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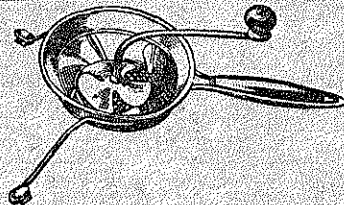
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Vol. XXVII.]

JANUARY, 1938.

[No. 3.]

Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.



"Eendracht maakt Macht"

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

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Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

VOL. XXVII.]

JANUARY, 1938.

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THE JOURNAL.

With this issue the *Journal* completes the thirtieth year of its publication—a period co-extensive with the life of the Union. The first number was issued for the quarter ended 31st March, 1908, and since then the *Journal* has made its appearance regularly, except for one or two slight breaks caused by unavoidable circumstances. For many years it was issued free to all members of the Union, but it was found that this caused a heavy drain on the funds, and in 1924 it was decided to charge an annual subscription of Rs. 5 for four quarterly issues. This new arrangement proved very satisfactory, a large number of members enrolling themselves as subscribers, with the result that it was possible to issue very full numbers containing articles of deep interest to the Community. During recent years, however, the number of subscribers has fallen off appreciably, and the funds available are barely sufficient to defray the cost of four quarterly issues. We admit that it is not every member of the Union who can afford to pay Rs. 5, but there are still a large number to whom this sum means nothing, and we appeal to them to enrol themselves as subscribers.



FREDERICK NELL.

FREDERICK NELL AND HIS LITERARY CIRCLE.

The year 1850 may be regarded in some respects as the golden age of literature in Ceylon, for it is that year which saw the birth of the magazine "Young Ceylon" which enabled the youth of the day to indulge their bent for literary pursuits. Although the Burgers had come into contact with the English half a century earlier, they had lacked the opportunities for acquiring such a knowledge of the language as would enable them to write it with facility. There is the well-authenticated story of one of their number—J. G. Hillebrand—who supplied the men of one of the Regiments stationed in Colombo with food and drink in return for teaching him English. This gentleman subsequently rose to be a Puisne Justice of the Supreme Court. The schools which grew up between 1796 and 1836 were not of a very high standard, but with the establishment of the Colombo Academy in the latter year education in Ceylon was put on a sound footing. Among the first students in the Academy were Frederick Nell, his brother Louis, Charles Lorenz, John Prins, Charles Ferdinands, James d'Alwis, and Dandris de Silva Gunaratna. In 1846 the Turnour Prize was instituted at the Academy for proficiency in Latin, English and History, and it was won by Frederick Nell. Lorenz ran him so close that he was awarded a special prize of £5.

One would have wished to know what sort of life the young men of this period led, and what were their recreations, but the literature of the day is almost silent on the point. The only picture preserved to us of the lighter moments of these young men is that from the pen of J. B. Siebel, who was a contemporary of the Nells, Lorenz, and others. In the course of his reminiscences he says:— "Having got to the Fort, I met my friends Charlie Ferdinands, his brother James, and Louis Nell at the junction of King and Baillie Streets, and we blithely trudged on with our kites to Galle Buck. If the wind was fair, our kites were up in a trice, and my friend James, who was a quiet fellow, and whose temper nothing could ruffle, was the one who helped us to put the kites into flying order. When we found the wind increasing, as it sometimes did at a terrible rate as soon as the sun dipped below the horizon, we rapidly hauled down our kites and climbed the nearest rock for a quiet

chat. When Louis Nell was in good form, he used to spin such delightful yarns that we simply listened to him open-mouthed, unconsciously allowing large quantities of sea-air to get into our lungs, and we roared with laughter till we could roar no more. Frederick Nell would also sometimes drop in on us, have a friendly chat with C. L. Ferdinands, to whom he was much attached, then climb the rocks, and after getting to the highest, whip out a book from his pocket and keep on reading. Sometimes he dropped the book and seemed to be in contemplation, the sea roaring all around him when the wind was high. It was supposed that the book he carried was Byron's "Childe Harold" and that he was trying to realise some of the favourite passages connected with the sea".

It must have been shortly after leaving the Academy that Frederick Nell and his friends started the Magazine "Young Ceylon". The first number was issued in February 1850 under the editorship of Frederick Nell, who has been credited with the possession of one of the profoundest minds of the day, and has been described as "a giant in head as he was a giant in limb". The "Editor's Address" with which the new magazine opened, does not differ very much from the usual run of school-boy productions. It declares that "the projectors of these sheets and contributors to them are Ceylonese, who have spent a few leisure hours in the undertaking for the entertainment and (possibly) information of their fellow-countrymen", and after quoting a Spanish Proverb and a Latin tag, it ends as follows:—"Should our attempt to entertain terminate in failure, we shall only regret the loss of a few perhaps too sanguine hopes, but should it answer even our moderate expectations, we should rejoice to find that our motives have been understood and our labours rewarded". At this stage it may be as well to state that "Young Ceylon" did not survive more than three years. The writer of an article in the "Ceylon Miscellany" of 1853 refers to "Young Ceylon" as "the first periodical publication set on foot by the natives of the country" and adds that "though we have heard criticisms freely passed upon it, though people thought the writings at times rhapsodical and found fault with the name, yet the candid reader will allow that the talent it displayed was most creditable to its spirited conductors, whose departure to England led to the cessation of the work in December 1852".

As far as I am aware, all Frederick Nell's known writings are confined to the Magazine "Young Ceylon". His style is lofty and robust and he expresses himself with refreshing clearness.

He also wrote very good poetry. In the first volume of "Young Ceylon" he published some verses purporting to be an imitation of the Odes of Horace, and the judgment pronounced on them by a competent critic is that they are characterised by "ease of elegance and sweetness of diction".

Frederick Nell accompanied Lorenz to England in 1853. He had a distinguished career at Cambridge, entered Lincoln's Inn, was admitted a Barrister, and returned to Ceylon. In 1862 he was acting Deputy Queen's Advocate for the Southern Circuit. Advocate J. H. Eaton in his reminiscences of Lorenz gives us a good idea of the kind of man Frederick Nell was. He says:—"One listened to his conversation (of which he generally took the lion's share), clothed as it was in a rare and choice mastery of words, just as one would listen to a Professor or Philosopher. Out of the treasure house of his richly stored intellect he brought out things new and old and quaint and striking, until you felt that he had captured your attention, and all you could do was to listen". Frederick Nell died at the age of thirty-nine.

From Frederick Nell to his brother Louis is an easy transition. The latter was of a more artistic temperament and seems to have been a more prolific writer than his brother. His prose writings range from prosaic topics like "Juvenile Literature" and "Coconut Sugar" to more abstruse subjects like "The Fine Arts in Ceylon" and "The Immortality of the Artist". His style, while not inferior to that of his brother, seems to lack his virility.

Louis Nell was a better poet than a prose writer, and in the opinion of those qualified to judge, is entitled to a high place among Ceylon poets. He seems to have had a premonition that he would bury his bones in a foreign land, for in one of his earliest poems he writes:—

"Though homeward winds may drive my ship,
Which ploughs the stubborn wave,
My quicker prayers e'en winds outstrip
That home should be my grave".

One of Louis Nell's finest bits of poetry are the verses he wrote on the death of James Stewart, one of Ceylon's most brilliant lawyers:—

"It wants a tongue like thine to speak thy praise,
It wants a mind like thine to know thy worth,
What language could be spoke in mournful lays
When such the sorrow for thee gushing forth.
When e'en thy fun'ral honours richly earned
Were shaded by the feelings of deep gloom,
Which spoke the loss, thou eloquent and learned!
And walked with thee to dwell upon thy tomb.
Rest then in peace thy wearied and worn frame
Till the yet living spirit plead its cause.
But we shall seize the trust to speak thy fame
Thou who thy name hast woven with our laws.
Thy countrymen shall mention thee with pride
And Ceylon yet regret the day when S.....t died".

Louis Nell was Editor of the "Examiner" at one time after it was bought by Lorenz. He started life as a Proctor and afterwards became an Advocate, serving as Crown Counsel in Jaffna, Kandy, Kurunegala, and Galle.

Retiring in 1893 at the age of 62, Louis Nell travelled extensively in Switzerland, Italy, and Germany, and in 1904 he published a book of verses entitled "Ideal Art and Faith". He died at Chiswick in England on 17th May, 1922, at the age of 91. One who knew him well paid the following tribute to him:—"Men wondered why he did not rise to something higher than a Crown Counselship, and why, with his great intellect, mediocrities were put over him. The explanation, paradoxical though it may seem, is because there was nothing mediocre about him. He was not careful in the selection of his enemies and he would not tolerate fools gladly. Yet there was no pleasanter and more agreeable companion, when he chose to be so. Sir John Phear used to delight in his companionship, and we young people used to listen to him with pleasure—and in silence. Bumptious mediocrity received short shrift at his hands. He stood over six feet in his stockings, his figure was massive, and the broad forehead betokened intellect. He would look down on his victim, with head bent, over his glasses, and annihilate him with a stare or with something everybody

enjoyed, except the one man. He fell foul of the great Sir Richard Morgan on one occasion, but Sir Richard had his revenge. Nell had written a little book on Mohammedan Law. Sir Richard, at a Royal College Prize Distribution, ran over a list of old boys and their achievements. Nell, he said, had brought out a book on Mohammedan Law, which was so learned that it was generally incomprehensible".

Third in order of merit in this literary group was Charles Lorenz, who was a contributor to "Young Ceylon" from its very inception. His early writings naturally bear the stamp of immaturity, for he was only 21 years of age at the time. His first adventure in the field of literature took the form of a critical review of an article describing an elephant kraal, which appeared in the "Examiner" newspaper, owned at that time by John Selby.

His next article in the same issue of "Young Ceylon" was a more ambitious one, and was a review of Thomas Carlyle's works under the title "Brief Notes of Favourite Authors". Here his method and style are a vast improvement on his first article, and he shews acute powers of discernment.

There seems to have been no limit to Lorenz's output at this time, for a third article over his initials appears in the first issue of "Young Ceylon". The age was one in which superstition played a large part in the every-day life of the people, and Lorenz himself does not appear to have been immune from this weakness. Even at this early period of his life he exhibited those liberal sentiments which in later years made him the idol of all communities.

He has been described as the Charles Dickens of Ceylon, and there is no doubt that he was largely influenced, both in his style of writing and in his manner of living, by that illustrious man of letters. His article on "Tea Parties" might have formed a chapter in "Pickwick Papers".

Leopold Ludovici, who lived in Lorenz's own times, describes him as "closely imitative of Dickens, of whom he remained to the last a most loyal admirer. His style, if wanting in the massive strength of the periods of Frederick Nell, nevertheless has a fragile elegance which charms by the very plainness of its beauty. While reading them, so plain yet terse, the language so homely yet full of pathos, the sentiment so quiet, and so rich the vein of humour that runs through them all—one is tempted to ask how a mind which

appeared to be overflowing with so much fun, could ever have taken to the dull, dry, unimaginative study of the law".

Born in the same year as Lorenz, Charles Ferdinands, if he did not rise to the heights of his distinguished friend, yet occupied no mean place in the literary life of this period. Passing out as a Proctor, he travelled all the way on foot from Colombo to Badulla to practise his profession at the latter station. Here he was very successful. Wishing, however, to have a wider field for his talents, Ferdinands selected Kandy, where his business habits, integrity, shrewd common-sense, and mature experience soon secured for him a leading practice. After some time, on the advice of Lorenz, Ferdinands came down to Colombo and passed as an Advocate in 1862. He soon found his way to the front rank, and in 1872, on the death of Lorenz, he was appointed to represent the Burghers in the Legislative Council. Four years later he accepted office under Government as Deputy Queen's Advocate, and acted as Solicitor General and Attorney General, his substantive appointment being District Judge of Colombo. He died on the Continent in 1891 at the age of 62 while on his way to England on a holiday. He has been described as a man of sterling worth, strong without being demonstrative, earnest without being obtrusive, a warm kind friend who could always be relied upon in case of need.

Ferdinands was still in his teens when he contributed his first article to "Young Ceylon", the subject being "The Pleasures of Science". Why he selected such an abstruse topic is not apparent. In another article in the same issue of "Young Ceylon" Ferdinands waxed indignant over the attempt to exclude natives from the Colombo Pettah Library. With all the ardour of a young Advocate arguing his first case, he calls to his aid Blackstone, Lord Erskine and Thomas Paine in denouncing the action proposed. His views on this subject are identical with the liberal sentiments of Lorenz. Ferdinands also contributed an able article on the system of education in vogue in Ceylon at the time, in which he exposed what he considered its errors and offered some suggestions for their removal or amendment.

Not the least remarkable literary figure of this period was James d'Alwis. Sprung from an ancient Sinhalese family, several members of whom had held high office under Government, Alwis, who was born in 1823, attended several elementary schools between

1830 and 1836. In the following year he attended the Seminary opened by the Rev. Joseph Marsh, which afterwards became the Academy and later took the name of Royal College. As a boy he was fond of writing and contributed frequently to the Academy Miscellany. The death of his father when he was 15 years old would have left James d'Alwis without any means of continuing his education had not Governor Stewart McKenzie and his son come to his assistance and paid his school fees. He was treated very kindly by Mrs. Stewart McKenzie who, he says, "wrote to me soon after to call at Queen's House every Saturday and keep her informed as to how I progressed with my studies. Of course I did so, and never left Queen's House without having something to eat which the good old lady gave me in her own dressing room".

Alwis made his first acquaintance with journalism while he was still a schoolboy. John McKenzie Ross, the Editor of the "Herald", wanted somebody to come to the office about two hours before the paper went to press—the "Herald" was a weekly—to see that everything was in order. Alwis accepted the post on Rs. 15/- a month, his duties being at first purely clerical. One day McKenzie Ross said to him, "Alwis, I think you may help me in writing a 'stave' or two when you can". Nothing could have given Alwis greater pleasure. "Those alone who knew my penchant for scribbling" he says, "can form an adequate idea of the extraordinary delight with which I undertook this work".

The departure from Ceylon of Governor Stewart McKenzie when Alwis was about 18 years of age brought an end to his school career. He aspired to become a Court Interpreter, but on being given a trial failed miserably owing to his insufficient acquaintance with Sinhalese. "My failure" he says "was for my good, for I soon became sensible of my deficiencies, and at once resolved to abandon all idea, at least for a time, of becoming an interpreter, and to devote my earnest attention to the study of the Sinhalese language". He did this to such good purpose that in course of time he became one of the foremost Sinhalese and Pali scholars of his day.

Resigning his intention of joining Government service, he decided to take to law, and served his apprenticeship under Proctor Beiling, of whose kindness to him he speaks in the highest terms. But he has a different tale to tell regarding Mr. Giffening, the

Registrar of the Supreme Court, who was one of his examiners. This gentleman, whom Alwis describes as an old, narrow-minded, but clever Dutch lawyer, did not treat him very kindly. In spite of this discouragement, Alwis passed as a Proctor and soon secured a leading practice. His friends were chiefly Burghers, with a sprinkling of Sinhalese. Alwis says he was not over-pleased with his own countrymen, who often made unkind remarks about him. Among his friends were James and George Stewart, Richard Morgan, John Drieberg, James Martensz, and P. J. L. vanderStraaten.

An interesting incident which occurred at this time and which reflects the spirit of the age is worth recalling. When Lorenz took up his examination as a Proctor, Alwis was one of his examiners. Later, when Alwis decided to join the higher branch of the profession, Lorenz, who was one of the examiners, declined to put any questions to Alwis, and agreed with the other examiners that he should be passed without any examination at all.

In 1859 Alwis was appointed to act as District Judge of Kalutara, and in 1864 he entered the Legislative Council as Sinhalese member. He was in Council during the storm and stress of 1864 when the unofficial members, led by Lorenz, resigned in a body. He remained a member of Council until 1877, and on his death the following year it was said that "although Mr. Alwis never left the land of his birth, and received only the education which the Colombo Academy could give, he had all the manners of an English gentleman, and spoke and wrote the English language fluently and idiomatically. As a general scholar and Orientalist, his name is known and honoured over both hemispheres".

James d'Alwis' contributions to "Young Ceylon" were confined to a series of articles dealing with traditional tales from Ceylon history. He was a frequent contributor to the Royal Asiatic Society's Journal and to the "Observer" and "Examiner" newspapers. He reviewed several important publications and often appeared on the public platform as a lecturer. He was the author of a history of Ceylon and left behind a book of "Memoirs and Desultory Writings".

The sixth and the last of this literary group who deserves notice is Dandris de Silva Gunaratna, otherwise known as the "Ceylon Macaulay". Born in 1827, Dandris de Silva received his early education in Kalutara and then joined the Colombo Central

School as a Normal Student. Here he soon distinguished himself and was with a batch of other students transferred to the Academy, where he made the acquaintance of the Nells, Lorenz, Charles Ferdinands and others. On completing his education he was offered and accepted a temporary appointment as Assistant Master at the Academy. He devoted his leisure hours to reading English books and writing to the newspapers, and when "Young Ceylon" was started he began writing to this Magazine. His first contribution, which was on "Judicial Astrology", had by some mistake the letter P attached to it instead of D for Dandris. The article was so well written, and the subject handled in such a masterly manner, that James Stewart wrote to the Editor expressing a wish to see the author of the article. He was so pleased with Dandris that he offered him the use of his library.

Wishing to enter Government service, Dandris de Silva took to the teaching profession and became Headmaster of the English School at Bentota. Here he came under the notice of the Governor, Sir Henry Ward, through a petition which he drafted for some villagers. The document was couched in language of such high literary quality that the Governor, who had heard of Dandris de Silva before, sent for him and conversed with him not only on educational and other public questions of the day, but also on British authors, and complimented him on his high scholastic attainments.

About this time Dandris de Silva wrote a letter to the London Times on the Indian Mutiny. Lord Macaulay, who read the letter, remarked in a speech that he was aware that his style was being imitated all over England, but that so far the most successful imitator had been "this man from India" as he styled Dandris de Silva. On hearing this, Dandris de Silva wrote to Macaulay thanking him for the high compliment paid to him. This led to a long and friendly correspondence between the two, which only terminated with Macaulay's death.

Space will not permit of anything more than a passing reference to the other leading literary men of this period, such as John Prins, Dr. Kelaart, Dr. Loos, and others, but before bringing this article to a close, it might be useful to inquire what were the circumstances which produced such a galaxy of literary figures, and how it is that we, living under more favourable conditions, have

not been able to attain to their stature, for I think it will be admitted that, with a very few exceptions, our generation has not produced any outstanding literary men. The answer I think is that genius thrives best in a hard soil. In the olden days there was less dissipation of energy over a wide field. There were few books and fewer subjects to learn, and what people did they did thoroughly. Frederick Nell went about with a copy of Byron in his pocket, and Dandris de Silva was so saturated with Macaulay that he involuntarily adopted his style. We in our day have too many things to learn and too many books to read, with the result that, to use a hackneyed phrase, we are Jacks of all trades and masters of none.

Sixty-five years ago, on the death of Lorenz, Leopold Ludovici, himself no mean man of letters, exclaimed, "Truly, the men of that generation were men of weight, giants in intellect", and I venture to think that that must be the verdict, even at the present day.

J. R. T.

PROTESTANT MISSIONS IN CEYLON.

An attempt is made in this paper to review in rough outline the part that Protestant Christian Missions have played in the development of Ceylon. The work of the Roman Catholics requires treatment by itself by some one more competent—so venerable is it in time, so considerable in extent, so penetrating in its influence. But the contribution of the Protestant Missions is by no means negligible, and at a time when this contribution appears to be ignored by some, and strangely resented by others, a reminder would not be inappropriate.

The Dutch were actually the first Protestant Missionaries who laboured in this Island. Their labours have been childishly belittled and misrepresented, perhaps in ignorance, by those who do not realize that they are really carrying on and extending the work already established by their predecessors. Now and again, a discerning note is heard, as in the "Jubilee Memorials" of the Church

Missionary Society: "The Dutch, however, do not always receive full credit for all that they did for the advancement of Christianity in Ceylon". But the labours of the Dutch will also be excluded from this review, which will limit itself to the work of British Missionary Societies. It is worth noting, however, that these Societies have been most successful in the fields ploughed before by the Dutch, and least successful where the Dutch had not entered.

In many respects Ceylon has been fortunate in its political separation from India, and to this good fortune the Protestant missions owed their establishment in the Island at the beginning of the nineteenth century. The British possessions in India were at that time governed by the East India Company, which at first desired to extend Christianity, but soon after declared "the sending out of missionaries into our Eastern possessions to be the maddest, most extravagant, most costly, most indefensible project which has ever been suggested by a moonstruck fanatic. Such a scheme is pernicious, imprudent, useless, harmful, dangerous, profitless, fantastic. It strikes against all reason and sound policy, it brings the peace and safety of our possessions into peril." Not even the wildest of our orators can outdo this "oracular tongue and nice derangement of epitaphs."

In consequence of this opposition William Carey, of the Baptists, the pioneer of modern English foreign missions, could not live in Calcutta, as he wished, but had to betake himself in 1799 to Serampore, which was Danish, and not British, territory. In 1806 James Chater, also of the Baptists, sailed for Serampore, but was obliged to proceed to Burma, whence he came to Ceylon in 1812. Dr. Thomas Coke, of the Wesleyan Methodists, was in his sixty-sixth year "dead to Europe, and alive for India"; but the door to India was shut, and he sailed for Ceylon instead, as an outpost for India. Four Missionaries of the London Missionary Society came in 1805 and laboured for a very few years. The first American "Missionaries to India in 1812 were ordered by the Governor-General to leave Calcutta by the same vessel in which they arrived", and four years later they established themselves in North Ceylon. In regard to the American Mission, there was some explanation for the refusal to admit them; the political relations between England and America were not of the friendliest at this time.

Even the hostile attitude of the authorities in India towards their own countrymen may be explained, but the fact to note here is the difference of feeling and policy in Ceylon.

What was the motive which brought these Missions to Ceylon and the East? The desire to teach one's faith to others is natural, and is common to nearly all religious bodies. In all men's hearts there is a longing, uttered or unexpressed, for the satisfaction of spiritual needs; and when one heart finds satisfaction in a creed or a belief, it is more than willing, it is anxious, to share that satisfaction with others. With Christians there is another compelling motive, and that is the direct command of their Master to go into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature. Not that this command was consistently obeyed, or rightly understood in England in the eighteenth century. When William Carey proposed a mission, he was sternly rebuked by his Baptist brethren; but in time his persistence won, and the conscience of Christians in England was awakened. The descriptions which were sent home by travellers in distant lands and in lands newly discovered roused "pity for dark ignorance and cruel suffering." To the Western mind, the superstitions, idolatry, ignorance, social disabilities, and insanitary habits of Eastern peoples appeared to be an urgent summons for their deliverance. Besides, some of these lands had come under the rule of the English, who were compelled to realize that they were responsible for the welfare of the peoples of those lands. With them the term *heathen* did not necessarily imply contempt; it meant chiefly those who did not know of, or believe in, the Christian God. It was applied in England itself to English people, and we should not forget that other religions have similar epithets for non-believers. Whatever we may think of it now, that was the sympathetic attitude which prevailed in those days, and we must give that consideration its due weight. If in these more enlightened times some of us regard that attitude as a mistaken one, we must admit that there was a nobleness in it which is entirely to the credit of human nature, and not human nature in the West alone. For Buddhism sent out missions to China and Ceylon, and is to-day sending them to Europe and America. Islam was always a missionary religion, though at first combining conquest with conversion. Judaism and Hinduism, on the other hand, are more exclusive faiths, asking for no proselytes.

Unlike India, then, Ceylon welcomed Christian missions and encouraged them. North was Governor when the London Missionaries arrived, and Brownrigg when the Baptists, Wesleyans, Church Missionaries, and the American Missionaries arrived. Brownrigg's "condescending, kind, and friendly demeanour" towards the missionaries was gratefully acknowledged by them on his departure from the Island. Chief Justice Alexander Johnston was another good patron, and as keenly interested in the extension of Christianity as the missionaries themselves. But the Government could not take any direct part in the religious activities of the missions. It thus came about that the missionaries were encouraged to open and manage schools, and for their maintenance the Government granted an allowance. Nothing could have been more opportune or advantageous. Through these schools the missionaries could be in touch with the people of the country, and could acquire, what they most needed, a knowledge of the people's language. Nor was it to be expected that they should lose sight of the main purpose for which they had been sent out.

What these mission schools have done for the advancement of the country can scarcely be over-estimated. In the past, Buddhist monks doubtless had their *pansala* schools, the Portuguese priests had their colleges, and the Dutch had established a wide-spread system of education, which the British in their turn continued for a time, and then allowed to lapse, to be resumed and re-constructed afterwards. The early missionaries worked chiefly in the villages, and their work in those neglected areas calls for special notice. It is true that everybody is being educated now, that every new device in educational methods is now experimented with, so that the largely increasing expenditure on education by the state is causing alarm. But we need not on that account forget, or detract from, the work of the missions in days when village schools were far less numerous, when luxuries of any description were unknown to them, and when the state vote for education did not increase by tens of millions of rupees.

The missionaries did not teach their religion only; they taught also reading, writing, and arithmetic, the moral virtues, and sanitary habits. They taught in the languages of the country as well as in English, and the teaching of English was in answer to an inevitable and irresistible demand from the peoples themselves.

The village school was thus a centre of civilizing influences which may, or may not, be considered "denationalizing," but which none will do without.

As knowledge progressed in later times, mission schools have accepted necessary changes in ideas and in methods, and have indeed "set the pace" to other schools in these respects also. They are still in the foremost rank, not alone in the teaching of examination subjects, but also in regard to games, industries, social and literary activities, and boarding establishments with sick-rooms.

The work in the schools necessitated the provision of school-books in Sinhalese and Tamil as well as in English. Lesson-books were therefore compiled and printed, from primary spelling-books to readers for senior classes, and the use of these books was by no means confined to the Christian schools. The printing-press became increasingly important as a missionary auxiliary as well as an educational agent. Naturally since the first aim of the missionary is to evangelize, tracts were printed for gratuitous distribution. These were mainly Christian in character, but there were many others which gave information and leading on subjects of general interest. No reference to this matter can leave unmentioned the remarkable work done by Dr. John Murdoch, first single-handed, and then as the controlling agent of the Christian Literature Society. The school-books he compiled were the lesson books of more than one generation of school children in Ceylon. His pamphlets on moral duties, politics, natural science have "educated" many a grown up reader, in both India and Ceylon. His unsparing labours shew how much good may be done by a single-minded man, careless of his own comfort or advancement, devoted entirely to the spread of Christian truth and the advancement of the people among whom he lived. His life is a lesson and an example.

The Bible and portions of the Bible were translated into Sinhalese, and separately printed at the Baptist, Wesleyan, and Church Mission printing-presses, and were read with keen interest by non-Christians as well as studied by converts to Christianity. Callaway of the Wesleyan Mission collected materials for a Dictionary of Sinhalese and English, and in 1821 published two parts of 92 and 151 pages respectively. In the same year Clough, of the same Mission, published an English-Sinhalese Dictionary of 628

pages, and in 1830 a Sinhalese-English Dictionary of 852 pages. Bridgnell published a dictionary of 371 pages in 1847, and Nicholson a pocket-dictionary of 646 pages in 1864. Carter of the Baptist Mission published an English-Sinhalese Dictionary in 1891 and followed it up in 1899 by a Sinhalese-English Dictionary. The complete work revised is now advertised as "it was the best in 1899. It still stands supreme in 1937." What these publications have done in creating an interest in the Sinhalese language among philologists needs no comment.

A Tamil dictionary was compiled about the middle of the last century by Knight and Spaulding of the American Mission in Jaffna, and a Tamil-English dictionary by Winslow. "They have been invaluable to English and American students of Tamil, and to Tamil Students of English."

The Missionaries of the South Ceylon area cannot be supposed to have wished or intended the advance of Buddhism; yet their researches into the history and tenets of Buddhism were of no little value, and if their publications are now regarded as imperfect, in view of the knowledge gained since their time, these reflected at least the ideas of their time, and they gave the lead to that revival of interest in Buddhist belief and practices which is now so pronounced. Gogerly's writing were based on first-hand acquaintance with current Buddhist texts and customs, and Hardy, his colleague, presented in readable form to European students the fruits of his own researches and of others in that little-known province. Before them, Clough had translated from the Pali a "Ritual of the Buddhist Priesthood", and Callaway translated and commented on writings connected with Demonology in Ceylon.

Hospital work was closely associated with missionary work, and the medical missions at Jaffna, Welimada, Deniyaya, and other centres are no small tribute to the philanthropic work of missionaries. Diyatalawa, now a popular resort, and growing in importance, was practically opened up by Samuel Langdon of the Wesleyan Mission, whose Orphanage and surroundings he called the "Happy Valley." It is forgotten now that Langdon was a pioneer of science teaching in our secondary schools.

Christian Missions have been civilizing and elevating agencies in all lands, and Ceylon is no exception to the rule.

L. E. B.

THE DUTCH IN CEYLON.*

BY F. DEKKER.

(Continued from page 65 of our last issue).

In the beginning of 1650 Maetsuycker was relieved by Jacob van Kittensteyn, to enable the former to take charge of the administration as Governor-General. On his giving up office he left behind to his successor a memoir in which he gave a detailed review of the condition of the island during the period of his administration, and made a number of useful suggestions which his successor might with advantage adopt. His example, on the orders of the Government, was regularly followed thereafter, not only in Ceylon but also in other territories. We may pause here for a moment to mention that these numerous memoirs and instructions issued during the time of the Company have been and continue to be a valuable source of information for the study of the Dutch administration in India, and have also excited the admiration of foreigners who have become acquainted with them, either in the course of their duties or studies. As an example of this we may mention the case of Mr. E. H. Vanderwall, a Committee member of the Dutch Burgher Union, who in a lecture delivered a few years ago, quoted, from an official publication of the Madras Government Press, entitled "The Dutch In Malabar", in which the favourable opinion of the English Authorities in regard to the Dutch administration is brought out very strikingly.

"The Directors of the English Company", it is said, "long held the Dutch system up as a model to their subordinates in the chief offices in their settlement, and sometimes their designations were borrowed from the Dutch system. In the early days the advisability of imitating the Dutch was freely acknowledged, and many Dutchmen were induced to enter the English Company's service. So in 1687 Governor Yale of Madras (afterwards founder of Yale University), having sent the Directors 'a book containing the Dutch methods', they observed that they had found in it 'not much more than some of us understood before of their affairs, but as there appears in this great wisdom and policy..... we recommend to you the frequent reading and consideration of what is

*A translation of an article appearing in "Neerlandia."

contained in these papers, which the oftener you read, the more you will discover the wisdom of those persons who contrived those methods.....our design on the whole is to set up the Dutch Government among the English in the Indies (than which a better cannot be invented) for the good of posterity, and to put us upon an equal footing of power with them to offend or defend, or enlarge the English dominion and unite the strength of our nation under one entire and absolute command subject to us; as we are and ever shall be most dutifully to our own sovereign."

A year or two later the Directors wrote:—"The wise Dutch, in all their general advices that we have seen, write ten paragraphs concerning their government, their civil and military policy, warfare, and the increase of their revenue, for one paragraph they write concerning trade".

A greater tribute of praise by contemporaries competent to judge it is difficult to imagine. What a contrast to the judgment so often pronounced at the present day regarding that Company that they pursued nothing but a short-sighted chuck-farthing policy. We shall later have occasion to refer again to this subject.

What great value the present British rulers still attach to the Company's state documents is evident from the fact that in recent years a fairly complete translation of these documents relating to Ceylon has been made, and that for the arrangement of the Archives not long ago the assistance of two Dutch professors holding high office in India, viz., Professors J. Van Kan, Member of the Council of India, and Professor E. C. Godee-Molsbergen, was sought. Private persons also have assiduously drawn upon these documents—for example, the book by Dr. Paul E. Pieris entitled "The Dutch Power in Ceylon, 1602—1670", which appeared in 1929, is a mine of original documents translated into English in substantiation of his narrative.

Let us return from this digression to our subject. The war against the Portuguese was now renewed. In the first few years the efforts made were somewhat half-hearted, but when the great Rycklof van Goens was given command over all "naval and military forces," very decisive steps were taken. In 1655 Gerard Hulft captured Kalutara; in May 1656, to Radja Singha's great joy, Colombo fell after a heroic defence of seven months, the surrender

being largely compelled by hunger; while in 1658 the crown was set on the work by the conquest of the island of Mannar and of Jaffnapatnam, likewise after a stubborn resistance.

These sieges, among the most brilliant feats of arms in our Indian military history, are thrillingly described in two works of recent times—in Mr. R. G. Anthonisz's book already mentioned, "The Dutch in Ceylon", and in the study of Rijcklof von Goens by Dr. J. Aalbers (the latter dealing only with the conquest of Mannar and Jaffnapatnam), as well as from older books, such as the well-known work of Baldeus.

Both these military exploits cost us heavy sacrifices. Before Colombo fell, only a few days before the capitulation, the Dutch Commandant, the chivalrous Gerard Hulft, former Secretary of Amsterdam, of whom Vondel, who knew him personally, sang:—"A claw of Holland's water-lion. Bestained with English blood", on account of the part he took in the first English naval battle on the ship of Witte Cornsz de With. On account of his bravery and his noble character he was held in high esteem even by the Portuguese.

By the conquest of Jaffnapatnam and some smaller forts the last of the remaining strongholds of the Portuguese were wrested from them, thus bringing to an end their dominion over this island. The work which the Company, according to the treaty concluded between Admiral Westerwolt and the Maharadja, should perform, was completed.

The Company's territory included: in the north the whole of the kingdom of Jaffnapatnam, with Mannar and a small stretch of coast up to near Trincomalee; in the south the low land between the Walawe river and the Maha Oya, including the dissawani of Matara, the greater part of the dissawani of Sabaragamuwa, the Four Korles and the Seven Korles, the land bounded by the forts of Sitawaka, Angoerowatota and Katooeane. It is true that all these territories were said to have been conquered for and on behalf of the king; but the Company was not inclined to hand them over to him so long as the heavy debt incurred by them on account of the war was not repaid to them.

Van Goens realised that if the Company wished to reap the benefits of the territory occupied by them, they must in the first

place provide the inhabitants with a reasonable means of subsistence.

During the long protracted period of the war these lands had been impoverished and rendered waste; fruitful lands had become like the wilderness; poverty and misery reigned everywhere. Van Goens, who considered Adr. vander Meyden unsuited for the Governorship, himself assumed this office in 1662. He held this appointment until the spring of 1675, when he made over the government to his son. During the period 26th December, 1663, to April 1665, owing to the absence of van Goens, the Government was temporarily carried on by Jacob Hutstaart and after him by Adr. Roothaas.

Before going on to refer to what the Company has accomplished in the development of the island, I should like to give a short review of its subsequent history, more especially in regard to the peculiar relations of the Company towards the king and the people.

That the relations towards Radja Singha, who had previously asked for help against the Portuguese, could no longer be very friendly, must be quite apparent. Things had turned out quite differently from what he had planned. He was indeed unlucky and was shut up in the interior. Of his numerous seaport towns, only Puttalam in the west and Kottiaar in the east remained to him. In all the others the Company was the master. And even the two seaport towns mentioned above were of little value to him, for the harbour at Puttalam was soon commanded by a fort built at Calpentyn, and that at Kottiaar by Trincomalee. All the other territory possessed by the Company was said to have been conquered for the king, but the Company behaved as if it were the lord and master. Many years ago the King had broken off all relations with the Company. He had strictly forbidden his subjects to carry on trade with them. He shut himself up once again in his impenetrable mountain fastnesses, the entrances to which he ordered to be closed.

But if this was disagreeable to the Company and pecuniarily detrimental to them, it was more so to his own subjects, who were cut off from all supplies of the necessaries of life. Driven to despair by poverty and misery, they rose in rebellion against him, and he barely escaped with his life. In his necessity Radja Singha once again invoked the assistance of the Company, who, in 1665, took

advantage of the opportunity to occupy new territory and to build forts there "in order to protect the king against his subjects". When the rebellion was put down with the help of the Dutch, and the king had with horrible ferocity wreaked his vengeance on the rebels, he felt that he was once more strong, and showed in different ways his displeasure against the Company. The most courteous letters of the Government remained unanswered; presents were not accepted; and its ambassadors were detained for years. The Company, however, only wished for peace, and at the beginning took no notice of most of these insults. Now it must not be thought that the detention of our ambassadors was an insult that the king offered to the Dutch alone. He did this also in regard to other nations. According to Pieris, it was a "hobby" of the king to collect Europeans as if he were collecting a menagerie of animals. In this way he detained the Englishman Knox for 19 years; the French Count de Lanarolle also for a long period; and similarly hundreds of others. Many of these foreigners took service under the king at his request; he also had a whole company of European soldiers in his service.

Meanwhile this state of things was becoming exceedingly unbearable. The Company itself offered to abandon the territory occupied by them in 1665, but no notice was taken of this. The king's anger was so great that in 1675 he even took warlike steps against the Dutch, but the attempt was repulsed with force.

At last Governor Pyl, calling himself "the king's trusted and humble governor", and writing to him from Colombo, which was styled "his royal and unconquerable castle", stating that the whole island belonged to the king, and that the only object of the Dutch was to defend his coasts, brought him once again into good humour. Not long after this, several valuable concessions were promised, but before these negotiations could result in anything, the old king died in 1687, after a reign of about half a century. The Company was thus rid of a troublesome though energetic opponent, and had for a long period thereafter, as far as the relations with the Court were concerned, a much easier time. It is true that in the first few years there were still difficulties with Radja Singha's successor, because the Company did not consider themselves bound to fulfil all the provisional agreements made with the late monarch; but the new king was a very peaceful man, with whom it was possible

to come to an agreement satisfactory to both sides. Thanks to this disposition on the part of the king and of his successor, and to the fact that the government was for a long time in the hands of sensible and capable men like Becker, Rumph, and Van Imhoff, the new period was entirely favourable, both for the Company as well as the inhabitants, whose prosperity largely increased.

The maladministration of the notorious Petrus Vuijst, who was beheaded on the scaffold, and a period of confusion under his successors, who did not immediately succeed in reducing the insolvent estate into a state of order, did, in the course of affairs a considerable amount of harm, but on the whole, both parties could rest satisfied in that respect, especially as the above-mentioned administrators earnestly endeavoured to make both European and native officers do their duty, and also took strict means to prevent as far as possible corruption and abuse of power.

(To be Continued).

VONDEL'S DREAM.

The following is an adaptation of Vondel's lines given below :-

"To my portrait painted by Govaart Flink, while sending it to the Director-General GERARD HULFT in the East Indies".*

Fare with my portrait, prescient words of gloom,
To Indian islands where the morning light
Blinds with its glory, and the perfumed breath
Of myriad spices scents the swoony air :
Go to my Hulft and tell him that I dreamed
That, midst the orient pomp of kings who bowed
Humbled in dust before proud Holland's might,
I saw him stand apart with musket trained
To shoot a dove whose glittering pennons shone
Midst the dark foliage of the cinnamon.
"Shoot not", I cried "why harm the gentle bird?"
But as I spake the musket's fearful roar
Shook me. I woke. But ere I woke I saw
Hulft, my beloved, wounded to the death.
"Vain dream", I cried, but still its presage dark
Clings to my soul with anxious thought of him.

E. R.

* Valentyn's History of the East Indies, Vol. 4, p. 301.

Aen mijne afbeeldinge, door Govaart Flink geschildert,
toenze den Heer Directeur Generaal Geeraart Hulft in
Oost-Indien toegezonden wierd,

Gij steekt dan af, voor d'Amsterdamsche paalen
Om over zee te zweven, daar de dag
Batavie verguld met d'eerste straaLEN
En geuren brengt, uit ootmoed en ontzag :
Daar d'Eilanden on strijd, van alle kanten,
Aanhouden om gehoor, voor 't Hollandsch Hof,
Door koningen en smeekende Gezanten,
Met hunne Kroon gebogen in het stof,
Wanneer gij komt in 't Oosten te belanden,
En d'eer geniet dat HULFT u welkoomt,
Zoo kust dien held eerbiediglijk de handen,
En meld hem wat ik onlangs heb gedroomt.
De duistre nacht bedekte met haar vlogelen
De kamer daar ik eenzaam lag en sliep,
Als HULFT, belust op vangst van 't puik der vogelen,
(Zoo 't scheen) door 't rijk kaneel-bosch jagen liep.
Hij volgde in 't ende een Duif, wiens pennen blonken,
En flikkerden van zilver en fijn goud,
En purperverf, en scheen van min t' ontvonken,
Om zoo veel schoons als hare pluim ontvouwt.
.....
Mijn geest verschrikte, en, om hem in te toomen
Sprak dus bedagt den jongen schutter aan :
O jongeling, hoe wil u dit bekomen ?
Het schieten is u lest niet wel vergaan.
Gij jaagt, 't is waar, geen draak, nog kolehis stieren,
Nog everswijn, nog tijgers wilt van aart,
Maar uwe jagt na tamme en makke dieren,
Is 't voorspook dat mij allermeest vervaart.
.....
Dus sprak ik nauw, of 't vogelroer gesprongen,
Gaf met zijn slot den schutter eenen slag
Op zijne heup dat hem, vyn pijn gedrongen,
Het hart ontzonk, daar hij ter aarde lag.
De droom-god was op dezen slag vervloogen
Naar zijn spelonk. 'k Ontwaakte in 't bange bed.
En schoon ik mij gelukkig vond bedrogen,
Nog bleef mijn hart met schroomte en schrik bezet.
.....

GENEALOGY OF THE POTGER FAMILY.

(Compiled by the late Mr. F. H. de Vos in 1916; revised and brought up to date by Mr. D. V. Altendorff in 1937).

I.

Everhard Lodewyk Potger of Braudenburg (Minden), arrived in Ceylon in 1747 in the Ship "Hogerlinde", married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal:—

- (a) 12th December 1751, Elizabeth de Kretser, baptised 7th October 1724, daughter of Job de Kretser and Louisa Perera. (D. B. U. Journal, Vol. X, page 18).
- (b) 26th May 1764, Maria Margarita Fritzius.

Of the first marriage, he had:—

- 1 Louisa Petronella, baptised 22nd October 1752.
- 2 Barend Lodewyk, who follows under II.

Of the second marriage, he had:

- 3 Elizabeth, married Johannes Andries Meyer.
- 4 Maria Justina, married 5th March 1769, Jacobus Christoffel Wiltsehut.

II.

Barend Lodewyk Potger, baptised 18th February 1754, died 31st October 1809, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 24th January 1779, Sophia Elizabeth Vogelaar, daughter of Johann Jacob Vogelaar of Hesse Cassel, Ensign, and Anna Sophia Scharff. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VIII, page 6). He had by her:—

- 1 Johanna Dorothea, baptised 21st November 1779, died 3rd September 1798, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 23rd February 1794, Petrus Gerardus de Vos, Sitting Magistrate, Jayela, born 18th November 1762, died 2nd June 1815, widower of Beata Cornelia Vanden Broeck, and son of Pieter de Vos and Magdalena Meyer.
- 2 Cornelis Everhardus, who follows under III.
- 3 Wilhelmina Petronella, baptised 13th April 1783, married in St. Peter's Church, Fort, Colombo, 17th December 1807, Reverend Bernhard Abraham Giffening, Predikant, born circa 1762, died 10th August 1812, widower of Maria Sophia Francius (widow Hickler), and son of Fredrik

Bernhard Giffening of Demmin and Gertruida Henrietta Lobeck. (D. B. U. Journal, Vol. VII, page 141, and Vol. XXV, page 56).

- 4 Clara Sophia, baptised 16th July 1786.

III.

Cornelis Everhardus Potger, baptised 8th April 1781, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 24th June 1804, Wilhelmina Frederica Friedel. He had by her:—

- 1 Johan Godfried, who follows under IV.
- 2 Anna Sophia Petronella, baptised 13th September 1807.
- 3 Catharina Frederica, born 19th April 1809.
- 4 James Henry, who follows under V.

IV.

Johan Godfried Potger, born 24th November 1805, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 15th January 1829, Adolphina Johanna Martensz, born 20th February 1811, daughter of Hendrik Gerard Martensz and Anna Henrietta Jansz. He had by her:—

- 1 James William, who follows under VI.
- 2 Margarita Frederica, born 15th March 1836.

V.

James Henry Potger, born 24th July 1811, married Anne Jurgen Ondaatje. He had by her:—

- 1 Barend Lodewyk, who follows under VII.
- 2 Henry Simon, who follows under VIII.

VI.

James William Potger, Planter, born 19th March 1830, died 16th February 1890, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal 12th March 1857, Maria Catherine Oorloff, born 22nd May 1839, died 7th February 1871, daughter of Johannes Cornelis Oorloff and Petronella Gerhardina de Boer. He had by her:—

- 1 James Emanuel, who follows under IX.
- 2 Maryanne Jessie, born 15th June 1858, died 17th March 1937, married William Arthur Rode, born 30th May 1855, died 28th October 1924, son of Justinus Andreas Rode, and Josephina Matilda Heyn.
- 3 Rosaline Margaret, born 14th March 1860, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 27th December 1880, Charles Henry Friskin,

- 4 Justin Charles, who follows under X.
- 5 George Frederick, who follows under XI.

VII.

Barend Lodewyk Potger, Proctor and Notary Public, born 2nd June 1839, died 4th February 1910, married in St. Mark's Church, Badulla, 28th July 1875, Anna Rosella Van Langenberg, born 1st May 1857, died 1st September 1890. He had by her:—

- 1 Bertram Louis, born 17th May 1876, died 7th September 1897.
- 2 Rose Lilian Augusta, born 26th August 1877, married in St. Mark's Church, Badulla, 21st March 1900, John William Modder, son of John William Modder and Caroline Frances Anjou.
- 3 Florence Mildred, born 1880, died 1882.
- 4 Reginald Stephen, who follows under XII.
- 5 Victor Gerald, who follows under XIII.
- 6 Justin Ralph, who follows under XIV.

VIII.

Henry Simon Potger, District Engineer, Public Works Department, born 25th June 1840, died 24th November 1886, married in Christ Church Cathedral, Colombo, 10th October 1867, Emily Elizabeth Barnes, born 14th February 1848, died 10th September 1910, daughter of Henry Barnes and Mary Baker. He had by her:—

- 1 William Henry Charles, born 20th May 1869, died 28th July 1894.
- 2 Glencora Barnes, M.B.E., born 22nd October 1873, married in Holy Trinity Church, Nuwara Eliya, 8th June 1904, Gualterus Stewart Schneider, K.T., K.C., Senior Puisne Justice, born 12th April 1864, son of Gualterus Fredrik Schneider and Amelia Orr. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VIII, page 69).
- 3 Harry Baker Barnes, born 18th December 1876, died 9th June 1903.
- 4 Percy Lionel, who follows under XV.
- 5 Beatrice Maud, born 25th March 1881, married in St. Michael's and All Angels' Church, Colombo, 15th February 1906, Frederick Llewellyn Goonewardena, Proctor, born 16th September 1880, died 4th June 1933.
- 6 Malcolm Cyril Francis, who follows under XVI.

IX.

James Emanuel Potger, born 29th August 1856, married in St. Philip Neri's Church, Colombo, 28th July 1886, Agnes Sebastian De Oliveira. He had by her:—

- 1 Stanley Dickens De Oliveira, who follows under XVII.
- 2 Irene Valerie, married in St. Paul's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 30th July 1914, Justin Stanley de Bruin, son of James Samuel de Bruin and Frances Grace Rosalind Oorloff.
- 3 Dorothy Augusta, born 23rd December 1901, married in St. Paul's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 13th May 1925, James Lancelot Denzil Oorloff, born 25th October 1899, son of James Uzzial Norman Oorloff and Amelia Matilda Newman.

X.

Justin Charles Potger, born 17th May 1864, died 28th March 1891, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 22nd July 1886, Evelyn May Rodé, born 7th September 1865, daughter of Justinus Andreas Rodé and Josephina Matilda Heyn. He had by her:—

- 1 Gertrude May, born 11th July 1887, married in St. Paul's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 18th November 1908, Claude William Siebel, born 5th July 1883, son of Arthur Warkus Siebel and Maria Elizabeth Spaar. D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXV, page 122).
- 2 Charles Alfonso, who follows under XVIII.

XI.

George Frederick Potger, born 13th September 1868, married:

- (a) In St. Paul's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 7th December 1896, Stella Frances Rodé, born 17th August 1871, died 22nd August 1928, daughter of Edward Schrooter Rodé and Josephine Matilda Rodé.
- (b) In the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 26th December 1929, Matilda Gertrude Rodé, born 13th September 1880, daughter of Edward Schrooter Rodé and Josephine Matilda Rodé.

Of the first marriage he had:—

- 1 Saba Liola, born 1st October 1897.
- 2 George Frederick, born 25th April 1899, married:—
 - (a) In St. Paul's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 8th October 1924, Hortense Sheila Bianca Holsinger, born 13th

September 1900, died 13th July 1929, daughter of Matthew Bernard Holsinger and Letitia Emelia Van Sanden.

- (b) In the Methodist Church, Pettah, Colombo, 26th December 1935, Sheila Ellen Baptist, born 10th December 1905, daughter of Alfred Albert Jacob Baptist and Ellen Sophia Faber.
- 3 Melville St. George, born 17th December 1900, died 22nd March 1901.
- 4 Victor George, who follows under XIX.
- 5 James Edward, born 15th September 1905, died 28th August 1908.
- Of the second marriage he had:—
- 6 Stella Decima, born 27th September 1931.

XII.

Reginald Stephen Potger, Assistant Superintendent of Surveys, Singapore, born 18th August 1881, married in St. George's Church, Penang, 12th October 1912, Constance Maud Oorloff, born 10th September 1889, daughter of Arthur Felix Oorloff, M.B., C.M., (Aber.), Provincial Surgeon, Civil Medical Department, and Agnes Maud Thomasz. He had by her:—

- 1 Constance Marjorie, born 1st September 1914.
- 2 Reginald Hamlyn, born 25th March 1916.
- 3 Louis Humphry, born 14th November 1919.

XIII.

Victor Gerald Potger, born 16th February 1883, died 26th February 1925, married in Warleigh Church, Dickoya, 25th November 1907, Vida Muriel Modder, born 26th August 1882, daughter of Frederick William Orton Modder and Agnes Cornelia Johnson. He had by her:—

- 1 Victor Orton Louis, born 10th July 1909.
- 2 Dorothy Muriel, born 1st December 1912, married in Holy Trinity Church, Nuwara Eliya, 11th December 1929, Frederick Keyt Jonklaas, born 20th January 1904, son of Cecil Norman Dunbar Jonklaas and May Vernon Keyt. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIII, pages 209 and 210).
- 3 Sheila Geraldine, born 17th August 1914.

XIV.

Justin Ralph Potger, Proctor and Notary Public, born 21st July 1884, married in St. Paul's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 21st July 1910, Florence May Redlich, daughter of Frederick James Redlich and Venetia Margaret Schumacher. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. IX, page 72). He had by her:—

- 1 Barandt Ludwig, born 13th March 1912.
- 2 Justin Vere, born 7th December 1914.
- 3 Florence Eileen, born 24th November 1918, married in St. Michael's and All Angels' Church, Colombo, 7th October 1936, George Henly Trevor Bilsborough, born 19th May 1905, son of John William Alexander Bilsborough and Minnie Claudia de Hoedt.
- 4 Ralph Selwyn Frank, born 2nd August 1926.

XV.

Percy Lionel Potger, Planter, born 7th February 1878, married:—

- (a) In the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 7th February 1906, Lillian Gratiaen, born 13th September 1883, died 13th August 1907, daughter of Edward Stork Gratiaen and Sophia Jane Vander Smagt. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VI, page 20).
- (b) In St. Michael's and All Angels' Church, Colombo, 25th September 1911, Norah Gwladys Wright, born 9th November 1892, daughter of William Henry Wright and Anna Cornelia Wambeek. (D. B. U. Journal, Vol. XXVII, page 72).

Of the second marriage, he had:—

Beatrice Leslie, born 2nd September 1913, married in London, 19th September 1936, Denis Coward.

XVI.

Malcolm Cyril Francis Potger, J.P., U.P.M., Crown Proctor, Badulla, born 10th August 1882, married in St. Paul's Church, Kandy, 4th June 1906, Ethel Elizabeth Keyt, born 10th April 1876, daughter of Frederick Theobald Keyt, M.D., C.M., Provincial Surgeon, Civil Medical Department, and Henrietta Elizabeth Kriekenbeek. He had by her:—

- 1 Ethel Valerie, born 23rd February 1907, married in St. Paul's Church, Kandy, 1st February 1928, Henry Kriekenbeek Sproule Keyt, Proctor and Notary Public, Captain, Ceylon Light Infantry, son of Henry Keyt and Constance Evelyn Sproule.
- 2 Frederick Henry Malcolm, born 15th August 1909.
- 3 Ethel May Barnes, born 14th February 1914.

XVII.

Stanley Dickens De Oliveira Potger, Head Guard, Ceylon Government Railway, born 9th June 1887, married in St. Paul's Church, Kandy, 30th July 1913, Louise Beatrice De Lemos, born 7th March 1890. He had by her:—

- 1 Mervyn Noel, born 2nd May 1914, married in St. Paul's Church, Kandy, 25th June 1937, Doris Treherne Dickman, born 31st May 1916, daughter of Walter Henry Hilton Dickman and Ada Constance Seddon. (D. B. U. Journal, Vol. XXVI, page 129).
- 2 Hector Vernon, born 14th April 1916.
- 3 Isla Beatrice, born 9th July 1917.
- 4 Stanley Douglas, born 9th December 1918.
- 5 Ethuce Cora, born 14th August 1921.
- 6 Minette Vilma, born 5th November 1928.

XVIII

Charles Alfonso Potger, Planter, born 2nd August 1891, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Regent Street, Colombo, 8th February 1922, Elsie Mary Gladys de Zilwa, born 16 May 1892, daughter of William PETERS de Zilwa and Mary Alice Victoria Fernando. He had by her:—

- 1 Phyllis Elsie Mary, born 27th November 1922.
- 2 Beverley Gladys May, born 1st July 1924.
- 3 Charles William Marcel, born 28th December 1926.
- 4 Charles Travis, born 10th April 1929.

XIX.

Victor George Potger, born 4th March 1904, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 3rd January 1931, Decima, Muriel Rodé, born 23rd March 1903, daughter of Lloyd Rodé, and Josephine Holsinger. He had by her:—

Christina Decima, born 27th September 1931.

Notes. (1). Beata Cornelia Vanden Broeck, referred to under II, was a daughter of Kapitein Luitenant Johannes Vanden Broeck and Gertruida Cornelia Van Zitter.

(2). Adolphina Johanna Potger *nee* Martensz, referred to under IV, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 27th January 1848, Johannes Magnus Van Geyzel. (D. B. U. Journal, Vol. X, page 73).

GENEALOGY OF THE KEEGEL FAMILY

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

I.

Johannes Gustavus Keegel, born at Gross Sommerda in Thuringen near Weimar, (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. I. page 87), Ensign, married 10th April 1763, Maria Elizabeth Stuurman of Groat Schormer. He had by her:—

1. Christoffel Gerardus, who follows under II.
2. Susanna Elizabeth, married 23rd November 1794, Jan Christiaan Arendsz.
3. Anthony Godfried. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. I, page 93).

II.

Christoffel Gerardus Keegel, Surgeon in the Medical Service in Jaffna, (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. I, page 94), married 18th April 1790, Ester Dulcina Brochet de la Tonperse, widow of Captain-Lieutenant Jean Francoise Even du Hil, born 1758, died 7th September 1787, (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. V. page 76) and daughter of Johannes Louis Brochet de la Tonperse of Metz, Dutch Artillery, Commandeur of Jaffna and Ursula Magdalena Otley. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. I, page 38). He had by her:—

1. Isidore, born 1791.
2. Henry Arnold, who follows under III.
3. Theodore Carolina, married 6th May 1829, William Von Meybrink.

III.

Henry Arnold Keegel, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 30th January 1819, Catharina Dorothea Gratiaen, born 18th November 1796, daughter of Pieter Liebert Gratiaen, Predikant, and Sarah Dorothea Kalmeyer of Lingen. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VI, page 18). He had by her:—

1. Edward.
2. Pieter Liebert, who follows under IV.
3. Sophia Magdalena, born 28th August 1825, married George Burke, son of Major George Burke and Louisa Nagel.
4. Elizabeth Johanna, born 6th March 1830, married 15th March 1848, Stephanus Carolus Vander Straaten, Dis-

trict Judge, Point Pedro, born 30th April 1804, died 8th May 1854, widower of Henrietta Francis O'Connor, and son of Vincent William Vander Straaten and Anna Wilhelmina Thomas. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIII, page 165).

5 John William Louis, who follows under V.

IV.

Pieter Liebert Keegel, Inspector of Police, born 4th March 1823, died 11th May 1877, married:—

(a) In the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 18th October 1852, Jane Giffening, born 13th October 1823, died 13th February 1859, daughter of Johan Frederick Giffening, M.L.C., J.P.

(b) In the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 17th February 1860, Anna Matilda de Zilva, born 31st October 1833, died 4th April 1906, daughter of Dionysius Edward de Zilva.

Of the first marriage, he had:—

- 1 Henry Arnold, who follows under VI.
- 2 Pieter Liebert, born 11th November 1857, died 10th August 1860.
- 3 Evelyn Priscilla, born 19th November 1858, died 21st October 1934, married 28th July 1879, Charles Peter Scharenguivel, born 18th August 1855, died 15th March 1910, son of Hermann Christian Scharenguivel and Elizabeth Petronella Ferdinand. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXV, page 16).

Of the second marriage, he had:—

- 4 Katherine Darling, born 7th July 1861, married 28th July 1886, John Richard Scharenguivel, born 17th December 1853, son of Hermann Christian Scharenguivel and Elizabeth Petronella Ferdinand. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXV, page 16).
- 5 Pieter Liebert, born 2nd October 1862, died 6th February 1902, married in St. John's Church, Kalutara, 26th December 1894, Madeleine Holland Van Cuylenburg, born 4th March 1876, daughter of Richard Abraham Van Cuylenburg and Emily de Saram. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VII, page 83).

6 Jane Amelia, born 4th January 1864, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 28th December 1891, Justin Bertram Loos, born 5th July 1860, son of Edmund Richard Loos and Eliza Matilda Rodrigue. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. IX, page 98).

7 Frances Indiana, died young.

8 Dionysius (Denis) Edward who follows under VII.

V.

John William Louis Keegel, Proctor, born 16th May 1836, died 1908, married Katherine Wilhelmina Coulthard, born 1835, died 14th January 1882, daughter of Sergeant Major Coulthard and Elizabeth Unwin. He had by her:—

- 1 Edward Louis, born 6th June 1870.
- 2 William Arnold, born 6th July 1876.
- 3 Isidore Gratiaen, born 30th May 1878, died 21st July 1906, married in All Saints' Church, Galle, 26th July 1905, Evelyn Juliet Grace Keegel, who follows under VI. 3.
- 4 Alfred Julian, who follows under VIII.

VI.

Henry Arnold Keegel, L.F.P.S., (Glas.) L.R.C.P., L.M. (Edin.) Assistant Colonial Surgeon, Civil Medical Department, born 31st December 1854, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 15th May 1878, Charlotte Matilda Ball, born 1st December 1855, daughter of Henry Ball and Wilhelmina Matilda LaBrooy. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIV, page 70). He had by her:—

- 1 Charlotte Wilhelmina Jane, born 7th May 1879, died 28th August 1926, married in the Methodist Church, Hatton, 26th January 1902, Frederick Albert Aldons, born 21st September 1872, son of Robert Simon Diederik Aldons and Frederica Eliza Pereira. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVI, page 78).
- 2 Cecilia Beatrice Louise, born 27th July 1880, married in Singapore, Arthur Marle Misso, born 6th December 1883, son of Arthur John Misso and Eugenie Lucretia Ohlmus.
- 3 Evelyn Juliet Grace, born 15th April 1882, married in All Saints' Church, Galle, 26th July 1905, Isidore Gratiaen Keegel, (vide V. 3 supra).

- 4 Henrietta Sophia Adelaide, born 31st May 1884, married in England, (a) George Irving (b) John Noble.
- 5 Henry Arnold Luke, born 9th September 1885, died 11th May 1911.
- 6 Reginald Herbert Guy, who follows under IX.
- 7 Rose Isabel Clarice, born 11th May 1888, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 11th December 1912, Arthur Cecil Ohlmus, born 17th April 1881, son of George Edward Ohlmus and Catherine Rhoda Corner.
- 8 William Osmund Claude, born 12th May 1889, died 22nd June 1889.
- 9 Kathleen Vivienne, born 26th May 1890, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Dehiwala, 16th December 1922, Reginald Lancelot Joseph, born 21st September 1882, son of Eugene Joseph and Georgiana Jemima Ohlmus. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XII, page 26).
- 10 Hester Blanche Darling, born 5th March 1892, married in Christ Church, Galkissa, 23rd August 1919, Alfred Julian Keegel who follows under VIII.
- 11 Daisiebelle Holland Rajamonie, born 3rd May 1893, married in St. Michael's and All Angels' Church, Colombo, Herbert Hudson.

VII.

Dionysius (Denis) Edward Keegel, Inspector of Police, born 15th August 1867, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 8th June 1898, Ethel Alexandra Albrecht, born 18th September 1875, daughter of Christian Edward Albrecht and Sarah Caroline Gratiaen. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VI, page 84). He had by her :—

- 1 Pelham Liebert, who follows under X.
- 2 Denis Edward, who follows under XI.
- 3 Hester Kathleen Darling, born 22nd April 1908, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 9th February 1929, Carl Lourensz, born 3rd November 1906, son of Johnson Ball Lourensz and Lucy Mary Cooke.

VIII.

Alfred Julian Keegel, born 22nd May 1880, died 21st September 1929, married :—

- (a) In St. John's Church, Panadura, 16th December 1909, Charlotte Amelia Jansz, born 11th September 1886, died 9th February 1915, daughter of Edgar Donald Jansz and Laura Edith Jansz. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIV, page 133).
- (b) In Christ Church, Galkissa, 23rd August 1919, Hester Blanche Darling Keegel. (Vide VI., 10 supra).

Of the first marriage he had :—

- 1 Vere Fitzroy, born 30th September 1910.
- 2 Elmore Vivian, born 10th May 1913, died 14th May 1923.
- 3 Charlotte Amelia, born 30th January 1915, married in St. Mary's Church, Dehiwela, 17th May 1937, Cyril Lester de Silva, born 18th December 1908, son of Joseph Daniel de Silva and Maryanne Elizabeth Misso.

Of the second marriage he had :—

- 4 George Arnold Louis, born 6th June 1920.
- 5 John Vincent, born 19th July 1921.
- 6 Dorothy Eileen Mavis, born 25th April 1925.
- 7 Sheila Marguerite Naomi, born 6th February 1927.

IX.

Reginald Herbert Guy Keegel, born 15th March 1887, married in the Registrar General's Office, Colombo, 13th January 1908, Mildred Mary Alvis, born 20th December 1876, daughter of Bernard Edwin Alvis and Georgiana Oorloff. He had by her :—

- 1 Reginald Herbert, born 18th October 1908.
- 2 Marguerite May, born 23rd September 1909, died 10th February 1911.
- 3 George Llewellyn, born 23rd August 1910, died 12th May 1912.

X.

Pelham Liebert Keegel, born 11th July 1899, married in St. Paul's Church, Milagiriya, Colombo, 6th September 1924, Enid Rachel Pereira, born 19th June 1903, daughter of Oliver Rowland Pereira, L. M. S. (Ceylon) and Emily Anne Walker. He had by her :—

- Pelham Lucien, born 10th November 1925.

XI.

Denis Edward Keegel, born 8th December 1906, married in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Bangalore, 16th October 1929, Adelaide Florence Underdown, born 7th December, 1905, daughter of Robert Charles Underdown and Adelaide Fonceca. He had by her :—

- 1 Rita Carmen, born 1st March 1932.
- 2 Michael Charles Underdown, born 8th September 1934.

Hepponstall Genealogy.

CORRECTION.

Theodore Augustus Hepponstall married in the Methodist Church, Kandy, 15th October 1898, Mabel Millicent Vanderstraat, daughter of Henry Keith Vanderstraat and Ellen Lucretia Jansen, and not as stated in the D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVII. page 78.

D. V. A.



NOTES OF EVENTS.

Dutch Tribute to Pioneers in Ceylon. Officers and men of the four Dutch mine sweepers, which were recently in Colombo, visited the Dutch Church at Wolvendaal on October 29th, 1937, at 10 a.m. The Commander addressed those present in Dutch, speaking of the Dutch period in Ceylon and of the significant part played by the Dutch in shaping the progress of this country. He placed a wreath in the Church, and Mr. Orwell Foenander played the Dutch National Anthem on the Organ. There were present at the ceremony some Dutch residents in Colombo, and also a few members of the Church, including the Reverends W. C. Fleming and L. N. Hitchcock, and Messrs. E. A. Vander-Straaten and D. V. Altendorff.

Special General Meeting. At a Special General Meeting held on 27th September on the requisition of thirteen members, the following motion was proposed by Mr. Fred Loos and seconded by Mr. Neil Willé :—“ This Union strongly disapproves of the conduct of its Honorary General Secretary in being a party to an incident calculated to lower the prestige of the Union”. The motion was put to the meeting and lost, 16 voting for and 72 against it.



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. J. R. Toussaint, Clifford 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 and articles for the Bulletin 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. Gordon Jansz, I.S.O., Turret Road, Colombo, and not to the Honorary Secretary.

Remittances on account of the Social Service Fund must be made to 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.

