

DEATH OF MR. A. PATE.—A well known, estimable and much-respected member of the community has passed from among us. Mr. A. Pate, farrier, died last night suddenly, at last, though his symptoms for months had been serious. Mr. Pate lived to see a large family well educated and many of them respectably settled in life. Mrs. Pate, who has done much good in her time, and the bereaved family will receive the sympathy of numerous friends.

LAW STUDENTS.—The Council of Legal Education met on Monday evening at half-past 4 at the chambers of the Chief Justice. They were in deliberation over the fitness of the students to become members of the legal profession till very nearly half-past 6, when the result was made known, only two, Messrs. Arthur Alwis and Bartholomew, having been successful, out of a batch of eleven. The result of the notarial examination is not yet known. [This confirms yesterday's paragraph, except that the number plucked is now said to be only nine, instead of eleven.—Ed. C. O.]

STAR LINE STEAMERS.—The *Orion* left punctually at 10 o'clock on the night of June 27, taking the following passengers for London:—Mr. A. D. MacLean, Mrs. G. Wall and son, with native servant, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Newton, 2 children and native servant, Mrs. Howland and 3 children, Mrs. Cregan, Mrs. Hansard and 2 children, and Messrs. J. Trubridge, C. F. St. George Caulfield, C. L. C. Falconar, F. Sikes, and G. H. Austen. The *Mira* left for Calcutta at 9.30 a.m., this morning. The following is the list of passengers brought by the latter vessel to Colombo:—Rev. M. C. Odell, Messrs. Alexander Morrison, R. W. Robertson, T. M. Piercy, R. W. Bolling, Wm. Cameron, Chas. Laing, and Wm. Wait, Miss Wait, Miss Robinson, Mr. A. H. Jacob, Mrs. Jacob, infant and ayah, and Mr. G. Lloyd Alison jun.

AFFRAY WITH A TICPOLONGA.—A correspondent writes:—Last night (26th) at 8 o'clock, hearing a great cry and excitement going on close to my house, I rushed out and found that a ticpolonga measuring 2ft. 4in. had just been killed. It appears that a woman whilst returning home after the purchase of boutique articles heard a hiss close to her, and on turning a dim cholu light which she had in her hand towards the noise, she found the snake clutching at her cloth. She immediately cried out, upon which some neighbours rushed to her assistance and killed the reptile. I give you the story as told to me. There is a good deal of probability in it. I saw the brute just after it had been killed, and the woman in tears through sheer excitement. The polonga was killed on Daniel's road, Madampitiya.

SALE OF CROWN LANDS.

The following table contains full particulars of the recent sale of Crown land at the Colombo Kachcheri:—

No. of Lot.	Name of Land.	Where Situated.	Extent.	Name of Purchaser.	Amount realized.	Price per acre.
8,518	Malinduwa Kanda Kele	Mandawala in the Ganga-boda Path of the Siyane Korale	40	V. Paulu de Mel	570	14.25
8,519	do	do	7	do	81	11.57
8,520	do	do	36	Mr. A. M. Ferguson	1,160	32.22
8,521	do	do	16	do	320	19.39
8,522	do	do	47	do	970	20.31
8,523	do	do	49	Frederick Kure	1,380	28.16
8,524	do	do	54	Mr. H. C. Perera	1,410	25.87
8,525	do	do	42	do	1,250	29.76
8,527	do	do	54	Mr. G. W. Stork	2,000	37.03
8,528	do	do	10	do	400	38.09
8,529	do	do	11	Mr. H. C. Perera	210	18.66
8,530	do	do	2	do	46	16.72
		Total Acreage	372	Total realized	9,797	
			1	Average per acre	R26.33	

COLOMBO MUSEUM.

Return of number of visitors for the week ending June 22, 1878:—

Sunday, June 16th	188
Monday, do 17th	76
Tuesday, do 18th	49
Wednesday, do 19th	118
Thursday, do 20th	105
Saturday, do 22nd	102
Total...	638

(Presents received during the week.)

- Beetles (*Oryctes rhinoceros*)—Master J. Attwell.
- A shark (*Stigostoma tigrinum*)—Mr. J. M. Hart.
- Moths (*Choerocampa necii* and *thyelia*, *Nyctipao-ophideris*)—Mr. G. Heath.
- A collection of insects—Miss Braine.
- A beetle—Mr. C. A. H. Ross.
- A bird (*Munia undulata*)—Mr. H. J. Macvicar.
- A scorpion—Mr. T. F. Mohamed.

RICHARD VAN CUYLENBURG, actg. Director.

Colombo Museum, June 24, 1878.

PLANTING.

FUNDALNOYA, June 22.—Weather fine since Thursday. Before that we had very boisterous weather. crops are looking very well.

BOLTUMBE, 25 June.—This new district has suffered very much from the violence of the late wind: trees (coffee) have been stripped not merely of their leaves but of a great deal of the crop as well, and estimates will be seriously affected.

DIKOYA, June 27.—The "monsoon" returned to-day after allowing us the thorough enjoyment of a few fine days; "planting" and "supplying" will now be pushed on with, and clearings, which are well in hand, will soon be finished. The wind has been unusually severe, and exposed ridges have been rather "thinned out" by it: the district generally is looking extremely well, and impartial judges, one and all, give the palm to the upper or Bogawantalawa end of the valley.

RAKWANA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a General Meeting held at the Rest-house on Saturday, the 22nd instant. Present—Messrs. O'Dowd (Chairman), Brabazon, Fraser, Forsyth, Hector, MacGuffie, Mackenzie, Macshane, Maitland, Reith, Stiven, Stuart, Walker, Watts, Widlake, and O. Hawkins (Secretary).

Minutes of the last meeting being read, Mr. Brabazon asked the Secretary if the gentlemen requested to examine the trace of the road from Pettit's bridge to the Ratamahatmaya's road to Madampe, suggested in Mr. Shand's letter of the 16th February, had done so, and on reply in the negative, on account of no sum being voted for clearing purposes.

Mr. BRABAZON proposed, seconded by Mr. MACKENZIE, and carried:—"That the Secretary be empowered to have the trace cleared, cost of same to be debited to Association."

Mr. BRABAZON asked the Secretary if any reply from Government to the memorial ament the Resthouse had been received, and was informed that no answer had arrived to date.

Mr. HECTOR stated that he was not yet in possession of the necessary statistics to enable him to bring forward his motion on the subject of railway extension.

Read letter from Mr. Hunt intimating his desire to withdraw his estates from the roll of the Association.

Proposed by Mr. BRABAZON, seconded by Mr. WATTS, and carried:—"That this meeting cordially avail themselves of Mr. Hunt's intimation to withdraw from this Association."

Proposed by Mr. O'DOWD, seconded by Mr. MAITLAND, and carried:—"That the Secretary be empowered to debit the Association with the fees paid to the parent Association on account of Gilgarron and Rawreth estates."

Read letter from Mr. Churchward intimating his desire to withdraw his estates from the Association, on the plea of not having received notices of meetings.

Proposed by Mr. STUART, seconded by Mr. MAITLAND, and carried:—"That seeing Mr. Churchward attended a meeting within the year his plea for withdrawing his estates from the roll of the Association is inadmissible."

Read letter from Mr. Watts tendering his resignation as member as he had no further interest in that district, but agreeing to stand for re-election of Committee for the Central Kukul Korale. The following gentlemen, viz. Messrs. Stiven, Walker, and Watts, were duly proposed and seconded, and, upon the result of the ballot being taken, Mr. Watts was found to have the largest number of votes, and was accordingly declared by the Chairman to be re-elected.

Read letter from the Honorary Secretary of the Dimbula Planters' Association.

Read letter from the Honorary Secretary of the Sabaragamuwa North Planters' Association ament the practice of giving names to kanganies.

Proposed by Mr. BRABAZON, seconded by Mr. HECTOR, and carried:—"That a copy of any resolution passed respecting Mr. O'Dowd's motion be forwarded to the Secretary, S.N.P.A."

Read letter from Mr. Stuart requesting the accounts of the annual breakfast be laid on the table, which was accordingly done, and after some discussion it was proposed by Mr. HAWKINS, seconded by Mr. BRABAZON, and carried:—"That, seeing that, since the accounts were rendered in April, interest had accumulated those gentlemen who had not paid their subscriptions make good the amount."

Read letter from the Colonial Secretary of the 1st April, stating that the main road would be opened for traffic on the 30th April, to the top of the Bulutota pass, and that an estimate had been submitted for its extension to Gilgarron.

Proposed by Mr. BRABAZON, seconded by Mr. T. FRASER and carried:—"That Government be respectfully asked when this Association may expect the completion of the road to Gilgarron."

The CHAIRMAN then brought forward his motion ament names to kanganies, of which he had given notice, viz:—"That the practice of giving names to kanganies is pernicious, causes unnecessary expense on the estates where it is in practice, leads to ill-feeling in the district, and should therefore be discontinued."

Mr. O'Dowd pointed out that not a few proprietors objected strongly to the Medical Aid Tax, which was heavy enough in itself, but here was a self-imposed one and altogether unnecessary for any purpose he knew of, and at least 8 times greater in amount. For the medical he was paying some three hundred and odd rupees, but if the self-imposed kangani tax was enforced upon him it would amount to nearly two thousand five hundred rupees per annum, fully 8 times as heavy as the tax which had caused so much dissatisfaction in the island. The Chairman then went on to say that in these days when expenditure was considerably increased by official taxes, medical, etc., and nature's in the shape of leaf disease, some proprietors had difficulty in making both ends meet, and concluded by most earnestly calling upon his neighbours to put down this insidious evil.

Mr. HECTOR had much pleasure in seconding the motion; and remarked in the course of a telling speech that in all the districts he had been in the practice was unknown and it was only on his arrival in Rakwana he even heard of it, and concluded by advancing strong arguments in favor of the motion.

Mr. WATTS proposed the following amendment:—"That the practice of giving names to kanganies be left to the discretion of the superintendent,"—and stated that, on the occasion of his assuming charge of an estate in Rakwana, he found the practice in vogue on that estate, and consequently he did not feel himself in a position to discontinue it, and further that it was with the knowledge and consent of the proprietor that he did not do so and at the same time expressed his intention to continue same.

Mr. MACKENZIE seconded the amendment.

Messrs. Fraser and Brabazon ably spoke in favor of the motion, the former stating that since the commencement of his career as a planter, and he thought he was the oldest one present, he had never heard of such a thing as giving NINEPENCE a day for nothing, the latter remarking that when the practice was in vogue he thought it showed want of energy and discretion on the part of the superintendent for as proved by the tone of the meeting, if the majority of those present could get coolies without giving names he was of the opinion that something must be radically wrong where kanganies were so liberally treated. Others joined in the debate, and upon a vote being taken it was found that two only, besides the proposer and seconder, voted in favour of the amendment, both of whom ultimately stated their intention of abiding by the decision of the meeting. The motion was consequently carried by a large majority.

Proposed by Mr. Brabazon, seconded by Mr. Hector, and carried:—"That Mr. J. L. Shand be invited to record our votes at the parent Association in favour of his resolution should he intend bringing it before that body."

Proposed by the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. FRASER, and carried:—"That the police authorities be requested to increase the force at Ittakande to 4 constables."

Proposed by Mr. FRASER, seconded by Mr. O'DOWD, and carried:—"That, with a view to encouraging Government to vigorously proceed with the extension of the main road, proprietors through whose land the trace passes be asked to give the width of the road 16 feet free."

Proposed by Mr. BRABAZON, seconded by Mr. WATTS, and carried:—"That Government be petitioned to send up in future a better staff of men to fill the posts of police sergeants and postholders than we have formerly had, and that such appointments in this district be made as permanent as possible, the late constant changes having been the cause of great laxity as regards observance of rules and orders, and having also put the public to frequent inconvenience."

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

A CEYLON PLANTER TURNED CLERGYMAN.

The following paragraph and extract were shut out from our London correspondent's letter for want of space in this morning's up-country extra. What is recorded of Mr. Mc Grigor is much to the credit of his benevolence of feeling, but there is danger of producing pauperization in such systematic money-giving. Our correspondent wrote:—

The following notice refers to a gentleman formerly well-known in Ceylon, the Rev. J. McGrigor was in Dikoya for some time learning coffee planting. He returned to England about five years back and has been in the church about twelve months. NETHERTON.

INTERESTING PRESENTATION.—The parish of Netherton has lost a good worker and a benevolent and Christian gentleman in the person of the Rev. J. D. W. McGrigor, who has left that sphere of labour, ere long to settle down in a living. Possessed of wealth, Mr. McGrigor has been the means of doing a great amount of good, and very much will his liberal hand be missed by the poor of the parish, for, while breaking to them the bread of life, he ever cared for and supplied their physical needs, dispensing his charities without distinction of class or community. For six months, in the present year, and the end of last, he kept open a soup kitchen entirely at his own expense, and every week, upwards of two hundred poor people were supplied with soup, and being a liberal subscriber to the Guest Hospital, and the Dudley Dispensary, numbers have received from him notes for relief, the notes invariably being accompanied with gifts of money. His pulpit ministrations have conduced to the spiritual edification of the people, and his pastoral work has endeared him to many hearts and homes. On the evening of Sunday the 12th inst. a crowded congregation assembled in the parish church to hear the reverend gentleman's farewell sermon, and as he discoursed from the 8th verse of the 4th chapter of St. Paul's Epistle to the Philippians, upon the Christian's duty to seek after purity of heart, to cultivate purity of motive, and to live a life of self denial, usefulness, and Christian charity, his audience listened to him with marked attention, and when in closing his discourse, he uttered his words of farewell, manifestations of regret were visible upon many faces. On Thursday evening the 23rd inst. a meeting was held in the parish schools for the purpose of presenting him with a testimonial. There was a numerous attendance. The Vicar, the Rev. S. J. Marriott, occupied the chair, and he with the churchwardens, sidesmen, and other gentlemen, in very choice and able speeches testified to the good work he had done; his many acts of charity, and the respect in which he was held. The testimonial consisted of a very beautiful clock and silver pocket communion service bearing suitable inscriptions.

THE LATE MR. J. P. STEPHEN.—Mr. Stephen was the oldest member of the Galle Bar. At one time he had extensive practice, but latterly he had to depend more on his notarial business. Mr. Stephen was a man of very social habits. In company he was very lively and little cared how he misapplied words, and always containing, as it did, a dash of egotism, his conversation was pleasant. He suffered from heart disease, which required the free use of stimulants. The whole Galle bar attended his funeral.—Galle Cor.