. R. L. Spittel commented on the report of the Trustees of the De Hoedt Medical Scholarship Fund which was incorporated with the Annual Report and suggested that it was desirable that a more detailed report on the administration of the Fund be presented for the information of members generally. Mr. C. A. Speldewinde thought that the Report was sufficiently informative regarding the past year and suggested that the Journal or Bulletin might be supplied with a full history of the Fund and of the benefits resulting therefrom if that was what was required.

Mr. G. V. Grenier suggested that the Secretary should obtain from the Warden, St. Thomas' College the latest information regarding the Schneider Scholarships. The Secretary said he would do so.

The Chairman having enquired whether any member wished to offer any observations on the Accounts, Mr. Grenier asked how it was that Expenditure had exceeded Income by so much as Rs. 1587/97 in spite of the income of over Rs. 1500/- derived from hire of the Hall. The Honorary Treasurer explained that this was due to loss in membership fees, and to a shortfall in the profits from the Bar during "Emergency 1958" and to reduced patronage of the Bar and Billiards Tables by members generally.

On the proposal of Mr. Frank E. Loos seconded by Mr. O. L. de Kretser (Jr.) the Report and Accounts for 1958 were adopted by the Meeting.

Election of President: Mr. R. S. V. Poulier proposed that Dr. Eric Stanley Brohier be elected President of the Union. In doing so he referred to his own early association with Dr. Brohier at College and in the Public Service, where he made his mark by conscientious devotion to duty. He said that Dr. Brohier was now well maintaining the family tradition by continuing to serve the public interests by means of his activities in connection with the Red Cross Society. He felt that Dr. Brohier would make an ideal President and formally proposed his election. The proposition was carried with acclamation and Dr. Brohier was invited to take the Chair.

On taking the Chair, Dr. Brohier thanked Mr. Poulier for his kind words and all his fellow-members for having elected him. He said that glancing at the portraits of the Past Presidents which adorned the Hall he wondered which of them he should strive to emulate, but decided that he would be just himself! He said he would, however, need the help of all members and in particular of all past Presidents who were still with them and of all the office bearers. If it was expected that he should give them any message at this stage he would say it in one word "HOPE" and also wish them all much joy of their membership and many years of fruitful activity.

Election of Honorary Secretary: Mr. G. S. Direkze was elected to the office of Honorary Secretary

Election of Honorary Treasurer: Mr. Ivor Wendt was unanimously re-elected Honorary Treasurer for the tenth successive year.

Election of General Committee: The following members were elected to the General Committee of the Union:

Colombo Members: Messrs. D. V. Altendorff, M. S. Wallbeoff, C. P. Brohier A. E. Christoffels, W. J. A. van Langenberg, C. G. Ebell, A. L. Loos, G. V. Grenier, C. L. Speldewinde, C. J. van Alphen, D. Jansz, A. L. B. Ferdinand, H. Vanden Driesen, E. N. Wambeek, Frank E. Loos, C. P. Wambeek, H. C. Sansoni, W. G. Woutersz, I. L. Ferdinands, W. W. Beling, F. R. L. Ferdinands C. L. H. Paulusz, M. E. van der Straaten, R. D. P. Paulusz, O. L. de Kretser Jr., J. A. Leembruggen, Dr. E. L. Christoffels, Dr. H. S. Christoffels, Dr. Sam de Vos and Dr. L. D. C. Austin.

Outstation Members: Dr. V. H. L. Anthonisz, Messrs. H. S. Austin, T. F. Blazé, A. E. Buultjens, E. F. N. Bartholomeusz, T. P. C. Carron, A. R. Demmer, G. F. Ernst, F. W. E. de Vos, E. S. de Kretser, O. L. de Kretser Sr. H. R. Kriekenbeek, V. C. Modder, Donald M. A. Speldewinde, F. L. C. van der Straaten.

Election of Auditors: Messrs. Satchinanda, Schokman, Wijeratne & Co. were re-elected Auditors for the ensuing year.

The President next proposed a Vote of Thanks to all retiring Office Bearers and made special reference to Mr. Aubrey Martensz who in spite of ill health had given the Union much good service as President and Mr. Maurice Wallbeoff who was retiring after having served as Secretary for two years. He also thanked Mr. Ivor Wendt for his services as Treasurer for so many years and for agreeing to continue as such. The proposition was carried with acclamation.

The President also thanked Mr. Poulier for having so efficiently deputised for Mr. Martensz at that Meeting and for his illuminating address.

The business before the meeting having been transacted, a collection was taken for the Social Service Work of the Union and realised Rs. 93/10; while a sale of Chutneys and Pickles later brought in Rs. 78/75 more for this Fund.

The retiring General Committee were hosts to all present at a social that followed.

The objects of the Union shall be :

To gather by degrees a library for the use of the Union composed of all obtainable books and, papers relating to the Dutch occupation of Ceylon and standard works in Dutch literature.

ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE CHAIRMAN At The Annual General Meeting, 1959.

It is customary for the President each year to review the events of the past year and to trace the impact of those events upon us. In the past few years these happenings have rather crowded themselves over us; a few of us have felt somewhat overwhelmed but most of us know the strong moral and spiritual values of our community; they know how we have faced difficulties in the past and are sure that if we shall not ultimately triumph, we shall at least hold our own with brave hearts and chins up.

The rapidity of recent changes has been described in many ways, the most common description has been that it was "a period or age of transition" with "problems within problems".

The truth is that prompted by political pressures and the evolution of what is termed, "democratic socialism", broadbased social revolution with its usual upheavals is taking place around us, sometimes peacefully, at other times, not so peacefully; this democratic socialism has a clear political fringe and, somewhat illogically, is confused with issues of religion, language and education; when the confusion becomes obvious, it is explained away as the "will of the people", or as a reaction to 350 years of European colonialism.

The more conservative section of the people (NOT only of our community, I must stress) are conscious of an understandable sense of frustration from its feeling of helplessness to slow down the pace of change to what it regards as sane proportions; or just "accelerated evolution".

This too rapid pace of changes or "short cut to happiness" has often been criticized by that elder statesman of India, Mr. C. Rajagopalachari who warned the Indian Government against doing "grand things in a short time" adding that "any short cut policy to increase the standard of living would undermine the moral values of life like honesty and purity".

Reverting to that Conservative Section of the people of this country, their feeling of frustration is deeper because this section was previously able, not only to express its views but to generally have those views accepted.

Other features of this period of transition were a growing sense of indiscipline, a large number of strikes (some quite unreasonable), an unusually high crime and murder rate and the appointment of a Commission to report on the question of hanging as a punishment for murder.

For historical purposes I wish to place on record our own horror at that dark blot on our Island history namely, the Communal Riots between the Tamils and the Sinhalese in May/June of 1958. In order to avoid allegations of partiality of our Community I refrain from tracing the causes of this calamity but would merely refer to the activities of the Federal Party in regard to the language and other issues; to the tar brush campaign on street name boards and other sign boards and to the anti-sri and anti-anti-sri campaigns. To the general dismay was added anxiety from the circulation of mischievous circulars (mostly anonymous or pseudonymous) with foolish threats to other religions and communities, influenced by extremists on both sides. Many families which had resolved to stay in Ceylon for all time, began to have misgivings in regard to the correctness of their decision.

I now pass on to another phase and that is to the legislation enacted which is of interest to us. The year 1958 started with the generally approved taking over by Nationalisation of the BUS services of the Island.

Then followed the Paddy Lands Act, the principles of which interest us almost more than the act itself; despite fundamental divergence of view in the Government party itself, the forceful minister of Agriculture and Food, achieved his main objectives by agreeing to a few but significant changes in his original draft.

Then came the State Plantations Corporations Act No. 4 of 1958, the principles of which are of concern to us. The next interesting measure was the Conciliation Boards Act 10 of 1958, which is bound to start well but will, I fear, throw up numerous problems later. The Port (Cargo) Corporation Act 13 of 1958 was the Second Nationalisation Act; there is much controversy in regard to the degree of its, success or failure. The repeal of the "Stay-in Strikes" Act has so far had little repercussion,

The Employees Provident Fund Act was a useful piece of social legislation and was followed by the controversial Income Tax Amendment Act 44 of 1958 which set out to give effect to the proposal to tax the profits and income of religious and charitable Institutions; previous governments had brought forward similar measures but withdrew them owing to popular opposition. It might be worth recording the keen controversy over the passing of the Tamil Language (Special Provisions) Act 28 of 1958 as it is bound to acquire prominence at the next general Elections due in 1961. There are two pieces of legislation (still in the Bill Stage) which will interest you; these are the Courts Language Bill and a Bill to amend the Rent Restriction Act, to strengthen the position of tenants *vis-a-vis* their landlords.

I would now wish to refer to the Select Committee of both Houses of Parliament which has been sitting for about 1½ years now to amend the Constitution of Ceylon. The Committee had issued a

questionnaire covering much of the ground on which it had intended to report to both Houses of Parliament. Your General Committee discussed the items on this questionnaire and selected representatives to discuss this matter (as had been done when the language issue came up) with representatives of the Burgher Recreation Club, the Burgher Welfare Organisation, the Burgher Association, and the Burgher Education Fund. After a very full discussion, the conference authorised Mr. Vernon Grenier, Mr. Frank and myself to draft the memorandum of reply in accordance with our decisions and this was signed by Dr. R. L. Spittel (in the absence of Mr. Aubrey Martensz), Mrs. Ruth Kelaart and Dr. V. H. L. Anthonisz as representatives of the Burgher Community.

When the question of the continuance of appointed members was taken up in Select Committee in February 1959; despite my adducing substantial claims, the Committee were generally of the view that the system of Appointed Members was not desirable but I managed to defer for further consideration the question of whether certain racial minority groups (the reference was to the Burghers and Malays) should have special representation. In view of this reverse, I immediately saw the Prime Minister who agreed to meet a deputation from the Burgher Community. Mr. E. F. N. Gratiaen (who was then busy packing to leave us) very kindly agreed to lead the deputation which saw the Prime Minister on the 12th February; the deputation consisted of Mr. Rosslyn Koch, Mr. R. L. Brohier, Mr. S. J. C. Schokman, Dr. T. R. Jansen, Mr. Frank and myself. The result was not encouraging.

A further conference was held with the other Burgher Institutions to discuss the altered situation. Time does not allow me to explain in detail the happenings at the deputation to the Prime Minister and the discussions at our two Burgher Conferences but I have brought with me copies of the minutes of the Conferences which I shall be glad to show to any members who are specially interested, after the meeting.

As a consequence of an interim report of the Select Committee on the subjects of Parliamentary Elections and Delimitation, the Ceylon Constitution, (Special Provisions) Act No. 35 of 1954 was repealed. This Act was of interest to us. Referring to the Governor General's appointment of appointed Members, it had changed the phrase "*May* appoint....." in the original Constitution to "*shall* appoint....."; the repeal causes a reversion to "*May* appoint. Though a small matter in actual practice, I considered it of sufficient importance to draw the attention of the Select Committee to it,

Other tentative decisions of the Select Committee have already appeared in the newspapers, namely:—

- (1) The establishment (as in India) of a Republic within the Commonwealth
- (2) The abolition of the Senate (there are signs that this subject might be reopened)
- (3) The laying down of a much larger number of fundamental rights than occur in our present much disputed article 29.

Discussions on the complete alteration of the whole system of Government have been of considerable interest; possibly some kind of amalgamation of the Swiss and Checho-Slovak systems with our own Donoughmore Scheme, so that all the available talent can be usefully employed.

The general view was that the present Cabinet form of Government (with an Opposition) worked well so long as there were *two* strong parties, with an Opposition which could take over the Government at short notice; when parties became numerous and required the *Coalition* of several smaller parties, the maintenance of a definite and clear cut policy become difficult. Moreover a Cabinet tended to develop into a dictatorship of an INNER Cabinet of 2 or 3 only. But any such proposals are treated with Suspicion and in some quarters interpreted as an attempt to "erect the expediencies of M. E. P. politics into a Constitutional theory".

To pass on to a different subject. While we as a community always endeavoured to find common points which hold us together (as indeed our motto requires) people who are not kindly disposed towards us frequently point to subjects which tend to divide us. It began long ago when the British took over Ceylon from the Dutch; there were then two parties, one of which preached that we should leave Ceylon and the other decided to stay on. The next division arose on the question of the learning and use of the English language; and so on, until in our own times of the 1920's, we were unhappily split on the issue of A and B class Burghers; this was a grave error and all of us deeply regret the resultant cleavage. Since then attempts were made to create other cleavages first between what were called Cinnamon Garden Burghers and other Burghers, and when that failed, they tried and indeed still try, to separate the richer from the poorer Burghers. Today another cleavage is being attempted, and that is between those who wish to migrate to Australia (and cannot do so for one reason or another) on the one hand and those who have decided to stay in Ceylon, on the other. The best way to answer these attempts at cleavage is to bring the discussion up frankly and openly and I do so now. The Union's attitude towards this question was canvassed many years ago and I believed the view to have been that our Constitution and Bye-laws made no provision for expending Union funds to assist Emigration; an entirely private and personal sort of corollary emerged that as

individuals, members would assist (so far as they could) their own relatives and friends who desired to emigrate, without overlooking the possibility (remote no doubt) of the emigrant being dissatisfied with conditions in Australia and wanting to return home. It is always necessary to keep in mind that the numbers emigrating will always be small compared to the numbers of those who will stay on.

Those who were present at the inaugural meeting of the Burger Welfare Organisation will recall the prominence which this issue of assisting migration was given by some of the speakers; I understand that *that* Organisation has now clearly stated that its interests are with those who continue to live in Ceylon; but personally they endeavour to help relatives and friends who wish to migrate.

The anonymous and pseudonymous circulars which followed the communal riots of May/June 1958, gave an unfortunate stimulus to migration to Canada, to the United Kingdom, to Ireland and to Australia; this urge was felt by all the Communities of Ceylon and not by our community alone.

Fortunately confidence has now returned and with it, the necessity to restate our own attitude. Some of us have been of the view that a subject like this with close social attachments can be separated from political party views and discussed unofficially by our General committee. What I say now should not be regarded so much as a personal opinion or pronouncement (for which I hold no authority) but rather as an attempt to set down material for such a discussion.

In the first place we must never (as our Founder so often repeated), never hold ourselves aloof from the other communities of this land of ours, nor allow our children to develop or assume any sort of superiority (or inferiority) complex. In the present political field any such aloofness is disastrous and I cannot sufficiently emphasize how important this subject is to our younger generation. I would like to add in parenthesis here that any integration into a political party (if a non-Government servant goes that far) need not inevitably carry with it the fear of consequential social or cultural absorption.

Secondly, it must be indelibly impressed on the minds of children that in addition to the learning of English, it is essential for them to concentrate seriously on acquiring a sound knowledge of the present Official language which they have when very young already learnt to speak fluently from their ayahs: we are now in an unusually good position to be ideal bilingualists. If this is properly done it will be possible to truthfully encourage children to believe that there will always be a future for them in this their own land. It is not perhaps necessary to explain to the children that, as a matter of fact, even without a sound knowledge of Sinhalese, there will always be an increasing employment future for them in the private sector. Whatever the present economic views are, *new* foreign capital must be imported into Ceylon on a larger

scale than recently in order to avoid National financial problems; and with this foreign capital, there will always be work for everyone who can write a letter in decent English, which language must for very many years to come, continue to be the trade language of the world. If I had the time, I should have liked to have referred to the peculiar problems of the 30/50 age group which must be viewed from a different angle.

I cannot leave this subject without a reference to those difficult parents who by definite remarks or by failure to correct their children allow the impression to persist that *their* children (note the pomposity!) cannot or need not learn Sinhalese. I venture to humbly suggest that such parents themselves require a complete re-education on the subject of the changed world around us and (without intending to be offensive) consider that they must go through a parallel process which in another context is referred to as "brain washing."

As a final point for discussion I would suggest the merits and demerits of Emigration to different types of family groups: I mean those with large or small families and those with varying proportions of boys and girls in different age groups.

A further advantage of an un-official discussion by the General Committee is that a sort of expert group might emerge—(of course, NOT officially tied to our Union Organization, as it cannot be).

This group, in a personal capacity, can collect what information is available in regard to (1) Changing Conditions of employment in Australia (2) Alteration of Income Tax matters at both ends (3) Changes in regard to amounts of money that can be taken out (4) Facilities in regard to accommodation or house purchase in Australia (5) Ascertain what help the churches there can give etc.

To change the subject yet again, I realised when collecting these notes that the Union is now, almost unconsciously extending its activities and growing into a kind of collecting house and place of expression of all Burgher Views in the present active socio-political climate. In this context I was going to suggest to you that we should once a year—perhaps at the last General Committee meeting before the Annual General meeting—attempt to make a collection of our achievements which now tend to get swamped by the piffling political party contentions to which the newspapers give prominence; I refer to items like:

- (1) The outstanding conduct of the late Mr. A. B. Demmer during the language riots at Gal Oya.
- (2) The bringing out of new books by Dr. Spittel (Wild White Boy) and Christine Wilson (Mountain Road).
- (3) The remarkable work of Burgher Officers in the Police, Excise and other departments during the December 1957 floods and the May/June communal riots of 1958.

(4) The Antiquities report of Mr. R. L. Brohier.

(5) The work of George Keyt in Art and many others in the fields of Culture and Sport.

These will be an antidote to any sense of frustration and will demonstrate that we are very much alive and kicking hard, now and always.

But time passes and I must conclude by thanking on your behalf, all those who carried forward the work of the Union in the past year. I should first refer to our past President Mr. Aubrey Martensz who held office for two years. His sage counsel, wide knowledge and geniality endeared him to all of us. Frequent illness however prevented him doing as much for the Union as he always intended to do. He left for Australia very early this year to join his relatives there. The Office-Bearers will receive special mention at item (8) of the Agenda. The work of the General Committee and of the several Standing Committees, is referred to very concisely in the Annual report. But these reports cannot reflect the degree of sacrifice involved in attending meetings and carrying out the necessary work; sacrifice not only of personal leisure but sometimes with temporary neglect of domestic duties.

You must excuse me if I specially refer to the work of that committee which, with courage, revived again the enjoyable New Year's Eve dance. It took the minds of some of us back to pleasant times in younger days in this building of ours with such happy associations. It is not simple nostalgia, but there is a vague "*something*" here which the most fashionable hotels can never give.

NEWS AND NOTES

The Fiscal:

The term "Fiscal", as used in Ceylon for the officer who corresponds to the Sheriff in England, is a relic from the period of the Dutch rule in Ceylon.

As would appear from a Minute, dated June 1, 1799, by the Hon'ble Mr. H. Cleghorn, Chief Secretary to the Government of Ceylon, there were under Dutch rule three chief Courts of Justice, viz., of Colombo, Galle, and Jaffna. "In each of these Courts there was an officer called the Fiscal who, in some respects, might be considered a Judge: in others as a 'Caluminator Publicus'. He was nominated by the Supreme Court of Batavia. In civil cases he deliberated and voted as a Judge. In criminal cases he was considered the public accuser. The functions of this officer were numerous and important, especially in Colombo. Besides his duties as Fiscal in criminal cases, he was obliged to superintend the carrying out of the orders of Government and to him was committed the inspection of the Police of the town, of which he was Justice of the Peace. Although appointed from Batavia, he was entirely dependent on the Governor".

During British times, the Fiscal was divested of the various duties performed by him during the Dutch period and those duties were handed over to other officers. At present, the Fiscal's chief duties are confined to the service of processes issuing from Courts and the execution of the decrees and sentences of the various Courts in the Island, in the same manner as does the Sheriff in England.

Obituary:

Since the issue of the last number of the *Journal* the Union has sustained the loss of two of its prominent and popular members: Messrs Eric. S. de Kretser and Alan B. Demmer. Eric de Kretser who joined the Union in 1933, was Superintendent of Pahan Estate, Kalutara. He was 68 years old and was the most senior planter in the district. On leaving the Royal College (St. Sebastian), where he was educated, he worked for a short period at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, but later accepted a billet on Pahan Estate which at that time, with rubber *booming*, was being opened up with other large tracts for the cultivation of rubber.

That was a time when the one dominant cry in the Kalutara District was for land, and more land to plant with rubber. Crown forest was selling at the upset price of Rs. 50/- an acre. British planters ran the large estates which covered nearly every hill-side, and Ceylonese were finding employment as planting students.

Eric de Kretser found his new work greatly to his liking and by steady application, learnt all there was to be learnt about planting rubber. He never looked back from that day in 1911 when he took up his residence in a shack which went for bungalow in those pioneer times, and he nursed Pahan Estate from new clearing to prosperous plantation for nearly 46 years. His thoroughness and capability as a planter was so greatly appreciated that he was much sought after as a visiting Superintendent by many persons who owned plantations in the District.

A keen sportsman, while in Colombo he played regularly for the Ramblers and B.H. & F.C. and proved an outstanding hockey forward, representing the Ceylonese against the Europeans more than once. Of a genial disposition he made friends wherever he went and enjoyed a good deal of popularity in Kalutara.

Alan Demmer died at Gal Oya with unexpected suddenness on Good Friday morning, at the age of 60. He served in the Ceylon Government Railways for 41 years and rose from the rank of apprentice Loco Foreman to act as General Manager. After retirement in 1955, he served as Equipment Manager with the Gal Oya Development Board to the time of his sudden demise. Men of his calibre are very rare. It was sheer perseverance and toil which raised him from the lowest to the top of the Railway Service. Charming and loveable in manners, he proved himself a good friend and a companionable club-man.

During World War I, Alan Demmer at the early age of 16, was mobilized when his unit: the Ceylon Artillery Volunteers, was called up. A friend who was associated with him recalls the many pleasant episodes of those days spent on the gun-floors and shelters in the coastal batteries. He was a very enthusiastic soldier and in later years, when acting as General Manager of the Ceylon Government Railways, was gazetted: Lt: Colonel of the Ceylon Railway Engineering Regiment.

Queen's House:

The following note should interest antiquarian readers: van Angelbeek (the last of the Dutch Governors) moved in after the capitulation in 1796. He died in 1799. The building was left by his Executors to General Macdowal who made it his residence and office. Subsequently it became the property of the Government and Cordiner speaks of Governor Maitland occupying it. In 1804, for the first time it came to be called King's House. Maitland lived mostly at the Mount in the building which is today the Mount Lavinia Hotel.

It was rebuilt in 1831 on representations made by Governor Wilmot Horton, who also lived at Mount Lavinia, seven miles out of Colombo.

A Whiff from the Past:

Frederic Charles Loos who rose to eminence by self-effacement and great respect for the future of his nationality, left a name to posterity to prove what thrift can do. He gave freely, but could never be bought over by false praise. A certain clergyman went to him once for a subscription to build a school. "This is a bad time to build," he said "timber is expensive"—"but give me something" said the minister". "Very well then, you have my sympathy" — "but sympathy without relief is like mustard without beef" answered the padre. "Then, my friend" retorted Mr. Loos, "don't eat beef", and the evangelist left having been given the heartiest good-morning, and hand shake.

Period Museums:

The Final Report of the Special Committee on Antiquities which was recently issued as Sessional Paper VII of 1959, offers much information on the affairs of the Departments of the Archaeological Survey of Ceylon, the National Museums, and the Government Archives. Besides many another far-reaching and vital recommendation the Committee have commended to Government the idea of establishing period museums covering the Kandyan Dutch and early British times. The Report states that abroad there are many such museums of "old houses" completely fitted up with all the domestic appliances and furniture depicting the various eras, and even with wax models of people dressed in period costumes.

It is pointed out that so far as the Dutch House is concerned. "It would be easier to start one forthwith, than to start a Kandyan House, because there still are left in Colombo a few original Dutch buildings like the one that is being used as the Pettah Post Office. A building of this nature should be taken over and furnished fully with complete sets of Dutch furniture, costumes, arms and weapons, porcelain plate and crockery, books pictures and maps, which are all still procurable. For this purpose the historic Dutch building used at present as the Pettah Post Office appears to be an eminently suitable original building".

Referring to the old Dutch Church at Jaffna the Report says: "This is a very valuable monument but sadly neglected. Little preservation work has been done here. The unique examples of woodwork are decaying. Some of this woodwork offers the best examples of joinery done by Ceylonese craftsmen. The task of restoring the Church, the woodwork and the furniture within it should be undertaken with expert advice immediately. This building was owned by the Dutch Reformed Church of Ceylon, but towards the end of the last century was sold to the Government for Rs. 3000/- on the promise that the Government would maintain it as an antiquity and that facilities for worship would also be afforded. The Church should be maintained as a museum together with that very fine example of a Colonial Dutch House which is close to it — the King's House. These

two buildings, suitably equipped may be treated administratively as parts of the Jaffna National Museum."

Touching on the Star Fort at Matara, the Report applies some of the remarks in the previous paragraph to this monument as well. It points out that although the Fort is a "Protected Monument", the Public Works Department in attending to "repair" work is reported to have fixed modern windows in place of the old ones. This monument is also classified as unique, "and has to be preserved without violating its original form of structure". "In time to come" to quote from the Report, "it may be difficult to find original examples of Dutch architecture in Ceylon of this type."

THE DUTCH BURGHER UNION
OF
CEYLON

ANNUAL REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS 1958

THE DUTCH BURGER UNION OF CEYLON

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 51st Annual General Meeting of the Union will be held in the Union Hall, Reid Avenue, on Saturday, 11th April 1959 at 6 p.m.

BUSINESS:

- (1) To read the Notice convening the Meeting
- (2) To read and, if approved, to confirm the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
- (3) Chairman's Address
- (4) To consider and, if approved, to adopt the Annual Report and Audited Accounts.
- (5) Election of Office-Bearers:—
 - (a) President.
 - (b) Honorary Secretary.
 - (c) Honorary Treasurer.
- (6) Election of General Committee.
- (7) Appointment of Auditor.
- (8) Vote of thanks to retiring Office Bearers.
- (9) Any other Business of which due notice has been given.

A collection will be made at the end of the Meeting in aid of the Social Service Fund of the Union. There will also be a sale of Pickles and Chutneys in aid of this Fund.

The General Committee will be "At Home" to Members and their families after the Meeting.

Colombo, 9th March, 1959.

M. S. WALLBEOFF
Honorary Secretary.

FIFTYFIRST ANNUAL REPORT 1958

General Committee

The Committee met on 14 occasions and was responsible for the conduct of the general affairs and activities of the Union. The Committee has pleasure in submitting the following report for the year 1958.

Membership

as at 1st January 1958	426	
number of members joined	7	
	<u>433</u>	
less:		
resigned	12	
died	10	
struck off under rule 6 (d)	<u>6</u>	28
		<u>405</u>
These are distributed as follows:—		
Colombo members paying Rs. 3/- per month	181	
Lady members paying Re. 1/- per month	55	236
Outstation members:		
paying Re. 1/- per month		137
Left the Island during the year		<u>32</u>
		<u>405</u>

50th Anniversary Celebrations:

The Union Celebrated its 50th Anniversary on the 29th March 1958. The Celebration took the form of a Social at which the Prime Minister was the Chief Guest.

W. E. V. de Rooy:

A tablet was erected in the Union Hall in memory of the late Mr. de Rooy in recognition of his valuable services to the Union.

Founders' Day:

The Function was celebrated in the usual manner and was enjoyed by all those who were present.

St. Nikolaas' Fete:

This event which is intended for the children of members was the biggest function of the year and was largely attended by children as well as the older members of the Union. Records of St. Nikolaas' Fete songs, which were donated to us by the Minister for the Netherlands, were played on this occasion. A very enjoyable evening was spent by all present.

Journal:

Mr. R. L. Bohier continues to be the Editor of the Journal and maintain its high standard. Literary contributions to the Journal will be welcomed by the Editor. Mr. D. V. Altendorff continues to be of invaluable assistance to the Editor in publishing genealogies of families of the community. The number of subscribers to the Journal has dropped considerably of late and we earnestly appeal for new subscribers.

The Bulletin:

Our thanks are due to the Editor, Mr. G. V. Grenier, for his services in this connection.

STANDING COMMITTEES

(a) Committee for Ethical & Literary Purposes:

This Committee functions under the Chairmanship of Mr. R. L. Brohier with Mr. D. R. L. W. Jansz as Secretary and convener.

(b) Committee for Social Service:

Chairman: Mr. C. A. Speldewinde

Secretary: Mrs. L. O. Weinman; This Committee continues to render assistance to the poorer members of the community by the payment of monthly allowances, (and casual relief as occasion arises). The number of persons assisted represent only a small percentage of those in need of help. For lack of funds the work of this Committee is restricted to only a few of those who seek assistance.

The annual Christmas Treat and distribution of Hampers took place on 22nd December 1958. The Committee expresses its appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the Union by Mrs. Ruth Kelaart as Secretary to this Standing Committee for several years.

(c) Committee for Recreation, Entertainment and Sport:

Chairman: Mrs. W. J. A. Van Langenberg

This Committee was responsible for the entertainment which was provided for members and their guests.

Special mention must be made of the New Years Eve Dance which was held after several years and was a great success; the dance was enjoyed by Members of the Union, and their guests. The Piano Fund now stands at Rs. 1,230/51.

The Bridge Group continues to meet regularly.

Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31st December 1958:

[illegible]

Sgd. M. S. Wallbeoff.
Hony. Secretary.

(d)

The Dr. De Hoedt Medical Scholarship Fund.

(e)

The Trustees of this Fund Messrs D. V. Altendorff, F. E. Loos, and Dr. E. S. Brohier have pleasure in giving you this brief report of the work done by this Fund for the year 1958.

(f)

This Fund as you are no doubt aware is to assist the children of members of the Union in their Medical Studies to qualify in Medicine and Surgery.

(g)

It was started in 1920 through the generosity of the late Dr. James William de Hoedt.

(h)

In the year 1958 two students were helped in their Medical Studies.

(i)

The capital of this Fund at present is Rs. 12000/- invested in Colombo Property on a Mortgage bond and Rs. 1000/- in the Government National Development Loan. There is in addition a credit balance of Rs. 3481/18 in the State Bank of India as on 31st December 1958.

(j)

This Fund is a charitable trust and there are no conditions of repayment.

(k)

The Trustees however are not precluded from accepting contributions from those who have benefited by the Fund and are in a position to make some return.

BALDAEUS

Abridged from an 1849 translation by

PETER BROHIER

SIXTH INSTALMENT.

CHAPTERS XLVIII to LI.

THE XLVIII CHAPTER

—[Unabridged]

*Natural History of Ceylon—Its Pagoden—Convents and Friars—
Natural Customs and household habits of the Cingalezen—*

Having now travelled from place to place in *Ceylon* in so far as they are under the dominion of the *Nederlanders*, we shall now take a look at *Candy*, the Imperial Capital in order to investigate somewhat more narrowly the nature of the Island, and of its Inhabitants. *Candy* lies 30 Miles from the sea, and 9 from *Vintane* and borders the River of *Trinquenemale*, 21 miles landwards of *Matecalo*, and 9 from the Sea-beach, where they build the Emperor's ships and gallies. With respect to the other stations, as there are no authentic accounts of them, I shall therefore omit them.

There are rich *Pagoden* ¹ to be seen throughout the Island, as the one in *Vintane*, whose base is in circumference 130 paces, very lofty and wide, it is gilt at the top, in shape it resembles a Pyramid, but in its ascent of an oval shape, having at its summit a square pinnacle. There is also the great *Pagode* between *Gale* and *Matecalo*, very large and lofty and which serves as a beacon for ships. (As also the *Pagode* of *Trinquenemale*;) in the great lofty *Pagode*, there is the figure of a huge man in an upright standing position with a naked sword in upraised hand as though to strike. It is to this figure that the *Cingalezen* have recourse, in time of distress and sickness, by making offerings, to which end they always have a basket in their house, in which they lay aside the things intended as offerings to the demons. They implicitly believe that the World will not be destroyed as long as this *Pagode* exists. In other places they pay much adoration to the head of an Elephant, made of either wood or stone, to acquire Wisdom. They adorn their idols with flowers. These heads of Elephants are to be found everywhere on the road, and some on the trees (for they have many Devil Trees ²) or in some notches of masonry. We often find on the road heaps of stones, and other rubbish, to which each passer by, adds something more. I have seen near *Belligamme* ³ the figure of a man carved out in a rock about the depth of an arm, and about 6 yards high, which the *Cingalezen* honour and make offerings to.

There is a high Mountain or Peak which is considered the loftiest in *India* called *Pico de Adam* ⁴, the inhabitants believe it to be the Paradise where *Adam* was created, saying that his footprint can there still be seen deep set in the rock. To this mountain many *Cingalezen* resort on pilgrimage to see this foot print, a copy of which is kept in *Candy* by the Emperor. Here come often many people from hundreds of miles away, especially *Jogues*, [Yogis] to see this famous Shrine. This Mountain is very difficult of ascent, which can only be accomplished, as *Maffacus* the *Jesuyt* observes, by the help of the iron chains made fast to nails. Some say that this is the place where the

Chamberlain of the Moorish Queen *Candace* was honoured, and some Historians, especially *Dorotheus*, Bishop of *Tyrus*, who during the reign of *Constantinus* the Great particularly excelled in sanctity and learning, would have it that in *Arabia—Felice*, in *Erythreen* and *Taprobana* was the Gospel of *Jesus* taught.

There are also diverse Monasteries in *Ceylon*, as well as a large community of *Bramines* and Priests who eat nothing that has or can produce Life, as Eggs etc. These people are held in high esteem. In some monasteries there are Monks who go along the streets clad in yellow robes, carrying *sombreiros* or Sun Screens with them, their heads are shaved clean, they are seen with their *Pater Nosters* in their hands, constantly reading, and slowly muttering. These Monasteries are built with galleries, corridors and Chapels in which there are various images of men and women who they say, have led holy lives. These figures are clad in silver or gold vestments, to whose honour there are lamps and wax tapers kept burning during day and night upon their Altars, there being also great candlestands decorated with figures of naked Children. The Monks enter these Chapels at all hours to say Prayers and read their breviaries.

When they go in procession through the streets, the Chief Abbot is seated upon an elephant richly caparisoned and has a gilt *sombreiro* held over his head, and there is much playing of horns, trumpets, tom-toms and the sounding of bells and cymbals, which altogether makes a good effect, followed by many men, women and children. Their finest females are that the Procession moves, perform many wonderful antics and dances, the upper part of their bodies are entirely bare though their arms, ears and hands are adorned with jewelry and precious stones, and they wear cloths of various colours. These people whilst paying to their idols the daily adoration *Sombaja*, prostrate themselves on the ground and on rising they clasp their hands over their heads, and pray. What further relates to the Religion of the *Cingalezen* will be found in our first Book. For in Pagan rituals there is no great difference between their mode of worship and that of the *Malabaren*, and those of the *Choromandel* Coast, but they are not however quite so superstitious, because there is no coercion on the part of the Emperor regarding any particular faith, but he gives them their choice. The Nation is not bigoted, for there are many amongst them many who have become converts to the Roman Catholic Religion realising the falseness of their own religion, so that through the instrumentality of Ministers, and the support of our High Authorities, many souls can yet be won to *Jesus Christ*.

We shall now say something respecting the Nation. The *Cingalezen* are a nice people, clever and acquainted with all handicrafts they work in Gold, Silver, Ivory, Ebony and Iron, and are very dexterous in the forging of Arms, and artfully inlaying them with silver, eloquent and nimble, experienced in War⁵ and wary in battle, sober and vigilant; in marching to Battle, they go one after the other with reversed lances,

owing to the narrowness of the roads; their small drums sound very loud and can be heard vibrating through the mountains at the distance of 5 or 6 hours. They are very apt to wound a fallen foe, and to keep on inflicting wounds, whether he be dead or dying. It is not however very safe to place any great confidence in them, but as they are cunning they should not be lightly esteemed, for through the *Portugezen*, and other *Europaeische* people they have now acquired wisdom. They make light of Incest,⁶ for the men commend their wives during their absence from home to their own brothers for masculine attention; there was one case in particular at *Gale*, when a woman thought it an injustice and yielded not to the command of her husband. Whilst I was living in *Jafnapatan* a surprising occurrence took place there, but in view of the immaturity of the offenders as Christians and their ignorance of their sin, they were both through my intercession freed from capital punishment; they were made subsequently sensible of the demands of God's Law, that they might not in future again sin thus, with a warning also to the rest of the inhabitants.

The *Cingalezen* resemble, too, much in their features and manners the *Malabaren*, having long and bored ear-laps; in complexion they are not so swarthy; the dress of their men is a jacket or *Ropillos*, of either cloth or linen, from their waist they wear a cloth wound up like a pair of breeches, on the head those of some consequence wear a red *Rouansche* Cap of which they are very proud, their ears are adorned with earrings set with different stones. On their hip they wear daggers, with silver, ivory or gold hilts. The common people go about almost nude, having only a small bit of cloth wrapped up about their loins. The women go barebreast, they are well made of body, and use no external ornaments to their hair, but know to bundle it very artfully into a knot at the extremity of their heads like a hive. They wear about their necks gold or silver necklaces and have rings on their fingers and toes.

These *Cingalezen* are lovers of ease and like the *Malabaren* little inclined to work, sensual and making much of their Caste. They are polygamists and marry as many wives as they can, like the *Mahometanen* of whom there are many settled in the Island. They marry out their daughters very early in life, in their 10th or 11th year, as hundreds of their elders can testify to the Marriage Rites I have performed, and there is no counselling them to the contrary, it being the only way they say, of testing the chastity of their brides.

They, like the pagans, burn their dead, they are very orderly in their household affairs, they make use of plantain⁷ leaves as substitute for napkins and table cloths, and instead of spoons, they use pieces of old coconuts and drink from *Gorgeletten*,⁸ earthen vessels having spouts or tubes, they do not reach the vessels to their mouths, but after the *Mooren* fashion, pour the fluid into their mouths, for they make much of their caste like the *Malabaren*, and will never not eat or drink with one of a lower caste, just as many amongst the Nation do not even take their meals with their own wives.

Their common Coin consists of silver *Larijns*, worth 10 Stivers each, 5 Stivers make a *fanom*, but there is a difference between a silver and gold *fanom*. A *Pagode* was formerly worth 84 Stivers. At present both in *Ceylon* and on the Coast *Choromandel* 6 Guilders—And 2 gold *fanoms* worth 5 Stivers each, make one *Larijn*.

NOTES TO CHAPTER XLVIII

1. *Pagoden* i.e. Temples. Of those particularly mentioned here, that "in *Vintane*" [Bintenne] is doubtless the Mahiyangana dagaba at Alutnuwara, situated at the angle where the Mahaweliganga after running due east from Kandy for 50 miles turns north towards Trincomalee. Even in Dutch times Alutnuwara was a place of dignity and importance, "the finest city in the Island with a spacious palace belonging to the Emperor" (*Valentyn* ch. II p. 40). It was here at Bintenne that Spilbergen, the first Dutchman to visit Ceylon was received by one of the queens of King Senerat.

By "the great pagoda between *Gale* and *Matecalo*" is probably meant the famous temple at Dondra dedicated to Vishnu whose identity was for many years merged in that of the god worshipped as Upalvan. Ibn Battuta who visited the spot in the 14th century mentions "an idol of pure gold of the size of a man." The temple he calls "a huge pagoda raised on elaborate arches with a gilded roof shewing far out at sea." The temple was demolished by the Portuguese in 1587, so that Baldeus' use of the present tense was apparently due to his quoting from an older writer or to hearsay.

"The pagoda of *Trinquenemale*" was doubtless the temple which was situated on Tirukkonanto-malai (i.e. the hill of holy Konathar), popularly called the Swami Rock. Its shrine was known as "The Temple of a thousand columns". It was demolished by the Portuguese in 1622 but its site continued to be held in great veneration. Hence, perhaps, Baldeus' reference to it.

2. *Devils' trees*. Banyan trees (*ficus indica*) are apparently meant. Such are shown by Heydt on plates 76 and 79, entitled "Bagoh, Bagaha or Devils' trees," the vernacular words being a mis-spelling of "Bo-guba" which is applicable only to the Bo-tree (*ficus religiosa*).
3. *Near Belligamme* i. e. near Weligama, the figure referred to being that of the *Khusta Raja*.
4. *Pico de Adam*. Portuguese for "Adam's Peak", known to the Sinhalese as "Sri Pada" (i. e. holy footprint). Arunachalam (op. cit. p. 6) says "The orthodox Buddhist believes...that Gautama Buddha left on Adam's Peak his foot print as an undying memorial of his third and last visit. The Hindus claim the footprint as that of Siva, whose shrine was probably established there or revived by Samana or Lakshmana, one of the heroes of the Ramayana and the reputed guardian of the peak. From him it was called Samana-Kuta....The Mohammedans continuing a tradition inherited from some of the early Christians are equally positive that the footprint is that of Adam"

"Dr. N. D. Wijesekera (The People of Ceylon, p. 205) says "This is a clear example of the origin and growth of sacred spots due to the association with miraculous power. The spectacle of the rising sun is a phenomenal feature unique in the Island as seen from the summit. It is an awe inspiring sight which the original inhabitants could not have failed to reverence. This must be the origin of its sanctity, apart from its later legendary association with the Buddha, Siva, and Mohammed."

It is curious that Baldeus does not refer to any belief that the "footprint", is that of Gautama Buddha, but he was perhaps better informed on Hinduism than on Buddhism. Heydt, (who spent nearly 2½ years in Ceylon), makes two references to a sacred footprint, the first on p. 8 where he speaks of Adam's Peak as "the hill where Adam is said to have dwelt...The natives go yearly to his hill to take an offering to Putu [sic], as they pretend the first man was called". The second reference is on p. 44 "which they hold to be the foot of the Budu and reverence as such." Heydt seems to be confusing the Adam tradition with the Buddha one. At p. 134 he also refers to the Bo-tree as "Sacred to Buddon or Buddu since in his lifetime, when he was on this island he was accustomed often to sit under it."

Apparently Christian pilgrims at one time regarded the "footprint" as that of St. Thomas, or as that of the eunuch of Queen Candace mentioned in The Acts of the Apostles Chap. VIII. Hence Baldeus' reference to the Chamberlain. (Gordon Cumming's "Two Happy Years in Ceylon".)

5. *War*. Sinhalese methods of Warfare are also referred to by Major Medeler (1765):—"...Somewhat more adroit than in days gone by, yet nevertheless one still has to deal with the same faint-hearted Sinhalese who no more stand their ground in the strongest battery if they are boldly attacked, than show their courage in the open field; yet are dangerous should one retreat inopportunely or in confusion. It is simply and solely the advantages with which the natural configuration of the country provides them that enable them to damage an army, but did they know properly to make use of those advantages, one would certainly not get off so lightly." (R. A. S.) (C. B.) 1958 p. 209 Journal. According to Heydt (op. cit. p. 133). "They rarely meet the enemy face to face in open battle, but stay rather in the hills and the woods, from whence they know how to play many tricks on the enem and use all sort of artifices."
6. *Incest*. Heydt (op. cit pp. 118, 119) also refers to this practice as common amongst those of the lowest castes. See also "The People of Ceylon" by Dr. N. D. Wijesekera pp. 62, 76.
7. *Plantain*. Baldeus' word is *vyge-boom*, but elsewhere he calls it 'banana'. The former was probably derived from the Portuguese "figa". Heydt (op. cit p. 154) says it was called "by the Dutch in general "Pisang", since the fruit grow in the shape of large clusters like a tuft". A Malay word.
8. *Gorgeletten*. Heydt (op. cit p. 122) says "when one drinks from such it gurgles so that the Dutch call them Gorgelettes". But the Portuguese also called it "gorgoleta". The word has survived in the Sinhalese form "gurulettua."

THE XLIX CHAPTER

[Unabridged]

Fertility of Ceylon—Detailed description of the Cinnamon Tree and the Snake root—The Sensitive Tree.

The soil of Ceylon is very productive of Rice and all every valuable fruits, such as Pineapple, Coconuts,¹ Jaks, and best Oranges, Lemons and Citrons far excelling those of *Spanjen* and *Portugaal*, also Plantains, Cajoo, Grapes, Sweet Potatoes, *Quiavas* [Guavas] Papaw and Pomegranates. We have Grapes all the year round except during the winter or rainy months. There are also Sugar Canes, Mulberry Plants from

which there is now annually a good collection of Silk² made, also Ginger, Pepper, Cardamon, and Tobacco. There also grow wild Palmyra trees which produce Sugar³ and *Zuyri*,⁴ which is a pleasant drink, there are the Callabas⁵ Trees, Cotton, Areka and Portugaal Fig Trees and every description of Mangoes, Long Pepper, Betel Etc. Melons, Pumpkins, Water Lemons, Onion, Leek, and we have now fortunately succeeded in raising Cabbages, and introduced the *Pompelmoes*⁶ trees as also Asparagus, root-crops, Radish and a variety of Dutch plants, but especially there thrives only in this Island, the finest and costly *Caneel*⁷ [Cinnamon], the rich bride *Helena* for which the *Nederlandsche* and the *Portugesche* Nations had for so many years contended.

The Cinnamon which is so much esteemed in Holland and a pound of which is sold at such remarkable prices, is in this Island absolutely pure. It is called by the *Cingalezen* *Cureneo-Potto* and the tree *Ovrindo-gas*, some of which are found to be very large, the leaves are not unlike those of the Citron tree, but somewhat narrower, the blossoms are white, lovely and of a sweet scent, it produces a fruit resembling an Olive, of a slight yellow tint, from which the inhabitants extract an oil which has the colour and virtue of *Noten Muscaten* [Nutmegs] and is medicinally applied in various disorders, it retains the smell and flavor of Cinnamon.

The Cinnamon Tree has two barks of which the external one is scraped off with a bent knife, and then they proceed to peel off the Cinnamon with the curved point by an incision made first circular wise and then in a parallel line, and then expose the bark in the sun to dry, when they warp and get rolled together. The trees thus barked and peeled grow no longer, but there spring up new trees from the seeds, which are dropped down from the parent tree.

The wood of the Cinnamon tree is good, soft and white, the inhabitants use them in building houses. It is singular that these plants do not grow throughout the Island, and are only confined to some places for they are not to be found in the whole Kingdom of *Jafnapatan*, or on the Island of *Manaar*, but are only to be met with this side of the River of *Chilau* in the Lands of *Negumbo* and its district, and also about *Gale* etc. Nor do the trees grow in regular order to each other, but are to be found even in jungles as I have experienced in my journeys, and it was frequently that I saw my slaves and servants make use of them in common with others for firewood; on the wood being burnt, it emits an agreeable and unusual odour.

It is not less remarkable, that while the Cinnamon is considered by physicians and masters of medicine as too heating in its effects, yet there is not only distilled from its root a Water which smells like Camphor but also yields the strongest Camphor itself. I had large balls of them with me, which I could not keep because of its strong smell. From these trees when fresh and tender there are drawn different kinds of Water which have a healthy and agreeable scent. The Natives know how to use the wood in the construction of little cabinets and boxes. I have

one in my possession extra ordinarily strong and large which was presented to me as a keep-sake on my quitting Ceylon in 1665 by my brave and gallant friend Capiteyn Major *Pierre du Pon*.

There are three sorts⁸ of Cinnamon in *India*,

- 1st. The Cinnamon *Fino* (or *Fijne*, so called by the Portugezen) which are those cut of young and middling trees.
- 2nd. The Cinnamon *Grosso* (or Groove,) cut of thicker and old trees.
- 3rd. There is also the Cinnamon *de Mato* (or jungle Cinnamon) which is also to be found on the *Malabaar* Coast, but little esteemed, for while a *Bhaar*⁹ of Ceylon Cinnamon fetches 50 to 60 Reals [A Spanish coin worth about three Pence half Penny], the wild only 10 or 12 Reals, I heard the inhabitants say, that they can prepare the wild Cinnamon well and get advantage from it. The Company is now (under God's blessing) master of all this Cinnamon, both fine and coarse, as well as all other spices, such as Nutmegs, Mace,¹⁰ and Cloves besides Pepper, which thrives in many places.

The Snake Wood is abundantly to be found in Ceylon, it is of a dull white, somewhat inclining to yellow, very hard and bitter of taste, it is much used all over *India* and especially in *Ceylon*, as it is of great use in various disorders. The Indians grind it very smoothly and anoint their entire body with it, as a remedy for driving off all external sores and itches, which they are much subjected to, from the great heat of the climate. An ounce of snake root smoothly ground and mixed with some water or wine and taken internally cures the colic, high fevers and a variety of other disorders, it is particularly useful for the bites of snakes of which the Island is full, more of which later. The *Cingalezen* in their books assert, that the snake-root was discovered through a small animal called by the Portuguese *Quil*¹¹ or *Quirpele* which is of the size of a Ferret and is employed in *Holland* and elsewhere for drawing the Rabbits from their burrows, many of these little creatures are to be seen in *India* in houses, they are kept either for amusement, or for the destruction of the rats and mice. This animal is by nature an enemy of snakes, so that whenever it sees one a battle ensues between them and when wounded by the snake, it cures itself they say, by partaking of the snake-wood. *Marcellus de Boschhouwer* of whom mention had already been made, and who was so highly honored and esteemed in *Ceylon*, says, that he had frequently witnessed the like combats, and that on the said *Quirpele* receiving a bite it ran away into the jungle and was seen to return back to the spot within half an hour's time without the least injury and overcome its antagonist. The root of Snake-wood is by the *Cingalezen* called *Nay Lelli* and it is much esteemed for its healing powers. Of other matters regarding Snakes, their varieties, and nature, we shall say more hereafter.

There is another wonderful tree in *Ceylon*, called *Wortel-boom*¹² which is enormously outspread and lets fall its stems like ropes from top to the foot of the tree, they take root and in process of time occupy a great circle.

There are plenty of Tamarind trees in *Ceylon*, which grow to large and stately dimensions, their fruit is very wholesome and serviceable against Scurvy and Dropsy.

There is also a plant which is sensitive. It might be reasonably be termed "Little touch-me-not" *Herba noli me tangere*, for no sooner is it touched, than it springs and quivers. *Ceylon* abounds in various Medicinal Plants, and most of their sick are cured with their own native medicines, as there are, too, some clever Doctors amongst them, and it is much safer there, to be treated with their local medicine than by unskilful physicians. If their purgatives chance to operate somewhat too strongly, a little ground Pepper mixed with some water and smeared round the navel arrests their working. In short, as every country has its own peculiar maladies, so they have their own proper Physicians and Cures. For the Presence of our Sovereign Healer is as well there as here.

NOTES TO CHAPTER XLIX

1. *Coconuts*. They were grown in Ceylon long before Portuguese times. The Dutch did not originally favour the increase of such plantations, Cinnamon being their prince concern. Governor Schreuder (1757-1762) complained that "where one formerly saw twenty or thirty peelers' tents pitched one now finds nothing but coconut gardens" (Pieirs "Ceylon and the Hollanders" p. 86). "Governor Van Imhoff in 1740, by a system of forced labour, planted the waste land along the coast south of Colombo with the coco palm" (Arunachalam *op. cit.* p. 59).
2. *Silk*. According to Pieris (*op. cit.* p. 4) "Silk-worms were originally imported from Bengal." They were also bred in Batavia (Heydt p. 152).
3. *Sugar*. "Zuyker" in the original. Jaggery is probably meant. Heydt referring to coconuts says of the sap "From it is made sugar which is called Jagor."
4. *Zuyri*. Sweet toddy as distinguished from the fermented. The word is derived from the Sanskrit "Sura" (Heydt p. 211) and is more common in Tamil districts.
5. *Callabas*. A species of bottle-gourd. Apparently the *Crescentia Cujete* or *Plectrantha*.
6. *Pompelmoes*. A species of Citrus, the Shaddock. Usually called "Pomelo" in Ceylon (Sin. Jambola, "Tam," Jamblica or "Bambalinas").
7. *Caneel*. ie. Cinnamon. The word is from the Portuguese "Canella", a little pipe, referring to the rolled-up stripped bark, Eng. "quill" (Heydt p. 203). An illustration in Baldeus shewing cinnamon-peeling in progress has been denounced in the Monthly Literary Register Vol. III p. 164 as "absurdly incorrect", as it shews not bushes but full-grown trees (which can attain a height of even 60 ft (Mac Millan *op. cit.* p. 267). The practice originally was, however, to peel jungle cinnamon for its bark (Pieris *op. cit.* p. 127). Governor Falck first cultivated the plant, in 1769. (Fr. S. G. Perera *op. cit.* p. 187).

8. *Three Sorts*. Mac Millan (*op. cit.* p. 269) says there are several varieties in Ceylon, the principal ones being the *Penni* or *Rasa* (sweet), the *Tiththa* (bitter) and the *Kahata* (astringent).
9. *Bhaar*. 480 lbs.
10. *Nutmegs, Mace*. The latter is, ofcourse, a part of the nutmeg.
11. *Quil*. The Mongoose.
12. *Wortel-boom*. Lit, "root-tree". The banyan, *ficus indica*, is obviously meant.

THE L. CHAPTER

[Unabridged]

The Vast Number of Elephants in Ceylon—Their harmfulness and some instances thereof.—The manner in which they are caught—Buffaloes, Tigers, Bears, Birds, Fishes, Crocodiles, Porpoises etc.

The Island of *Ceylon* abounds in various kinds of animals, birds, fishes, and in precious stones, and marine products, We shall say something with respect to each of these.

The first and foremost in rank is the Elephant of which there are vast numbers in this country, so that one cannot safely travel unless accompanied by soldiers under the beat of Drums, or a gong in order to scare away the animal. About twilight is the most dangerous part of the day, when the animal feels hungry. The coolies or palenqueen bearers when they chance to see an Elephant, are wont to leave the palenqueen and the traveller in the lurch, and make away. I know of an instance whilst I was residing there, regarding a certain *Portugeesch* Minister of the Reformed Church, *Johannes Fereira d'Almeyda* who was travelling with his wife, between *Gale* and *Columbo*. The coolies at the sight of an elephant fled, leaving the palenqueen, with the Minister's lady alone in it. The elephant approached the palenqueen and, (by the wonderful protection of God) did the lady no injury but only struck at the *pallinkijn* roof with his trunk and trumpeting away resumed his way. But such lucky escapes are not always to be expected. In one of my travels between *Manaar* and *Jafnapatan* where these animals most abound, and in wet seasons ruin the roads with their huge and deep footprints, it happened soon after we had quitted a certain Station, where the elephants were wont to come in large numbers in search of drink, that a respectable native, a Chief of the elephant catchers, was there killed by an elephant. On an other occasion whilst travelling at night to *Manaar*, an elephant broke forth owing to the occasional firing by the soldiers and in its run pulled down a large tree, which fell just right before my palerqueen and barred the road. Every year many lives are destroyed by these animals and much damage is caused.

There is a capacious stall at *Mature* in which the newly caught elephants are tethered and tamed preparatory to their being sold to the *Mooren* who came for them from *Bengale* and *Choromandel* Coast. About *Mature* they are ensnared by means of *Coralen*, which are made of strong tree-trunks driven into the ground, having a wide and roomy entrance, but gradually becoming more and more straitened at its extreme end with trap doors to it; into this the tame and decoy elephants allure the wild ones and so make them enter it, much in the same way as they allure the ducks in *Holland*. It means no small trouble before these beasts are properly tamed, it often happens that they would persevere in a standing position for four months without their once lying down. They are taken twice a day to the edge of the river to wash them, the wild one between two tame ones, and if it proves refractory the tame elephants attack him with their tusks, and he with groans learns obedience; it frequently happens, that young elephants when following their dams become also entrapped in the *Coraal* and they are very sly. I know of an instance, that whilst we were engaged in conversation, one of these little guests very quietly pushed unexpectedly an unsuspecting individual so violently in his rear, that he nearly buried his nose in the ground. They feed mostly upon the leaves. Plaintains, Coconuts, and other trees, and also like Sugar and Arrack. At a certain period of the year, there is seen oozing out from the sides of the head of old elephants, a fluid of an oily consistence, which makes the animal mentally unstable and he often breaks the *Carnak's* neck. The Ceylon elephants are reckoned to be the best and largest in *India*, and it is said that all other elephants honour them.

Horses (the Elephant's greatest Foe) are generally imported into the Island. The *Portugezen*, as will appear hereafter, some years ago introduced them on the Island *de Vaca*¹, their number is now so increased that they are to be seen in troops of 60, 70, 80 and even 100.

Buffaloes there are also in abundance, I saw about the lands of *Chilau* and *Madampe* hundreds of them in herds, when that part of the country was not so very populous then. There are also Porcupines, when these are threatened they violently shake off their quills which, are so sharp. There is no lack of Oxen, Cows, Steers, as well as Sheep, Goats, Deer, Hinds, Elks, Pigs, Wild boars and Hares, there are also abundance of Partridges, Greyfowl, Peacocks and also Apes, which sometimes so much amuse a traveller.

There are also beasts of the more ferocious kind. Some make mention of the Tiger but I have not seen any. I had a big hunting dog from the *Portugezen*, and it was said that the animal had been once badly wounded on the back by the claws of a Tiger, which was not unlikely as he carried some very deep marks of injury.

Bears I have seen both at *Jafnapatan* and *Manaar*. At the latter place there were 5 or 6 young whelps destroyed by drowning in

my presence. The people refuse to have more of them at *Mantotte* and they would rather drop these bad eggs in the pan than have them produce bad chickens.

The Jackals are terribly fond of human flesh, which induce the inhabitants to secure the graves of their dead from their depredations by laying over them heavy stones. Our hunting dogs attack them now and then, but they deteriorate thereby, for the Jackals, when in danger discharge such a stench, as of offensive urine, that the Dogs cannot endure it. The flesh of the Jackal is medically used in phythis I have on my premises witnessed the Native Doctors use it with good effect. In the evenings the Jackals flock together and raise such a frightful howling, worse than the howling of our dogs, especially in the vicinity of some Encampment or other, where they can get some fragments of food, for they are always hungry. I recollect the case of a drunken *Caffer*, who was once attacked in the throat.

In shape the Jackals are not unlike little foxes particularly about their tails. The *Malabaren* call them *Adivijs*.² It is said that there are Leopards also to be found in *Ceylon*, but I have seen only one of them on the Island. *Unicorns* and *Rhinoceros* there are none that I know of. I shall here stop with respect to the quadrupeds and give a brief account of birds.

There are a variety of Birds to be found in Ceylon, both small and large, for which the Natives have their peculiar names which could be but ill expressed in our language. Crows there are by thousands which in the noon make a wretched noise on the roofs of houses. They are so sly and cunning, that they are not to be easily shot, except through a broken pane of glass, or through a rattaned window. About dusk they shelter in the trees outside the town, and are up early in the morning in quest of food, for they delight in smoking chimnies. A singular race, I had almost said with a certain Poet, who calls the fishes *Populus pulmone carentes*, (a people without lungs, for they are not good eaters, but well conducted guests), besides which there is so much cawing and chattering that one's ears ring with it. If any of their comrades are lowered by a shot, it is not to be expressed what a funeral they make of it with their cawings and lamentations, and especially if they see the carcase suspended from a tree; were their feet but hands, they would risk all dangers to relieve it from the scaffold, in spite of the vigilance of the cooks and slaves from whom they too frequently pilfer some piece of meat or other, regardless of sharing a similar fate. Thus much then of these amusing thieves, who have often cleared away the cobwebs from one's mind.

We have also in Ceylon many Kites called by the *Portugezen* *Minhotos* which but too frequently without any leave set off with many a pullet; there are also Owls who alight on the roofs of houses at night, and utter a mournful call.

There are Geese, Herons, and there is no lack of tame and wild Ducks, Peacocks, Doves, Partridges, and Turtle-doves, Parroquets of beautiful colours, Pewits, Sparrows, Swallows, small and big Bats, Martins, Wood-peckers, there are also birds which build extraordinary Nets, which hang from the branches of trees, resembling Night Caps³ with long Tips, wonderfully, constructed. There are also many fine singing birds, equal to the Nightingale, as also Nightingales⁴ Larks, Sea Gulls, Snipes, Fireflies, Bees, Gnats, Butterflies, Grasshoppers; *Ceylon* also has in abundance Fish, such as *Cacaps*, Plaice, Skates, Crabs, large Pikes, King's Fish, Sail Fish, Lobsters, Goa-Codfish, Galley fish, *Harders*, d'Orados, Sardines, Large Smelts, Bat-fish. Soles, Oysters, Mussels Shrimps, *Pampus*, *Korremans*, Barbels, *Bomten*, Corquados etc., etc.

Amongst amphibians the *Kaiman*⁵ or *Crocodil* ranks the first, the Portuguese call them *Lagarto*, and they are very common in *Ceylon*, and all around its coast; in some localities they were found to measure 18 feet long, and as thick as an oxhead. It has four feet which are armed with sharp claws, its hide bossy and scaly, and so tough on the back, as to be impenetrable to a bullet. The most vulnerable parts are under the belly and about its eyes, its lower jaw is immovable, and its throat wide and armed with sharp teeth, it has no spine bones and hence it can only move in a strait direction without the power of turning, so that one might easily escape its attack by twisting and turning and false moves. It is said, that some look for a certain small stone which is to be found in its head like unto a tiny bone, this when pulverized is made use of in complaints of gravel, as is done with the small bones of the fierce shark.

In the offshore Islands of *America* according to Doctor *Rocheport*, there are Crocodiles to be found in fresh water, which smell strongly of Musk (perhaps to warn people by the scent). I often saw with amazement that these Crocodiles lay floating on the water, so that one would take it for an old log of wood; when hungry, he waylays for an attack to be made on either men or beast, floating on the water with its eyes partially closed, and when men or cattle approach the brink of the river for drink, he darts at them with great velocity and plunges his prey down into the deep. *Vincent le Blanc* relates, that the servants of a Burgomaster of *Alexandrie* imagining that what he saw was a log of wood floating, was carried down below by one of these monsters. They say, that their fat which is white is used by Physicians in defluxions. There is an excess of them in *Jaffna patan*. In the Siege of that place in 1658 the soldiers jumped often over their bodies at night, but without sustaining any injury. They are found in neighbouring Tanks, Water-Pools and Wells, and when the water is dried up, they make deep holes in the ground and hide themselves in it. The *Chinezen* feast on young Crocodiles and know how to dress them to their taste.

On the Island of *Manaar*, there are plenty of Porpoises, They have large teeth, their flesh is good eating, the females have breasts and milk, they are also to be seen in the Jungles and feed on herbs.

NOTES TO CHAPTER L

1. *de Vaca*. A Portuguese name for the Island of *Nindundiva*, which the Dutch named "Delft".
2. *Adivijs*. The Translator's note is as follows:—"I am not aware that the Malabars call the Jackalls *Adivijs*, which sounds more like Portuguese. The Malabars call them "Narrie".
3. *Night-caps*. The reference is obviously to the weaverbird (Sinh. *Wadu Kurulla*).
4. *Nightingales*. *Baldaeus*' word is "Nachtegalen". The "Shama" is probably what he means (Sinh. "Wal-pollichcha").
5. *Kaiman*. The word has survived in Ceylon in the term "Kayman's Gate" which is an attempt to translate *Cajmans Poort*, the Dutch name for the old exit from Colombo Fort on the edge of the moat, into which crocodiles were purposely put to discourage invaders or trespassers. The word is a corruption of the American (Carib) word for alligator or crocodile and does not therefore immortalise any person, as *Cave* mistakenly states in "The Book of Ceylon" p. 47. See Fr. S. G. Perera's History of Ceylon p. 38.

THE XL. CHAPTER.

[Unabridged.]

The snakes of Ceylon—Remedies against their bite—Extraordinary incident of a snake-catcher—Precious Stones—Marine Products—Amber, its qualities and character.

There are dangerous Snakes to be found all over the Island. We have also Sea Snakes measuring 8, 9 and 10 feet long. There are also some large and long snakes called Rat Catchers, these keep themselves generally to the roofs of houses, but seldom or never do any injury to people: the most venomous ones are, the *Cobres-Capellos* of whose bite I know many persons died at *Jafnapatan*; no sooner the wound is inflicted, the Snake Stone should be applied to the wound, wetting it occasionally with milk.

Our Surgeon Mr. *Albert van Lambergen* writes to me that he was in the year 1666 bitten by a poisonous Snake, which wrought on him a species of blindness, but that eventually by Divine Grace he had recovered his sight. A man at *Manipay* whilst employed in shifting the decayed *Ola* covering of the Church accidentally trod upon a snake which was amongst the *Olas*, and was bitten by it, which caused the man's death. In the vicinity of the same church I saw once two Snakes sporting together, they were in an erect position, their bodies coiled together, with mouths close to each other; at my request, they were killed by a soldier with a sabre. The inhabitants who are not yet entirely free from their superstitious notions would fain see them not destroyed, but with us Christians, there is no such hesitation.

The *Malabaren* call them *Pambo* and *Naga*, and stand in great dread of them. They name their children and cattle after these snakes and set food for them to feed upon in order that they might do them no hurt. A clear and manifest proof, that these Heathen know of no enmity with the snakes, so long as they do not know and believe in *JESUS* who bruised the Serpent's head.

These snakes creep into the houses by stealth, particularly in the rainy season, they lurk about mostly where pigeons are kept. At my own residence I have lost 2 of my dogs by their bite; they are sometimes to be seen on the steps of our houses, nay even occasionally upon our beds. It happened once that a snake crept into the house, glided past touching the feet of my wife, and was subsequently destroyed by my servants.

There is a species of little snake, which the *Portugezen* call *Vipres*, they are speckled and their poison is of a very deadly character. There was in the Garrison of *Jaynapatan* a *Hoogduytscher* [German] who was commonly called the Snake-Catcher. This individual was once sent for by the then Commandant, but at present Extraordinary Councillor and Governor of Coast *Choromandel*, *Antonio Pavilioen*, to take up a large Cobra Capello which was in his room, which he did with no apparent difficulty at all. Holding his hat close before his face he seized the monster with his hand without undergoing the least harm and subsequently we saw him handling it without much ceremony and it was kept in his knap-sack at the Main Guard Room, and when he retired to rest he used to lay it close to him. I had some misgivings whether or not he this feat was not the working of some Black Art, and questioned him on the subject, but he avowed that it was done by natural means, and that by the effects of some medicines and other things, he was proof against their poison, and that he then carried with him in his pocket the head and heart of snake; with this explanation I was obliged to be content, as he would not further let me into the secret.

The Inhabitants of the Coast of *Choromandel*, as well as some of the *Malabaren* and *Cingalezen* know how to charm these Snakes. On their chanting certain songs the snakes in an erect position dance astonishingly. In administering an oath, they make the person to be sworn, put his, or her hand into a pot, in which there is a snake and if the hand is drawn out unhurt the oath is then considered as solemn, but if hurt, the person has then forsworn himself.

We shall now for the sake of Utility point out some Remedies, besides the foregoing one for the bite of Snakes. The wounded part should in the first instance be held over a flame of fire as close as practicable after a good ligature has been tied round about the wound, so as to prevent the poison which is so powerful from being drawn to the heart.

To all persons going to *India*, I strongly recommend the *Orvietan* which is at present so much in renown here, and shall much wish to learn of its effects by our returning ships. The following are also used for invigorating the heart, *Theriaca*, *Mithridata*, *Confectio d'Alkermes*, *Egyptische Balzem* and that of *Peru*, *Wijnruyte* [Rue] *Soordium*, *Scorzomera*, *Viperine*, *Angelica*, *Contrahierva*. They also make use of a crown's weight of Lung-powder with some water of *Bernajie* or *Buglosse* and the hearts of Adders, and all such other medicines which are calculated, to strengthen the heart and cheer the spirits. The patient must avoid all blood-heating diet, also blood-letting and purging, and keep the pores open by vapour bath or other means. A ready remedy is, to eat the rinds of a fresh Lemon or Citron, to anoint the wound with fasting spittle is also very good. If we can get the snake, which inflicted the wound, its head should be crushed and spread as a salve over the wound.

But the snake-stone, however, of which mention has been made excels all other remedies, but much deception is practised with respect to it. To ascertain its genuineness it should be dropped into a cup of water when it will send up small bubbles to its surface, and when applied to the palate, it will closely adhere to it.

The *Ceylon* snakes are not quite so large as those to be found in *Java* and *Banda*. There was an instance in *Batavia*, where on a snake being taken, and examined, it was found to have swallowed an entire deer of some magnitude, and it was produced for the inspection of the Governor-General. In *Banda*, [Bantam] there was found in the belly of a Snake the entire carcase of a woman, a slave.

Enough then of Snakes. *Ceylon* further abounds in various descriptions of Reptiles, such as "Thousand-legs", the Portuguese call them *Millepie* or *Centipe*, some of which were found to measure seven inches long; we have there also dangerous scorpions, detestable Spiders and many such like, there are also Toads, Shell-fish Frogs etc.

Ceylon produces also many Precious Stones, such as Sapphires, Rubies, Topazes, Garnets, and *Robassen*,¹. It is also said that there are, in the Interior of the Island, Mines of Silver, Gold, Iron and Metal which the Kings did not permit to be dug up—that there are Minerals is not to be doubted, and Iron comes from the Interior, as we have seen it ourselves, there is also abundance of Crystal.

The chief articles of Commerce with the *Portugezen* in former times were the following—All descriptions of Coloured Cloth, Velvets and Silks, Red-Caps, Porcelain, Spices, Opium, Radix Chinae, Camphor, Musk, Sandel, Eagle wood, Lead, Copper, Tin, Pewter, Salt Petre, Sulphur, Gilt Looking Glasses, Glass Phials, Painted Linen of *Zuratta* and *Choromandel*; these goods are still acceptable there.

There are likewise in *Ceylon* various Marine products—Of Pearl and the Pearl Fishery we have spoken in the description given of *Tutecorijn*. There were frequently found on the Sea Coast of *Ceylon* large pieces of costly Amber².

It is difficult to say, of what material the Amber is formed, whether it be the seed of the Whales, or some thing else. The *Maldivers* call it *Panahambar*. Neither *Hippocrates*, *Dioscorides* or *Galenus* seem to have known it, it is then a Drug unknown to the Ancients, nor is its origin as yet known. *Jaan Huygen* of *Linschoten* informs us, that in 1555 there was such a large piece of Amber found near *Kaap Comerijn* [Cape Comorijn] that weighted 30 Quintals³, some suppose it to be a broken mass of earth, and others again that it is some sort of Lime formation cast up on land by the sea from the bottom in a tempest. Certainly it is mostly found after a storm; the Birds seem very partial to the smell of Amber, for small chips of their beaks were frequently discovered in it, and that Amber proves to be very good. Others say, such as *D. Rochefort* in his Natural History of the freshore Islands of *America*, that the Amber there, when fresh stinks like a corpse and that the birds seek it as other animals do carrion. Its stench is really like that of diseased pork.

There is Black Amber about the Isle of *Mauritius* which is reckoned to be the worst of its kind, and there is a sort which is white. There is finally the Amber *Grijs*⁴ which is considered the best. In some parts of *America*, there is to be found the *Gevosten Amber*, it derive its name from the Foxes swallowing the drug and evacuating it undigested with some loss of its nice smell. The best Amber is ash coloured, or as when ash is mixed and incorporated with wax. Various deceptions are however practised with respect to Amber, it is sometimes adulterated with a mixture of Rosin, Wax, Tar and Bitumen. A trial therefore becomes necessary to ascertain its genuineness, which is done by pricking the drug with a heated needle, when the moisture which sticks to the needle, must yield a good and agreeable odour, and easily melt like wax and prove brittle when cold. The genuine Amber is close grained like the seeds of Water-Nuts. Amber can also be tried by laying a piece of it on a heated knife, when it will dissolve as readily as Wax, and if the knife be too hot, the fluid will then evaporate clean off without leaving the least traces of it. Of Amber write *Scaliger*, *Garcias*, *Monard*, *Ferdinandus Lopes*, *Clusius*, *Rochefort* and others — As to its virtue from a medicinal point of view, I leave to those skilled in the Profession to determine.

There also in the Island much Coral, indeed whole bunches of them washed up by the sea. I have several scraps of coral very daintily shaped by nature.

There grow also various cockles called *Chankos* which are very much esteemed in *Bengale*, as also all kinds of Shells, but they are not so beautiful and singular as those of *Amboina*. There are Sea-Apples, Sea-Stars and many other such marine products.

End of the description of CEYLON.

NOTES TO CHAPTER LI

1. *Robassen*. The Translator in a footnote translates this word as "Rubal". The Ceylon Literary Register III p. 34 says that according to Thumberg "robal", a Malabar word (the Sinhalese being "rauwa") means "dark garnets."
2. *Amber*. A resinous fossil—though now obtained like a mineral product was originally a distillation from an extinct coniferous tree. It frequently preserves within itself plant-structures and insects (Everyman's Ency. p. 227).
3. *Quintals*. A Portuguese measure of weight equal to about 128 lbs. (Anthonisz *op. cit* p. 231).
4. *Amber-grijs*. Ambergris, not a fossil but a fatty substance which is a morbid secretion from the intestines of the cachalot or spermaceti whale.