

KANDY.

A Descriptive Article on Eastern Lands.

"The Temple of the Tooth"—The Worship of Buddha—The Habits of the Sinhalese.

LETTER NO. 3.

At the railway station tickets are secured for Kandy a distance of 75 miles inland among the mountains. We are given a comfortable compartment in a car built after the English fashion, and it is not for the crowds of foreigner and natives hanging about watching us with almost the curiosity that a new specimen excites among the members of the British Association we would conclude the train was starting from some prosperous English town, so far as the general surroundings, station buildings, railway cars and accommodation would lead us to believe. After leaving Colombo we are whirled into a strange variety of sights. The luxuriant vegetation is a first attraction. Palm trees shoot by—thousands upon thousands. They are individually named in this country marked and numbered not as a precaution against being stolen, but to show the tax collector "who has to pay taxes on them and the number owned by each palm tree proprietor. There are creeping vines and gay flowering shrubs in countless varieties. We never catch a glimpse of another earth, she is first met watered by turns of a small stream over it; from the many sources of irrigation so well under control of these great rivers. It is then ag up, all men and beasts tramp about in the mud and water, and the consistency that the workers sink to the knees. The rice is then sown, treaded into the mud and again it is tilled and left thus to nature's pleasure. The Ceylon buffaloes are a species of cattle of a dark drab color, very peculiar in having their horns growing straight back over their neck. They are domesticated and take no inconsiderable part in the husbandry and general drudgery of the natives. When not at work they are to be found wallowing in the mud and water of some pond, nothing visible but the head. We pass numerous native villages on the way up all alike in appearance and thick with about a dozen men about the house, waiting to sell us fruits and their abominable cakes, the sight of which gives us the cramps. Reaching Kandy the capital, though by no means the chief town in the island, we are conducted to the Queen's Hotel, kept by an Englishman. This is a picturesque little town of nearly 25,000, about 200 being English, the remainder made up of the strange medley of Sinhalese, Afghans, Tamils, Arabs and half-castes. The town is celebrated for its sacred "Maligawa" or Temple of the Tooth, in which is enshrined Buddha's tooth. This sacred edifice was erected specially to hold this relic of the great teacher, and is visited by devout Buddhists from all parts of the world as Jerusalem is visited by some Christians, Mecca by the Mahomedans, or Benares by the Hindus. Like the young man who was politely refused the pleasure of entering his own home, but was thoughtfully given permission to sit on the fence and see her go by, we were not allowed to see this sacred "relic," but we were permitted to look at the large outer bell-shaped cover in which it is enshrined. We were conducted by several "head men" and priests up a very narrow flight of stairs to the door of a small, close room which required a deal of unbarbing and unhooking. Within is a large open space similar to that in the Tower of London guarding the Crown jewels or resembling one of a Parman's circus-cage for a wild animal. The attendant priest explained that the large bell-shaped silver vessel within this cover six other small bell-shaped vessels each within the other, and inside of these is a small square gold box containing the Tooth. The outer covering about four feet high is richly bejeweled with rubies, pearls, emeralds, diamonds, emeralds, gold, silver and ivory, and in itself is sufficient to cause half civilized humanity to worship it. For fear it should be spirited away, and to make certainty doubly sure, each covering has a separate lock and key, the keys being distributed amongst seven representative Buddhists of the island who must necessarily be together at the exhibition of the "Dalada" as it is styled. The Prince of Wales in 1870 on his visit to India had his heart gladdened by the sight of this discolored piece of ivory, as were likewise his two sons a few years later. It is taken out for an airing on the occasion of some of their celebrated feasts, probably once in three years. Europeans who have seen it say it is a small piece of discolored ivory much larger than a human tooth, but resembling a human tooth, neither in shape nor appearance. Considering that Buddha lived 2500 years ago, and that "Saxond" and other patent tooth pastes were not yet discovered we can readily believe it being discolored, and excuse that weakness; but we draw the line here. We are, however, proposed to swallow whole the statement that it is a small piece of ivory much larger than a human tooth, but resembling a human tooth, neither in shape nor appearance. Considering that Buddha lived 2500 years ago, and that "Saxond" and other patent tooth pastes were not yet discovered we can readily believe it being discolored, and excuse that weakness; but we draw the line here. We are, however, proposed to swallow whole the statement that it is a small piece of ivory much larger than a human tooth, but resembling a human tooth, neither in shape nor appearance.

mony was in progress, but did not stay it out. A band of musicians forms the principal part of the worshippers; they keep up an incessant din on the tambora and horns without regard to time, tune or harmony. Those who attend are supposed to buy a lotus flower from the priests or bring gifts of flowers or fruit for the altar. In another part of the temple is a small island where the King has occasionally his teaching. The old palace of the kings of Kandy adjoins the temple, but is now turned into dwelling and offices for the British Resident. A Buddhist library containing many rare manuscripts in the ancient Pali language is also adjoining the temple. Near the temple is a beautiful little artificial lake made by the late King of Kandy about the beginning of this century. It is a most attractive feature to the otherwise picturesque town. A wall about four feet high of singular design built of brick and stucco over surrounds this pleasant sheet of water. In the centre is a small island where the King was wont to retire when there was no parliamentary business, and he found it convenient to go fishing. In the lake, and connected with the land by a bridge is a large pavilion which was used by him when he kept his forty wives, now turned into a public library containing hundreds of volumes of dry statistics, army gazettes, theological and metaphysical works, with files of "Hindu News," "London Times," and other press books and periodicals. Alas! ye gods, what changes a century brings about. The town is built in a hollow, surrounded by mountains clothed to their peaks with verdure, but to get a better view of this strangest of old towns we engage a carriage and a Singhalese boy as a guide and start for Lady Gordon's road. This is a nicely kept drive among the hills and across a mountain until we ascend some five or six hundred feet above the valley. We have before us at our feet the beautiful silvery lake, the old temple surrounded by a great "brass ball," a large open square in which are some scores of native boys at play, an English church, the Governor's pavilion and beautiful garden and the thickly clustered native shops and dwellings forming the main part of the town with one street containing the hotel and the few English places of business. The square and the lake are surrounded by the queerest of shade trees, and the flower gardens show the most brilliantly colored flowers. Surely there is not a more lovely spot on earth. Our guide is an intelligent youth of twelve, who struggles bravely with the English language with the hope of someday being able to string out a sentence correctly. He is dressed in a plain white knee-length dhoti, his long black hair is carefully put up in a "Water-fall" roll behind and fastened by a tortoise shell comb, he wears no hat nor shoes. He pines us with all kinds of questions—When were you from; where are you going; what were our impressions of his country; what was Australia like; what was Canada like; did we think he could ever go there; how far was it; and when informed we were going all the way round the world he concluded we must be kings or king's sons in our own country to spend so much money in travel. He gave his vote straight for the Christian religion, being a much better than his father, but he was obliged to conform to the belief of his people, but when he was a man he'd be a Christian and expected some day to get into a government clerkship. While going home our party under the pretext of being thirsty went into a deep jungle almost filled with palm trees to a native's hut to get a bowl of water. Inside this miserable abode we did not see an article of furniture, the only domestic article being a mat on which the native sat for ploughing and like heavy work. Here also we saw the Mimosa, a sensitive plant which when you your your hand over it or even blow your breath on it, closes up its leaves. In the town we visited an attack shop where for an anna we tasted the superior quality of Kandy "tangle ice." This is a liquor distilled from the jagery palm tree, and gives the Sinhalese a top the same supreme satisfaction as an English top gets from imitating superior Kandy civilized whisky. These people have also a filthy habit of chewing betel-nut, corresponding to our civilized tobacco chewing with this difference, that the Sinhalese do not expect to get anything out of it, and the betel-nut preparation is blood-red instead of black. Their mouth suggests the idea of a pugilist's encounter in which they figured second best. From the attack shop we next visited a "shober" house, once more part of the flowing bowl, but this time it is a mild tannaceous drink of partly distilled honey and water flavored with attar of roses. This is the great Pesian drink, and is very pleasant to the taste, though we did have to shut our eyes when we saw the vessel it was taken from, and the cup in which it was given us. In the afternoon we directed our guide to drive to the Botanical Gardens. We saw here the elastic rubber tree from which is prepared that useful commodity, India rubber. The nutmeg tree, the cacao tree bearing large red pods enclosing seeds which when dried give the cocoa and chocolate of commerce. An endless variety of foliage plants of all colors; clove trees and cinnamon shrubs; creepers that seemingly want to cling to everything animate or inanimate; beautiful colored flowers and by side with the deadly nasturtium under which we were told we went to sleep we would never wake again; and candle trees with long white pods growing on them much resembling candles. We recognise very few species of plants, shrubs, trees, or flowers in this large garden that we ever saw before. While here we were visited with a tropical rain storm from which our guide took shelter under a single palm leaf, but we fortunately reached the lodge before the heavens opened. For an hour the ground seemed to be an inch deep with water so heavy did it pour down. On reaching the hotel our youthful guide, who we thought was a superior specimen of Singhalese, disappointed that thought by begging for

"backshehu" over and above his proper payment for services rendered. Not a few decent English education eradicate the backshehu plague. D. E. McC.

Paramount.

Wm Davis has been spending Xmas holidays with friends at Arthar. John Taylor formerly of this place, but now of Galt, is visiting his old friend here.

Miss Lizette Richards left last week to reside with her brother, Dr. Richards, of Michigan, she will be greatly missed by her many friends.

Mrs Logan, mother of Mrs Towle, drove all alone from her home, a distance of about 100 miles, to visit her son and daughter. She has more pluck than most women of her age.

On Monday night last a jovial sleigh load of boys and girls from here spent an enjoyable evening with Mr and Mrs John McDermid, Kinloss. All enjoyed an immense time.

Quite a number met at the house of Peter McKenzie where a sumptuous repast was provided and an excellent time spent. May we spend many more such happy Xmas days.

The Xmas tree and examination of S. S. No. 11 of some of the 23rd inst. There was a large crowd in attendance. The teacher, Mr Horton, was ably assisted by Messrs. Seaborn, Matheson, McIntosh, J. P. McKenzie, Wm McDermid, M. McKenzie, and H. MacLellan. The pupils being examined, the visitors were treated to a well prepared program of recitations and singing by the teacher and scholars. Congratulatory speeches were made by trustees and visitors present, complimenting Mr Horton on the able way he had conducted the school for the last three years. A couple of scholars then came forward and presented their teacher with a handsome present valued at over \$15, with the following address:—

DEAR TEACHER—The time of your labors amongst us has now drawn to a close. During the time you have been with us you have proved yourself a true friend and faithful adviser, ever ministering to your duty as a teacher, earnestly endeavoring to improve the mental culture and elevate the moral character of the pupils committed to your care. We deeply regret the necessity of your departure, knowing that we shall miss you in our social gathering as a friend, and feel the loss of your kind counsel as an instructor. We, therefore, desire that you will accept as a slight token of our appreciation for your kind and generous labors, a ring and album, hoping that they may remind you of the friends you have left behind you in Paramount, whose sincere wishes are that your future pathway may be bright and unclouded, and that all your efforts may be crowned with complete success and when your work on earth is ended the welcome "Well done" of the Master may usher you into the great beyond.

Signed on behalf of the neighborhood of Paramount,

JAMES MURPHY,
JOHN C. REID.

Mr Horton then made a few suitable remarks, thanking both people and school, and promising to do his best to him during his stay of three years with them, and also for their valuable present.

The Xmas trees were then stripped of their heavy loads, and meeting ended by singing the national anthem.

Mr Horton left for his home, Leeburn on Tuesday last, carrying with him the good wishes of the whole community.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Colborne, in pursuance of an order of the Council, Meeting held in the Township Hall, in Arthar, on the 27th day of December, 1886, do hereby direct that on the 17th day of January, A.D. 1887, pass a By-law for stopping up that certain portion of the road, situate in the Township of Colborne, in the County of North York, and described as follows, to wit:—A portion of the road, situate in the Township of Colborne, in the County of North York, and described as follows, to wit:—A portion of the road, situate in the Township of Colborne, in the County of North York, and described as follows, to wit:—

Commencing on the River Maitland, where it is intersected on its north bank by the east side of said original road allowance, thence north along the said east side of said road allowance to the water edge of said River Maitland, a distance of 38/100 of an acre, more or less, and such By-law to provide for the selling and conveying of the same to WILLIAM J. HATHIS, of the said Township, Yeoman, who has agreed to contribute to the Corporation the lands hereinafter described in lieu thereof. And will also at the same time and place, pass a By-law for the purpose of opening, opening up, and using as a public highway, a portion of the Township of Colborne, in the County of North York, the following land, being composed of part of Lot number Nineteen (19) of the said Township, particularly described by notes and bounds as follows:—Commencing on the east side of the original road allowance in the said Township of Colborne, at a point on the north-east corner of the south-west corner of the said Township, thence north-easterly to a curve forming the south-western limit of the north bank of the said River, distant westerly along said bank fifty links from the centre of the said River, thence easterly along the said north-easterly boundary of the said present township road allowance to the said Township of Colborne, in the County of North York, more or less, to the east side of the original road allowance, thence south along the said east side of said road allowance to the place of beginning, containing by measurement, 2/10 of an acre, more or less.

Of which all persons are hereby required to take notice.

Witness my hand at Colborne, this 27th day of December, A.D. 1886.

J. H. RICHARDS,
Township Clerk.

ENVELOPES
Wholesale and Retail.

WHITE Business Envelopes
Ladies' Envelopes,
the very best quality in the market for the money.

Call and See Them
"THE SIGNAL" CHEAP PRINTING OFFICE.
Stationers' Association of Western Ontario.

The annual convention of the above association will be held in the Town of Ingersoll on the 21st, 22nd and 23rd days of January next. Dairymen, and all interested in dairy products, are urgently invited to attend. Arrangements are being made for a reunion of dairy farmers; parties on starting will pay full prices for the products, and obtain a certificate from the secretary entitling them to a reduction on return.

By order,
C. E. CHADWICK, Secretary,
Ingersoll, Dec. 1, '86.

The Mayoralty.
G. SEAGER, Esq., Barrister, Goderich.
DEAR SIR.—Understanding that Mayor Horton is about to be re-elected, I have to be the undersigned rate-payers of the Town of Goderich, request that you will allow yourself to be put in nomination as Mayor for the year 1887. Believing, as we do, that you will receive the unanimous vote of the rate-payers, office, energy, capability and impartiality, we pledge ourselves to give you our earnest support in your candidature.

(Signed) JOHN T. NAFFEL,
and over 40 others.

To JOHN T. NAFFEL, Esq., J.P., and others.
GENTLEMEN.—I deeply appreciate the very kind and flattering requisition, signed by so many of my fellow citizens of all parties and opinions.

I exceedingly regret that at this juncture in the affairs of our town, there is to be any change in the Mayoralty. I believe that if I have been best had our present Mayor, who has served you so many years, and who is so thoroughly conversant with the Town affairs, been induced to continue in the office, energy, capability and impartiality, we pledge ourselves to give you our earnest support in your candidature.

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FINE TAILORING!
AND
Gents' Furnishings.
I am now prepared to show a complete assortment of
FALL GOODS
OVERCOATINGS in all the New Shades and Styles.
An endless variety of English, Irish and Scotch Suits,
An immense stock of New and Stylish Canadian Tweeds.

CHEAP! CHEAP!!! CHEAP!!!
Remember, all Goods bought by the yard cut free of charge.

B. MacCormac.
Goderich, Sept. 20th, 1886.

All the Willard Tract Society

BOOKS
FOR SALE AT

JAS. IMRIE,
Bookseller and Stationer,
GODERICH.

A. B. CORNELL
THE LEADING UNDERTAKER, HAS THE
TWO BEST HEARSES IN TOWN
EMBALMING FLUID ALWAYS ON HAND.

FURNITURE.
I am selling LOWER than the Highest Bidder on Top of the Earth. Cheap and will sell as I have done in the past, CHEAPER than any furniture man in town. Give me a call and save money.

I am still selling the Celebrated High Arm Improved Nolessee
RAYMOND SEWING MACHINE.
PRICES AWAY DOWN, DOWN, DOWN.

GET MARRIED AND BE HAPPY
—AND BUY YOUR—
FURNITURE
—AT—
G. C. ROBERTSON'S
CRABB'S BLOCK.

I have now in stock Bedroom Sets, Sideboards and Extension Tables of the Newest and Latest Designs, at Prices to suit the times. Lounges and Parlor Sets, Mattan, Cases, Perfumery and Wood-Grated Chairs.

TOYS AND FANCY GOODS
Cheaper than ever. Music Boxes, Vases, Work Boxes, Toilet Sets, Writing Desks, Guns for Children, Albums, Dolls from Europe.

Call and See Our 10c. Counter.
WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD.

Fall Millinery!
MRS. SALKELD
Has now on exhibition at her Show Room a Full Assortment of the
LATEST SHAPES & STYLES
of Hats and Fall Millinery.

Felt Hats Trimmed with Astrachan, and Untrimmed.
Astrachan for Trimming Purposes.
Felt Hats Trimmed from \$1.00 upwards.

A cordial invitation is extended to all.

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Send MODEL OR DRAWING. We advise as to patentability, and give of charge; and we make NO CHARGE UNLESS WE OBTAIN PATENT.
We refer here to the Postmaster, the Supr. of Money Order Div., and to officials of the U. S. Patent Office. For circular, advice, constitution may be gradually built up by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a man may feel strong enough to resist every tendency to disease around us ready to attack many a frail and feeble body.

Home Rule
A CALL TO THE PUBLIC.
Say, Farmers, say, do you not want a
Harness, Blankets, Robes, and Bells for XMAS?

Now is your time,
C. F. STRAUBEL
is selling out his stock. The prices are just the thing, and no humbug. The terms are always made to suit the man who has the bill to foot.

C. F. STRAUBEL,
Goderich, Dec. 15, 1886.

EPPE'S COCOA.
BREAKFAST.
By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which governs the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicious, healthful and economical beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a man may feel strong enough to resist every tendency to disease around us ready to attack many a frail and feeble body.

Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in packets by Grocers, labelled "EPPE'S COCOA".
JAMES EPPS & CO. Homoeopathic Chemists,
London, England.

FINE TAILORING!
AND
Gents' Furnishings.
I am now prepared to show a complete assortment of
FALL GOODS
OVERCOATINGS in all the New Shades and Styles.
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A Large and Varied Assortment of Goods suitable for

Xmas and New Years Presents

Just Received at the Medical Hall by F. JORDAN, and will be sold at Prices to suit the Hard Times. Call and see them before making your purchases.

F. JORDAN, Medical Hall, Goderich.