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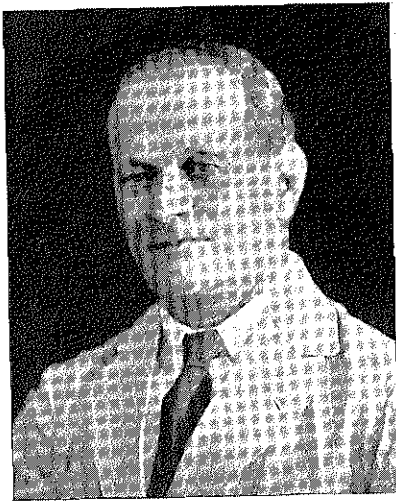
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Contributions are invited from members on subjects calculated to be of interest to the Union. MSS. must be written on one side of the paper only and must reach the Editor at least a fortnight before the date of publication of the Journal.

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DR. H. U. LEEMBRUGGEN,
L.M.S. (Ceylon), L.R.C.P. (Edin.),
C.T.M. (Lond).

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[No. 4.]

THE GOVERNMENT ARCHIVES, COLOMBO.

[In 1929 Dr. J. Van Kan, Member of the Council of the Dutch East Indies and one time Professor at Batavia, was deputed by that Government to visit British India and Ceylon in order to examine and report on the Dutch Archives at these places. On the completion of his mission Dr. Van Kan embodied the result of his investigations in a work entitled "Compagniesbescheiden en aanverwante Archivalia in Britsch-Indië en op Ceylon" (*Company's Papers and allied archives in British India and Ceylon*) which has just been issued from the Press. We give below a translation of the portion of the report relating to the Dutch archives in Ceylon.—Ed.]

In the Archives at Colombo there are nearly 7,000 old Dutch volumes, almost all of which are in an excellent state of preservation. The majority of them are from the Company's archives at the headquarters, Colombo. In addition to these, there are about 2,000 volumes, being what remains of the documents in the headquarters of the Southern Commandement, Galle (Matara). The papers belonging to the Northern Commandement, Jaffnapatnam, and the smaller towns are not forthcoming.

The inventorising and cataloguing of this valuable collection is not in keeping either with its importance or with the great care which apparently has long been bestowed on its preservation.

Brief particulars regarding the nature of the volumes and their cataloguing, with suggestions for improvement, will be found in the report dated 15th February, 1929, by Dr. E. G. Godee Molsbergen on the Dutch records in the Government Archives (S.P. ix.—1929).

A detailed report on the contents of the Archives, giving the nature and principal contents of the documents, the work already done and the work in contemplation, with translated extracts and facsimiles of original pages of manuscript, was published by the

late Archivist, Mr. R. G. Anthonisz, in 1907 under the title "Report on the Dutch records in the Government Archives at Colombo."

Mr. Anthonisz classifies the records under five heads:—

1. General Records, Colombo.

Sub-divided as follows:—

- (a) Deeds and instruments affecting land, 60 volumes
- (b) Memoirs and Instructions of Governors, Commandeurs, etc., 70 volumes
- (c) Acts of appointment of Company's Servants, 33 volumes
- (d) Diaries of journals kept in Colombo and during the circuits of Governors, etc., 58 volumes
- (e) Appointments of Native Headmen, 6 volumes
- (f) Secretarial protocols, including Last Wills, 168 volumes
- (g) Landraad Proceedings and Minutes, 33 volumes
- (h) Papers on Educational matters, 9 volumes
- (i) Correspondence, 1,463 volumes
- (j) Transactions with the Kandyan Court, 82 volumes
- (k) Papers relating to Pearl Fisheries, 35 volumes
- (l) Miscellaneous, 1,046 volumes

making a total of 3,063 volumes, of which 3,000 relate to the period between the beginning of the 17th and the end of the 18th century, while the remainder, comprising 60 odd volumes, date from a later period.

Mr. Anthonisz has prepared two manuscript catalogues of the collection which have not been printed:—

1. Catalogue of Dutch Records (General) in numerical order, comprising Nos. 1—2978. On the whole the compilation of this catalogue has proceeded on lines that adhere to the unmethodical plan on which the classification, often haphazard, of the volumes was based. For this reason its use involves extreme difficulty.

With a view to effecting some improvement here, Mr. Anthonisz has also arranged these details in chronological order and has given this book the title of:—

2. Catalogue of the Dutch Records, Colombo, arranged in chronological order, being a chronological arrangement of the particulars in the first catalogue.

Both catalogues exhibit the same deficiencies. The particulars are so brief that they are of very little service to historical investigators from afar. In this respect they are very much behind the cataloguing of the Dutch records of Madras and Bombay. Moreover in their abbreviated form they frequently fail to give in full the precise contents of the volumes. Finally, they are often incorrect and not absolutely exhaustive.

In addition to these, there is in the Archives a manuscript *Index of the Dutch Record Office* compiled about the year 1830 by Mr. Lee, being an attempt at a systematic classification of the archives according to subjects, e.g., Papers touching the cultivation of pepper, Papers touching cinnamon and what relates to it, etc., and incidentally giving a description of existing series in the order in which they were preserved and placed on the shelves. This Index cannot lay even distant claim to completeness and is besides faultily conceived and executed.

2. Proceedings of the Political Council.

The collection contains, in 700 volumes, the resolutions and discussions of the Political Council of Colombo, with the rough drafts of the resolutions and connected papers. The first volume is however an exception: it refers to the period before the taking of Colombo (1656) and gives the resolutions of the War Council of Negombo in 1644, the year in which the fortress at that place was captured from the Portuguese by Francois Caron. The proper Colombo series begins with the second volume, commencing from the year 1657.

The preparation of a catalogue of the *Proceedings* formed part of Mr. Anthonisz's plans, but it did not reach fruition. There is indeed an attempt at a manuscript alphabetical index of subjects with reference to the volumes in which they are to be found, entitled "Alphabetical Index to the principal subjects dealt with in the Political Council, Colombo, 1656 to 1796", but the work is far from being faultless.

3. Tombos.

The tombos or Land Registers form a most remarkable quasi-cadastral record of the landed property on a double system—according to lots and according to owners. The lot-registers (Land-tombos) are provided with fine coloured cards: the personal regis-

fers (Head-tombos) group together, in respect of each allotment, the present and the former owners. The books have been drawn up and kept up to date with the utmost care by Special Commissioners, apparently for the whole island. As regards the Northern district of the island, however, only a few volumes remain.

The preserved collection consists of two series:—The series "Colombo" in 95 bound volumes in large folio covering the period 1745—1796, and the series "Galle" in 84 unbound volumes, having reference to the period 1693—1795, to which must be added 40 bundles of loose pages and 30 bundles of duplicates.

There is, for the series "Colombo" a manuscript General Index of the Korles, Pattoes and Villages prepared in the eighteenth century.

A similar index for the series "Galle" has been prepared by the present Archivist, Mr. Reimers, entitled "Catalogue of the Villages in the Galle Tombos".

4. Galle Records.

The records belonging to the Galle Commandement have been catalogued by Mr. Anthonisz, and the catalogue has been printed under the title "Catalogue of the Records of the Province of Galle under the rule of the Netherlands East India Company, A.D. 1640 to A.D. 1796, Colombo, 1906".

The catalogue, which consists of 78 pages, of which four are taken up by the Introduction, gives a summary description of 1—1697 volumes in chronological order. In the "Introduction" the author sets out his scheme for the arrangement of the contents of the volumes, and brings the material under eight heads, of which one is again sub-divided into five parts. But all this is not maintained in the catalogue. Nevertheless, the author has kept the scheme in view, and it has to a certain extent disturbed the chronological order. Especially is this noticeable after No. 1558. So that the sequence of the volumes goes limping along two different lines of thought and the publication gains nothing in usefulness and synoptic qualities. Moreover, the objections which have been levelled against the catalogues of records already noticed must likewise, albeit in a lesser degree, be levelled here.

The description of the volumes is too brief, not always wholly accurate, and sometimes covers the contents only in part.

The catalogue is also defective in this particular, that among the other groups of records yet to be mentioned (in paragraphs 6 to 8) there occur volumes which belong to the Galle Section.

5. School Tombos.

This is the title given by Mr. Anthonisz to a series of 66 registers prepared under the supervision of the Consistory, under permanent heads, giving the names of the school-children and their parents, the dates of their admission and release from the schools, the dates of their baptism, of their marriage, and death, or departure from the place of registry.

No attempt has been made at cataloguing or the provision of references in regard to the school departments.

To the five classes mentioned by Mr. Anthonisz into which the archives fall, the following must be added:—

6. A lot of 22 volumes marked *in dorso* "Record Office" (the former designation of the archives at Colombo) Galle. Like the documents mentioned under 4, they are from Galle and consist of—

- (a) 17 volumes relating to landed property.
- (b) 4 volumes letters from Colombo, 1768—1777.
- (c) 1 volume Despatches from Colombo, 1794.

7. A lot of 93 volumes, unmarked, in similar bindings but of varying sizes placed without arrangement or classification. A little less than half of these records relate to Galle. They are as follows, classified according to the nature of their contents:—

- 1 Letters from the Political Council of Galle to the Political Council of Colombo, 1754.
- 2 Appendices to the letters from the Political Council of Galle to the Political Council of Colombo, 1758.
- 3 Letters from Matara to Galle, 1759—1760.

The Commandeur of Galle was Abraham Samlant, the Opperkoopman of the Matara territory was Henricus Leembruggen, in the fierce days of the rebellion which was incited and supported by the English.

- 4 Letters received by the Political Council of Galle, 1775.
- 5 Letters to the Commandeur and Council of the City and district of Galle—Matara, 1782—1783. The Commandeur was Arnoldus de Lij.

- 6 Letters from Galle, 1787—1788. The Opperkoopman and Director was Cornelius Dionysius Kragenhoff.
- 7 Letter-book, Galle, 1788.
- 8 Compendia, or short reports of occurrences at Matara and its dependencies, respectfully submitted to the Commandeur and Council of Galle; also other papers, 1744.
- 9 Report-book, Galle, beginning October 1747 and ending...1755.
- 10 Compendium, Galle (fragment) 1755.
- 11 Register of papers by years. Compendium ..by Abraham Samlant, Commandeur, and his Council, sent from Galle to Colombo, directed to Jan Schreuder, Governor and Director of the Island of Ceylon, 1759.
- 12 Galle and Matara compendium of the years 1786/87.
- 13 Compendium of the financial year 1793/94, Galle and Matara.
- 14 Diary, Galle, 1st January, 1785—31st December, 1786.
- 15 Extract book of the Hon'ble Land Raad at Galle, 1788—1794,
- 16 Rolls of the Land Raad, 16th May, 1772 to 30th December, 1788.
- 17 Extract book, Land Raad, Matara.
- 18 Register of declarations made before the Sworn Clerk of Policy and Justice, Petrus Gerardus de Vos (at Galle) 1786—1790.
- 19 Declarations of Captains that they have received orders for execution or papers for delivery from the Galle (and sometimes other) Secretariat.
- 20 Separate protocol of Ratmaherre (in the Matara district) certificates and other Secretarial papers, 24th January, 1766, to 27th December, 1768.
- 21 Idem, 1771—1783.
- 22 Original Title Deeds of various dates deposited by parties, Galle, 1757—1802.
- 23 Protocols of certificates of title granted in the year 1799 under the Provisional Land Registry, Galle.
- 24 List of the coconut gardens in Matara, 1725.
- 25 List of the cinnamon gardens in the Talpe Pattu, 1793, with fully fifty excellently preserved and beautifully coloured ground plans (belonging to the Tombos).
- 26 List of lands in the Talpe Pattu of the Galle District (without indication of the date).
- 27 Sketches shewing the cinnamon gardens situated in the Wella-badde Pattu, Galle, 1793 (Tombo).

- 28—31 The same in respect of other parts, 1794, (Tombos).
- 32 Roll of the Galle and Matara waste lands, 1731.
- 33 Thombo of the Four Gravets, Galle, 1799.
- 34 Point de Galle Land Registrar, reports 1799—1805.
- 35 Conditions of lease, 1787/8, Colombo and Galle.
- 36 Galle-Matara conditions of lease, 1792/93.
- 37 List of the indigenous Company's servants in Matara (without indication of the date).
- 38 Notes of an interview held at Galle before Commissioners on account of the Ceylon Government and Doctor Christiaan van Angelbeek, Opperkoopman, Galle, 1790.
- 39 Miscellaneous, Galle, 1782.

8. A lot of 503 volumes of the same size and similarly bound, entirely uncatalogued and unnumbered, arranged anyhow at hazard. In this lot are specially to be found papers from the Council of Justice at Colombo, but there are also lots of other papers.

From a hundred volumes taken at random, which I had the opportunity of looking through, having reference to Galle (Matara):

11 volumes from the Council of Justice at Galle, of the years 1740, 1741, 1745, 1759, 1767, 1786, 1788, 1790, 1791 (2), 1794-1795 (Council of Justice and Land Raad).

2 volumes from the Land Raad at Matara, of the years 1785 and 1789.

6 miscellaneous volumes:—

Appointment book, Galle, 1730-31 (appointments and salaries of officers).

Incoming letters from Galle to the Political Council of Matara, 1748.

Letters from and to the Town Council of Galle, 1777, with fragments from 1752.

Incoming letters from outstations, Galle, 1795-1796.

Land Tombo, Talpe Pattu, 1799.

Miscellaneous tabulated statements from Galle, list of Burgers, papers and books, ships' papers and cash balances.

The intended investigation in the government archives at Colombo could not be completed, but the foregoing remarks will suffice to show that the inventorising and cataloguing of these very

rich and excellently preserved archives is not in keeping with the great value of the documentary treasures contained in them. The merits of the former archivist Mr. R. G. Anthonisz I fully acknowledge. He was the first who bestowed on the vast material undivided and earnest attention during a long course of years. But he did not succeed in bringing the cataloguing up to the necessary scientific level, nor in making the archives accessible on a profitable scale to students of Dutch Colonial History, who from abroad can only obtain their information through printed or manuscript catalogues.

Apart from this fact, large and important blocks of volumes have been overlooked in the process of cataloguing, whilst in the case of yet others, their cataloguing has not even come up for consideration at all.

It is painfully true that at Madras more searching, more accurate and more efficient work has been accomplished by men who are not specialists. Meanwhile the task which has to be undertaken at Colombo is of considerably wider scope. That however is no reason why the hope should not be expressed that the work in connection with the Ceylon archives should once again be taken in hand in a manner which will be in keeping with their historical importance.

Publications Issued from the Archives of Colombo.

Through the efforts and under the direction of Mr. Anthonisz there were published between the years 1905-1915 English translations of ten important memoirs of departing Ceylon Governors and similar documents. The translations were made by Sophia Pieters, later Sophia Anthonisz-Pieters, and contain introductions and explanatory notes by Mr. Anthonisz.

The series bears the title: *Memoirs and Instructions of Dutch Governors, Commandeurs, etc.* The following are the Memoirs:—

1. Memoir left by Jacob Christiaan Pielat to his successor, Diederik Van Domburg, 1734, Colombo, 1905.
2. Instructions from the Governor-General and Council of India to the Governor of Ceylon, 1656 to 1665, Colombo, 1908.
3. Memoir of Anthony Mooyart, Commandeur of Jaffnapatnam, for the information and guidance of his successor, Noel Anthony Liebeck, 1766, Colombo 1910.

4. Memoir left by Ryclof Van Goens, Jr., Governor of Ceylon, 1675—1679, to his successor, Laurens Pijl, late Commandeur, Jaffnapatnam, Colombo, 1910.

5. Memoir of Hendrick Zwaarddecroon, Commandeur of Jaffnapatnam, 1697, for the guidance of the Council of Jaffnapatnam, during his absence at the Coast of Malabar, Colombo, 1911.

6. Memoir left by Gustaaf Willem Baron van Imhoff, Governor and Director of Ceylon, to his successor, Willem Maurits Bruynink, 1710, Colombo, 1911.

7. Diary of occurrences during the tour of Gerrit de Heere, Governor of Ceylon, from Colombo to Jaffna, July 9th to September 3rd, 1697, Colombo, 1914.

8. Memoir of Cornelis Joan Simons, Governor and Director of Ceylon, for his successor, Hendrick Becker, 1707, Colombo, 1914.

9. Memoir of Hendrick Becker, Governor and Director of Ceylon, for his successor, Isaac Augustijn Rumpf, 1716, Colombo, 1914.

10. Memoir of Thomas van Rhee, Governor and Director of Ceylon, for his successor, Gerrit de Heere, 1697, Colombo, 1915.

It need scarcely be said that the publication of documents of such great importance to the history of Ceylon was welcomed with joy and accepted with thankfulness. Nevertheless, the manner in which this publication has been carried out is hardly satisfactory. The translations, which do not admit of checking, can never take the place of the original text itself.

The present Archivist, Mr. E. Reimers, has appreciated this and has undertaken the publication of a new series: *Selections from the Dutch records of the Ceylon Government*, in which the original text appears, with the English translation, and scientific accuracy is thereby observed. Up to date the following publications have appeared:—

1. Memoir by the outgoing President and Opperhoofd, Joan Maetsuyker, delivered to his successor, Jacob van Kittensteyn, on the 27th February, 1650, Colombo, 1927.
2. "Description of the maps of the island of Ceylon, 1606," Colombo, 1929.

Church Records in Ceylon.

In some places on the coast of Ceylon, which were formerly the seats of commerce and Government in the time of the Company, the Dutch records and the connected English records are taken care of by the Consistory of the Dutch Reformed Church. They are partially dealt with in the report of Dr. Godee Molsbergen already referred to.

I have also had the opportunity of seeing the Church Records at Colombo, Galle and Matara.

A. Wolvendaal Church Records (Colombo).

The Wolvendaal Church has 86 volumes, which answer to the above description. 48 of them form a continuous series numbered 1—51, 4 of which however are missing, while 1 appears twice, and the classification has been done in a very unsystematic and superficial manner. On the backs of the volumes there are inscriptions in English. The other volumes, 37 in number, are neither numbered nor classified. Particularly as regards the first-mentioned records, I was unable, owing to want of time, to make more than a very cursory examination of them. Consequently I must here confine myself to reproducing merely the superscriptions given on the backs or, when these occasionally happen to be wanting, to supplying a bald description of the contents.

1. Numbered Series.

- 1 Church and School Tombos, Kalutara Gravet, Wellales.
- 2 Church Council Proceedings (beginning of the 18th Century, chiefly between the years 1704—1707.
- 3 Correspondence.
- 4 Synodal Acts.
- 5 Report on the School Commission.
- 6 Miscellaneous Papers.
- 7 Synodical Proceedings.
- 8 Proceedings of the Synod in North (read South) Holland held in 1710.
- 9 Missing.
- 10 List of Church members. Synodical proceedings.
- 11 Synodical papers.
- 12 Correspondence.
- 13 Synodal proceedings.

- 14 Synodal proceedings.
- 15 Ordinances relating to Church matters.
- 16 Missing.
- 17 Synodical proceedings. Nota Synod Zuyd Holland d.d. 1680.
- 18 Attestation ("Church Passports").
- 19 Miscellaneous papers.
- 20 Marriage register.
- 21—22 Missing.
- 23 School visitation.
- 24 Baptismal register (in Portuguese, beginning of the eighteenth century).
- 25 Correspondence between Church Councils (local). Autographs of Revd. Philippus Baldaeus.
- 26 Names of baptised persons, Colombo District, in the visits during 1714—1717.
- 27 Baptismal Register, end of 18th century, principally between the years 1671 and 1696.
- 28 Baptisms, 1700—1713.
- 29 Baptisms, 1718—1722.
- 30 Church Council proceedings.
- 31 Synodal papers.
- 32 Attestations of the incoming predicants or members, 1692.
- 33 Acta Synodi nationals held at Dordrecht (second time). Incoming Church letters.
- 34 Educational matters.
- 35 Various Church papers.
- 36 Native members, Cotta, 1758, Kalutara.
- 37 Church Council proceedings.
- 38 Correspondence.
- 39 Synodal papers.
- 40 Educational matters.
- 41 Report on churches.
- 42 Notices.
- 43 Attestations of Government letters.
- 44 Miscellaneous.
- 45 Resolutions of the school meetings, 1691.
- 46 Consistorial minutes.
- 47 Baptisms, 1670—1679.
- 48 Baptismal Register, about 1680—1702.

- 49 School members, 1689.
- 50 Synodal papers (Delft 1743 e.a.).
- 51 Correspondence between local Church Councils.

2. Loose Bundles.

Outward Letters.

- 1 Outgoing letters from the Consistory at Colombo, 17th July, 1726—28th October, 1742.

The letters are addressed to the Consistory at Jaffnapatnam, ditto, at Galle, the Lords XVII, the Consistory at Batavia, the Classis of Walcheren, the Rev. the Minister (lit. Preacher of God's word) at Negombo, the Classis of Delft, Delfsland and Schieland.

- 2 Outgoing Church Letter book, 1743-1760.
- 3 do 1760—10th March, 1798.

Inward letters.

- 4 Inward letters, Consistory of Colombo, 3rd December, 1700 to March, 1725.
- 5 do 25th February, 1726—13th April, 1741.
- 6 Inward Church letter book, 1743—1759.
- 7 Inward letter book, 14th February, 1759—27th July, 1797.
- 8 do irregularly arranged, 1701—1722, besides some letter books including one from the Consistory at Batavia of 26th July, 1862.
- 9 do 15th October, 1722—26th September, 1730.
- 10 do 1st November, 1730—18th June, 1743.
- 11 Inward letters, Colombo Consistory, 26th March, 1736—1806.

The volumes 4—7 are of one size, large folio, and apparently form a series; the volumes 8—10 in small folio, and also apparently form a series. In the latter series letters from Batavia preponderate.

Minutes of Consistory Meetings.

- 12 Resolutions of the school commission meetings, with numbers of extracts from resolutions of the Political Council at Colombo and other governing bodies relating to the Church or the Consistory, 2nd November, 1712—8th August, 1720.
- 13 do 16th September, 1720—September, 1727.
- 14 do 19th April, 1735—25th September, 1750.
- 15 do 6th October, 1750—24th March, 1760.
- 16 do 2nd July, 1760—18th June, 1787.
- 17 do 20th June, 1804—22nd November, 1809.
- 18 do 5th January, 1810—28th June, 1837.

Baptismal and Marriage Registers, etc.

- 19 Baptismal Register, 1743—1803.
- 20 Baptismal Register of Colombo and other places in the island of Ceylon from the year 1801. Up to 1851 written almost entirely in Dutch.
- 21 Entries of the names of children baptised in Tuticorin, Calpentyn, Negombo, Kalutara, etc., 1708—1767.
- 22 Continuation of the Baptismal and Marriage Register, 8th November, 1767—19th June, 1803. In reality it is a continuation of the preceding number; there are no signs of the entries usually to be found in a marriage register.
- 23 Baptismal book of the Dutch children at Calpentyn, Tuticorin, Negombo, Kalutara, and of those who at the time of the annual school visits in the Colombo District, were baptised in other parts of the island, 19th November, 1743 to the end of 1806.
- 24 Marriage register of the Nederduytse or Dutch community at Colombo, 1st September, 1743—5th June, 1803.
- 25 Marriage Register beginning with the year 1810—27th May, 1810.
- 26 Entry book, Colombo, 21st February, 1802—3rd January, 1829; after the latter date the entries are in English. In the Entry book were recorded the names of those who had published, according to decree, the banns for their approaching marriage. When the publication of the banns had taken place, the entry as stated, was made in the succeeding number.
- 27 Decree book, 26th August, 1804—22nd December, 1838, up to the end written in Dutch.
- 28 Burial Register, 1803—1839. Colombo inner graveyard and outer graveyard.¹ Up to 1839 written in Dutch. From 1840 written in English.
- 29 Adoption book: register of declarations made before the Town Magistrate (Clerk to the Secretariat of Policy or other authorised person) that the declarant desires to adopt a child as his own, or, as is nearly always the case, engages to bring up a child in the reformed religion. Kalutara, Tuticorin, Colombo, and elsewhere. 28th May, 1763—25th February, 1810.

1. The inner graveyard was in the Wolfendaal Church premises; the outer graveyard was the Pettah burial ground.

- 30 Parish book, in which notes are made of members who were admitted, or had arrived or departed or had died, from 1801 written in English.

Miscellaneous.

- 31—35 Five registers, in which all sorts of notes relating to baptisms and other matters, cash accounts etc., are entered together. (1803—1828).
- 36 Papers relating to the Church Funds of Colombo, February, 1803—(1806).
- 37 Rules governing the Church funds of the Dutch Reformed Community at Colombo. Printed at Colombo, 1803. In the bundle are three copies, with subsequent additions, besides cash accounts, the list of "debitours" of the church fund, &c.
- 38 Dutch and Sinhalese dictionary, containing most of the words in Dutch and Sinhalese which are to be found in the Vestibule of the Porch of the Hall of Johannis Amos Comenius in Dutch and Sinhalese (in manuscript).

B. Galle Church Records.

Out of the records in the Dutch Reformed Church at Galle, the following volumes call for notice:—

- 1 Resolutions taken in the Consistory of the Town of Galle, 1794—1806.
- 2 Resolutions taken at the meeting of the Deacons of the Town of Galle, to which are added their letters to the Consistory, 1801—1811.
- 3 Resolutions taken in the Consistory of the Town of Galle, 1817—1846.
- 4 Baptismal Register, 1678—1807.
- 5 do 1800—1845, partly written in English, as in the case of the register written up till late in the nineteenth century.
- 6 do 1800—1846.
- 7 Applications for baptism, 1800—1816.
- 8 do 1817—1827.
- 9 do 1828—1838.
- 10 Marriage Register, 1749—1795.
- 11 do 1759—1772.
- 12 do 1774—1789.

- 13 Index to the Marriage Register. The earliest year that I came across is 1702, the latest 1833. The Index was started in about the year 1800, thereafter posted up.
- 14 Register of the Commissioner of Marriages of the Town of Galle, 5th October, 1734—9th September, 1739.
- 15 Proclamation of banns of marriage, 1792—1847.
- 16 Marriage license and certificate, 1802—1842.
- 17 Burial Register, 1806—1847.
- 18 Membership book of the Community, 1770—1840.
- 19 Attestations of membership, 1769—1806.
- 20 Collection book, 1817—1847.
- 21 Miscellaneous papers, letters &c., 1776—1878.

C. Matara Church Records.

The Archives of the Dutch Reformed Church at Matara are preserved in the office of the Church Warden, Mr. P. Keuneman, Proctor of the Supreme Court.

- 1 Baptismal Register, 1776—1801—two parts.
- 2 do 1803—1804.
- 3 do 1817—1831.
- 4 do 1827—1865.
- 5 Applications for baptism, 1776—1851.
- 6 Baptismal and Marriage Register, 1807—1825.
- 7 Marriage Register, 1765—1793.
- 8 do 1788—1802.
- 9 License to Marry, 1795—1808.
- 10 Correspondence, 1817—1864.
- 11 Collections, accounts &c., 1817—1833.
- 12 Members, 1817—1877.

Colombo Museum Library.

In conclusion it remains to be stated that in the Library of the Museum at Colombo there are a number of copies of important documents of the Nineteenth Century, the greater part of the originals of which are in the Archives.

In the list given below the titles as appearing in the catalogue of the Library have been retained.

- 1 Deliberations in Council of Batavia, matters on the island of Ceylon, 1681.

- 2 Resolutions in Council of Ceylon, 22nd—26th February, 1740.
- 3 Extracts from resolutions of Council regarding Trade, (no indication as to date).
- 4 (a) Considerations concerning the island of Ceylon and its dependencies, collected on the orders of H.E. the Governor-General and Council of India in the form of instructions to the Governor and Director of the said Island. (Ryclof van Goens, Sr.) 1638.
- (b) Memorandum on matters of Jaffnapatnam by A. Pavillioen, 1665.
- 5 Memorandum of Governor Thomas van Rhee for the Governor-Elect, Gerrit de Heere, 1697.
- 6 Memorandum of Instructions for the Political Council at Jaffnapatnam by Commander Hendrick Zwaardcroon, 1697.
- 7 Memorandum by Governor Hendrick Becker for his successor, 1716.
- 8 Memorandum by Governor Gustaaf Willem van Imhoff for Willem Maurits Bruynink, 1740.
- 9 Deed of Sanction in 1765 by Don Juan Pereapandar, King of Kandy, gifting the Island of Ceylon to the Portuguese.
- 10 Instructions for the Dissawa of Colombo by Cornelis Joan Simons, 1707.
- 11 Original letters written by the Dutch Governor Diederik van Domburg to the King of Kandy, 24th February, 1736.
- 12 Letter to Directors in Holland from Governor van Imhoff, 30th October, 1736—9th December, 1739.
- 13 Dutch grant of paddy land for cultivation, 1751.
- 14 Regulations: Orphans Chambers, 1758.
- 15 Translations of Dutch extracts, 1776—1795.
- 16 Papers regarding embassy of F. G. Billing to the Court of Kandy, 1782.
- 17 Catalogue of the Secretarial Records, 1798.
- 18 Questions and answers regarding the religion of the Kandyans (no date).
- 19 Miscellaneous collection.

THE DUTCH OCCUPATION OF KANDY IN 1765.

(Continued from page 147 of our last issue).

On the 4th March the Governor, accompanied by Lieut.-Colonel van Wezel, the Secretary van Angelbeek, and the Predicant Philipsz (who had arrived at Kandy on the 28th February) set out on his return journey to Colombo.

Colonel Feber, who remained behind, was to carry on the management and direction of affairs till he was relieved by Commandeur Marten Rein; and the following instructions, addressed by the Governor to the latter, were left with the Colonel to be handed to the Commandeur on his arrival:—"Before my departure from here I desire to leave these brief instructions for your guidance in the conduct of affairs. You will however not expect a full memoir, such as it ought to be according to practice, but only my own views concerning some of the chief points. Because on this occasion such a document as this could be of greater use than such as are furnished by an established rule of Government on the change of administration. You will perceive I have neither time nor opportunity to engage in such a task, in the midst of the clash of arms and embarrassed by such continued and various occupations as the present circumstances render unavoidable. This would be better understood than explained. The reason why we are obliged to remain in occupation of the capital of this Kingdom is known to you. You will thus see how important it is that the utmost efforts should be made to attain our object; because that appears to be the only means of compelling this obstinate Court to make peace. The experience which many years' residence in this island and your various occupations, and especially your happy disposition towards orderly government, which I have always observed, your boldness and promptitude—all these things lead me to hope that you will be able to attain the great object more than any one else. I have spared no effort to make this possible, and to facilitate matters, both since my arrival here as well as before, I have especially provided for the necessaries of life and ammunition for the garrison, without a sufficient supply of which, it goes without saying, our project will prove unattainable; because by the latter half of April

the coming rainy season would make the transport of these things, at least for four or five months, impossible; and, during the interval, in the months of August and September, it would be difficult to do any heavy transport. So quantities of paddy and salt have been collected daily from the surrounding villages and hamlets, by as many people as could be gathered together. Of the former, the supply at present is over 12,000 parras, which would give 6,000 parras of (clean) rice, and this is daily increased, while of salt there is here in abundance. Oil is plentiful and could also be pressed. Arrack, which is indispensable for the European soldiery, it will be impossible to procure in sufficient quantity; but I hope I have found the remedy for this by the laying in of brandy both here as well as at Weuda. Besides the supply of ammunition goods, which is still considerable, I have, in accordance with an estimate prepared by the Lieutenant of Artillery, de Ridder, ordered all that has been judged sufficient for your garrison for one year. For fetching this I have sent all the *Komatjes* and two hundred coolies to Gonawila; and, on my return journey, I shall take all the precautions for a safe transport, besides circularizing the Commandants of the Military posts to cover the transport by strong detachments. When you receive this relief, I hope that with a garrison, which I would wish were stronger by 1,200 more men (but which I leave to your further decision), you will be able to hold out against the enemy until weather and ways permit of a renewal of operations with fresh forces. It will especially be necessary vigorously to proceed on with the daily gathering in of paddy; and to drive in from the surrounding country as much cattle as possible and have them caught and tethered at the military posts, in order that the European soldiery may be provided with meat at least twice a week. The distillation of arrack must not fall below requirements, for which I have already selected several Javanese and other natives who understand the tapping of toddy (*zurie*) and who are now busy at it. Vinegar, very useful for the health of the people if used moderately, could also be made here in quantities as required. But the ammunition, without which all these things are useless, or insufficient for gaining our object, fails for want of skill to increase it, and must therefore be doled out with the greatest care. And as it is to be feared that the enemy, perceiving that we intend to hold this place, would use all their force in order to drive you away, I have carefully con-

sidered the best measures to take to withstand them without the waste of much ammunition and the fatigues of our men, and I have come to the following conclusions, not in order to over-ride the fixed orders you already have given, because on such a delicate matter, on account of the various attendant circumstances, it is difficult to regulate beforehand, and should always be left to the personal experience of the Commandant. However, that you may be left with all the assurance possible, I submit them to your attention, hoping that you will adopt such of the measures as you may find necessary. The King has fled with his Court to the heights of Oeva and first settled at Hangurankette. I have had him hunted out from there and burnt the palace he had put up; but where he has since betaken himself to it is difficult to discover in spite of close enquiry. But his army, or part of it, lies some distance from here on the side of Oeva in the mountains. A second division of it was met by a Commando of ours who had a skirmish with it in which we had a few natives wounded. I therefore think we may let His Majesty remain in his hiding place unmolested; for it costs men—sometimes more, sometimes less,—and always much powder and shot to pursue him, and this proves fruitless as he always manages to make his escape. On the other hand, if the enemy should approach your posts and attempt to remain close by, they must certainly be attacked and given no time to settle down. For this purpose it will be very necessary for you, from time to time and whenever the weather and the roads permit, to cause patrols to move about constantly on all sides for an hour or an hour and half, partly in order to enable the officers and men to acquaint themselves with the lay of the land, where to-day or to-morrow they may have to take action, and partly to keep the enemy more at bay, which will be illustrated further. Yet as it may nevertheless happen that he would come within reach of your cannon, you must in the first place fortify the principal entrances with batteries, furnishing them with the cannons captured here—so many of them at least as have carriages. And as there is here a supply of heavy, dry timber and iron in abundance, these must be used in the construction of ramparts. Of artillery men you have here sufficient to work your guns in case of need. The outer buildings of the palace, both on the north side as well as behind it, which prevents the defence on that side, and is favourable to the

enemy for surprises, must be broken down or taken away ; especially because there is ample room in this spacious place for the safe lodgement of the men and the whole entourage. The usual recommendation to be on your guard, to maintain discipline, and matters of this kind, which one is to expect in all officers, even of ordinary rank, and which one should never miss in a ruler, I would here rather spare you, assured as I am of your judgment, discretion and vigilance. If you could add to this the art of maintaining the cheerfulness and courage of the men, I have no doubt you will succeed in bringing everything to a successful end. But if you should be compelled by unforeseen and insurmountable calamities to leave Kandy before help could be sent to you from Colombo, I think the retreat to Colombo should be undertaken through the Four Korles

" And therefore, as it is my intention, as soon as the weather and the roads permit, in the months of August and September, to make an attack on the Four Korles, and to cut a shorter road to Kandy, you must first of all send a detachment of about 60 or 70 Europeans and 300 Javanese and Sepoys, to make a careful reconnaissance of the ordinary passage over the famous hill Balana, and furnish me with a full and explicit report thereof in writing.

" I recommend to you for this expedition the Lieutenants van Hounold and Wolfhard ; the latter is acquainted with the science of engineering, and the former is inured to toilsome work, is clever in intrigue and bold in undertaking, besides fortunate in carrying out anything. I have already stated *en passant* that I leave the augmentation of the garrison to you ; yet I recommend to you particularly to maintain it under Europeans, and to place under them the Jager Korps whose officers and men, on account of their good behaviour and special services, are deserving of much praise and esteem ; also the marines who have distinguished themselves not a little by their particular bravery, and whose Commander, Captain Maurer, is an excellent soldier. Under the Malays the companies of Mandoe and Aboe have also excelled greatly.

" However, you must not take this to mean that the other officers and companies were less brave, as all have sufficiently deserved a good testimonial, but those I have mentioned, having been favoured with the opportunity, have shewn themselves in a better light.

" After you have closely conferred and arranged matters with Colonel Feber, who remains here for that purpose some time, he must march to Colombo with the men whom you do not consider it necessary to keep.

" With him must also leave the Lieutenant-Engineer Kuhn who is at present occupied in preparing a plan of the palace and the city ; but if you consider his further services necessary, he must remain and the plans may be forwarded by the Colonel in order to keep the correspondence open as long as possible. I shall at first maintain the field posts, and shall discuss with you, whom I hope to meet on the way, the possibility of also maintaining posts at Weuda and Wisnawa during the rainy season, because I foresee great difficulty in this, especially because these posts cannot well be provided with necessaries.

" But whether this is done or not you must let them be, and if great necessity should arise for you to send me a report, and you have no other means at hand for doing so, you might, as a last resource, send a strong detachment through the Four Korles.

" But I hope it will not come to this extremity, for, besides reposing on you my entire confidence, I leave with you an army from whose bravery the greatest results are to be expected, and with reason, to judge from the remarkable instances given in this glorious expedition. At the head of this are two staff officers, provisional Majors Frankena and Duffo, who in consequence of the continued illness of Majors Medeler and De Reder I have appointed to these posts, and concerning whom I will for your information and satisfaction further mention as follows :—

" Major Frankena is a man of calmness and courage, who has shown on all occasions that he well understands his profession. His disposition is one of deliberation and it bears witness of his skill.

" Major Duffo, who has thus far been Captain of the French Free Company, has since the beginning of this offensive war been in the field with his Company in the hottest fire ; Matura, Puttulang and Gonawille give proof of this. And the last place where we met the enemy the preceding year, which has been of such important use to us, as it has been strengthened for the general magazine for the army in this campaign, has since been held by him with a handful of men against the whole might of the Kandyan.

"Besides these personal merits, I have been prompted to advance him by certain political inducements.

"The agreement with the French Free Company in question has expired. This nation has re-established itself on the coast and the men have asked for their discharge.

"The services which this small troop has thus far performed induce me to expect similar advantages from it in the future, and by promoting him Major, Lieutenant de Grand Captain-Lieutenant, and the Ensign Leuwendael (properly Vernier) Lieutenant, the whole Company or a great many of them have been induced to take permanent service under us.

"From a lower point of view than this, as the appointment of a Staff Officer is absolutely necessary, I have fixed my choice on him above others as he is of the Reformed faith.

"You will in time see that they are worthy of the advancement which I have made subject to the approval of the Supreme Indian Government.

"It is also necessary that you should know that since my arrival here, seeing that the Kandyans had broken off the peace negotiations which they had commenced, I took the opportunity to give them another chance by a letter to the nobles of the Court, of which a copy accompanies this, in order that you may see what the points are which I have proposed.

"Lastly I leave for your scrutiny a bundle of all the important papers relating to the present disturbances. The Secretary van Angelbeek collected them to serve in this expedition. They consist of the matters which have transpired between us and our superiors since the year 1761 and matters which came up in our Council and between us and the Coast.

"With regard to household economy you require no instructions, and I therefore conclude this wishing you the blessing and support of God Almighty, for the welfare of the Company and your own glory. Headquarters, Kandy, 11th March, 1765."

The Governor's return journey was uneventful, except that before his arrival at Giriagama, a Sinhalese straggler, who had come with a party to fire some shots on the Dutch field stations, was caught and hanged to a tree by his legs. Having halted at the intermediate stations, Weuda, Pedrowila, Wisnawe, Katugampola,

Gonawille and Tamanawile, the Governor arrived at Negombo at 10 p.m. on the 7th March. Here he was met by Marten Rein, Commandeur-elect of Kandy, Major Baron de Reder, the Onderkoopman Jan Philip Stork, and some minor officials, all of whom were to depart with the Commandeur to Kandy, except Baron de Reder who was to remain at Gonawila. The Governor remained at Negombo to see Commandeur Rein and his party set out on their journey, which they did on the 9th March; and he left Negombo next day (10th) with the Secretary van Angelbeek, and arrived at Pas Naklegam at 5 p.m., where he was welcomed by a distinguished party of officials, and their wives from Colombo, and escorted to the Castle under a salute of guns.

It would be convenient in continuing the narrative to follow here the course of events connected with Commandeur Rein's march to Kandy and the occurrences after his arrival there. The same itinerary was taken as that of the Governor's expedition.

Having left Negombo, as stated, on the 9th March, Rein arrived at Gonawille the following day, where, partly owing to the transaction of business, but chiefly to the want of a sufficient number of coolies for the transport of ammunition, baggage and specie, he was obliged to remain till the 12th. While there a letter was received from the Governor at Colombo, advising him that the Kandyans apparently had the design of attacking the transport on the way and also the field stations, to prevent which it would be necessary that the Commandeur's escort should be strengthened. On receipt of this letter, a message was sent to Colonel Feber at Kandy asking for an efficient detachment to be sent to meet the Commandeur on the way, and Captain Baatke went in command of the escort from Gonawille. Johan Hendrik Muller, who had been doing duty at Gonawille as Secretary to Dissava Bauert, joined the Commandeur's entourage in the same capacity; and he, under the orders of Commandeur Rein, kept a diary of the events of the march to Kandy and of all the subsequent occurrences.

Katugampola, Wisnawe and Pedrowille were passed without any noteworthy events; but the weather during the whole of the journey was of a very unfavourable nature. There were frequent showers of rain with thunder and lightning, and with intervals of such great heat that the coolies were much fatigued and the march consequently delayed. On the 15th March, in the neighbourhood

of Telliagamme, a few shots were fired on the detachment by the Kandyans without any effect. Kurunegalla was reached the same day, and there the detachment expected from Kandy (410 men under Lieutenant Wolfarth of the Jagers) was in waiting. When this had joined the Commando under Captain Baatke, the march was renewed to Perikondemulle, where Captain Baatke was ordered by Commandeur Rein to return to Gonawille; and the latter and his party proceeded to Weuda, where they arrived at 10 o'clock that day. Here the Commandeur found to his surprise a large stock of provisions, including a considerable quantity of arrack, awaiting transport to Kandy. These were afterwards removed on the 17th by a band of 391 coolies sent from Kandy. Passing Gallegeddere the Commandeur stopped at Girriagamme, and on the 18th left for Kandy. All along the way were seen threatening crowds of Kandyans on the hill tops and mountains, who took to flight as soon as the Dutch soldiers made as if to approach them. Yet the day before they had attacked the Commando which conveyed the transport and wounded a European and a Malay. Having for a while halted at the King's palace on the Mahaweliganga, the Commandeur crossed over to Kandy at noon. He was received by Colonel Feber and the other Officers, and a salute was fired in his honour from the battery. His arrival at Kandy was duly notified to the Governor.

Having, owing to the fatiguing journey, rested the whole of the 19th and 20th, the Commandeur, with the Colonel, applied himself to several matters of business. The newly constructed fortifications and ammunition store were visited and various orders were issued to Weuda, Perikondemulle, Wisnawe and Gonawille. The Officers at Perikondemulle, where, it was stated, cattle were to be had, were instructed to purchase as many heads of these as possible, paying for them up to the rate of 4 rix dollars a head.

On the 21st information was received from Perikondemulle that a detachment sent out from there had succeeded in getting some booty, although the Kandyans had continued to attack them daily. The Onderkoopman Stork was put in charge of the provisions as Commissariat Officer, while the Secretary Muller had charge of the cash.

On the 23rd, on orders from the Commandeur and Colonel Feber, Major Duflo proceeded with a detachment of 600 men

towards the hill at Balana, in order to reconnoitre the roads and passes, and also to have a survey made of the place by the Lieutenant-Engineer Kuhn who accompanied the expedition. They took with them all the *Kaleros*, *Kamatjes* and 100 Company's slaves, who conveyed 2 mortars as well as grenades, barrels of ball cartridge and hammocks. They were to bring on their return as much paddy, meat cattle, buffaloes etc., as they could obtain. When the detachment had gone about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the river, the advance guards and flank patrols were attacked by the Sinhalese advance posts, but under a steady fire by the Dutch they quickly retreated to the batteries on either bank of the river. These batteries were well built and so placed that they made the passage of the river very difficult for the Dutch. Yet in spite of this the latter succeeded in capturing one battery, and crossing the river they destroyed the other. The Dutch had one European and one Sepoy wounded, yet they captured 2 gingals and 3 muskets besides a good quantity of large bullets. Seven Sinhalese were killed. The captured batteries were burnt down and the march continued. For the next three miles not a Sinhalese was to be seen; but as they passed a declivity leading to a rice field, which they had to do in single file owing to the narrowness of the defile, they came upon a formidable battery, much stronger than any of the previous ones; and from this the Sinhalese directed a heavy fire, but without being able to do any hurt. The Dutch detachment resolutely continued its march and soon compelled the Sinhalese to retreat; after which the captured battery was destroyed in the best manner possible. From this point the main road led over a mountain, which was so difficult of ascent that they had to enter a narrow side path which brought them to the foot of the mountain, and there they found many fine houses. So much time had been lost in the work of burning and destroying batteries that the hour fixed for going to the hill at Balana had passed. The Major therefore decided to get the coolies to enter the houses and collect all the *neli* they could find, sentries being posted to guard them. He then allowed his men to take some rest before he started on his return march. On this occasion not a Sinhalese was to be seen or heard, and the detachment reached Kandy at half past five in the evening.

On the 25th Major Frankena marched out with a detachment of 682 men and crossed the river in order to delay the Adigar there.

Having captured and destroyed several batteries on the way, he arrived at the one at which the Adigar had posted himself, and the latter, after offering some resistance, and suffering some casualties in killed and wounded, fled to the hills. At this place some 15 Moors presented themselves before Major Frankena offering to submit to the Company, and they were brought to Kandy. They said there were a great number of men and women with their children about three miles further away, who were all willing to become subject to the Company if they could be fetched under protection. These were accordingly sent for the following day and 54 men and 103 women and children came in, to whom the Moorish Street was allotted as residence. Colonel Feber, who had remained in Kandy to give over charge to the Commandeur, left with his forces for Colombo on the 28th, receiving a salute from the batteries on his departure. On the 30th a detachment of 30 Europeans and 80 Native soldiers under Lieutenant Ritberger marched out to do patrol duty along the side of the river with a view to ascertain if the Kandyans were trying to ensconce themselves about the place. They saw some Sinhalese on a hill who fired on them but did no damage. Seeing that he could do nothing on this side of the river Lieutenant Ritberger cautiously crossed over to the other side, leaving a small guard on either bank to cover the river. Some thousands of Sinhalese on a hill on the other side of the river greeted his men with a large shower of gingal shots, but again without causing any hurt. Returning he lay in ambush with a small patrol in order to receive the Sinhalese if they should come down the hill. This they did as he expected, and he left some killed and wounded before re-crossing the river. Late at night a Commando came from a detachment, which had been posted on the river at Katugastota under Lieutenant Wolfarth, bringing information of a continuous attack on the force by the Sinhalese from half past three to eight o'clock. The Dutch however sustained no damage: the only misfortune being that our *opperjager* was severely wounded by the accidental bursting of a grenade. Some artillery and an additional number of Sepoys were despatched to the assistance of this detachment, which continued to be vigorously attacked by the Sinhalese; but as soon as a movement was made in their direction they quickly retired. Meanwhile several foraging parties had been sent out from headquarters to bring in cattle, *neli* etc., and were often

successful, the Moors being very useful in capturing many heads of cattle. These parties were, however, everywhere vigorously attacked by the Sinhalese. On the 2nd April the advance guard below the hill on the east of the city was attacked by the Kandyans, and the Officer of the picquet was quickly despatched there with a detachment. He found the Sinhalese and the guard engaged, and at once attacked the former with such good results that they fled to the battery on the river bank, of which mention has already been made. [See under 23rd March]. The Sinhalese had succeeded in again speedily repairing this battery, but it was at length captured by the Dutch, who had one European soldier wounded in the encounter. On the other hand they captured two gingals of the Sinhalese. Meanwhile Major Frankena had ordered the Malay Company under Captain Moendoe to march up in silence, and find a good hiding place from which they could be at hand should the Dutch be in need of assistance. This order was so well executed by the Malay Captain and his men that they fell upon the Sinhalese without firing a shot, and attacked them with the *kris*, killing four, of whom one was an arachchi, whose head they took with them. The picquet had killed three and probably had wounded many. The battery was demolished.

Commandeur Rein had been ailing for about ten days (from the 25th March) although he had strenuously stuck to his onerous and responsible duties so long as strength permitted him. His fever rose very high on the night of the 2nd, and the following morning (3rd April) at 9 o'clock he expired, much to the consternation and regret of every one. Major Frankena as the Senior Military Officer in the Garrison took over the management of affairs, and made arrangements for the funeral which took place the next day.

The body, properly shrouded, was laid in a fine coffin covered with white cloth, over which was thrown a red velvet pall and thereon was placed his sword.

The procession then formed as follows:—

1. Tom-tom beaters and lascorins with muffled tom-toms commanded by an arachchi.
2. Captain-Lieutenant Mauer commanding the European military, who carried their arms reversed with the fifes and drums playing the funeral march, and followed by Secretary Muller carrying the family arms of the deceased.

3. The body borne by 12 Sergeants with 4 Captains as pall-bearers.

4. Majors Frankena and Duflo as chief mourners.

5. The other officers and qualified officials.

6. The rest of the garrison excepting those on guard or on picquet duty.

Arrived at the grave, and the interment over, the soldiers were drawn up in line, the bugle sounded, and three charges were fired from the muskets.

That day the Sinhalese attacked nearly all the advance guards round the town and came on to the hills close by. Major Frankena sent out detachments to drive them away, and one of these detachments, which took the road towards Hangurankette, came upon a heavy battery not far from Kandy. The soldiers bravely attacked the Sinhalese who were in possession and compelled them to retreat. But 5 Europeans and 5 Malays were wounded. Of the Sinhalese it was reported that a good many were wounded and killed, but they were all carried away. In spite of this the shooting continued almost till evening, although according to their usual custom the Sinhalese made no stand anywhere.

A Council of War was held on the 5th April to decide on the arrangements to be made consequent on the death of the Commandeur, at which it was unanimously agreed that Major Frankena as the senior officer should take over the command of affairs. It was also resolved that every effort should be made to retain possession of the capital city of the Sinhalese as being the only means of forcing the King to make peace. But a careful estimate having been made of the stock of provisions and ammunition remaining in store, it was feared that this quantity would not be sufficient unless it was speedily replenished. Various proposals were made for safeguarding the stock and for practising the utmost economy in the use of both foodstuffs and ammunition. It was clear that the Sinhalese were fully aware of the shortage from which the Dutch suffered, and they began to shoot from the surrounding hills hoping thereby to make the Dutch within the city waste powder and shot in retaliating. Among the measures adopted to safeguard the ammunition it was decided that only the best marksmen both among the European and the native soldiery should have powder and shot issued to them; and as regards provisions,

cattle were to be slaughtered only once a week. It was also hoped that a distillery which had been set up would relieve the want of arrack which the soldiers had to be supplied with. Lastly it was decided to lose no time in communicating to the Governor in Colombo the death of the Commandeur and the state of things in Kandy, the letter to be written in Latin with Greek characters, and this was composed by the Secretary Muller. From this point the following extracts from the Diary will best give the narrative of events.

6 April, 1765.—Sale by auction of the property belonging to the late Commandeur Rein.

The Sinhalese attacked here and there but were everywhere driven back.

7 April.—They appeared again, but at a single shot from the cannon they hastily cleared off.

Severe thunder and rain in the evening.

8 April.—In the morning several shots fell on our advance guard, but the enemy made no stand when a patrol of our men was sent against them. Instead they retired and hid themselves in the thick jungle. At 10 o'clock came a commando from Katugastota bringing a Sinhalese who the previous evening had come rushing to the advance guard on the other side of the river with his hands chopped off, his tongue cut away, and an ola round his neck. It was first supposed that he had come from Colombo with a letter and being caught by the Kandyans was thus mutilated; but the Mudaliyar of Happitigam Korle, Dissanaikie, recognised him as one who had at first been with the Adigar and had afterwards come over to our side in order to sell things. He had evidently been betrayed. The ola contained the following written in bad Sinhalese: "This shall be a warning to all blacks, Sinhalese as well as Sipahis, who forsake our side and transgress the orders of His Majesty the King."

In the evening the Moor who had received the letter to be conveyed to Colombo took his departure under the protection of a commando, being conveyed across the river in the stillness of the night.

Two of the Moors who had placed themselves under us were selected as guides to help in ascertaining where the enemy could be

best attacked. They pointed out a by-path to the battery which the enemy had thrown up on the road to Balane. It lay across the river by Katugastota where Lieutenant Wolfarth was stationed and then turned westward in the direction taken when going to Colombo. It was proposed to send a commando that same evening under Lieutenant Ritberger to Katugastota to fall upon the enemy's battery from the rear, while Captain-Lieutenant Le Grand at the same time attacked it from the front.

9 April.—At 12 o'clock the two commandos returned. Lieutenant Ritberger reported that having crossed the river at Katugastota he found the way to the battery beset with many difficulties, as the enemy molested him all the way. Nevertheless he pressed through attacking an advance guard of seven, killing five and wounding one. The latter, along with the remaining one, managed to make his escape. Proceeding further the Dutch commando came to a house in which were some Sinhalese who fled after firing a shot. This appeared to be a signal for them to escape, as the enemy had everywhere withdrawn. When the battery was at last reached it was found that the detachment of Captain-Lieutenant Le Grand was already there. Le Grand reported that the enemy made but little resistance and retired after the first attack. He cut down many, captured three gingals, and took one prisoner, while a good many were wounded. On our side there was not a single casualty. The battery was set fire to.

[The notes left behind by Mr. Anthonisz end here].



MUSINGS AND RAMBLES OF "THE ANTIQUARIAN STROLLERS."

RELICS OF DUTCH TIMES AT AMBALANGODA AND BENTOTA.

"It is never too late to mend",—so runs a well-known proverb. This might aptly be paraphrased: "It is never too soon to begin."

Every day, everywhere, in both civilized and uncivilized countries, associations are formed for every conceivable object under the sun. This, then, perhaps sufficiently introduces the reader to the "Antiquarian Strollers."

As regards their aims or the definition of their task—first and foremost comes the application of the co-operative principle which underlies the object of all associations. Secondly—the hope that their labours might rescue from oblivion the stories and memorials of the past and kindle an interest in the doings of our ancestors.

In the course of an address delivered nearly half a century ago at the inaugural meeting of the Colombo Literary Association, the Chairman, Dr. W. G. Vandort, remarked that "in the large collection of books which treat of this Island's history... by writers and travellers of various nationalities, in the old almanacs, gazetteers, magazines and pamphlets, there is a wealth of treasure which will surely repay, and amply repay... resuscitation."

But these forgotten pages, representing sometimes "gems of purest ray serene," are, as he appositely points out, "on the shelves of a few book collectors who treasure them as a miser does his gold."

It may be that there is method in such madness, for books acquire a strange wander-lust when once they leave their home! But apart from the difficulty of procuring this class of book, it is not everybody who will dig and delve to separate "the valuable ore from the dross with which it is sometimes mixed up." "The Antiquarian Strollers" have undertaken to do this for you.

There is also another aspect of their activities. The stories which writers of old have to tell are often linked with objects and memorials of interest scattered over the country. Some of these are close at hand, others further afield. How to get to know them

has perhaps been a question which has often been asked. The "Antiquarian Strollers" offer to help you.

Naturally, the Dutch Memorials will appeal most to our readers, for:

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead
Who never to himself hath said
This is my own..."

But before descending from generalities to details, there is something which might be told concerning these memorials which we take pride in claiming as our own. At frequent intervals along the coast-line of Ceylon, and occasionally scattered a few miles inland, there are forts and churches and buildings typical of builders who preferred solidity to aesthetic qualities.

History records the part which some of them played, while others have nought to tell except in hieroglyphical stones chiselled by the sculptor, and masses of masonry which took shape under the trowel of the architect. Although the Dutch monuments in general have escaped wholesale destruction, the ravages of time and the ruthless hand of the vandal and the utilitarian are responsible for much of the carelessness and want of reverence for these memorials of the past displayed by the successors and descendants of the builders. It is owing to the zeal and energy of Leopold Ludovici that some records at least of the Dutch inscriptions have been preserved. Lewis, in his useful compilation "Tombstones and Monuments in Ceylon", discloses the fact that there are something like 225 inscriptions of Dutch origin in Ceylon, which date from 1662—four years after the Dutch had finally established themselves—to 1836—forty years after they lost their Ceylon possessions. Most of these inscriptions, he suggests, have been preserved to posterity by illustrations in Ludovici's "Lapidarium Zeylanicum". But some which have escaped attention are yet to be met with which commemorate the lives of several servants of the Dutch Company, as well as of their wives and "Jonge Dogters".

Although there is very much of surpassing interest close at hand to absorb a great deal of one's spare time, there is something in getting away from every-day associations. Small journeys lead to ventures further afield. The first outing of the "Antiquarian Strollers" was, on the principle of small beginnings, confined to the south coast road as far as Ambalangoda.

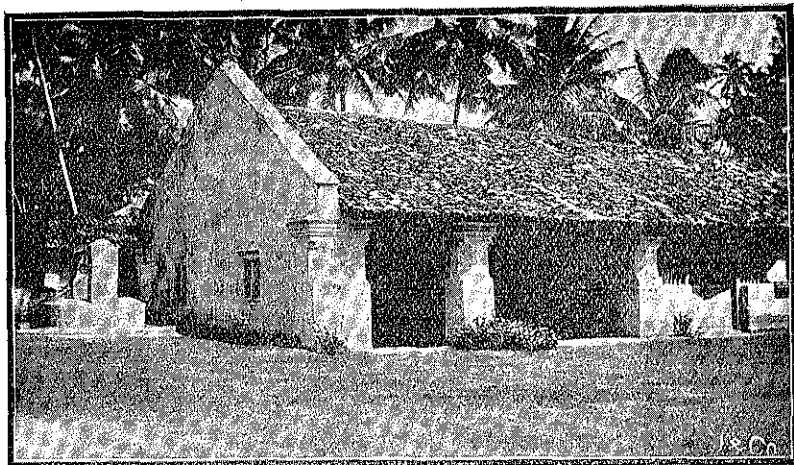
Now, this road connecting Galle and Colombo has from early days been described by travellers of all classes. The diaries and journals of the Dutch Governors and Commandeurs depict them as attended by a large company riding in palanquins between these two main stations. There are accounts of the journey performed by companies of troops on the march—some carried out hurriedly, others in easy stages. There are again the descriptions of persons who travelled, either in coaches or in carriages or in bullock bandies. Even the hackery has been laid under contribution by no less a person than Little Tich, the comedian, who travelled by this means of conveyance—his life, according to him, in the hands of a driver who urged his bull to even greater exertion by endeavouring to leave impressions of his teeth on the unfortunate animal's tail!

But despite the diversity in the mode of travel, a wealth of gorgeously colourful panoramas are revealed from various perspectives by those who have in days gone by travelled along this southern coastal route. These pictures furnish characteristic details of the journey along the road even to-day. There are contributions by Tennent¹ and Ashley Gibson,² by Willis³ and Cave,⁴ there are less vivid yet impressive glimpses by military officers—Percival⁵ and Welsh⁶ and a host of others. But the best description of the road is by Miss Gordon Cumming.⁷ "The excellent carriage-road," she writes, "runs so close to the shore that we are constantly catching sight and sound of the vividly blue sea and grand surf, sometimes dashing on headlands of dark rock, sometimes breaking more gently on the yellow sands of peaceful bays, and revealing endless glimpses of fishing life—brown boats with ruddy sails, brown men . . . drawing brown nets. The whole way is . . . overshadowed by luxuriant vegetation in such varied combinations that the eye can never weary of such a succession of beauty."

However, travel to-day is different. It is more often than not a blending of many kaleidoscopic impressions with the smell of gasoline. Even if one travelled at the comparatively low speed of twenty miles an hour, Ambalangoda is no further than a three-hour drive from Colombo. Everybody calls a halt at the rest-

1 "Ceylon". 2 "Cinnamon and Frangipanni". 3 "Ceylon". 4 "Golden Tips" etc. 5 "Account of Ceylon". 6 "Military Reminiscences". 7 "Two Happy Years in Ceylon".

house. Many garage their cars there and think no more of the spacious building which has been altered to serve such a purpose. Nevertheless, scarcely a traveller between Colombo and Galle would imagine, even if he did stop to gaze at the quaint structure, that at one period of time it served as a place of worship.



A general view of the old Dutch Church at Ambalangoda.

It is barn-like in design, characteristic of the village churches which the Dutch built, rectangular in shape, two ends terminating in gables with high open windows below the roof, massive masonry pillars at intervals on the two other sides, sections of low walls between the pillars, and wooden rails above. Here, so one learns from musty book-shelves, "services were regularly held in Sinhalese by the school-master proponents, and in Dutch, during their church and school visitations, by the clergymen from Galle."

What perhaps gives a touch of pathos to this story of the past is the fact that "the floor of the church was paved with several tombstones of distinguished men buried within. But none of these are now to be seen, and the explanation given is that the floor had been subsequently raised by earth being filled in. Among those buried within this once hallowed but now desecrated place was the Count Jean Guillaume Du Bois De Lassosay, who after retiring from the Regiment of Luxemburg, of which he was the Colonel Commandant, served the British during the early years of their occupation of Ceylon as Sitting Magistrate of Ambalangoda."

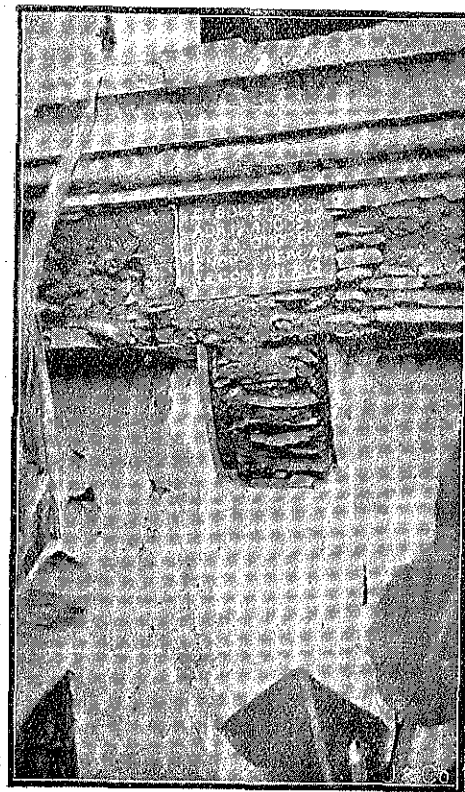
But there is a much more interesting link with this relic of the past to kindle a visitor's interest. To see it one must approach the outer side of the gabled wall, to the east of that portion of the

building which now serves as the Gansabhawa Court. The boundary-wall which encloses the compound of the rest-house compels a detour, by way of the entrance, on to the main road, and then through a barber's "Saloon" on the left.

A few plantain trees, which appear to demonstrate the universal country belief that fruit-trees thrive best if planted within sound of the human voice, all but hide the wall of the old church. But through the leaves the visitor may study an inscription roughly chiselled on a stone let into the building.

The illustration gives some idea of the inscription, of its pristine setting, and of how the plain yet substantial moulding has been touched by the ravages of time's slow but steady hand. The English translation of the lettering reads as follows:—

"Built by Adriaan Oostdyk, Onderkoopman, Superintendent of the Galle Korle."



The "Oostdyk" inscription on the old Dutch Church at Ambalangoda.

Very meagre details are available regarding the builder of this Church. "At the time of its building, he held the rank of a *Koopman* and the post of Superintendent of the Cinnamon Trade, an office next only to that of *Administrateur* of the Galle *Commandement*. His duties frequently took him towards Ambalangoda, Cosgoda, and Bentota, and it is most likely that for long periods he had to make a temporary residence in Ambalangoda." As regards the family itself, we learn that Susanna Isabella, the daughter of Adriaan Oostdijk of Zierikzee, married Major Adriaan Lever of Breda, Commandant of Galle.

To turn now to the rest-house itself—without its modern additions it would appear to have been a building used by the Hollanders as a store, though there is ground for the belief that a "Rust-Huys" (rest-house) existed at Ambalangoda, even before the year 1735.¹

It is interesting to recall the fact that the Dutch lived in an age when travelling was performed in a palanquin "which had a bamboo pole over the roof and was carried by several Moors, who relieved each other on the road." Although it permitted the traveller riding in it to "both sit and lie down, and had at the ends and sides curtains to keep off the heat of the sun..." the rate of progression was slow owing to the fact that the "six or twelve bearers", which was the usual man power allotted to each palanquin, made frequent halts to recover their breath. Consequently, "on the road there were several houses built at the Company's expense, for the purpose of baiting and lodging." Sometimes these Rust-huizen were "both large and handsome."

When within a quarter of a mile of Bentota rest-house, proceeding in the direction of Colombo, the observant traveller will notice a junction, with a minor road leading to the right. A venerable moss-covered pillar, which originally flanked a gate-way or perhaps supported a lamp, affords an unmistakable landmark. Turning down this minor road—which, it might be added, is motorable, the visitor will soon come up to a Dutch building—almost a replica of the Oostdyk building at Ambalangoda. This too was a Dutch church, now a Government Anglo-vernacular school.

¹ Lapidarium Zeylanicum, page 39.

Over the entrance there is a stone slab bearing the inscription :

Fecit.

C : A : S :

A.D. 1755.

Who was C : A : S : ? is a question which has exercised the minds of many. Yet, in spite of the great pains which the builder appears to have taken to hide his identity from posterity, Mr. R. G. Anthonisz was able in 1891 to throw some light on the matter. He says :—"At a little distance from Bentota is a village called Pitigala, where the Dutch had a military fort or redoubt and a garrison. Among the Commandeurs placed in charge here was, about the time in question, a French or Swiss officer of the name of Claude Antoine Scoffier.... It seems more than probable that he was the builder of the Church."

Within the old Church there is another monument which calls to mind the out-post at Pitigala on the left bank of the Bentota Ganga in the Walallawiti Korale, and which moreover commemorates the name of the officer who was in charge a few years later. It is a tombstone bearing an epitaph in Dutch, let into the more recently cemented floor, and occupying a position in nearly the middle of the building. Helped by the light of a torch—for at times the building is gloomy—one traces out these letters, not without a little difficulty :

ANDREAS AMABERT

VAN GRENOBLE IN D'DAUPHINERIJ DISER

LUYTENANT MILITAIR EN

COMMANDANT TE PETIGELLE

OBIJT

DEN 18 JULIJ ANNO DOM. 1764

TE

BENTOTTE

LEGT HIER BEGRAVEN

WAGT

OP D'ZALIGE OPSTANDINGE.

Translation :—Andreas Amabert, of Grenoble in the Dauphinoery, Lieutenant of the Military, Commandant at Pitigelle, died 18th July, 1764, at Bentota. He lies buried here, and awaits the blessed resurrection.

It would not be incorrect to presume that the floor of this Church was originally paved with large square bricks. Whether under these circumstances the tablet actually marks the last resting-place of Amabert is a matter shrouded in conjecture. But in this connection it may be mentioned that several other tablets are reported to have existed which are no longer to be seen. Lieutenant Amabert, it is suggested, died of fever contracted when on duty in the interior. He probably belonged to the French Regiment of Du Flos, then under service with the Dutch.

There is yet another tablet which reposes in this building, not entirely devoid of interest to the antiquarian. Although it is of much more recent origin, it bears the name of a family well-known in Ceylon, and evokes a pathetic thought not lessened by contemplation of the place of burial. It reads :

IN
MEMORY
OF
MARY THWAITES
DIED FEB. 1870.
AGED 2 YEARS.

Local information points to the fact that there was once a burial ground adjoining this old church. This tombstone would appear to have been removed to make room for the school garden.

Lansigewatte is merely a name to some villagers in Bentota and Induruwa. But it lends interest to the following passage in the "Memoir of Thomas Van Rhee": "During my residence in Galle as Commandeur," he writes, "I found around Bentotte .. pieces of land belonging to the Company on which cocoanut trees were being cultivated, the cultivator being bound to deliver to the Company one-third of the produce. But they were all small pieces of land... some with not more than ten or twelve trees. I therefore proposed to the late Governor Laurens Pyl that new trees should be planted by the cultivators... This being approved I informed the cultivators of the plan, and they expressed their satisfaction with the proposal. The new plantation was commenced with all diligence in the month of May, 1689..... The result has been that the Company now

possesses... a cocoanut garden containing 3000 or 4000 trees of which about two-thirds are already in bearing and fit to be tapped... I am of opinion that it would be best to allow all the fruit in this new garden to ripen for the extraction of oil... This might also be done in the company's garden at Indruwe..." Now, apart from shewing the origin of a system which led Tennent to record that "when the English took possession of Colombo, it was estimated that the district between Dondra Head and Calpentyn contained ten millions of cocoanut trees," this passage picked out at random is suggestive of how gardens and lands in the western and southern maritime regions derived names which at first sight puzzle us.

It would perhaps not be out of place to digress from matters of Dutch antiquarian interest to introduce a legend concerning the coconut tree which, in regular quincunxes, form continuous groves under which the traveller passes. How or when the tree appeared on Ceylon's coast, whether it is indigenous to the island or an importation, are queries to which no satisfactory replies can be given, while the story as to the way in which the Sinhalese first came to realize the wonderful nutritious properties of the nut rests merely on tradition.

In by-gone days—some say it was about 589 A.D.—there lived an Indian prince, Kushta Raja, who was afflicted with a disease, which almost deprived him of human appearance. Nevertheless, with due humility he bowed to what he considered the inevitable decree of fate, and continued to make offerings at the shrine of his god

One day he fell into a trance, and there appeared to him a vision depicting a large blue expanse of water bordered by groves of trees of a rare variety such as he had never before seen—trees with tall ring-marked trunks of which the tops appeared crowned with tufts of feathery leaves and fronds, below which were suspended magnificent clusters of fruit. With this vision, he heard a voice which bade him to journey—to journey southward till he saw the vision in reality, to partake of nature's bounty, and to taste no other diet than the "transparent liquid and the innocent pulp, till thrice the Great Moon shall have given and refused her light to this world." Greatly impressed, the prince journeyed from the hill-country to the coast. He lived for three months on the

fruit which was in this miraculous manner revealed to be an article of diet, and which now enters so largely into the domestic economy of many people.

Kushta Raja is said to have been cured of his disease within the specified period of time, and a statue which tradition declares to be that of the prince, stands in a niche sculptured on the side of a huge boulder of rock bordering the south-coast road at Weligama, to call this legend to remembrance.

Coming now to Bentota, it is interesting to note that the theory has been advanced that the place took its name from a corruption of "Bon" meaning "good" and "Tota" meaning ferry! As against this there is the suggestion that the name is a corruption of the Pali word "Bhimatittha", meaning "fearful ferry". But why fearful? Some say that there stood at one time a temple on the bank of the river, which was dedicated to a demon who inspired such awe in the people that this feeling is reflected in the name given to the spot. Yet others say that the name is associated with the dangerous currents and eddies peculiar to this river mouth. One is compelled to leave this interesting question in a state of uncertainty, but before crossing over to Alutgama on the further side of the river, there is one other bit of information which the village traditionalist will impart. It is that the rocky spit rising from the left bank of the river and adjoining the Bentota rest-house is known as Parangi Kotuwa. It seems clear that the Dutch failed to see the utility of a fort which no doubt was built here by the Portuguese.

Nothing but the name of the land is left to speculate upon at the present day.

(To be Continued).

References to the "Oostdyk Inscription," at Ambalangoda.

D.B.U. Journal, Vol. 1, p. 177

Ceylon Antiquary, Vol. 2, p. 245

Ceylon Lit. Register, Vol. 2, p. 75

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Journal R.A.S. (C.B.) Vol. 15, pp. 271, 272

Lewis. Tombstones and Monuments, p. 204

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Ceylon Lit. Register, Vol. 1 p. 72

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D.B.U. Journal, Vol. 9, p. 78

Ceylon Antiquary, Vol. 1, p. 243

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Lewis. Tombstones and Monuments, p. 148

Journal R.A.S. (C.B.) Vol. 15, p. 276

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R. L. B.

With a view to making these lists of references as complete as possible, will readers who are aware of any others, kindly co-operate by bringing them to the notice of the Editor.



THE VIRTUE OF CHARITY.

Charity is not a fashionable virtue in the modern world. It has grown to be somewhat out of date, and our young people have very little use for it. Yet charity, or "love", as the revised version of our Bible has it, is the lubricant that oils the wheels of life,—the love that "thinks no evil." But the good old Book has also grown to be old-fashioned. I wonder how many of our young folk ever turn its pages, or even possess a Bible! If they happen to have one lying about their rooms, perhaps it is looked upon as some relic of their childhood, which they have put away with all childish things, much as they have put away their toys. They consider themselves too busy with the present day craze for pleasure and its pursuit, to have time to bother about it, anyhow. Perhaps someday, when they are old, they will have time to think about it. Meanwhile,—to parody some familiar lines,—

They glance, and nod, and bustle by—
And never once possess their souls
Before they die.

Yet, if they could only bring themselves to spare a few moments, in the midst of the insane rush of their lives, to dip into the despised Book, they may find therein inspiration, warning, and guidance which will help them to solve many of the problems life will soon present to them.

The ancient Jews had a proverb that a scandal killed three people. The one who started it, the person who listened to it, and the unhappy victim of it. The Jews were an excitable and sensitive people. People of this nature cannot forget a slight, neither can they bring themselves to forgive anything that wounds their self-esteem. An insult is brooded over until it loses all its original proportions, and any unkindness causes sleepless nights. Yet, we should make allowance for words spoken in heated moments, and not take such words too literally. There are some happy souls who realize that people who are angry will soon sincerely regret anything they may have said in their anger, and, consequently, such well-balanced natures will calmly endure ebullitions of anger and be ready to forgive.

Yet, the Jews were quite right when they condemned tattlers and malignant talkers. They certainly do create considerable mischief.

There is another Jewish proverb, "Many have fallen by the edge of the sword, but not so many as have fallen by the tongue." It seems rather an exaggeration to say that a reckless tongue can kill anybody. Still, there is something in it. To say a thing which is not true about any person, for any reason whatsoever, is the surest way to destroy one's self-respect, particularly if it is maliciously done. Such an act makes one a self-conscious liar. Malignant whisperers find little favour wherever they go, and all decent people shun them. But, in spite of it all, there is a vast deal of careless gossip prevalent which does very much harm. It destroys all that is best in the gossip himself, or herself, as the case may be. It creates in the gossip a tendency to slur over the truth of things; it also creates a craving to give gossipy news at the expense of exactitude; and, in the end, the gossip, who begins as an irresponsible talker, develops into one incapable of plain truth.

It is a fault one can be so easily led into in the ordinary flow of conversation that we ought to be on our guard against it. The mere talent for telling a good story can so easily lead one into it. There are some dangerous people, who would not deliberately do another a bad turn, but who cannot help saying inaccurate things regarding that other that seem to fit well into a story, with the result that one often hears that one has said the queerest things, and also done things quite foreign to one's nature. The exaggerations that are next door to creating scandal are certainly deplorable.

Probably, the only way to avoid the danger of falling into this sort of thing is to really and sincerely think well of everybody. When one succeeds in acquiring this rather difficult habit, one looks for the best in others and there is no danger of saying the wrong thing. To those who always think kindly, evil speaking is impossible.

The Jewish proverb I quoted at the outset goes on to say that the second person whom the evil tongue kills is the listener. This is quite correct. Whoever listens to scandalous stories dies to honour. His better self is soon killed. There are people who love to listen to unpleasant stories, and they are ready to believe the

worst of anybody. The little good there is in them soon gets killed, and their suspicious natures soon kill all joy in life, while they are bound to lose their friends. Their whole characters soon suffer as well as their happiness. It is so true that a listener never hears good of himself. This is because he grows so morbidly suspicious that he always imagines something injurious to himself in anything he hears. As regards the last statement of the proverb that the wicked tongue kills the person it attacks, this, of course, depends on whether other people are silly enough to believe the story. Yet, the evil-disposed person is sure to believe it. So no idle word falls entirely harmless.

Spiteful sayings are like poisonous microbes, which we inhale with every breath. If we are healthy and strong we do not fear microbes. There is something in our blood which destroys them as soon as they come in. In a similar manner, if we are healthy in mind and truly love another, all the flying venom of tongues will not affect us. Common sense alone ought to dispose of the most of it, and Christian love ought to make light of the rest.

The main thing is to see that we ourselves do not so offend. It is so easy to fall into it. Whether we do more or less harm to other people, "Woe unto him from whom the offence cometh." Give a malicious story a single minute's start and you will never overtake it. You may contradict it but it will always be too late. The mischief will have been done. It will go on widening its circle of mischief like a stone that has been cast into the calm waters of a lake which makes circles that are ever widening.

This is a serious thought, is it not? Thoughtless words fall from us all, all day long, and though they often escape us let us try to "set a watch on the door of our lips," as well as try to prevent the glance or gesture that are often as harmful as the spoken word. The only remedy is to train ourselves to think wholesomely and kindly about all men and all things, and then we shall be in no danger of falling into the besetting sin of uncharitableness.

"And now abideth faith, hope and charity, these three, and the greatest of these is charity."

L. M. W.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Proceedings of the Twenty-fourth Annual General Meeting of the Dutch Burghier Union held in the Union Hall on Saturday, 28th February, 1932, at 6-15 p.m.

The President, Dr. L. A. Prins, took the Chair, and there were about 75 members present.

The Honorary Secretary read the notice convening the meeting, after which the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed.

Presidential Address.

The President then addressed the meeting and proceeded to review the work done by the various Sub-Committees. Dealing with the activities of the Entertainment Committee, he pointed out with satisfaction that the entire decoration of the Union Hall had been carried out with funds provided by this Committee. The Literary Committee had arranged for and carried out a series of interesting lectures, while the JOURNAL had published many articles of deep interest to the community. He expressed the hope that more members of the Union would support the JOURNAL. The Social Service Committee had made very good use of the funds at their disposal by helping a large number of widows and children, and he appealed for more liberal contributions in order that this charitable work might be extended. The President here mentioned, amidst applause, that the late Mrs. Cecil Speldewinde had made a generous bequest of Rs. 2,000 to the Union for Social Service, the interest from which would be available for this worthy object. The Genealogical Committee had done useful work in carefully investigating and reporting on the applications for membership submitted to them. The Special Sub-Committee appointed to make arrangements for St. Nicolaas' Fete had done their work most thoroughly and the result was a very successful function.

The President then proceeded to trace the causes which made for disunion in the community. He said the community was divided into three sections:—(1) the Holland Dutch section, that is those who wish to introduce Dutch culture into the community; (2) the Ceylonese Dutch section, who say they have nothing to do

with the Dutch and who wish to form a Ceylonese community; and (3) a large section who are quite satisfied with their present condition, who do not wish to be led, and who see nothing good in anything that is suggested to them. These factors, combined with the absence of a leader, conspired to keep the various units apart. He made a strong appeal for both united as well as individual action on the part of members to bring about a more satisfactory state of things, and expressed his strong conviction that the surest means of attaining this end was a knowledge of the Dutch language. (Applause).

Adoption of Report.

Mr. O. L. de Kretser in proposing the adoption of the Report and Accounts said that he felt sure that the President's inspiring address would commend itself to all the members. He was not going to disclose to which of the three categories he belonged, nor to discuss the merits of the suggestion put forward. The President had spoken of the difficulty of getting a leader. He felt sure that they would have been quite ready to follow Dr. Prins if he had given them a lead. He appreciated the good work done by the office bearers, especially the Secretary and the Treasurer. One had only to look round the hall to see the transformation that had been effected, and it must be very discouraging to the Secretary to find the attendance at the Club so poor. Personally he would like to see the Union more of a Union and less of a Club.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Wace de Niese, who said that in spite of the meagre support received, he was glad to find that the Union had emerged quite safely, thanks to the resourceful way in which the Treasurer had handled the funds.

Mr. D. V. Altendorff offered some remarks on the Report and Accounts, after which the motion for their adoption was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Election of President.

At this stage the President vacated the Chair, and on the motion of Mr. J. R. Toussaint, seconded by Mr. Wace de Niese, the Chair was occupied by Col. E. H. Joseph *pro tem*.

Col. Joseph on taking the Chair thanked the meeting for the honour they had done him. He remarked facetiously that he had

some misgivings in accepting the honour, because he did not know whether the stage would bear the combined weight of himself and the Secretary. Dr. Prins, in referring to the work done by the office-bearers, could not of course say anything of the part taken by the President. He would supply that deficiency and place on record their appreciation of the great services rendered by Dr. Prins during the two years he had held office. Even if Dr. Prins had done nothing else, he had rendered a great service not only to the Union but to the Community in permitting them to have such a perfect gentleman as their President (loud applause). His chief charm was this modesty. His (the speaker's) duty was both pleasant and sad. The pleasant part of it was to record a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Prins. At the same time they had to bid him farewell as that would be his last appearance as President of the Union owing to his departure from Ceylon for good. In order that they might keep in touch with Dr. Prins, he thought it would be a good idea to appoint him Minister Plenipotentiary in Holland for the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon. (Laughter). He called upon the meeting to propose the name of a successor to Dr. Prins in the Presidential Chair.

Mr. D. V. Altendorff said that the community was fortunate in having many members who would adorn the Presidential Chair, but at this stage in the history of the Union they wanted as President one who was in touch with both the older and the younger members, and the one who possessed this qualification in the highest degree was Dr. H. U. Leembruggen (loud applause). Dr. Leembruggen was connected with the Union from its very inception and had done everything in his power to promote its objects. The interests of the Union would be absolutely safe in his hands and he was confident that his proposal would meet with the unanimous support of the meeting.

Sir Stewart Schneider said that he had been asked to second the motion and did so with the greatest pleasure. A good deal had already been said by the mover in regard to Dr. Leembruggen's qualifications for the office. He would like to add one other qualification which in his opinion the President should possess. He should be a gentleman who was typical of the Dutch Burgher Community, one who stood in the eyes of the people—not of the Dutch Burghers alone but of the people of the island—in a position of

trust and confidence and prominence. Dr. Leembruggen possessed those qualifications, and he had therefore great pleasure in seconding the motion. (Applause).

The motion was put to the meeting and carried with acclamation. Dr. Leembruggen then occupied the Chair and thanked the meeting sincerely for their very generous action in electing a humble individual like himself to that high office.

Election of Secretary.

Col. E. H. Joseph in proposing the re-election of Mr. A. N. Weinman as Honorary Secretary said that it was with the greatest difficulty they had induced Mr. Weinman to carry on for another year, and he was sure they could not possibly have anybody better.

Mr. F. E. Loos seconded the motion, which on being put to the meeting was carried unanimously. Mr. Weinman thanked the meeting for his re-election.

Election of Treasurer.

Mr. Rosslyn Koch proposed the election of Mr. Gerald Mack as Honorary Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Mr. W. W. Beling and carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. D. V. Altendorff seconded by Mr. Wace de Neise, a hearty vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Rosslyn Koch for his services as Treasurer.

Election of Committee.

The following gentlemen were appointed to serve on the Committee on the motion of the Honorary Secretary, seconded by Mr. Alex. Vander Straaten :—

COLOMBO: Messrs. D. V. Altendorff, E. A. Vander Straaten, E. Reimers, L. E. Blazé, W. S. Christoffelsz, the Hon. Mr. Allan Driberg, Messrs. N. E. Ernst, E. F. N. Gratiaen, Dr. F. Foenander, Messrs. F. C. W. Van Geyzel, G. H. Gratiaen, W. W. Beling, Col. E. H. Joseph, Messrs. A. E. Keuneman, J. G. Paulusz, A. H. Martin, J. H. O. Paulusz, Rosslyn Koch, T. D. Mack, Wace de Niese, Frank E. Loos, Rex Wambeek, F. W. de Vos, Dr. R. L. Spittel, Messrs. J. R. Toussaint, Kenneth de Kretser, G. A. Wille, Dr. Michael de Jong, Messrs. R. S. V. Poulhier and O. L. de Kretser.

OUT-STATIONS: Messrs. G. H. Altendorff, C. P. Brohier, Dr. V. H. L. Anthonisz, Mr. G. P. Keuneman, Dr. E. Ludovici, Messrs. R.

L. Brohier, L. G. Poulhier, Dr. Andreas Nell, Mr. C. E. de Vos, Col. A. C. B. Jonklaas, Dr. H. Ludovici, Mr. E. H. vander Wall, Dr. V. van Langenberg, Messrs. E. J. Buultjens and W. Ludovici.

Election of Auditors.

Mr. Wace de Niese proposed the re-election of Messrs. Krishna & Rogers as Auditors, the question of their remuneration being left to the General Committee. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

The Chairman announced that the motion to amend rule 6, of which notice has been given by Mr. J. R. Toussaint, would not be moved by him.

Vote of Thanks to Chair.

After a hearty vote of thanks to the Chair proposed by Col. Joseph and duly seconded, a collection was taken in aid of the Social Service Fund and realised Rs. 57-80. This was followed by the presentation of a silver cigarette box to Dr. Prins by his friends in the Union as a memento of his long and happy association with them. Dr. Leembruggen in handing over the souvenir referred at length to the departing President's invaluable services to the Union from its very inception. Dr. Prins replied suitably.

Twenty-fourth Annual Report.

Your Committee have pleasure in submitting the following report for the year 1931 :—

Membership—Ten new members were admitted during the year, of whom two have not paid their entrance fee and hence have not been taken on the books, while the loss by resignation and death was 21. Thirteen members were struck off for non-payment of Club dues. The number of members on the roll on December, 31st, 1931, was 299 as compared with 325 on 31st December, 1930.

Office-Bearers—At the last Annual General Meeting Dr. L. A. Prins, Messrs. A. N. Weinman and Rosslyn Koch were unanimously re-elected President, Hony. Secretary and Hony. Treasurer, respectively.

General Committee—Eleven meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of 15.7. Mr. M. S. Christoffelsz and Dr. L. O. Weinman were elected to fill vacancies on the Committee.

Work of Standing Committees.

1.—Committee for Ethical and Literary Purposes.—

Mr. L. E. Blazé, who was re-elected Secretary and Convener of this Committee, was even more enterprising than he was last year, with the result that a full programme of Lectures was arranged for. On the 8th May, 1931, Mr. A. R. Hughes lectured on "The Birds of Ceylon" and exhibited interesting specimens. A question raised at this lecture on the Devil Bird led to a lively discussion in the newspapers. On the 19th June, Mrs. R. L. Spittel lectured on "Some Ghost Stories" and some of the personal experiences of members of the audience had to be cut short owing to the lateness of the hour. On the 5th August, Mr. P. E. P. Deraniyagala spoke on "Varsity Days in England and America." On the 16th of October Mr. Guy O. Grenier gave an interesting analysis of Hall Caine's "The Christian." The lectures were interesting and proved a popular attraction, judging from the large numbers present. Another lecture on "Curiosities of early British Legislation in Ceylon" by Mr. J. B. Toussaint had to be postponed on account of bad weather.

2. Committee for Purposes of Genealogical Research.—

Dr. H. U. Leembruggen was re-elected Hony. Secretary and Convener and continued the good work commenced by him the previous year. Five meetings were held during the year and nine applications for membership considered, of which 6 were recommended for election and 3 referred back owing to insufficient data being submitted. There has been a drop in the applications for membership which is regrettable, and it is hoped that the Committee for Increasing the Membership will go into the matter.

3. Committee for Purposes of Social Service—The work of this branch has been carried out with great care and efficiency by Mr. Wace de Niese, Hony. Secretary and Treasurer of the Fund, assisted by Mrs. E. G. Gratiaen and a willing Committee. The Balance Sheet appears elsewhere.

4. Committee for Purposes of Entertainment and Sport—Several Bridge Drives organized by Mrs. W. G. Mack and Mrs. F. G. W. van Geyzel, a Nigger Minstrel Entertainment by Mr. Donovan Andree, a Cinema show by Mr. Frank Leembruggen, a Variety Entertainment by Mr. L. C. van Geyzel, a good many

Sundown and Cinderella Dances, the usual Race Ball, and the New Year Eve Dance provided an unusually large number of highly enjoyable and most successful functions. Every one of these left a credit balance, and together with the amount realized from the two sweepstakes run during the year under review, the total amount earned by this Committee for the Entertainment Fund was Rs. 623-01. A large number of articles were purchased for the Club out of this money, unsightly furniture and electric light shades replaced, the hall which badly needed attention tastefully and artistically decorated at a very special rate by Mr. Fritz Drieberg, and in addition to all this, a donation was made to the Social Service Fund. This Committee has been amazingly active and we are most grateful to the Members for the hard work put in by them. Special mention has to be made of one lady who not only organized all the Bridge Drives with her sister, but lent a hand in every other function as well, and took the keenest possible interest in making the Club attractive. We wish to record our appreciation and thanks to Mrs. W. G. Mack.

We would like members to take particular note that the improvements of the Club have been carried out solely with money earned by the Entertainment Committee and that it has not cost the Union a cent. We are very proud of this fact and think ourselves very fortunate in having had such a keen working Committee. The following figures speak for themselves and further comment is superfluous:—

Entertainment Account

Amount brought forward to 1931 account	Rs. 100-18	
" earned in 1931	Rs. 623-01	
" spent in 1931		640-31
" Balance carried forward		82-88
		723-19
		723-19

Honour conferred on a Member of the Union—We have this year much pleasure in congratulating our worthy President on the well deserved honour conferred on him. Dr. Prins was awarded the Imperial Service Order by his Majesty the King in recognition of his splendid record in the Ceylon Medical Department. It will not be out of place to mention here that Dr. Prins,

who is retiring shortly, will be leaving Ceylon and that we shall not be able to have him as our President this year. We feel that he has filled the Presidential Chair for much too brief a period, and the fact that he is leaving us so soon will be widely deplored. Notwithstanding his quiet, retiring and unobtrusive manners, he has been a most popular figure at the Club, and to know him was to esteem him. He will be widely and sincerely missed.

The D. B. U. Journal has appeared with commendable regularity and reflects the greatest credit on Mr. J. R. Toussaint, to whom it is a labour of love. The standard is if anything higher than it ever was before, and its value is much appreciated by those competent to judge. It is a serious reflection on our members that the Journal does not receive better support.

Reading Room and Library—Well stocked with a varied selection of periodicals and now comfortably and tastefully furnished, the Reading Room is really attractive and it is a matter for regret that more use is not made of the facilities offered.

Armistice Day—A wreath of Poppies was placed on the War Memorial in Colombo, on Armistice Day, on behalf of the Union.

St. Nicholaas' Fete—This annual festival was celebrated in the usual manner on the 5th December and was a great success. The hall was beautifully decorated and a band of ladies under the capable management of Mrs. F. Foenander saw to the refreshments, while Mrs. F. E. Loos and her helpers looked after the distribution of toys. A couple of jugglers had been requisitioned to amuse the little ones, and the Chelsea Band provided excellent music, to the strains of which the younger members danced after the children had been sent home.

Finances—The accounts of the Hony. Treasurer, duly audited by Messrs. Krishna and Rogers, are submitted herewith from which it will be seen that the excess of income over expenditure for the year amounts to Rs. 182-09. Your Committee desire to draw attention to the large sum of Rs. 2,009-95 outstanding on account of Subscriptions, and to point out the urgent necessity of members who are in arrears remitting their dues promptly and thus helping to place the finances on a more satisfactory footing. The Committee are glad to report that there is now every prospect of

the amount misappropriated by the late clerk, viz., Rs. 2,140-31, being recovered, as a sum of Rs. 50-00 has already been received as a first instalment.

Conclusion—Your Committee would impress on members the obligation that rests on them to support more whole-heartedly the various activities of the Union. Everything has been done to popularize the Union, and it is to be regretted that members have not yet realized that its prosperity depends entirely on the amount of their patronage. The attendance is still decidedly poor and the Committee would once again ask members to make it a point to drop in at the Club at least once a week and thus help to keep the Institution alive.

AUBREY N. WEINMAN,

Hony. Secretary, Dutch Burgher Union.

Colombo, 15th Feb., 1932.



DUTCH BURGHER UNION.

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1931.

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
To Rent	1,800	00	By Entrance Fees	40	00
Less: Room Rents recovered	280	00	Subscriptions	4,900	50
	1,520	00	Billiards	136	84
Electric lighting, etc.	436	10	Cards	61	45
Bulbs, Rent of Fans, etc.	69	80	Refreshments	6	04
Gas		52		204	33
Wages of Butler, Waiter & Markers	1,664	50	Profit on:—		
Telephone Rent		203	Spirits	786	74
Subscription to Newspapers and Periodicals		148	Wines	133	95
Books & Stationery		428	Liquor	94	25
Salary of clerks		830	Ales & Stout	87	85
Commission on Subscriptions collected		143	Cigars & Cigarettes	63	68
Audit Fee		50	Aerated waters	162	32
Postage Stamps		201	Sundry Income:—		
Upkeep of Premises		341	Interest on fixed Deposit	20	10
Wreaths, Repairs, etc.		227	Lease of trees	6	00
Excess of Income over Expenditure		182		1,328	79
		6,499		6,499	72

DUTCH BURGHER UNION.

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1931.

LIABILITIES		ASSETS			
	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
SUNDRY CREDITORS:			FURNITURE		
Dutch Burgher Union of				722	23
Ceylon Bldg. Co. Ltd.			PIANO		750
Rent for May to December, 1931	1,200		SUNDRY DEBTORS:		
Director of Electrical Undertakings		35	Amount due by members		
Frewin & Co.		4	on a/c. Subscription		
J. R. Toussaint		10	tion	2,009	95
Fentons Ltd.		19	Amount due by		
K. P. Joseph & Amath		12	members on a/c.		
Krishna & Rogers		50	Bar	673	75
		2,140	Amount said to have been	2,683	70
		6,499	misappropriated by former		
			clerk, S. Perumal	2,140	31

..
	cals	148	41	Wines	133	95	
..	Books & Stationery	428	98	Liquor	94	25	
..	Salary of clerks.	830	00	Ales & Stout	87	85	
..	Commission on Subscriptions collected	143	20	Cigars & Cigarettes	63	68	
..	Audit Fee	50	00	Aerated waters	162	32	1,328 79
..	Postage Stamps	201	01	.. Sundry Income:—			
..	Upkeep of Premises	341	50	Interest on fixed Deposit	20	10	
..	Wreaths, Repairs, etc.	227	88	Lease of trees	6	00	26 10
..	Excess of Income over Expenditure	182	09				
		<u>Rs. 6,499</u>	<u>72</u>				<u>Rs. 6,499</u>
							<u>72</u>

DUTCH BURGHER UNION.

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1931.

LIABILITIES				ASSETS	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.
					c.
SUNDRY CREDITORS:				FURNITURE	722
Dutch Burgber Union of				PIANO	23
Ceylon Bldg. Co. Ltd.				SUNDRY DEBTORS:	750
Rent for May to December, 1931	1,200			Amount due by members	
Director of Electrical Undertakings	35			on a/c. Subscription	2,009
Frewin & Co.	4			Amount due by members on a/c.	
J. R. Toussaint	10			Bar	673 75
Fentons Ltd.	19			Amount said to have been misappropriated by former clerk, S. Perumal	2,140 31
K. P. Joseph & Amath	12			T K. Carron	3 95
Krishna & Rogers	50			Payment in advance of un-expired portion of subscription to Telephone	67 86
Gas & Water Co. Ltd.	4				4,895 82
Luxman Press	6			STOCK:	
	1,241	59		Value of spirits, wines etc. in hand	405 08
Miller & Co. Ltd.	201			18 Copies "Dutch in Ceylon"	90 00
Cargills Ltd.	165			FIXED DEPOSIT:	
New Colombo Ice Co Ltd.	75		1,783 19	With Director of Electrical Undertakings	100 00
SECURITY DEPOSIT:				CASH:	
K. P. Joseph	40			At Chartered Bank of India Ltd.	374 80
Library Deposit	25		65 00	In hand	7 33
St. Nicholaas' Fete Entertainment Account	66	91			382 13
	82	88	149 79		
Beling Memorial Fund Debentures					
			475 86		
MEMBERS:			557 66		
Amount paid in advance on a/c. Subscription	30				
Amount paid in advance on a/c. Bar	8		38 21		
			<u>Carried over Rs. 3,069</u>		<u>71</u>
					<u>Carried over Rs. 7,345</u>
					<u>26</u>

DUTCH BURGHER UNION

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DUTCH BURGHER UNION.

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1931.—(Continued)

LIABILITIES

Brought forward Rs. 3,069 71

ASSETS

Brought forward Rs. 7,345 26

SURPLUS ACCOUNT:

Balance as per last a/c.	4,604 79	
Add amount at credit written off	50 75	4,655 54
Less amount irrecoverable	487 08	
Add amount paid to Messrs. Ford Rhodes Thornton & Co.	75 00	562 08
		4,093 46
Add excess of Income over Expenditure	182 09	4,275 55
		Rs. 7,345 26

Rs. 7,345 26

Certified as correct subject to our Report of this date.

KRISHNA & ROGERS,
Accountants & Auditors.

ROSSLYN KOCH,
Hony. Treasurer,

Colombo, 25th January, 1932

Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

DUTCH BURGHER UNION BENEVOLENT FUND.

	Rs. c.		
To Balance (1-1-1932)	744 36	By Disbursements	1143 79
		.. Bank Charges	12 50
.. Donors to the Fund for the year were :-		.. Balance as per C/Book	173 07
Mrs. Isabel Loos, Mrs. E. H. Joseph,			
Mrs. L. M. Maartensz, Mrs. Muriel			
Leembruggen, Mrs. Frank Loos, Dr.			
Donald Schokman, Dr. Herman Chris-			

Income	4,093 46	
Expenditure	182 09	4,275 55
	<u>Rs. 7,345 26</u>	

Rs. 7,345 26

Correct subject
of this date.

KRISHNA & ROGERS,
Accountants & Auditors.

ROSSLYN KOCH,
Hon'y. Treasurer,
Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

January, 1932

DUTCH BURGHER UNION BENEVOLENT FUND.

1-1932)	Rs. c.	By Disbursements:	1143 79
	744 36	.. Bank Charges	12 50
		.. Balance as per C/Book	<u>173 07</u>

The Fund for the year were:-
 J. L. Loos, Mrs. E. H. Joseph,
 M. Maartensz, Mrs. Muriel
 van den Berg, Mrs. Frank Loos, Dr.
 J. van der Meulen, Dr. Herman Chris-
 tian, Dr. H. U. Leembruggen, Dr.
 J. van der Meer, Dr. E. R. Loos, Messrs.
 J. van der Meer, D. V. Altendorff,
 J. van der Meer, Moritz Chris-
 tian, D. Mack, W. Ludovici, L.
 van der Meer, C. P. Brohier, G. P.
 Alex. vander Straaten,
 Lionel Wendt and Vernon

	585 00	
Rs.	<u>1329 36</u>	Rs. <u>1329 36</u>

DR. LORENZ PRINS.

Dr. Lorenz Arthur Prins belongs to a family whose first representatives in Ceylon arrived in 1690, only fifty years after the fort of Galle was taken from the Portuguese by the Dutch. Perhaps the best remembered of his ancestors is Major Francois Albert Prins, who went to Kandy in January 1770 as Ambassador from Governor Falek to King Kirti Sri Raja Sinha of Kandy. This Major was the great grandfather of Mr. F. A. Prins, the Matale Proctor, whose simple life, personal integrity, and sociableness made him the trusted leader of all communities in Matale. His son is the Doctor who now retires from official service, and who has worthily maintained the best traditions of his distinguished family.

Educated at Trinity College, Kandy, where he was Captain of the School, and at S. Thomas' College, Mutwal, where "his steady application to his work and his conscientious behaviour" made itself felt, he entered the Ceylon Medical College, and took his licence in 1895. In January 1896 began his career under the Ceylon Government. In 1900 he was appointed one of Dr. Garvin's assistants in the Boer Camp at Diyatalawa, and here, doubtless, he developed that passion for the language of his ancestors which has marked his career up to the present time. In 1905 he obtained the L. R. C. P. and S. Edinburgh, with an Honours Certificate of the London School of Tropical Medicine in 1906. After serving at various stations in Ceylon he was for six and a half years (1909-16) seconded for service as Medical Officer, Tuticorin, and for five and a half years (1916-22) he was Medical Officer, Nuwara Eliya. From 1923 to April 1930 he was Inspecting Medical Officer, and then filled in rapid succession the posts of Assistant Director and Deputy Director of Medical Services. Such is his official record, to which must be added a short sojourn in the Colombo Municipal Council, as a nominated official member.

Wherever Dr. Prins was stationed, and in whatever capacity he was employed, he consistently displayed the same qualities of devotion to duty, conscientiousness, and a "cheering perseverance" which his colleagues at S. Thomas's College noted, and which has proved of invaluable assistance to those who worked with him in

later life. His high sense of honour saved him from becoming the tool of designing men. His geniality towards men of all stations in life, all races, and all creeds, made him one of our most popular citizens, yet no one presumed to take any undue liberty with him. When at the General Meeting of the Dutch Burgher Union he was described as "a perfect gentleman", every one felt that the right word had been spoken, and there was no need of any other.

His intimate association with Mr. B. G. Anthonisz in founding the Union is well known. The two were Joint Secretaries in the preliminary arrangements for constituting the Union, and it was quite fitting that when Mr. Anthonisz died the office of President should devolve on his younger colleague. From that office he has now retired, after steering the ship for two years through difficult waters.

Dr. Prins was married in England, in June 1906, to Miss Winifred Florence van Cuylenburg, daughter of Mr. Arthur van Cuylenburg, Inspector of Schools in Ceylon. Mrs. Prins is a lady of rare ability, and in Colombo, Tuticorin, and Nuwara Eliya, took a leading part in the social activities of the place. She has contributed to the JOURNAL, but her long residence in England for the education of her children has not made her so frequent a contributor as we would wish.

Everywhere tributes have been paid to Dr. Prins's professional skill, his tact, his generosity, his geniality, and his high personal character. A word may be permitted to record his loyalty as a friend. The epigrams and satires on human friendship are familiar to all of us; but they have not succeeded in improving matters very considerably, and true friends are still exceedingly rare. Dr. Prins was always ready to help anyone in a difficulty, and he would even go out of his way for that purpose. There must be many who owe much to his friendship, and one who has that honour desires to offer his full and ready homage to the courage and chivalry of a very gallant gentleman.

L. E. B.

REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

"A Refuge from Civilisation and other Trifles" BY R. JONES-BATEMAN (*Edward Arnold*).—This is a book about the Wannai, particularly the Mullaitivu District, which, however, Mr. Jones-Bateman does not regard as properly a part of the Wannai. It is not a guide-book for the casual visitor, but a book for all readers who wish for revealing glimpses of the "soul" of a people. Most people in Ceylon know very little of the Wannai; to read this book is to wish to go there, in spite of the heat, the mosquitoes, and the malaria. There indeed is a refuge from the artificial existence we call civilization, where the people are lazy, thriftless, and lacking in material ambitions; where they are seldom ready for anything at the proper time; where even a herd of spotted deer will "hardly get out of the way of the bus, and when they did move, only moved to the side of the road"; where *Tavanai* (postponement) is a normal order of the law court. On the other hand, they have the jungle virtues. They are good-humoured and hospitable; they are truthful, except when in contact with civilization; they do not repudiate debts; and they are honest. At a time of famine, rice for distribution was "dumped anywhere, with nobody responsible for it, and no place in which to lock it up, in a village of starving people. It is expecting a lot of human nature under the circumstances to assume, as I did, that none would be stolen; but during the whole course of the famine, none was stolen except at one place where the offender was an opulent outsider and not a native of the Wannai."

Is it wise or desirable that such people should be educated and brought into contact with the outside world? Mr. Jones-Bateman seems to think it is not, and here we fear we cannot agree with him. It is the old question again, whether people should be kept in their proper stations where they are happy, honest,—and ignorant. But there are degrees and kinds of happiness. The jungle virtues might still be cultivated in civilized surroundings, though it may be difficult.

We have nothing but praise for this little book, and for an author who shows so much discernment and sympathy.

"Malabar and the Dutch." BY K. M. PANIKKAR.—This book is a survey of the Dutch connection with Malabar which began from the capture of Cochin from the Portuguese in 1663 and ended with the surrender of that place to the English under Major Petrie in 1795. The author has been at great pains to consult all the available literature on the subject, not only in India but also in the India Office in London and at the Hague, and the result is a very readable and trustworthy account of a period which is of very great interest to us, coinciding as it does with the period of the Dutch occupation of Ceylon. It was shortly after the capture of Colombo in 1656 that the Dutch turned their attention to the Malabar Coast, on a request from one of the Native Princes that they should undertake the expulsion of the Portuguese who had made themselves obnoxious by forcible interference in the affairs of that State. Having ousted the Portuguese from Cochin, Van Goens took in hand the consolidation of the commercial and political power of the Company on the Malabar Coast, and the book deals with the various steps taken by the Dutch to that end. One cannot rise from a perusal of the book without being impressed by the impartiality displayed by the author, who, while unsparing in his criticism of the policy adopted by the Dutch where he conceives that policy to have been open to question, is nevertheless always ready to apportion praise where praise is deserved. Even when he is most severe on the Dutch his criticism is never unkind. Altogether, Mr. Panikkar's book is a valuable contribution to a not very well known subject, and a copy should be in the possession of every student of Dutch history.



NOTES AND QUERIES.

Our New President: We offer our hearty congratulations to Dr. H. U. Leembruggen on his election to the Presidential Chair in succession to Dr. L. A. Prins. Richly favoured in ancestry, in mental gifts, and in the social graces, Dr. Leembruggen is the exemplification of the Dutch Burgher type at its best. He fills, in public life, a post of high distinction; and yet, so wide has been the range of his interests, that while achieving success in his career, he has kept himself constantly abreast, in art, in letters, and in all the humanities, with the best culture of the times. He is equally at home in the literature of England, France or Holland; he is a hunter of big game; he can speak at a moment's notice on any subject in any one of half a dozen languages; he has fought in the Great War. He spends his vacations in travelling to the remotest corners of the globe. In social life, his influence, especially among the younger members of the community, is paramount. He has always been vigilant for their interests; on their behalf he is inspired by definite aims and ambitions. And, most precious of all gifts to the President of the Union, he has, ready at command, the soft answer, the smooth word that will turn away wrath, and deprive argument of its heat and debate of its acrimony. We are confident that the interests of the Union are quite safe in his hands.

D. B. U. Lectures: An interesting talk on "Stamps and Stamp Collecting" was given by Mr. Percy de Worms of London at the Union Hall on 5th February. The Chair was taken by Mr. O. L. de Kretser. At the conclusion of the talk, several members asked questions and much useful information was elicited.

Obituary: We regret to record the death of Mr. T. R. Modder which occurred at his residence in Bambalapitiya on Monday, 1st February, 1932. The deceased was a member of long standing, and was a familiar figure at the Annual General Meetings as well as at lectures and social functions held in the Union Hall. At a Meeting of the Committee held on 2nd February a vote of condolence was proposed by the Chairman.

Another death which we have to deplore is that of Mr. W. H. Schokman of Matara. The deceased was a brother of the late Dr. G. P. Schokman, and was married to Miss Antoinette Beling.

The greater part of his life was spent in Matara where he looked after his own and his brother's coconut estates. He was therefore rarely seen at the Union Hall, but he nevertheless took a warm interest in its doings, and his purse was always open to any calls made on it on behalf of the community. He was one of the staunchest supporters of the JOURNAL—a publication which he valued very highly. His death is a distinct loss both to the Union as well as to the community.

A Unique Appointment: In the month of January Lieut.-Colonel W. E. V. de Rooy, Officer Commanding the Ceylon Engineers, was appointed to act as Commandant of the Ceylon Defence Force during the temporary absence of Col. E. B. Ferrers, D. S. O. We believe this is the first occasion on which such an appointment has been made, and we congratulate Colonel de Rooy on the distinction conferred on him.

The Work of Reclamation in Holland: "E.H.V." writes: "When I visited Holland for the first time in 1921, I sent an account of my visit for publication in this Journal, from which I take the following extract:

"A vast scheme to reclaim the Zuider Zee is now in operation and work has gone on for two years. It is estimated that completion will be reached in thirty years. The Dutch will undoubtedly see the thing through."

"More than ten years have passed since and already over 700 acres of reclaimed land are under cultivation. Bread is being made from grain grown on the land and sheep are grazing where there was deep water less than two years ago.

"Dr. Lely, the father of the scheme, estimated that the whole work of reclamation would be completed by 1952, when over a thousand square miles of new land would be added to Holland. Nothing would then be left of the Zuider Zee except a lake of brackish water to be called the Yssel Lake.

"On February 10th, 1930, the pumping plants were set going and the actual draining of the first Zuider Zee polder was begun. Pumps capable of draining more than 1,000,000,000 gallons a day were used. Over the total area of the Wieringermeerpolder of 50,000 acres, this meant a fall of the level of about 0.8 inches a day.

"Though the capacity of the pumps decreased as the level was lowered, the velocity of falling remained practically constant, because the area to be drained decreased in consequence of the higher parts of the polder emerging above the water.

"From February 10th to April 1st 1930 the polder was drained by 40 inches. In this period the rainfall was small and very little trouble was experienced from the pumping plants.

"When the area of the polder emerged above the water, pumping operations ceased and draining to regulate the levels in the canals took its place.

"After irrigation canals had been constructed to rid the land of salt, it was found possible to sow rape seed and rye. Near the former island of Wieringen where the ex-German Crown Prince found refuge, the land has been sown and harvested. And now, the Dutch are concentrating their efforts in making the Wieringermeer more and more habitable. Roads and canals have been constructed and gas, water and electricity laid down. A post office has been opened and matters of public health are receiving attention. Soon a railway will be constructed over the dyke connecting North Holland with Wieringen.

"To us in Ceylon, this is a fascinating story. Does it not inspire in us, who read it with interest and pride, deeds of high resolve? Here too, there is plenty of spade work in reclamation, above all the reclamation of the objects for which the Dutch Burgher Union was founded and to which our founder, Mr. R. G. Anthonisz, of revered memory, dedicated his life.

"And like the Dutch, we must achieve it, for otherwise we shall prove unworthy of the blood we inherit from our sires."

The Government Archives: We would draw the attention of our readers to the article on the Government Archives appearing elsewhere. Dr. Van Kan seems to have made very good use of the short time which he spent in Ceylon, and has produced a report which will be extremely useful as a work of reference to students of the Dutch period, containing as it does a fairly comprehensive list of the Dutch archives both in the Government Record Office as well as in the Dutch Churches at Colombo, Galle, and Matara and the Colombo Museum. It will be noticed that Dr. Van Kan is not quite satisfied with the catalogues prepared by the late

Mr. R. G. Anthonisz. We believe Dr. Godee Molsbergen also, in his report on the Dutch records in 1929, remarked that he did not find these catalogues quite come up to his expectations, but we are inclined to think that these two learned gentlemen are aiming at the ideal rather than the practical. The present Archivist has been in office since the year 1921, and if the catalogues are as defective as they are represented to be, it is inconceivable that he should have omitted to take steps all these years to effect an improvement.

To Our Subscribers: With this issue of the Journal subscriptions paid for 1931-32 lapse. A new Volume opens with the next issue. Members are kindly requested to remit their subscription of Rs. 5 as early as possible to Mr. J. R. Toussaint, "Muresk", Clifford Place, Bambalapitiya.



NOTES OF EVENTS.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Tuesday, 15th December, 1931:—(1) Passed vote of condolence on death of Mr. W. Denis de Vos. (2) A report from the Sub-Committee appointed to look into the question of curtailment of expenditure was read and deferred for consideration at the next meeting. (3) A Sub-Committee consisting of Dr. L. A. Prins, Mr. E. A. Vander Straaten, and Mr. J. R. Toussaint was appointed to submit the names of suitable persons as successors to Messrs. A. N. Weinman and Rosslyn Koch as Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer respectively. (4) The following Sub-Committee was appointed to inquire into and report on the desirability or otherwise of reverting to the old arrangement of Union and Club as separate entities:—Dr. R. L. Spittel, Messrs. F. C. W. van Geysel, Rosslyn Koch, J. R. Toussaint, E. H. Vander Wall, W. G. Mack, and E. F. N. Gratiaen. (5) The following resignations of membership were accepted with regret:—Messrs. Colin Reimers, Basil Driberg, and James Piachaud.

Tuesday, 19th January, 1932:—(1) The report of the Sub-Committee appointed to report on the curtailment of expenditure was tabled and deferred for consideration. (2) The Secretary tabled the accounts of the last Bridge Drive organised by Mrs. W. G. Mack and the Variety Entertainment organised by Mr. L. C. Van Geysel, shewing credit balances of Rs. 11 and Rs. 65 respectively. He informed the meeting that the profit on the Bridge Drive had been spent on a new lamp for the ante-room, and that of the amount realised from the Variety Entertainment, Rs. 50 had been handed to the Social Service Fund, and Rs. 15 to the St. Mary's Poor Fund. The Secretary's action was approved. (3) Resolved that the whole question of the finances of the Union be reviewed in three months. (4) The date of the Annual General Meeting was fixed for 27th February, and a Sub-Committee was appointed to revise the draft Report. (5) The following resignations of membership were accepted with regret:—Mr. L. P. Stork and Mr. H. P. Vander Straaten. (6) A Sub-Committee consisting of the President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and Mr. A. E. Keuneman was appointed to advise how the legacy of Rs. 1,075 left by Mrs. F. G. Speldewinde should be invested.

16th February, 1932:—(1) Passed a vote of condolence on the death of Mr. T. R. Modder. (2) Resolved that the Speldewinde Trust money be placed at fixed deposit with Messrs. Thomas Cook & Sons. (3) Resolved that the report of the Sub-Committee on the curtailment of expenditure be held over for the new Committee to deal with. (4) The Honorary Secretary reported payment of a sum of Rs. 50 by Dr. Blazé towards liquidation of the amount misappropriated by the late clerk. (5) Passed Annual Report and Accounts. (6) As the Sub-Committee appointed to suggest names for the posts of Secretary and Treasurer were unable to make any recommendations, Mr. Weinman kindly agreed to continue in office provided he was given an Assistant, and Mr. W. G. Mack kindly agreed to take up the duties of Treasurer. (7) The Honorary Secretary tabled the accounts of the St. Nicolaas Fete and the New Year's Dance, the former shewing a debit balance of Rs. 21-47 and the latter a credit balance of Rs. 12. Resolved that the debit be charged to the amount at credit from the 1930 Fete and the profit on the Dance be credited to the Entertainment Fund. (8) Colonel Joseph proposed that the funds collected for the Garden Party to be given by the out-going Committee be utilised for Social Service purposes. The Honorary Secretary proposed as an amendment that the Garden Party be run as economically as possible and that any balance be handed over to the Social Service Fund. This was agreed to, and the following Committee was appointed to organise the Garden Party: Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Mack, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Loos, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Toussaint, Mrs. N. E. Ernst, and the Honorary Secretary. (9) The following new members were admitted—Dr. Eric Swan, Mr. Dervyck Swan, and Miss Ada Prins. (10) Read letters from Messrs. S. J. C. Schokman and L. G. Vollenhoven resigning their membership. Resolved to ask them to reconsider their decisions. (11) Mr. J. R. Toussaint gave notice of a motion for the Annual General Meeting to provide for the election of Life Members.



EDITORIAL NOTES.

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

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

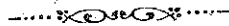
The Journal will be issued at the end of every quarter, post free, to each member of the Union who pays a subscription of Rs. 5/- per annum towards its cost of publication. Literary and other contributions are invited and should be sent to Mr. J. R. Toussaint, "Muresk", Clifford Place, Bambalapitiya,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

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

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

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

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



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NOTES AND QUERIES.

Our New President: We offer our hearty congratulations to Dr. H. U. Leembruggen on his election to the Presidential Chair in succession to Dr. L. A. Prins. Richly favoured in ancestry, in mental gifts, and in the social graces, Dr. Leembruggen is the exemplification of the Dutch Burgher type at its best. He fills, in public life, a post of high distinction; and yet, so wide has been the range of his interests, that while achieving success in his career, he has kept himself constantly abreast, in art, in letters, and in all the humanities, with the best culture of the times. He is equally at home in the literature of England, France or Holland; he is a hunter of big game; he can speak at a moment's notice on any subject in any one of half a dozen languages; he has fought in the Great War. He spends his vacations in travelling to the remotest corners of the globe. In social life, his influence, especially among the younger members of the community, is paramount. He has always been vigilant for their interests; on their behalf he is inspired by definite aims and ambitions. And, most precious of all gifts to the President of the Union, he has, ready at command, the soft answer, the smooth word that will turn away wrath, and deprive argument of its heat and debate of its acrimony. We are confident that the interests of the Union are quite safe in his hands.

D. B. U. Lectures: An interesting talk on "Stamps and Stamp Collecting" was given by Mr. Percy de Worms of London at the Union Hall on 5th February. The Chair was taken by Mr. O. L. de Kretser. At the conclusion of the talk, several members asked questions and much useful information was elicited.

Obituary: We regret to record the death of Mr. T. R. Modder which occurred at his residence in Bambalapitiya on Monday, 1st February, 1932. The deceased was a member of long standing, and was a familiar figure at the Annual General Meetings as well as at lectures and social functions held in the Union Hall. At a Meeting of the Committee held on 2nd February a vote of condolence was proposed by the Chairman.

Another death which we have to deplore is that of Mr. W. H. Schokman of Matara. The deceased was a brother of the late Dr. G. P. Schokman, and was married to Miss Antoinette Beling.

The greater part of his life was spent in Matara where he looked after his own and his brother's coconut estates. He was therefore rarely seen at the Union Hall, but he nevertheless took a warm interest in its doings, and his purse was always open to any calls made on it on behalf of the community. He was one of the staunchest supporters of the JOURNAL—a publication which he valued very highly. His death is a distinct loss both to the Union as well as to the community.

A Unique Appointment: In the month of January Lieut.-Colonel W. E. V. de Rooy, Officer Commanding the Ceylon Engineers, was appointed to act as Commandant of the Ceylon Defence Force during the temporary absence of Col. E. B. Ferrers, D. S. O. We believe this is the first occasion on which such an appointment has been made, and we congratulate Colonel de Rooy on the distinction conferred on him.

The Work of Reclamation in Holland: "E.H.V." writes: "When I visited Holland for the first time in 1921, I sent an account of my visit for publication in this Journal, from which I take the following extract:

"A vast scheme to reclaim the Zuider Zee is now in operation and work has gone on for two years. It is estimated that completion will be reached in thirty years. The Dutch will undoubtedly see the thing through."

"More than ten years have passed since and already over 700 acres of reclaimed land are under cultivation. Bread is being made from grain grown on the land and sheep are grazing where there was deep water less than two years ago.

"Dr. Lely, the father of the scheme, estimated that the whole work of reclamation would be completed by 1952, when over a thousand square miles of new land would be added to Holland. Nothing would then be left of the Zuider Zee except a lake of brackish water to be called the Yssel Lake.

"On February 19th, 1930, the pumping plants were set going and the actual draining of the first Zuider Zee polder was begun. Pumps capable of draining more than 1,000,000,000 gallons a day were used. Over the total area of the Wieringermeerpolder of 50,000 acres, this meant a fall of the level of about 0.8 inches a day.