

THE JOURNAL OF THE  
 GENEALOGY OF THE FAMILY OF  
 GIESSLER OF CEYLON.

COMPILED BY MR. F. H. DE VOS

I.

*Albert Henry Giessler* of Lishon, a boekhouder in the Dutch service, thereafter Advocate Fiscal, 2nd Division, Supreme Court of Judicature, d. at Jaffna 1813, m. at Colombo 6 May 1791 *Susanna Gertruida Staats* bap. at Colombo (Galle?) 21 June 1772, d. at Jaffna 1813 d. of *Jacobus Wilhelmus Staats* of Jaffna and *Anna Gertruida Runstorff* of Galle (V Journal D.B.U. 20. He had by her:—

- I. *Gerrit Godfried Archibald Giessler* (who follows under II.)
- II. *Margarita Adriana Giessler* bap. at Colombo 9 March 1795, m. at St. Peter's Church, Colombo, 9 July 1810 Lt. *Henry Augustus Frederick Hervey*.<sup>1</sup>

II.

*Gerrit Godfried Archibald Giessler*, Lt. 2nd-Ceylon Regiment, bap. at Colombo 25 November 1792, d. at Jaffna 17 January 1816, m. at Colombo 1814 *Dorothea Sophia de Breard*<sup>2</sup> (III Journal D. B. U. 75) and had by her:—

- I. *Susanna Margarita Giessler*, b. 14 February 1815, bap. at Colombo 26 March 1815, m. at Galle 30 July 1835 *William Henry Trant*, Deputy Ordinance Storekeeper, Trincomalie, b. 1808, d. at Colpetty 8 November 1855.
- II. *Gerrit Benjamin Giessler* b. 28 July 1816, bap. at Colombo 1 September 1816.

<sup>1</sup> There were two children of this marriage, viz: (1) *Albert Henry Hervey* b. at Goa, 3 June 1814, bap. at St. Peter's Church, Colombo, 22 December 1816. (2) *Gerald Augustus Hervey* b. at Matara 9 June 1816, bp. at St. Peter's Church, Colombo, 22 December 1816.

<sup>2</sup> She married (2) at Colombo 1 July 1818 *Johan Joachim van der Spar* (founder of the firm of Messrs. J. J. van der Spar & Co.) bap. at Galle 1795, son of *Mattheus van der Spar* of Jaffna, Administrator of Galle, and *Johanna Gertruida Fybrandsz* (sister of *Gerard Johan Fybrandsz* (IV Journal D.B.U. 35.)

THE GOOD OLD DAYS.

BY BAAS KUEVELAAR.

I.

*Jan van den Brink*, geboren te Kaapstad, was a young man terribly in earnest. Whatsoever his hand found to do he did it with his might. Born of illustrious ancestors, some of them also Company's servants, he was taken into the service of the Edele Oost-Indische Compagnie with the rank of soldaat bij de pen, and had risen to that of a boekhouder when he was transferred to Galle and attached to the office of the pakhuismeester. His arrival at Galle was noiseless, but little did the good people there know that they were entertaining a genius unawares.

He entered on the duties of his office in a quite and unobtrusive manner, and kept the books of the warehouse in a neat and orderly way. But the young man made no friends and was painfully reticent. He was no doubt a great thinker.

The pakhuismeester, Arent de Fluyter, with a face like a rat terrier's, thought his assistant a model young man. His daughter, Susanna, the image of her saintly father, thought so too. This was a satisfactory state of things for the smooth working of the Warehouse Department and highly conducive to the domestic felicity which reigned in the de Fluyter household. Susanna was an accomplished woman but somewhat *sur le retour*. She could play on the concertina and was great at recitation. She was also an ardent church-worker. She was able to perform her duties as such unhampered by the attentions of the young men of the station, because the young men seemed to give her a "miss in baulk."

But van den Brink did not care for church work. He had developed a taste for oriental literature. After office hours he was in the hands of his pundit Gurusingha, an erudite orientalist, who taught him the niceties of the Sanscrit, Elu, Pali and Sinhalese languages and the hidden mysteries of the Buddhist religion.

But Jan van den Brink was not altogether disloyal to his chief, nor altogether unmindful of Susanna. He now and then accompanied the krankbezoeker, Frans Heiliger, in his visitations, together with Susanna, carrying her Bible, fan and smelling-salts, and leading her pet poodle, Fido, attached to a silver chain.