

INDIAN
HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION



PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETINGS OF THE
TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION, NAGPUR, DECEMBER, 1950
VOLUME XXVII

PART I

PART II



सत्यमेव जयते

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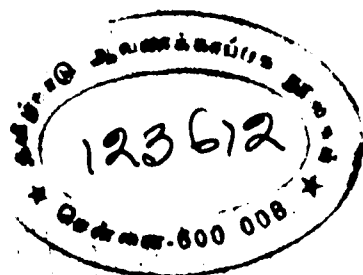
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4. Honourable Pandit Dwarkaprasad Mishra, Home and Education Minister, Madhya Pradesh—Facing page 10

Twenty-seventh 'Session of the Indian Historical Records Commissions, Nagpur, December 1950.



(Sitting, right to left

Sardar Ganda Singh, Pepsu; Dr. B. S. Baliga, Madras; Dr. G. L. Chopra, Punjab; Dr. R. C. Majumdar, Banaras; Prof. C. S. Sinha, Calcutta; Dr. Purnendu Basu, Secretary, Pt. K. L. Dubey, Vice-Chancellor, Nagpur University; H. E. Governor of Madhya Pradesh, Hon'ble Pt. Dwarka Prasad Mishra, Education Minister, Madhya Pradesh; Dr. Tara Chand, Chairman, R. & P. Committee, Professor D. V. Potdar (Poona); Prof. Mohammad Habib, Aligarh; Mr. S. N. Datta, W. Bengal; Dr. P. M. Joshi, Bombay; Dr. H. N. Sinha, Nagpur; Dr. H. L. Gupta, Ayyar, Madras; Dr. S. P. Sen, Calcutta; Dr. A. C. Banerjee, Calcutta; Prof. J. M. Ghosh, Jaipur; J. B. Mallaradha, Mysore; A. D. C. to H.E., Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar, Madras; Dr. B. Prasad, Simla; Dr. N. L. Chatterjee, Lucknow; Dr. D. C. Ganguly, Calcutta; Mr. J. C. Talagdar (Agra); Dr. R. C. Gvani, Bombay; Mr. H. N. Nene, Nagpur; Mr. V. Raghavendra Rao, Mysore; Mr. K. C. Panigrahi (Bhubaneswar), Mr. S. H. Askari (Indore); Dr. N. K. Sinha, Calcutta; Mr. T. S. Sankar, Poona; Mr. V. R. R. Dikshitar, Madras; Mr. G. H. Khare, Poona; Mr. S. C. Rajkhowa (Assam); Prof. K. A. Nilakanta Sastri, Madras; Dr. A. S. Altekar.

Standing, 1st row, right

2nd row, right to left

3rd row, right to left

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC MEETING, 25TH DECEMBER
1950, NAGPUR

The Public meeting of the Twenty-seventh Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission was held at the Convocation Hall of the Nagpur University on Monday, the 25th December at 10-30 A.M. The meeting was inaugurated by His Excellency Shri Mangaldas Pakvasa, Governor of Madhya Pradesh, and was presided over by Dr. Tara Chand, Educational Adviser to the Government of India, due to the unavoidable absence of the Hon'ble Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Education Minister of India and ex-officio President of the Commission.

A list of members (corrected up to date) who attended the session will be found on pages 11—18.

On arrival at the gate of the Convocation Hall, His Excellency the Governor was received by Dr. Tara Chand and the Secretary. The Secretary then introduced the members of the Commission individually to His Excellency, after which a group photograph was taken. The members then led His Excellency in a procession to the Convocation Hall.

Before the meeting started, Lt.-Col. Pandit K. L. Dubey, Vice-Chancellor, Nagpur University, and Chairman of the Reception Committee invited the house to express their deep sense of sorrow at the death of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Two minutes silence was observed all members standing.

Welcoming the Commission, Lt.-Col. Dubey then said:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

On behalf of Nagpur University as well as all those in the Province interested in the preservation of the records of history, I welcome the members of the Indian Historical Records Commission to Nagpur, a city of abundant reference in the records of modern Indian History. We are greatly disappointed that ill-health has prevented the Hon'ble Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, its President to be amongst us to-day, who is the living record of the history of Indian Freedom in its latest phase and a standing demonstration that eminent men of learning can also be eminent men of action.

Though our city is old, our University is young. Even so, under the inspiration of your expected visit, records in various languages dealing with various periods of history have sprung forth from different parts of our State and thanks to the labour of love of our historian-Principal, Dr. H. N. Sinha, have been classified and arranged in an Exhibition which has been housed in a building, which—with its association with the 18th century history and its

location at the foot of the Sitabuldi Hill—will, I hope, prove itself spiritually quite fit for receiving these messengers of the past. The process of collecting such documents is, for the younger students of history, an education in itself and its results for the laymen a pleasant surprise. It is, however, my hope that even those members of the Commission who were present in Nagpur on the occasion of the first visit of the Commission to the city in 1928 may be able to find some evidence that we have learnt many things since then.

We are meeting today under the shadow of a national calamity: for history of India,—more than the history of other nations,—is a biography of its heroes. The great Sardar of India was one of those national figures that give life to history.

* * * *

But national work—and the work of this Commission is truly national—has to go on and must go on. Only a genuine unflagging devotion to our respective duties can be a true homage to the memory of the man for whom duty to the nation was the whole of life.

On behalf of all those present in this Hall, I now request that great friend of Nagpur University, the ever-ready support of learning, as of all good causes,—His Excellency Shri Mangaldas Pakvasa, to inaugurate the Twenty-seventh Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

**Inaugural Speech of His Excellency Shri Mangaldas Pakvasa,
Governor of Madhya Pradesh**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have been invited by the Vice-Chancellor of the Nagpur University to inaugurate the 27th session of the Indian Historical Records Commission this morning. I am afraid, I cannot congratulate the Vice-Chancellor on his choice; for, I can hardly claim any expert knowledge of the historical records with which you gentlemen are so familiar. One of you gentlemen or those who have taken to the scholarly pursuit of historical research would have been more suitable. Nevertheless, I am grateful to him for giving me an opportunity to meet so many of you assembled here, so many eminent scholars of history from all parts of the country. It is a matter of unique pleasure for me to associate with you on this occasion, and get a glimpse of the work that you gentlemen have been doing.

The Indian Historical Records Commission, I find, was first set up in March 1919 and started on its career as a body of officials. Its first meeting was held in 1919 at Simla and in 1920 it assembled at Lahore. Gradually its composition was made more broad based, and the Universities and the Indian States were invited to co-operate with its work by sending their representatives. Being financially



Lt. Col. Pandit K. L. Dubey, Vice-Chancellor, Nagpur University.

unproductive, it became an easy victim of retrenchment during the years 1931 to 1936. Thanks to the zeal and co-operation of its Secretaries and members, past and present, it has been functioning regularly and with full vigour since then.

The Indian Historical Records Commission is a body of scholars engaged and interested in discovering old records and manuscripts in which India is so rich due to the antiquity of its history. It has been doing very useful work in this field and has secured the co-operation of all sections of the people without any differences of politics and religion. At its sessions which have been held at most of the State capitals and seats of Universities scholars have assembled to co-ordinate their work and plan new schemes of work year after year. It is a tribute to the work of the Commission that, when India was divided, the scholars on both sides succeeded in maintaining the records and archives intact. Their division would have seriously impaired the utility of the archives without gain to either side.

The records, I know, form the very foundation of our country's history. They are the raw materials by means of which our country's past can be properly reconstructed and visualised. And those of you who have taken to the task of studying the accounts of the glory and greatness, the faults and foibles of our countrymen in the ages gone by, and in the light of your studies holding up before our eyes a true picture of our national character and achievements are really doing a type of work which nobody else can do. That is the highest work of nation-building that I can think of; for you tell us on the basis of records where and how we have succeeded or failed in our endeavours in the past and how in the light of that past experience we can improve and can go ahead. Hence the value of records and of your work.

But I cannot say in our country much has been done on these lines. From the proceedings of the Commission in the past years I find that you have been endeavouring to collect and preserve all these vestiges of our past, which through carelessness and ignorance have been scattered throughout the country, neglected or allowed to decay. That is a loss no nation or its government can afford to overlook. I am sure the governments of States, learned bodies, historical families and others who have in their possession old records of historical importance are showing some response to your praiseworthy efforts and you are getting in an increasing measure their sympathy and co-operation in your task. I know how lately a move has been made to establish Regional Survey Committees to make a country-wide search and survey for the collection and preservation of records. I know also several State Governments and learned bodies have become conscious of the necessity of preserving our old records from decay and destruction.

We, in this State, have been also alive to this need. We have initiated a scheme with the objective of getting the most important of our old records published in the form of selections on the pattern of the selections from Poona Residency Records and Peshwa Daftar Records. The work has been entrusted as you know to one of your colleagues in this pursuit, Dr. H. N. Sinha, who is the President of our University Historical Society. I know what a lot has to be done by all of you gentlemen to preserve and get together all these valuable vestiges of our past in the form of records in order that the future generation may have the light and guidance in their endeavours for progress and happiness. We get a glimpse of how variegated is the pattern of our past life and culture from the list of exhibits placed in your hands, the exhibits that you are going to see this afternoon. They are samples that enshrine the forgotten days of a great country. They come from as distant lands as Patiala and East Punjab, the quake-battered Assam and sacred temple of Jagannath, the heroic land of the Rajputs and the shores of the southern ocean. Our own State has also made its humble contribution. Some of the notable families of this city like the Chitnavises and Gujars, the Muslim families of Balapur and Ellichpur, the Raja Saheb of Raigarh and of Malegaon, some of the private bodies of this State like the Sharadashram of Yeotmal and Mahakoshal Research Society have sent very valuable exhibits for your inspection. Some of our State records as well as the records of Union Government are also there. I am sure all these will be a source of great inspiration for the people here and scholars who have a love for historical research.

The presence of so many distinguished persons who are devoted to resuscitating the past from the dry bones of scattered manuscripts and other materials is in itself a proof, if one was needed, of the great importance of the work undertaken by the Commission. With great learning and scrupulous care you are collecting various materials and co-ordinating them for the purpose of providing rich raw material for any historian who wants to give even a faint idea of our great and glorious past. There is no doubt that the history of India is extremely rich and varied, but it is unfortunate that being a vast sub-continent divided in the past in many ways and torn with conflicting interests, the materials which are there are scattered and not easily available. It is only recently that we have started to collect the materials and a good progress has been made. But let us not like misers collect the materials only and even arrange them without any further use being made of these riches. Let not the rich materials be the glory of the few by their possession but they must be so used as may render a valuable service to the people in present times and be a helpful guide for the future. Whether history repeats itself or not, there is no doubt that if a connected history of the past is written chronologically,



His Excellency Shri Mangaldas Pakvasa,
Governor of Madhya Pradesh.

not only of the lives of kings and queens, of the wars, battles, defeats and conquests or of their beauty or butchery, but also presents an accurate picture of the life of the people in economic and cultural aspects, it is bound to serve a very useful purpose. We will be able to see real causes of great events that have changed the lives of millions and will enable us to understand the present better and may be of help for guiding our actions in the future. If all these materials are used to give what I may call an integrated picture of man's progress through struggles and achievement of advancement in many spheres of human existence, then a really good use will have been made of this invaluable rich raw material which you are collecting, classifying and elucidating with such patience and scholarship.

Before I close, I feel it my duty to say a word of my appreciation about all those who have worked hard and sincerely to make this function of the University a success. You will all agree with me that Dr. Sinha, with his band of devoted co-workers, has been assiduously labouring and has successfully arranged all the items of this Session's programme. He must have experienced all kinds of difficulties about many things and if you find any deficiency in any way, I will request you to overlook it in the firm belief that he could not have, in spite of all his efforts, been successful in removing them. I hereby offer my congratulations to Dr. Sinha and his colleagues for all that they have done with a commendable zeal and enthusiasm.

Dr. Tara Chand then read out the English translation of the Hindi speech of Hon'ble Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, President of the Commission:

English translation of the Hindi Speech of the Hon'ble Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, inaugurating the Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission on the 25th December, 1950, at Nagpur.

FRIENDS,

We are meeting after a year to discuss our common problems. As you are aware, the Indian Historical Records Commission deals with all kinds of historical records. The scope of our deliberations is, therefore, wide and extensive. It will, however, be of advantage to confine ourselves to matters of first concern, and I am sure you will agree that these relate to questions affecting the National Archives. National Archives are in all countries the treasure house of their historical wealth, and we in India can justly take pride for the extent and magnitude of our riches in this field.

Our National Archives contains a vast collection of records but systematic series begin from 1672. Some of the latest records are as late as 1949. They, therefore, tell the story of near upon 300 years of India's history of a most interesting and momentous period. If what

remains of the scattered records of the Moghul period are added to these collections, we can say that our records go back to the 15th century. There are not many countries which can claim records which go so far back. From the point of view of quantity also ours is one of the biggest collections not only in Asia, but in the world. I cannot give you the exact number of our records for much work of indexing and cataloguing still remains, but to give you some idea of the extent of the collection, I may say that if all these records are assembled in one place, there is no building in India big enough to contain all of them.

It is hardly necessary for me to stress before the present audience the importance of national records. Such records are the basis of history and can alone give authenticity to our knowledge of the past. When we read of the past, we are often troubled by the fact that our knowledge is neither complete nor adequate. Contemporary historians hardly ever leave accounts which satisfy succeeding generations, and in fact they are often not in a position to judge what should be recorded and what left out. If, however, complete records are available, the annals of the past can be reconstructed, but, in most cases, such records of the past do not exist. We know that during the Moghul period, India had all the instruments of civilised government and that full records were kept of all official decisions and happenings. Unfortunately, most of these records were destroyed during the troubled period of the 18th century. In consequence, we have lost some of the most valuable sources of our knowledge of the age. It is, however, fortunate that the histories written by ABUL FAZAL, ABDUL HAMID LAHORI, KHAFI KHAN and others based on official records are available to us. Even though they were written from an official point of view, their use of records makes them valuable source material for us.

During the 19th century European States adopted the convention that all State records should be opened to the public after a lapse of 50 years. Records of the Napoleonic era were thus released to the public about 1870. The Napoleonic era was a period of great progress in different fields, and it was described contemporaneously by many well-known historians. In fact, all the known methods of history writing were used in making the Napoleonic period vivid to the public of the day, but even then, when the official records became available in 1870, it was found that our knowledge of the period was both enriched and altered. Much new light was thrown on obscure incidents and happenings. Many old opinions had to be revised in the light of the new information.

Similarly, the official papers relating to the so-called Indian Mutiny of 1857 were released in 1907. The Government of India published a three-volume History of the Mutiny based on these records.

It is true that this book was written from the British point of view, and did not, therefore, do full justice to the Indian participants. It is, therefore, necessary that these records should be examined afresh and a true account of the period written in as objective a manner as possible. Even then the official history which was based on these records revealed many facts that were previously unknown and corrected many of our wrong ideas about the different characters who participated in these momentous happenings.

These two examples show how essential records are for a true interpretation of history. If, however, the records are to be utilised to the fullest extent, it is necessary that they should not only be preserved, but also arranged and classified systematically. There must also be a sufficient number of scholars with the necessary knowledge and scientific attitude to take full advantage of the information contained in them. In our National Archives, we have an immense storehouse of such records but two things have stood in the way of our fully utilising them:—

- (1) We have not been able to make arrangements for keeping all the records in one place.
- (2) We have not been able to appoint the staff which is necessary for completing at an early date the work of classification and indexing of the available records.

In 1948, I had intended that Government of India should undertake this task at an early date, and accordingly a scheme was drawn up for improving the tempo and the quality of the work. This demanded an increase in the staff of the Archives to cope with the additional work, but unfortunately, financial stringency prevented our implementation of even this modest scheme.

I would like to give members of the Commission some idea of the magnitude of the task which faces the National Archives today. In 1939, it was little more than a medium size depository, with a limited body of records. These were, however, fairly well organised though they were not open to students for research. Today, it is one of the leading archival institutions in the world, and is certainly the largest in Asia. It is also mechanically one of the best equipped. Our holdings in the last ten years have greatly grown in bulk, specially since December 1948. It was then decided that all records prior to 15th August 1947 of the Residencies and Political Agencies of the Government of India would be transferred to the National Archives. The increase since then has been almost phenomenal. The number of Residencies and Political Agencies which then went out of commission was 15 and 14 respectively. Of these, the National Archives has already received the records of 14 Residencies and 11 Political

Agencies though many of these records have large gaps. These transferred records number 11,555 volumes, and 3,581 bundles, and cover a period from 1672 to 1949.

Apart from the sudden accession to our collections, we are also getting an increasing number of records from different Ministries and their Attached and Subordinate Offices. With growing consciousness, both in the Government and among the people, of the value of records, destruction of records has now become out of question. Besides, the increasing function which Government are undertaking and necessity of written instruments in a democratic government make it inevitable that the number of records will continue to grow. This will accentuate problems of space and maintenance for each government department, and it is inevitable that offers of transfer of records from different governmental agencies will continually become more pressing. It is also proposed to legislate in order to ensure complete and regular transfer of all records to the National Archives.

Further problems have been created as the material which is now coming to the National Archives is often in a chaotic condition. When it was decided to transfer the records of the Residencies and Political Agencies it was also decided to transfer all existing inventories and indexes to these records. This was essential if the National Archives was to check these records, arrange them in their proper order and supply them to government or to research scholars on requisition. It is, however, unfortunate that many of the Agencies either did not maintain working lists or indexes of their records, or their records got considerably disarranged during the transfer. As a result, it is difficult to find documents as and when required. These records have, therefore, to be listed, re-arranged in their original order and properly indexed. Only then can these records tell correctly the story of the transactions of which they are the evidence. Unless restored to their original order, the documents will remain isolated pieces, disconnected, meaningless and unreliable. The phenomenal increase in records production in the departments themselves, and their indifferent maintenance in the current and semi-current stages have also added to the difficulties which the Archives faces. I may cite one example. One series of Political Department records from 1880 to 1930 which has just been transferred to the Archives does not possess even a check list.

The physical conditions of large bulks of these records also presents serious problems. Due to the various reasons, many of these series are in a very bad state of preservation and require immediate rehabilitation in order to ensure their continued existence. To give members some idea, I may mention that about 3,000 volumes of the Residency records require major and another 4,000 require minor repairs and reconditioning immediately. This task of restoration is

very urgent as the climate of New Delhi accelerates the physical deterioration of the records. In order to cope with the situation, the processes of rehabilitation have now been mechanised.

Members of the Commission are also aware that the records have now been thrown open for research. At first, only records up to 1880 were available for inspection, but now all records up to 1901 have been brought under this category. More recent records will also be thrown open in the years to come. In addition, the Archives has undertaken an extensive programme of analysis, indexing, condensing, editing and publication of records in order to facilitate the work of research and reference. The Historical Records Commission has also increased the scope of the work of the Archives as the Records Survey Committees in the different States work directly under the Commission. Interest in the archives and archival work is growing. Along with this, the demand for information from various sources has grown and is still growing.

On the one hand, therefore, we have increasing pressure of work and growing interest on the part of both Government and the public. On the other hand, we know that the prevailing financial stringency will not permit proper expansion of the Department in the next few years. In this situation the only way of meeting the shortage of staff is to seek the co-operation of universities and learned societies. If a sufficient number of scholars take up the task and assist the existing staff in the classification and cataloguing of the material which has been collected, much can be done in spite of the inadequacy of public funds. Universities can also help by allotting the task to postgraduate students of history. If universities agree to recognise such work as part of the normal training of a postgraduate student, this will not only benefit the students themselves but it will also be a real national service. It is only through the co-operation of professors, lecturers, scholars and research and postgraduate students that the vast material we have can be properly utilised. I understand that our Director of National Archives had approached the universities once but the response was not fully satisfactory. I would like to take this occasion when so many distinguished scholars are present to press once more that this work of urgent national importance may be undertaken by all the universities and learned societies without further delay. I have every hope that with your co-operation, we can overcome the difficulties created by financial stringency and create conditions in which the Archives can perform its proper function and serve as a treasure house of information for all students of history.

The Secretary then read out the messages received from Hon'ble Sardar Baldev Singh, Hon'ble Shri Jagjiwan Ram, Hon'ble Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai, Hon'ble Shri K. Santhanam, The Swedish Minister in

India, Shri G. S. Bajpai, Dr. B. V. Keskar, Mr. K. G. Ambegaokar, Mr. Shavax A. Lal, Mr. Y. N. Sukthankar, Mr. C. C. Desai, and Colonel B. Chatterjee.

The morning session concluded at 12-30 P.M. after two papers were read and discussed in the presence of His Excellency the Governor. The session resumed sitting at 3-00 P.M. in the Nagpur Mahavidyalaya Hall with Dr. Tara Chand in the Chair. Ten more papers were read and discussed. All the papers will be found in the Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Vol. XXVII, Part II.

After the business of the session was concluded Dr. R. C. Majumdar moved a vote of thanks to the Chair, which was seconded by Professor C. S. Srinivasachari.

In the afternoon of the 25th December the members visited the Record Room in the Nagpur Secretariat. On the 29th the members were taken out on an excursion to Ramtek.

An exhibition of historical manuscripts, records, copper plates, paintings, etc. was organised by the Nagpur University in connexion with the session of the Indian Historical Records Commission. It was opened by His Excellency Shri Mangaldas Pakvasa at 5-30 P.M. on the 25th December and remained open till the 29th December. The exhibits from the National Archives of India included 123 documents, including originals and photographic copies, illustrating different aspects of life in Madhya Pradesh in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Some documents of general interest including a few illustrating the different aspects of repair and preservation methods adopted in the National Archives of India, were also exhibited. A list of all the exhibits will be found in Appendix L.



Hon'ble Pandit Dwarka Prasad Mishra, Minister for Education, Madhya Pradesh.

PERSONNEL OF THE INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

(The term of office other than those of the *ex-officio* members is up to 31st March 1952).

**Attended the Nagpur Session*

The Hon'ble Minister for Education, Government of India, *ex-officio* President.

* The Educational Adviser to the Government of India, Ministry of Education, New Delhi, *ex-officio* Chairman—(i) Research and Publication Committee, (ii) Local Records Sub-Committee.

* The Director of Archives, Government of India, National Archives of India, New Delhi, *ex-officio* Secretary—(i) Indian Historical Records Commission, (ii) Research & Publication Committee, (iii) Local Records Sub-Committee.

The Assistant Director of Archives, Government of India, National Archives of India, *ex-officio* Assistant Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission.

ORDINARY MEMBERS

Government of India

* Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari, M.A., Pachaiyappa's College, Kancheepuram (S. I.).

* Dr. R. C. Majumdar, M.A., Ph.D., Principal, College of Indology, Banaras Hindu University, Banaras.

* Professor D. V. Potdar, B.A., "Lokokalyan", 77 Shanwar Peth, Poona.

§ Dr. Tara Chand, M.A., D.Phil., Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Education, New Delhi.

* Professor Mohammed Habib, M.A. (Oxon.), Bar-at-Law, Professor of History, Muslim University, Aligarh.

State Governments

* Dr. P. M. Joshi, M.A., Ph.D., Director of Archives, Government of Bombay, Secretariat Record Office, Bombay—1.

* Dr. B. S. Baliga, M.A., Ph.D. (London), Curator, Madras Record Office, Madras.

* Dr. G. L. Chopra, M.A., Ph.D., Keeper of Records of the Government of Punjab (I), Historical Records Office, Simla-E.

* Mr. Sankar Nath Dutta, Keeper of Records of the Government of West Bengal, Records Office, Berhampore.

Mr. M. Nasirud-Din Khan, Director, Daftar-e-Diwani, Mai and Mulki, Hyderabad Government, Hyderabad-Deccan.

* Mr. J. M. Ghose, M.A., Professor of History & Vice-Principal, Maharaja's College, Jaipur (Union of Rajasthan).

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiyar, B.A., B.L., Assistant Secretary, United States of Travancore & Cochin, Trivandrum (Union of Travancore and Cochin).

* Mr. A. H. Nizami, M.A., Professor of History, Darbar College, Rewa (Union of Vindhya Pradesh).

* Professor Ganda Singh, M.A., Director of Archives, Government of PEPSU, Department of Records & Museum, Patiala (PEPSU).

* Mr. S. N. Dhar, M.A., Secretary, Board of Secondary Education, Gwalior (Madhya Bharat Union).

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Malaya

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Mr. M. W. F. Tweedie, Honorary Secretary, Royal Asiatic
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French India

Madame Yvonne Robert Gaebel; President, Societe de l'Histoire de l'Inde Francaise, Pondicherry.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE
RESEARCH & PUBLICATION COMMITTEE
New Delhi, July 31, 1950.

Twenty-one members were present (list at the end).

In the Chair: Dr. Tara Chand, Educational Adviser to the Government of India (*ex-officio*).

The proceedings started with the Chairman congratulating Dr. S. N. Sen and Dr. R. P. Tripathi on their appointment as Vice-Chancellors of Delhi and Saugor Universities respectively. The Secretary then presented a Memorandum on the progress of the Publication Programme of the National Archives of India, drawn up at the request of the Committee in consultation with Dr. S. N. Sen, the out-going General Editor of the Series (Appendix A).

Dr. R. C. Majumdar enquired whether any means could be devised to permit the Director of Archives to get the series printed in some private press.

The Chairman explained that after much consideration the Government had decided that all Government printing work should be done through one particular agency, viz., the Controller of Printing. It was unlikely that any large exception would be made to this rule. He, therefore, suggested that the Committee should ask the Government to make an exception in favour of only those volumes which were actually ready for the printers.

Scheme III (a).—Following reports were made:—

Professor D. V. Potdar informed that the volume on Marathi Letters had been sent to the press.

Dr. S. N. Sen informed that in view of the existing financial position of the University of Delhi the publication of the Persian Akhbars might be somewhat delayed.

The following resolution which was moved by the Chairman was unanimously passed:

Resolution I.—This Committee recommends that in view of the delay caused in the execution of the Publication Programme (i) the Honorary Editors should be requested to expedite their work or return the typescripts to the Director of Archives if not completed by the end of December 1952; and (ii) the Government of India be requested to permit the Director of Archives to get such volumes as are ready for publication printed through private presses of his choice.

Appointment of Honorary Editor

The Secretary placed before the members letters received from Professor C. S. Srinivasachari and Dr. H. L. Gupta intimating their

willingness to undertake editing of Volume III under Scheme I of the Publication Programme.

Resolution II.—This Committee recommends that Dr. R. R. Sethi be appointed an honorary editor for Volume III of Scheme I of the Publication Programme.

Scheme III(b).

Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad informed that Dr. R. R. Sethi had agreed to undertake the work in connection with the Ochterlony Papers in collaboration with him.

Dr. R. R. Sethi proposed that as the East Punjab University had now settled down the question of editing the News Letters (1839-41) might once again be brought to the notice of the authorities concerned.

The Secretary assured Dr. Sethi that the necessary steps would be taken.

2. The Secretary then presented to the Committee the agenda of the first Congress of the International Council on Archives to be held in Paris during August 20-23 next. It stated that the subjects for discussion at the Congress would be confined to the following broad items:

- (i) Current supervision and checking of archives;
- (ii) Archives and microphotography;
- (iii) Records of private Undertakings (economic records);
- (iv) Bibliographic proposals.

With a view to obtaining maximum information on these points, the Secretariat of the International Council on Archives had circulated a Questionnaire (Appendix B) to all the member institutions all over the world. As desired by M. Charles Braibant, a copy each of the agenda and the questionnaire had been circulated by the Director of Archives, Government of India, to all the State Governments and the various Records Offices in India for eliciting information relating to them some of whom had already sent their replies to the International Archives Council Secretariat. The Secretary said that replies of all the State Governments including that of the National Archives of India would be placed before the next session of the Indian Historical Records Commission to be held at Nagpur in December 1950. In addition to the above, another questionnaire (Appendix C) had been received from M. Charles Samaran, President, International Council on Archives, who was engaged in compiling a Supplement to the *Guide to the International Archives*. Vol. I (Europe), published in 1934, seeking information on the Central Archives Office in India. A suitable reply had been sent to the

President of the Council and further materials were being collected. A consolidated report would be placed before the next meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

An official programme of the Congress had been received by the Secretary.

The Secretary informed the Committee that the President of the Admissions Committee of the Congress had appointed Dr. Purnendu Basu, a member of the said Committee in place of Dr. S. N. Sen, and that the appointment had been approved by the Government of India. However, owing to the difficult foreign exchange position, the Government of India had been unable to send the Secretary to attend the Congress as recommended by the Commission at Cuttack in December 1949.

3. Five resolutions sent by the Government of Rajasthan were then taken up for discussion. The resolutions related to: (a) throwing open of States Unions' records for research; (b) establishment of record offices in the States Unions; (c) preparation of a "bibliography" of records preserved in different States; (d) provision of mobile centres for training in archive administration; and (e) publication by the Government of India of their records relating to different States. The first two proposals were accepted by the Committee which passed the following resolutions:

Resolution III—Resolved that the Government of India in the Ministry of States be requested to move all the State Governments (Part B) to throw open their records for *bona fide* historical research on the lines adopted by the Government of India. The Rajasthan Government in particular be requested to inform the Government of India regarding the progress they had made in this respect.

Resolution IV—This Committee reiterates its past recommendations regarding the establishment of central record offices in the States (Parts A & B).

As to the remaining three proposals, the Secretary submitted the following notes:

"Bibliography" of records: It is not clear what is precisely meant by "bibliography of the records"; perhaps "inventories", "lists" and similar finding aids are meant. This presupposes organized record offices where alone such finding aids can be prepared. It is hoped that with the establishment of organized record offices in the States and States Unions this very essential function will be taken up at once.

Training facility in archives administration: There is at the National Archives of India provision for training a limited number of people in the administration and preservation of records, preferences usually being given to candidates who are actually working

at a public record office or manuscript library. This training is mostly practical and can be imparted satisfactorily only in a fully equipped record office. Mobile training centres are impracticable. Nor is any extensive training scheme likely to succeed unless there are sufficient opportunities of employment for the trained people, which again depends on the existence of proper record offices in the country with the policy of employing only trained personnel.

Publication of Government of India's records pertaining to States: Publication of records can be undertaken in any of the following ways: (i) publication of complete series of records in *extenso*; (ii) publication of calendars of above; or (iii) publications of selections from among records. The resolution aims at a programme which would fall in category (iii) above. It would be impracticable for the Government of India, which has an overall interest in facilitating research in Indian history generally and not merely of particular regions, to select items out of different series to bring out a collection of interest to particular states only. The existing publication programme of the National Archives of India, therefore, aims at the publication of whole series of records, either in *extenso*, or in the form of calendars or indexes thereto, without any attempt at selection. Where selection is to be made at all, they would be for such series as would be of general interest rather than local. If, however, either a particular State, institution or an individual is interested in the history of any particular region, the National Archives of India gives every facility to the individual or a scholar deputed by the State or institution, within the framework of Government's research rules, to make selections from the records in the National Archives of India pertaining to a state which the interested State Government or institution is at liberty to publish.

It was agreed that the attention of the Rajasthan Government should be drawn to the above notes.

4. The following resolution submitted by the University of Allahabad was then taken up:

That the Indian Historical Records Commission should take steps to collect manuscripts and documents bearing on all the periods of Indian history and not to confine itself almost exclusively to the collection and preservation of records dealing with modern Indian History. It is time that the Indian Historical Records Commission should expand its activities and pay serious attention to the other two periods of Indian History for which ample records exist in the country.

The Secretary submitted the following written note on the resolution:

Records relating to periods of Indian history other than the modern period (A.D. 1600 onwards) are not specifically excluded from the purview of the Indian Historical Records Commission or its Research and Publication Committee, but in effect searches have been more or less confined to the more modern records due to paucity of materials relating to other periods. In fact, the Indian Historical Records Commission, has taken up previously the questions on pre-1600 Portuguese and Dutch records whenever they have been brought to the notice of the Commission. If similar information regarding other pre-1600 records is forthcoming, the Commission will undoubtedly take up the matter of their salvaging and scientific treatment.

Dr. R. P. Tripathi explained that hitherto the Indian Historical Records Commission had concerned itself only with post-1600 records. He thought that the scope of the Commission should be wider and records and manuscripts, of whatever date they may be, should come within its purview.

The Chairman pointed out that hardly any records existed for the earlier periods of Indian history. What existed were either inscriptions or manuscripts which did not fall within the category of records.

Dr. R. C. Majumdar said that the jurisdiction of the Indian Historical Records Commission and the Archaeological Department should be clearly defined and historical materials relating to the earlier periods should be left out of the scope of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

The Chairman agreed with Dr. Majumdar and said that expanding the scope of activities of the Indian Historical Records Commission to all periods would lead to confusion.

Professor D. V. Potdar suggested that no formal limit such as 1600 A.D. should be laid down.

Mr. V. N. Pillai referred to the Secretary's note and pointed out that for practical purposes there was nothing sacrosanct about the year 1600.

After further discussion during which Dr. S. N. Sen, Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad, Dr. N. K. Sinha and Sri Parmanand spoke, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

Resolution V.—Resolved that the Indian Historical Records Commission should take steps for the preservation of all records excluding those which fall under the purview of the Archaeological Department.

5. Two resolutions submitted by the University of Calcutta were then considered. They recommended (a) concentration of old district records in West Bengal in the Central Record Office of the State, and (b) appointment of an Expert Committee for selecting records for publication. With reference to (a) the Secretary pointed out that a comprehensive resolution (Resolution III) on the same subject meant for the district records of all the State Governments had been passed by the Research and Publication Committee at its twelfth meeting. The Government of West Bengal had not so far replied to it and the Government of India had issued a reminder to all the States.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution VI—Resolved that the Government of West Bengal be requested to concentrate the old District records in the provincial record office and afford suitable research facilities among them to scholars in general and members of the West Bengal Regional Records Survey Committee in particular.

As regards 5 (b), Dr. N. K. Sinha explaining the background of the proposal said that some of the Editors had felt that the East India House—Fort William Letters supplied to them for editing contained a quantity of unimportant matter which they felt should be omitted from the volumes.

Dr. S. N. Sen, however, thought that there were at least two justifications for publishing all letters—first, their publication would provide a security copy obviating the constant handling of the originals, and secondly, it would be too bold on the part of any Committee of Experts today to judge what might or might not be of use to researchers at a later date.

The Secretary suggested that it was open to an Editor not to annotate any particular letter or document if the Editor thought it unnecessary.

Dr. R. C. Majumdar suggested that unimportant documents could be printed in smaller type.

It was finally agreed that all documents should normally be printed and any doubtful cases should be referred to the General Editor.

The proposal was dropped.

6. The University of Delhi had forwarded three resolutions. Explaining the first of these resolutions which concerned the dispersal of Government of India's records following the independence of India, the representative of the Delhi University observed that dispersal of records and dismemberment of organic bodies of records were against all canons of archive administration. Despite this fact

having been emphasized by the Historical Records Commission in its previous resolutions (Resolutions III of the twenty-fifth and I of the twenty-sixth sessions) reintegration of dispersed records did not seem to have been effected by the Ministry of States. These records fell under two categories, first, those transferred to the United Kingdom High Commissioner in India by the previous Government of India, and secondly, those distributed among the States, e.g., a part of the Mysore archives had been distributed among Mysore Government, Salem District, the former States of Banganapalle and other agencies. The following resolution was passed unanimously:

Resolution VII—Resolved that the Government of India may take steps (i) to get back the records belonging to the late Residencies and Political Agencies which have gone to the United Kingdom High Commissioner in India; (ii) to call back all records belonging to those agencies and now transferred to various States and States Union Governments, district authorities and other bodies; and (iii) to arrange their concentration in the National Archives of India without further delay.

With reference to the second resolution concerning provision of more space and equipment for the National Archives of India. Dr. S. N. Sen pointed out that it had not been possible to implement many items of the programmes entrusted by the Indian Historical Records Commission and its Research and Publication Committee to the National Archives of India owing to shortage of space in the National Archives of India, e.g., accessioning records of the various agencies of the Government of India, setting up a map room, a microfilm library, and so forth. A proposal for providing additional space and equipment had been submitted to the Government as early as 1945, but no tangible results appeared to have come out of it. Without proper storage room and equipment, he said, there was a distinct possibility of the records being totally lost as most of the pre-British records had been lost, therefore the highest priority should be given to this proposal.

The following resolution was unanimously passed:

Resolution VIII—Resolved that the Government of India be requested to take immediate steps to provide additional space and equipment in the National Archives of India for (i) storage of records, (ii) properly setting up the machinery, (iii) storage of maps, (iv) microfilm library, and (v) office accommodation.

The Delhi University's third resolution sought to get for the Director of Archives, Government of India, who is the Chief Editor of the quarterly journal, *The Indian Archives*, permission to buy the

required paper for the journal in the open market and to get it printed in suitable private presses on a permanent basis against the budget grants of the National Archives of India.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution IX—Resolved that the Government of India be requested to permit the Director of Archives, Government of India, who is the Chief Editor of *The Indian Archives*, to buy the required paper for the journal in the open market and get it printed in suitable private presses on a permanent basis against the budget grants of the National Archives of India.

7. Three resolutions by the Government of Uttar Pradesh were then taken up. The first sought the passing of legislation for the prevention, dispersal, sale or unwarranted destruction of historical documents in the possession of hereditary zamindars, talukdars, etc. in Uttar Pradesh following the abolition of zamindari in that State. The obvious value of these documents for purposes of historical research were emphasized.

Professor D. V. Potdar inquired whether the proposed resolution aimed at the official records of the Zamindars, etc. only or also their private records.

The *Chairman* remarked that the private properties of the Zamindars, etc. could not be confiscated and the resolution should cover only those records which were created in the course of their official transactions.

The following resolution was thereupon passed :—

Resolution X—Resolved that in view of the impending abolition of Zamindari, the Government of India and the State Governments may be requested to take steps by legislation or otherwise for the prevention of dispersal, sale and unwarranted destruction of historical documents in the possession of families of Zamindars, Talukdars, Nawabs, etc.

The Uttar Pradesh Government's second resolution wanted the Government of India to take steps to salvage such historical records as were in the personal custody of the Indian Princes whose States had merged with the Indian Republic.

The *Secretary* pointed out that as long as the records remained the private property of the Princes, it was doubtful if a mere formal request would have the desired result. With this fact in view, the Research and Publication Committee had already requested (Resolution IV, fourteenth meeting) the Government of India to move the various ruling chiefs to make over their personal records as gifts to the Nation. Results were awaited.

Resolution XI—Resolved that the Government of India and the State Governments may be requested to take appropriate steps to preserve the historical records which are in the personal custody of the Indian Princes, after the merger of their States with the Indian Republic, with a view to ensuring their preservation and making them accessible for bona fide research.

The Uttar Pradesh Government's third resolution suggested that the Research and Publication Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission should have a permanent Sub-Committee to look into the authenticity of details that often passed for historical facts in history text-books in use in schools in the country.

The *Chairman* was of opinion that the proposal did not fall within the purview of the Indian Historical Records Commission and it was dropped.

8. Professor C. S. Srinivasachari inquired whether it was correct that some Government records were lost during transit at the time of the merger of the States.

The *Secretary* said that a consignment of records was sent by the Government of India by railway passenger train to Kolhapur and the package was lost during transit.

Professor C. S. Srinivasachari suggested that some sort of insurance measure should be adopted to ensure better care of records at the time of transit by rail.

The following resolution was passed :—

Resolution XII—This Committee learns with concern that a box of valuable records belonging to the late Kolhapur Residency was lost in transit and has not been recovered since despite the efforts of the Railway authorities. This Committee feels that the loss would not have occurred had the records been properly insured with the Railway authorities under Act IX of 1890. It therefore strongly recommends that immediate steps be taken by the Government of India to declare all records irrespective of their custody and the material of which they are composed, to be of sufficient value for inclusion in the 2nd schedule to the Act referred to.

9. The *Secretary* informed the Committee that he had received a request from Mr. V. S. Vaidya of Poona to move the Government of Bombay regarding the deposit of his family papers in Satara Palace.

Professor D. V. Potdar explained that the Palace was a wooden structure and quite unsuitable for housing records. He further pointed out that such local matters were now looked after by the newly formed Board of Historical Records and Ancient Monuments.

Resolution XIII.—Resolved that the Board of Historical Records and Ancient Monuments set up by the Government of Bombay be requested to take suitable action in regard to the disposition of the Vaidya Collection.

10. Professor D. V. Potdar informed that since a Board for Historical Records and Ancient Monuments had been set up by the Government of Bombay, the *ad hoc* Regional Records Survey Committee set up by the Indian Historical Records Commission had ceased to function. He also stated that the first meeting of the Board was held recently and a copy of its proceedings would be sent to the Indian Historical Records Commission in due course.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of members present:

Dr. Tara Chand (Chairman); Mr. V. R. R. Dikshitar; Shri Parmanand; Mr. J. M. Ghosh; Dr. R. R. Sethi; Mr. V. Narayana Pillai; Professor C. S. Srinivasachari; Professor Datto Vaman Potdar; Dr. G. L. Chopra; Dr. H. N. Sinha; Mr. R. M. Joshi; Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad; Dr. S. N. Sen; Dr. N. K. Sinha; Mr. J. C. Taluqdar; Dr. R. C. Majumdar; Mr. K. C. Panigrahi; Mr. Ganda Singh; Dr. Rama Rao; Mr. S. N. Dhar; Dr. R. P. Tripathi; Dr. P. Basu (Secretary).

List of members who were unable to attend:

Dr. B. S. Baliga; Dr. P. M. Joshi; Mr. Jahar Lal Majumdar; Mr. M. Nasirud-Din Khan; Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar; Mr. A. H. Nizami; Dr. K. K. Datta; Mr. S. C. Rajkhowa; Mr. G. S. Das; Mr. R. S. Kapur; Mr. R. Sathinatha Aiyar; Rev. Father H. Heras; Dr. S. N. Das Gupta; Dr. R. S. Tripathi; Professor Mohammad Habib; Dr. H. L. Gupta; Mr. S. H. Askari; Mr. R. P. Patwardhan; Mr. T. S. Shejwalkar; Mr. G. H. Khare; Mr. M. S. Commissariat; Mr. B. W. Bhat; Professor George M. Moraes; Mr. R. G. Gyani; Pandit Kshiti Mohan Sen; Mr. Brojendra Nath Banerjee; Mr. Mohibbul Hasan Khan; Dr. D. C. Ganguli; Dr. A. P. Das Gupta; Dr. Nanda Lal Chatterjee; Mr. S.A. Rashid; Dr. Y. K. Deshpande; Pandit L. P. Pandeya and Mr. H. N. Nene.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE
RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Nagpur, December 26, 1950.

The seventeenth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee was held at the Nagpur Mahavidyalaya Hall, Nagpur, at 10 A.M. on Tuesday, December 26, 1950 and was presided over by Dr. Tara Chand, Educational Adviser to the Government of India, and *ex-officio* Chairman of the Committee. A list of members present will be found on pages 11—18.

2. The Chairman read out the review submitted by the Secretary of action taken on the resolutions of the sixteenth and some earlier meetings of the Committee.

Referring to Resolution VI of the eighth meeting and Resolution III of the twelfth meeting, Professor D. V. Potdar inquired into the principles which guided governments in weeding their records. It was explained that weeding was a practical necessity and that it was not practicable always to associate an historian in appraising records. In addition the Secretary stressed the limitations placed on the practicability of any universal scheme for weeding. He pointed out that records created by administrative agencies were created exclusively for administrative purposes, and the decision to retain some of them and destroy the rest was taken with the needs of administration in view. Weeding was possible only in the earlier stages when the files were just closed; any attempt at judicious weeding at a later stage when large numbers of files had accumulated was beyond our resources. This was particularly so in India where each file contained all kinds of documents, ranging from those embodying basic policies to the most trivial routine papers. Weeding of older files was possible only where the files fell into well-defined categories, e.g., policy files, case files, and routine (house-keeping) files. In the absence of such clear definition of files, it was impracticable to attempt any weeding of older files. The question should therefore be confined to current files where clear indication should be given after careful consideration at the time of closing the file whether the whole file or any part of it should be retained permanently.

The Chairman pointed out that presumably each Government agency had its own rules for deciding the period of retention for its records. He suggested that all State Governments might be requested to furnish the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, with copies of rules which governed the weeding of current records in all their agencies, Ministries, Departments, Divisions,

Sub-Divisions, etc., in their respective States. These could be placed before the Committee, with the Secretary's comments, for examination whether suitable safeguards were provided against destruction of records of possible research value.

The suggestion was accepted.

Professor C. S. Srinivasachari and Dr. P. M. Joshi informed that so far as the Madras Regional Records Survey Committee and the Bombay Board of Historical Research and Ancient Monuments were concerned, they would continue to co-operate with the Indian Historical Records Commission in the general policy of survey work.

On an inquiry made by Mr. J. B. Mallaradhya whether the expenses to be incurred by the Mysore Regional Records Survey Committee in compiling the National Register (Resolution IV, 10th meeting) should be borne by the Central Government or the State Government, the Secretary informed that if the Mysore Committee was a permanent one, appointed by the State Government, the expenses should be borne by the State Government itself, as in other States.

After some discussion on Resolution VIII of the tenth meeting, it was decided that a reminder should be sent to the defaulters.

Professor D. V. Potdar drew attention to the reply received from the Madhya Bharat Government on Resolution IV of the fifteenth meeting and expressed the opinion that it would take a long time to arrange the records on the lines suggested by the Union Government, and it would not be desirable to wait so long for research work among them to begin.

It was agreed that the Madhya Bharat Government should be requested to expedite the work.

3. The Secretary informed that no substantial progress had been made since the detailed report on the progress made in the Publication Programme of the National Archives of India was placed before the sixteenth meeting of the Committee in July 1950. The Government of India had agreed that the three volumes which were ready might be printed through a private press, if the Government presses were unable to execute the job. The specimen of printing in the Government press was under scrutiny.

The Secretary then placed before the house the correspondence passed between Professor D. N. Banerjee and the Chief Editor in connexion with the editing of Volume III of the Fort William—India House Correspondence, which was recorded.

4. From the review of the activities of the Regional Records Survey Committees submitted by the Secretary, it appeared that the Governments of Punjab, Madras, Mysore and Travancore-Cochin

had set up permanent Committees and Bombay a Board of Historical Records and Ancient Monuments. The Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Assam proposed to set up permanent Committees next year while the Governments of West Bengal, Bihar, Pepsu, Orissa and Delhi had decided to take similar action soon. The annual Reports of the year under review received from Committees in West Bengal, Madras, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh were placed before the meeting and have been included in the Proceedings as Appendix G.

A grant-in-aid amounting to Rs. 6,500 had, as usual, been received from the Government of India and disbursed to the *ad hoc* Committees during the year under review. Instructions had been issued to the Conveners for the maintenance of accounts in a proper manner particularly regarding purchase of manuscripts. It had been reported that many of them were of purely literary or religious interest and in several instances descriptive lists were not furnished. For instance, the Orissa Committee had transferred to the National Archives of India many palm leaf manuscripts without any list or description. The Secretary had to experience considerable difficulty in finding a scholar at Delhi knowing old Oriya script.

It was agreed that more discretion should be used in procuring manuscripts and maintaining accounts and that descriptive lists should always accompany the manuscripts intended for transfer to the National Archives of India.

5. The resolutions sent by Dr. H. L. Gupta were then taken up. The resolutions related to (i) publication of Selection of Papers of Lord Hastings and Lord Dalhousie, (ii) keeping open of the Research Room of the National Archives of India from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. and (iii) transfer of books on modern Indian history from the National Library to the National Archives of India.

In view of the Secretary's written note submitted on these points as given below, Dr. Gupta withdrew his resolutions.

Secretary's Note—(i) A long-term Publication Programme for the National Archives of India, recommended by the Research and Publication Committee at its seventh meeting held at Peshawar in 1945 (Resolution V, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Volume XXII, Part III, p. 108) and subsequently endorsed by the Indian Historical Records Commission at the Peshawar Session (Resolution I, *Ibid*, p. 116) was finally accepted by the Government of India to be given effect to as soon as the present publication programme is fully implemented. Section II of the second publication programme includes publication of records relating to both Lord Hastings (Moir Papers) and Lord Dalhousie (*vide* Appendix A,

Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Vol. XXII, pp. 2-3). Editing of these will be taken up in due course.

(ii) The normal working hours in all the Government of India offices are from 10 A.M. to 5-0 P.M. The implementation of the proposal would therefore mean employment of extra staff for the purpose, which under the existing financial position, will be difficult for the Government of India to accede to.

(iii) The National Archives of India arranges to secure on behalf of the research scholars such books as may be required by them from the National Library on loan, and the Library of the National Archives of India has in its custody catalogues of books in the National Library. It is not practicable that India's National Library should be denuded of all its books on such an important subject. It is undoubtedly desirable that the National Archives of India Library should have all books on Indian history and an attempt is being made in that direction. If more funds are made available to the National Archives of India, this project may be expedited to the advantage of research scholars in the National Archives of India.

6. Dr. K. K. Datta then moved with the permission of the Chair a resolution to the effect that the Universities should place one research scholar each at the disposal of the Conveners of the permanent or *ad hoc* Regional Records Survey Committees for one year to assist them or their Committees in collecting materials for compilation of the History of the Freedom Movement in India.

After some discussion on the subject it was resolved :—

Resolution I.—That the Universities be requested to award at least one scholarship every year for conducting researches on the proposed compilation of the History of the Freedom Movement in India and that Regional Records Survey Committees of the area should offer their full co-operation to the scholarshipholder.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

CONSPECTUS OF ACTION TAKEN

RESEARCH & PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Eighth meeting, Delhi, March 1946.

Resolution VI.—Resolved that the Government of India be requested to ask the provincial Governments and Indian States to set up permanent Regional Survey Committees in view of the altered position consequent on the cessation of hostilities.

The Government of India have issued another reminder to all the State Governments who have not established permanent Regional Records Survey Committees of their own. Replies of some of the State Governments are detailed below :—

Government of Mysore have informed that they have appointed a Regional Committee for the State consisting of the following persons :—

The Vice-Chancellor (Chairman).

The Huzur Secretary to the Maharaja of Mysore.

The Professor of History, Maharaja's College, Mysore.

The Director of Archaeology in Mysore, Mysore.

The Registrar, General and Revenue Secretariat, Bangalore.

Shri T. S. Singaravelu Mudaliar, President, Mythic Society, Bangalore.

Shri Hullur Srinivasa Jois, Chitaldrug.

Shri Sivamurthy Sastri, Bangalore.

• The Superintendent, Oriental Research Institute, Mysore
• (Secretary).

Government of Madhya Pradesh have informed that as a measure of economy, the formation of the permanent Regional Records Survey Committee has been deferred till the financial year 1951-52 and requested that the present *ad hoc* Committee may be continued during the current year also.

Government of West Bengal have informed that they have decided to set up a permanent Regional Records Survey Committee of their own and to meet the expenses thereof. The personnel of the Committee will be communicated as and when settled.

Government of Madhya Bharat have informed that the Secretariat records are being reorganised at present and that the mass of old records of the covenanted States lying at various places in Madhya Bharat are being sorted out. The process of sorting and weeding out records of historical and archival value is in progress.

and they are being transferred to the historical section of the Secretariat records where they are proposed to be catalogued and calendared under the supervision of a technically qualified person. This process is bound to take some time. The Union Government therefore feel that the setting up of the proposed Regional Committee for the survey of historical records at this stage will not serve any useful purpose until the historical material is properly sorted and made worthy of presentation.

Remarks.—The Madhya Bharat Government have been requested by the Government of India to explain clearly the overall position of their proposed "re-arrangement" of records. The Union Government have also been informed that the object of setting up a Survey Committee for manuscript records in private custody is entirely different from organising Government records.

Government of Pepsu have informed that they agree to the proposal of setting up of the permanent Regional Records Survey Committee.

Government of Bombay have informed that the Board for Historical Records and Ancient Monuments created by the State Government deals with the archival and archaeological activities in the State and the Board has set up four Regional Committees for bringing to the notice of the Government sites, relics and monuments of archaeological importance, old records and manuscripts and suggest ways and means for their preservation and upkeep and for bringing them to the notice of the scholarly world.

Remarks.—Government of India have enquired whether the State Government intend to continue to participate in the activities of the Indian Historical Records Commission and the Research and Publication Committee. Reply from the State Government is awaited.

Government of Uttar Pradesh have informed that the matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Chief Commissioner, Delhi, has informed that in view of the prevailing financial stringency the proposal to set up a permanent Regional Records Survey Committee for the State is not likely to materialise till 1951-52.

The Government of Orissa have informed that steps are being taken to set up a Regional Survey Committee for the State of Orissa. An intimation will be sent when the Committee is set up.

Tenth Meeting, Delhi, March 1947.

Resolution IV.—This Committee views with grave concern the extremely unsatisfactory state in which the bulk of the records and historical manuscripts in India are lying, and the risks of destruction and dispersal to which they are exposed due mainly to the ignorance on the part of the public of their value as evidences for history and

is firmly convinced that the major portion of these invaluable treasures will be lost to the nation unless adequate steps are immediately taken for their preservation. The Committee believes that many of these risks can be eliminated by (1) the enactment of a comprehensive public records legislation for the preservation of all records of national value; (2) by the establishment of properly organised and staffed repositories all over the country to house records which still require a suitable shelter, and education of their present custodians and owners in the principles of archives keeping; (3) making provision for technical services (such as repair, photographing, indexing, cataloguing, etc.) in such repositories as may be unable to organise these services for themselves; (4) organisation of research facilities at these repositories for approved students; and (5) establishment of a system of control on the administration of these records by a suitable central organisation. The Committee further believes that as a preliminary step to the above it will be necessary to compile a register containing complete information regarding all records in India whether in public, semi-public, private or institutional custody. It therefore makes the following recommendations:—

- (i) That the Secretary, Research and Publication Committee, be entrusted with the compilation of such a Register, to be called the National Register of Records and Historical manuscripts, with the help of the Regional Survey Committees in the Provinces and the States;
- (ii) that the latter bodies be instructed to concentrate on the work of the compilation of the materials for the Register to the exclusion of all other items of work they may have taken up or intend to take up in the near future;
- (iii) that information collected be entered in the proforma approved by this Committee (annexed hereto) a separate form being used for each collection, series, group or 'fonds' of records or historical manuscripts surveyed, that the completed forms be forwarded to the Secretary, Research and Publication Committee for consolidation with similar forms received from elsewhere, copies being retained by the Regional Committees in the form of a Register for a reference purpose, with up-to-date indexes, duplicates of which should be furnished to the Secretary of the Committee, and that the Registers whether at the Centre or in the provinces be made available to accredited scholars;
- (iv) that the Provincial Governments and the States, and through them the authorities of the Divisions, Districts, Sub-divisions, Circles and other administrative units,

High Courts and other Courts, Corporations, Municipalities, District and Local Boards, Trusts, Councils and similar organisations set up by the provincial or State Governments or under their auspices, learned societies, Universities, educational institutions, religious establishments, libraries, museums and all public and semi-public institutions situated within the territorial limits of the Provinces and the States, be asked to co-operate fully with the Regional Committees in compiling the Register by extending to them financial help and according them unrestricted facilities for inspection of the records under their control;

- (v) the Regional Survey Committees be further asked to exclude from their immediate programme the contents of the Organised Records Offices and concentrate on such records in semi-public, institutional and private custody and such public records as are yet to be organised;
- (vi) that the Provincial Governments and the States having organised record offices of their own be asked to furnish the requisite information in respect of their collections direct to the Secretary, Research & Publication Committee, in the approved form copies being sent to the Regional Survey Committees functioning in the provinces or the States as the case may be;
- (vii) that the Government of India afford such financial and other facilities to the Secretary, Research & Publication Committee (in printing instruction sheets, relevant proformas and any other matter) that may be considered to be necessary in connection with the compilation of the Register;
- (viii) that to accord this scheme the widest possible publicity the resolution be published in the *Gazette of India*, that the Press Information Bureau be asked to issue a press note on the subject for publication in leading newspapers and periodicals and that the All-India Radio be asked to arrange for a series of educational talks explaining the implications of the project. The Committee hereby authorises its Secretary to issue directives for the guidance of the Regional Survey Committees and to ask for annual reports of the work done in this connection.

Please see the remarks of the Government of India against Resolution II of the twenty-sixth session of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Government of Madras have informed that the State Government consider that no official records below the Government level are likely, normally, to have an All-India value for research students and that records in offices below that level will generally have only local or ephemeral interest. If they should attract research of a topical variety, the only course needed will be to make them accessible under suitable conditions. These remarks apply with even more force to the offices of hundreds of local bodies which are also included in the proposal. It would be an inexcusable waste of time and energy to endeavour to compile a Register of all-India in which the records of these small local bodies and of the subordinate Government offices all over India should be listed up. The Regional Records Survey Committee has been set up with the idea of having valuable records in private custody traced and provision for their preservation made. It is not desirable that the Committee should be diverted from this work. The Madras Regional Survey Committee has accordingly decided that it should not take up the work of compilation of the proposed National Register. The State Government therefore consider that no action is necessary in the matter.

Resolution VIII.—This Committee further recommends that the provincial and States Governments be requested to give on the basis of the recommendations of the Regional Survey Committees in their areas, free transcripts of records in their custody to those who may help the Survey Committees in their quest for historical records, if such transcripts are wanted for local or family history.

West Bengal Government have informed that the State Government propose to take up the matter in consultation with the permanent Regional Records Survey Committee that would be appointed shortly.

Eleventh Meeting, Jaipur, February 1948.

Resolution II.—This Committee recommends that the Government of India make suitable provision for special types of printing and take such prompt measures as are required in connection with the Five-year Publication Programme of the National Archives of India. Meanwhile the Secretary may be authorised to get the completed works printed through some private presses.

The Government of India have informed that they do not consider it advisable to allow any general and un-restricted powers to the Director of Archives to get the National Archives of India printing work done through private presses of his choice and have suggested that arrangements for the printing of each publication which the National Archives of India desired to get printed otherwise than through the Government agency, should be referred to the Government of India individually for their administrative and financial sanction.

Remarks.—The question of printing under the Publication Programme of the National Archives of India was again referred to the Research & Publication Committee at its 16th meeting held at New Delhi in July 1950. The Resolution (I) passed by the Committee has been forwarded to the Government of India for necessary action.

Resolution XI.—That the Government of India be moved to make an initial grant of Rs. 25,000 to be distributed among the Regional Survey Committees for collection of materials relating to the proposed compilation of an authoritative history of Indian National Struggle.

The Government of India have set up a Committee to consider the question of compilation of a History of National Struggle in India. The minutes of the Expert Committee together with a Statement showing the progress made in the execution of the scheme is appended herewith for information. (Appendix D).

Resolution XIII.—That pre-1902 confidential records, Central and provincial, both military and civil, be thrown open to bonafide students of Indian history under such conditions as the respective Governments may consider necessary.

Government of Madhya Pradesh have informed that while the State Government will be prepared generally to throw open records fifty or more years old to bonafide research students, it is not practicable at this moment to set up a separate Record Office.

Government of Travancore and Cochin have forwarded a copy of the rules regulating access to bonafide research students to Government Central Records Office, Trivandrum.

Twelfth Meeting, New Delhi, July 1948.

Resolution III.—This Committee recommends that all the non-current District, Divisional and Sub-Divisional records should be centralised at the provincial headquarters under a unified control directly under the provincial governments for better preservation and historical research. It is further recommended that an annual report on the progress achieved in this respect may be submitted to the Indian Historical Records Commission, for information.

The Government of India have issued a reminder to all the State Governments, except Delhi, and the replies received from some of them are noted below :—

Chief Commissioner, Himachal Pradesh has informed that the administration has accepted the resolution and steps are being taken to implement it. An annual report of the efforts and progress made by stages in this direction will be furnished to the Indian Historical Records Commission. So far the Secretariat has received some of the old files of Mandi District.

Chief Commissioner, Bilaspur, has informed that no records or data prior to 1901 existed in the State as none was received from the late State Government. The question of throwing open these records therefore does not arise.

Remarks.—The Chief Commissioner has been informed by the Government of India that the object of the resolution is not to throw open records for research but to bring all the non-current District and Divisional records of the State under a unified central control. It has also been pointed out that post-1900 records which may be scattered in the district and sub-divisional headquarters of the Bilaspur Administration, will constitute the 'non-current' records of the local administration.

Government of Madras have stated that they have already concentrated all their district records up to 1857 in their Central Record Office. With regard to records pertaining to the period subsequent to 1857, the question of such centralised control can be considered only after the Central Record Office is shifted back to Madras (since shifted) and even then, only after suitable accommodation is made available for the purpose. The State Government therefore presumed that no report would be called for in the matter until the centralisation of post-1857 records materialises.

Remarks.—In reply to an enquiry made by the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, the Government of Madras have informed that they have no objection in sending an annual report on the progress made by them in the matter in January every year.

Chief Commissioner, Coorg, has stated that all the records of his administration since 1834 are maintained at Mercara. Prior to July 1940, these records were at Bangalore when the Resident in Mysore was also the Chief Commissioner of Coorg. With the separation of the functions the records were brought back from Bangalore to Mercara and were concentrated in his record room which could be called the State Central Record Office for Coorg, the holdings of which also included the publications issued and received by the Chief Commissioner and other available historical records of Coorg. The record room of the former Commissioner which was called the Central Record Office, prior to July 1940, contain all the records of the former Commissioner as well as those of the Assistant Commissioner and is now under the control of the Assistant Commissioner. In this record room all the records of the taluq offices and nad offices (revenue sub-division offices), which are more than three years old are retained. The Forest, Police, Education and P. W. Departments and the local bodies viz., the District Board, Municipalities, Notified Areas and Village Panchayats maintain their own records and they are not sent to the Central Record Room of the Assistant Commissioner of Coorg. The records of the District and

Sessions Judge, Munsiffs and Courts of the Bench of the Magistrates are kept in their offices and are destroyed when they are ripe for destruction according to rules after a notification being issued to the effect. There is no separate record department in Coorg under the control of a separate Gazetted Officer. The heads of the Departments of all the offices are responsible for proper preservation of their records. They also review the records periodically for sorting out documents to be preserved as important, or to be destroyed as valueless, according to an approved principle.

The administration therefore consider that there is no necessity to take any action on the resolution and that the submission of annual progress reports in this respect is also not necessary.

Chief Commissioner, Andaman and Nicobar Islands has informed that all the old records of the Administration were destroyed by the Japanese during their occupation of the islands. The current records of any importance are all kept at Port Blair and therefore no action is proposed to be taken by the Administration on the subject. (Please also see Conspectus, Resolution II of the thirteenth meeting, Research & Publication Committee).

Remarks.—An enquiry about the whereabouts of the records is being pursued at diplomatic level.

Government of West Bengal have informed that it has been decided by the State Government in consultation with the local officers that the district records in West Bengal up to 1858 should be treated as non-current and centralised for the purpose of better preservation and historical research. Further action in the matter is under consideration of the State Government.

Remarks.—A copy of the State Government's letter has been forwarded to Dr. N. K. Sinha for information.

Government of Rajasthan have informed that a Committee has since been appointed to examine the questions relating to the formation of State and Divisional Record Offices for the safe custody, preservation and scientific treatment of ancient and historical records on the lines of the National Archives of India; availability of these records to the research scholars; and laying down a procedure for the acquisition of closed records of Government departments by the record offices and by Government Departments from the record offices for purposes of reference. Necessary action regarding unified control will therefore be taken on receipt of the report of the Committee.

Government of Madhya Bharat have informed that they have adopted the system of decentralisation of records according to which all administrative papers, both current and non-current, would now remain in the direct custody of the Departments and offices to whom

they relate. The papers of Departmental character emanating from different covenanting States are, therefore, being sorted and listed according to their relevance and context for ultimate transfer to the direct control and management of Heads of Departments concerned. The Chief Inspector of Offices and Records will, however, assist the Heads of the Departments to build up their records and will inspect them from time to time so as to have a unified control over them. The Secretariat or Ministerial records of the covenanting States are being sorted and listed for being transferred to Departments concerned or arranged and preserved in the Central Records Department on a statewide and yearwise basis, the latter also being charged with the duty to take over of such current records as may be of historical interest. It is hoped that the records preserved in the Central Record Department will give at one place in a convenient form all that is of historical and archival value.

Remarks.—Please see Secretary's remarks against the reply of the Madhya Bharat Government on Resolution VI of the eighth meeting of the Research & Publication Committee. The Union Government have been again asked to clarify the position regarding re-arrangement of their records.

The Government of Orissa have sent the following report:—

Orissa National Archives created at Cuttack in the year 1948-49 under the supervision of the Curator of Archives, has been merged with the Research Section set up by the Government of Orissa since April 1950 for organised research work in the State. (Please see remarks of the Government of Orissa against Resolution IV of the 14th meeting—Conspectus). Non-current historical records comprising about 400 volumes and some Mughal and Maratha documents have been shifted to the Archives Section from the Office of the Collector of Cuttack. The Curator has been authorised by the Government to inspect the old records in the offices of the District Collectors and Divisional Commissioners from time to time.

The Government of Bombay have informed that Bombay Records have now been placed under a fulltime officer, the Director of Archives. Though in immediate charge of the Secretariat Record Office, and the Record Offices at Baroda and Kolhapur, his jurisdiction extends to the entire State area in the matter of historical records. He has been made specifically responsible for the preservation and publication of the records from the Alienation Office, Poona.

As regards district records, the State Government have further informed that in pursuance of Resolution III of the Indian Historical Records Commission passed at the Simla session in 1919 reports were invited in 1923 from Collectorates in the Bombay State on the position of their old records, and as a result of this enquiry, all records

prior to the introduction of British rule were transferred either to the Alienation Office, Poona, or to the Central Records at Bombay and all subsequent records up to 1857 with the exception of those possessing *prima facie* historical or economic value were destroyed. It appears from some of the reports submitted by the Collectors that Districts in the State continue to hold some records of Historical value for the period 1818—1857 and onwards. Information about the old non-current records up to 1900, is being called for, on receipt of which the question of inspection and subsequent action regarding their disposal, will be taken up.

Enquiries are also being made about historical records in merged States and wherever such collections are noticed, they are being taken over.

The question of bringing the non-current records of districts or defunct States to a Central repository is under consideration and a further communication will be made in the matter in due course.

Thirteenth meeting, Delhi, December 1948.

Resolution I.—This Committee requests scholars, archivists and others engaged in research among archives to bring to the notice of the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, interesting and new subjects which they come across in the course of their researches and upon which they find sufficient materials among the archives, in order that a list of such subjects may be published in the annual Proceedings Volumes of the Indian Historical Records Commission for helping research students in the selection of suitable subjects for their theses.

Government of Travancore and Cochin have informed that a press-note has been published in the matter for information of all concerned.

Government of Vindhya Pradesh have informed that the resolution has been brought to the notice of the Department of Vindhya Historical Records Commission for future guidance and any interesting and new subject which they will come across in the course of their activities will be duly communicated to the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission.

Chief Commissioner, Ajmer has informed that the scholars and archivists etc. engaged in research among records in the State have been instructed to follow the principle underlying the resolution. The State has however no archives department and it is not therefore possible to undertake any important research work in the branch locally.

Resolution II.—That early and suitable steps be taken by the Indian Historical Records Commission for publication of original

texts or translations of comparatively important historical manuscripts and documents discovered by the respective Regional Records Survey Committees.

Please see the remarks of the Chief Commissioner, Andaman and Nicobar Islands on pages 42-43, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Volume XXVI, Part I. In reply to a further enquiry made by the Government of India regarding the authority, places and the manner in which the old records were known to have been last kept and to the periods to which they related, the Chief Commissioner, has sent the following information:—

- (i) Each Head of Department held direct charge of his office records, and the records last existed in his office; (ii) these records were generally kept in wooden almirahs and racks. In fact no records or their containers were recovered on re-occupation; (iii) it is not possible to say anything definite about the period to which the records related as certain old records are understood to have been weeded out at certain intervals before the war; and (iv) most of the important records of those days were kept in the Chief Commissioner's office located on Ross Island (Port Blair) and a portion of the records of that Office was removed to the Deputy Commissioner's Office in Port Blair in February 1942.

(Please also see remarks of the Chief Commissioner, Andaman and Nicobar Islands against Resolution III of the 12th meeting of the Research & Publication Committee).

The Government of Orissa have informed that the question of implementing the Resolution will be taken up as soon as the Survey Committee is set up, which is under consideration.

Fourteenth meeting, New Delhi, May 1949.

Resolution III.—This Committee reiterates its previous recommendations and requests the provincial governments to expedite the establishment of organised records offices in their respective provinces if they have not already done so.

Chief Commissioner, Delhi has informed that the Indian Historical Records Commission may take up the question of inspecting the records of the administration with a view to determining as to which of the records are of historical value. So far as the question of establishing a separate Records Office for the State is concerned, the Chief Commissioner, is of opinion, that Delhi being a small State it is very doubtful whether a separate record office will be necessary for it.

Government of Assam have informed that the records of the Khasi States have been kept intact under the control of the Government of Assam.

Government of West Bengal have informed that necessary steps have been taken to ensure that no State records of Cooch Behar are allowed to be dispersed, divided or destroyed.

Government of Uttar Pradesh have informed that since the Banaras State has merged with the Uttar Pradesh, the Keeper of Records of the State will in due course make a survey of the records of the defunct State along with the public records of Banares District and arrange the removal of important records, if any, to the Central Records Office to be established at Allahabad.

In reply to the instructions given by the Government of India, the Government of Uttar Pradesh have further informed that the Banares State authorities first denied existence of any historical records of the State. The Keeper of Records, however, on a survey has traced out 18 volumes of records, which will be scrutinised first by the Maharaja of Banaras so as to retain papers appertaining to private affairs of the Maharaja and his ancestors before their removal to the Central Records Office at Allahabad. The series of these 18 volumes have been found thoroughly broken and many of the volumes incomplete. In the circumstances, the Uttar Pradesh Government do not feel it worthwhile to make local arrangements for housing and preservation of these volumes. Separate entity of these volumes will however be maintained if the records in question are transferred to Allahabad.

Chief Commissioner, Vindhya Pradesh has informed that the Vindhya Historical Records Commission in the Pradesh is being reorganised. The Government Record Offices are being run under the rules of the State Government. The implementation of the resolution of the Indian Historical Records Commission is being considered.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir have informed that a proposal to set up a National Academy in the State is under consideration of the Government and it is hoped that this organisation would set up a Historical Records Office in due course.

Remarks.—The State Government have been informed that setting up of the Records Office is not the function of an Academy, but it is the duty of the Government. They have also been informed that a "General Record Department" already existed, which should be declared by the State Government as their Central Record Office. Reply awaited.

Chief Commissioner, Kutch has informed that there were no historical records of the nature mentioned in the resolution in the palace records.

Remarks.—The Chief Commissioner has been informed that as the State came into existence in the 15th century, it must have accumulated a mass of official papers in the course of its administration and that these papers were records of historical importance. The reply received from the Chief Commissioner is summarised below:

The records of the Kutch State prior to the date of transfer of power have neither been fully listed nor weeded out. (A list of some of the records has been forwarded). There are nearly 2½ lakhs of records of files to be examined, weeded, noted, and arranged. They pertain to a period of about 150 years and must be containing some papers of historical importance. The records relating to settlement of lands etc., in Kutch have to be systematically examined and preserved or destroyed, for which the Administration has asked from the Government of India sanction for a small staff. (A copy of the rules framed by the Chief Commissioner for weeding of records has been sent).

Government of Bombay have informed that the State Government have already established an organised Records Office.

Government of Hyderabad have informed that the State have their own well-organised Record Office, known as Daftar-e-Diwani Mal and Mulki, with which 13 Daftars are amalgamated and its papers date back to Shahjahan's period and to the Asaf Jahi period from Asaf Jah I to the modern times. Such historical papers as are in private possession have already been taken in direct custody of the State Government and the Daftar has in a way become a Central Record Office for these old records as well as current records.

Resolution IV.—Resolved that the Government of India be urged to take suitable steps immediately for the safe custody and proper preservation of records lately in possession of the various Indian States. The Director of National Archives may be given all necessary facilities for this purpose and be requested to submit his report to the Indian Historical Records Commission at an early date.

Government of Punjab have informed that suitable steps will be taken for the safe custody and proper preservation of the materials, if any, found in the records of the States of Laharu, Pataudi and Dujana which have been merged with the Punjab.

Chief Commissioner, Bhopal has informed that Government records are safely preserved at the Central Records Office.

Government of Travancore and Cochin have informed that both Travancore and Cochin have organised Records Offices and their records are properly preserved and taken care of by the Union Government.

Chief Commissioner, Cooch Behar (late) informed that the Records Office of the old regime were being maintained intact under the new administration.

Government of Madras have informed that they have already taken steps on the subject, and that there is no danger of the records in question being dispersed, damaged or lost.

Government of Uttar Pradesh have informed that the Keeper of the Records of the State Government has been instructed to inspect the records which were lately in the possession of Tehri-Garhwal and Banaras States and to ensure in consultation with the local authorities their preservation and safe custody. The report of the Keeper of Records when received will be sent to the Commission.

(Please see the remarks of the Uttar Pradesh Government against Resolution III of the Research & Publication Committee of the same meeting).

Government of Saurashtra have informed that the Union Government contemplate to set up an organisation which will look after the safe custody and preservation of records of the various covenanted States. The decision when finalised will be intimated later.

Government of Orissa have informed that steps were being taken for safe custody and preservation of records lately in the possession of the States merged with Orissa. A Research Section has been established for the purpose. In the meantime necessary steps have been taken to preserve separately the historical records of the Cuttack Collectorate up to 1858. After the Central Records Office is opened, the old records in all the District Offices in the State and in the Revenue Commissioner's Office will be removed to the Records Office for their preservation. Until then the Curator, Orissa National Archives, will supervise from time to time these records and take necessary steps for their preservation.

Chief Commissioner, Bilaspur has informed that no historical records have been passed on to the administration by the late State Government and there is none in its custody.

Government of Hyderabad have informed that they have taken immediate steps for the safe custody of records lately in the possession of various jagirdars and Samasthanams subsequent to the abolition of Jagirs. All the Assistant Jagir Administrators are instructed to take possession of all such records from the Jagirdars and transfer them to the Daftar-e-Diwani.

Government of Madhya Bharat have informed that the Union Government was taking steps to transfer the archival papers in the various covenanted States to the Secretariat Central Records Room where they will be calendared by a duly qualified person. The Union Government do not therefore find it necessary to set up interim repositories or to seek the assistance of the National Archives of India in the matter.

(Please see Secretary's remarks against Resolution VI of the 8th meeting of the Research and Publication Committee).

Government of Rajasthan have informed that the principal covenanted States, e.g., Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur were maintaining organised Record Offices and had taken good care to keep their records, ancient and historical, as well as current, in a state of safety and good preservation. The Union Government have also appointed a Committee of scholars to examine the question and make recommendations regarding the establishment of Central and Divisional Record Offices to ensure proper preservation and safety of records, their reorganisation and scientific preservation. The Committee have also been asked to suggest how best these records could be made available for research purposes.

The Union Government have also requested the Government of India to arrange for training in the National Archives of India an officer of the State in Archive administration and preservation of records, who after his training will be entrusted with the work of organising the Central and Divisional Record Offices on an all-India basis. The Rajasthan Government will always welcome suggestions from the Director of the National Archives of India in this behalf and will also have no objection to the Record Offices being inspected by him periodically.

Remarks.—The Rajasthan Government have been informed by the Government of India that the Indian Historical Records Commission would be greatly interested in seeing the report of the Committee of scholars appointed by the Union Government and its recommendations. The National Archives of India would also welcome an officer of the Rajasthan Government for rendering such help as would be required by him to learn the technique of archive administration.

Fifteenth meeting, Cuttack, December 1949.

Resolution I.—While agreeing with the Madras Government that the Tanjore Raj records could not be placed under the care and custody of a private library, this Committee recommends that the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, Professor D. V. Potdar, Convener, Madras Regional Records Survey Committee, and Dr. P. M. Joshi (if deputed by the Government of Bombay)

should inspect the records with a view to suggesting a suitable place for their location and steps to be taken for their preservation and utilization.

The *Government of India* have decided to set up a Committee with the personnel as recommended by the Committee to inspect the Tanjore Raj Records and other Central Government records kept at present in the custody of the Government of Madras with a view to make recommendations to them for the proper preservation and location of those records.

The Committee has inspected the records in November 1950. The inspection report of the Committee will be submitted directly to the Government of India.

Proposal of Dr. N. K. Sinha for sending reminders to States Governments in regard to submission by the various States of progress reports in regard to results achieved in the direction of exercising unified control over records (non-current district, divisional and sub-divisional records).

The *Government of India* have issued reminders to the States Governments concerned for the submission of progress reports to this effect. (Please see Conspectus, Resolution III of the 12th meeting).

Resolution II.—This Committee again draws the attention of the Government of India to its previous resolutions [Resolution VII of the Nineteenth Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission and Resolution IV of the Ninth meeting and Resolution IV(1) of the Tenth meeting of the Research & Publication Committee] and urges early action in the matter.

The *Government of India* are considering the question of placing before the next session of Parliament a Draft Bill prepared by the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission.

Resolution III.—This Committee urges on all the Regional Records Survey Committees which have not submitted their accounts to do so without any further delay.

The Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, has forwarded the resolution to all the Conveners of the Regional Records Survey Committees for necessary action. Irregularities in submission of accounts of expenditure still continues.

Resolution IV.—Resolved that the Government of India be requested to ask the provincial Governments and States Unions to take immediate steps properly to house and preserve the records of the defunct States within their respective jurisdiction, and to

arrange their archives on proper lines so as to make them useful for research purposes, and to throw them open to scholars.

The *Government of India* have forwarded the recommendation of the Committee together with the observation of the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, to the covenanting States and Unions of States for necessary action.

The *PEPSU Government* have informed that they are taking necessary steps for properly housing and preserving all records of the covenanting States comprising PEPSU and for arranging their archives on proper lines.

The *Government of Orissa* have informed that they are taking necessary steps for proper housing and preservation of all records of historical interests of the ex-States in Orissa.

The *Government of Madhya Bharat* have informed that they are taking necessary steps to transfer the archival papers in the various covenanted States to the Secretariat Central Record Room where they will be calendared by a duly qualified person. They did not therefore find it necessary to set up interim repositories or to seek the assistance of the National Archives of India in this respect.

The question of throwing open records of the various covenanting States for research scholars would be considered as soon as the process of collecting, collating, cataloguing and calendaring old records were completed or were at least in a fairly advanced stage of completion.

Remarks.—Please see remarks against Resolution VI of the Eighth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee.

Replies from others are awaited.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION.

MEMBERS' MEETING.

Nagpur, December 26, 1950.

The twenty-seventh annual session of the Indian Historical Records Commission was held at 11-00 A.M. on Tuesday, December 26, 1950, at the Nagpur Mahavidyalaya Hall, Nagpur. In the unavoidable absence of Hon'ble Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, *ex-officio* President of the Commission, the meeting was presided over by Dr. Tara Chand, Educational Adviser to the Government of India. A list of members who were present will be found on pp. 11—18.

2. Before proceeding with the business of the meeting, the following resolution moved by the Chair on the death of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, was unanimously passed and two minutes silence observed, all members standing:

Resolution I.—The Indian Historical Records Commission deeply mourns the death of Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Deputy Prime Minister of India and authorises its Secretary to convey to his relatives a message of sympathy and condolence on behalf of the Commission.

3. The review submitted by the Secretary of the action taken on resolutions passed at the 26th and some earlier sessions of the Commission was then read out by the Chairman. (Please see conspectus pp. 60-65).

Dr. R. C. Majumdar drew attention to Resolution VIII of the 26th meeting of the Commission and stated that as the Government of India were considering [(iii) of item 5] the question of enacting a legislation, it would be desirable that the Committee should now meet to work out the details of the proposal regarding the establishment of a Central Archival Authority.

The Chairman said that the Government would be approached to appoint the Committee as recommended.

Action taken on all other resolutions was approved.

4. There being no recommendation of an exceptional nature by the Research and Publication Committee, the Commission proceeded to consider the next item on the agenda.

5. A report of the progress made on the Development Scheme of the National Archives of India was placed before the 26th session

of the Commission (vide pp. 48—52, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Volume XXVI, Part I). A further report was submitted by the Secretary as below:—

The principal points are:—

- (i) Microfilm copies of all unpublished records relating to Modern Indian History not available in this country should be obtained and preserved in the Imperial Record Department.
- (ii) All necessary steps should be taken for salvaging privately owned manuscripts in India. The central and provincial record offices should be legally authorised to take charge of such manuscripts when their respective owners are willing to transfer their custody on such terms as may be mutually agreed upon. Such owners as may be prepared to provide for the better preservation of their manuscripts should be given such technical advice and service as they may require.
- (iii) Unwarranted destruction and export of historical manuscripts should be legally prohibited.
- (iv) Microphotographic copies of all rare publications on India not available in this country should be obtained irrespective of the period they deal with and placed in the custody of the Imperial Record Department.
- (v) All *bona fide* students should have access to these copies.
- (vi) The Imperial Record Department should supply at a reasonable price copies made out of the microfilms mentioned above to Universities, learned societies, public libraries and such persons as may apply for them.
- (vii) Early steps should be taken to air-condition the muniment rooms of the Imperial Record Department with a view to securing uniformity of temperature and relative humidity.
- (viii) Vacuum fumigatorium and laminating machines should be installed in the Imperial Record Department at an early date.
- (ix) Imparting instructions in theory and practice of archives keeping should be recognised as one of the normal duties of the Imperial Record Department.
- (x) Publication Programme.
- (xi) Building and Shelves.
- (xii) Storage Equipment (for records).

(xiii) Accession of records of Government of India not transferred.

(xiv) Map Room.

(xv) Survey and listing of National Archives of India records.

(i) and (iv) above.—The project for building up a Library of Microfilm copies of records and historical manuscripts of Indian interest available in foreign countries showed good progress during 1949-50. On receipt of expenditure sanction for Rs. 50,000 for this purpose, in October 1949, orders were placed for copies of documents belonging to both official and non-official repositories in the United Kingdom, France, Norway and the United States of America. As the financial sanction was received late in the year, it was not possible to make use of the entire amount provided for the implementation of the scheme. Before the expiry of the financial year microfilms worth Rs. 14,500 only were received. The largest number of them came from the British Museum (60 rolls) where the micro-copying was done on behalf of the National Archives of India by the Recordak Division of Kodak Ltd. of London. These microfilms include copies of private papers of several British statesmen and military officers who served in India during the 18th and 19th centuries. The Manuscripts relating to Indian history in the Bodleian Library (Oxford) were all microcopied at the University Press of Oxford. The other British depositories wherefrom copies of documents were obtained, include the National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh; H. M. Register House, Edinburgh and the Guildhall Library, London. Arrangements could not be made for the making of microfilm copies in any of the French repositories before March 1950 but a descriptive list of manuscripts of Indian interest in the *Bibliothèque Nationale*, Paris, was obtained through the courtesy of The Embassy of India in Paris. The *Riksarkivet* of Oslo (Norway) sent microcopies (5 rolls) of all the documents of Indian interest in their possession. A large part of them relate to Peter Anker, the Danish Governor of Tranquebar during the latter half of the 18th century. Cleveland Public Library (Cleveland, Ohio) is in possession of the largest number of documents of Indian interest in the United States of America and copies of all these were acquired. The Manuscripts in the custody of the Library of Congress and Harvard University Library (Cambridge, Mass) were also microfilmed for the National Archives of India. The total number of rolls obtained during 1949-50 amounted to 159.

For the year 1950-51 the Government of India had sanctioned expenditure not exceeding Rs. 35,000 for the implementation of the project. At present the Recordak Division was carrying on the copying of the manuscripts in the British Museum, which could not be microfilmed last year and it was hoped that the entire collection of manuscripts of Indian interest available there would be microcopied before March

1951. John Rylands Library of Manchester had also a large collection of manuscripts relating to Modern Indian History and arrangements for their copying had been made. Information was received from Paris that manuscripts in the *Bibliothèque Nationale* and the *Dupleix Papers* in the Archives of the Department of Seine-et-Oise were being microfilmed on behalf of the National Archives of India. Professor Holden Furber of the University of Pennsylvania had in his possession some of the important *Melville Papers* relating to India and these had been microfilmed at the Harvard University for the National Archives of India. It was also expected that copying of records of the Dutch East India Company available at the *Algemeen Rijksarchief* (The Hague) would shortly begin as arrangements for making advance payment had been made through the Indian Embassy at The Hague. The microfilming of the Danish records was not being taken up this year because of the non-availability of detailed information regarding them. Also see item (ii) (f) below.

(ii) above—(a) The Government of India made a grant of Rs. 6,500 to the *ad hoc* Regional Records Survey Committees in Part A States for the year 1950-51. The Bombay Government having established a Board of Historical Records and Ancient Monuments for the State and the Madras Government a permanent Survey Committee of their own the Government grant was not disbursed to them. The Governments of West Bengal and Bihar had also decided to set up a permanent Committee for the States and the expenses incurred by the *ad hoc* Committee prior to the establishment of the permanent Committee would be met from the Government of India grant. The balance was re-allocated to the remaining Committees. All the Survey Committees had unearthed valuable manuscripts in the course of their survey work and the documents etc. purchased by them from private owners were transferred to the National Archives of India for custody.

(b) The Government of India suggested that the proposal for the compilation of a 'National Register of Records, Manuscripts, etc.' be again placed before the Nagpur Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission (Please see conspectus p. 61).

(c) A sum of Rs. 5,000 was received from the Government of India for 1949-50, which was expended in the purchase of 7 manuscript books and 10 specimens of calligraphy (Please see Appendix E).

(d) The Government grant of Rs. 5,000 for tendering technical services to institutions and private persons was being fully utilised.

(e) Books—Owing to the paucity of funds no further substantial book collection on Indian History could be made for the National Archives of India Library.

(f) *Parliamentary Papers*—A sum of Rs. 5,000 had been sanctioned by the Government of India for the year 1950-51 to acquire the collection of Parliamentary Papers on India, or their microfilm copies from H. M. Stationery Office, London, which has agreed to undertake their microfilming. Further negotiation was in progress.

(g) *Subvention to Societies*—No grants under the head was made by the Government of India.

(iii) *above*—Please see Resolution VIII of the 26th session of the Indian Historical Records Commission, (IHRC Procs. Vol. XXVI, Part I). It was decided that the first step in this direction was legislation declaring certain categories of records being of national importance. A draft bill has been prepared for this purpose, which, if made into law, would authorize the Indian Parliament to legislate on them. The bill had been under the Government's consideration.

(v) and (vi) *above*—The microfilm copies of material relating to India from abroad were open for research.

(vii) and (xi) *above*—The scheme for the extension of the Records Building and air-conditioning of the muniment rooms was approved both by the Standing Committee of the Legislature on Education and the Standing Finance Committee in principle. But in accordance with a decision of the Cabinet to go slow with the development scheme of the National Archives of India it was decided to construct only a wing instead of a whole new building. The proposal was approved by the last Standing Committee of Parliament on Education. An estimate of Rs. 41,03,450 for the proposed new wing to the National Archives of India and air-conditioning of the muniment rooms, received from the Central Public Works Department was transmitted for approval to the Standing Finance Committee through the Ministry of Education. Extreme urgency of undertaking this work was emphasised. Last year the Government sanctioned a sum of Rs. 1,25,000 for providing adjustable cantilever shelves in the stack areas in the National Archives of India. Installation of adjustable shelves was completed in part of the stack areas and the work of installation in the remaining parts was in progress.

(viii) *above*—The installation of the fumigatorium was completed, but the working of the plant was held up due to minor constructional defects and for want of permission from the Chief Inspector of Explosives for using the ethylene oxide (fumigant) cylinders. The defects were being rectified, and that done vacuum fumigation would be done with alternative fumigants for the time being.

The installation of the laminating press was also completed but the working of the press was held up due to insufficient supply of steam to heat the platens to the required temperature under the required pressure. Steps were being taken to remove this deficiency.

(ix) *above*—The Government of India sanctioned for 1950-51 two stipends of Rs. 100 each per month to deserving candidates in training in Archives Keeping in the National Archives of India. There being no deserving candidate, no stipend was awarded.

(x) *above*—Please see report in the proceedings of the meeting of the Research & Publication Committee, Nagpur.

Honorarium to Editors.—A sum of Rs. 7,500 was sanctioned by the Government of India as honorarium for editors who completed their work during 1950-51. No editor so far this year submitted his completed work.

(xii) *above*—The Government of India granted for 1950-51 a sum of Rs. 20,000 for the purchase of carton boxes for storing records. A similar grant of Rs. 14,000 was also received last year. 460 boxes were acquired last year; more were being made currently.

(xiii) *above*—During the first ten months of 1950, 2,732 bundles, 4,259 volumes and 19 boxes of records were transferred to the National Archives of India by some of the Ministries of the Government of India and some of the defunct Residencies, the largest bulk being from the Ministry of States which had decided upon the transfer of the pre-1941 records of the late Foreign and Political Department records to the custody of the National Archives of India. No appreciable progress had been made in acquiring non-current records of Government of India agencies which had not so far transferred such records to the National Archives of India due to (1) lack of space in the National Archives of India and (2) general reluctance of the agencies to transfer their records to the National Archives of India.

(xiv) *above*—The question of establishing a Map Room in the National Archives of India would be taken up along with the question of extension of the National Archives of India building.

(xv) *above*—In continuation of the work begun last year, the listing of the Survey of India records was being carried on, but it would take some years to complete this series owing to the large volume of the records involved. The preparation of the descriptive list of the Survey of India records (Geodetic Branch), May 1865—December 1873, for which there was no list whatsoever, had been completed up to August 1873. Of the Residency series, the listing of the Mysore records had been completed, and work on the pre-mutiny records of the late Central India Agency, Indore, had begun. Detailed lists of papers were also prepared for the Central Board of Revenue (1923-35) and Legislative (1861-1913) groups of records, which were originally transferred to the National Archives of India without such lists.

Professor D. V. Potdar said that the Dutch Government had published several volumes of Dagh Registers and suggested that a portion of the Government of India grant [under items (i) and (iv) of the scheme] should be utilised for obtaining microfilm copies of unpublished records and procuring the published works.

The Secretary gave the assurance that suitable action would be taken.

6. At the instance of the Government of India (Please see Conspectus p. 61) the Secretary moved the proposal regarding the scheme for the National Register of Records. The background of the scheme was as follows:—

At its tenth meeting held in March 1947, the Research and Publication Committee adopted a resolution (Resolution IV in 8 parts) regarding preparation of a National Register of records in Government, semi-public and private custody, which was circulated to all the State Governments. Only three definite answers supporting the move were received from the former Travancore and Manipur Darbars and the Orissa Government (please see pp. 35-36, I.H.R.C. Procs. Volume XXVI, Part I). Subsequently a reply came from the Madras Government conveying their unwillingness to support the proposal (see Conspectus, p. 37). The Government of India had meanwhile considered the proposal very carefully and were willing to offer limited financial assistance for the execution of the scheme. The grant could be utilised only if there were proper machinery in the regional areas. The only existing organisation through which the scheme could be hoped to be worked were the permanent and ad hoc Survey Committees. In view, however, of Madras Government's attitude and the silence of other State Governments in the matter and the Government of India's present inability to shoulder the entire financial liability, it was decided to place this question again before the Commission (see Conspectus p. 61).

East Punjab, Madras, Mysore and Travancore-Cochin had set up permanent Committees and Bombay a Board, while West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Pepsu and Delhi were likely to do so soon. Answers from the remaining States were awaited. The Survey Committees included nominees of State Governments, Universities, learned institutions and private individuals and in their representative character these organisations were the most suitable machinery capable of undertaking the job in view. It had been accepted on all hands that the task of preparation of the National Register of Records and Manuscripts was of national importance. In view of the general lukewarmness of the State Governments towards the proposal, the only other alternative seemed to be that the Central Government take it up as a regular item of work. It would have to be

started on a modest scale owing to the lack of personnel experienced in this type of work and the present financial position of the country.

The Secretary's suggestion was unanimously accepted and the following resolution passed:—

Resolution II.—The Commission recommends that (i) the work of compilation of the National Register of Records be taken up by the Government of India on a limited scale and executed through a Registrar and an Assistant Registrar with a small staff specially appointed for this purpose; (ii) the Registrar and his staff make an experimental survey in the States of Delhi and East Punjab for a period of three years; and (iii) their work be reviewed after three years and if found successful their activities be extended to other regions of India.

7. Regarding the proposal of a Diploma Course in Archives Keeping, the Secretary gave a brief account on the subject and the following resolution was passed:—

Resolution III.—It is resolved that (i) all State Governments in India should fall in line with the Government of India in recognising records administration as technical work; (ii) ultimately all appointments to records repositories in India should be made from among Diploma holders in archives science from recognised institutions (for the time being the National Archives of India is the only institution which offers on a limited scale a diploma course in archives science); (iii) all ministries of the Government of India and State Governments who have to retain large bodies of 'current records' in their custody should employ full time Record Officers who should be diploma holders in archives science, if such a person is available, or the officer should after appointment be sent up to the National Archives of India or to an organised State Record Office for training; and (iv) for the next five years 4 annual stipends of the value of Rs. 150 p.m. should be awarded by the Government of India to good candidates who come up for training at the National Archives of India. It is further resolved that in awarding the scholarships a contract should be entered into with the stipend-holders to the effect that they would be expected to serve the Government of India or a State Government for a specified period after successful completion of training in the National Archives of India.

8. The proposal by the Indian Economic Association to hold sessions jointly with the Indian Historical Records Commission was then taken up. The Association held that there might be certain broad topics which might lend themselves to treatment by different social scientists and the common grounds could be covered by holding joint sessions annually.

It was agreed that the Secretary be authorised to inform the Honorary Secretary, Indian Economic Association, that it was not feasible to hold joint sessions.

9. The University of Calcutta sent a proposal that as the annual meetings of the Commission were held in different places, it would be more profitable if each State concentrated on displaying local exhibits rather than try to give each exhibition "a superficial all-India character."

It was agreed that the Historical Exhibition should continue to be organised as in the past with greater emphasis, however, being given to the local exhibits.

10. The recommendation by the Committee of Experts of the National Commission for UNESCO concerning the Direction of School Programmes towards International Peace and Security (Appendix F) was taken up next.

The following resolution was adopted:—

Resolution IV.—The Indian Historical Records Commission endorses the recommendation of the Committee of Experts of the National Commission for UNESCO concerning the Direction of School Programmes towards International Peace and Security.

11. After all the items on the agenda were considered, Dr. R. C. Majumdar with the permission of the Chair, stated that he had received disconcerting reports regarding division and dispersal of Chandernagore records and he requested the Commission to take up the matter before it was too late.

After a brief discussion Dr. Majumdar tabled the following resolution which was adopted:—

Resolution V.—In view of the fact that French Chandernagore had merged into West Bengal, this Commission conveys to the Government of India the desirability of treating the old records of Chandernagore as a part of the records of West Bengal. This Commission points out in this connexion that in accordance with the established usage and practice records are not removed from any locality even though it passes into the hands of any foreign power.

12. The question of the venue of the next meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission was postponed.

13. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair proposed by Dr. R. C. Majumdar, who also thanked the Nagpur University, particularly the Vice-Chancellor, for inviting the Commission at Nagpur and extending generous hospitality to the members, and the Local Secretary and the volunteers for the excellent arrangements made and the services rendered.

Professor C. S. Srinivasachari seconded it.

14. Papers laid on the table are:—

(i) Minutes of the Sixteenth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee;

(ii) Annual Reports of:—

- (a) National Archives of India (1948);
- (b) Madras Record Office, 1949-50;
- (c) West Bengal Record Office, 1947-48;
- (d) Bombay Secretariat Record Office, 1947-48.

(iii) Reports of research work from the following members:—

- (a) V. R. Dikshitar, Madras, (b) A. H. Nizami, Rewa, (c) K. A. Sajan Lal, Secunderabad-Deccan, (d) P. M. Joshi, Bombay, (e) K. K. Datta, Patna, (f) G. H. Khare, Poona, (g) Bisheshwar Prasad, Simla, (h) R. R. Sethi, New Delhi, (i) K. R. Venkataraman Ayyar, Trichinopoly, (j) A. C. Banerjee, Calcutta, (k) P. C. Gupta, Calcutta, (l) Bool Chand, Delhi, (m) B. A. Saletore, Ahmedabad, (n) K. C. Panigrahi, Bhuvaneshvar, (o) D. C. Ganguly, Calcutta, (p) L. P. Pandeya, Bilaspur, (q) T. S. Shejwalkar, Poona, (r) G. L. Chopra, Simla, (s) A. L. Srivastava, Agra, (t) S. N. Dhar, Indore, (u) S. R. Kohli, Sangrur, (v) S. N. Das Gupta, Lucknow;

(iv) Constitution of the Indian Standards Institution;

(v) Inspection reports of the Director of Archives of Central Government and/or State records in—

- (a) West Bengal Record Office—March 1948 and November 1949.
- (b) Bombay Secretariat Record Office, May 1949.
- (c) Assam Secretariat Record Office, November 1949.
- (d) Bhopal Record Office, November 1949.
- (e) Cuttack Board of Revenue, October 1949;

(vi) Questionnaire circulated by the International Council on Archives and the replies received from the National Archives of India and other Records Offices in India;

(vii) Report on the Fourth General Conference of UNESCO Paris, September-October 1949;

(viii) List of books presented to the Indian Historical Records Commission or the National Archives of India.

CONSPECTUS OF ACTION TAKEN

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

Twenty-fourth session, Jaipur, February, 1948

Resolution XV.—This Commission recommends the provincial Governments in the Dominion of India to give adequate grants to historical research institutions in their provinces expressly for the preservation of the collection of manuscripts and historical documents in their possession.

Government of Saurashtra have informed that there is no historical research institute in the Union at present and therefore the question of payment of any grants by the Union Government does not arise.

Twenty-fifth session, Delhi, December, 1948

Resolution II.—This Commission recommends that the Government of India take steps for the preparation of a catalogue of portraits and paintings of historical interest to India in the possession of private individuals, institutions and various Government institutions in India and abroad and distribute them widely in this country.

Please see remarks of the Government of India in the conspectus, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Volume XXVI, Part I, page 69.

The Government of India have since addressed all the State Governments (Parts A, B and C) to collect full information in regard to Government Houses, Circuit Houses, Museums, Universities and learned institutions and private individuals within the States concerned; and also to all the Indian Embassies etc. in foreign countries, to collect similar information from the Societies, Museums and private residents in countries to which they are accredited.

Twenty-sixth session, Cuttack, December, 1949

Resolution I.—This Commission draws the attention of the Government of India to Resolution III of the twenty-fifth session and further urges upon them to get back all Residency records transferred to the custody of the High Commissioner of the United Kingdom in India.

The Government of India have noted the contents of the resolution.

Remarks.—Another proposal regarding the return of the records from the U.K. High Commissioner was again considered during the 16th meeting of the Research and Publication Committee held at

New Delhi in July 1950. The resolution (VII) adopted by the Committee has been forwarded to the Government of India for necessary action.

Resolution II.—The Commission expresses its satisfaction with the progress made in several branches of the Development programme of the National Archives of India. It feels at the same time that some of the branches have not been attended to adequately, they being provision for more accommodation in the National Archives of India, its proper staffing, air conditioning of the muniment rooms, developing the Library of the National Archives of India, and the establishment of a Map Room. The Commission feels these are items of pressing importance and should not be delayed further, and it urges upon the Government of India to make immediate and adequate provision for the above items. The Commission further feels that the compilation of a National Register of Records and Manuscripts is a work of great national importance and should be taken up immediately by the Government of India.

The Government of India have informed that in regard to the proposal of the compilation of a National Register of records, etc., they feel that the question may again be referred to the Indian Historical Records Commission in view of the attitude adopted by the different State Governments in the matter.

Remarks.—For reply of the State Governments please see conspectus Research and Publication Committee, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Vol. XXVI, Part I.

The proposal is accordingly included in the agenda.

As regards other items of the Development programme of the National Archives of India a review is included in the Proceedings of the Members Meeting.

Resolution III.—That the Commission do record its appreciation of Dr. S. N. Sen's valuable services and urge that a resolution be passed to this effect and communicated to Dr. Sen. It is further recommended that the Commission request the Government of India (i) to appoint Dr. Sen as an additional Expert Member on the Commission, in recognition of his services and to enable the Commission to utilise further Dr. Sen's long experience in archival matters and (ii) appoint him afresh as the General Editor of the Indian Record Series, and Record in Oriental Languages Series, in his personal capacity, and as an honorary adviser to the Local Records Subcommittee.

The Government of India have endorsed the views expressed by the Indian Historical Records Commission regarding the services rendered by Dr. S. N. Sen and have conveyed their appreciation to him.

They have appointed Dr. Sen as an Honorary member of the Local Records Sub-Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission for a period of one year vice Mr. K. Zachariah. They are however unable to accept the recommendations of the Indian Historical Records Commission (parts i & ii) for appointing Dr. Sen as an additional Expert member of the Commission or as General Editor of the publication programme. The Director of Archives will continue to be the General Editor of the Publication Programme of the National Archives of India.

Resolution IV.—That the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, be nominated to represent the Commission on the ensuing meeting of the International Council on Archives to be held on August 20 to 23, 1950, in Paris, and the Government of India be moved to make the necessary financial sanction for the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, to attend the session.

The Government of India have regretted their inability to accept the recommendation.

NOTE.—The President of the Admissions Committee of the First Congress of International Council on Archives has appointed Dr. Purnendu Basu, Director of Archives, as a member of the Committee in place of Dr. S. N. Sen, former Director of Archives. The appointment has been approved by the Government of India.

Resolution V.—The Commission recommends to the Government of India that it should be individually and permanently represented on the Indian National Commission for co-operation with UNESCO, instead of taking its turn in rotation with several other bodies as at present.

The question is under the consideration of the Government of India, who have assured that the Commission's suggestions will be kept in view when a final decision in the matter is taken.

Resolution VI.—Resolved that the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, be nominated as a member of the Indian Standards Institution Documentation Committee.

The Government of India have accepted the recommendation.

NOTE.—The constitution together with the Memorandum of the Indian Standards Institution has been placed before the meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Resolution VII.—Resolved that the representative of the Indian Historical Records Commission on the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology may be asked to make the following proposal at the next meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology; (i) that a representative of the Department of Archaeology, Government of India, may be nominated on each of the Regional Records Survey Committees, who will be of assistance for taking over for the

Department of Archaeology any items of archaeological and antiquarian interest discovered in the course of the activities of the Regional Records Survey Committees which do not fall within the definitions of records and historical manuscripts; and (ii) that the Conveners of each of the provincial Regional Record Survey Committees be co-opted on the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology.

A copy of the resolution together with relevant extracts from the proceedings of the meeting has been forwarded to Dr. S. N. Sen, who is the representative of the Indian Historical Records Commission on the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology, for necessary action.

Resolution VIII.—This Commission recommends that a Central Archival Authority be established by law charged with laying down the archival procedure in the country at the centre as well as in the provinces and the States, the Central Authority being further authorised to exercise the right of inspection in order to see that the procedure laid down by it is carried out satisfactorily. The law should also define "archives".

The Commission then elected a Committee consisting of the persons mentioned below which was to meet and go into the details of the matter if the above resolution was accepted by the Government of India.

Dr. S. N. Sen

Dr. R. C. Majumdar

Professor D. V. Potdar

Professor C. S. Srinivasachari

Professor Mohammad Habib

Dr. P. M. Joshi

and the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission (to act as Secretary).

The question of enacting legislation on archives is under the consideration of the Government of India.

Resolution IX.—The Commission recommends that the suggestion above (organising the archives of Universities, Colleges, etc.) may be forwarded to all provincial Governments, States Unions, etc., requesting them to forward it to all Universities and learned and scientific institutions started before 1900 within their areas.

The Government of India forwarded the resolution to all the State Governments. Replies received are noted below:

Government of Travancore and Cochin have forwarded the resolution to the University of Travancore for necessary action.

Government of Assam have informed that there are no University or scientific and learned institutions started before 1900 in the State.

Government of Madhya Pradesh have informed that there are no University or scientific and learned institutions started before 1900 in the State.

Chief Commissioner, Bilaspur has informed that there are no University or scientific and learned institutions started before 1900 in the State.

Chief Commissioner, Vindhya Pradesh has informed that there are no University or scientific and learned institutions started before 1900 in the State.

Chief Commissioner, Coorg has informed that there are no University or scientific institutions in Coorg established before 1900. There are, however, following literary institutions which were started before 1900 to whom copies of the resolution have been forwarded:—

- (i) The North Coorg Club, Mercara (established before 1884).
- (ii) The Victoria Club, Virajpet (established in June, 1887).
- (iii) The Cosmopolitan Club, Mercara (established in October, 1899).

Government of Manipur have informed that no learned institution existed in Manipur before 1900.

Government of Bihar have informed that there was no scientific institution in the State. The learned institutions started before 1900 are—The Patna College, The B. N. College, The T. N. J. College, Bhagalpur and the Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library, Patna. The authorities concerned have been requested to take necessary action on the resolution.

Government of Mysore have informed that the resolution does not apply to the Mysore University as it was started in 1916.

Government of Bombay have forwarded the resolution to the Universities of Bombay and Poona, all the colleges and learned institutions in the State for necessary action.

Government of West Bengal have forwarded the resolution to the University of Calcutta and all the learned institutions established before 1900 for necessary action.

Government of Punjab have forwarded the resolution to the University of Punjab and Glancy Medical College, Amritsar, Khalsa College, Amritsar and also to the Keeper of Records of the Punjab Record Office for necessary action.

Government of PEPSU have informed that the resolution has been circulated to the authorities concerned.

Chief Commissioner, Ajmer has noted the suggestion for guidance.

Chief Commissioner, Bhopal has informed that the resolution has been circulated to the authorities concerned.

Government of Hyderabad have informed that the Osmania University, Hyderabad, is fully alive to the importance of its records and has a special Records Section of its own where files and papers are carefully preserved. The constituent colleges have also arrangements for the preservation of records and care is taken in the process of destruction of records to save all those papers which are of any historical importance.

Resolution X.—The Commission recommends that the curriculum for the Master's Degree in History and Commerce in Indian Universities should include the handling of archives and the study and criticism of unpublished documents, with a view to giving the students early training and practice in original research.

The Government of India have forwarded the resolution to the Secretary, Inter-University Board, who in its turn has circulated it to all the Universities for opinion.

APPENDIX A

MEMORANDUM ON THE PUBLICATION PROGRAMME OF THE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA.

The Indian Historical Records Commission at its Mysore Session held in January 1942, recommended to the Government of India a Five Year Publication Programme drawn up by the Research and Publication Committee. The programme was sanctioned by the Government of India and the National Archives of India (then Imperial Record Department) was asked to implement it. The work was undertaken officially in August 1942, but for various reasons it has not been possible to complete the said programme according to schedule. Primarily the war and its attendant scarcity of paper and facilities for printing were responsible for it and secondly the enthusiasm which the programme had first aroused gradually died down so much so that the majority of the Honorary Editors, who had volunteered to edit the volumes, have not so far completed the work assigned to them. A memorandum on the progress of the work so far done is submitted for perusal.

SCHEME I

INDIAN RECORD SERIES

Fort William—India House Correspondence.

This scheme envisaged printing in extenso of the General Letters to and from the Court of Directors, from 1748 to 1800. These letters cover 178 manuscript volumes (104 volumes of L to C and 74 L from C) and according to the scheme will form 21 volumes in print. Transcripts of all the volumes have been distributed and are being edited by scholars appointed by the Government of India in this behalf as per list given below:—

Nature of Records	Volumes	Editors	
Home Department 1748-92	I 48-50)	Dr. K. K. Datta	1st year's Programme
do.	II 51)	Dr. H. N. Sinha	
do.	III 52)	Vacant	
do.	IV 53)	Dewan Bahadur C. S. Srinivasachari	
do.	V (1767-69)	Dr. N. K. Sinha	
do.	VI (1770-72)	Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad	
do.	VII (1773-76)	Mr. R. P. Patwardhan	2nd year's Programme
do.	VIII (1777-81)	Prof. Mohammad Habib	
do.	IX (1782-85)	Dr. B. A. Saletore	
do.	X (1786-88)	Dr. T. G. P. Spear	

Home Department 1748-92

do.	XI (1789-92)	Dr. I. B. Banerjee	3rd year's Programme
Home Sep. Rev.	XII (1793-95)	Dr. S. N. Das Gupta	
Home Sep. Legislative.	XIII (1796-1800)	Dr. P. C. Gupta	
Secret. Select Committee.	XIV (1752-81)	Prof. J. C. Taluqdar	4th year's Programme
Foreign, Secret	XV (1782-86)	Dr. A. G. Pawar	
Secret & Sep.	XVI (1787-91)	Khan Sahib S.H. Askari	
Secret Foreign & Political.	XVII (1792-95)	Mr. Y. J. Taraporewala	
do.	XVIII (1796-1800)	Rev. Father H. Heras	5th year's Programme
Military Deptt. 1787-1800	XIX (1787-92)	Brig. H. Bullock	
do.	XX (1792-95)	Mr. A. C. Banerjee	
do.	XXI (1796-1800)	Prof. S. R. Kohli	

Details of distribution of transcripts of the manuscript volumes to the Honorary Editors and progress of work.

Transcripts of the correspondence to be included in the first six volumes were handed over to the Honorary Editors in May 1943. Transcripts of some additional letters for filling up the gaps in the regular series were supplied to them in May 1944. The editing of Volume V was completed by Dr. N. K. Sinha in 1948 and it was sent to a press in Calcutta in July 1948. The printing was expected to be completed before the end of that year, but the press could eventually finish the printing work only in February 1950. Because of the disturbances in Calcutta which followed, the binding of the volumes was delayed and was taken up in June this year.

The Editors of Volume I (Dr. K. K. Datta), II (Dr. H. N. Sinha), IV (Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari), and VI (Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad), submitted their work early in 1949. On examination it was found that the editing was either incomplete or needed substantial revision by the General Editor. Volumes IV and VI were sent back to the Honorary Editors for revision and completion of their work, while revision of Volumes I and II was taken up by the General Editor. It may be pointed out that the revision work has taken several months because it has meant almost entire re-editing by the General Editor in order to maintain a uniform standard of editing. Besides this difficulty it has not been possible so far to obtain Government's permission to entrust the printing to a private press. Paper for the printing of these volumes, too, is not available at present. In case the required printing facilities are available, the National Archives of India will be in a position to send the first two volumes to the press during the current year.

As regards Volume III, Prof. D. N. Banerjee could not complete the editing of the volume entrusted to him. He returned the transcript to this Department in 1948, expressing his inability to finish the

work. No substitute has so far been appointed in place of Prof. Banerjee. Volume IV is expected to be resubmitted by the Editor by the end of July, 1950.

Transcripts were handed over to the editors of Volumes VII to X in March 1944 and transcripts of additional letters, 3rd Year (1943-44), Volumes VII to X found among India Office copies, were furnished in August 1944 excepting in the case of Dr. T. G. P. Spear to whom the additional papers were supplied on the 3rd July 1945. None of these volumes has been received as yet. Dr. Spear and Dr. Saletore have reported that they have done a considerable part of the editing work.

There were several and frequent changes in the panel of Honorary Editors appointed for editing these volumes. 3rd Year (1944-45), Volumes XI to XIV Transcripts of volumes XI, XII & XIII were supplied on the 24th August 1945 and those of volume XIV on the 25th August 1945. Professor S. V. Puntambekar, Dr. N. L. Chatterjee and Principal H. K. Sherwani, Editors of volumes XI, XII and XIII, expressed their inability to undertake the work and returned the transcripts to the National Archives of India on the 10th August 1946, 5th September 1945 and 25th September 1945, respectively. Substitutes had to be appointed in their places and the transcripts redistributed. This meant considerable delay. Principal J. D. Ward was approached and he agreed to accept Volume XII, and the transcripts were made over to him on the 10th September 1945. But later he found himself unable to undertake the work and he, too, returned the transcripts on the 9th August 1946. Dr. Pratul Gupta agreed to take up Volume XIII and he was supplied with the transcripts on the 20th May, 1946. Dr. I. B. Banerjee and Dr. S. N. Das Gupta were selected for editing Volumes XI and XII and furnished with the transcripts as late as the 28th January 1947. None of these volumes has been received. Editing is reported to be in progress. The latest report from Dr. Das Gupta says he has almost completed his work. Part of the editorial work for Volumes XIV by Prof. J. C. Taluqdar has been received from him.

Transcripts were made available to the editors towards the close of 1946. Mr. Y. J. Taraporewala, Editor of 4th Year (1945-46), Volumes XV to XVIII Volume XVII, completed his work in 1949, but the publication of this volume, too, will take considerable time because it needs thorough revision by the General Editor. Father Heras was reported to have completed his work before he left for Italy recently, but the volume has not been submitted as yet. The other editors have not sent any reports so far.

Transcripts of Volume XIX were supplied in February 1947 and those of Volumes XX and XXI in 1949.

During 1949 reminders were sent twice to all the editors requesting them to complete their work before March 5th Year (1948-49), Volumes XIX to XXI 1950. Though several amongst them agreed to comply with the request, none of them was able to submit his work within the time limit.

To sum up, Volumes I, II, V and XVII have been edited. Out of these Volume V is expected to be out from the press very soon. Paper for printing Volumes I and II has not yet been made available to the National Archives of India. Nor have the Government so far given the requisite sanction for getting them printed at a private press. As soon as paper is made available to the National Archives of India and the Government agrees to entrusting the work to a good press these volumes will be sent to the press. It will be recalled that the Research & Publication Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission at its 11th meeting recommended entrusting the printing of the volumes under the National Archives of India's Publication Programme to private presses of the choice of the Director of Archives with a view to ensuring a reasonably high quality of work. But the Government of India have refused to allow any such general discretion to the Director of Archives. They have suggested that the proposal for the printing of each such item should be submitted to the Government of India individually for their administrative and financial sanction. The question of getting Volumes I and II of the Fort William—India House Correspondence printed privately has, therefore, been submitted to the Government of India and their decision is still awaited. In the meantime there has been another development. As a result of deliberations at an Inter-Ministerial meeting on the 2nd December 1949, it was decided that all publications of the National Archives of India (among others) should be suspended until the return of better times. The Director of Archives has represented to the Government against this decision and requested them to revise it, but no orders on the matter have been received so far.

All the other volumes are with their respective editors.

SCHEME II

Selections from English Records.

This section comprises selections from Records, and the items selected are (1) Major Browne's Correspondence with Warren Hastings, (2) Sir John Shore's Minutes and (3) the Indian portions of Thevenot's and Careri's Travels. The items of work under this section were to be edited exclusively by the Keeper of the Records (now Director of Archives) with the help of his staff.

Progress of work done.

1. *Major Browne's Correspondence* includes the original correspondence of Maj. Browne, Resident at the Court of Shah Alam II, with Warren Hastings during 1782—85. The series in the custody of the National Archives of India was incomplete and therefore the lacunæ had to be filled in with copies of the missing letters available in the India Office. This correspondence was scheduled for the first year's programme (1942-43) and the editing of the departmental copy was almost completed during the year. Since the India Office was not in a position to supply us copies of the missing portions even after the conclusion of the war, the National Archives of India was compelled to postpone the editing of the manuscripts for the time being. In the beginning of 1949 the India Office complied with our request, but for want of sufficient staff the editing of the volume has been held up.

2. *Sir John Shore's Minutes* (1793—98): A Selection of 171 minutes was made from amongst a total number of 638 minutes. These minutes consist of 1231 transcript pages out of which 294 pages have so far been edited. The progress of this work has been held up because of shortage of suitable staff to handle the editing. It may be pointed out that the three Editors employed in the Publication Branch left this Department in 1948 to take up posts in the Ministry of Defence. Two of these vacancies have not been filled so far because no suitable candidates were available.

3. *Indian Travels of Thevenot & Careri*: Work on this volume was completed as scheduled, but efforts made to get the volume suitably printed were not successful till 1948 when the volume was sent to the press. The publication was issued for sale in September, 1949.

SCHEME III

This scheme envisages the editing and publication in collaboration with outside agencies of (a) Records in Oriental Languages and (b) Selections from Records.

SCHEME III (a)

Records in the following languages were traced and entrusted to the agencies indicated against each:—

1. *Bengali Letters* (1779—1820).—As many as 169 letters were available. These letters were edited by Dr. S. N. Sen and published by the Calcutta University in 1942. The volume was entitled *Prachin Bangla Patra Sankalan*.

2. *Marathi Letters*.—In 1942, transcripts of 192 letters, covering the period 1779—1820, were taken for editing and publication by Professor D. V. Potdar on behalf of the *Bharata Itihasa Samsodhaka*

Mandala. A formal agreement in this behalf was concluded with the Mandal in 1946, but no progress has been reported so far in respect of the execution of this work.

3. *Sanskrit Letters* (1778—1854).—There are 25 letters in all. These were entrusted to the Ganganath Jha Research Institute, Allahabad. The printing of this volume has been completed and it is shortly expected to be issued.

4. *Hindi Letters* are the largest in number. They are 292 in all and range from 1787 to 1820. These letters were divided in two batches between the Allahabad University and the Kotah Durbar. Transcription of the letters was completed and the transcripts were handed over in 1947. Editing of both the batches is reported to have been completed. Kotah State has since merged in the Rajasthan Union. The efforts to get the volumes printed have not so far borne any fruit.

5. *Persian Akhbars* (1773—1803).—230 Akhbars were selected by Dr. I. H. Qureshi on behalf of the Delhi University. Transcripts were supplied to him towards the close of 1944. After partition, Dr. Qureshi left for Pakistan and was reported to have lost the transcripts. The work has now been entrusted to Dr. Parmatma Saran of the same University for whom fresh transcripts are being made.

6. *Tamil Letters* (1824—64).—This work was taken up by Dewan Bahadur C. S. Srinivasachari for editing on behalf of the Annamalai University. A formal agreement for publication of the volume was concluded with the University in June 1949. Photographic copies of the letters have been supplied to the Editor.

7. *Kannada Letters* (1791—1865).—There are 220 letters which Dr. B. A. Saletore had agreed to edit on behalf of the Bombay University as far back as September, 1943. The University has not so far agreed to take up the responsibility for this publication and Dr. Saletore has not taken the transcripts of the papers.

8. *Gurmukhi Letters* were examined by Sardar Ganda Singh and were found to contain little information of consequence. It was, therefore, decided to drop this item.

SCHEME III (b)

Selections from Records

Under this head the following six items were selected:—

1. Selections from Orme manuscripts.
2. Cornwallis Correspondence (1786—93).
3. Punjab Akhbars (1839—41).
4. Elphinstone Correspondence (1804—1808).
5. Ochterlony Papers on Delhi and Rajputana (1818—25).
6. News Letters (1839—41).

1. *Selections from Orme Manuscripts*: Dewan Bahadur Professor C. S. Srinivasachari took up this work on behalf of the Annamalai University. Transcripts were supplied to him on 11th June 1945. On 20th October 1949, Prof. Srinivasachari informed us that he had completed the editing work and had sent the press matter to the University for being printed.

2. *Cornwallis Correspondence on Sindhia's Affairs* (1786—93): Gwalior Darbar had offered to take up this work. In May 1946, Dr. Prakash Chandra was deputed by the Darbar to examine the documents. In November 1946 we were informed by the Darbar that the correspondence in question was neither important nor expected to throw any new light on the history of the period and as such they were unable to undertake the publication of these papers.

3. *Punjab Akhbars*: Sardar Ganda Singh offered to edit these Akhbars on behalf of the Sikh History Society. Accordingly on 25th March 1946, transcripts of these documents were sent to him. He was provided with additional material for his volume in 1947. We were informed by Sardar Ganda Singh that he had sent the material to the press on 1st March 1950 for being printed.

4. *Elphinstone Correspondence* (Nagpur Period), was taken up by Dr. H. N. Sinha on behalf of the Nagpur University Historical Society. The Society made a preliminary selection of documents and transcripts thereof were sent to Dr. Sinha on 12th June 1948. The work is reported to be in progress.

5. *Ochterlony Papers* (1818—25).—Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad had agreed to take up this work. At his request and on his behalf Dr. H. L. Gupta prepared a list of selected documents. Dr. Prasad has not so far been able to take up this work.

6. *News Letters* (1839—41).—Since these papers dealt with Punjab Affairs, the Punjab University was asked to take up the work. In April 1946, the University deputed Dr. A. L. Srivastava to examine the records and submit his report to the University. Dr. Srivastava submitted a favourable report and the University was considering the question of publishing these letters when the partition suddenly intervened.

APPENDIX B(I)

QUESTIONNAIRE CIRCULATED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARCHIVES.

At the sixteenth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee held at New Delhi in July 1950, mention was made about a Questionnaire circulated by the International Council on Archives with a view to obtaining information relating to the arrangement, supervision, administration and microphotography of records throughout the world, which would be placed before the first International Congress of Archivists held at Paris in August 1950 (Please see pages 20-21). The questionnaire was circulated by the Director of Archives, Government of India, on behalf of India to all the State Governments and to a number of learned institutions in the country, who were requested to furnish the necessary information direct to the Secretariat of the International Council on Archives, Paris. While forwarding the questionnaire, the distinction between "Central Record Office" and "Regional Record offices" was clearly explained to them. From the information received in the National Archives of India, it appears that nine Governments, including the Government of India (National Archives of India), have sent their replies to the International Council on Archives, while two including a Regional Commissioner, have informed that they had no information to supply. The information furnished by the State Governments has revealed, in some cases, wrong understanding of the meaning and significance of the terms "archives", "central records", etc. with the result that the replies sent by them were inaccurate and incomplete. The questionnaire together with the answers sent by the State Governments are given below. In compiling the answers an attempt has been made to explain inaccuracies and misconceptions as far as possible with the help of footnotes. In cases where these misconceptions were common, repetition of footnote has been avoided by giving cross references in each case.

I—CURRENT SUPERVISION AND CHECKING OF ARCHIVES.

1. Is the State Central Record Office supposed to receive documents from all Ministries and Public Departments? What exceptions are there, if any?

2. To which Ministry is the Central Record Office attached, or is it an inter-departmental body under the direct control of the head of the government or a National Assembly?

Footnotes to Questionnaire

I (1) & (2) By "Central Record Office" is meant the central repository of the State Governments, where all records of the State Governments are concentrated, and not the Record Office of the Central Government.

3. Are there regional Record Offices?
4. Are they under the control of the official in charge of the Central Record Office?
5. Are there separate collections of records assembled by regional organizations which are therefore exempted from the obligation to send documents to the State Record Offices in their area?
6. What regulations are there prescribing the procedure for sending to the central and regional State Record Offices documents of public interest which it is considered should be preserved but which are no longer necessary for the current work of government departments and central or local administrative authorities? Is it compulsory to deposit such documents; at what intervals; in what form?
7. Are the officials wholly responsible for deciding which documents should be preserved, or are there advisory committees consisting, for instance, of statisticians, economists and historians?
8. Are officials of the central and regional Record Offices entitled to make periodical inspections of Ministries and central or local authorities in order to check that documents are being preserved, to arrange for the deposit of documents, and to examine files which the services concerned propose to destroy?
9. What is the general procedure in the central and regional Record Offices for sorting out documents to be discarded as valueless?

II—ARCHIVES AND MICRO-PHOTOGRAPHY

A—Photographic processes

1. Have you, in your establishment, a studio carrying out the various operations involved in micro-photography on the premises?
2. Do you regularly use several cameras? If so, how many? Are they under simultaneous control?
3. What devices do you use to secure proper focussing when photographing registers? Compensation table? etc.....
4. Do you employ 16m/m film? When?

B—Reading

1. Is there a reading room with suitable apparatus attached to your establishment?
2. Do you prefer projection on to a wall or on to a ground glass screen or inclined plane at desk level?

I (3) : "Regional Records Office" means the record offices of the local administrations, such as District and Divisional records offices, as well as those of the local branches of the Central or District Boards, Municipalities and other local Government bodies.

3. Have you obtained the advice of ophthalmologists on the comparative advantages of these processes? Is it considered more tiring to read from a positive film than from a negative?

C—Storing and reference

1. Do you use the micro-film process not only as a substitute for retention of documents (entailing the partial or total destruction of documents of which micro-film photographs have been taken) but also as a security measure (entailing the preservation of reproductions of the original documents in the principal depository, in duplicate or triplicate, in one or more subsidiary depositories)? To what relative extent?
2. How many micro-film copies do you make for your Library? Are they negatives or positives?
3. Do you store your film on spools? Are these uniform in length (if so, what is it) or does the length vary according to the size of the document reproduced?
4. Do you instead use micro-cards? What size are they? Or do you use both systems concurrently, employing spools for copies in reserve and micro-cards for reference purposes?
5. What standards have you adopted for classification?
6. What air-conditioning processes do you employ to keep the micro-film in good condition?
7. Do your laws recognise micro-films and photographs printed from them as valid evidence? How?

III—RECORDS OF PRIVATE UNDERTAKING (Economic Records)

1. Are there any legislative provisions regarding the preservation of private economic records? Outline them briefly.
2. Are public or private institutions interested in the preservation of such records? How are they organized?
3. Have any undertakings built up collections of records? In what form and on what principles?
4. What means have been employed to contact the heads of undertakings and to draw their attention to the value of their archives: circulars, personal enquiries, press, radio?
5. What means are used for the safe-keeping of private undertakings' records: classification *in situ*, handing them over to or depositing them with public institutions, advice on documents to be discarded, use of micro-film etc.? Principal results achieved.
6. Are there handbooks dealing with the organisation and classification of private economic records? Have training centres been established for archivists specialising in these questions?

7. To what extent is the public interested in the work of these economic record offices (number of readers, issues for reference, etc.)?

8. Is it conceivable that various countries might agree to set on foot joint schemes of investigation?

IV—BIBLIOGRAPHIC PROPOSALS

1. A *Directory of Archive Catalogues* is at present being prepared by the International Council on Archives.

Do you think that this *Directory* should be printed or that it should be kept in the form of index cards, so that it can be brought up to date, and that photographic or other reproductions of the cards should be put on sale?

2. Are you in favour of the resumption and continuation of the work, begun by the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, of preparing a *Glossary of Archivists' Terms* and which of the more common languages do you think should be considered for this purpose?

3. Do you consider that an *International Yearbook on Archives*, giving for as many countries as possible, the names and addresses of public and private collections, the names of the Directors and scientific assistants, times of opening, weekly closing day and annual holiday period, chronological or other restrictions affecting reference facilities, rules for borrowing, classification system, general information and notes on the main fonds, photographic studios; use of micro-film restoration work, permanent exhibitions of documents, etc.

4. What other international publications would you like to be produced? Please return your replies to each questionnaire on a separate sheet to:

Secretariat du Congrès International des Archives
Archives Nationales
60 rue des Francs-Bourgeois,
PARIS (III) me

APPENDIX B(II)

REPLIES TO QUESTIONNAIRE RECEIVED FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, STATE GOVERNMENTS ETC.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA.

Introduction

Answers to Section I and II of the Questionnaire relate to the National Archives of India, New Delhi, which is the Central records office of the Government of India. India is divided into autonomous States and States Unions, some of which have organized record offices responsible to their own Governments and not to the National Archives of India. Neither the Government of India nor the National Archives of India have any control over them. However, all the provincial record offices retain some records belonging to the Government of India, for administrative convenience, and the Government of India retains its ownership over them (See reply to I: 3).

I. CURRENT SUPERVISION AND CHECKING OF ARCHIVES.

1. The National Archives of India which is the Central records office of the Government of India is entitled to receive the records of all Ministries and public Departments of the Government of India, but in practice only the Ministries themselves and some of their attached and subordinate offices do transfer their records to the National Archives of India.

2. From its creation in 1891 to 1910 it was attached to the Home Department of the Government of India. Since 1910 it was placed under the newly created Department of Education which became the Ministry of Education in 1947.

3. The National Archives of India has no regional records offices. However, some records of the Central Government are deposited with the provincial Governments for administrative facility. The Central Government exercises a right of supervision over those records, and they may not be destroyed or dispersed by the provincial Government concerned without authority from the Central Government.

4. Does not arise.

5. Does not arise.

6. There are no regulations governing the transfer of records to the National Archives of India. There is, however, a minute of Lord Hardinge (a former Governor-General) dated the 23rd February 1912, saying that every department is expected to transfer

its records to the Imperial Record Department (now National Archives of India) after 10 years. In practice, it is not obligatory on the part of the creating agencies to transfer their records. The usual transfer procedure is that whenever an agency feels that it has a body of records which it no longer wants to keep itself, for whatever reason, it requests the National Archives of India to take them over.

II—ARCHIVES AND MICROPHOTOGRAPHY

A—Photographic processes.

1. Yes.
2. Yes; Four; Yes.
3. Compensation table and book cradle.
4. No.

B—Reading.

1. We have reading apparatus, but as yet no special reading room for microfilms.
2. We have only tried so far projection on wall and on a ground glass screen, of which we prefer the later.
3. No; Yes.

C—Storing and Reference.

1. As a security measure primarily.
2. One negative and one positive copy.
3. Yes. The length varies according to the size of a document, or a group of documents but 100 ft. spools are produced as far as practicable.
4. No.
5. These are under consideration.
6. None at present.
7. The legal status of microfilms and photographs printed therefrom has not been defined as yet.

III—RECORDS OF PRIVATE UNDERTAKING

1. No.
2. Some private institutions and the Indian Historical Records Commission (a public institution being constituted by the Government of India) are interested in such records as forming a body of documentary source material of history, but not exclusively in business archives. Under their aegis, surveys are made in particular regions. The types of records that are particularly sought after are old *firman*s (land grants) or account books.

3. Not known.
4. Practically none.
5. Not known.
6. Not known.
7. Not known.
8. It would be desirable.

IV—BIBLIOGRAPHIC PROPOSALS

1. The Directory should be printed on a loose-leaf system and put on sale. Addenda in the form of fresh entries with suitable reference to original entries might follow periodically on subscription basis.
2. Yes; in English and French.
3. It should be published within the shortest possible time.
4. (i) A Directory of References on Archival Science.
(ii) A subject-wise classified catalogue of published books, journals and literature on theoretical and practical aspects of archivism.

'A'

Rules to guide the weeders in weeding the records of the Government of India.

1. The broad principle to be followed in weeding records is that no papers which are important or are likely to become important in future, however indirectly, as sources of information on any aspect of history, whether political, military, social, economic, etc. or which is or may in future prove to be of biographical or antiquarian interest, shall be destroyed. In the two succeeding paragraphs are enumerated in a general way, the classes of papers to be preserved or destroyed. The enumeration is by no means exhaustive, it is merely indicative.
2. Ordinarily the following classes of documents are to be preserved in accordance with the principle enunciated above:—
 - (i) Manuscripts of all printed proceedings collections.
 - (ii) Originals of Despatches from and to the Secretary of State.
 - (iii) Originals of legal documents or documents of legal value.
 - (iv) Holograph and Autograph letters and Originals of Minutes of Viceroys, Members of Council, Commanders-in-Chief and other eminent personages or manuscripts of notes by them on important matters.
 - (v) Originals of notes recorded on important files which have been circulated to Hon'ble Members.

- (vi) Discussions relating to important public services.
- (vii) Papers relating to appointment of Viceroys, Governors, Members of Council, Commanders-in-Chief and other Heads of Administrations.
- (viii) Papers containing discussions of important principles of policies.

3. Ordinarily the following classes of papers may be destroyed:—

- (i) Registers, such as Receipt and Issue Registers, Diaries list of despatches to the Secretary to State, spare copy registers and other registers of ephemeral interest and not only surplus copies of registers.
- (ii) Printed departmental proceedings volumes, when there are more than two copies of them—the bound volumes being retained in preference to the unbound monthly ones.
- (iii) Spare copies of printed papers.
- (iv) Printed A, B or Deposit Proceedings Collections in excess of six copies. Two of the six copies retained shall be reserved as 'historical records', the rest being used for reference in connection with departmental business.
- (v) Local Governments Proceedings Volumes in excess of one copy.
- (vi) Departmental Administration reports in excess of two copies.

The records marked for destruction after weeding by the Departments of origin should be sent to the respective archival heads of the Central, provincial and States Governments as the case may be for final disposal. The archival head should scrutinise such records with a view to ascertaining their present and future historical value and provide for the preservation of such records, as are considered sufficiently important.

BIHAR

I—CURRENT SUPERVISION AND CHECKING OF ARCHIVES

- 1. Yes. (ii) Exceptions: Confidential records are not sent by the Departments.
- 2. Home Ministry. It is not under any National Assembly.
- 3. Yes.
- 4. No.
- 5. Yes.
- 6. Nothing has so far been done in this connection.
- 7. So far Central Record Office is concerned—Steps have been taken for periodical inspection of the departmental records.

8. The officials are wholly responsible. There are no advisory committees.

9. So far Central Record Office is concerned, life of a record is determined by examining it.

II—ARCHIVES AND MICROPHOTOGRAPHY

There is no provision for microphotography.

III—RECORDS OF PRIVATE UNDERTAKINGS

(Economic records)

- 1. No.
- 2. So far no step has been taken in this direction.
- 3. The *ad hoc* Regional Records Committee is trying to collect records in original or their transcripts.
- 4. Members of the *ad hoc* Regional Records Survey Committee occasionally meet persons with records in their private collections and persuade them either to spare their records on transfer or for obtaining transcripts. Sometimes articles are published in the local newspapers and radio talks are arranged by the Convener of the *ad hoc* Regional Records Survey Committee.
- 5. No means have been adopted as yet.
- 6. No. No.
- 7. No economic record offices exist.
- 8. Joint schemes of investigations by different countries might produce fruitful results.

IV—BIBLIOGRAPHIC PROPOSALS

- 1. The Directory should be kept in the form of Index Cards, so that it can be brought up to date, and that photographic or other reproductions of the cards should be put on sale.
- 2. Yes. English.
- 3. Yes.
- 4. Journals containing learned articles on records and their use may be published.

SAURASHTRA REGION

Methods mentioned in second set of questionnaire are not in existence and no records of private undertakings as mentioned in set III of the Questionnaire are preserved in the Records office of this Region. The information is therefore nil in respect of these two sets. As the records of this Region form part of the Government of India, Ministry of States, the opinion expressed by the Director of Archives, Government of India, New Delhi, will cover the replies of this Region also. No information is therefore supplied in respect of set IV of the Questionnaire.

I—CURRENT SUPERVISION AND CHECKING OF ARCHIVES

1. This was a Central Record Office for all subordinate offices under the late Political Agency but the subordinate offices have either been abolished or merged with other Governments. It used to receive records from subordinate offices before the 15th August 1947.
2. It is an inter-departmental body and is under the direct control of the Regional Commissioner (Ministry of States).
3. At present no.
4. No.
5. No.
6. All records of the subordinate offices over 10 years old were as a rule to be sent to the Record Office duly indexed every year in the month of April.
7. Heads of offices used to inspect the records in charge of subordinate offices.
8. There are no advisory committees etc. Officials are responsible for marking which documents should be preserved according to the instructions issued from time to time.
9. The papers for temporary use as specified in a separate list approved by the Government were marked "B" at the time of registration and at intervals these papers were checked by a Committee of two senior members of the office before destruction.

COORG

I—CURRENT SUPERVISION AND CHECKING OF ARCHIVES

1. The Chief Commissioner Coorg is the head of the Coorg Administration and his office was at Bangalore up to the 30th June 1940. All the records pertaining to this office commencing from 1834, the year in which the territory of Coorg was annexed by the British Government ending the native rule by the Coorg Rajas, were at Bangalore up to the 30th June 1940. With effect from the 1st July 1940, the office of the Chief Commissioner of Coorg was shifted to Mercara, the capital of Coorg, because the Chief Commissioner of Coorg, who was also the Resident in Mysore, was divested of his powers as Chief Commissioner of Coorg, and the local officer in Mercara, called the Commissioner of Coorg (an officer of the status of a Collector of a district) was raised to the status of Chief Commissioner. Consequently all the records of the Chief Commissioner's office at Bangalore were brought to Mercara and are being maintained in record room of the Chief Commissioner's office at Mercara. In addition to this record room, there is the record room of the former Commissioner of Coorg which was termed as the Central

Record Room prior to 1st July 1940. These records are now under the control of the Assistant Commissioner of Coorg under the same name. Even though the record rooms of the Chief Commissioner could be called as the State Central Record Office for Coorg, only the records of the Chief Commissioner's office are kept in these rooms and also the official publications. The available historical records of Coorg are also kept in the Chief Commissioner's record room packed in a small box. In the Central Record rooms of the Assistant Commissioner of Coorg, all the records of the former Commissioner of Coorg as well as those of the Assistant Commissioner of Coorg, and Official publications are kept. To this Record Room all the records of the Taluk offices and Nad (Revenue Division) offices which are of more than three years old are sent and are retained there. The Forest, Police, Education and the Public Works Departments maintain their records in their offices and they are not sent to the Central record room of the Assistant Commissioner of Coorg. Similarly the local bodies, viz. the Coorg District Board, Municipalities, Notified Areas (minor municipalities) and Village Panchayats maintain their own records and these are also not sent to the Central Record Room. In the case of the High Court records a word of explanation is necessary. Up to the 30th March 1948, the Court of the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore and Judicial Commissioner of Coorg at Bangalore, was the High Court for Coorg. With effect from the 1st April 1948, the jurisdiction of the High Court of Madras was extended to Coorg as a result of which all the records of the Judicial Commissioner of Coorg at Bangalore were brought to Mercara and have been kept in the Central Record Room of the Assistant Commissioner of Coorg. The records of the District and Sessions Judge, Coorg, Munsiffs and courts of the Bench of Magistrates are kept in their offices and are destroyed when they are ripe for destruction as per rules after issuing a notification to that effect.

2. As already stated, the Chief Commissioner's record room is under the control of the Chief Commissioner and the Central Record room is under the control of the Assistant Commissioner. There is no separate record department in Coorg under the control of a Gazetted Officer. In all the departments and offices mentioned above a clerk is put in charge of the records.

3. Yes.
4. No.
5. No information is available.
6. No regulations concerning the matters set forth in this question have been prescribed in Coorg. Generally all documents of public interest whether they are necessary for the current work of the Government departments or not, are preserved in the record rooms

of the Government departments as well as local bodies mentioned above in the following manner:—

- | | |
|---|--|
| (1) Important documents which are considered necessary for all times. | Permanently. These are classed as R. Dis. Papers. |
| (2) Documents which are considered not necessary after a certain period. | For such number of years as may be decided by the head of the department—generally 10 years—These are classed as D. Dis. papers. |
| (3) Papers of a routine nature which are considered not necessary after one year. | For one year. These are classed as lodge papers. |

Before the records under items (2) and (3) are destroyed after they are ripe for destruction, they are again examined and if their retention for some more time is considered necessary, they will be preserved further.

7. There are no such separate officials in Coorg and no such arrangements have been made. The Heads of Departments are responsible for the proper preservation of the records relating to their departments.

8. The officials concerned are wholly responsible for deciding which documents should be preserved. There are no advisory committees consisting of statisticians, economists and historians.

9. The Heads of Departments concerned review the records periodically for sorting out documents to be destroyed as valueless.

II—ARCHIVES AND MICRO-PHOTOGRAPHY

There is no such arrangement in Coorg.

III—RECORDS OF PRIVATE UNDERTAKINGS

1. No.
2. and 3. No information is available.
4. and 5. Do not arise.
6. No. No training centres have been established in Coorg
7. No information is available.
8. Yes.

IV—BIBLIOGRAPHIC PROPOSALS

1. The Directory may be in the form of index cards.
2. Yes. English and Hindi.
3. Yes.
4. This Administration is unable to give any information on this question.

ORISSA

I—CURRENT SUPERVISION AND CHECKING OF ARCHIVES

1. An organised Central Record Office for the state of Orissa has not yet been opened. The Government have made arrangements to start one very soon.

2. The Department is now attached to the Ministry of Education.

3. No.

4. At present the historical records lie deposited in the Record Rooms of the District Collectors, wherefrom they will be removed to the Central Records Office when arrangements are completed.

5. No.

6. Regulations have not been formed.

7. The Curator of Archives has been asked by the Government to examine the historical records in the District Records Rooms pending their removal to the Central Records Office.

8. There is a standing instruction to the District Officers in the state that the Associate member of the Indian Historical Records Commission from this state is to be consulted before records are destroyed.

9. Nil.

II—ARCHIVES AND MICRO-PHOTOGRAPHY

In the absence of an organised Records Office, arrangements for photographic process, reading or storing have not been made.

III—RECORDS OF PRIVATE UNDERTAKINGS

(Economic Records)

1. No such legislative provision has been made.
2. There is no such institution in this state.
3. No.
4. Does not arise.
5. Does not arise.
6. Does not arise.
7. Does not arise.
8. A common scheme for investigation into records in private custody might help the workers in different states to follow the right line; as such, the work of investigation is expected to be attended with greater success than at present.

IV—BIBLIOGRAPHIC PROPOSALS

1. Index Cards to be brought up-to-date from time to time are preferable to a Directory.

2. A Glossary of Archivists Terms will certainly prove very helpful to all scholars dealing with historical records. Main languages of each country should be considered for this purpose.

3. An International Yearbook on Archives will be of great use to all Archivists.

4. An International Journal on the matters relating to Archives will serve as the best medium for exchange of ideas and experiences relating to Archives in different parts of the world and will keep the Archivists up-to-date and in close touch with the day to day developments made in Archives all over the world.

MADHYA BHARAT

I—CURRENT SUPERVISION AND CHECKING OF ARCHIVES

1. The State of Madhya Bharat was founded in 1948. Its Central Record is now being built up with the materials collected from 22 Covenanted States. The Central Records, otherwise known as Secretariat Records, receives documents from all Departments of the Secretariat, but official papers from departments subordinate to the Secretariat are not received in the Central Records.

2. The Central Record is part of the Secretariat Administration Department in the Chief Secretariat.

3. There are no regional (Central) Record Offices. Each Government office other than the Secretariat departments have separate Record Rooms for themselves.

4. The Central Record has nothing to do with District and departmental (Regional) Records. But instead all Government Records including the Secretariat records are subject to the supervisory control and direction of the Chief Inspector of Offices and Records.

5. In view of the answer to query 3 above the question does not arise.

6. Rules for compilation, maintenance, preservation and destruction are under preparation.

7. Chief Inspector of Offices and Records performs this function. Custody, preservation and destruction of Government records will be governed by the provisions of the Records Manual which are intended to be incorporated in due course in the Manual of different Government Departments, under preparation. When such incorporation is complete the Record Manual, as an *ad hoc* measure will cease to operate.

8. Officials of different Departments are themselves competent to determine the lives of papers according to their importance and the rules and directions issued by Government in this behalf from time to time.

9. Each paper will have its life prescribed according to the importance of the subject matter dealt with; there is no regular procedure prescribed in that behalf except general classification lists issued by the department in consultation with the Chief Inspector of Offices and Records.

II—ARCHIVES AND MICRO-PHOTOGRAPHY

1.	}	Nil.
2.		
3.		
4.		

1.	}	Nil.
2.		
3.		

1.	}	Nil.
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		

7. Does not arise.

III.—RECORDS OF PRIVATE UNDERTAKINGS

(Economic Records)

1. to 7. Nil.

8. Worth trying.

IV—BIBLIOGRAPHIC PROPOSALS

1. Index method is preferred. A printed Directory is out of date on the date of printing. Reproduction of such index cards may be put on sale from time to time provided a leading international language is used as medium or alternately translated versions in English issued.

2. English language may advantageously be used with rendering in French and Hindi along side.

3. Yes. An International Yearbook on Archives should be useful.

4. However difficult the compilation and whatever the cost, a general Index of Records of International importance be prepared.

ASSAM

I & II:

Archives which are in view are of the nature of depositories of records instituted and organised chiefly for the purpose of collecting information on historical subjects, like the Bibliotheque Nationale of Paris, the British Museum and India Library in London and the National Archives of India, New Delhi, which are properly organised institutions with elaborate facilities for the examination and utilization of records by the public. But in Assam, the Archives viz. the Secretariat record room and the district and subdivisional record rooms are maintained for the administrative purpose and hence they do not fall on the category of Archives on which the information is sought for; although the public are admitted to their use under certain conditions.

III: There are no legislative provisions for preservation of private economic records and hence no comments.

IV: No comments.

AJMER

There are no central or regional records. The records in the various offices of the Local Administration are merely for administrative purposes and can hardly be termed as regional or central records. There is no microphotography and bibliography arrangement. At present there is no law in this State under which documents for public interest may be sent to the Central or Regional Record Offices nor do the officials of the Central or Regional Records Offices inspect the records there.

2. As regards private economic records there is neither any enactment on this score nor can it be definitely stated whether there are any such records in the State.

HYDERABAD

I—CURRENT SUPERVISION AND CHECKING OF ARCHIVES

1. Yes. No exception.
2. It is now attached to Education Ministry under control of a Head of the Department.
- 3.—5. Blank.
6. May be slightly changed. All Government records should be sent to the Record Office. No Secretariat office is allowed to destroy its records.
7. No.
8. The Record Office is wholly responsible for this.
9. The Secretariat Records, under the Departmental Rules, are weeded out periodically, subject to the second scrutiny from the point of the historical significance by the Record Office.

II—ARCHIVES AND MICRO-PHOTOGRAPHY

At present there is no arrangement for this.

III—RECORDS OF PRIVATE UNDERTAKINGS
(Economic Records)

1. No.
 2. No.
 3. Not known.
 4. Some times free advise is given to them by personal contact, and they are helped where such help is required, but that is in a very few cases.
 5. No action yet.
 6. Not known.
 7. Negligible interest.
 8. It is conceivable but extremely difficult.
-

IV—BIBLIOGRAPHIC PROPOSALS

1. A printed Directory will be more useful although the advantage of Index Cards in bringing such matters up-to-date cannot be overlooked.

2. Yes. English language will be preferable.

3. An International Yearbook on Archives will be useful. A Handbook on the Scientific Methods of Preservation of Records and the best tried methods of their housing and their safeguards from germs and insects showing the recipes of various chemicals used, their results from time to time, if published annually will greatly help Archivists.

Bihar: I(1) The Indian Historical Records Commission has no official information to the effect that the State Government had any 'Central Record Office'.

Assam: I. The comparison of the National Archives of India with foreign bodies mentioned by the State Government is not correct. The *Bibliothèque Nationale* is not the repository of official records of the Government of France, nor is the British Museum such a repository for the Government of Great Britain, while the India Office Library is only a departmental repository of the Government having the records of the India Office only. The National Archives of India, on the other hand is the Central Record Office of the Government of India and is in the same class as the Public Record Office of England, the Archives Nationales of France and National Archives of the U.S.A.

II. The statement of the Government of Assam that the records of the State Government "do not fall on the category of archives" does not also agree with the accepted meaning of the term 'archives'. All administrative records of a Government preserved by them for their own reference are actually the archives of that Government and the International Archives Council had in fact practically those records and record room in view, which the State Government have counted out.

The position was explained to the Government of Assam on the above lines.

* *Ajmer:* The Chief Commissioner, Ajmer, misunderstood the term "Central" and "Regional" Record Offices. For explanation of these terms, please see footnotes against item No. I(1), (2) and (3) of the Questionnaire.

For definition of 'archives' please see para. 2 of foot note against the reply of the Government of Assam.

The position has been explained to the Chief Commissioner, Ajmer, on the above lines.

Madhya Bharat: Meaning of "Central" and "Regional" records has been confused. Please see explanations against item No. I (1), (2) & (3) of the Questionnaire.

Hyderabad: The answer to Qn. No. I (6) is inaccurate. What is wanted is whether any law, executive order or rules exists governing the transfer of "non-current" records from Government Agencies to the Records Office.

APPENDIX C

QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE GUIDE TO THE INTERNATIONAL ARCHIVES AND THE ANSWERS GIVEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA).

The International Council of Archives which was engaged in compiling a Supplement to the *Guide to the International Archives*, Volume I (Europe), published in 1934, invited information from the National Archives of India on the following questions, which were furnished:—

*Question No. 1.—*Has a comprehensive guide to the Central Archives of your country been published since 1900?

Answer: Yes, a *Hand Book of the Records of the Government of India, 1748—1859*, was published in 1925. The scope of the work is limited since it was prepared primarily for the use of outside research scholars. At the time of the publication of this Handbook the records of the Government of India were not generally open for consultation by outsiders; only individual scholars were given permission to consult the records of certain departments at the discretion of the Government, and even they were not normally permitted to consult records later than 1859. This Handbook is under revision to include later records as, in 1948, the Government of India decided to throw open all its records up to 1901 to bonafide research scholars. The revision has not been completed up to this date.

*Question No. 2.—*Have there been published since 1900 any general printed guides to the:

- (a) archives of the principal cities and towns of your country?
- (b) archives of public and private institution?
- (c) business archives, notably commercial and industrial firms?

Answer: Information not available. Attempts are being made to collect the information.

(*Note:* It was intended to collect the information but in view of the existing economy ban, necessary financial facilities were not available and the matter had to be postponed).

*Question No. 3.—*Have there been published in your country any guides to "phototheques" (photographic archives), "discotheques" (photograph records, sound recording), "filmotheques" (microfilm archives, motion pictures)?

Answer: No. There is only one publication on motion pictures viz. "*Hand Book of the Indian Film Industry*", published by the Motion Picture Society of India in 1949. The publication does not give the required information but contains a list of Indian films including those produced by the Government of India.

APPENDIX D

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS FOR THE COMPILATION OF A HISTORY OF THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT IN INDIA—5TH JANUARY, 1950.

A meeting of the Committee appointed to collect materials from all possible sources for the preparation of a history of the Freedom Movement in India was held in Dr. Tara Chand's room on the 5th January, 1950.

PRESENT

Dr. Tara Chand, M.A., D.Phil., (Oxon), in the Chair.

Dr. R. C. Majumdar, M.A., Ph.D.

Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad, M.A., D.Litt.

Principal C. S. Srinivasachari, M.A..

Professor S. N. Sen, M.A., Ph.D. D.Litt., (Secretary and Convener).

1. Before proceeding further the Committee deemed it necessary to determine their chronological limit of the proposed work. It was felt that a detailed survey might be attempted from 1870. A.D., i.e., a few years prior to the foundation of the Indian National Congress, to August 15, 1947, when India attained independence, though the history of the freedom movement could be traced to a much earlier date. It was agreed that the early history of movement would be briefly narrated in a short introductory chapter and for the purpose of the proposed work a detailed account of the Indian Mutiny of 1857 would not be necessary.

2. The original materials for such a work may come from several sources but may be conveniently divided into two general categories, official and non-official. But all necessary papers and documents, whether official or private, may not be available in India and the field of enquiry may consequently have to be extended to other countries.

3. Official records available in India will again fall under two broad heads—Central and Provincial. At the Centre the records of the Ministries of Defence and Home are likely to prove most useful.

4. In the provinces the records of the Home Ministry should be carefully scrutinised, first, though the Police Records are likely to prove more informative, these will have to be supplemented by Judicial and Prison records as well as papers of the Governor's Secretariat. It is well known that while dealing with the Anarchist Movement the Police came by important documents relating to the anarchist organisations and diaries of their leaders. It was felt that

an immediate attempt should be made to preserve such documents and diaries should they be still available with the police. Documents of considerable importance and interest will be found in the archives of the Indian States, but as most of the Indian States have now merged in the contiguous provinces or have been grouped into districts unions, their archives may be treated as provincial for the purpose of this enquiry.

5. Of the non-official records the most valuable are those relating to the political organizations engaged in the struggle for freedom, such as the Indian National Congress, the Liberal Federation, and the Muslim League, etc. But some of the proceedings and other papers of the Indian National Congress may have been from time to time seized by the police. This fact should be borne in mind while examining the records of the provincial police. It is unnecessary to add that the records of the district and sub-divisional branches of these political organisations and associations cannot be left out of our purview.

Contemporary newspapers, leaflets, publications, pictures and illustrations are expected to throw considerable light on the history of the freedom movement. Some of the newspapers, now defunct, were the official organs of the different political parties, others were closely associated with various anarchist organizations and as such reflected their opinions and activities. But complete files of defunct newspapers are not likely to be available without an organised and sustained search. It may, however, be easier to collect proscribed leaflets and pamphlets as they are ordinarily forwarded for preservation to the archives office of the Central Government. Some of the prominent anarchist leaders as well as others who believed in constitutional methods later published their memoirs thereby giving publicity to the inner history of the movement led by them. Many of these publications, however, have gone out of print. Contemporary correspondence, diaries and memoirs of private persons, if still available, should be rescued and these may be supplemented by the oral statements of such living persons as were intimately connected with the movement. Such persons will have to be interviewed by the members of the Committee and although their testimony may not be in all cases of equal evidential value, will doubtless go a long way to fill many blanks. For obvious reasons the statements of these old veterans should be recorded as early as possible.

6. In the opinion of the Committee enquiries should be made for relevant papers at the following places abroad:

1. London—India Office.
2. Pondicherry (long the headquarters of Aurabindo Ghosh, his followers and admirers. Shri Anil Baran Roy may help the Committee here).

3. Chandernagore (the services of Shri Moti Lal Roy may be utilised for collecting information here).
4. Paris (Shymji Krishna Varma operated from Paris and Mr. Rana and some of his associates are still there).
5. Geneva (for information about Indian Political activities in Switzerland, Mr. Tara Chand may be contacted).
6. Mexico City.
7. San Francisco
8. Canada.
9. Afghanistan.

(mainly for the Gadhar party).

For the Indian National Army, German, Italian and Japanese official sources will have to be examined.

7. The Committee felt that the work entrusted to it could not be efficiently conducted unless it had an office of its own at New Delhi and the necessary financial provisions made by the Government of India. All financial estimates at this stage must necessarily be tentative. It was hoped that in view of Hon'ble the Prime Minister's personal interest in this matter the Committee could reasonably expect the Government to meet its minimum requirements. The Committee's Secretariat should, to start with, consist of an officer of the status and rank of an Educational Officer and a stenographer. The annual budget will approximately be Rs. 50,000 or a total sum of one lakh and fifty thousand for a period of three years will be required. Of this about Rs. 50,000 will be needed at the headquarters and the remaining one lakh for the provinces. It was to be clearly understood that in financial matters the claims of each region or province will have to be considered on merit alone and equal ad hoc grants will not be made.

8. Such a survey as has been entrusted to the Committee can only be conducted on regional basis and it is recommended that the Conveners of the Provincial Regional Survey Committees appointed by or on the recommendation of the Indian Historical Records Commission as well as the provincial premiers and Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramaya may in the first instance be addressed on the subject of the personnel of the provincial committees to be appointed for this specific purpose.

9. A list of publications immediately needed in connection with the work of the Committee should be prepared and the co-operation of the conveners of the provincial committees in this respect should be obtained.

10. A list of persons to be interrogated should be prepared.

11. Steps should be taken to give the widest possible publicity to the aims and objects of the Committee so that the fullest co-operation of the interested public may be available.

12. The Committee co-opted the following gentlemen as its members as their services were considered essential for the success of its endeavours:

(i) Hon'ble Shri R. R. Diwakar.

(ii) Shri G. C. Narang.

S. N. SEN, Secretary.

TARA CHAND, Chairman.

NOTE ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE COMPILATION OF THE HISTORY OF FREEDOM MOVEMENT IN INDIA.

Genesis.

The scheme for writing an authentic and comprehensive history of the different phases of the struggle which culminated in the freedom of India in 1947, was originally recommended by the Indian Historical Records Commission at its Jaipur Session in 1948; and when the Hon'ble Dr. Rajendra Prasad invited the attention of the Government of India to the urgency of this work, the Ministry of Education was entrusted with the planning and execution of the project.

2. Formation of the Experts Committee.

To implement the decision of the Government of India an Experts Committee consisting of the following members was appointed to suggest ways and means whereby the collection of material for the work could be facilitated:

1. Dr. Tara Chand (Chairman).
2. Dr. R. C. Majumdar.
3. Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad.
4. Professor C. S. Srinivasachari.
5. Dr. S. N. Sen (Convener).
6. The Hon'ble Shri R. R. Diwakar.
7. Dr. Gokal Chand Narang.

} Co-opted members.

3. Recommendations of the Experts Committee.

The Committee held its first meeting on 5th January, 1950 and after a thorough examination of the issues involved, made several recommendations, of which the following are the most outstanding:—

- (a) That the projected history should be confined to the period 1870 A.D. to 15th August, 1947, and that the movements prior to 1870 may be treated in an introductory chapter;
- (b) That the material should be collected from original and authentic sources, both official and non-official, from within the Union as well as from abroad;
- (c) That a Central Organization with regional offices should be established so that all material from possible sources may be explored and collated.

4. Pending the setting up of a Central organization for this purpose, the Ministry of Education, Government of India, issued on 31st March, 1950, a circular letter to all the State Governments, Chief Commissioners and Vice-Chancellors of Indian Universities inviting their co-operation and assistance in the success of the scheme. A similar letter was also addressed by the Ministry of External Affairs to all the Indian Missions abroad. At the same time the attention of the public in general was drawn by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting through notifications which were given wide publicity in the leading newspapers and were also relayed from the All India Radio.

5. The response on the whole has not been satisfactory. From within the Union some material has been received from West Bengal, Hyderabad and Madras, as well as some information from certain private individuals. That is meagre, but that is all. As far as the Indian Missions are concerned, we have received some information from Bagdad, Brazil, Brussels, Ethiopia, Kabul and Turkey only; but it is so stray and scanty.

6. It is obvious that an undertaking of such great national importance cannot be successful without the active co-operation of the public in general and the State Governments, the Universities, learned societies, history teachers and research students, in particular, as it involves the stupendous task of collecting material from all over the country, which may throw light on all aspects, political, economic, social and cultural, of the great movement which culminated in the freedom of the country in 1947. Moreover, on account of the present financial stringency, it is not possible for Government to find any substantial amount of money for accomplishment of this task. It is, therefore, essential that this work should progress through the voluntary efforts of scholars and learned societies.

7. The Universities and Colleges are being requested once again to take an active part in making this project a success. The following suggestions are being made to them:—

- (a) To set up local committees consisting of the History staff and research scholars who may be working on any aspect of modern Indian History, and all those who may be interested in this scheme;
- (b) to collect the names of individuals and organization who took an active part in the movement for freedom, or who were associated with it even indirectly;
- (c) to arrange names of these individuals in chronological order giving all the available account of the role played by each, together with his or her oral evidence concerning individual and events connected directly with the movement;
- (d) to prepare inventories of the available books (both printed and manuscripts), pamphlets, memoirs, etc., and also abstracts of news items, articles reminiscences, etc., that may have appeared from time to time in magazines and newspapers, both contemporary and defunct, which may throw light on the movement for freedom;
- (e) to co-operate with and to contact their respective Regional Survey Committees/Commissions/Boards to avoid duplication of work as well as to facilitate expeditious collection of material;
- (f) to communicate to this Ministry the names and addresses of all those voluntary workers who may be engaged on this work so that the Government of India may correspond with them direct.

APPENDIX E

LIST OF MANUSCRIPTS PURCHASED BY THE NATIONAL
ARCHIVES OF INDIA1. *Hadiqatu'l-Haqiqat* of Hakim Sanai.

It is the best known of all the works of Abu'l-Majd Majdud, better known as Hakim Sanai of Ghazna or Balkh, who died about 1131. He was the first of the three great Sufistic *mathnawi* writers of Persia, the other two being Shaikh Faridu'd Din'Attar and Maulana Jalalu'd-Din Rumi. Although the *Hadiqah*, in its original form, was lithographed at Bombay in A.H. 1275 (A.D. 1859), this particular work, which is written by Khwaja Abdu'l-Latif, son of Abdu'llah Abbasi, and contains copious notes and annotations in Persian prose along with the original text in verse for the guidance of its readers, is different from it.

2. *The Mathnawi*, entitled *Gul-i-Rangin* of Atashi Qamdahari.

Although Atashi flourished in the reigns of Babur, Humayun and Akbar, it is strange that nothing about him is traceable in the *Baburnama*, *Humayunnama*, *Akbarnama*, *Tabaqat-i-Akbari*, *Ain-i-Akbari*, *Maathiru'l-Umara* etc., and even Professor E. G. Browne speaks nothing about him in his *Literary History of Persia* which is chiefly devoted to the study of poets, prose-writers and other men of letters. But Badayuni, in his *Muntakhabu't-Tawarikh* (Persian text, pp. 180-81), mentions his coming to Hindustan with Babur and rising to higher ranks from the post of *waqaya-nawis* and records his death at Lahore in A.H. 973 (A.D. 1565-66). The historian quotes some of his verses as well but is silent about his *Mathnawi* (*Gul-i-Rangin*). It is, no doubt, a rare work, completed in A.H. 957 (A.D. 1550) and has not been published so far. It bears a seal containing the legend "*Jalla-Jalalahu Allahu Akbar*" in Thulth letter.

3. *Majatihul-Jinan* of Samnani

It is a book on Muslim theology in Arabic by Samnani, copied by Muhammad Murad, on the 16th Rabl' I. 725 A.H. (2nd March, 1325 A.D.) at the Khanqah of Kaki. Besides the seal of Musawi Khan (d. 1690 A.D.) there are other seals also, chief of which are those of Jafar bin Jalal, the owner of the MS., dated 57 A.H., Muhammad Riza and Shaikh Imadu'd-Din bin Shaikh Waliullah bin Shaikh Muhammad, dated A.H. 1155 (A.D. 1742-43). It is a rare work and has not been published so far.

4. *Tuhfatu'l-Ahrar* of Jami

The *Tuhfatu'l-Ahrar* is one of the seven famous *mathnawis* of Jami, known collectively as *Haft Aurang* (lit. Seven Thrones, a name given by the Persians to the constellation of the Great Bear). It was composed in 1481 and published by Forbes Falconer in 1848. The manuscript is undated, but it contains a note written by one

Muhammad Murad on the 5th of Dai Ilahi San 3 of the auspicious reign (of Akbar). This note is in a way corroborated by the style of the script which is decidedly the Persian Nastaliq introduced in India after the reconquest of India by Humayun in 1555.

5. *Khanda-i-Ghadr*

It is an Urdu history of the Indian Mutiny relating only to Farrukhabad and Fatehgarh. It was compiled by Nawab Muhammad Wajid Ali Khan Rizwan in 1863 at the instance of Nawab Muhammad Ziau'd-Din Khan, son of Nawab Ahmad Bakhsh Khan, of Loharu. The last page contains the name of the writer, Ahmad Ali Khan of Farrukhabad, and the date of the completion of the manuscript, 17th Ramazan 1290 A.H. (7th November, 1873 A.D.). It is no doubt a valuable record of the period as the Hon'ble Minister observes, but at the end of the work the writer, while praying for the prosperity and longevity of the life of Sir William Muir, then Lieutt. Governor of the U.P., hints that he has written whatever Sir William wanted him to write as his pen had virtually been in the hands of the latter.

6. *The Quran*

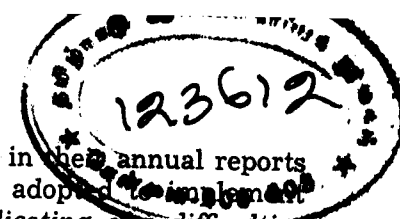
It is a Himayal written by 'Abdur-Razzaq of Qazwin in *Thulth* characters. It bears four seals, two of which are distinct and contain the names of Husain Quli Khan and Sayyid Muazzaz Khan, dated 1132 A.H. and 1133 A.H. (1719-20 and 1720-21 A.D.) respectively of the reign of Emperor Muhammad Shah (1719-48). Unlike ordinary copies of the Quran, it contains the *Khawas* (or chief properties) of each *Sura* (or chapter) at the beginning and its penmanship is of a high order.

7. Specimens of Calligraphy in *Thulth* and *Nastaliq* characters.

Both the scripts are elegant and artistic and at the end of the last practice *wasti* in *Thulth* letters the name of the scribe is given as 'Abdullah Hamidullah and the year 1093 A.H. (1682-83 A.D.) Hamidullah flourished in the reign of Aurangzeb, but unfortunately he is not mentioned in any history of that period and even the *Tadhkira-i-Khushnawisan* of Maulana Ghulam Muhammad, which deals only with the accounts of calligraphists, is silent about him.

8. *Tarikh-i-Firuzi*

Compiled by Shams Siraj Afif, son of Shams Dabir, it is rather a supplement of the *Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi* by Ziau'd-Din Barani, which is a history of the Sultans of Delhi from the accession of Balban to the 6th year of Firoz Shah Tughlaq's reign. Shams Siraj Afif's *Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi* which covers the whole of Firoz Shah Tughluq's reign (1351-88), was published by the Asiatic Society of Bengal in 1890. The manuscript copy under notice is incomplete, vide *Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi* by Shams Siraj Afif (A.S.B., Calcutta 1890, pp. 440-42).



(c) requests the Member States to include in their annual reports to Unesco a section describing the measures adopted to implement effectively the present Recommendation, indicating any difficulties or obstacles which have prevented implementation and formulating any suggestions of their own.

PART ONE

Guiding Principles

The school should provide an atmosphere in which all members of the school community can acquire the qualities of justice, fair-mindedness, tolerance and respect for all sorts and conditions of men. As important means of helping to develop these qualities, primary and secondary school programmes should at the appropriate stage:

- (a) be sufficiently broad to acquaint the pupils with the world in which they live, the kinds of people distributed over the earth and the relationship to environment to ways of life, and to bring out the common elements in the life of different peoples, without neglecting objective information concerning differences;
- (b) illustrate in the teaching of the various subjects, especially science, art and comparative literature, that the advancement of human culture and knowledge has been achieved by the co-operation of the various peoples of the world; and that national culture is but a part of human civilization, and is constantly being enriched by intellectual and artistic influences from abroad;
- (c) stress the conception of the equality of human beings set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and bring home to the pupils that this entails:
 - (i) equal respect for all human beings without regard to such distinctions as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status; and the avoidance of all prejudices which may arise from these distinctions;
 - (ii) the recognition of the equal right of every nation, great or small, to direct its life, and develop its national culture as a contribution to the cultural heritage of mankind;
- (d) promote peace by emphasizing the increasing interdependence of all peoples in the modern world, the ways in which they have learnt to control their surroundings in co-operation with their fellows, and the fact that their common interests are more important than their clashes of interest;

APPENDIX F

RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO CONCERNING THE DIRECTION OF SCHOOL PROGRAMMES TOWARDS INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY.

The General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation,

Convened at

Having decided to keep before the attention of Member States the importance of regarding the development of international understanding as one of the major functions of education and to urge the authorities concerned to take the necessary steps to ensure that this function is fulfilled, adopts, this day of 19 .., the following recommendation which shall be called the recommendation concerning the direction of school programmes towards international peace and security.

Considering that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights declares that education "shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace";

Considering that one of the main purposes of Unesco is "to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education", and that, as the Constitution of Unesco declares, "ignorance of each other's ways and lives has been a common cause, throughout the history of mankind, of that suspicion and mistrust between the peoples of the world through which their differences have all too often broken into war";

Considering that the existing school programmes are not fully in accord with the needs of the increasingly interdependent world of today;

Considering that most States have not yet taken full measures within their legal powers to encourage and assist education for international understanding;

The Conference:

(a) urges the Member States of the Organization to take all the measures possible within their legal powers to apply the following guiding principles contained in Part One of the Recommendation;

(b) recommends the Member States of the Organization to adopt the proposed measures of implementation contained in Part Two of the Recommendation;

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- (e) strengthen the bonds uniting the peoples of the world by presenting the history of their own and other nations without prejudice or distortion, and by emphasizing the events and influences that have contributed to social progress rather than the purely military aspects of history;
- (f) present the work of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies to the pupils as a most significant move forward in man's efforts over a long period of time to establish effective machinery for promoting the peace and well-being of all peoples;
- (g) help to develop a critical sense by providing opportunity for assessing the accuracy of information given through the radio press and cinema;
- (h) promote, both in the classroom and outside, the study and practice of active responsibility and loyalty to the local and national community as the basis for the wider loyalty to the world society to which all other obligations should be subordinate.

PART TWO

Measures for Implementation

It is recommended:

- (1) that national committees be formed where they do not already exist to examine primary and secondary school programmes of study, with particular reference to history, geography, modern languages and other subjects which can make a special contribution to international understanding, with a view to recommending the necessary changes to the appropriate authorities and that teachers' organizations be invited to nominate members, including practising teachers, to take part in these committees;
- (2) that textbook improvement go hand-in-hand with improvement of the curricula, and that the attention of educational authorities be drawn to the desirability of extending the use of visual and auditory aids as means of promoting education for international understanding;
- (3) that every opportunity be taken during training and during refresher courses to bring home to teachers and to educational administrators and inspectors the importance of their own personal attitude towards other peoples and their responsibility for ensuring that the programmes of

- study and the information given in lessons are used to develop attitudes of friendly co-operation in their pupils;
- (4) that educational administrators and inspectors, when advising on the curricula of schools and teacher-training institutions, have particular regard to the extent to which they can contribute towards international understanding;
 - (5) that attention be directed to the need for organizing regular exchanges of teachers and pupils as an integrated part of programmes of study, for arranging exchanges between teachers and inviting teachers from other countries to participate in refresher courses, and for affording all possible facilities for teachers to visit other countries;
 - (6) that countries undertaking curricular revision make use of Unesco's educational missions and experts and obtain assistance from the participants in Unesco seminars and from Unesco publications;
 - (7) that regional seminars for teachers be organized, with the assistance of Unesco, to consider problems of curricular revision within the broad framework of the contribution that all aspects of school life can make to international understanding.

LIST OF EXPERTS ATTENDING THE MEETING HELD AT UNESCO HOUSE, 19 AVENUE KLEBER, PARIS ON 28, 29 AND 30 NOVEMBER 1949 TO CONSIDER THE ADVISABILITY OF UNESCO DRAFTING A CONVENTION OR RECOMMENDATION DIRECTING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES TOWARDS INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY.

Present:

Chairman: Ismail Kabbany Bey, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Education, Egypt.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. M. Gossart, President of the Liaison Committee of International Teachers' Federation, France.

Members: Professor Attilio Frajese, Director-General of the Ministry of Education, Italy.

Mr. Bryn Hovde, President of the New School for Social Research, New York, U.S.A.

Dr. Amaranatha Jha, President of the All India Education Federation and of the All India Adult Education Association, representing the World Organization of the Teaching Profession.

Mr. Humayun Kabir, Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Education, India.

H.E.M. Antonio Castro Leal, Mexican delegate to Unesco, Unesco House, Paris.

Mr. Dagfinn Vaern, Chief of Scientific Division, Ministry of Education, Norway.

Mr. Kenneth Wormald, Solicitor, National Union of Teachers, Great Britain.

Special Consultant: Mr. Victor Clark, Director of Education of the East Riding of Yorkshire, Great Britain.

APPENDIX G

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGIONAL RECORDS SURVEY COMMITTEES 1949-50

The Regional Records Survey Committees set up by the Indian Historical Records Commission as well as those set up by the State Governments have been continuing to carry on useful survey work. A brief report about their activities of the previous year was given in the Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Vol. XXVI Part I. Fresh reports have since been received from some of the Committees and significant informations contained in them are summarized below:—

Madras.—The Madras Regional Records Survey Committee set up by the State Government, met twice during the year. Its primary aim was to make an attempt to acquire records of historical value in the custody of institutions like old Commercial firms, religious institutions, zamindars and families of other land-holders, and their preservation in a central place. In the pursuit of this object the Committee met with considerable success. The Trustees of the Tirumali etc., Devasthanams, Panpulli, furnished valuable information relating to two important collections in their possession, while the Rajah of Vizianagram sent a copy of an old book published in 1894 containing the Vizianagram Treaty of 15 November, 1758 and a contemporary illustration of the battle of Kondur, 7th December, 1758. The Raja of Rajahmundry who had a mass of records of the 18th and early 19th centuries, was also addressed by the Committee and the Committee adopted a plan to prepare a note on the nature and contents of the records. The Curator, Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, was requested to publish manuscripts in his custody entitled "Kaliyuga Mannar Charitram" as it was of historical importance. The Curator also presented to the Committee transcript copies of 5 copper plate records belonging to Sri Vedanarayana Perumal Kovil Devasthanam of Veradarajapuram, Trichinapoly District, and arrangements were being made by the Committee for editing and publication of the transcripts. The Superintendent of Archaeology, Southern Circle, Madras, gave certain original papers belonging to the family of Cothoor Ranganayakulu Chetty relating to the transactions carried out by his ancestors with the English Free Merchants and with the Supreme Court from 1801 to 1860 and attempts were being made by the Convener of the Committee to get them translated and published. Among other important acquisitions made by the Committee were, a transcript of short Tamil account describing the donations and endowments made to the Minakshi Sundareshwar Temple, and a bound volume of Madras Regulations in Tamil of 1803 and following years, both of which were deposited in the Madras Record Office.

West Bengal.—The activities in West Bengal have been reviewed in a small but excellent pamphlet published by the Committee entitled, *Report of the Regional Records Survey Committee for West Bengal* (1949-50), pp. 1—67. It revealed that the Committee made a survey of the old collectorate records in eight districts, viz., 24-Parganas, Nadia, Birbhum, Midnapur, Burdwan, Bankura, Malda and Hugli. The total number of bound volumes of old English correspondence alone in these eight districts numbered about 3,000 and a sample survey made by the members of the Committee of the contents of these volumes revealed that they contained valuable new materials for the social, economic and administrative history of Bengal in the 18th and 19th centuries. These volumes were found in fairly good state of preservation, and the Committee would be prepared to undertake examination, appraisal, preparation of descriptive lists of these records and editing some of the more important documents for purposes of publication provided these volumes were made more easily accessible and were kept either in the Writers' Building, National Library, Asiatic Society of Bengal or in the library of the Calcutta University. Independent and interesting reports on the survey of records in all the eight districts have been included in the pamphlet, which contained detailed accounts of the records examined. In addition to this, the Committee also surveyed records in the private custody at Malda.

Uttar Pradesh.—The Uttar Pradesh Survey Committee with its five branches at Allahabad, Agra, Aligarh, Banaras, and Lucknow had done very valuable survey work during the year. To the Convener of the Lucknow Branch, Dr. N.L. Chatterjee, goes the credit of acquiring by purchase of the remaining Persian manuscripts from the gentleman at Sandila, of which a reference was made in the last year's report at a cost of Rs. 600. These papers throw a flood of light on the social and administrative conditions specially on the judicial system of Oudh in the 17th and 18th centuries. Dr. Chatterjee also completed the inspection of District records and had started the investigation of other Government records. Dr. B. P. Saxena, the new Convener of the U.P. Regional Records Survey Committee with Prof. Shukla, Secretary of the Committee, paid a visit to Machhli Shahar (District Jaunpur) on behalf of the Allahabad Branch to examine the Persian and Arabic manuscripts in the possession of some Muslim families. Some of the Persian manuscripts of historical and literary value were purchased by the Allahabad Branch and negotiations were being carried on for the purchase of more manuscripts and *firman*s, which the Committee hoped it would be able to purchase out of the next year's financial grant from the Government of India. The Banaras Branch, which had started work rather late, strengthened its position by being able to enlist the cooperation of the Maharaja of Banaras, the Commissioner of Banaras and Gorakh-

pur Division, the Chairman of the Municipal Board and other distinguished officials and non-officials and it was hoped that the Committee would be able to do valuable work in the coming year. Prof. J. C. Taluqdar, Convener of the Agra Branch, prepared a list of Persian *Jarman*s and manuscripts of the Mughal period in the private possessions. He also brought to light certain valuable manuscripts belonging to the Dargah of Fatehpur Sikri, which were in the possession of a local Muslim School. The Committee proposed to purchase all these manuscripts etc. out of the next year's financial grant. There was little response from the Aligarh Branch, but the Committee hoped that it would do more useful work in the next year.

Bihar.—The Committee for Bihar had discovered and preserved copies of a large number of *farmans* and *Sanads* in Persian relating to the centuries of Mughal rule in India, which supplied significant administrative details with names of Imperial as well as local officials and their duties. A brief account of 50 of these have been included in the pamphlet, *Report Regarding the work of the Regional Records Survey Committee in Bihar*, 1949-50; pp. 1—26, which the Committee has published as usual. Of the other Persian manuscripts, which came to the notice of the Committee two deserved special mention. One of them entitled 'Zu-i-Hind', was a gazetteer of the district of U.P. and Delhi, written partly in Persian and partly in Urdu and covered more than 800 pages. The manuscript contained important historical and biographical information and also descriptions of important places and buildings and bear witness that it was prepared under Government orders. The other manuscript was *Manaqib-i-Mohammadi*, which described the life and travels of a saint who came from Baghdad to Amjhar, a village in the district of Gaya, in the 15th century. The author, who was a disciple and constant companion of the saint, mentioned the route from Baghdad to India, the time spent in the journey and besides describing Gaya and some other adjoining places, referred to Dariya Khan Lohani, the Afghan ruler of Bihar. Prof. Surajdeo Narain and Dr. H. R. Ghosal, who were examining the records of the Muzaffarpur Collectorate came across some important collections, some of which described the measures adopted by the Company's Government to obviate the evil effects of a famine apprehended during 1783-84 in Bihar in the dominions of the Nawab Wazir of Oudh. Some of the circulars, advertisements, notifications, etc., issued by the Company's Government in their behalf have been quoted in the printed annual report of the Committee.

Madhya Pradesh.—The Regional Records Survey Committee for Madhya Pradesh confined its activities to the Hindi part of the State adjoining Nagpur. A systematic survey and examination of revenue

records in the custody of various Deputy Commissioners' Offices at Raigarh, Bilaspur, Katni, Sagar, Jabbalpur, Yeotmal, Chanda, etc. was carried on by the members of the Committee who also brought to light some valuable manuscripts in private possessions in those places. In the Raigarh Division at Divisional Commissioner's Court Mr. L. P. Pandeya and Dr. Y. K. Deshpande came across four important documents: the first was a genealogical tree of the Raigarh ruling family, prepared by Raja Ghanshyam Singh, grandfather of the present ruler; the second was a sort of a gazetteer of the Raigarh State prepared by the same person; the third was 'Band Savalat Sarkari vo javab', being the official questions and answers relating to the Raigarh State in 1889 A.D.; and the fourth was a *parwana* sent by the East India Company to Raja Juikar Singh, great-grand father of the present ruler in the year 1806, which indicated that the Raigarh Chief was not subordinate to the Marathas, even after the territories of Sambalpur were given to them.

Among the important manuscripts in the possession of private persons at Raigarh, which came to the notice of Mr. Pandeya, mention might be made of the following:—(i) 'Jaya Chandrika'—a copy in verse compiled by Prahlad Kavi in Sambat 1838 (1782 A.D.). The work gave the genealogical tree of the Chauhan Kings of Patna and Sambalpur and also threw light on the events connected with the Chattisgarh States and the Bhonslas of Nagpur; (ii) 'Ratanpuraka Itihasa', partly in verse and mostly in prose in Hindi, originally composed by Gopal Kavi and subsequently amplified by Revaram Thakur in Vikram Sambat 1873 (1817 A.D.). The work dealt with the history of the Kings of Ratanpur and Raipur from the Pauranik period up to the end of their rule; (iii) a grant by Mudhoji alias Appasahib to a Brahmin in 1815; (iv) an application by a grantee to Bhonsla Raja in 1813; (v) an order by Vinkoji Bhonsla to a Subahdar of Chattisgarh in 1813; (vi) a private letter by Appasahib Bhonsla to a Brahmin, Jagadeesh Bava about certain religious rites to be performed for the recovery of his mother from illness in 1815. The last four documents were in Marathi written in Modi character. In the Bilaspur Division, Dr. Deshpande inspected the *mafi* records in the district record room, which were reported to be of historical value. He also inspected the records in the possession of two Marathi families at Bilaspur who had among their collections grants from Raghoji Bhonsla relating to the grant of villages. The Survey work at Sagar resulted into important discoveries. Dr. H. L. Gupta and Mr. V. V. Subahdar, two members of the Committee, inspected the revenue records at Deputy Commissioner's Office and in the *mafi* and *inam* cases they found *sanads* and grants as well as statements made by the claimants detailing the history of their families. Among other records they found correspondence passed between the descendants of Govind Pant Bundela and the East India Company, which

throw light on the Maratha administration of that time. The private collections of Mr. V. V. Subehdar the grandson of Vinayakrao Subehdar, who was in charge of the administration in 1818 when Bajirao II ceded the whole Maratha territory to the East India Company, were examined by the Committee. The collections, which were carefully preserved by Mr. Subehdar, contained rich historical materials consisting of historical documents, paintings of historical personages and buildings miniatures etc. Dr. Gupta also inspected the personal collection of Mr. Ringe who had a large collection of letters from the Governor General to the Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners relating to the history of introduction of education at the Sagar region during the beginning of the British rule in India. At Yeotmal the inspection of records in the District Commissioner's record room was personally carried out by Dr. Y. K. Deshpande Convener of the Committee. Among the records were found several *sanads*, *farmans* and orders of the Subehdars etc. bestowing grants of lands. Genealogical trees and other statements of the claimants, which were also found among the records, revealed information on the social, religious, economic and political history of that part of administration in the early 19th century. At Chanda, Mr. S. K. Sadafale examined the records in the District Commissioner's record room and also inspected the *inam* cases including succession cases of the Ahiri Zamindari. Dr. Deshpande also got copies of some of the *sanads* and grants issued by the Gond Rajas, some 200 years back, which were traced in the possession of the descendants of the grantees at Chanda. The Survey work at Nagpur proper, which was the most important centre, was carried on by Dr. Deshpande with his other colleagues. Mr. D. G. Landge inspected the records in the Nagpur Secretariat and noted the historical information available about the families who were politically connected with the Bhonsla rule. Among the private records, Dr. Deshpande inspected the personal collection of Mr. Sadasheorao Dandige. Among his papers were found (i) a copy of the application on one of his ancestors, who had a chequered career in the services of Tipu Sultan, Wellesly and Elphinstone. It reveals a detailed history of his career and also copies of the correspondence between the Resident at Nagpur and Secretary to the Governor General concerning his pension case; (ii) an itinerary of tour of the Resident to Allahabad to meet the Governor General. Dr. Deshpande and Mr. Landge also visited the residencies of Gond Raja and junior Bhonsla family. The representative of the latter family had a roll which contained details of the thread ceremony of the eldest son of Raja Janojirao, the adopted son of Raghuji III, in his own handwriting. The records of the former were in the possession of Court of Wards, but Dr. Deshpande came across a copy of the genealogical tree from one of the old servants of the Raja. The paper contained important details about the rulers of

Gond and identified the tombs of some of them who were buried in the royal cemetery. An attempt was made to inspect the records in the possession of the Senior Bhonslas and an examination of part of the collection revealed that they mainly belonged to the period after the end of the Bhonsla rule and contained information connected with the management of the Bhonsla estate. The Committee proposed to make a complete survey of these records in the next year. The Convener and Mr. Landge also surveyed records in the places adjoining Nagpur and came across a collection of Sanskrit verses which described the marriage of Janoji Bhonsla in detail. Mr. S. C. Chatte inspected the collection of Mr. Bhayyaji Joshi, who had in his possession some important documents, detailed description of 8 of which (ranging from 1612—1710) were given in the annual report. Through the efforts of Mr. Chatte another set of old historical documents from a person at Mehkar in Berar, was brought to light. These documents belonged to the period of Nizamshahi Kings of Ahmednagar. Two of them which were in Modi characters were originals and bear seals while the third which was bilingual, in Persian and Marathi, was an authentic copy with Qazi's seal. The Committee proposed to take photocopies of all these documents. Mr. P. D. Shukla found in the possession of a descendant of Beniram Pandit at Banaras a collection of letters passed between him and Warren Hastings. Beniram Pandit was in correspondence with Warren Hastings even after he had left for England; A portrait of Beniram Pandit drawn in England has also been found. During the year under review Mr. D. B. Mahajan completed the editing of the Bakhar of the Jadhawas of Sindkhed. He also came across some more documents connected with the Jadhawas.

Orissa.—The Convener of the Orissa Committee came across some valuable palm-leaf manuscripts which he purchased on behalf of the Committee. These dealt with various aspects of history, politics, literature, religion, astronomy etc. All these manuscripts were sent to the National Archives of India for custody. As these manuscripts were not accompanied with any descriptive list, arrangements were made by the National Archives of India to get a list prepared on them by an Indian Administrative Service probationer, who had offered his free services for the same.

Bombay.—The Government of Bombay had set up in December, 1949 a Board of Historical Records and Ancient Monuments for the whole State, the constitution and composition of which would be found in Appendix D, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Vol. XXVI, Part I. The Board has four Regional Committees under it for the purpose of survey work. The State Government

had assured the Indian Historical Records Commission that the Board would co-operate with the Commission in its general survey programme.

Delhi.—The work of transcribing the manuscripts which had kindly been lent by Shamsul Ulema Khwaja Hasan Nizami to the Regional Survey Committee was completed and the transcripts were sent for custody to the Delhi University Library. The manuscripts themselves have been deposited with the National Archives of India for temporary custody. The Committee under the guidance of its Convener, Dr. S. N. Sen, endeavoured to trace records and manuscripts in the possession of private families in the province but lack of active co-operation from local residents prevented the Committee from achieving any satisfactory results. The Committee however contacted several private owners of manuscripts and was negotiating with them with a view to acquiring them for the National Archives of India. During the year under review the Committee purchased the following manuscripts: (i) Nigar Nama; (ii) Letters in Persian from Sir Thomas Metcalfe to Emperor Bahadur Shah; and (iii) copy of the Nirmal-grantha in Persian script.

The Secretary contributed a couple of papers to research journals on the history of Vindhya Pradesh.

Hindi and English translations of Rupani Sharma's Vansavali of Maharaja Bhavasimha of Rewa, the Vaghela Vansham, were revised and final copy was prepared for the press.

Autograph copy of the Gulab Prakash in Hindi verse by Kavi Shital Prasad was acquired for the library through Rajkavi Ambikesh and a transcript of the Agnihotra kula Vansavali in Sanskrit verse was prepared through the courtsey of Guru Ram Piyare Agnihotri. Among new books purchased are catalogues of manuscripts and coins, memorial volumes and a number of rare books. The Regional Commissioner was pleased to send from Nowgong 18 volumes of old administrative reports of some of the integrating states of Bundelkhand for which thanks are due to him.

Government were pleased to change the name of the Commission from Baghelkhand to Vindhya Historical Records Commission (*vide* Cabinet Resolution No. 306, dated 11th December 1948). Report of the Constitution Committee appointed on 1st June, 1947 was submitted for government's approval with suggestions for the modification of the constitution of the Baghelkhand (now Vindhya) Historical Records Commission to suit the new set up of the Vindhya Pradesh Union. As the approval is still awaited no meeting of the Commission could be held during the year under review.

Historical Research Rules from provincial governments and Indian States were obtained for guidance in the framing of similar rules governing access to historical records preserved in the government archives in Vindhya Pradesh.

(Sd.) A. H. NIZAMI,
Secretary,

Vindhya Historical Records Commission, Rewa, V.P.

APPENDIX H

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE VINDHYA HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION 1948-1949

I have the honour to report that circular letters were addressed as usual to important families in the Rewa State part of Baghelkhand and to the princes of the integrating states of the Vindhya Pradesh Union requesting them to furnish information regarding their family records. The family records of the Raja Bahadur of Sohawal were inspected as also those of the Thakur of Rampur Baghelan and copies of important papers acquired.

Contact prints of the Nishan of Prince Muhammad Akbar, heir apparent of Emperor Shah Alam dated 1167 fasli bestowing village Akari in Sarkar Kora, Subah Ilahabad to Sarab Sukh, ancestor of Pt. Raghunandan Prasad, Rajvaidya of Uprahti, Rewa (*vide* Administration Report 1947-48) was prepared with a view to publish it for the information of scholars.

The Secretary inspected the rotograph of the Tarikh-i-Muhammadi at the Allahabad University Library. The original manuscript in Persian is preserved at the British Museum, London and is the only known copy. The work is of great cultural value for the history of the Vindhya Pradesh as it records the fifty years' history of Muhammadabad Kalpi in Northern Bundelkhand, constituting the Jhansi division of the United Provinces, ruled by a local dynasty established during the period of Tughluq's decline. The author makes prominent mention of the chief of Gahora, Biramdeo Baghela, the illustrious ancestor of His Highness the Bandhavesha Maharaja of Rewa. The prince has been mentioned at several places, one of the main expeditions of Nasiruddin Mahmud Shah, the founder of Kalpi house (1390—1411 A.D.), being directed against him. The recorded history of the Baghelas was dated so far from the last years (end of 15th century) of Bhaidadeva, contemporary of Bahlul Lodi and Sikandar. The contemporaneity of Biram with the later Tughluqs, as revealed from the Tarikh-i-Muhammadi, is a fact of supreme choronological importance for it pushes back the political history of the Baghelas (as also of the Bundelas) by one hundred years. Besides Biram, the chiefs of Simauni and Sihunda (Banda district), Erachh (Jhansi district) and Kundal (Orchha State) find frequent mention besides Hamirpur, Mahoba, Rath, Kalinjar, Jaitpur etc. The Tarikh-i-Muhammadi deserves to be published constituting as it does half a century's authentic history of the Vindhya Pradesh written by a contemporary. The last year mentioned by the author, Muhammad Bihamid Khani, is 1437 A.D.

APPENDIX I

REPORT OF RESEARCH WORK DONE BY THE MEMBERS
1949-50

1. V. R. R. Dikshitar, Madras.

- (a) Published a translation of the Tirukkural;
- (b) Prepared a book on Gupta Polity;
- (c) Undertaken to write a history of South India.

2. A. H. Nizami, Rewa.

- (a) Wrote the following papers:—

(i) Nine Gems of the Court of Maharaja Bhavasinha of Rewa [Gode Commemoration Volume of the New Indian Antiquary, Bombay].

(ii) The Prem Chingari of Hafiz Najaf Ali Shah of Salon [15th All-India Oriental Conference, Bombay, to be published in the J.B.B.R.A.S.]

(b) Examined the Family Records of Lal Jogindra Bahadur Singh Ji, Raja Bahadur of Sohawal, Vindhya Pradesh.

(c) Pursued the study of the history of Vindhya Pradesh in the Pre-Mughal Period.

3. K. A. Sajan Lal, Secunderabad.

- (a) Wrote the following papers:—

(1) Professor Ramchandrar as an Urdu Journalist (Islamic Culture, XXIII, Nos. 1 and 2, January and April, 1949).

(2) The Karnamah (IHRC Procs Vol. XXVI, 1949).

(3) The Will of Claude Martin (Hyderabad Academy).

(4) Relations between Nazim Ali Khan and Peshwa Madhav Rao I, 1762-63 (Deccan History Journal).

(b) Prepared the work entitled "Studies in the Deccan History" (ready for press).

- (c) Engaged in the following work:—

The History of the Urdu Press and its contribution to culture [two chapters completed, many volumes and issues of Urdu newspapers for 1835 to 1885 collected].

(d) Read a paper on "The History of the Indian Press" under the auspices of the History Association of Osmania University.

4. P. M. Joshi, Bombay.

- (a) Wrote the following paper:

Asad Beg's Mission to Bijapur (1603-04) [Potdar Commemoration Volume].

(b). Engaged in editing Elphinstone's Report on territories conquered from the Peshwa [for Bombay Record Series].

(c) Engaged in preparing the following chapters for the history volume of the Bombay District Gazetteer:—

(1) The Bahmani Empire, 1347 A.D. to 1449 A.D.

(2) The Nizamshahi Kingdom of Ahmednagar, 1489—1686 A.D.

(3) The Adilshahi Kingdom of Bijapur, 1489—1686 A.D.

(4) The Faruqi Dynasty of Khandesh, 1365—1601 A.D.

(5) Society and Culture in Medieval Deccan.

(6) The Portuguese in Western India, 1498—1656 A.D.

(7) Early British Settlements on the West Coast.

5. K. K. Datta, Patna.

- (a) Published the following work:

Dawn of Renascent India [Based on a course of lectures delivered under the auspices of the Nagpur University as the Mahadeo Hari Wadotkar Lecturer for 1949].

- (b) Wrote the following papers:—

(1) Some Parwana for the Dutch (IHRC Vol. XXVI);

(2) Calcutta Oudh Correspondance relating to Jahandar Shah (1949—session of the IHC);

(3) The Marathas in Orissa (1949—session of the IHC, Local Section);

(4) Oudh Bihar Relations in the 18th Century;

(5) Provision for Shah Alam II's Family at Delhi in 1804 (Published, Bengal: Past and Present);

(6) Currency and Banking in Bihar during the Early Days of British Rule (contributed for Bengal: Past and Present);

(7) Some Newly Discovered Firmans and Sanads (contributed for the Bulletin of the Nagpur University Historical Research Institute).

6. G. H. Khare, Poona.

- (a) Wrote, read and published the following works and articles:—

(1) Explorations at Karad;

(2) Sources of the Medieval History of Dekkan, Vol. III (Bilingual);

- (3) Persian Sources of Indian History, Vol. IV (Marathi);
- (4) Shanivara Palace, Poona (Marathi);
- (5) Exploration in Maharashtra (Svarajya: Marathi);
- (6) Jnaneshvaripaddhati and Govinda Barve (Jnaneshvara: Marathi);
- (7) Shri Vitthala and Pandharapur (Svarajya: Marathi);
- (8) Some Persian Records from a Sardar Natu Family of Poona (IHRC, Vol. XXVI);
- (9) Some Information about the Shanivara Palace, Poona (Sahyadri: Marathi);
- (10) Some Mughal-Maratha Pacts between 1707—1759 A.D. (PAIOC, Bombay: Unpublished);
- (11) Asoge Plates of Kadamba Jayakesin II of Goa Saka 1055 (Epigraphia Indica, Vol. XXVI); and
- (12) Lohner Plates of Chalukya Pulakesin II of Saka 552 (Epigraphia Indica, Vol. XXVII).

(b) Visited Satara, Akkalkot, Ropale, Varakuti (Solapur), Parande (Hyderabad), Portuguese India, Bhuvaneshvara, Cuttack, Konaraka, Puri and other places in search of old records and studied the antiquarian remains and collected some very important material useful for Indian History.

(c) Engaged in the preparation of a detailed chronology of Maratha History and the printing of the Companion to research students.

7. Bisheshwar Prasad, Simla.

(a) Engaged in the following research work:—

- (1) History of Indian Armed Forces in World War II.
- (2) Defence Policy and Planning.
- (3) History of India's External Relations, 1860—1885, [based on records in the National Archives].

8. R. R. Sethi, New Delhi.

Wrote the following work:

The Lahore Darbar [In the light of the Correspondence of Sir C. M. Wade. Edited by Dr. G. L. Chopra, Keeper of the Records of the Government of Panjab (I). In Press]

9. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar, Trichinopoly.

(a) Wrote the following papers:

- (1) The Sakta Cult in the South;
- (2) The Skandu Cult in the South;

- (3) Vaikhanasas [Nos. 1—3 contributed to the Heritage of India—revised edition—to be published by the Sri Rama Krishna Institute of Culture, Calcutta];
- (4) Avur—a Missionary Centre—Its Vicissitudes [contributed to the Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari Sixty-first Commemoration Volume. It is based on the letters of the Madura Mission, some original records of Pudukkottai and Church records];
- (5) A Maratha Heaven? in the Administrative and Political History of Pudukkottai (contributed to the Mm. Prof. D. V. Potdar, Sixty-first Birthday Commemoration Volume).

(b) Completed the chapter on the Cultural History of South India—16th and 17th Centuries for the Indian History Congress, (History Volumes.)

10. A. C. Banerjee, Calcutta.

Engaged in work on British Relations with the Rajput States from 1790 to 1818. One book on the same subject was already in the Press.

11. Bool Chand, Delhi.

(a) Wrote the following papers:

- (1) Discretionary Powers of Government (Revue Internationale des Sciences Administratives, Bruxelles).
- (2) International Civil Service (Foreign Review, Delhi);
- (3) Unesco and India (March of India, Delhi);
- (4) Group Prejudices, their Remedy (contributed for the Symposium Volume on Group Prejudices to be published from Bombay);
- (5) Lord Mahavira, His Life and Teachings (published by the Jain Cultural Research Society, Banaras).

(b) Engaged in writing a book on the Administrative History of India for the I.A.S. Training School.

12. P. C. Gupta, Calcutta.

(a) Completed one volume of the History of Indian Armed Forces in World War II [to be published by the Government of India].

(b) At present engaged in editing Volume XIII of the Fort-William India House Correspondence.

13. B. A. Saletore, Ahmedabad.

(a) Engaged in the preparation of the following books:—

- (1) Fort William-India House Correspondance, Vol. IX (1782-1785);

(2) The Antiquity of Konkani Language.

(b) Wrote the following papers:—

- (1) The Beginnings of Bombay (contributed to the Bombay University Journal);
- (2) Loyalty and Life (Liberator, Madras, 1950);
- (3) The Beryl through the Ages (Sunday News, 1950); and
- (4) Fundamental Rights (Indian Listener, 1949).

14. K. C. Panigrahi, Bhuvaneshvar.

(a) Wrote the following articles:—

- (1) The British Conquest of Orissa (Journal of the Kalinga Historical Research Society);
- (2) The Temple Town of Bhuvaneshvar and its Environs (Orissa Review, Orissa Monuments Special);
- (3) The Temple of the Sun at Konarka (Orissa Review, Monuments Special);
- (4) Decorative Female Figures of the Orissan Temples (Eastern Times);
- (5) Date of Parasuramaswara Temple (Journal of the RASB);
- (6) Ancient Geography of Bhuvaneshvar (Amrita Bazar Patrika);
- (7) Problem of Archaeology in Free India (Amrita Bazar Patrika and some other Journals);
- (8) Discovery of Asokan Pillar at Bhuvaneshvar (Amrita Bazar Patrika and some other newspapers);
- (9) Identification of Katatavi and Viraguna of Ramcharita (Cuttack session of the Indian History Congress);
- (10) New Role of the Indian Languages (Progress);
- (11) New light on the Early History of Bhuvaneshvara (contributed to the Journal of the RASB);
- (12) Published five more articles on History and Archaeology in Oriya.

(b) Prepared a book on Chronology of the Temples and Sculptures at Bhuvaneshvara completed in ten chapters.

15. D. C. Ganguly, Calcutta.

Engaged in the preparation of a book which will contain the copies of all the historical records in the Victoria Memorial Hall in the form of letters, despatches, farmans, treaties, etc. for publication with necessary introduction.

16. L. P. Pandeya, Bilaspur.

Has discovered in private possession of some person 12 important letters written by Mudhoji Bhonsle of Nagpur to the learned Shastries and officials residing at Ratanpur, the old Capital of Chhatisgarh Subha. These letters were written in 1815 A.D. in Modi script and bear the seal of Mudhoji.

Examined the following manuscripts:—

- (i) One patta dated Vikram Samvat 1893 (1836, A.D.) found at Sersiwa Village (District Ranpur) issued by Chauhan Maharaja Sri Narayan Singh Deo in Devnagri script and Hindi language.
- (ii) Two manuscripts in Hindi and Sanskrit script regarding Hindi religious and philosophical poetry.
- (iii) Four Chinese copper coins unearthed at Balpur on the Mahanadi in Bilaspur District. These have been sent to Dr. V. S. Agrawalla for examination.

17. T. S. Shejwalkar, Poona.

(a) Studied two bundles of Family Papers—one from the bundle Kher family of Bavdhan in the Satara district and the other from the Hadap family who were official worshippers of the Goddess Bhavani at Pratapgad. The first was useful in correcting the genealogy of the Saugor and the humble activities of the lesser members of the junior branches. The Pratapgad papers show the relations of worshippers with the two branches of the Chhatrapati family and other Maratha Sardars who were devotees of the Goddess.

(b) Studied records of Ratnagiri and Kolaba Districts for the basis of the population statistics with reference to the material available in the Jamav Section of the Peshwa Daftar.

(c) Wrote the following papers:—

- (1) Materials for Population Estimates in the Peshwa Daftar (IHRC Procs, Vol. XXVI).
- (2) A Note criticising the Paper on Ayya Shastri by Professor C. S. Srinivasachari [Read as a Supplement to the paper above during discussion at IHRC Session, Cuttack, 1949 (not printed)];
- (3) Valluputtam—its location (IHC, Cuttack, 1949);
- (4) Maharashtra on the eve of Muslim Conquest (All India Oriental Conference, Bombay, 1949);
- (5) Why Karnataka Passed out of Maratha hands (C. S. Srinivasachari Commemoration Volume);
- (6) Early Life of Naro Vishnu Apte (Mm. D. V. Potdar Commemoration Volume).

(d) Visited Shishupalgad in Orissa and Purandhar and Jadhav-wadi in the Poona District with a view to studying the evolution of Forts and their military architecture.

18. G. L. Chopra, Simla.

Edited the following:—

- (a) Press List of Old Records in the Punjab Civil Secretariat from 1856 to 1880, Ambala Division Vols. I and II.
- (b) The Correspondence of Wade Relating to Lahore Darbar by Dr. R. R. Sethi;
- (c) An Historical Interpretation of Clerk's Correspondence by Dr. Indra Krishan; and
- (d) The Punjab under Lawrences (1846—1858) by Dr. N. M. Khilnani.

19. A. L. Srivastava, Agra.

(a) Wrote the following book:

Sher Shah and his Successors (1950).

(b) Inspected Records in the Collectorate at Agra and prepared a list of the documents therein.

(c) Engaged in guiding six Ph.D. workers of the Agra, Punjab and Rajasthan Universities.

20. S. N. Dhar, Indore.

Wrote a book entitled "Europe between the Two World Wars, 1918—1939", based on original material.

21. S. R. Kohli, Sangrur.

(a) Prepared an annotated edition of *Fateh Nama Guru Khalsa Ji Ka*, being a series of three ballads in mixed old Hindi and Punjabi languages written Gurmukhi script. The writer of the ballads is one Ganes Dass who appears to be some way connected with the Court of Maharaja Ranjit Singh and was probably an eye-witness of the events. These ballads relate to three decisive victories scored by the Sikhs over the Pathans. A paper on the subject has been contributed to the Nagpur Session of the Commission. [To be published by the Punjabi Department of the Government of Patiala and E.P. States Union.]

(b) Engaged in preparing an annotated edition of the *Parwana-Jat* or official orders issued by the Court of Maharaja Ranjit Singh to Sardar Tej Singh, Officer Commanding the Air Troops (troops organised on European model) of the Maharaja. These are 461 in number and extend over the period from the 14th November 1833 to 21st December 1834 and cover a wide range of the subject. When

read together, these official documents present a faithful picture of how the day to day administration at the Court of Lahore was conducted.

22. S. N. Das Gupta, Lucknow.

(a) Wrote the following articles:—

- (1) The Relation of the Paramaras of Malwa with Neighbouring States and the South during the Tenth and Eleventh Centuries (The Journal of the U.P. Historical Society, January, 1932);
- (2) An attempt at a Genealogy of the Paramaras of Malwa (Ibid, January 1933);
- (3) Culture and Civilisation of Malwa under the Paramaras (Ibid, July 1935);
- (4) Lord Minto's Expedition to Java, 1811 (Ibid, December 1939);
- (5) The Revolt of Tilok Chand of Burdwan 1760;
- (6) The English East India Company's Quest for Settlements in the Eastern Archipelago in the middle eighteenth century and the Foundation of Penang (IHC, December 1939);
- (7) Crime and Punishment in Bengal in middle eighteenth Century (based on Long's Selections, Modern History Journal, Lucknow, December, 1939);
- (8) The Moncton Embassy to Quedah 1772 (The Journal of U.P. Historical Society, July 1940);
- (9) The Acquisition of Banca (January 1941);
- (10) Proceedings Relative to a Settlement on the Andamans (Jaipur Session of the IHRC, 1947);
- (11) A memoir on Penang;
- (12) The Expedition to Manilla 1797;
- (13) The Revolt of the 15th Midnapore Battalion 1795 (IHC, Delhi, 1948);
- (14) The Treaty with Banjarmassin, 1812 (IHRC, Cuttack Session, 1949);
- (15) Raffles and Japan (IHC, Cuttack, 1949).

(b) Published the following books:—

- (1) The British in the Malay Indies,
- (2) British Beginnings in Malay Indies, 1772—1824.

APPENDIX J

INSPECTION REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ON THE CENTRAL AND/OR STATE GOVERNMENT RECORDS IN THE CUSTODY OF WEST BENGAL, BOMBAY, ASSAM, AND BHOPAL GOVERNMENTS AND IN THE CUTTACK BOARD OF REVENUE, CUTTACK.

West Bengal Central Record Office, March 1948.

At the instance of the Indian Historical Records Commission the Government of India decided to keep themselves informed about the condition of storage and preservation of Central as well as H. E. the Crown representative's (now defunct) records in provincial custody. Accordingly the Director of Archives, Government of India was instructed to inspect and report on the above mentioned records located in different parts of India once every three years and the decision was duly communicated to the provincial authorities and the Residents concerned. In 1946-47 the Central records in Bihar and U.P. as well as the record rooms of the Chief Commissioner, Ajmer Marwara and Hon'ble the Resident, Central Indian States (at Indore) were inspected. It was intended that the Central Government records in the custody of the Governments of West Bengal and Assam should be inspected during the current financial year (1947-48). But this plan could not be fully implemented mainly for lack of necessary funds and lack of time due to urgent work in connection with the fact finding committee appointed at London regarding the disposal of the India Office Building and its contents.

I placed myself in communication with the two provincial governments but the answers of the Government of Assam did not arrive in time and my inspection tour had to be limited to West Bengal alone. I visited West Bengal Secretariat at Calcutta on the 15th March and found the former Crown records in the same corridor as in 1943. As I pointed out in my report No. F.15/43-C of the 30th April 1943, this corridor was most unsuitable for storing records but no action has been taken by the provincial government during the last five years to remove the defects pointed out by me. I was told by the Keeper of Records, Government of Bengal that all mending work had been suspended for lack of repairing materials in general and suitable adhesives in particular. The dusting and cleaning arrangements were also far from satisfactory.

On the 17th March I visited the provincial records office at Berhampore. Conditions there continue to be the same as in 1943 and although no perceptible signs of deterioration could be detected, old bundles and bound volumes that required mending must have suffered further since my last inspection owing to the suspension of

repairing work. In this connection I have to draw the attention of the Government of India to a very serious situation. After the partition of the province the Governments of West Bengal and East Pakistan agreed to partition the former provincial government's records on 50/50 basis. I am not called upon to comment on the wisdom of this decision but all records which legally form the property of the Government of India should have been excluded from the operation of this agreement. While all pre-1835 documents have been kept apart the Danish records were allotted to the share of East Pakistan and are now lying heaped on the ground floor of the building awaiting transfer to Dacca. All papers relating to defunct states belong to the Government of India and the Government of West Bengal are not competent to dispose of the Danish and Dutch records which fall under that category without the express consent of the Central Government. So far as I know the provincial government have not sought and the Central Government have not given the necessary permission. I therefore informally requested the Deputy Secretary, Home Department, Government of West Bengal not to transfer the Danish Records to Dacca until the concurrence of the Government of India is obtained. I am of opinion that Government of West Bengal should be immediately addressed on the subject and expressly forbidden to part with the Danish Records which are not theirs to give away.

The Government of West Bengal should also be requested to remove the former Crown records to a suitable room and to provide for their dusting and mending. As there are only a few bundles of these records to attend to this should not offer any serious difficulty.

The Danish records should be at once restored to their former shelves and steps should be taken to provide for necessary repair. So long as the central and former crown records remain in provincial custody obviously for the convenience of the provinces concerned it is not practicable to make suitable arrangements for their preservation from the centre which may lead to unnecessary duplication of labour and expense.

*West Bengal Central Record Office at Berhampore and Calcutta,
November 1949*

Inspection Note, 1949.

Resolution I of the 25th session of the Indian Historical Records Commission required the Director of Archives, Government of India, to report on the state of the Dutch and Danish records now in the custody of the Governments of West Bengal and Madras, and that of the Tanjore Raj records at present located in the Tanjore Palace buildings in Tanjore. I could make time only to inspect the Dutch and Danish records in West Bengal which I did on the 18th November 1949. I also took this opportunity to have a look at the other Central Government records in the custody of the Government of West Bengal.

I

1. "Dutch and Danish Records"

The so-called Dutch and Danish records, which also include some records in English and Bengali, are those which were sent over to Calcutta from the Judge's Court at Chinsurah. These consist, in the main, 15 bundles of Dutch pattas and 77 volumes of Danish records. A list of these records is given at the end—'A'.

The 15 bundles of Dutch pattas are located at present in a long central hall on the first floor of the Collectorate building in Berhampore, West Bengal. The room is well-lighted and fairly well-ventilated. The racks seem reasonably clean and naphthalene bricks are placed there at intervals to keep away insects. One undesirable feature that I noticed was that along the two sides of the hall are the record rooms of the Collectorate separated from the central hall by grilled windows. The Collectorate record rooms were dusty beyond measures and much of the dust there found its way through the windows into the central hall. The windows could not be kept closed for that would interfere with ventilation and lighting in the hall. Thus, unless the Collectorate record rooms are also kept spotlessly clean, the records kept in the central hall, too, would suffer from dust.

The bundles of Dutch pattas are bound between wooden boards as recommended, but they are stood upright on their ends instead of being laid flat. This has resulted in some damage to the edges of the papers which come in contact with the shelf and which bear the weight of the bundle. Obviously considerations of space have been responsible for this, and unless more space is found for the records nothing can be done. It would also be more desirable to

place the documents in smaller batches inside folders and then place the folders in carton boxes. Except for the above, the state of preservation generally of these records appears to be fairly satisfactory. There are some signs of affectation by borers, but how much of it is a legacy from the past and how much, if any, is a sign of fresh attack, I could not judge. In any event, it would be useful to fumigate the whole lot of records.

The 77 volumes of Danish records are located on two racks among shelves on the ground floor of the Faujdari building in Berhampore, where "Historical Records" of the Government of West Bengal are deposited. The muniment room in this building is fairly dry, but very ill-lighted and not too well-ventilated. Naphthalene bricks are also used here, but not regularly. At the foot of the uprights supporting the racks there are cups for putting in anti-termite mixture, and as a rule a mixture of phenyle and kerosene oil is put there. Dusting seems effective, but how regularly this is done could not be judged from my one-day inspection. If all the year round the place is kept as clean as I found it, it can be deemed satisfactory. The racks go up very high indeed, and in such cases, I fear, the topmost shelves which are far beyond one's reach while standing on the floor tend to get left out in the normal daily cleaning operations. Such height also makes bringing down the records from the top shelves and restoring them there risky operations both for the records and the operators.

These records are all bound volumes, but the bindings in many cases have worn out, some beyond repair. Rebinding the latter is the only course. Binding is done by the Government Press, Calcutta, and apparently it seemed good quality work. Pages which have become brittle or are torn have been repaired. Formerly the repair was done with chiffon, but that has now been abandoned, I was told, on the suggestion of Dr. Sen made in 1943. However, I do not find any such recommendation in Dr. Sen's report of 1943. At present damaged and weakened pages are repaired with Japanese tissue paper. Specimens of repair work which I saw were good though they could be better. The office maintains 16 repair men, all of them reported to be good, and some whom I met were undoubtedly expert draftsman. The Keeper (Mr. J. L. Majumdar) reported a shortage of repairing materials and of dextrine paste. Since then, the Deputy Secretary, Home Department, Government of West Bengal, asked the National Archives of India for the formula of dextrine paste which has been supplied to him.

2. *Other Central Government Records in the custody of Government of West Bengal.*

A. The other Central Government records which are in Berhampore (List appended—B1 and B2) are also in the Faujdari

and Collectorate building, and the same remarks as under para. are applicable to them.

The groups of records in List B2, viz. "Vernacular Records" consist of Persian, Bengali, Mixed Persian and Bengali, and mixed English, Persian and Bengali records. It will be seen that these records although strictly the property of the Central Government, are records of various Collectorates in Bengal, and since the functions of the Collectorate were transferred to the Government of Bengal at the time Bengal came to have a separate existence apart from the Government of India, these records also may deem to have been transferred to the Government of Bengal and now regarded as part of the holdings of the Government of West Bengal.

B. There is a body of Central Government records in the custody of the Government of West Bengal located at the Writers' Buildings in Calcutta. These go by the name of "State Papers" and consist of "all records concerning both States and the Indian Dominion, which cannot be split up and which are in the custody of the Provincial Government" (Government of West Bengal). These records were inspected by Dr. Sen in March 1948 when he found them in the same location and same condition as in 1943, both of which he had pointed out in 1943 (Report No. F. 15/43-C, dated the 30th April 1943) as being most undesirable. The same conditions prevail even now. The rules relating to consulting these records were revised recently and the revised rules are appended ("C").

II

Records of the Government of West Bengal.

Mr. D. M. Gupta, Deputy Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Home Department, also discussed with me some of the problems that his Government is facing about its own records. It seems the Government of West Bengal is keen on laying down a precise policy with regard to its records. It is a very healthy sign, and should certainly be pursued. Earlier a request had been made to the Director of Archives, Government of India, by Dr. D. M. Sen, Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Department of Education, for suggestions on organizing a Central record office for West Bengal. Dr. D. M. Sen had been provided with a detailed scheme including a plan for an archival building. I do not know what came of those suggestions given by my predecessor at a time I was myself out of India. However, I should like to make the following suggestions without reference to the earlier suggestions made by this office.

For a properly set up and run record office, the following things are necessary:—

- (i) a building properly planned and equipped;
- (ii) precisely defined functions; and
- (iii) trained staff and equipment.

The first and foremost requirement is, in my opinion, the provision of a suitable depository. Neither the Secretariat Record Rooms in the Writers' Buildings, nor the present buildings used for keeping records at Berhampore are suitable. Sooner or later the archives of West Bengal will have to be brought over for good to Calcutta, in the interests of both administration and scholarship. It would therefore be desirable to undertake the construction of a building specially planned for the purpose. A suitable area should be acquired in some suburb of Calcutta within easy reach of the city and as far away as possible from the factory areas and the river. An archivist should cooperate with the architect in designing the building. A tentative design can be supplied by the National Archives of India, if required, which may be expanded or modified as desired.

The second requirement is precisely defined functions. The primary function of a Government Central record office is to work as a service agency to all the departments of the Government. It should house all the non-current records of enduring interest of all the branches of the Government, keep them in order and bestow upon them the care and expert supervision which it may not be practicable for individual departments to do. Then the record office should serve the depositing departments by either supplying information out of the records or by supplying individual documents and files as and when required to do so. For this the record office needs proper storage space and equipments, a good staff headed by an energetic and discreet person, a good repair department and possibly a photo-duplication department with proper equipments. A nucleus already exists in West Bengal at Berhampore and this could be developed. So much about the primary functions. A derived function of the record office is service to scholars and private individuals who may require information based on records for research and reference. A third function should be advisory—viz. advising Government departments on the methods of maintaining their current records, appraisal with a view to eliminating materials of ephemeral interest and determining the time of transfer to the Central record office. It would be best if a legislation is passed defining records, the functions and powers of the record office, the obligation on the part of departments to transfer their non-current

records of continuing interest and the procedure of transfer. The ideal position is to make the Central Record Office an independent agency directly under the head of the State. If that is not found possible, it should be maintained as an office attached to the Home Department which has an overall authority over all the departments of the Government in the matter of determining procedure. The head of the record office should be a responsible officer of good status, sufficient to have direct access to the Home Secretary.

As to staff, it can be left to the head of the record office. At present the young men whom I found working in the record office at Berhampore as well as the older hands seemed keen and knowledgeable. Trained archivists are rare in India, and young and intelligent people who are interested in the work will have to be gradually trained up while in service.

This is, very briefly, an outline which I shall be glad to elaborate if required, or help the Government of West Bengal in any other way possible.

" A "

I. List of Dutch and Danish records including some English and Bengali records sent by the Judge's Court at Chinsura.

Number of item as given in the list furnished by the High Court	General description of record and year to which it relates
3	Register containing description of Estates of deceased persons, etc. from 30th December 1839 to 27th January, 1846.
6	Register containing decision of cases, from 1839 to 1841.
26	Register, from 5th April, 1793.
43	Notarial Papers, Protocols of 1792, 1793, 1794 and 1798.
44	Notarial Papers, Protocols, Volume 2, 1822, Volume 4, 1823, Volume 5, 1824, with two documents of ceding certain Danish possession to the British Government, dated 1st June, 1825 (La B) and 14th June 1825, respectively (La F).
45	Notarial Papers, Protocols of 1775 to 1776.
46	Record of 1733, Protocol.
46 (a)	Record of 1734.

Number of item as given in the list furnished by the High Court	General description of record and year to which it relates
47	Record of 1710, 1720 and 1721.
48	Record of 1760.
49	Protocols, 1775 to 1779, Jacob Eibrachts Protocols, 1772 to 1778.
50	Notarial Papers, Protocols, 1772 to 1774.
51 (a)	Judicial Records and accounts and documents of 1772, 1773, 1775, 1801, 1826, 1778 to 1799, 1827, 1838, 1833, 1829, 1838, 1839, 1840 to 1842, 1844 and 1845 documents of 1782 (relating to Estates under the orphan Chamber).
52	Notarial Papers, Protocols of 1746, 1748 and 1749.
53	Records and Extract and Register from 1818 to 1824 (Four parts).
54 (a)	Judicial deeds of transfer and mortgage of landed property from 1795.
54 (b)	Judicial deeds of transfer and other Judicial Records from 1800 to 1813.
54 (c)	Judicial deeds of transfer from 1806 to 1827.
54 (d)	Judicial deeds of transfer from 1787, 1804 to 1817.
54 (e)	Judicial deeds of transfer and other Judicial Records from 1808 to 1814.
54 (f)	Judicial deeds of transfer and other Judicial Records from 1781 to 1783.
54 (g)	Judicial deeds of mortgage, transfer of properties, etc. from 1775 to 1778.
54 (h)	Judicial deeds of mortgage, transfer of properties, etc., from 1797 to 1798.
55	Records (Protocols), etc., from 1761 to 1764, 1765, 1766, 1767 and 1768.
56	Notarial Papers, Protocols, 1770 and 1771.
57	Notarial Acts of John Muller 1801-1802-1804-1806-1808-1810-1811-1812-1813-1814-1818-1820.
58	Notarial Papers, Protocols, 1756-1757-1758-1759.
59	Notarial Papers, Protocols, 1743.
60	Register for 1825.
61	Judicial Records, 1740 and 1741.
62	Notarial Papers, Protocols 1731, 1732, 1735, 1738.
63	Notarial Papers, Protocols, 1750, 1752, 1753, 1754, 1755, 1758 and 1759.

Number of item as given in the list furnished by the High Court	General description of record and year to which it relates
64	Notarial Papers, Protocols, 1750, 1751, 1752, 1753, 1754, 1755.
65	Bound Book. Protocols.
66	Marriage and Baptism Register, 1772—1783.
67	Baptism Register, 1771—1822.
68	Marriage Register, 1782—1810.
69	Repertori, 1822—1824.
70	Register, Protocols, 1821.
71	Register, Protocols, 1822.
72	Register, Protocols, 1822.
73	Register, Protocols, 1821.
74	Register, Protocols, 1776 etc.
75	Register, Protocols, 1785—1791.
76	Register, Protocols, 1785.
77	Register, Protocols, 1791.
78-79	Woorden Book, 1773.
80	Ordonnantie Book Inkomsten.
81	Register, 1794.
82	Ordonnantie Book, 1795.
83	Principal Journal Groot Book, 1793.
84	Kas Rekeningder Residente of Chinsurah, 1813.
85	Principal Journal in Groot Book, 1792-1793.
86	Reckoning Register, 1794.
87	Reckoning Register, 1793.
91	Koompman's Hand-Book.
88-90, 92—97, 99—101 and 105	Printed Books—Dutch Protocol kept in six bundles.
98	Blank.
106	Various correspondence.

The papers or volume mentioned below could not be identified from the List sent by the High Court. The numbers corresponding to those given against each item are shown in pencil:—

(i) Klag Protocol, large and small Diwani Court Registers, sale Registers etc. 1793—1845. (Purely Danish Records)

D.R. Nos. 1—66.

(ii) Orphan Chamber papers.

- (iii) Letters to and from Mr. Herklots.
- (iv) Acquittance papers—Orphan Chamber, Hooghly, 1812—1825.
- (v) Diary of the Chinsura Court, 1892—1904, 1925.
- (vi) Miscellaneous papers.
- (vii) Insolvency cases in four bags.
- (viii) Court's miscellaneous papers, Chinsura in four bundles, 1800—1825.
- (ix) Papers of the Judicial Court at Chinsura, 1822—1825.
- (x) Deposition of witnesses before the Commission of the Court at Chinsura in the case A. T. Bogaardt, 11 June 1824 to 11 December 1824.
- (xi) Roll of Civil petitions to the Court at Chinsura, 4 January 1825 to 27th April 1825.
- (xii) Civil Roll of the Court at Chinsura from 10 April 1818 to 9 December 1818.
- (xiii) Criminal Roll of the Court at Chinsura from 19 March 1823 to 20 November 1824.
- (xiv) Sale Roll of the Orphan Chamber from 7 August 1810 to 14 February 1811.
- (xv) Monthly list of the decided cases by the Faujdari Court at Chinsura from February 1823 to February 1824 and February 1824 to May 1825 (Two Registers).
- (xvi) Civil Roll of the Court at Chinsura, 1819 to August 1822.
- (xvii) Suits of the European Court at Chinsura, April 1801.
- (xviii) Rough drafts of Judicial acts of the European Court at Chinsura from 17 July 1811 to 4 December 1814.
- (xix) Letters from Court at Chinsura from 30 September 1817 to 23 May 1822.
- (xx) Sale Book of the Court at Chinsura from 17 June 1805 to 10 March 1807.
- (xxi) Bundle No. 31 containing papers of the European Court of Justice at Chinsura, 1773—1824.
- (xxii) Bundle No. E.29 containing papers on the aforesaid subject, 1799—1818.
- (xxiii) One unbound register re: Pakhuis Book Vanden Jaaxc 1818.
- (xxiv) One unbound register re: Hoegly Soldy Journaal Anno 1794/5 (September 1794 to July 1795).

- (xxv) One unbound register re: a/c Pieter Levien. La. R R No. 1.
- (xxvi) One loose register containing records of the Sheriff of Fredericksnagar 1824—1831.
- (xxvii) No. D. 54A in red chalk on one bundle containing papers of European Court at Serampore from 1809 to 1810, 1844 and a list.
- (xxviii) No. D. 54C in red chalk on one bundle containing papers of the Court at Chinsura re: Gregory Catchic.
- (xxix) No. D. 54F in red chalk on one bundle containing papers of the Court at Chinsura re: estates of Pieter Levien, Gregory Catchic and others.
- (xxx) No. D. 54G in red chalk on several miscellaneous registers.
- (xxxi)—(xxxiii) There bundles worm-eaten and undeciphered.

II. List of English Records sent by the Judge's Court at Chinsura along with the Dutch and Danish Records.

- (a) One Vol. No. 32 re: Court of Justice at Chinsura. Book of sentences or decrees in causes decided by the European Court of Justice of aforesaid place.
- (b) One vol. No. 33 re: Book of sentences or decrees in causes decided by the European Court of Justice of Chinsura 1801.
- (c) One vol. No. 34 re: Register of suits 1820-21.
- (d) One vol. No. 35 regarding Draft letters and Index 1803 (or No. 7 re: Diwani letters sent from 1801 to 1803).
- (e) One vol. No. 36 re: Draft letters issued 1825 (or Chinsura, Letters sent, Commission).
- (f) One vol. No. 37 re: English letters received 1799—1802 (or No. 5 Diwani letters received by the Diwani Adalat of Zilla Hooghly dated 8 May 1799—30 April 1802).
- (g) One Proceedings vol. No. 38 re: English correspondence 1782. Chinsura dated 8 January 1782 to 23 December 1782 (Incomplete).
- (h) One unbound register No. 39 Account Book 1834 re: Orphan Chambers. (20 Orphan Chamber 1834 Account Book No. 4).
- (i) One unbound register (22) re: copies of documents belonging to Howrah concern 1835 (Worm-eaten).
- (j) One loose register re: transport from 1815—1823.

(k) No. D. 54E in red chalk on one bundle containing papers of the European Court of Justice at Chinsura re: Gregory Catchic.

(l) Register of Dutch Records in charge of the Registrar and Secretary. Received the 13th, 14th, and 16th of July 1825.

III. List of Bengali records sent by the Judge's Court at Chinsura along with the Dutch and other records.

(I) Registers of deals in Bengali with the Registrar's remarks in English from 22 March 1833 to 30 September 1845 including an Index volume in English from 1829 to 1845. D. R. Nos. 67—75 (Nine volumes kept in four packets.)

(II) No. D. 54B in red chalk on one bundle containing deeds of lands, 1828—1844.

" B "

Central Government records in Berhampur (up to 1834).

(I)

1. The Select Committee (1756—1762) Incomplete Progs. Vol. January—November 1758 1 Vol.
2. Select Committee—1765—1774. January 1766—December 1770 4 Vols.
3. Comptrolling Committee of Revenue 1771-1772 5 bundles & 5 Vols.
4. Committee of Circuit 1772-1773 2 bundles & 11 Vols.
5. President and Council of Revenue or the Revenue Board of the whole Council 1772—1774 23 bundles 19 Vols.
6. Revenue Department 1775—1815 455 bundles 691 Vols.
 - (a) Revenue—Sayer 1790—1805 7 bundles & 16 Vols.
 - (b) Revenue—Wards 1790—1805 3 bundles & 6 Vols.
 - (c) Revenue—Grain 1794—1803 2 bundles & 9 Vols.
 - (d) Revenue—Khalsa 1776—1780 1 bundle & 4 Vols.
 - (e) Revenue Proceedings 2 incomplete Vols.
7. Revenue Department, Government of India Tea Committee, 1839-1840 2 bundles.
8. Territorial Department (Revenue) 290 bundles 332 Vols.
1815—1834
9. Danish & Dutch Records 16 Bundles 75 Vols.

II

VERNACULAR RECORDS

Department.	Bar-rack.	Rack Shelf.	No. of bundles or volumes.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5

(i) PERSIAN RECORDS—

- (a) Sanads Parwanas Amil-Namas, Dastaks, Talab-Chittas, Bainamas, Pattas. Rev. Baze-aftilands resumed in Hoogli III 4 .. 32 vols.
- (b) Original and Copies of Sanads, Re-Rent free lands granted by Emperor Shah Alam and certain officers of Mughal Government & East India Co. III A .. 3 bundles.
- (c) Original Kabuliats and Kistibundies and Hakikat Bandobust—1765-93 III A .. 20 bundles.

(ii) BENGALI RECORDS—

- (a) Copies & abstracts of Hoogli-Collectorate papers III A .. 1 bundle.
- (b) Papers re: Mahisadal Zemindari III A .. 1 bundle.
- (c) Manzina-i-Dah-Sala & decimal settlement III A .. 18 bundles.
- (d) Manzina and Qist-Bandi papers of certain Parganas (transferred from Mymensingh Collectorate) III A .. 1 bundle.
- (e) Survey Records transferred from Chittagong Collectorate III A .. 1 bundle.

(iii) MIXED PERSIAN AND BENGALI RECORDS—

- (a) Copies re-Bainamas and Sanads. 1753-71 III A .. 3 vols.
- (b) Copies of Dastaks, Sanads and Parwanas, 1779-82. 23 Vols.
- (c) Copies of Parwanas and letters of the Board of Revenue 3 vols.
- (d) Copies of Kabuliats, Kist Bandis, Daul Bandobust, Manzina-i-Dah-Sala, Re-Settlement of various Districts of Bengal, Behar and Orissa and Miscellaneous papers and accounts of Lakharaj in Sandrip and Chittagong 2 vols.

(iv) ENGLISH, BENGALI AND PERSIAN REGISTERS—

- Relating to Baze-Zemin Dafter—95 93 plus 2 vols.

"C"

Amendment to Rules for the Management of the Secretariat Record Room.

The following should be substituted for Part XI

PART XI

Records relating to Indian States in the custody of the Provincial Government.

87. All records concerning both States and the Indian Dominion which cannot be split up and which are in the custody of the Provincial Government shall be kept in a separate place or room in the West Bengal Secretariat Record Department.

88. No one shall have any access to such records, save with the permission of the Secretary, Home Department, or the Officer who may be in charge of the Provincial Record Office.

89. Any requisition for these records should be made on a printed form (as given in Appendix O, amended form) by departments of Government and should be addressed to the Keeper of Records. It should be signed by a gazetted officer and should state clearly the purpose for which the record is required.

90. The Keeper of Records shall submit such requisition together with the records concerned to the Secretary, Home Department, or the Officer who may be in charge of the Provincial Record Office for orders.

91. The Keeper of Records shall maintain a separate register of all records sent out to departments and shall bring to the notice of the Secretary, Home Department, all cases in which a record has not been returned within a period of one month and a half from the date of issue.

92. Rules 87-91 above will apply *mutatis mutandis* to the unseparated records of the Judicial and Revenue Departments.

93. Any records relating exclusively to an Indian State that may be found in course of daily work should be separated and transferred to the authority concerned in consultation with the Ministry of States, Government of India.

"D"

(AMENDED FORM)

Requisition slip for records relating to the Indian Dominion and the Indian States deposited in the West Bengal Secretariat Record Department.

To: The KEEPER OF RECORDS, West Bengal Secretariat Record Department.

Please furnish the Department with the following record:—

DESCRIPTION OF RECORDS

File No.....of.....

Proceedings No.....

Month.....

Year.....

Subject.....

Purpose for which required, together with the file No. or Diary Entry No. of the letter with which to be put up—

Signature of the
Requisitioning Officer.

Under Secretary, Assistant Secy.
or Registrar.

Date—

The record is placed below. Submitted to Secretary, Home Department/Officer-in-Charge of the Provincial Record Office, for orders and for return to the Keeper of Records.

Keeper of the Record.

The record should/should not be supplied.

Secretary, Home Department/Officer-in-
Charge of the Provincial Record Office.

Additional note on Director of Archives' inspection report on the Central Government records in the custody of the Government of West Bengal.

The West Bengal Government informed that action was being taken by them, as far as possible, on the suggestions made by the Director of Archives in his inspection note. On account of lack of adequate accommodation, it had not been possible for the State Government to keep the records at Berhampore in a more up-to-date and scientific manner. These records were intended to be brought back to Calcutta when a building under construction was completed. The question of reorganising the existing Record Room was also receiving the attention of the Government.

2. As regards the proposed division of historical records, including those of the Government of India between the Government of East Bengal and West Bengal, it has been decided that the matter should be placed before the next Indo-Pakistan Conference for decision.

Bombay Secretariat Record Office, May 1949.

Although the Government of Bombay felt that the twenty-third May would not be suitable for the inspection of the Central Records in their custody (*vide* telegram No. 920-A, dated the 18th May) I accidentally met Dr. P. M. Joshi, Director of Archives, Bombay, at

the Poona Railway Station, and he invited me to have a look at those records on that very day, if it suited my convenience. I accordingly proceeded to the Bombay Secretariat Records Office, which occupies the back portion of the Elphinstone College Building.

There are 142 bound volumes of mixed records in the custody of the Government of Bombay. The steel racks on which they are kept are well-designed, but could now do with fresh enamelling. The volumes were bound by the Government of Bombay Press in the ordinary way, but the old papers have been stitched through and the adhesive has been, in some cases, so carelessly applied that pages have got stuck together. Any attempt to separate them now may result in damage to either or both of the pages affected. Some of the volumes were found unusually dusty and some of them bear unmistakable signs of fixing caused by humidity. It appears that at present there is no arrangement for fumigation which alone can put a stop to further deterioration due to bad monsoon months. I brought these facts to the notice of Dr. P. M. Joshi, and he promised to attend to them. The Records Office has been newly organised, and naturally all the necessary equipments are not available. The Government, I was told, will soon find the requisite appliances and I have no doubt that the shortcomings noted above will soon be removed.

Assam Secretariat Record Office (Shillong), November 1949.

1. In accordance with the requirements of Resolution III of the 22nd session of the Indian Historical Records Commission approved by the Government of India in the late Department of Education letter No. F.92-53/45-E.I., dated the 7th June 1946, I visited the record rooms of the Government of Assam in Shillong in November 1949 for inspecting the storage conditions and state of preservation of the records of the Central Government which are in the custody of the Government of Assam. The Record Rooms were visited by my predecessor in 1943 with a view to examining into their vulnerability to enemy action, Assam being one of the directly threatened areas. The storage conditions as seen by Dr. Sen in 1943 have remained practically the same except for the fact that subsequent accumulations of records have caused greater pressure on the available space. The bundles which were too bulky in 1943 have been remade into smaller ones as recommended by Dr. Sen. The records are apparently in a fair state of preservation and their dusting seemed to be effective. Some volumes of original treaties which were in a particularly bad state of preservation have been

repaired at the National Archives of India and they are now kept in an almirah in the Government House in charge of the Military Secretary to the Governor. One of the volumes kept there is an outsized one, and the almirah not being deep enough, the volume instead of being kept flat has been kept propped against the wall of the almirah at a slant resulting in the whole volume acquiring a curve. Hardly any provision exists in Shillong for the repair of records, and many documents which need attention have not received any. I fear greater and more rapid deterioration unless early steps are taken to arrest the process.

2. The Central Government records in Shillong consist of the following:—

- (1) Manipur Agency records from 1874 to date (including about 400 volumes of mixed records of the earlier years);
- (2) Khasi State records—1874 to date;
- (3) Records relating to Tribal areas—1874 to date;
- (4) Records relating to the Assam Rifles—1874 to date;
- (5) Miscellaneous, 1874 to date—(include records relating to Honours and Titles, Warrants of Precedence, Darbars, etc.).

In 1943, the bulk of these records (up to 1936) came to about 400 volumes and 200 bundles. The rate of annual accretion was said to be about 1,000 files, i.e. about 20 cu. ft. Thus since 1943, nearly 250 cu. ft. of records have been added filling up the space allotted in the Assam Record Rooms to the Central Government records. I was informed that the Tribal area and Assam Rifles records were intended to be shifted to another building, which, if done, would afford some temporary relief. However, it may be safe to presume that no such transfer is likely to be effected in the immediate future. Provision of more and suitable space therefore seems one of the urgent needs for the Central Government records in Assam.

3. There has been some change in the administration of these records. Formerly (since April 1937) these records used to be in charge of the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, the latter administering these areas as the representative of His Excellency the late Crown Representative up to 15 August 1947 and since then as the agent of the Central Government. This function His Excellency continued to perform till 15 October 1949 when it

was transferred to the Adviser*, that office having been created in 1943. Thus the records under review are now in charge of the Adviser to His Excellency the Governor except for the few volumes in the Government House to which reference has already been made.

4. These records are fairly frequently used by the Adviser. I was told that about 50 per cent. were being consulted in a year, the daily requisitions running between 10 and 15. Accessions are regular and indexes exist.

5. I feel, however, that the security measures did not seem to be very effective, and I should recommend special care for the boundary records and those related to establishment of defence outposts. The interest of the Government of Pakistan in these records would be obvious, and it would not be surprising if some of these records are at some time found to be missing. Although no losses were reported to me, none could say with certainty that nothing had been lost. Perhaps a detailed check up of these records and immediate adoption of effective security measures would be worth considering.

6. To sum up: So far as the Central Government's records in the custody of Assam Government are concerned, (1) provision should be made for more space which should be at least as good as that given to the existing body of records; (2) a small repair and rehabilitation shop should be immediately set up; (3) the records relating to boundary and defence outpost establishments should be immediately checked up with a view to locating any recent losses; and (4) effective security measures should be immediately adopted. Perhaps all these steps could be better taken had there existed a properly organized record office of the Government of Assam which, in any case, is a desideratum.

Central Record Office (Daftar-e-Kul), Bhopal, November 1949

On invitation from the Chief Commissioner, Bhopal, I visited the Bhopal Central Record Office (Daftar-e-Kul) on October 22 and 23, 1949, and saw the storage conditions and administration of the records deposited there with a view to evaluating them and suggesting the future course to be followed by the new Bhopal administration in regard to the records.

*The Adviser has the added function of administering the "Excluded Areas" for which he originally reported to His Excellency the Governor but now reports to the Governor and the Premier. This is no concern of the Government of India and the records relating to the "Excluded Areas" although in charge of the Adviser, are not those of the Government of India.

1. *History.*—The Bhopal Central Record Office was established in 1271 A. H. (1862 A.D.) by order of the then ruler Nawab Sikandar Begum (1819-37 and 1844-68). She is acknowledged on all hands to have been an admirable administrator and one of the ablest Bhopal has had. She took personal interest in agrarian and commercial matters as well as in the finances, currency, armed forces, and law and order in her territory. This interest inevitably brought her in close contact with the records of the State which were found to be not very satisfactorily maintained.

In fact, although the State came into existence in early 18th century, to-day little is known of its earlier records. Since satisfactory administration was found to be impracticable in the absence of records, Nawab Sikandar Begum ordered that all records of the State, whether of the departments at the headquarters or of offices and Courts in the mofussil should be transferred, as soon as they became non-current, to one central depository at Bhopal called the Daftar-e-Kul (Office of Offices). There they were to be maintained in their proper order and under the best physical care possible, the transferring departments being permitted to take on loan any records so transferred if required for administrative purposes. This order was given effect to in 1862 when the Daftar-e-Kul was established. Perhaps in 1868, after the death of Sikandar Begum, the Record Office was transferred to the palace hitherto occupied by the Begam, and it has been there ever since.

II. *Location and Building.*—The old palace where the Record Office is located is situated on the big lake (Bara Talab) in the city of Bhopal and is a quaint old building seemingly designed more for baffling unauthorised intruders than for any other purpose. It is a stone structure, multi-storied, but having been built-in, so to say, on a sloping hillside which rises fairly steeply by the lake, the ground floor in different sections of the palace are at different levels. Thus the ground floor of the side of the main entrance is on the same level as the second floor of the wing on the lake-side. There are innumerable terraces, again at different levels, alleyways, corridors and verandahs, among which are strewn about nearly 150 rooms without any semblance of plan or symmetry. The rooms vary greatly in size ranging 10'×10' to 60'×15'. It is a veritable maze in which a newcomer can get lost very easily. All the space in the building is not at the disposal of the Record Office; one portion of it is held by a private individual and another portion has been given over to a colony of sweepers for residence—in all about a quarter of the available space is thus held by others.

It can be said straightaway that the building is in more ways than one unsuitable for the storage of records. In the first place, a huge sprawling place like this palace where the rooms are located

any where and any how and where the passages and approaches were not planned with a view to facilitating journeying from one part of the building to another, would need a large troop of people to guard the records, service them and to keep the place clean, which would be far beyond the means of the government of a territory of the size of Bhopal.

Secondly, the rooms in the building are low, about 9 or 10 feet, mostly windowless, and once the doors are closed, there is no way for fresh air or light to go into the rooms. Bhopal is a damp place for the greater part of the year and this building in particular, being situated right on the lake, is damp all the year round. Absence of air circulation and light have made the rooms musty and damp making them totally unfit as record repositories. With many of the rooms on the upper floors there is no verandah, thus freely admitting sprays of water during the rains. The ground floors are excessively damp and the court-yards, of which there are several, are full of rank vegetation and pools of water (including one stone tank). On top of this the sweepers residing in their colony, which occupies part of the building, add filth in abundance. They also light open fires during winter and have fireworks during festivals, all in the immediate neighbourhood of rooms containing records placed on wooden racks, thus creating the worst conditions of fire hazard. Also in an old insanitary building like this vermins abound which include termites, rats, mice and bats. The record office has an annexe, a part of the present Secretariat, on another side of the lake. These are somewhat away from water and constitute a long line of rooms, on moderately high plinth with a running verandah alongside. These rooms are more dry and comparatively more pleasant.

III. *The Records.*—(a) *General.*—The records in the Daftar-e-Kul date back only to 1862, the year of the establishment of the office. Neither the Officer in Charge (at present the Director of Archaeology and Libraries) nor the oldest members of the staff could give any information as to what happened to the earlier records. As far as it was possible to see and as a result of questioning the staff, it seemed that non-current records from all departments of the Bhopal Government (Nawab-Shahi) from 1862 are in the Daftar-e-Kul in unbroken series. No one could recollect any large scale loss of records by flood or fire or such calamity, but files have undoubtedly been destroyed by vermins or otherwise lost. The earlier of the records are mixed up, i.e. not divided into separate departmental records, but this only reflects the structure of the administration which was more comprehensive than departmentalized to start with.

As the different departments grew up as separate entities, their records also took shape as belonging to different provenance. Finally the following groups of records are to be found there:

1. Political.
2. Home.
3. Army.
4. Law and Justice.
5. Revenue.
6. Finance.
7. Agriculture.
8. Education.
9. H. H.'s staff.

(b) *Volume.*—Together these records constitute a fairly large volume comprised of (approximately) 33,000 *bastas*, 16,16,000 files, and 3,79,000 registers (bound). In addition there are about 3,500 volumes of books in the Daftar-e-Kul, but they do not belong among the records proper, and it is proposed to transfer them to the State Library. The *bastas* are approximately 18"×12"×8 each.

The records are mainly in Urdu, though English and some other languages can be found used occasionally, especially among letters received from outside and copies of some of their replies. There are besides written records, a large volume of revenue survey maps and maps of other types. There are no photographs or films or sound recordings. The older records are on good quality of paper and written with good quality of ink; the later records, however, are on poorer quality of paper and the ink is in many cases washable.

(c) *Contents and Value.*—The informational contents of the records can be deduced from their provenance—they cover the entire field of the political, administrative, economic and social history of the State of Bhopal. Like non-current records everywhere else, the records in the Bhopal Daftar-e-Kul are also required from time to time for administrative purposes, more so because the mofussil offices and Courts do not keep copies of their records after the originals are transferred to the Central repository, but only indexes. I was told that requisitions are made on the central record office from administrative offices to the tune of 15 to 20 per day, i.e. over 6,000 per year. The research value of these records is obvious, and although they are not formally open for research, I was told that any genuine scholar willing to study the records for research would be given facility to do so on application to the Officer in Charge of the central record office. No non-official scholar seems to have

availed of this opportunity perhaps because its existence is not sufficiently widely known. The formal rules deny such research facilities to private scholars.

(d) *Administration*.—The administration of the records in the Daftar-e-Kul is carried on according to specific rules laid down by the head of the administration. These rules were revised from time to time, and the latest rules operating under the Nawabshahi regime were framed in 1926 and promulgated by the order of Nawab Sultan Jahan Begam. A translation of the 1926 rules (original in Urdu) is given at the end of this report (pp. 150-62). They are worth reading as they show a clear grasp by the draftsmen of the nature and problem of records. According to these rules "records" are defined, as also such terms as "completion of records" and "authorized officers". Specific procedures are also laid down for transfer of records to the central repository, including steps to be taken in cases of non-transfer as required, inspection and checking by the record office staff of records at the time of transfer, removal of documents on requisition by authorized officers, returning loaned out records to the Central repository and steps to be taken in cases of non-return within the specified time. A rule lays down: "When any document is sent from the Central Records Office it will not be permissible to make any alteration in it or to write anything thereon or to give a copy of it to any person. After a document has been deposited in the Central Record Office, no one except the Keeper of that Office is authorized to allow a copy of it to be issued." This is aimed at ensuring the authenticity of the records for purposes of their admissibility as legal evidence.

Rules are also laid down for the inspection and obtaining of copies of records by others than officials. Court records are open for inspection to litigants, on application to the Keeper and in the presence of an official of the Central Record Office, it being not permitted to take notes during the inspection of anything except the heading of the file, its number and date. Other records are not open to public inspection, though copies may be supplied, at the Keeper's discretion, on furnishing the number and date of the file.

Certain simple rules regarding preservation of document in the Central repository are also laid down. They include the provision of racks of specified types, binding into volumes of records of enduring value, making authenticated copies of valuable records which are to be sent out on requisition instead of the originals to prevent wear and tear on the originals, prohibition of taking fire or combustible materials inside the record office, provision of rat traps, leaves of neem, phenyle balls, chemical rat killers and insecticides (not specified), liquid phenyle, etc.

After accession, the rules for arrangement are rigidly laid down. The first principle to be strictly followed is that records of different provenance are not to be mixed up. A different colour is allotted to each department, and the bundles are made in cloth so coloured. Nor is the original arrangement of records disturbed in the central record office. The bundles have clearly and boldly written labels on them with running serial numbers indicating the department, date, subject (or geographical area where applicable) and numbers of files in the bundle. Information contained on the labels has been consolidated into Indexes. These are the only finding mediums and are found to be adequate for administrative and legal purposes, these being the only calls on the records so far. The indexes for different departments, obviously, form separate series of volumes. In addition, each room containing records is numbered and has a signboard indicating the departments whose records it contains.

Weeding of records is done in the agency of origin in the first place. It is also done after transfer to the central record office according to specific instructions. The retention period of a file is determined by a committee consisting of an officer of the department concerned, the Keeper of the Central Record Office, and two other members appointed by the head of the administration, chosen for their interest in records and knowledge of history and administration. The last two can be either officials or non-officials. The committee meets at infrequent intervals, the last time a series of such committees met being in 1926. They go through the files and decide on the retention period of different types of records, similar to the General Disposal Schedules in the U.S. National Archives. The retention period is entered on each file according to this schedule at the time of recording the file before transfer to the CRO, and when the retention period is over, the file is re-examined by the Superintendent of the Central Record Office, kept for a further period of time if deemed necessary, or destroyed. The methods of destruction are laid down formally in the 1926 rules.

During the Nawab-shahi period, the State records were a direct concern of the Ruler, the Secretary, Home Department, acting on his (or her) behalf. (Since integration with the Indian Dominion records are the concern of the Assistant Chief Commissioner). The staff of the Central Record Office is headed by a Keeper (Rs. 200-300)* with a staff of clerks, chaprassis and orderlies. At present (October 1949) the post of Keeper is held by the Director of Archaeology and Libraries, there

* Comparative salaries of civil servants in Bhopal: Secretary of a Department —Rs. 800/-Head of a Department Rs.—800 (highest).

having been no separate Keeper for the last four years or so. There is a clerical staff of 15, of which some are Upper division (Salary Rs. 30-50) and the others lower division (Rs. 20-30), and one is a typist. There are about 8 or 9 chaprassies and orderlies. The total annual budget for the C.R.O. is at present in the neighbourhood of Rs. 12,000.

IV. *Storage Conditions; Repair facilities.*—Some idea of the storage conditions of the records will have been had from the description of the building. To recapitulate, the building is generally damp, ill-ventilated and insufficiently lighted, among dirty and unsafe surroundings, with plenty of vermins. The rooms are fitted with wooden slatted racks going up to the roof, consisting of four or five shelves varying with the height of the room. The lowest shelf is about six inches above the floor and the top shelf is about a foot from the ceiling. The three lower shelves are high enough to accommodate three full *bastas* laid one on top of the other. The *bastas* are as a rule laid horizontally one above the other, but in certain rooms they are stacked vertically on their sides causing great damage to the edges. Of those kept horizontally the bottom ones also suffer because of the heavy weight on top. A ladder gives success to the two top shelves. The *bastas* are not always bound very carefully. Some of the rooms freely admit sprays of water during the rains. Some of the verandahs have fitted up with the racks where the records are exposed both to direct sunlight and rain. The records show obvious signs of all these adverse storage conditions.

There does not seem to be any arrangement for repairs except the occasional rebinding of bound volumes, but on its present budget even that is rarely done. I did not notice much use of insecticides or deterrants despite the official requirements for the same.

V. *Recommendations.*—The date of merger of Bhopal with the Indian Dominion may be taken as the cut off date for the records as wholesale administrative changes were initiated on that date affecting the character and provenance of the official records. All series of the State (Nawabshahi) records may be deemed to have closed on that date, and fresh series started for the new administration. This will mean the segregation of all Nawab-Shahi records which are still active and incorporating them in the new series, even though the former may date back before the merger. The closed records then, from the earliest ones down to the closing, may be called "Nawab Shahi Records" and the later records "Bhopal Records." The eventual position of the latter group (i.e. "Bhopal Records") will depend on the future administration of Bhopal, i.e.

if Bhopal remains a separate entity, the records will continue to have a separate entity, too; if on the other hand Bhopal becomes a district of a neighbouring province or of some States Union, then the Bhopal records will be on the same footing as other district or Union unit records, a part of the whole body of provincial or Union records.

The following recommendations are made with regard to the "Nawab-Shahi" records only. They are under the heads (1) Immediate requirements and (2) Long term policy. The recommendations are being made from the point of view of (a) arrangement and administration, and (b) preservation and repair.

(A) *Immediate requirements*—

1. The existing order and arrangement of the records should not be disturbed physically.
2. The provisions of the 1926 rules as far as applicable under the changed administration to be followed strictly.
3. Immediate steps should be taken to check damaged bindings and damaged papers, and arrangement made for their repair. A small repair shop should be set up with skilled binders and repairmen, and adequate provision of repairing material should be made. A responsible man may be sent to the National Archives of India to study repair methods there so that he can guide this work in Bhopal. Unskilled repair is apt to be more harmful to the records in the long run than no repair at all.
4. The whole body of records and books must be fumigated at once. For this a number of air-tight cabinets with grilled racks would be required. These will continue to serve for fumigating records in future also, and should be permanent equipments of the record office. Thymol and paradichlorobenzene can be used as fumigants.
5. Simultaneously with 3 and 4 above, steps should be taken to provide a more suitable building for housing the records. As would be evident from the remarks in Sections II and IV of the report, the physical health of the records is endangered by bad housing and storage conditions and lack of means of repair and rehabilitation. The best course, of course, would be to build an entirely new repository—a simple functional building—planned and intended for keeping the records. Archival buildings have a number of special features which are not required for ordinary buildings and which it is difficult to incorporate in an ordinary building after it has been constructed. (A plan for a small functional archival building can be supplied by the National Archives of India, if required).

However, it may not always be possible to construct a new building, and in that case an existing building may be converted for archival use. The essential requirements for such a building are:—

- (a) its location in a secure place away from fire hazards, dangers from flooding by water and secure against tampering by undesirable persons. The lesser the number of entrances and exits, the better. Yet it should not be dark and unventilated through lack of openings; on the contrary, it should be reasonably dry and well ventilated and should admit a sufficient amount of light to avoid eye strain on people working in the building. Measures should be taken to reduce to the minimum the dust menace. Air-conditioning and filtering the air against dust and gases would again be the ideal; failing that attempt should be made to maintain a uniform temperature around 70°F and uniform humidity of 50%. No direct sunlight should be allowed to fall on the records, and the glass panes in windows may with advantage be covered with yellow paper to cut off the injurious rays of the sun. The racks should preferably be of steel, failing which of good quality timber, though the latter requires a little extra looking after. The foot of the uprights of the racks should be fitted with large cups to be kept filled with creosote and paraffin or solignum to keep away white ants. The overall height of the racks should not be more than 5'4" so that even the top-most shelf can be easily reached by a person standing on the floor. If an existing building is refitted for this purpose, high ceilinged halls can be broken up into convenient tiers by fitting slatted gangways. The shelves should be high enough to keep two bundles, at the most, one on top of the other. Too high piling of bundles injures the lower ones which have to bear too great a weight. The bundles should be neatly remade so as not to be more than 8" thick, and they should be laid horizontally on the shelves. Provision should be made for their effective and regular dusting, for dust is one of the most abrasive agents for paper. Folded records should be unfolded without delay, flattened and kept in docket covers bound up in bundles. It would be better to make up bundles of unbound records by placing them between plywood or synthetic boards which would protrude at least half an inch beyond the records on all sides, and tied up with log line.

(B) Long Term Plan

1. The Record Office should be placed under a whole-time qualified and responsible officer (Keeper of Records). The qualifications of the officer should be:—

- (a) ability to read the language and script in which the records are written;
- (b) knowledge of the administration of the State;
- (c) knowledge of the administration of non-current records;
- (d) a background of historical and cultural studies;
- (e) practical knowledge of record repair methods; and
- (f) some knowledge of chemistry, insecticides, fumigants, etc.

He should be assisted by a group of Technical Assistants with more or less similar qualifications, one of them at least specialized in repair methods. There should be a sufficient number of dusting bearers, some clerks and typists, and guards.

2. Under the supervision of the Keeper of Records, the Technical Assistants should set about the following work:

- (a) prepare a detailed account of the administrative machinery in Bhopal from the earliest times to the present. This should show all organizational changes in the administration with exact dates, distribution of functions, manner of day to day business, types of records created and the system of filing the records, system of weeding of records. The names of the administrators should also be indicated with dates, if possible.
- (b) Inventory of all records, document by document. The inventory should have the following details:
Origin (i.e. department and its branch); date; file number; short subject; number of sheets; state of preservation.
- (c) A general handbook of the records giving an overall description of the body of records stating the administrative agencies which they belonged to, subjects dealt with, any losses, &c. This will be helpful for scholars who might wish to do research among the records.
- (d) Lay down specific rules for research scholars who wish to work among these records. It is presumed that the Bhopal administration would be prepared to throw open these records for *bona fide* research.

RULES OF CENTRAL RECORDS OFFICE BHOPAL STATE

Approved by Her Highness Nawab Sultan Jahan Begum, C.I.E., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., C.B.E.

(Printed at Sultani Press, Bhopal State, 1927)

Rules of Central Records Office Bhopal State.

Her Highness has promulgated the following rules for the Central Record Office to operate from the 31st May 1926. From this date all rules and instructions regarding preservation and destruction of documents and all such orders which are inconsistent with these rules will be deemed to have been annulled.

Chapter I.

Preliminary.

Explanations:—

1. In these rules except where otherwise indicated by context:—

(i) "Records" includes files, books, registers and maps.

(ii) "Completion of Records" will mean—

(a) In the case of files that every file bears the stamps for the full value of court fees and includes order for filing after final order or decision and that every file has its papers properly arranged and that each paper is duly signed where necessary by the officials and clerks concerned clearly indicating their office or rank;

(b) In case of account files (barring those relating to the personal office of Her Highness) the following rules over and above the directions given in para (ii) (a) above should also be observed:

First Each bill should be on the prescribed form.

Secondly each bill should be accompanied by its vouchers and detailed accounts, measurements, etc. and orders sanctioning the expenses and drawing of funds according to rules. Particular care should be taken to attach the payee's receipt for amounts remitted through the post office or through other means.

Thirdly each bill which is paid by cheque should have with it as its voucher the cancelled cheque returned from the treasury after payment.

Fourthly advances made should be accounted for and orders for it to be included in the vouchers.

Fifthly other requirements necessary under the procedure of accounting should be complied with.

(c) In case of registers every register should have necessary entries in each of its columns and should have at its end the order of the officer and clerks concerned with the indication of their office or rank for filing.

(iii) "Prerequisites of records" means that files should be wrapped into bundles in cloth of specified colours and securely tied with tape or string, and that registers should be bound.

Note 1.—A particular colour has been assigned to each department of the Government as detailed below. Every department should use the colour assigned to it for wrappers to cover its files and documents:—

Department	Colour
Political Department.	Light blue
Home Department	Yellow
Army Department	Grey (khaki)
Law and Justice Deptt.	Red
Revenue Department.	Green
Finance Department	Red
• Agriculture Department	Dark Green
Education Department	Greenish-yellow
Her Highness' staff	Light blue

Note 2.—Every wrapper should be at least one yard square made of some strong cloth such as thick lining cloth or thick *khaddar* or *garha*. Wrapper which is not square or is made of weak cloth will not be accepted.

(iv) "Authorised Officer" means an officer who is authorised under the rules to call for some or all papers of a particular department or of all departments. Such officers are named in the appendix to these rules.

2. *Payment of expenses for depositing documents.*—All expenses for the purchase of wrapping cloth and tapes and dyeing them as also the expenses of transportation for depositing in the Central Records Office should be met by the department concerned.

Chapter—II

Deposit of Documents.

3. *Period of retaining documents in the department and period within which they must be sent to the Central Records Office.*—Documents of Central Offices and Courts as well as of mufassil offices and courts can be retained in those offices and courts for a year after the year of final disposal. After the end of this one years' period the Central offices should deposit them in the Central Records Office within 15 days and the mufassil offices within one month, except in case in which the permission of the keeper of the Central Records Office is obtained on giving detailed reasons in writing for their further retention. Until transferred to the Central record office all completed (closed) files of a department or office should remain in the custody of the record keeper or some other official of the department concerned whose duty it is to keep current files and pending files.

4. *Despatch of documents to Central Records Office.*—In every office the official in whose custody the papers of that office are kept should make a written report on the records through its Superintendent (if any) to the head of the office in the month of August each year and obtain orders for their despatch to the Central Records Office, and after completing the papers, putting them in proper orders and wrapping in suitable covers should despatch them with the *chalan* according to the form specified in these rules within the period mentioned in Rule 3 above. The head of the office should see to it that the papers duly arranged and wrapped are sent to the Central Records Office within the specified period. The head of the office should carefully examine the entries in Column 10 of the *chalan* before signing the order. The documents should be sent to the Central Records Office with an official who can answer any enquiries made by the Central Records Office concerning these documents.

5. *Scrutiny of documents on their receipt in the Central Records Office.*—(i) On receipt of documents the clerks concerned of the Central Records Office should see that the documents are in order and properly wrapped and the entries in the *chalan* under Rule 4 above are correct. In case of any defect he should report to the Keeper of the Central Records Office.

(ii) Documents which are not properly arranged and wrapped will be returned from the Central Records Office and the expenses incurred thereby will be realised from the official whose duty is to put the papers in order.

6. *Presence of the official at the Central Records Office and issue of acknowledgement.*—(i) The date of reporting of the official who brings the documents to the Central Records Office will be intimated to the head of his office by the Central Records Office, and as a rule the visiting official's stay at the Central Records Office should not be beyond a week. This period may however be extended if necessary by order of the Keeper of the Central Records Office, but in no case should such an official be retained at the Central Records Office for more than a month and in every case of extension of the period of his stay the head of his office should be duly informed. If any official is absent from the Central Records Office within the required period without any reasonable cause he will not be entitled to the pay of the period of his absence. If the work is not finished within the sanctioned period due to negligence of the official the Keeper of the Central Records Office will engage a worker on payment to finish the work and the payment made to the latter will be realised from the salary of the defaulting official.

(ii) After the papers have been taken into custody by the Central Records Office, the official who brought them should be given a receipt for them signed by the Superintendent and head of the transferring office should be immediately informed by the Central Records Office. The official bringing the documents should report on duty to his office the day after obtaining the receipt of the Central Records Office in the case of Central Offices and within three days in the case of mufassil offices, otherwise he will be treated as absent and will not be entitled to his salary for the day or days of such absence.

7. *Procedure in case of non-receipt of documents in time.*—(i) The Keeper of the Central Records Office should see to it that documents from all offices are deposited in time.

(ii) If documents from any office are not deposited in time the salary of the official concerned in the department will be withheld till this is done. If, however, it is delayed for more than six months the Keeper of the Central Records Office will take over those documents and appoint workers on payment to put the documents in order and all expenses incurred in this connection will be deducted proportionately from the salaries of those officials who are responsible for negligence.

Chapter—III

Removal of Documents

8. *Restriction against removal of documents from the Central Records Office without permission.*—It will not be permissible for any official of the Central Records Office or any other person to take any document out of the premises of the Central Records Office unless

a written permission of the Keeper or Superintendent of the Central Records Office has been obtained for it.

9. Requisition of documents from the Central Records Office.—

(i) When any document from the Central Records Office is required the authorised officer should send the requisition to the Central Records Office giving full particulars of the documents required.

(ii) If a document belonging to one department is required by another department the requisition for such document should be sent through the head of the former department.

(iii) No document whose copy can be obtained and submitted under the rules can in any case be requisitioned from the Central Records Office on the application for its perusal.

10. Issue of documents from the Central Records Office.—When any document is requisitioned from the Central Records Office, it should be complied with according to the rules as soon as possible. If however the Keeper of the Central Records Office deems it inexpedient to issue any document he will record his reasons for this and send it to the department to which this document pertains and will act according to the decision of the department.

11. Alteration in the documents and taking their copies prohibited.—When any document is sent from the Central Records Office it will not be permissible to make any alteration in it or to write anything thereon and to give any copy of it to any person. After a document has been deposited in the Central Records Office no one except the Keeper of that office is authorised to allow a copy of it to be issued.

12. Returning documents to the Central Records Office.—(i) Any officer who obtains any document from the Central Records Office must return it as soon as it is done with. If it is not possible to return a document within a month the period after which it would be returned should be specified with reasons for its detention and intimated to the Central Records Office. The document should then be returned within the period so specified.

(ii) The Keeper of the Central Records Office should see to it that the documents requisitioned are returned within a month or within the period specified. If not so returned he should ask for it and if it is not returned within two weeks after this reminder or a further extension of period stating the reasons is not obtained the department of the Government concerned should be informed accordingly.

(iii) The official who requisitions a document from the Central Records Office will be responsible for its return to that office.

Chapter—IV

Inspection and copying of Documents

13. Inspection of judicial records.—If any one concerned with a law suit wishes to inspect documents connected with that suit and kept in the Central Records Office he shall submit a formal written application to this effect to the Keeper, Central Records Office. After the order of the Keeper has been obtained and the inspection fee realised the applicant will be allowed to inspect the document in the presence of an official of the Central Records Office. It will not be permissible at the time of such inspection to take any pencil or ink notes from the document except its heading and number and year.

14. Inspection of other documents.—Except for official purpose and under the order of the authorised official it will not be permissible to allow any one to inspect documents in custody of the Central Records Office, other than judicial records. If in case of these other documents their number and year is required for the purpose of obtaining any copy from them the official concerned of the Central Records Office, will on receipt of an application for inspection and deposit of inspection fee, himself inspect the document and supply the number and date to the applicant.

15. Copies of documents.—If a person wishes to obtain copy of any document from the Central Records Office he should apply for it in accordance with the rules. The Keeper of the Central Records Office, may refuse to supply such copy if in his opinion it is not permissible for some reasons. In case of doubt he should consult the department concerned.

Chapter—V

Preservation of Documents.

16. How the documents are to be kept.—(i) Files of each office together with the register of reference should be kept in one or more wrappers as necessary.

(ii) Files which are to be preserved for more than fifty years should be kept in stoutly bound volumes and if necessary some or all their pages may be typed or printed and kept in separate volumes which may be sent out on requisition from the Central Records Office instead of the original documents.

(iii) Files which are to be preserved for more than thirty years and less than fifty years should also be kept suitably bound.

(iv) Files which are to be preserved for 15 years or more but less than 20 years should be kept between stout card boards and bound with strong strap.

(v) It is not necessary to keep between card boards such files which are to be retained for less than 15 years.

(vi) No register of any kind which is not bound will be accepted in the Central Records Office nor will any unbound register be kept in that office.

17. *Keeping racks, shelves and boxes ready.*—Racks, shelves and boxes should be kept ready in the Central Records Office according to requirements for keeping the documents. For keeping valuable papers and files which are to be kept permanently, iron chests, fire proof almirahs or strong wooden boxes should be arranged for.

18. *Prohibition of taking fire or a combustible material in the Central Records Office.*—It will not be permissible for any employee of the Central Records Office or any one else to take fire or any combustible material inside the office or to smoke cigarette, huqqa, etc. within its premises.

19. *Sign boards for each room of the Central Records Office.*—Every room in the Central Records Office will have a sign board indicating which items of departmental documents are kept in that room.

20. *Notice at a prominent place in the Office.*—A notice in bold letters should be put up at a prominent place outside the office strictly prohibiting entry into without permission or taking fire or any combustible material in the record rooms.

21. *Preservation of documents from mice or white ants.*—It is the duty of the Superintendent of the Central Records Office to see that its employees are carrying out instructions for preservation of documents and to keep in stock the following material and chemicals according to the need.

(a) Rat traps of iron or wood which can catch rats and bandicoot rats.

(b) Leaves of neem or phenyle balls for keeping within the leaves of documents and in the wrappers.

(c) Powders or balls of such poisonous chemicals which may kill rats and insects etc. if they smell or eat them.

(d) Phenyle or any other chemicals which may be sprinkled to keep away or kill the insects or stop their breeding.

Chapter—VI

Weeding of Documents

22. *Determining period of the preservation of documents.*—The period of retention of documents will be counted from the 1st

October of the year prior to which order for their winding up and filing has been passed.

23. *How long will the documents be preserved.*—Documents of each office will be retained for the period which is specified for them. On the expiry of this period they will be destroyed by the order of the Superintendent, Central Records Office. No other office will carry out destruction of records.

24. *Order for weeding out.*—It is the duty of every clerk of the office of Central Records to prepare in July every year a list of such documents whose period of retention completes in the following September and to submit this list to the Superintendent, Central Records Office. The Superintendent will check the list by examining at least 10 % of the documents and will then submit it to the Keeper of Records in August. The Keeper will check the list by examining at least 5% of the documents and will order their destruction in September. The Keeper may however order retention of some documents for a further specified period if he deems it necessary.

25. *Destruction of Documents.*—(i) After the Keeper of Records has passed orders for destruction of documents it will be the duty of his subordinate officials to take out tags from all files and mix up their leaves within a month. They should also take out blank leaves and card boards from all books and registers. Confidential documents and stamps which are not required to be kept should be torn up. No file should be kept without taking out its tag and no book or register should be left without removing its binding.

(ii) All the wrappers, straps, tags, pins, etc. and blank leaves and card board which are so obtained must be preserved and deposited with the stationery stock of the Records Office after making entries in the stationery register. Other stuff found in weeding out should be sold out as waste paper by auction.

26. *Auction of waste paper.*—It is the duty of the Keeper of Records to fix a date for the auction of waste paper and advertise it in the Bhopal Gazette, also put up posters at prominent places. In fixing the date of auction it should be taken into consideration that sufficient time has been allowed for its publicity. The highest bid at the auction may be accepted, but it will be at the discretion of the Keeper to approve of the sale or reject it. The waste paper should be delivered to the purchaser on payment of full value. If the price is not paid in full within a week the waste paper will be re-auctioned and if in this second auction a lesser price is fetched the difference will be realised from the purchaser in the first auction in the same way as an arrear of Government revenue.

CHALAN (despatch note) of documents disposed

of in the Office.....

date.....month.....

year.

To the Keeper of the Central Records Office,
Bhopal Government.

1. Serial No.
2. Name of Department and number of wrappers.
3. Name of the official with whom the documents are sent.
4. Date of despatch documents from headquarters.
5. Year.
6. Year.
7. Number of wrappers.
8. Number of registers.
9. Number of files.
10. Endorsement of the head of the department.

I have examined the disposed of documents before despatch. These documents are quite in order and properly wrapped according to the rules of the Central Records Office. All the registers prepared by this office in the year are sent. No disposed of paper of the previous year for despatch to the Central Records Office is left in this office.

Signature of the official
concerned.

Signature of the head of the
department.

11. Details of such documents which have been retained for disposal and the period within which they will be despatched to the Central Records Office.

12. Result of the scrutiny of Central Records Office.
13. Date of return of the official mentioned in Column 3.
14. Remarks.

Number of documents
disposed of.

APPENDIX

The following officers of the Political Department are authorised to requisition the documents of the departments mentioned below from the Central Records Office:—

Name of the Officer	Name of Departments
Secy., Political Department	Documents of all departments connected with the Political Department.

The following officers of the Home Department are authorised to requisition documents of the department named below from the Central Records Office:—

Secretary, Home Department	Documents of all departments connected with Home Department.
State Surgeon	Documents of the office of the State Surgeon and its attached offices.
Afsarul Atibba (Head Physician)	Documents of the office of Afsarul Atibba and its attached offices.
Qazi of the State	Documents of the office of Qazi
Mufti of the State	Documents of the office of Ifta and its attached offices.
Director of Endowments	Documents of Waqf Office and its attached offices.
Executive Officer, Municipal	Documents of the Municipal Board, Bhopal and its attached offices.

The following officers of the Army Department are authorised to requisition documents of the departments named below from the Central Records Office:—

The Secretary, Army Department	Documents of all departments connected with the Army department.
The Officer Commanding, Bhopal Lancers	Documents relating to Bhopal Lancers.
The O. C., Sultania Pioneers	Documents relating to Sultania Pioneers, Wali-ahad's own Platoon, Transport and Highland Pioneers.

Name of the Officer	Name of Departments
Commanding Officer battery	Documents relating to Horse Battery and Military Hospital.
Commandant, Reg. Squadron	Documents relating to Reg. Squadron.
Q.M.G.	Documents relating to Stores Fatehgarh Fort Armoury Magazine, or Ordnance Depot

The following officers of the Department of Law and Justice are authorised to requisition documents of the departments and courts named below :

The Secretary, Department of Law and Justice.	Documents of all the offices connected with the Department of Law and Justice.
Registrar, High Court	Documents of High Court-Sessions.
District and Sessions Judge	Documents of Sessions Judges Courts and its subordinate courts.
District Magistrate including City Magistrate.	Documents of the District Magistrates Court and subordinate courts and Cattle Pond.
Inspector General of Police	Documents of all Police Offices
Superintendent, District Police . . .	Documents of the Office of the Superintendent of Police and its subordinate offices.
Director, C.I.D.	Documents of all C.I.D. Offices.
State Advocate	Documents of the office of the State Advocate.

The following officers of the Revenue Department are authorised to requisition documents of the departments named below :—

The Secretary, Revenue Department	Documents of all department and offices connected with Revenue Department.
Revenue Commissioner	Documents of the Court of Revenue Commissioner and subordinate courts.
Director of Land Records	Documents of all Land Record Offices.

Name of the Officer	Name of Departments
Registrar, Cooperative Societies	Documents of all offices of Co-operative Societies.
District Nazim (Collector)	Documents of Collectorate and subordinate offices and courts.
Tahsildar	Documents of Tahsil Office and subordinate offices.
Mohitamin Kishtwar	Documents of Kishtwar Office.
Manager, Court of Wards	Documents of Court of Wards Office.
Secretary, Bhopal Produce Trust	Documents of the Office of Secretary Produce Trust and attached offices.
Survey Officer	Survey records.
Chief Conservator	Documents of the office of Chief Conservator and attached offices.
Conservator	Documents of the office of Conservator and attached offices.
Forest Divisional Officer	Documents of the office of Forest Divisional Officer, and attached Offices.
Superintendent, Quarry	Documents of the office of Quarry.

The following officers of the Finance Department are authorised to requisition documents of the departments named below:—

The Secretary, Finance Deptt.	Documents of all departments connected with Finance department.
Director, Commerce & Industry	Documents of the Department of commerce and Industry and attached offices.
Chief Engineer and Secretary, P.W.D. . . .	Documents of the Office of Chief Engineer and Secretary, P. W. D. and attached offices.
Commissioner of Excise and Customs	Documents of the office of the Commissioner, Excise and Customs and attached offices.
Superintendent of the Palace Office	Documents of the Palace Office.

Name of the Officer

Name of Departments

The following officers of the Department of Agriculture are authorised to requisition documents of the departments named below:—

The Secretary, Deptt. of Agriculture	Documents of all departments connected with the Department of Agriculture.
Director, Deptt. of Agriculture.	Documents of the Department of Agriculture and attached offices.

The following officers of the Department of Education are authorised to requisition documents of the departments named below:—

The Secretary, Department of Education	Documents of all departments connected with the department of Education.
Director of Education	Documents of the office of Director of Education and attached offices.

The following officers of the Palace Staff are authorised to requisition documents of the departments named below:—

Secretary, Palace	Documents of the office of Palace Secretary and attached offices.
Military Secretary	Documents of the office of Military Secretary and attached offices.
Private Secretary	Documents of the office of Private Secretary.

By order,

WAHAJUDDIN HYDER,
Bar-at-Law.

Secretary, Home Department,
Bhopal Government

The Collectorate at Cuttack and Board of Revenue, Cuttack, October 1949.

Through the kindness of the Collector of Cuttack and the Commissioner of Revenues I had the opportunity of seeing the record rooms of the Collectorate and of the Board of Revenue at Cuttack on 12th October 1949. My purpose was primarily to find out if the members of the Indian Historical Records Commission could be profitably taken to these two record rooms with a view to studying the state of maintenance of the records, their arrangement and so forth. I had only a superficial view of the records as it was not possible for me due to pressure on time to go with the contents of the records and assess their research potentialities.

In both these offices the records have been placed in separate rooms assigned for them which have been fitted up with wooden shelves going right up to the top of the rooms.

In the Collectorate Record Room there is a double-locked almirah which contains farmans, sanads and other miscellaneous documents of pre-British days and which are designated "Historical Records". The record rooms in the Collectorate are long with average width and have either doors or windows on both sides along the length admitting sufficient light and air. The lowest shelf is about a foot above the floor and part of the area has been fitted with gangways making the top shelves in each level easily accessible. The wooden racks are slatted also permitting ventilation among the records. The space between two rows of racks is also sufficient for movement. The place was reasonably dry when I visited it, but during a fair portion of the year humidity is great in Cuttack and damp affects the records.

There are three types of stored records according to their physical make-up: (1) bound volumes; (2) bastas, i.e., about 1½ cu. ft. of loose documents and files bound up in cloth into bundles; and (3) bundles, about 1½ cu. ft. each tied between wooden boards. The bound volumes are the older of the lot. The paper and ink are generally of good quality and on the whole the state of preservation is fair, though some papers have become very brittle. There is evidence of borers having infested the records, and I was told that termites and mice also offer active threat. I did not investigate the extent of fungus affectation, but Cuttack being a humid place a sizeable portion of the records must be so affected. There is no arrangement for repairing or rehabilitating the records, nor any

fire-fighting appliances. Smoking is rightly prohibited within the record rooms but not outside in the verandahs.

The above remarks apply more or less to the records of the Board of Revenue with the added fact that overcrowding is greater in the Board of Revenue record rooms. Also, some of the rooms there suffer from lack of light and ventilation. The quantity of brittle documents in the Board of Revenue is quite large. The building is also leaky and I noticed pools of water in the adjoining rooms after the previous night's rain.

As to arrangement, these being mainly revenue and settlement records, they are arranged by the year and thereunder geographically. Weeding is done as follows: at the time of closing a file the office of origin indicates the retention period. This is entered in the accession register which also serves as index. At the expiry of the retention period the file is pulled out and disposed of, and the fact is entered in the register against the original entry of the file.

Physically, the volumes are placed on the racks vertically like books, and the bundles, cloth or wooden board, are stacked horizontally one above the other. The cloth bundles are not always carefully made with the result that the sides and edges of many documents have got folded or creased. The maps and plans are rolled into cylindrical shape, tied with a string and stored pell mell in almirahs.

On the whole the conditions prevailing in the record rooms of the two offices I saw can be described as unsatisfactory from the point of view of physical health of the records and utilization for research. They are apparently satisfactory for present administrative requirements. But if things are allowed to go on as at present, a large part of the records will be lost physically in the years to come, and the rest will be difficult to locate or rendered meaningless having been torn from their relevant context. This will be a serious loss from the point of view of the study of Orissan history and of the development of that part of India.

This is only a cursory note, and I should be happy to make suggestions for better preservation and arrangement of the records in Orissa if the Government of Orissa so desires and indicate the maximum amount of money it would be prepared to spend for this purpose by way of capital expenditure and recurring expenditure annually.

APPENDIX K

List of books and periodicals presented to the Indian Historical Records Commission and the National Archives of India during the year 1950.

GROUP I.—Presented by Authors and individuals.

Dr. A. S. Altekar, Patna University, Patna.

10 Year Index of the Journal of the Numismatic Society.

L'Ambassade de France aux Indes.

Experience de vérité ou Autobiographie traduction de l'édition Anglaix par Georges Belmont, 1950. 3 copies.

Captain Khan Bhadur S. R. Modey.

Notes on the subjects of Shivaji's sword and portrait.

M. Julien Cain, Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, France.

(1) Bibliography de la France Theses 1944.

(2) Bibliographie de la France ou Journal General de l'imprimerie et de la Librairie. Nos. 1—32.

Dr. S. K. Bhuyan, Director of Historical and Antiquarian Studies in Assam, Gauhati.

Anglo Assamese Relations by Dr. S. K. Bhuyan.

GROUP II.—Presented by the Learned Institutions.

Andhra University, Waltair.

1. Buddhist Remains in Andhra and the History of Andhra between 225 and 610 A.D. 1932, by Dr. K. R. Subramanian.

2. Advanced History of India, 1942 by P. T. Srinivasa Ayyengar.

3. Forgotten Chapter of Andhra History by M. S. Sarma.

4. History of the Reddy Kingdom, 1948 by M. S. Sarma.

Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar.

1. Bhoja Raja by P. T. Srinivasa Ayyengar.

2. Dutch in Malabar, 1946 by P. C. Alexander.

3. Maratha Rule in the Carnatic by C. K. Srinivasan.

4. Indian History in Tamil.

5. History of Gingee and its Rulers by C. S. Srinivasachari.

Archaeological Department, Government of Travancore.

Administration Report of the Archaeological Department
(Government of Travancore) 1123 M.E.

*Association of Principals of Technical Institutions. C/o Delhi
Polytechnic, Delhi.*

Journal of the Association of Principals of Technical Institutions in India.

February 1950.

August 1950.

Benares Hindu University, Benares.

1. Age of the Imperial Guptas 1934 by R. D. Banerji.
2. Aspects of Ancient Indian Economic Thought by K. V. R. Aiyangar.

Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona.

Mahabharata—Santiparvan, Pt. II, Page 19.

Annals, Vol. XXX 1949.

Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala, Poona.

Explorations at Karad.

Report of the Excavations carried out by the Mandala in 1948-49.

Bombay University, Bombay.

Asokan Inscriptions in India, 1948 by M. A. Mehendale.

British Information Services, New Delhi.

Fortnightly Review of News and Events, Sept. 1950.

Ancient Monuments and Historical Buildings (H. M. Sty. Office Publ.).

Geological Survey and Museum (H. M. Sty. Publ.)

Govt. Publications Monthly List June, 1950.

Calcutta University, Calcutta.

1. Ancient Indian Chronology 1947 by P. C. Sen Gupta.
2. Contributions to the History of the Hindu Revenue System, 1929 by U. N. Ghosal.
3. Agrarian System in Ancient India, 1930 by U. N. Ghoshal.
4. Sources of Law and Society in Ancient India, 1914 by N. C. Sen.
5. Orissa in the Making, 1925 by B. C. Majumdar.
6. Administration of Justice during the Muslim Rule in India, 1934 by Wahed Hussain.

7. Maharaja Rajballabh, 1947 by R. C. Majumdar.

8. Rise of the Sikh Power (2nd edition), 1946 by N. K. Sinha.

9. Training in Leadership and Citizenship for Young India, 1942 by S. C. Ray.

10. Social and Rural Economy of Northern India, Vol. II, 1945 by A. N. Bose.

11. Maurya Yuger Bharatiya Samaj, 1945 by N. C. Banerjee.

12. Some Historical Aspects of the Inscriptions of Bengal, 1942 by B. C. Sen.

13. Economic Life and Progress in Ancient India, Vol. I, 1945 by N. C. Bannerjee.

Consulate for Italy, Bombay.

Bulletin for Italian Cultural Information, Vol. II, Nos. 1-5; 7-8, 1950.

Conseil D' Administration, Chandernagar.

Chandernagar Gazette (in Bengali), 6 issues of 1950.

Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi.

India Quarterly, January-September, Vol. VI, Nos. 1-3, 1950.

Editor, *Journal of Indian History, Travancore University, Trivandrum.*

Journal of Indian History, August 1947-August 1950, Nos. 74-83.

Kasi Nagari Pracharini Sabha.

Hindi Samachar Patra Suchi, Vol. I, 1826-1925.

Kodak Limited, Bombay.

Storage of Microfilms, Sheet Films and Prints.

Madras University, Madras.

1. History of Sri Vaishnavas by R. Gopinatha Rao.
2. The Kaveri, the Maikharis and the Sangam Age, 1925 by T. G. Aravamudan.
3. Stone Age in India, 1926 by P. T. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
4. Political Theory of the Government of India, 1928 by M. Ruthnaswami.
5. Indian Currency System, 1930 by J. C. Coyajee.
6. Political Theory of Imperialism by K. Zachariah.
7. Evolution of Hindu Administrative Institutions in South India by S. K. Ayyangar.
8. Purpose and Progress, 1934 by John McKenzie.
9. Considerations on some aspects of Ancient Indian Polity by K. V. R. Ayyangar.

10. Inter-Statal Law—The Law affecting the Relations of the Indian States with the British Crown by K. M. Panikkar.
 11. History of the Poets of Southern India and the Deccan by Moulvi Muhammad Monawar Gowar Sahib Bahadur.
 12. Humanism and Indian Thought, 1937 by A. Chakravarti.
 13. Some Influences of British Administrative System in India, 1939 by M. Ruthnaswami.
 14. Rudra Siva, 1941 by N. Venkataramanayya.
 15. New Constitution and after, by S. A. Khan.
 16. Kambuja—Desa by R. C. Majumdar.
 17. Reorganising of Education in the Madras Presidency.
 18. Madras Finance by B. V. Narayanaswami Naidu.
 19. History of Sri Vijaya by K. A. Nilakanta Sastri.
 20. Studies in the History of the third Dynasty of Vijayanagara, 1935—1946 by N. Venkataramanayya. 3 Vols.
 21. Economic Conditions in Southern India, 1936 by Dr. A. Appadoari.
 22. Further Sources of Vijayanagara History by K. A. Nilakanta Sastri and Dr. N. Venkataramanayya. 3 Vols.
 23. Report on the Modi Mss. in the Tanjore Palace Library by R. S. Shelvankar.
 24. Historical Methods in relation to problems of South Indian History by K. A. Nilakanta Sastri.
 - 25—27. Burhan's Tuzule-I-Walajahi, Edited by S. Md. Hussain Nainar. Parts I—III.
 28. Diwan-I-Bedar by Md. Hussain Mahvi Siddiqui.
 29. Arab Geographers' Knowledge of South India by S. Md. Hussain Nainar.
 30. Anwar Nama of Abjadi by Muhammad Husayn Mahvi.
 31. Futhus Salatin by Isami. Edited by A. S. Usha.
 32. Waqiat-I-Azfari by Md. Hussain Mahvi Siddiqui.
 33. Diwan-I-Azfari by Md. Hussain Mahvi Siddiqui.
 34. Souvenir Brochure of Alagappa Chettiar College, 1950.
 35. Sources of the Nawabs of Carnatic, 1940.
- The Ninety-third Annual Report of the University of Madras, 1949.

Mysore University, Mysore.

1. Munro System of British Statesmanship in India by K. N. V. Sastry.
2. Sources of Karnataka History, Vol. I by Srikantasastry.
3. The University Library, Mysore. Books and Periodicals added to the Library, 1944.

Nagpur University, Nagpur.

1. Future Constitution of India, 1930 by H. S. Gour.
2. Industrial Development of India by Dr. P. C. Roy.
3. Background of Maratha Renaissance, 1946 by N. K. Behere.
4. Astronomical Method and its Application to the Chronology of Ancient India, 1942 by Dr. K. L. Daftari.
5. India: A Conflict of Cultures by Dr. K. Motwani.
6. Shivaji Period in Maratha History by G. S. Sardesai.
7. History of C.P. and Berar by Y. M. Kale.
8. Hindustani Raj Dharmik Itihas Samanya Nirikshan by Dr. S. D. Pendse.
9. Social Institutions in Ancient India by Dr. K. L. Daftari.
10. Matrix of Indian Culture by Dr. D. N. Majumdar.
11. Annual Bulletin of the Nagpur Historical Society.
October 1947, No. 2.
October 1948, No. 3.

Services Culturel Francais, Calcutta.

Les Archives de France.

Surveyor General of India.

Historical Records of the Survey of India, Vol. II, 1800 to 1815.
Collected and compiled by Col. R. H. Phillimore.

Tagore Memorial Publications, New Delhi.

The Great Nehrus.

Utkal University, Cuttack.

- (1) Glimpses of Kalinga History by M. M. Das.
- (2) History of Early Gangas of Kalinga by R. S. Rao.
- (3) History of Kalinga in Telugu by R. S. Rao.
- (4) Journal of the Andhra Historical Research Society, Vols. XV and XVI.
- (5) Several Reprints on Epigraphy, History etc.

Varendra Research Society, Rajshahi, East Pakistan.

- (1) Annual Report of the Varendra Research Society for the year ending 31st March 1949.
- (2) Ancient Monuments of Varendra by Akshay Kumar Maitra.

GROUP IIA

Anjuman Tarikh, Bagh Amomi, Kābul, Afghanistan—Vols. 49 to 86.

1328. Irani year.

L'Ecole Francaise D' Extreme-Orient, Hanoi.

Bulletin De L'Ecole Francaise D'Extreme-Orient, Tome XLIII, 1943—46.

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APPENDIX L

LIST OF EXHIBITS

FROM THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

The exhibits displayed in this collection have been classified into the following five groups :—

- I. Document of general interest (or their photo copies), throwing light on several significant episodes of the history of India from 1765 to 1949.
- II. Documents relating to Madhya Pradesh (or their photo copies), with special reference to Nagpur.
- III. Select documents in languages other than English (or their photo copies).
- IV. Specimens illustrating different methods of repair and preservation of records.
- V. Photographs illustrating different aspects of archives keeping in the National Archives of India.

The first document in this group is dated 9 September, 1765 and marks one of the most significant events in the history of modern India, viz, the obtaining of the Diwani of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa by the East India Company; the last is an approved copy of the Constitution of India bearing the signatures of the members of the Constituent Assembly. The interval is covered by a number of documents relating to a variety of subjects—political history, administrative evolution, economic and social reforms, education, to mention only a few. Particular mention may be made of those relating to the early history of the postal system in India (items 4 & 41 to 44 of the list) and a few records illustrating the early growth of the Indian press. Important among the latter are Adam's Minute regarding the abuse of the Press in India (item 20) and Macaulay's and Metcalfe's Minutes on the repeal of the Press Regulation of 1823 and the enforcement of an act in its place (items 28 & 29). Another important document is the copy of a petition to the Governor-General from a group of prominent British and Indian citizens of Calcutta including William Adam, Dwarkanath Tagore, Russick Lal Mallick, E. M. Gordon, Russomoy Dutt, L. L. Clarke, C. Hogg, T. H. Burkin Young and others praying for the repeal of Adam's Press Regulations (item 23). Outstanding among more recent documents in the group are those on the poet Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi (exhibit Nos. 47-50), as also those relating to the Constituent Assembly of India (item 51-54).

Most of the documents in the second group relate to Nagpur, the venue of the present session of the Indian Historical Records Commission. They trace, in a brief out-line, the history of the

ruling Maratha family of Nagpur for at least three generations. Exhibit No. 62 shows Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla's "determination to maintain intact the friendly relations subsisting between him and the English Company."

A very interesting document in this group which shows the common beliefs and practices of the Marathas is a letter from Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla to Lord Cornwallis (exhibit No. 64), sending a packet of sesame and saying that "sesame cooked in sugar at the time the Sun enters the Capricorn will bring good luck to him during the ensuing year." No less interesting are the two documents (exhibit Nos. 76 and 78) which relate to the abolition of the practice of "Sati" in Nagpur; while the tourist and adventurer will perhaps find greater interest in T. H. Colebrooke's narrative (exhibit No. 69) of a journey to the Court of Nagpur along a route opened by the inland traders. Exhibit No. 77 contains a report (along with a sketch) on the roads in the Jubbulpore Division. Exhibit No. 82 gives a list of articles forwarded to the Resident by the Maharaja of Nagpur for transmission to the Grand Exhibition of Works of Industry and Art to be held in London in the year 1851, and exhibit Nos. 86 and 88 show the efforts for the development of cotton cultivation in Madhya Pradesh in the fifties of the 19th century.

The eleven documents in the third group are in eleven different languages (mostly Oriental), being a fairly representative selection of documents in languages other than English in the custody of the National Archives of India. An interesting document in the group is a letter in Burmese from the Viceroy of Arakan (item 96) addressed to the Governor-General of India, permitting all European nations to enjoy equal freedom of trade in Burma. Exhibit No. 99 represents a very rare specimen of the Indo-Tibetan style of painting. Its borders are illuminated with decorative figures of dragons, conchshells and Kinnara females in bright colours.

All the exhibits in the above three groups have been arranged chronologically.

EXHIBITS OF GENERAL INTEREST

1. An English copy of the Farman from the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam granting the Diwani of the Provinces of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa to the East India Company. (Home Public Cons. 9 September, 1765, No 2).
2. Copy of a notice dated 30th June, 1766 regarding the establishment of gold currency and coinage of gold Mohurs in order to obviate the inconvenience arising from the prevailing scarcity of silver. (Home Pub. Cons. 28 July, 1766, No 12).

3. An autograph letter from Warren Hastings, dated 7 September, 1773, stating that he had concluded an agreement with the Nawab Wazir of Oudh by which the districts of Kora and Allahabad were ceded to the latter on condition of his paying fifty lakhs of rupees to the Company. (Foreign Secret Cons. 23 September, 1773, No. 3).
4. An autograph minute by Warren Hastings on the proposal of establishing a packet postal service between India and the Suez "as it is of the greatest importance to the Company that their letters to and from India should be conveyed with as little delay as possible." (Home Cons. 23 March, 1778, No. 28).
5. Detailed regulations made for the printing, issue and circulation of Treasury Notes by the East India Company. (Home Pub. Cons. 8 May 1780, No. 19).
6. A form of the Treasury Notes issued by the East India Company. (Home Pub. Cons. 8 May, 1780, No. 20).
7. A letter in Persian from Nana Farnavis, Minister of the Peshwa, to the Governor-General requesting him to send military assistance to the Peshwa and the Nizam against Tipu Sultan. Bears the seal of Nana Farnavis. (Original). (Foreign Persian 14 November, 1785, No. 94).
8. A letter (dated June, 1787) from Krishna Chandra Ghoshal and Jainarayan Ghoshal to Lord Cornwallis demanding the establishment of an Industrial Home to accommodate the homeless and the destitute. These people were to be imparted training in the subject of their choice and to be provided with suitable work. The letter is significant as it is one of the earliest Indian documents recognising the individual right to be provided by the State with suitable means of livelihood. (Persian O. R. June 1787, No. 280).
9. A letter in Persian from the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam to Lord Cornwallis requesting that as the rebel Ghulam Qadir Khan is bent on ruining the kingdom, His Lordship should order the English troops stationed at Daranagar to attack the Mahals of the rebel chief. Bears the Emperor's own handwriting in pencil at the top. (Foreign Persian, 4 October, 1787, No. 503).
10. A letter in Persian from Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge at Banaras, reporting that Marathas have released Shah Alam from the room in which he was confined after having been blinded by Ghulam Qadir. Bears the seal of Ali Ibrahim Khan at the bottom. (Foreign Persian, 24 October 1788, No. 501).
11. Draft Rules framed by Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan, Naib Diwan of Bengal, for the consideration of Lord Cornwallis on 15 August 1789 with a view to check slave-trade in Bengal and

- investing the slaves with certain fundamental rights—such as right not to be mutilated, not to be employed on a work of disagreeable, or illegal and undesirable nature, not to be forced into a life of sin, not to be sold, and to become free after a stipulated period. It is significant that this proposal was mooted 44 years before the abolition of slave trade by the English Parliament. (Persian O.R. 20 August, 1789, No. 202).
12. A letter in Persian from Tipu Sultan saying that he has deputed his vakils to the Governor-General in order to negotiate a treaty of peace with the East India Company. Bears the seal and signature of Tipu Sultan. (Original). (Persian O.R. 12 February 1792, No. 114).
 13. An autograph minute of Sir John Shore, dated 18 February 1795, containing a consideration of the policy which should be adopted by the Government in the event of a war between the Marathas and the Nizam. (Foreign Political Cons. 20 February, 1795, No. 25).
 14. A letter in Persian from Daulat Rao Sindhia to the Governor-General (Sir John Shore) informing him that Rao Baji Rao, the elder son of Raghunath Rao has been installed as the Peshwa in succession to Madho Rao who is dead. Bears a small beautiful seal of Daulat Rao Sindhia. (Original). (Foreign Persian O.R. 9 September, 1796, No. 328).
 15. A letter in Persian from Nizam Ali Khan, Nizam of Hyderabad, to the Governor-General (Lord Wellesley) intimating that he has made over to Capt. Kirkpatrick copies of correspondence which passed between him and Tipu Sultan. Bears the Seal of the Nizam. (Foreign Persian O.R. 10 February 1799, No. 19). (Original).
 16. A letter from the Maharaja of Nepal congratulating the Governor-General (Lord Wellesley) on the success of the English fleet in Egypt, and noting with pleasure that the Sultan of Turkey and the Czar of Russia have joined the English as active allies. Bears the seal of the Maharaja. (Foreign Persian O.R. 28 September, 1799, No. 286).
 17. Letter in Persian from Muhammad Shah of Persia, congratulating Lord Minto on his assumption of the Office of Governor-General at Calcutta and stating that cordial relations have been existing for long between the English and the Shahs of Persia. (Foreign Persian O.R. 25 September, 1807, No. 485-A.) (Original).
 18. An autograph minute of Lord Minto, dated 17 June 1808, stating his views upon the progressive activity of the intrigues and exertions of the French Embassy in Persia directed against

the British possessions in India and proposing to despatch envoys to the Courts of Kabul and Lahore. (Foreign Secret and Separate Cons. 20 June, 1808, No. 2).

19. A letter in Persian from Maharaja Ranjit Singh of Lahore, stating that in accordance with Lord Minto's instructions he will accord every possible assistance to Elphinstone when the latter passes through his territory on his way back from Peshawar. Bears the seal of the Maharaja. (Foreign Persian O.R. 28 July, 1809, No. 400).
20. Adam's Minute, dated the 14th August, 1822, regarding the abuse of the Press in India. He submits one issue of the Calcutta Journal to substantiate his remarks. (Home Pub. Cons. 17 October, 1822, No. 3).
21. Adam's Minute, dated the 1st September, 1822, regarding the power of the Government to deport out of the country any European who "misused" the freedom of the Press in India. (Home Pub. Cons. 17 October 1822, No. 4).
22. A report by Mr. Hodgson, Officiating Resident at Khatmandu, on the indigenous method of manufacturing paper in Nepal in the early part of the 19th century and recommending its adoption in India—(Foreign Pol. Cons. 13 January, 1832, No. 20).
23. Copy of a petition presented to the Governor-General (Lord William Bentinck) on 6th February 1835 by a group of prominent British and Indian citizens of Calcutta including William Adam, Dwarkanath Tagore, Russick Lal Mallick, E. M. Gordon, Russomoy Dutt, L. L. Clarke, C. Hogg, T. H. Burkin Young, David Hare, T. E. M. Turton Young and J. Sutherland praying for the repeal of "useless" and "pernicious" Adam Regulations.—(Home Pub. Cons. 6 February, 1835, No. 38).
24. Reply to the above petition by H. T. Prinsep, Secretary to the Government, assuring the petitioners on behalf of the Governor-General that the unsatisfactory state of affairs would be amended at an early date—(Home Pub. Cons. 6 February, 1835, No. 39).
25. Minute, dated 2 February, 1835 by T. B. Macaulay on the Indian education in India with endorsement by Lord Bentinck—(Home Pub. Cons. 7 March, 1835, No. 15).
26. Original Minutes and notes on the question of State Educational Policy by Lord William Bentinck, Thomas Babington Macaulay, Alexander Ross, Henry Thoby Prinsep and Col. Morrison. The marginal notes (in pencil) on Prinsep's minute are from Macaulay—(Home Pub. Cons. 1835, March 7, No. 19 & K.W.).

27. Minutes of Messrs. W. H. Macnaghton, H. Shakespear and H. T. Prinsep, Members of the General Committee of Public Instruction on the promotion of Education, European Literature and Science among Indians—(Pub. Cons. 22 Apr, 1835, Nos. 10, 10A & 11).
28. Macaulay's Minute, dated 16th April 1835 on Act XI of 1835, repealing the Press Regulations of 1823 and substituting an Act in their place—(Home Judl. Cons. 18 May, 1835, No. 1).
29. Metcalfe's Minute of 17 April and 27 April, 1835 on the repeal of the Press Regulations, and the enforcement of an Act in their place. Below Metcalfe's signature appears that of Macaulay—(Home Judicial Cons. 18 May, 1835, No. 2).
30. A holograph minute of T. B. Macaulay, dated 4th June, 1835, relative to the proposed instructions to the Law Commission in framing a Criminal Code applicable for the whole of the Indian Empire—(Home Judl. Criminal Cons. 15 June, 1835, No. 1).
31. An autograph communication, dated 15th June, 1835 from the Governor-General-in-Council to T. B. Macaulay informing him that they have appointed him an additional Member and the President of the Indian Law Commission—(Home Judl. Proceedings, 15 June, 1835, No. 3).
32. Instructions to the Indian Law Commission for preparing a complete Criminal Code applicable to the whole of British India. The "Indian Law Commissioners" were appointed in 1835 by the Governor-General-in-Council in accordance with the provisions of the Charter Act of 1833, to fulfil a double object—to disentangle the complications in the existing laws and to advise on new projects of legislation. Besides drafting the Indian Penal Code, the Commission laid the basis for the codes of civil and criminal procedure and several other laws—(Home Judl. Cons. 15 June, 1835, No. 3).
33. Resolution passed on 15th June, 1835 by the Governor-General-in-Council for the establishment of a separate Legislative Department of the Government of India. Bears the initials of the Governor-General and the members of the Council. This change was necessitated by a considerable increase of legislative business of the Central Government after the passing of the Charter Act of 1833—[Home Judl. (Civil) Cons. 15 June, 1835, No. 6A].
34. A letter dated 28 March, 1836 from the Tea Committee to the Secretary to the Government regarding the expediency of employing a Chinese expert and an additional number of planters from China for tea plantation in India—(Reve. Agri. Cons. 11 April, 1836, No. 9).

35. Resolution passed by the Governor-General-in-Council on 4th September, 1837 relative to the arrangements for the working of the Council and the administration during the absence of the Governor-General from Fort William. Bears the initials of Auckland and members of the Council—(Home Legislative Cons. 4 September, 1837, No. 7).
36. A letter dated 9 September 1839 from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India to the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, concerning the engagement of American cotton experts for improving the cultivation of cotton in India and stating how they are to be distributed between Bengal, Madras and Bombay Presidencies—(Home Rev. Cons. October, 1839, No. 33).
37. A holograph minute dated 24th November, 1839 by Lord Auckland on the promotion of education in India—(Home G.G. Cons. 24 November, 1839, No. 10).
38. Proclamation dated 29th March, 1849 issued by the Governor-General of India on the annexation of the Punjab to the British Empire in India—(Foreign Secret Cons. 28 April, 1849, No. 21).
39. A holograph Minute of Lord Dalhousie, dated 1 April, 1850 on the promotion of female education in India—(Home Pub. Cons. 11 April, 1850, No. 74).
40. A holograph minute of Lord Dalhousie, dated 22 August, 1850 regarding the selection of a competent person to undertake the work of geological examination of the Salt Range and of the hills to the north of the Punjab with a view to ascertaining the real nature and extent of their mineral products—(Foreign Pol. Cons. 11 October, 1850, No. 209).
41. Despatch dated 18 March 1853 from the Secretary to Government to the Superintendent of Machinery concerning the introduction of postage stamps in supersession of the system of money payments as postage as recommended in the Post Office Commission Report of 1 May, 1851, and with a suggestion that "it would be more desirable to have two sets of stamps—one for ordinary purposes and the other exclusively for public business".—(Home Pub. Cons. 18 March, 1853, No. 1).
42. A holograph minute by Lord Dalhousie, the Governor-General, on the practicability of preparing postage stamps in India—(Home Pub. Cons. 1 July, 1853, No. 3).
43. An autograph minute, dated 5 May, 1854 by Lord Dalhousie stating that since lithography cannot be safely relied upon for permanent supply of postage stamps in India, the Court of Directors have been requested to expedite supply of postage stamps from England—(Home Pub. Cons. 12 May, 1854, No. 44).

44. A letter dated 11 May, 1854 from the Deputy Surveyor General, Lithographic Branch, to the Officiating Secretary, Government of India, stating that the printing of postal stamps had progressed very satisfactorily and that about three lakhs were being printed daily, and forwards their specimens to the Government in duplicate—(Home Pub. Cons. 19 May, 1854, No. 64).
45. A letter dated the 12th October, 1867, from Raja Jykishen Dass Bahadoor, Secretary, British Indian Association, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, regarding more extensive employment of the vernacular languages of India as the medium of instruction—[Edu. Cons. (A) Dec. 1867, Nos. 12—14].
46. A letter from Gopal Krishna Gokhale, dated 18 February, 1910 to the Secretary, Legislative Department forwarding his Resolution on Compulsory Free Elementary Education. It will be recalled that the introduction of free education was one of the objects which G. K. Gokhale had made his life-mission and that all his endeavours came to nothing chiefly through official inertia and red tape—(Legislative Dept. April 1910, Nos. 215—18).
47. Romain Rolland's letter (in French), dated the 20th November, 1935, addressed to poet Tagore, thanking him for becoming a member of the World Congress of Peace, and saying that thereby India has joined hands with other countries of the world in the defence of peace.
48. English translation of "Jana-Gana-Mana" ("The Morning Song of India"), now India's National Anthem, in poet Tagore's own hand and bearing his signature. It is dated 28th February 1919.
49. "ARABINDA RABINDRER LAHA NAMASHKAR", or poet Tagore's greetings to Sri Aurobindo. The Bengali poem is in the Poet's own hand and is dated 7 Bhadra, 1314 (Bengali Era).
50. An autograph letter, dated December 1913, in Hindi from Tagore to Lochan Prasad Pandeya of Bilaspur (C.P.) in reply to a congratulatory letter on the occasion of the award of Nobel Prize to the Poet. Tagore's signature in the letter is in Bengali.
51. Signature Register of the members of the Constituent Assembly of India (33 Leaves)
52. India's Charter of Freedom, being the text of the Resolution unanimously adopted by the Constituent Assembly of India on the 22nd January, 1947.

53. The Poem presented by the Chinese Ambassador to the Constituent Assembly on the Independence Day (15 August, 1947).
54. An approved copy of the Constitution of India bearing the signatures of the members of the Constituent Assembly.

II.—DOCUMENTS RELATING TO MADHYA PRADESH

55. Letter dated 3 April, 1775, from the Governor and Council of Madras to Governor-General and Council, Fort. William forwarding copies of applications (date not mentioned) for military assistance from Nizam Ali Khan and his Minister and recommending the occupation of Cuttack as a measure of defence against Mudhoji Bhonsla of Nagpur. Bears signature of the Governor A. Wynch—(Sec. Cons. 24 April, 1775, Nos. 3—5).
56. Draft Minute of the Governor-General (Warren Hastings) (date not mentioned) suggesting an application to the Raja of Berar for the grant of a piece of land near point Palmyras, Orissa, for the purpose of erecting a fort for the protection of shipping—(Sec. Cons. 17 October 1776, No. 1).
57. Copy of the Governor-General, Warren Hastings' Minute (without date and signature) stating the war with France as a fact of undoubted certainty and recommending that a Company's Civil Servant be immediately deputed to Mudhoji Bhonsla to form a Treaty of alliance between that Chief and the Company—(Sec. Cons. 9 July, 1778, No. 2).
58. Letter from Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla to the Governor-General (Warren Hastings) assuring him that the Poona Ministers have absolutely no intention of breaking their treaty with the English, and suggesting ways and means whereby mutual confidence between the two parties may be restored.—(Persian O.R. 22 January, 1779, No. 4).
59. Copy of a letter dated 19 December 1778, from Lt. Daniel Watherston to Col. Goddard regarding his arrival and reception at the Court of Nagpur—(Sec. Cons. 1 February, 1779, No. F).
60. Autograph letter dated 13 October, 1781 from Warren Hastings to Edward Wheeler requesting the Board to confirm the bond for one lac of Banaras Sicca Rupees borrowed from Beniram Pandit, the vakil of Mudhoji Bhonsla between the 30th of September and 1st October—(Sec. Cons. 29 October, 1781, No. 3).
61. Letter from Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla to the Governor-General (Warren Hastings) requesting that Mr. Anderson and Mahadji Sindhia may be directed to get the treaty concluded between them ratified by the Nawab Nizam Ali, Haider Naik and the Poona Ministers—(Persian O.R. 15 December, 1782, No. 91).

62. Letter from Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla to the Governor-General (J. Macpherson) expressing his determination to maintain intact the friendly relations subsisting between him and the English Company in the days of Hastings and hoping that the Governor-General will reciprocate the sentiment. Bears the writer's seal—(Persian O.R. 31 August, 1785, No. 59).
63. Persian translation of a letter from Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla to Beniram Pandit and Bishambhar Pandit informing them that he has joined Nawab Nizam Ali Khan and the Peshwa in war with Tipu, and asking them to let him know the views and sentiments of the Governor-General (J. Macpherson) in the matter—(Persian O.R. 4 July, 1786, No. 53).
64. Letter from Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla to the Governor-General (Lord Cornwallis) sending a packet of sesame and saying that sesame cooked in sugar at the time of Sun enters Capricorn will bring good luck to him during the ensuing year (Persian O.R. 11 March, 1788, No. 162).
65. Letter from Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla to the Governor-General (Lord Cornwallis) stating that he must have learnt through newspapers as well as from Mr. Forster's letter about the death of his father, Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla—(Persian O.R. 16 July, 1788, No. 413).
66. Letter from Babu Manohar Das, Banker of Banaras, to the Governor-General (Lord Cornwallis) requesting him to direct Mr. Forster to recover from certain Zamindars Rs. 23,000/- robbed from his armed attendants on their way from Banaras to Nagpur. Bears the writer's signature—(Persian O.R. 24 April, 1790, No. 108).
67. Letter from Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla to the Governor-General (Lord Cornwallis) requesting that Bishambhar Pandit may be allowed to come to Nagpur for receiving instructions from him on the subject of his negotiations with the English. Bears the writer's seal but it is indistinct. (Persian O.R. 2 May, 1791, No. 181).
68. Letter from Maulvi Dana Ali to Mr. Stuart, informing him that Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla intends sending a large army under the command of Banna Singh for reducing the fort of Sambalpur. Bears the writer's signature as well as seal. (Persian O.R. 1 Nov., 1791, No. 518).
69. Narrative (without date and signature) of a journey by T. H. Colebrooke to the Court of Nagpur on a Public Mission along a route opened by the inland traders between Banaras and Berar. (Surveyor General Records Sl. No. 21, 1798-99).

70. Translation of a letter from Raja Raghuji Bhonsla requesting the Governor General Lord Wellesley to issue orders to the officers of Banaras, Gaya and Allahabad not to molest Sri Ram Pandit, a Muttusuddi under the Government of Berar, and his attendants at these places of religious worship. (Pol. Cons. 19 March, 1801, No. 52).
71. Autograph letter dated 22 August, 1804 from Arthur Wellesley to N.B. Edmonstone recommending Mr. Elphinstone for an allowance as Secretary from August 1803 till he was sent to the Durbar of Raghuji II, the Raja of Berar. (Pol. Cons. 25 April, 1805, No. 157).
72. Copy of a letter dated 15 April, 1816 from the Earl of Moira to Parsoji Bhonsla condoling the death of his father Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla II, and congratulating him on his accession to the Masnad. (Pol. Cons. 4 May, 1816, No. 83).
73. Copy of a letter dated 19 May, 1816 from J. Monckton, Persian Secretary to R. Jenkins, Resident at Nagpur intimating that he has despatched under charge of six Burkundazes the articles for presentment (specified in the enclosed list) sent by the Governor-General to Maharaja Parsoji Bhonsla, on his accession to the masnad and to Appa Sahib on his appointment to the regency. (Pol. Cons. 25 May, 1816, Nos. 49-52).
74. Autograph letter dated 18 July, 1816 from R. Jenkins to the Earl of Moira containing a brief notice of the state of Nagpur. (For. Pol. Cons. 17 August, 1816, No. 23).
75. Autograph letter dated 21 October, 1816 from R. Jenkins to the Earl of Moira, intimating Appa Sahib's proposals to raise a battalion of Sepoys after the European manner under British Officers. (For. Pol. Cons. 9 November, 1816, Nos. 31-2).
76. Autograph letter (duplicate), dated 23 December, 1832 from the resident at Nagpur to W. H. Macnaghten, Secretary to the Government in attendance on the Governor-General informing that he has obtained the Raja's consent to abolish the practice of the "Sati" rite in the dominion of Nagpur—(Pol. Cons. 14 January, 1833, No. 45).
77. Letter dated 4 April, 1834 from the Military Board to C.T. Metcalfe, Vice-President-in-Council, submitting copy of a letter from Major Irvine containing report on the roads in Jubbulpur Division as well as that between Jabbalpur and Saugor. Bears Sketch of the proposed new line of road between Saugor and Jubbalpur—(Home Misc. Revenues, March, 1835, No. 12).
78. Autograph letter dated 7 September, 1837 from R. Cavendish, British Resident at Nagpur to W. H. Macnaghten, Secretary,

- Political Department, informing Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla's decision to abolish "Sati" rite instantly—(Pol. Cons. 25 September 1837, Nos. 104-6).
79. Memorial dated 19 February, 1840 from the widow of Hari Bhudder Pandit of Banaras for the restoration of the grant in Ghazipur conferred on Beniram Pandit. Bears the seal of the memorialist and contains an extract from Hastings' narrative testifying to the merit of Beniram Pandit—(Home Rev. 16 March, 1840, Nos. 22-23).
 80. Illuminated Petition to Lord Auckland, dated 10 April 1840 from the widow of Hari Bhudder Pandit, offering grateful acknowledgment for the pensions assigned to the only surviving members of the family of the late Beniram Pandit—(Home Rev. Cons. 13 July, 1840, No. 5).
 81. Autograph letter dated 16 July, 1841 from Accountant-General to T. H. Maddock, Secretary, Political Department, regarding the rate of exchange at which the annual subsidy payable by the Raja of Nagpur should in future be received. (Pol. Cons. 26 July, 1841, No. 55).
 82. List of articles forwarded to the Resident at Nagpur by the Maharaja of Nagpur for transmission to the Grand Exhibition of Works of Industry and Art to be held in London in the year 1851—(For. Pol. Cons. 1 Nov. 1850, Nos. 181-82).
 83. Autograph despatched dated 14 June 1854 from the Court of Directors to the Governor-General of India-in-Council agreeing to the proposal of incorporating the State of Nagpur with the British territories on grounds both of right and policy—(For. Cons. 14 Jan. 1854, No. 23).
 84. Copy of a letter dated 23 July, 1857 from Secretary, Military Department, to Col. Stewart, Commanding Movable Column, Nagpur, permitting him to decide whether the column should move upon Nagpur which is one of the first points to which his aid should be directed—(Mily. Cons. 24 July, 1857, No. 256).
 85. Copy of a letter dated, 1 September, 1857 from George Plowden, Commissioner of Nagpur to Col. Birch, Secretary, Military Department, informing that he had taken adequate measures as soon as the conspiracies and murderous intentions of the mutineers came to light in the Saugor and Narbada territories—(Mily. Cons. 25 Sept, 1857, No. 84 & K.W.).
 86. Copy of a letter dated 26 July, 1859 from Captain C. Elliot, Deputy Commissioner, Raipur, to George Plowden, giving information on rainfall and nature of cotton cultivation—(For. Pol. Cons. 19 Aug, 1859, No. 179).

87. Autograph letter dated 12 March, 1859 from George Plowden, Commissioner, Nagpur to R. Simson, Under-Secretary, Foreign Department, giving the names of the districts in which the Hindi, Marathi or Telugu languages prevail in connection with the dissemination of the proclamation of the Queen—(Pol. Cons. 18 March, 1859, Nos. 133—35).
88. Autograph letter dated 29 July, 1859 from George Plowden, Commissioner, Nagpur, to Cecil Beadon, Secretary, Foreign Department, informing transmission of specimens of cotton plants from the districts of Chanda and Raipur and submitting a report on cotton cultivation—(For. Pol. Cons. 29 July, 1859, Nos. 259—60).
89. Holograph minute of Lord Canning, dated 7 July, 1860 considering the conduct of G. W. Plowden and Captain Bell and the question of insignia to be used by Janoji Bhonsla. Bears the initials of the members of the Council—(For. Pol. Cons. Aug. 1860, No. 289).

III.—DOCUMENTS IN VARIOUS LANGUAGES IN THE N.A.I.

90. A letter in Tibetan script from Teeshoo Lama; dated June, 1793—(Persian O.R. 28 June, 1793, No. 305).
91. A complaint in Bengali by the Ministers of the Raja of Assam against the misdeeds of Capt. Welsh, deputed by Lord Cornwallis to restore Gaurinath to his throne—(Persian O.R. 5 Mar. 1794, No. 27).
92. A gold illuminated letter in Malay script (Arabic characters) from Zainul Abedin, Sultan of Trengannu, Malaya, to the Governor-General, Sir John Shore, seeking protection and help of the East India Company and offering compliments to the Governor-General—(Foreign Persian O.R. 15 April, 1796, No. 181).
93. A letter in Oriya from the Raja of Boad to the Commissioner at Cuttack, stating that he would acknowledge no authority other than the English as his overlord—(Foreign Persian O.R. 23 April, 1804, No. 218).
94. A petition in Sanskrit from the priests of the temple of Jagannath at Puri—(Persian O.R. 24 July, 1804, No. 345).
95. A letter in Kanarese from Vira Rajendra Odeyar, Raja of Coorg, to Lord Minto informing him about his desire to settle the succession to his throne according to seniority on his first wife's four daughters or their male children—[Persian (Kanarese) O.R. 19 Oct, 1807].

96. A letter in Burmese from the Viceroy of Arakan to the Governor-General (received on 1 March 1808) permitting all European nations to enjoy equal freedom in the commerce of Burma on condition that they paid the usual duties levied in the country—(Foreign Persian O.R. 1808, No. 96).
97. A letter from King of Acheen (in Portuguese with English translation) to Governor-General regarding military help which he sought from the Government of Pulopenang to reduce the inhabitants of Assangan to obedience. Bears the signature of the King in Malay script—(Political Cons. 3 January, 1812, No. 21).
98. A list in Chinese of the import duties on spices and cloth levied in Siam and Cochin-China—(Persian O.R. 10 January, 1824, No. 28).
99. Letter from Bhutan addressed to Mr. Trevelyan, dated 27th November 1836, with illuminated borders containing figures of dragons, conch-shells and Kinnara females. The decorations represent very rare specimens of Indo-Tibetan style of painting—(Foreign Persian O.R. 14 April, 1837). Original.
100. A letter in Marathi received from the Raja of Satara, dated the 16th October, 1837—(Persian O.R. October, 1837, No. 213).

IV.—SPECIMENS ILLUSTRATING DIFFERENT METHODS OF REPAIR AND PRESERVATION OF RECORDS

101. *Manuscripts illustrating the evil effect of repairing documents with white tracing paper.*—The tracing paper used in repairing the present document lost its transparency and strength with years and consequently became brittle. For treatment it was carefully peeled off after the document had been thoroughly dampened with water and rendered flexible. The document was thereafter reinforced with chiffon—(Home Dept. Pub. 9 October, 1806, No. 35).
102. *Specimen of repair with chiffon.*—The application of chiffon, a thin silk gauze, to a sheet for its reinforcement has been accepted for many years as a satisfactory repair method. The whole sheet is stiffened, strengthened and rendered extremely resistant to wear due to handling—(Home Dept. Pub. Cons. 25 June, 1788, No. 3).
103. *Specimen showing corrosive action of ink on paper.*—The acidity and the atmospheric oxidation of ink affect the strength and durability of paper. The paper badly spoiled by ink has been reinforced with chiffon—(Home Dept. Pub. 27 June, 1792, No. 17).
104. *Document laminated with cellulose acetate foil.*—Chiffoning does not protect the paper from the deleterious influences of

light, heat, gases and insects, and it also deteriorates on ageing. Repairing by lamination is a recent method developed by National Archives, Washington, U.S.A., applying a protective foil of cellulose acetate on both sides to fragile documents without adhesive, by melting the foil into the paper by means of heat and pressure alone, is the best and most efficient method of repairing. Lamination renders the document impervious to moisture, gases, attacks of insects and increases the resistance to wear and tear. (For. Deptt. Political, Cons. 2 June 1828, No. 25).

105. *Specimen of Half Margin Repair.*—This method of repair is applicable to pages of documents on which half the space from the left side is left blank and consists in pasting hand-made rag paper on the blank space on both sides of the page. The right edge of the repairing paper is indented by scissors to enable it to encroach on the written portion of the page without actually covering the writing—(For. Deptt. Sec. Cons. 5 March 1824, No. 13).

106. *Specimen of repairing a worm eaten document with Japanese Tissue Paper.*—The documents were bored into by insects which feed on the sizing material applied to the paper during manufacturing process. They have been fumigated by insecticidal gases and subsequently strengthened by pasting Japanese Tissue Paper on both sides, transparency of the writing on the document being maintained by applying only a very thin layer of the adhesive paste—(For. Deptt. Pol. Cons. 14 October, 1825, No. 25).

107. *Specimen of repairing an old water colour painting of white elephant found in South India. This was to be presented to the King of Ava, Burma.*—The painting was badly damaged by insect pests. It has been fumigated and reinforced by pasting special hand made paper on the reverse side—(For. Deptt. Pol. Cons. 13 March, 1837, No. 1).

108. *A specimen of Inlaying Work.*—Sheets that are weak and are of relatively small size may be inlayed—a method of framing a document in hand-made paper. The object is to protect the edges and to keep both sides exposed.—(The Annals of the College of Fort William, 1800—1819).

V.—PHOTOGRAPHS ILLUSTRATING DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF ARCHIVES KEEPING IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA.

109. *A Section of the repair-shop, National Archives of India.*—Paper kept under ordinary atmospheric conditions tends to lose its strength and becomes fragile. It can be reconditioned

by reinforcing it with Chiffon or Japanese Tissue or by inlaying the smaller sheets in a frame of (special hand-made) paper. The above photograph shows the repairing shop where chiffoning, tissuing, inlaying and binding work is done.

110. *Research Laboratory, National Archives of India.*—Repairing materials have to be carefully selected, for, haphazard use of paper and paste can do more harm than good. The machine shown above, tests the tensile strength of paper which helps indicate its durability, a factor which determines the suitability or otherwise of the tested paper for repairing manuscripts.

111. *Effect of Insectal attack on Palm Leaf Manuscripts.*—This is what the insect *gastrallus Indicus* can do to a palm leaf manuscript.

112. *Manuscript Volume badly damaged by insect pests.*—The starch paste used in binding a Volume and the sizing used during manufacturing of paper attract insects.

113. *Photomicrographic apparatus.*—Among the enemies of manuscripts and books are a number of insects which are invisible to the naked eye. In order to devise the best methods of getting rid of such pests, it is essential to study their anatomy as well as habits. The photo-micrographic apparatus shown above takes enlarged photographs of such tiny objects thus keeping a record which can be easily studied.

114. *Photomicrograph of the surface of a palm leaf manuscript.*

115. *Vacuum Fumigation Plant.*—General view of a Vacuum fumigation plant for the treatment of insect and fungus infested records. Even a hard egg shell bursts open under the pressure of Vacuum created in the fumigation chamber. A mixture of Carbon Dioxide and Ethylene Oxide which is lethal to insects and fungi is used as fumigant. This process is safe, economical and efficient.

116. *Lamination Press (open-feed position).*—Application of chiffon and tissue paper for the reinforcement of fragile paper has been used for many years, but it does not protect the paper from the deleterious effects of light, heat, gases or insectal and fungal attacks. Lamination with cellulose acetate sheeting by melting the foil into paper by means of heat and pressure alone is the best and most efficient method of repairing. The advantages of application of such a sheeting being that it is impervious to moisture, gases, light, or attacks by insects and ageing has got little influence on it. The photograph above shows documents being placed in the press.

117. *Laminating Press (view after hydraulic pressure has been applied).*—After the documents covered with acetate foils

are placed in the press, it is closed and hydraulic pressure applied. Steam is then passed through platens. The acetate foils get fused into the documents. The panel on the right is provided with controls for temperature pressure, and the time of operation. A specimen of finished product can be seen amongst the exhibits of repaired documents.

118. *Stack Area, National Archives of India, New Delhi.*—A Section of the Stack area of the National Archives of India—which has been recently fitted with adjustable steel racks. It is also provided with a series of automatic water-sprinkling pipes running all along the ceiling as safety measure against fire hazard.
119. *Stack Area, National Archives of India, New Delhi.*—Records in National Archives are identified, arranged, bound, scientifically preserved and made available to scholars.
120. *Stack Area, National Archives of India, New Delhi.*—Latest accession of the N.A.I., include large quantities of records from the States Residencies abolished since Independence. The picture shows some of the records from Hyderabad (top) and Rajputana Residencies (Bottom) now lying on Steel Shelves in the muniment room of the N.A.I. The difference between records kept scientifically and otherwise is apparent.
121. *Microfilm Camera.*—Microfilming is comparatively a new technique of preservation and reproduction. Documents are photographed on 35 m.m. or 16 m.m. acetate base safety films by means of special cameras. The one shown in photographs is Recordak Model C-1. It is capable of taking documents of the size of $52\frac{1}{2}'' \times 37\frac{1}{4}''$ and photographs at the rate of 300—400 pages an hour.
122. *Specimen of Microfilm.*—This is what microfilms 'look like. They are stored in 100 feet reels generally which may contain 800—1600 exposures.
123. *Microfilm Reader—Recordak Model.*—To read the film it is fed into a compact machine which gives a clear magnified image on a ground glass screen. Pages can easily be turned by the knob on the right hand side and there is an attachment to keep the typewriter or paper or pencil to facilitate taking of notes.

**FROM THE SECRETARIAT RECORD ROOM, MADHYA
PRADESH, NAGPUR**

124. Fifteen Volumes of records relating to the Nagpur Residency, 1803-19. The Volume for 1803-04 contains nine autograph and holograph letters of Sir Arthur Wellesley afterwards Duke of Wellington.

FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR.

<i>Art Reg. No.</i>	<i>Description.</i>
125. 214	Miniature on ivory of the Patna school— Portrait of a European lady, size $2\frac{1}{4}'' \times 4'' \times 2.3/10''$ (Oval)
126. 215	Do. size $2.4/5'' \times 2.3/10''$ (Oval).
127. 216	Do. size $2\frac{1}{4}'' \times 2.1/10''$ (Oval).
128. 228	Miniature on ivory of Tipu Sultan.
129. 232	Portrait on ivory of a European General—unidentified. Patna School size $4.3/10'' \times 3''$ (Rectangular).
130. 1119	A group of nine paintings on ivory depicting:— (i) Top—Emperor Akbar. (ii) 1st left—Empress Noorjahan. (iii) 2nd left—Emperor Humayun. (iv) 3rd left—Moti Begum. (v) Bottom—Emperor Bahadur Shah. (vi) 1st right from top—Empress Arjumand Banu Begum (Mumtaz Begum). (vii) 2nd right—Emperor Shah Jahan. (viii) 3rd right—Khursheed Begum. (ix) Centre—Emperor Akbar Shah II in Darbar with three courtiers and a French Officer. Size— $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5''$ (Oval).

**FROM SHRI L. P. PANDEYA, HONORARY SECRETARY,
MAHAKOSHAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BILASPUR**

131. Palm-leaf Patta in Oriya script and language dated Vikram Samvat 1903 given to Pandit Bholanath Pandey of Balapur by Maharaj Narayan Singh Deo of Sambalpur Raj.
132. Patta on paper in Hindi leasing out a village named Amlidih in Raipur District by the last Chauhan ruler of Sambalpur Raj dated 1893 Vikram year.
133. Two documents written in Hindi from old Sambalpur district dated 1874 A.D.
134. Two documents in Hindi from Raipur district of about 1872 A.D.
135. Four original letters in Modi script from Srimanta Mudhoji Bhonsla of Nagpur.
136. A photograph of Surendra Sai of Chauhan family who fought for the throne of Sambalpur with the English in 1862 A.D.

137. Manuscript copy in Oriya script of Sanskrit poem called कौसलानन्द काव्यम् on the Chauhan Rulers of Patna cum Sambalpur Kingdoms.

FROM SHRI S. G. CHATTE OF NAGPUR.

138. Manuscript copy of the Bakhar of Nagpur Bhonslas—written probably by Kashirao Rajeshwar Gupte.
139. One document, mentioning rights of Mahajan, at Deolghat Sarkar Mehkar of dated 1098 F. 1689 A.D.
140. An account of Land Revenue of Lonar Sarkar Mehkar of 1207 F. mentioning Chouth, Sardeshmukhi, and Ghasdana rights of the Bhonslas, 1797 A.D.
141. An order of Shri Shankaracharya of Shringeri to Brahmins and other house-holders of Mehkar, asking them to return fines from different castes dated Sk. 1749 i.e. 1827 A.D.
142. Account sheet of recovery and expenditure of the Bhonslas at Mehkar in 1187.
143. Copy of the list mentioning the population at Mehkar in SK. 1527. It is a copy of Partition deed for the rights of Joshipana.
144. An order issued to Karkuns of Sakharkhedla—by Malik Ambar about the devaluation of Revenue Watan of a small territory in Berar dated 1611 A.D.
145. A decision given by Shaikh Niyazkhan in a dispute about rights of Patels in mouza Savidid and Ratali in Mekhar Pargana. It is mentioned here that the primary right was of Sharifji Bhonsla. Date 989 Fasli, 15 of Ramzan.
146. An order of Khanderao Laxman to Deshmukhs and Deshpandes informing them of the grant of village Babulkhedla given by Ramchandra Raje (Amraotikar Bhonsle) to Gajanan Dixit dated 1211 Fasli.

FROM THE COLLECTION OF GRAM-JOSHI FAMILY OF NAGPUR IN POSSESSION OF SHRIYUT KRISHNA SHRIDHAR JOSHI OF NAGPUR.

147. Sanad given by Kesari Shah to Nar Joshi in Samvat 1717.
148. Sanad given to Chintaman Joshi by Dalpatrai in Samvat 1627.
149. Sanad given by Vishwas Rai to Chintaman Joshi in 1108 Fasli.
150. Sanad given by Bakhta Buland Khan to Chintaman Joshi in Samvat 1766.
151. Sanad given to Jagannath Joshi in Fasli 1102.
152. Sanad given by Maharajadhiraj Kok Shah to Mukund Joshi and Nag Joshi in Samvat 1691.
153. Sanad given by Raghoji Bhonsla to Lud Joshi in Saba Arbain Maya and Alaf.

154. Sanad given by Tulobaji Raje to Lud Joshi.
155. Sanad given by Kesoba to Mukund Joshi.
156. Sanad given by Jatba Raja (Gond) to Mukund Joshi.
157. A memo mentioning important events in the Bhonsla Family upto the death of Raghoji the First.

FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF SARDAR VANKAT RAO GUJAR.

158. An old sword said to have been used by Pratap Rao Gujar the famous Commander-in-Chief of Shivaji.
159. An old Pistol.
160. An old dagger with an ivory handle in which were once, it is said, valuable jewels.

FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF SARDAR YASHWANT RAO GUJAR.

161. Persian Manuscript of Anwar Suheli.
162. Persian Manuscript of Eusha Usuphan.
163. Passport given to Gujaba Dada Gujar in 1837 for necessary arrangement on his way to Benaras.
164. Grant to Gujaba Dada Gujar 1190 Fasli 25th Ramzan.
165. Letter of Raghoji Bhonsla to Gujaba Dada Gujar in 1194 Fasli.
166. Letter to Gujaba Dada Gujar who had gone to Hyderabad in the service of Nizam written on 11th of Shawwal.

SHRIMANTA MADHAO RAO GANGADHARAO CHITNAVIS.

167. A bound volume containing the texts of treaties between the Bhonslas and the British in Modi as well as Persian.
168. A Questionnaire with replies sent by the Resident to one Vinayak Rao Baba (Vinayakrao Aurangabadkar) the writer of Bakhar of the Nagpur Bhonslas regarding the information about important families in Nagpur, with a description of the administrative system.
169. A memo. of the dates of some important events written in 1233 Fasli.
170. A letter of Raghoji Bhonsla to Gangadhar Madhao Chitnavis after the death of his brother Krishnarao Madhorao Chitnavis informing him to continue his office as before, and consoling him. First of Ramzan probable date year 1803 A.D.
171. One Sanskrit Manuscript containing Bhagwat Gita and other Sanskrit Stotras with beautiful pictures.
172. Grant of four villages to Gopal Krishna Temple by Raghoji Bhonsla.
173. An order of Raghoji Bhonsla regarding the grant of village Govari to Krishnarao Madhorao Chitnavis.

174. Letter of Janoji Bhonsla to Narhari Ballal Subedar asking him to give possession of the village Valambi to Nanaji Ganesh Chitnavis.

From the collection of Lt.-Col. Raja Pratap Singh Bhonsle

175. Portraits of Bhonsla Rulers copied from the originals.
176. One sari of Daryabai Saheb Bhonsle.
177. Genealogy of the Bhonslas—Copied from Udaipur.
178. A Sanskrit manuscript containing pictures.

Owned by Shriyut Laxmanrao Prabhakar Andhare of Narkher, Tahsil Katol.

179. One old painting on glass of some Rajput Ruler.
180. One old painting on glass.

FROM SHRI TAIYIB AHMAD, NAGPUR MAHAVIDYALAYA,
NAGPUR.

(Owned by Sayyid Amjad Qadri Saheb, Jagirdar, Balapur, District Akola.)

181. An old manuscript copy of the holy Quran believed to have been written by the well-known jurist, Hazrat-i-Imam Abu Hanifa, 8th century A.D. It was brought to India from Baghdad by Shah Sayyid Abdul Haleem Qadri, an ancestor of the present Jagirdar. It is a beautiful specimen of Calligraphy and possesses three distinctive features.
182. A "Farman" (1133 A.H./1721 A.D.) issued by Muhammad Nasiruddin, son of Muhd. Jahan Shah and grandson of Shah Alam I, granting Bakhoda a village in the Province of Khandesh to Hazrat Sayyid Safiullah Qadri.
183. A "Farman" (1138 A.H./1725 A.D.) bearing the seal of Muhd. Farrukhsiyar, granting villages Amkapur and Chittora (revenue; 3,22,000 dams) to Sayyid Safiullah Durwesh Qadri for expenses of the Khanqah.
184. A 'Sanad' issued by Asad Khan, Prime Minister of Aurangzeb (1101 A.H./1689 A.D.) granting village Lasoor, for the maintenance of Sayyid Safiullah Qadri's children and dependents.
185. A 'Sanad' under the seals of Khan-i-Khanan and Asifuddaula, some official of Shah Alam (Coronation year 2), granting village Chittora (120000 dams) to Sayyid Safiullah Durwesh.
186. A 'Parwana' (1102 A.H./1684 A.D.) under the seal of 'Abdullah' an official of Alamgir Badshah establishing Sayyid Safiullah Qadri's claim on Sayyid Alam's Jagir-village Lasoor.
187. A diplomatic letter under the seal of Aurangzeb and his son Muazzam (1073 A.H./1662 A.D.) addressed to Sayyid Mansur Khan.

(Owned by Khateeb Husamuddin Saheb, President, Municipal Committee, Balapur, District Akola.)

188. A 'Farman' issued by Prince Murad Bakhsh and Prince Sultan Aurangzeb in 1059 A.H./1649 A.D. granting 20 bighas of land in village Hatah, Pargana Balapur to Sultan Bibi and her son Khwaja Madar.
189. A 'Parwana' issued under the seal of Muhd. Shafi Khan, Governor of Berar (1140 A.H./1727 A.D.) appointing Shaikh Muhd. Masih son of Shaikh Abdul Quddus as Imam and Khateeb of Balapur on payment of As. 4 per day and grant of 6½ chawars of land.
190. A 'Parwana' issued under the seal of Ghulam Muhd., Governor of Berar, in 1166 A.H./1753 A.D. announcing the appointment of Muhd. Ismail son of Muhd. Masih as Imam and Khateeb of Balapur on grant of 6½ chawars of land and payment of annas four per day.

(Owned by Qazi Muhd. Ibrahim Ali Saheb of Patur, Taluq Balapur.)

191. A manuscript copy of the Holy Quran, finished in the year 23 probably the year of some King's Coronation. It appears to be very old, with the first two and last pages richly ornamented in different inks prepared by dissolving precious stones, gold and pearls in some liquids. The translation and a farnamah appended to it are in Persian.
192. A copy of the Holy Quran, printed at the Muir Printing Press, Delhi in 1312 A.H./1894 A.D. possessing only one distinctive feature, namely that of every line beginning with "alif".
- (Owned by Khan Bahadur Mirza Rahman Beg Saheb, Khateeb Akola Town, Akola)*
193. A small spear with handle in the centre. It has good silver polish and is believed to be over 200 years old.
- (Owned by Mirza Yunus Beg Saheb, son of K.B. Mirza Rahman Beg Saheb, Khateeb, Akola)*
194. A 'Farman' (1036 A.H./1643 A.D.) Coronation year 38 under the seal of Asad Khan, grand vizier of Padshah Alamgir Ghazi, ordering the officials of Pargana Akola to institute proper inquiry into appellant Murad Beg's hereditary right to a house in Akola and settle his claims in consultation with the Qazi of that place.
195. A certified true copy under Nazimuddin's seal of a 'Farman' dated 19 Muharram, 1051 A.H./1641 A.D. granting two chawars of land for the maintenance of Mustt. Bibi Dost, with her dependents and sons.

196. A sale-deed (Chaknamah) of 7, Muharram 1185 Fasli in Persian and Modi, in favour of Mirza Momin Beg (1192 A.H./1778 A.D.).
197. A sale-deed (Baenámah) dated 9, Jumadal-awwal, 1219 A.H./1804 A.D. bearing the seal of Nazimuddin executed by Sayyid Rasul, Sayyid Yasin and Sayyid Jafar in favour of Sayyid Bula son of Sayyid Madan. The document mentions the identification marks and ages of the executors and the purchaser.
198. A gift-deed (Hibanamah) dated 16, Safar, 1274 A.H./1857 A.D. bearing the seal of Qazi Sayyid Ziyauddin, executed by Shaikh Boodhan son of Shaikh Lutfullah in favour of Muhd. Yasin son of Shaikh Ghausi. It is signed by 22 witnesses and gives the identification marks, heights and ages of both the parties.
- (Owned by Qazi Maulvi Shah Sayyid Imamul Islam Saheb Naqshbandi, Jagirdar Balapur, District Akola)
199. Sharh-i-Sadidi, a manuscript of 391 pages on the Unani system of medicine, finished in year 4. It is in Arabic written in the Nastaliq Character upto page 317 and thereafter in the Naskh Character which is at present followed for Arabic.
200. Mutawwal, a beautifully decorated Arabic manuscript, is a detailed commentary of Allama Abu Yaqub Sakkaki's famous book on Arabic grammar by Allama Saduddin Tuftazani. The learned commentator started the work in 742 A.H./1341 A.D. and completed it in the year 748 A.H. This manuscript was written at some capital by Muhd. Saeed of Hirat in the year 1347 A.D./970 A.H. The marginal notes were written by Shaikh Fareed who was awarded the title of Murtuza Khan and were completed in 1129-1130 A.H./1717 A.D. The manuscript-text of Mutawwal was finished in the time of Farrukhsiyar. The book bears the seals of Muhd. Qutub Shah and of some official of Muhd. Quli Qutub Shah. The whole book is written in fine Nastaliq hand and beautifully gilded and written in costly inks made out of precious stones.
201. Tazkiratul Aulia, a manuscript copy in Persian of Hazrat Fariduddin Attar's well-known book on the lives of saints. It was written in the year 10102 (probably 1102 A.H./1689 A.D.). The hand-writing is ordinary.
202. Shahnamah of Firdausi, a Persian manuscript, is beautifully illustrated. The first page of each daftar is profusely decorated with precious inks. Every page is embellished with lines in gold and vermillion. It was completed in 907 probably A.H./1501 A.D.

203. Khamsa-i-Nizami, an old Persian manuscript, is a beautiful specimen in Calligraphy. It is illustrated and artistically decorated in gold, vermillion, lapis lazuli and pearl colours.
- (Owned by Shri Rahim Khan, Head Master, Municipal Urdu School No. 3 Akola)
204. A brass coin of Muhd. Tughlak.
205. A copper coin of Muhd. Mahmud.
206. A copper coin of Firuz Shah.
207. A pice copper coin of Rutlam (Vikram year 1947/1890 A.D.).
208. Two pice copper coin (Vikram year 1948/1891 A.D.) of Shri Sayaji Rao M. Gaekwad Sena Khás Khel Shamsheer Bahadur.
209. Two pice copper coin of Nizamul-mulk Asafjah Bahadur 1362 A.H./1943 A.D.
210. Two pice copper coin of Nizamul-mulk Asafjah Bahadur 1228 A.H./1813 A.D.
211. Half a pice copper coin of P. Madhorao M. Sinde A. Bahadur Vikram year 1976/1919 A.D.
212. One anna round coin 1251 A.H./1835 A.D. of Nizamul-mulk Asafjah Bahadur.
213. Durbar Medal (12th December 1911) with bust-images of George V and Mary on it.
214. One anna square-shaped coin (1358 A.H./1939 A.D.) of Nizamul-mulk Asafjah Bahadur.
215. Victory medal of copper (1914-19) George V, Emperor of India.
- (Owned by Shri Raje Udajiram alias Gopalrao Kashirao Deshmukh of Malegaon Jagir, Malegaon, District Akola.)
216. An old muzzle-loading 'Toda-wáli' gun.
217. An old muzzle-loading pistol.
218. An old pistol.
219. A beautifully illustrated manuscript of Firdausi's Shahnama. It was written by Neamatullah son of Inayetullah of Khamayan on the 1st of Jumadassani 1019 A.H./1610 A.D. in good Nastaliq hand.
220. A seal bearing the following inscription on it. "Raja Udajiram Fidvi Alamgir Badshah-i-Ghazi—1214 A.H./1799 A.D."
221. Shah Jahan's 'farman' dated 4th Shaban 1068 A.H./1657 A.D. addressed to Udajiram in reply to the latter's complaint regarding his enemies' designs at exterminating his family. Udajiram is informed of an army having been sent to protect his family and destroy his enemies and he has been invited to the court under proper military escort.

222. A 'sanad' in Persian and Modi bearing the seal of Rajadhiraj Raja Hipat (Mahipat?) Rao Bahadur Fidvi Bádshah-i-Ghazi Shah Alam (1077 A.H./1666 A.D.) regarding the grant by royal 'farman' of a village as maintenance-Inám to Udaram son of Shankarrao.
223. A 'parwana' dated 7th Rabi-us-Sani 1176 A.H./1762 A.D. under the stamp of Rajendra Raja Bahadur Pratap Vant Fidvi Nizam-ul-mulk Asafjah 1174 A.H./1760 A.D. ordering removal of 'thana' from the gadhi (Civil-fortress) in village Malegaon as it was unfair to Udaram who had the gadhi in his jagir.
224. A 'farman' dated 8th Jumadal-awwal coronation year 22/1680 A.D. under the seals of Muazzam Jah and Aurangzeb, granting Deshmukhi and Pateli of three villages in Aurangabad to Musammat Lachhmi mother of Udajiram alias Baba Rai.
225. A document in Modi script.
226. A 'farman' under the seal of Muhd. Aurangzeb Bahadur Bin Sahebqirán-i-Sáni 1061 A.H./1651 A.D., appreciating his loyalty, acknowledging receipt of Udajiram's letter and informing him that the royal armies will shortly camp at Burhanpur where he may come and pay his respects to Aurangzeb.
227. A 'farman' dated 25th Ziqad Coronation Year 7/1665 A.D. under the seal of Muhd. Muazzam son of Alamgir Badshah-i-Ghazi 1073 A.H./1662 A.D. granting to Udajiram alias Baburai, the jagir of his deceased father, Udajiram alias Jagjeevan Das.
228. A 'farman' dated 27th Ziqad, Coronation year 7/1665 A.D. in lieu of the original one in the name of Udajiram alias Jagjeevan Das which is reported to have been lost. By this his Inam grant of 120 'bighas' of land in village Maliwara in Pargana Daulatabad was settled on his son Udajiram alias Baburao.

FROM THE JAGANNATH TEMPLE HISTORICAL RESEARCH SOCIETY, PURI (ORISSA).

229. *The estampages of stone Inscriptions:—*
- (i) Inscription of Singhasana of Lord Jagannath.
 - (ii) Inscription of Chodaganga Dev, the first King of Ganga dynasty. (In Orissa).
 - (iii) Inscription of Indradyumna Tank, Puri, Orissa.
 - (iv) Inscription of Kapileshwar Dev. Orissa.
 - (v) Inscription of Maharatta Sarkar in Orissa.
230. *Copper-Plates In Original:—*
- (i) The Lokabigraha copper-plate from Kanas.
 - (ii) The Kalastambha Dev copper-plate from Puri.
 - (iii) The copper-plate of Uttarparswa Math, Puri.
 - (iv) The copper-plate of Punjabi Math, Puri.

231. Illustrated Palm-Leaf Manuscripts and Photographs.

(a) Palm-leaf:—

- (i) The Chandi Purana of 1607 A.D.
- (ii) The Gitagovinda 1741 A.D.
- (iii) The Chaitanya Mangali.
- (iv) Chaurasi Siddhas.
- (v) Some pictures of Moghul period.

(b) Photographs:—

- (i) Photographs of Bhogamandapa of Lord Jagannath.
- (ii) Photograph of Paramarsa of Sidha Hanuman.
- (iii) Photograph of Puri Temple.

232. Madala Panji Manuscript on Palm Leaf in Kutila Character:—

- (i) Details of the expenditure of Konarka Temple.
- (ii) The report of the Revenue Settlement of Orissa in 1240 A.D.
- (iii) Suvakara Keshari.

233. Documents:—

- (i) Persian documents of Bhog and Khey of Sevayatas, 14-9-1824.
- (ii) Passport to enter in the Puri Town.
- (iii) A receipt for pilgrim-tax of 1706.
- (iv) An appointment letter of Sevak of Jagannath Temple.
- (v) Danapata of 1702 and others.

234. Coins:—

- (i) Silver coin of Aurangzeb, Cuttack Mint.
- (ii) Silver Coin of Shahjahan, Cuttack Mint.
- (iii) Lion Marked Ganga Copper Coins.
- (iv) Garuda marked copper coins.
- (v) Malky British coins of 1828, 1832, 1834.
- (vi) Gold coin of Indravala.
- (vii) Ganga gold coins.
- (viii) Gold coin of Ramachandra Dev, 1343.

FROM RAJA SAHEB RAIGARH.

Documents.

235. Letter dated the 25th December 1803 in Deonagri (Kaithi Script), from Major E. S. Broughton, Commanding, Raigarh Battalion to Raja Jujhar Singh of Raigarh.

236. Letter dated the 22nd May 1804 in Persian Script from Lt.-Col. E. S. Broughton, Commanding Ramgarh Battalion and detachment camp at Sambalpur to Raja Jujhar Singh of Raigarh.
237. A letter dated the 23rd May 1819 in Devanagri (Kaithi Script), from the Political Agent to Raja Jujhar Singh of Raigarh fixing 10 Ashrafs weighing 120 mashas of gold per year as tribute for the territories mentioned in the letter.
238. Notification dated the 11th October 1833 in Persian as well as in Urdu Script signed by Captain Thomas Welkinson, Governor-General's Agent, South-West territories publishing that Ajit Singh ceased to be the Zamindar of Bargarh and also that the Zamindari of Bargarh Pargana was conferred on Raja Deonath Singh on his agreeing to pay a tribute of Rs. 300 per annum.
239. A letter dated the 16th February 1846 in Devanagri Script signed by Col. Genof Osley, Agent to the Governor-General of India and Commissioner to one Balram Singh.
240. A letter dated the 9th June 1858 in Deonagri (Kaithi) Script from the Commissioner, Sambalpur to Raja Deonath Singh of Raigarh requesting for help in arresting the rebels who had killed one man from the army and carried off several others.
241. True translation of Sanad issued on the 20th May 1865 in Persian Script under the signature of Mr. A. Clim, Officiating Under Secretary to Government of India in the Foreign Department in favour of Raja Ghansham Singh of Raigarh-cum-Bargarh granting right of adoption.
242. Draft acknowledgment of Fealty, dated the 4th January, 1866, presented by Raja Ghansham Singh of Raigarh.

Weapons.

243. Khadga (a kind of sword).
244. Pharsa (Axe) with broken handle.
245. Parsu (Axe).
246. Khanda (double edged sword).
247. Double edged Pharsa (Axe).

FROM THE RAJPUTANA MUSEUM, AJMER.

Paintings:

248. Portrait of Raja Birbal (Rajputana Museum No. 487). Originally a poor Brahman, he became one of the "nine jewels" (Navaratna or Nauratna) of the Court of Mughal Emperor Akbar. Raja Birbal was a member of Akbar's innermost circle of friends (choice friend). Akbar loved to have Birbal by his side so that he might enjoy his witty conversation.

249. Photographic copy (original size) of a Rajput painting showing Gajsingh of Jodhpur State. The original of this portrait was on exhibition in the Royal Academy Exhibition of Indian Art (1947-48) held in London. Gajsingh ruled over the Jodhpur State of Rajputana from Samvat 1676—1692 (1619—1635 A.D.).

Manuscript:

250. Manuscript History of Ajmer (Rajputana Museum Library, No. 77).

Farman:

251. Two Farmans of the Mughal Period.

Old Coins:

252. 22 old coins and 8 casts from unique old coins.
- | | |
|------------|----------------------------|
| Nos. 1—3 | Punch-marked coins. |
| Nos. 4 & 5 | Tribal coins. |
| Nos. 6—10 | Indo-Greek coins. |
| Nos. 11—13 | Kushan coins. |
| Nos. 14—17 | Mediaeval coins. |
| Nos. 18—20 | Coins of Gupta Period. |
| Nos. 21—25 | Coins of Sultans of Delhi. |
| Nos. 26—30 | Coins of Mughal Emperors. |

Inscriptions:

253. Copy of a Brahmi Inscription assignable to C. 4th Century B.C. In its first line there is a mention of Vira Bhagavan; in the second the date 84th year is recorded, and in the fourth line, there is a reference to Majhimika (Madhyamika) situated about 8 miles to the north of Chittagong (Mewar State). This fragmentary stone inscription was found at Barli in the State of Ajmer.
254. Copy of inscription engraved on two black stone slabs (originally found out from Adhai-din-ka-Jhopra Mosque at Ajmer), containing portions of the Sanskrit drama called HARAKELI-NATAKA composed by the Chauhan King Vignarajadeva of Sakambhari. The date is recorded as "Samvat 1210 Margasudi 5 Aditya-dine Sravana-nakshatre Makarasthe-Chandre Harshana-yoge" (=1153 A.D.). Regarding this drama (which can be compared to Bharavi's "Kiratarjuniyam") Dr. Kielhorn remarks "actual and undoubted proof is here afforded to us of the fact that powerful Hindu rulers were eager to compete with Kalidasa and Bhavabhuti for poetical fame." These slabs at present displayed in the Rajputana Museum, Ajmer (Nos. 252 & 253).

FROM THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER, BHOPAL.

255. Copy of a stone inscription in 27 lines assignable to the 12th century A.D. It contains invocations to Narayana and various other deities finally coming to Surya from whom the Chahamanas are said to have their origin. Originally discovered from the Adhai-din-ka-Jhopra, this inscription on black stone slab is at present in the Rajputana Museum (Rajputana Museum No. 256).
256. Copy of an inscription (hitherto unknown) of the time of the Chahamanas King Prithviraja III. The date is there in the last line recorded as Samvat 1234 Chaitra Sudi 4. Originally attached to a well near Barla village in the State of Ajmer, this epigraph records the construction of a Vapi. It is the earliest known inscription of the reign of Prithviraja III (Rajputana Museum No. 1067).
257. Estampage of an inscription dated the 6th day of the bright half of Vaisakha, Samvat 1733. The date in the Saka Era is also recorded in it as 1598. It refers to the consecration of a tank in the time of Rajasimha when Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb was reigning (Rajputana Museum No. 1093).
258. Estampage of an inscription on a brass cannon (fitted on two wooden wheels) of the time of Bakhtawar Singh of Alwar bearing the date Samvat 1862 (Rajputana Museum No. 1056).
- List of the Articles from the Central Museum, Nagpur.*
259. Copper Plates
- Tehri plate of Trailokyamalla.
 - Ragholi plates of Jayavardhan.
 - Arang plates of Maha-Jayaraj.
 - Seoni plates of Pravarsen II.
260. Coins
- AE Jataba.
 - AE Kaksa.
 - AN Mahendraditya.
 - AN Prasannamatra.
 - AN Nala.
 - AN Kalachuris.
261. Terracotta Pendant.
262. Babylonian Seal.
263. Twenty photographs of Markandi Temples.
264. Illuminated Manuscript. Dnyaneshwari.

No.	Name of Books	Copy	Date	No. of Paintings	Language	Remarks
<i>Oriental Section (Arabic and Persian)</i>						
265.	Sah-Nama. by Nizami Ganjavi	2 Vols.		28	Persian	Finely illuminated.
266.	Khamasa Nizami Nizami Ganjavi	by 1 Vol.		4	Persian	Finely illuminated.
267.	Khamasa Nizami Nizami Ganjavi	by 1 „		30	Persian	Finely illuminated
268.	Khamasa Nizami Nizami Ganjavi	by 1 „			Persian	Finely illuminated.
269.	Khamasa Nizami Nizami Ganjavi 1073 A.H.	by 1 „		34	Persian	Finely illuminated.
270.	Behar-e-Danish Inayat Ullah	by 1 „		22	Persian	Finely illuminated.
271.	Tarikh-e-Sikandari Abu-Tahir Tusi	by 1 „		150	Persian	Finely illuminated.
272.	Dalailul Khairat Hafiz Ahmad.	by 1 „			Arabic	Finely illuminated.
273.	Dalailul Khairat Hafiz Ahmad.	by 1 „			Arabic	Finely illuminated.
<i>Occidental Section (Latin-English).</i>						
274.	Sketches in Afghanistan	1 „			English	
275.	Letters written in a Maharatta Camp during the year 1809— By Broughton.	1 „			English	
276.	Customs and Dress of the Hindoos by Tolvyns.	1 „			English	
277.	Philologia Sera. Francisci Bvddei	by 1 „	1725 A.D.		Latin	Philology of the Bible.
278.	Turke-Green Indice Copiosissimo	by Cvm 1 „	1594 A.D.		Latin	(Greeks under the Turks) and Aspects Political, Economic, etc.

FROM RAJWADE SAMSHODHAN MANDAL, DHULIA.

279. A Persian grant from Shaha Jahan.
280. A Persian grant from Mumtaz Mahal.
281. A monetary grant (in Modi) from Maloji Raje Bhonsale. (Grand father of Shivaji) 1606 A.D.
282. A Modi Circular letter from Malik Ambar of Ahmednagar.
283. A land grant from Shivaji to the Brahmin of Chakan (in Modi).

284. A land grant from Rajaram Chhatrapati (in Modi).
 285. A letter from Sadashio Rao Bhau Peshwe to Govindpant Kher.
 286. A letter of Nana Fadnis.
 287. A letter from Raghobadada Peshwa bearing his seal as Peshwa.
 288. An autograph letter from Raghoji Bhonsle to Shahu Chatrapati about the former's invasion of Bengal and describing the extent of the booty.
 289. A letter from Raghuji Bhonsle to Sadashio, Dixit of Satara.
 290. A letter from Raja Chaitasing of Benaras to Maharaja Daulat Rao Scindia.
 291. A page from M. S. Elphinstone's account papers when he was the Resident at the Poona Darbar in 1815.

FROM THE JAIN RESEARCH INSTITUTE, YEOTMAL.

S. No.	Year	By whom sent	To whom sent	Description of the Document
1	2	3	4	5
292.	Summa San 1109 (1699 A.D.)		"Tankhebandi"	Settlement of Income of Jadao family of Shindhkhed in Berar.
293.	1719 A.D.		"Partition of Deshmukhi"	Partition between Thakurji, Raje Raghuji, Raje Ranoji etc.
294.	R, year 64 (1737)	Shahu Maharaj	Laxmanrao Jadhao	Conferring the rights of Mokasa Bahti and Sahotra on Jadhao.
295.	A.D. 1765	Madhaorao Ballal Peshwe	Rustamrao Jadhao.	Conferring the rights of Mokasa on Rustamrao and Bahadursing as Laxmanrao was killed in the campaign of Karnatak.
296.	A.D. 1767	-do-	Sakhubai Shindhhe.	Order to pay the "Mokasa" etc. to Rustamrao Jadhao of Shindhkhed.
297.	(A.D. 1776)		Shaka 1698 "FARKAT"	Relinquishment by Bhawanji Sadashio Takalkar for Rs. 8,217-14-0 to Rustamrao Jadhao of Shindhkhed.

S. No.	Year	By whom sent	To whom sent	Description of the Document.
1	2	3	4	5
298.	A.D. 1800	Bajirao Raghunath Peshwa.	Trimabakrao Jadhao of Shindhkhed.	Rights of Sahotra conferred. "You must maintain good cavalry and be loyal to us."
299.	Shaka 1556 (A.D. 1734)	"Mahajarnama"		Partition deed between Raje Dattaji Jadhao of Shindhkhed and others.
300	Shaka 1684 (A.D. 1762)	Madhaorao Pandit Pradhan	"Ajnyapatra"	Order of conferring Inams etc. for the poet "Gosawinandan" of Shindhkhed in Berar.

FROM THE DAFTAR-I-DIWANI, HYDERABAD GOVERNMENT.

Persian Exhibits

S. No.	A.R.No	Period	Nature of the Document
1	2	3	4
301	5121	Sultan Muhammad Quli Qutub Shah. 1579—1612 A.C.	Farman, dated 1003 A.H. (1594 A.C.) ordering the Karkunan, etc., of the Patalchur Pargana, not to encroach on the Inam Lands of the late Abdul Karim.
302	5046	Sultan Muhammad Qutub Shah. 1612—1626 A.C.	Farman, dated 9th Shawwal, 1036 A.H. (1627 A.C.) granting the Despandiyagiri, etc., to Appa Kundu, son of Timanna.
303	5079	Ali Adil Shah II 1656—1672 A.C.	Farman, dated 11th Rajab 1074 A.H. (1664 A.C.) offering condolences to Ekoji Bhonsle (son of Shahji Bhonsle) on the death of his son.
304	5117	Ali Adil Shah II 1656—1672 A.C.	Farman, dated 16th Ziqada, 1074 A.H. (1664 A.C.) granting the Deshmukhi of the Pargana of Qadirabad, etc. to Ekoji Bhonsle (son of Shahji Bhonsle).
305	5081	Ali Adil Shah II 1656—1672 A.C.	Farman, dated 16th Ziqada 1074 A.H. (1664 A.C.) granting the Deshmukhi of the Muhammadabad Pargana to Ekoji Bhonsle, son of Shahji Bhonsle.

S. No.	A.R.No.	Period.	Nature of the Document.
1	2	3	4
306	5118	Ali Adil Shah II. 1656—1672 A.C.	Farman, dated, 16th Jamadi II, 1080 A.H. (1671 A.C.) granting the Parganas of Kaveripatan, etc., from the territories, belonging to Jegdev, to Ekoji Bhonsle, son of Shahji Bhonsle.
307	767	Shah Jahan. 1628—1658 A.C.	Siyaha Huzur dated 5th Rajab 1047 A.H. (1637 A.C.) holding of the public and private audience by Prince Aurangzeb; granting audience to Nawab Shaista Khan etc.
308	811	Shah Jahan. 1628—1658 A.C.	Siyaha Huzur dated 3rd Ziqada 17th regnal year, 1054 A.H. (1645 A.C.) Holding of public and private audience by Prince Aurangzeb; receiving of the Emperor's Farman, and presentation of Huns to the Prince.
309	687	Shah Jahan. 1628—1658 A.C.	Endorsed memorandum dated 11th Jamadi I, 29th regnal year 1065 A.H. (1655 A.C.): Granting of mansab to Shahbaz and Umar, in the service of Sultan Abdulla Qutub Shah.
310	645	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Rozenamcha-Waqai-Ramgir Sarkar, dated 1st Shawwal 4th regnal year 1071 A.H. (1661 A.C.): Offering of Idul-Fitr prayer by Muhammad Momin etc., and presentation of robe of honour by Nasrulla to the preacher.
311	569	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Roznamcha-i-Waqai Hyderabad, dated 11th Rabi I, 4th regnal year 1072 A.H. (1661 A.C.): Despatching of basket of fruits by Abdulla Qutub Shah (king of Golconda) to his daughter.
312	662	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Roznamcha-i-Waqai-Galna, dated 1st Ramzan 1072 A.H. (1662 A.C.): Reporting the arrival of the sons of Sultan Quli Beg, on his way to Mulher at Burhanpur.

S. No.	A.R.No.	Period.	Nature of the Document.
1	2	3	4
313	731	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Parwancha, dated 28th Ramzan 1072 A.H. (1661 A.C.): Regarding the grant of five lakhs dams out of the revenue of the Pargana of Nandura as salary to Sayyid Saif etc., for the management of the said Pargana.
314	579	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Roznamcha-i-Dharur dated 23rd Muharram 1073 A.H. (1662 A.C.): Regarding the raid, made by Sayyid Shihab on the Tir village and the clash that ensued between him and the inhabitants.
315	606	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Roznamcha-i-Waqai-Udgir, dated 3rd Shawwal 1073 A.H. (1663 A.C.): Reporting the arrival of Muhammad Riza Beg, servant of Umadatul-Mulk Jafar Khan on his way to Burhanpur, at Ramgir.
316	845	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Siyaha Huzur, dated 17th Rabi I, 6th regnal year, 1074 A.H. (1663 A.C.): Dastak issued by the orders of the Maharaja Jai Singh addressed to the grantees to send reinforcement to Sayyid Mansur Khan.
317	824	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Siyaha Huzur, dated 12th Rabi II, 11th regnal year, 1079 A.H. (1668 A.C.): Holding of public and private audience by Prince and presentation of Nisar to the Prince by Muhammed Abul Fazl, etc.
318	500	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Siyaha dated 28th Shaban 23rd regnal year 1091 A.H. (1680 A.C.): Orders issued to the Commanders to perform guard duties and patrol around the Imperial Camp.
319	506	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Descriptive Roll, dated 3rd Rabi II, 24th regnal year, 1092 A.H. (1681 A.C.): Regarding the physical features of Sayyid Muhammad and his horse under the command of Kamyab Khan.

S. No.	A.R.No.	Period.	Nature of the Document.
1	2	3	4
320	111	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Copy of the attendance certificate dated 6th Ramzan 26th regnal year, 1093 A.H. (1680 A.C.) of the Portuguese gunners, posted at the fort of Shiewner, under the command of Abdul Aziz Khan, the Qiladar
321	681	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Dastak dated Rabi I, 27th regnal year 1095 A.H. (1684 A.C.) addressed to Udiraj, regarding the payment of salary to Jagjiwan Das Ahdi and Mushrif, employed on the establishment of the mother of the Prince.
322	784	Aurangzeb.	Siyaha Huzur, dated 18th Jamadi II 33rd regnal year, 1101 A.H. (1699 A.C.) : Sanction accorded to the exemption of the Deccani Mansabdars from the execution of Security Bond.
323	727	Aurangzeb. 1658—1707 A.C.	Muster-Roll dated 15th Muharram 45th regnal year, 1113 A.H. (1701 A.C.) : Bearing the verification of the branding of horses belonging to the retainers of Faizullah Khan.
324	190	Shah Alam II 1759—1803 A.C.	Newsletter, Shahjahanabad dated 7th Rajab 1187 A.H. (1773 A.C.) : Bestowing the robes of honour, jewels, etc., upon the personages by His Imperial Majesty.
325	5073	Asaf Jah I. 1724—1748 A.C.	An Office note, dated 1141 A.H., bearing the endorsement of Asaf Jah I, to return the bond, after checking the payment of the amount, due from Mobariz Khan.
326	2011	Asaf Jah I. 1724—1748 A.C.	Jama-Wasil-baqi (Account of the collections and arrears) of the Peshkash, due from Lakoji, the Zamindar of Tanjore.
327	2014	Asaf Jah I. 1724—1748 A.C.	A copy of an endorsed office note, regarding the collection of the revenues from the territories, adjoining the Fort Nusratgarh, and the Peshkash due from the Zamindars.

S. No.	A.R.No.	Period.	Nature of the Document.
1	2	3	4
328	5077	Nawab Nasir Jang. 1748—1750 A.C.	Endorsed office note, regarding the petition of Sayyid Lashkar Khan, dated 9th Shaban 1161 A.H., bearing the sanction of Rs. 11019, for the purchase of land, etc., for the tomb of Asaf Jah I.
329	5074	Nawab Nasir Jang. 1748—1750 A.C.	Endorsed petition of Husain Dost Khan Mobariz Jang (Chanda Sahib) regarding the grant of Mahalat, in salary to himself and his son.
330	2028	Nawab Muzaffar Jang 1750 A.C.	Deed of Lease, drawn by Ali Riza Ghazanfar Jang, regarding the districts of Trichinopoly, etc.
331	5055	Nawab Salabat Jang. 1759—1759 A.C.	An endorsed office note, dated 20th Jamadi II, 1170 A.H. regarding the renewal of the Sanad of Madad-i-Mash, to Krishna Chari, out of the yield of Salt Tax.
332	4801	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Copy of the Office memorandum, dated 26th Rabi I, 1175 A. H. conveying the orders that 5th Zilhijja, 1173 A.H. may be entered in the Government Offices, as the date of accession of Nizam II.
333	3301	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Petition of Rai Babu Rai Asaf-jahi, bearing endorsement of the Emperor Shah Alam II in lead pencil, regarding the receipt of 101 Ashrafi, presented by the Nizam to the Emperor, on his accession to the throne of Delhi.
334	1265	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Office note, dated 11th Safar 1189 A.H. (1775 A.C.) on the petition of the Mahratta Officers, for the Payment of Rs. 2,00,000, in kind, bearing endorsement of the Nizam for the issue of a written authority.
335	3303	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Memorandum on Famine Relief Measures bearing endorsement of the Nizam.

S. No.	A. R. No.	Period.	Nature of the document.
1	2	3	4
336	2520	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Draft of an order addressed to Anop Ram for the restoration of the Taluq of Anagundy, etc., to Tipu Sultan.
337	5061	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Letter of Azam-ul-Umara, addressed to Hari Pandit in regard to the occupation of the fort of Balhari, dated 17th Shawwal, 1206 A.H. (1791 A.C.).
338	2255	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Draft of an agreement, dated 28th Shaban, 1211 A.H. (1797 A.C.) granting permission to Murlidhar, coppersmith, to purchase copper alloy and continue striking coins at the Ellichpur Mint.
339	2163	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Endorsed Memorandum regarding the grant of permission to re-start the coinage at Kalyan Mint.
340	5070	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Draft of a letter, addressed to General Campbell, instructing him to provide facilities for Wikalat Ram, the newly appointed officer-in-charge of ships at Masulipatam.
341	2354	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Draft of a letter, addressed to Mr. Sadler, instructing him to assist Wikalat Ram, the Darogha of ships at Masulipatam.
342	5069	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Memorandum, on the rates, prevailing in the grain market on the far side of the river Musi (Begam Bazar), dated 13th Shaban, 1189 A.H. (1775 A.C.)
343	2303	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Memorandum, dated 20th Rabi I, 1193 A.H. (1779 A.C.) enumerating the firms of Shroffs situated in Hyderabad.
344	4633	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. 1759—1803 A.C.	Market rates of spices, etc., prevalent at the Jaising Petha, dated 22nd Zilhijja 1212 A.H. (1797 A.C.)
345	3022	Nawab Sikandar Jah 1803—1828 A.C.	Copy of the draft of orders of a Maharaja Chandu Lal, declaring the issue of rupee coins, known as Zulfakar and Sikandar, struck at the Amraoti Mint, to be legal tender for all purposes.

S. No.	A. R. No.	Period.	Nature of the document.
1	2	3	4
346	3023	Nawab Sikandar Jah 1803—1828 A.C.	Draft of a Sanad and of an agreement, regarding the appointment of Muhammad Eydrus Khan, as Darogha of Mint at Feroznagar (Raichur).
347	3021	Nawab Sikandar Jah 1803—1828 A.C.	Copy of Lease, dated 7th Zilhijja 1237 A.H. (1821 A.C.) granted for the establishment of Amraoti Mint for striking Shamsheri coins.
348	3025	Nawab Sikandar Jah 1803—1828 A.C.	Memorandum, on the estimate of Rs. 2,696-8-0 for 506 Gaddi of different varieties and qualities of papers, under the supervision of Sikandaryar Jang and Muhammad Abdul Lateef Khan.

Marathi Exhibits

S. No.	A. R. No.	Contents of the Document.	Date.
349	1100	A copy of a sanad granting four annas per day "Yomiya" to a Brahmin at Purli.	9-4-1698 A.C.
350	858	Krishna Rao Ballal writes to Jiwaree Punt posted with the Nizam, to restore the Jagir granted to the Guru of the Patil Baba (i.e. Mahadajee Scindia).	31-10-1774 A.C.
351	1337	A letter of injunction from the Punt Pradhan to restore the grants to the grave of Nawab Nizamul-Mulk Bdr. in Pargana Khuldabad.	18-9-1757 A.C.
352	1338	A letter of injunction issued by Madhav Rao II to restore the grants to the grave of Nasir Jung Bdr. in Pargana Takli.	18-9-1757 A.C.
353	1340	A letter of injunction from Madhav Rao II to restore the grant to the grave of Aurangzeb in Pargana Takli.	18-9-1757 A.C.
354	882	Jankoji Scindia addresses from Golconda to Dhondopunt Rai Rayan soliciting his aid the object of which is not clear.	10-3-1776 A.C.
355	1410	Haripunt Phadke writes to Nanajee Shankar that certain grants to Trimbak Gangadhar etc., in Pargana Chitgope should be restored.	3-2-1779 A.C.

S. No.	A. R. N.	Contents of the Document.	Date
356	1393	Ramchandra Ganesh addresses Nana-jee Punt thanking him for an offer of sugar-coated sesames.	28-2-1779 A.C.
357	1389	Mudhojee Bhonsle sends robes to Bhondajee Shankar in honour of the Dasserah.	15-10-1781 A.C.
358	1388	Nana Phadnis sends an invitation to Dhondajee Shankar to attend the marriage of Madhav Rao II.	31-12-1782 A.C.
359	1387	Tukojee Holkar writes to Renuka Das Rai Rayan condoling him upon his father's death.	21-2-1783 A.C.
360	849	Govind Rao Ballal congratulates Rai Renuk Rao upon the latter's being made the Peshkar and for being granted other privileges.	5-2-1784 A.C.
361	844	A copy of an agreement between the Peshwa and the Nizam regarding the distribution of territory obtained in the Doab of the Tungabhadra and the Krishna from Tippu Sultan.	2-6-1786 A.C.
362	861	Ahalya Bai Holkar addresses Rai Renukadas informing him that Vishwas Laxman was posted as her representative at Hyderabad.	5-9-1791 A.C.
363	1088	An Akhbar from Nagpur reporting details of the Northern affairs of Ali Bahadur and Tukojee Holkar camping at Mathura.	10-1-1792 A.C.
364	864	Sakharam Bhagwant writes to Nana-jee Punt that Yadav Rao Rajaram should be presented to the Hudur and his goodwill and kindness secured for him.	Before 1782 A.C.
365	846	Naro Ganesh writes to Rai Renuka Das requesting him to accept sugar-coated sesames.	After 1783 A.C.
366	1087	An Akhbar from Mysore detailing the movements of the English near Chandavar.	After 1784 A.C.
367	1399	Rai Renuka Das Dhundiraj Rai Rayan writes to Patil Bava (Mahadajee Scindia) that as his brother Appa Rao is proceeding on a pilgrimage in the North every facility should be afforded to him.	About 1785 A.C.

S. No.	A. R. N.	Contents of the Document.	Date
368	1394	Bhiv Rao Yashwant, an artillery officer of the Peshwa, addresses Nana Swamy thanking him for certain good deeds of his.	11-1-1777 A.C.
369	198	A Poona Akhbar reporting the details of the Holi celebrations held in the palace of the Peshwa.	8-3-1784 A.C.
370	511	An Akhbar of the Dewdi-e-Khas of Nawab Nasir-ud-dowla Bahadur. As usual arrivals and departures of the courtiers etc., are narrated. (William) Maclean is reported to have gone on an excursion with his wife to a mango-tope.	15-11-1844 A.C.
371	1057	Malhar Rao Holkar addresses Rai Renuka Das Rai Rayan urging him to maintain amicable relations with him as in the past.	About 1813 A.C.
372	1099	Hara Prasad Tivari addresses Rai Dinanath Shukla, an agent of the Rai Rayan. The writer displays an excellent literary style.	29-9-1835 A.C.
373	G109	An Akhbar (newsletter) originating from Poona reporting in vivid detail the accidental fall of Peshwa Sawai Madhav Rao from the balcony of the Shanwarwada palace, overlooking a fountain and the fractures and severe injuries sustained by him.	23 October 1795 A.C.
374	G864	An anecdote relating how Samsamud-Daula, while playing chess with Nizam Ali Khan, ignored the fire caught by the carpet on the floor and the hem of the Nizam's tunic and yet justified his indifference.	Undated.
375	G865	A story about Niloba Dada Sadhu and Raja Ujagarchand.	Undated.
376	G934	A repartee from Govind Rao Kale to Arastu Jah who put a humiliating query to him about the Peshwa.	Undated.
377	G963	An anecdote about Daulat Rao Scindia and Madhav Rao II.	Undated.
378	1639	An inventory of articles in store in the Fort of Devagiri.	19th June 1776 A.C.
379	1695	Rai Rayan Dayanatwant (Dhondaji Shinkar) writes to Ganesh Dadaji instructing the latter to get the medicine prepared according to the prescription.	4th December 1781 A.C.

S. N.	A. R. N.	Contents of the Document.	Date
380	1661	Appa and Sakhaji write to Baba and Ram Rao. Numerous references have been made to the Battle of Lakhari fought between the Scindia and the Holkar in 1793.	17th May 1793 A.C.
381	2421	Appaji Narasimha writes to Dayanataram describing how a Gosavi went amuck and assaulted a few persons.	18th April 1775 A.C.
382	1867	List of stages of journey from Hyderabad to Malkapur.	28th March 1824 A.C.
383	1396	A treatise on the tests determining the merits and demerits of horses composed in the Ovi metre.	Undated.
384	1727	A memorandum giving the identification marks of Ram Singh and Tiwari.	12th February 1819 A.C.
385	932	Hamumanta Rao writes to Nanaji Shankar about domestic and financial matters and expresses his gratitude to the latter for rescuing one Bhadri from the harassment of some people who have falsely charged him with theft. The letter is a good specimen of cramp Modi handwriting.	20th December 1767 A.C.
386		A page from a Modi Bakhar (incomplete) obtained from the Sanpuri Village, Hyderabad State, which gives a lively account of the history of the Marathas and the Nizams, the period covered being from the death of Sambhaji to 1776 A.C. (Preserved by the Osmania University.)	Undated.

Facsimiles of lac seals

387	A broken fragment of the seal of Peshwa Raghunath Rao.	Nagari.
388	Seal of Raja Umed Singh of Marwar	Nagari.
389	Seal of Asaf Jah Nizam-ul-Mulk	Persian.
390	Seal of Nawab Nizam Ali Khan	Persian.
391	Seal of Sir Baha Rani Sanat Kunwar	Persian.
	Jodib.	

FROM PROFESSOR NAIMUDDIN, PROFESSOR, VIDARBHA MAHAVIDYALAYA, AMRAOTI.

I. From Qazi S. Hanifuddin Saheb, Achalpur City.

392. A sanad granted to his ancestors.

393. Jawahar-al-Tafsar.

II. From S. Zulfiqar Husan Khateeb, Achalpur City.

394. Hidayat-al-Nahd.

395. Tawareekh-e-Hindi (Tareekh-e-Zaman-e-Sahinshah Jahangir).

396. The holy Quran (in green Juzdam).

397. Diwan-e-Shams Tabreez.

398. Diwan-e-Hafiz.

399. Ruqaat-e-Alamgir.

400. Khulsa-e-Durre Arbain.

III. From Muhd. Mahatab Khan Sahib, M.A., Retired Head Master, Achalpur City.

401. Waqa-e-Nadirshah.

FROM GOVERNMENT OF PATIALA AND EAST PUNJAB STATES UNION.

402. Copies of five letters of Maharajas Ala Singh and Amar Singh written to Ashraf-ul-Wuzra Shah Wali Khan, Prime Minister of Ahmad Shah Abdali.

403. A Farman dated 29th Rajjab, 7th Regnal year of Emperor Muhammad Akbar Shah Badshah granting to Maharaja Karam Singh of Patiala the title of Rajeshur Maharajadhiraj Rajah-i-Rajgan Mahendar Bahadur.

404. A letter dated 5th Jamadi-ul-Awwal, 15th Jalusi, of General Perron of Maratha service addressed to Major Louis Bourquine.

405. A Copper plate with a Sanad of Raja Karam Parkash, dated 29th Chet, 1859 Bk. (1802 A.D.), inscribed on it, offering village of Surajpur in the "Taluka Panjaur" to Temple Sri Jagannath Dwar as a religious offering.

406. Sanad dated 3rd September, 1815, under the seal of General David Ochterloney granting the Thakurai of the territories of Baghat and Jagat-garh in the Shivalik Hills to Maharaja Karam Singh of Patiala.

407. A Document dated 1st Chet 1874 Bk. (March 1817 A.D.), bearing the *Sahi* (in Gurmukhi script) and two seals of Maharaja Ranjit Singh of the Panjab, granting the village of Tanda, Aiya-nagar (Yahiyapur) and Urmur to Sardar Fateh Singh Ahluwalia of Kapurthala.

408. Book of Reports or Intelligence for the year 1880 Bk. (1823-4 A.D.), from the Patiala Wakil at the British Agency at Ambala, Persian Manuscript.

409. Agreement between the British Government and the Patiala State regarding the Sirsa-Branch of the Western Jumna Canal, executed on the 28th of July, 1893, and approved and confirmed by the Governor-General of India on the 29th August, 1893.

FROM SHARADASHRAM, YEOTMAL.

(Through Dr. Y. K. Deshpande).

A.—Documents of Pre-Bhonsla Period.

410. Photo of the grant by Tuloji Raje, a Gauli King to Vis Joshi and Nag Joshi, five generations before 1612 A.D.
411. Photo of a grant by Jatba, a Gond King of Deogarh in 1612 A.D. to Mukund Joshi and Narayan Joshi.
412. Photo of a grant by Koka Shah, a Gond King to Mukund Joshi and Narayan Joshi in 1638 A.D.
413. Photo of a grant by Kesari Shah, a Gond King to Mukund Joshi and Nar Joshi in 1646 A.D.
414. Photo of a grant by Dindarshah, a convert Gond king to Nar Joshi in 1680 A.D.

B.—Documents under Nizamshahi of Ahmadnagar.

415. Photo of an order of Malik Amber, the Abyssinian Minister of the Nizamshahi in 1620 A.D.
416. Photo of a Majhar, about a watan of Sakar-khelda in Berar in 1622 A.D., recording order of Raje Maloji Bhonsla, grandfather of Shivaji as Minister of the Nizamshahi and an order by Raja Birsingh Deo Bundela, a Sardar of the Mughal Emperor.
417. Photo of an Order over the Patelki Watan of Sakar-Khelda and other villages between Varial family and Jetji Teli, an Agent of Raje Sharaffji Bhonsla, uncle of Shivaji, who was a Mukasdar of the said Sakar-Khelda pargana.

C.—Documents of the period of the Bhonslas of Nagpur.

418. Abhayapatra, a letter of assurance by Raja Kanhoji Bhonsla to the Brahmins of Talegon Dasasar in Berar in 1731 A.D.
419. An Abhayapatra by Raja Raghoji Bhonsla II, regarding the rights of Meherki, in 1800 A.D.
420. Account of the fight between Kanhoji and Raghoji Bhonsla in connection with the family of the Parwa Deshmukh in 1730 A.D.
421. A grant by Raghoji II, to Rodbhat in 1815 A.D., the document bearing the endorsement of Jenkins, the Resident of Nagpur.
422. A grant by Janoji Bhonsla to Govindnath Gosavi in 1753 A.D.
423. An order by Janoji Bhonsla to allow Mukasa to Balvantrao Deolate in 1765, A.D.
424. A grant by Sabaji Bhonsla to Vishvanath Bhat of Darwha in 1784 A.D.

425. Photo of an Order by Janoji Bhonsla in connection with the Desh-Mukhi Watan of Pohona Pargana in 1769 A.D.

D.—The Documents of the Pre-Mughal Period.

426. A Farman in Persian language but in Modi characters by Bijapur Emperor about Patelki Watan in 1664 A.D.
427. A Dharmapatra, a grant to Nag Thakur of Darwha in 1537 A.D.
428. Vasalat, a revenue statement of the jagir villages of Raja Pahadsingh in 1537 A.D.

E.—Documents of the Mughal Period.

429. Ek-harfi, revenue statement of Ner Pargana in Modi in 1695 A.D.
430. Ek-harfi, revenue statement of Darwha Pargana in Persian in 1685 A.D.
431. Ek-harfi, revenue statement of Papal Pargana in Modi in 1680 A.D.
432. Ikrarnama, an agreement in Persian on cloth in 1672 A.D.
433. Ikrarnama in Persian and Gujrati in 1712 A.D.
434. An agreement in favour of Kashiram Deshpandia of Papal in Modi in 1675 A.D.
435. A Khareeta by Daulatrao Sindhia on behalf of the Emperor of Delhi in favour of Deokate Sardar.
436. An order by Aurangzeb about the watan of Deshmukhi of Darwha Pargana in Persian in 1671 A.D.
437. An agreement between the Deshmukh and Deshpandia of Ner Pargana in 1671 A.D.
438. A deed of partition of the Deshmukhi watan of Darwha Pargana between two brothers one Hindu and the other convert to Mahomedanism for watan in 1673 A.D.
439. A grant of Raja Jagjeewanrao Udaram of Mahur to a Brahmin in 1658 A.D.
440. A grant by Rani Savitri Bai Udaram alias Rai Baghan in 1658 A.D.

F.—Documents during the period of the Nizams of Hyderabad.

441. A bond in Modi in favour of Vithalpant Deshpande of Papal in 1845 A.D.
442. A sanad by Nizam-ul-mulk to a quazi of Darwha in 1849 A.D.
443. A sanad by Chinqilich Khan to Sadavarti Brahmin of Talegaon in 1702 A.D.
444. A sanad by Nizam-ul-mulk Asaf Jah to a Darwha Qazi in 1818 A.D.

445. A sanad by Chingilich Khan in Persian in the 44th year of the reign of Aurangzeb.
446. An order by Nizam-ud-daula in the reign of Shah Alam, Emperor in 1765 A.D.
447. Proclamation during the Ministry of Sirajud-daula in 1819 A.D.

G.—Documents of the period of the Rajas of Satara,

448. An order by Shahu Maharaj to Bajirao I, Peshwa in 1727 A.D.
449. An order by Shahu Maharaj to Kanhoji Bhonsla in 1731 A.D.
450. An order by Shahu Maharaj to Sultanji Nimbalkar in 1722 A.D.
451. An order by Shahu Maharaj to Dharmoji Deokate about the Sargaudk of Pargana Kadevalit in 1707 A.D.
452. An order by Shahu Maharaj to Sultanji Nimbalkar about the Vatan of the Deokate Sardar in 1723 A.D.
453. Darbar kharch, presents given at Satara Court by the Deokate Sardar in 1753 A.D.

H.—Documents of the Peshwa period.

454. An order by Visaji Krishna Biniwale to Manaji Deokate.
455. A Khareeta by Savai Madhorao Peshwa.
456. News letter by Chinto Ram Vakeel of the Deokate Sardar, giving the details of the 2nd marriage of Balaji Bajirao in 1760 A.D.
457. A letter by Balaji Bajirao Peshwa.
458. An order by Madhorao Ballal Peshwa to Janoji Bhonsla.
459. An order by Madhorao Ballal Peshwa to Manaji Deokate in 1768 A.D.
460. News letter by Ranoji Sate giving the news about the campaign against Hyder Naik of Mysore and the meeting of Mahadji Scindia, Holkar and Haripant Fadke.

I.—Miscellaneous historical documents.

461. An impression of a copper plate grant by a Savant in Marathi in 1202 Sake.
462. A copper plate grant by Dip Narayan Sinha, king to a Brahmin about three hundred years ago.
463. A Persian passport by a Resident of Indore to one Bapu Mahadeo, a servant of Jankoji Scindia in 1832 A.D.
464. A copy of the Bombay Gazetteer in Persian, dated 18-11-1856 A.D.
465. Copies of the "Lawrence Gazette" in Urdu in 1860 A.D.

466. A Persian and Hindi passport by the Resident at Indore.
467. Facsimile of the handwriting of Tukaram Maharaj from the Ms. in possession of his descendant.
468. A letter by Warren Hastings in Persian with his signature to the Poona Darbar.
469. An autograph letter by Sir John Shore, Governor-General of India in Persian, to Poona Darbar.
470. A letter by Macpherson, Governor-General of India in Persian with his signature to Poona Darbar.
471. A letter by Lord Cornwallis, Governor-General of India in Persian with his signature to Poona Darbar.
472. A painting of Govindpant Bundele.
473. A painting of the last fight of Rani Laxmibai at Gwalior.
474. Photo of a contemporary painting of Emperor Shah Jahan.

FROM COMBINED INTER-SERVICES HISTORICAL SECTION,
SIMLA

475. *Italian Propaganda Leaflet For Indian Troops.*—This is a specimen of Italian leaflets dropped on Indian troops fighting in North Africa. The present exhibit was dropped on 21st August 1942 at 6-30 P.M. An English translation made in the field is also attached.
476. *Correspondence Between The Axis Powers, The Mufti Of Jerusalem and Prime Minister Rashid Ali of Iraq.*—These are photostat copies of the captured documents in German, French and Italian with their English renderings, and bear on the relations between the Middle East countries and the Axis powers. These letters might well serve as basic original sources for researches in the history of diplomacy.
477. *War Department File On Lease-Lend—General Policy.*—Contains a Military Finance Department Memorandum entitled "Lease-Lend and Reciprocal Lease-Lend" which summed up in a dozen paragraphs the theory and practice of mutual aid between USA and India. The Memorandum seems to have been drafted sometime early in 1944.
478. Translation of minutes of a conference held in Goering's special train in Rome on 30th November 1942, affecting Axis situation in North Africa.
479. A Memorandum by Mr. Winston Churchill on artillery tactics circulated to commanders of the 4th Indian Division and 5th, 7th and 11th Indian Infantry Brigades.
480. A German document, being diagram of Artillery—Air Co-operation on the Libyan Front.

481. An exchange of signals i.e., cipher messages between General Auchinleck and Commander 4th Indian Division, typical of messages generally exchanged in the field.
482. Japanese Internment Camps forms required to be filled in by the Prisoners of War.
483. Note by General Wavell—Commander-in-Chief of India on 28th March 1942 of the situation in Burma as "it may be by September 1942 and the measures necessary to restore the position".
484. Note by General Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of India, dated 4th June 1942, on J.P.S., Paper No. 18, regarding Offensive into Burma.
485. Letter dated 6th July 1944 from Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Allied Commander, South-East Asia to Major-General W. D. A. Lentaigne, regarding withdrawal of physically weak men of his Brigade—showing seal of South-East Asia Command, Original signature of Lord Louis Mountbatten and initials of Major-General Lentaigne.
486. 3rd Indian Division Operation Instruction No. 4—To Brigadier W. D. A. Lentaigne, DSO, Commander 111 Ind. Inf. Bde.—By Major-General O. C. Wingate, Commander 3 Ind. Div. Imphal, dated the 28th February 1944, with closing remarks in manuscript "FOR THERE IS NO RESTRAINT TO THE LORD, TO SAVE BY MANY OR BY FEW".
487. 3rd Indian Division Operation Instruction No. 1, with endorsement thereon by Major-General O. C. Wingate, then Commander, 3rd Indian Division.
488. War Diary of 1/16th Punjab Regiment—written in pencil.

Photographs.

489. Taking prisoners, Italy.
490. Gun Firing at Night, Italy.
491. Tank with Infantry Escort in Burma.
492. R. I. N. Depth charge against submarines.
493. Clearing Italian town of snipers.
494. Through burning Seywa to Meiktila, Burma.
495. Devastated Monastery on Monte Cassino, Italy.
496. Sikh Patrol Charging Japanese Foxholes.
497. Allied Tanks enter Benghazi, North Africa.
498. Japan surrenders, Rangoon.
499. Frontier Force Regiment Advance on Meiktila, Burma.
500. R. I. A. F., Air Umbrella over Arakan.

Maps and Charts.

501. Four collections depicting:—

- (i) The Formation Signs of the Indian Army before partition;
 - (ii) Formation Signs of the Indian States before partition;
 - (iii) Formation Signs of different Indian Brigades; and
 - (iv) Miscellaneous Formation Signs relating to Indian Army.
502. Operations in North Burma February—June, 1943. (Drg: No. 22/50/H).
 503. 8 Indian Divisions Advance to Terni 10—14th June, 1944 (Drg: No. 18/48/H).
 504. Medical Cover for X Corps Operations 7—18th July 1944. (Drg: 68/50/H).
 505. 5th Indian Division at Ruweisat Ridge 18th July, 1942. (Drg: No. 68/50/H).

FROM ASSAM PROVINCIAL MUSEUM, GAUHATI.

506. *Three leaves from Illustrated Bhagawat, Book X Part I:—*
*Subject:—*It describes the birth and exploits of Sri Krishna and also the miracles performed by him.
*Author:—*Sri Sri Sankar Deva. He was the founder preacher of the Mahpurusia Vaisnava Religion in Assam.
*Date:—*1687 Saka i.e., 1765 A.D.
*Remarks:—*The whole of the tenth Book of the Bhagawat was translated into Assamese verse into three parts, e.g., Adi Dasam, Majh Dasam and Seh Dasam. The first part or Adi Dasam was translated by Sankar Deva and the second and the third parts or Majh and Seh Dasams were translated by Ananta Kandali. This manuscript is the part I or Adi Dasam by Sankar Deva.
507. *Three leaves from Illustrated Lava-Kusha Yuddha:—*
*Subject:—*It describes the heroic fight between Lava and Kusha the two brothers on the one side, and Rama and his brothers on the other.
*Author:—*Harihar Bipra.
*Date:—*Unknown.
508. *Three Leaves From Illustrated Gita Govinda:—*
*Subject:—*The poetical rendering in Assamese of Jaydeva's famous Sanskrit poem Gita Gobinda.
*Author:—*Kaviraj Chakravarty. He was the court poet of Rudra Sinha and a writer of some eminence.

Date:—This puthi was written under the orders of the Ahom King Rudra Sinha who reigned in Assam from 1696 A.D. to 1714 A.D. and this puthi must have been written within this period.

The illustrations chiefly depict the scenes of amours of Radha and Krishna, and they are best specimens of Indian art. It must, however, be noted that these pictures in water colours though some two hundred years old, have retained their brilliancy up to the present time.

FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF MADHYA BHARAT

List "A"

509. Treaty of Surji Anjun-Gaon (1803) (with one enclosure).
510. Treaty with Ambaji Rao Ingle and the Hon'ble the East India Company settled by General Lake (1803).
511. Treaty of Burhanpur (1804) (two copies—one over the signature of H. H. the Viceroy and the other by John Malcolm).
512. Treaty between the British Government and the Maharaja Daulat Rao Scindia done at Gwalior (1877).
513. Engagements between the Hon'ble the East India Company and Maharaja Daulat Rao Scindia regarding Pindarabs, with two statements of cessions of territory (1818).
514. Engagements between the British Government and the Maharaja Daulat Rao Scindia done at Gwalior (1820) two copies.
515. Agreement between the Maharaja Daulat Rao Scindia and the British Government regarding the Nimar District (1823).
516. Treaty between the Hon'ble Company and Kirat Singh of Gohad (1804).
517. Treaty between the Hon'ble the East India Company and Maharaja Jayaji Rao Scindia done at Gwalior, with two Schedules (1844).
518. Agreement between the Maharaja Jayaji Rao Scindia and the British Government regarding exchange of territories. (English, Urdu and Marathi-triplicate) 1860.
519. Treaty of Banaras (with one Schedule) 1860.
520. Treaty between the British Government and the Gwalior Durbar with three Schedules (1871).
521. Lord Dufferin's letter regarding the restoration of the Gwalior Fort and Cantonment of Morar (1886).
522. Postal Convention of 1885. Original in English in this Box from Box No. 4 (Certified Urdu translation in Box No. 4).
523. Agreement regarding the Imperial Service Troops (1900).

524. Lord Northbrook's Kharita regarding the loan of one and a half crore of Rupees (1873).
525. Lord Canning's Kharita regarding the right of adoption.
526. Sanad regarding the title of Crown of India conferred upon Her Highness Sakhiya Raja Sahiba (1891).
527. King George's Kharita on the birth of a son and heir to His Highness the Maharaja Scindia (1917).

Historical Papers regarding Mutiny of 1857 belonging to Household.

List "B"

Indore Darbar

Serial No.	Date-year	From whom received	Subject of the Diary
528.	1st July and 2nd July 1857	Ramchandra Bhau Sahib Reshamwale.	Indore Residency : Mutiny at, Sadutkhan raises the banner of religion (Decn.) at; Sadutkhan his confession before H. H. and imprisonment.
529.	3rd July to 8th July, 1857.	Do.	Indore Residency : H. H. fails to go to; Col. Durand's escape from; Indore, Mutineers move towards; Tillore Col. Durand's arrival at; H. H. pleads ignorance of what had taken place.
			Rebels ; Outrages in Holkar's territories—European Officers massacred by; H.H.'s vain attempts to pacify the; Capt. Hungerford charges H. H. of connivance and queries about H.H.'s future intentions, to which H. H. assures loyalty.
530.	27th July 1857.	Do.	Burwaha : Col. Durand's arrival at; Col. Durand's enquires of Indore Minister whether all was well at Indore to which the latter replies in the affirmative; further questions as to why H. H. did not inform him that his troops had mutinied which creates suspicion in his mind; also enquires what action H.H. took to suppress the rebels; Holds H.H. responsible for the out-break at Indore.

S. No.	Date-year	From whom received	Subject of the Diary
531.	1st August to 30th August 1857.	Ramchandra Bhan Sahib Reshamwale.	Mhow : Col. Durand's arrival at ; Col. Durand —Writes to H.H. to punish all those who were involved in the out break ; proclaims severe punishment for the rebels.
532.	1st September to 30th Sept. 1857.	Do.	Mandsaur : Mutiny at ; part played by Shahzada at.
533.	1st Oct. to 31st Oct. 1857.	Do.	Dhar : Occupied by 500 strong. Mandsaur , progress made by rebels at. Dholepur : Reported arrival of Indore Mutineers at : Chhatarsingh : Raja of Satara in confinement. Indore : British troops arrive at. Delhi : Its reported fall to the British arms. Datta : Chief of, attack Alampur.
534.	1st Nov. to 31st Dec. 1857.	Do.	Mahidpur : Amin of, asked to disband Vilayatees (rebels) ; obeys. Delhi : Its fall confirmed.
535.	December 1857.	Do.	Statement of events which took place after Sir Robert Hamilton's arrival at Indore on 15th December 1857.
536.	From Dec. 1857 to Jan. 1858.	Do.	Mutineers and their ring leaders : Sadut Khan, Adjutant Bans Gopal, Jamadar Ahmed Ali of Artillery, Bhagirath, Bargeer and Hawildar Araroo Singh of Artillery ; of the above Bhagirath was hanged at Depalpur on 6th November and Araroo Singh blown off on 20th December, about 1,000 infantry and 500 sawars disarmed and the rest escaped.

FROM SHRI K. SAJANLAL
(Private Collections of Urdu and Persian Newspapers)

Pre-Mutiny and Post-Mutiny Periods

Pre-Mutiny Newspapers

537. Fwaidun-Nazirin—Issue No. 2 of Vol. 3, dated 24th January 1848.
538. Qiran-us-Sadain—Issue No. 6, Vol. 4, dated 23rd January 1849.
539. Amifo-ul-Akhbar—Issue No. 2, Vol. 3, dated 11th December 1856.
540. Majma-ul-Akhbar—Issue No. 384, dated 23rd January 1850.
541. Majma-ul-Akhbar—Issue No. 105, Vol. 3, dated 2nd October 1848.
542. Ashan-ul-Akhbar—Issue No. 3 of Vol. 8, dated 1st January 1853.
543. Malwa Akhbar—Issue No. 43 of Vol. No. 3, dated 21st October, 1851.
544. Akhbar-ul-Haqaiikh—Issue No. 46 of Vol. 8, dated 9th June 1852.
545. Omdat-ul-Akhbar—Issue No. 401 of Vol. 10, dated 6th October 1856.
546. Azam-ul-Akhbar—Issue No. 29 of Vol. 5, dated 13th May 1852.
547. Azam-ul-Akhbar—Issue No. 20 of Vol. 3, dated 4th April 1850.
548. Delhi Urdu Akhbar—Issue No. 5 of Vol. 14, dated 1st February 1852.

Post-Mutiny News-papers

549. Nur-ul-Afaq—Issue dated 8th November 1873.
550. Shahi-Omdat-ul-Akhbar—Dated 20th March 1870.
551. Karnamah of 26th September 1870.
552. Me-ferah-ul-Qutub, dated the 1st May 1872.
553. Shamsh-ul-Akhbar—Dated 22nd October 1861.
554. Mazhar-ul-Akhbar—Dated 11th July 1865.
555. Kashful Akhbar—Dated the 14th April 1870.
556. The Punjabi—Dated the 17th January 1874.

Photos of Historical Importance

557. Kirkpatrick (Resident at Hyderabad).
558. Lady Kirkpatrick.
559. And her children.
560. Chand Bibi.
561. Firman of Shah Jahan.
562. A folio of Gulzar-i-Ibrahim.

563. Music and Dancing scene after banquet of a Native State.
 564. Procession—Nizam Ali Khan and his nobles.

FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH

565. "Persian Manuscript Diary of Kings of Oudh".

NAGPUR UNIVERSITY

Manuscript Section

566. *Jyotirvidupakariparasiprakasa*. (ज्योतिर्विदुपकारिपारसीप्रकाश)
 A sort of lexicon containing astronomical terms rendered in Persian: Author—Vedangarai. He is said to be patronized by Shahjahan, the Emperor of Delhi. Date 1678 A.D.
567. *Udayancharitam*. (उदयन चरितम्) —It is a prakrit work. It is likely to throw some light on the Udayan legend which dominated Indian History before the advent of the Mauryas—Date not known.
568. *Nababakhankhanacharitam*. (नबाबखान खाना चरितम्) —
 Author Rudra Kavi. This manuscript has proved to be very important historically. It throws light on the History of Baglan and brings out clearly the relations existing between Delhi and Mulhar courts. Date 1609 A.D.
569. *Durghata Vritti*. (दुर्घट वृत्ति)
 A work on grammar possessing historical possibilities. The work is still comparatively unknown in India. Date not known.
570. *Jina Katha*. (जिन कथा)
 Traditional account of Jainism and Jina.
571. *Tatvachintamani Vyakhya*. (तत्त्व चिन्तामणि व्याख्या)
 A work on Nyaya of New School; Author—Vachaspati. Date—A.D. 1400.
572. *Nirnayamrita*. (निर्णयामृत)
 A work on Dharmashastra; Author Sursyasena. Date—1526 A.D.
573. *Namasangrahamala*. (नामसंग्रहमाला)
 A lexicon. Author—Appaya Dixit. Date—1582 A.D.
574. *Gitagovinda*. (गीतगोविन्द)
 The famous poem—by Jayadeva with a new and unknown commentary called Rasakadambakallolini of Saka—1690.
575. *Mandapakundasiddhi*. (मण्डपकुण्डसिद्धि)
 A work on ritualistic Geometry. Author—Vitthala Dixit. Date—A.D. 1619.
576. *Panchadasi by Vidyananya*.—A well known work on Vedanta Philosophy.
577. *Vendantaparibhasa by Dharmaraj*.—A well-known work on Vedanta Philosophy.
578. *Gunasthana Vritti by Ratnasekhara*.—A work in Jain tradition. Here the writing is with Prithamatra and in Grantha style.

579. *Prabandhasangraha by Dhanasara*.—It is a Prakrit work.
580. *Suvrta Sankirtana Kavya by Arisimha*.—It is a work in Jain tradition. Here the writing is with Pristhamatra and in Grantha style.
581. *Abhidhānchintamani by Hemchandra*.—It is a work in Jain tradition. Here the writing is with Pristhamatra and in Grantha style.

FROM SHRI K. K. BUDHOLIA, NAGPUR MAHAVIDYALAYA, NAGPUR.

582. *Yajur Veda Vajasaneyi Samhita*.—The MS. was in possession of the Dixit family of Mandla, M.P. It is a well preserved MS. of more than three centuries old, containing 148 folios and bearing the date Samvat 1677 i.e. 1620 A.D.
583. *Atma-Purana*.—The MS. was found in possession of the Golwalkar family of Mandla, M.P. It is a rare work on Vedanta Philosophy in Sanskrit verses by Shankarananda, pupil of Paramahansa Parivrajacharya Anandatma, containing eighteen chapters in 473 folios. The date of the MS. is not given.
584. *Ras Ratna Mala*.
 The MS. was found in possession of the Golwalkar family of Mandla, M.P. It is a work on emotions and sentiments written in Sanskrit verse by Raja Sangrama Shahi. The MS. bears the date Samvat 1853 (1796 A.D.). The chief interest of the work lies in the fact that its author mentioned in the MS. is King Sangrama Shahi, who is, no doubt, identical with the Gond king of Mandla of the same name, who was the father-in-law of the famous Queen of Garha—Mandla, Rani Durgawati. King Sangrama Shahi ruled for fifty years from 1480 A.D., and is said to have built fifty forts to defend his realm.

FROM THE C. P. RESEARCH SOCIETY, NAGPUR.

585. *Original letter of Vaiyakaran Keshari Sadashiva Shastri Ghule*—owned by Shri M. M. Krishna Shastri Ghule.—This is a letter partly Sanskrit and partly Marathi in Deonagari addressed by Vaiyakaran Keshari Sadashiva Bhatto Ghule from Banaras to Raja Madhoji alias Apasaheb Bhonsle in 1816 in response to latter's request to the former for coming down to Nagpur particularly in connection with proper appraisement of the scholarship of each of the rival Pandits of Nagpur one of whom was patronised by Raghoji Bhonsle, II, the ruling prince and the other by Apasaheb former's nephew who was growing jealous of his uncle. The letter does not contain the year of writing but it can be proved by the other evidence 12th day of bright fortnight of Ashwin (September) is mentioned as the date of writing the letter. The letter pur-

ports to shower undeserved praise upon Madhoji. Its importance lies in giving a clue to the starting point of the illustrious family so far as Sanskrit learning in Nagpur is concerned.

586. *A List of Ghats and Temples of Mathura and Vrindavana (Modi Script) owned by C. P. Research Society.*—The given list of ghats, Deosthans and Kundas of Gokul, Vrindavana, Mathura and Mahabaji and also the names of 7 Acharyas who occupied Vallabhacharya's seat at Gokul from the time of Akbar. The list is dated Samvat 1898. It names 24 Ghats and 16 Deosthans of Mathura, 4 places of Govardhana, 12 Ghats, 8 Kundas and 88 Deosthans of Vrindavana and 12 of Mahabaj Kshetra.
587. *A very old Modi letter-owned by C. P. Research Society.*—This is a very old Modi letter. It seems to refer to Kala Pahad and one Hindu Rao Raja who has been enjoying his right. The document is said to be certified copy of the original Khurdakhat and refers the grant of Mokasa of a fruit garden. The mode of the script is peculiar and takes us easily to 300 years back. If nothing else the letter at least satisfies about old Modi script.
588. *A List of family names of Kokanasthas-owned by C. P. Research Society.*—The list gives 251 families names of Kokanasthas grouped under 14 gotras. Shandilya Gotra comprises the largest number of 48 and Babhravya, the lowest viz.—2; Tilak, Koparkar, Datar and Patwardhan, i.e., only four families come under Kaundinya Gotra. Date of writing is not known. The list belongs to Waikar family which came to Nagpur about the middle of 19th Century.
589. *Family History of Raja Suleman Shah—Gond Raja (Deonagari-Hindi) written 1884—owned by C. P. Research Society.*—This is a chronicle of the Nagpur Gond Rajas' family tracing its history from inception. It was written in 1876 by one Govindrao Bhiwrao. It contains references to many contemporary events, geneologies of the Nagpur family and other families that are incidentally given new authentication. The chronicle sheds new light on some important points and the writer has referred to the writings of Grant Duff and Sir Richard Jenkins.
590. *Letters from Kaloo family collections, (Modi) owned by C. P. Research Society.*—Years 1753 to 1810, throwing light on family history.
591. *3 Rolls-Sanskrit-15 feet each.*—Owned by Shri Landge, one of which contains marriage horoscope of Raghoji II, and another represents Yogic diagrams.
592. *Swami Balkrishna Deshputra's letter (Paoni) in Marathi and in Sanskrit.*—Throwing some light on local history—125 years old—owned by C. P. Research Society.

593. *Wagbhfalankar.*—Written in 1640 A.D. owned by C. P. Research Society.
594. *Puranjana Charita*—(Sanskrit) incomplete-written by Krishnadutta Maithili under the patronage of Dewaji Pant Ghorpade—owned by C. P. Research Society.
595. *Origindl account of boycott of Brahmins.*—Written by Gangadhar Shastri Mangraulkar, 100 years old. Owned by Shri D. G. Landge.
596. *A sanad granted to one Bapoo Deo—Local family sanad granted on 1777 A.D. owned by C. P. Research Society.*
597. *Posthl acknowledgment of Registered letter—1877 A.D. owned by Shri D. G. Landge.*
598. *Geneology of Ambekar Family.*—Original from Jogai Ambe, 8th generation letter of Amner, Tahsil-Katol, now at Nagpur—owned by Shri D. G. Landge.
599. *Sanads (Copies) by Gond and Bhonsla Rajas—True Copies.*—Quite a number of copies owned by Shri D. G. Landge.
600. *Incomplete statement of Appasaheb Bhonsle*—Owned by C. P. Research Society.
601. *Maha Bharat Tatparya Nirnayya (महा भारत तात्पर्य निर्णय) from Kelod and other curios—owned by Shri Bhao Shastri Kelwadkar; whole Pothi 4"×9" written in (श्रीराम जय राम जय जय रामे मंत्र इति, श्रीमद् राघवेंद्र स्वामी कृत श्रीमते महाभारत तात्पर्य निर्णय भाव संग्रहे श्रीरामे नाम युक्ते लिखिते)*
Ink does not spread even if you spread water. Kelwadkar is a historical family. The ancestor Sitaram Shastri was the chief judge of Bhonsla Court.
Owned by Sayyid Nawabuddin Sahib, Jagirdar, Darwha Motibagh (Berar)
602. One Sanad under the seal of Muhammad Shah, granting a jagir to his ancestor, dated 1153 A.H.
603. A document mentioning the destruction of Darwha and Chancholi during the conflict of Madhoji and Sabaji Bhoisla. It speaks of the seven members of the Qazi family having been burnt to death in the year 1194 A.H.
604. One old Sanad granting a jagir to Syed Muhammad Chandbibi, Syed Wali and their descendents, dated 1204 A.H.
605. A copy of the Firman of Shahjehan granting "Inam-land" to Syed Mahmud, dated 1057 A.H.
606. An old document showing the history of the manuscript of Maulana Syed Ahmad Kabir, who is the ancestor of the Qazi family of Darwha. The document illustrates by a map the

exact place where the saint was buried, and thus sets aside the controversy regarding his burial place. The document dates back to 1st Ramazan 1115 A.H.

Owned by Syed Jamal-ud-Din, Inamdar and ex-jagirdar, Talegaon-Dashasar, Berar

- 607. One old document bearing the seals of Quazi Muhammad and others showing that the Asnad and other documents belonging to the family, were destroyed due to some mishap in the year 1123 A.H.
- 608. One old Sanad granted to Syed Bahar Shah Darwesh by Aurangzeb in 1080 A.H.
- 609. A copy of the Sanad granted to Syed Bahar Shah Darwesh in 1081 A.H.

Owned by Syed Muntakhab-ud-Din, Inamdar and ex-jagirdar, Talegaon-Dashasar, Berar

- 610. One Sanad granted in the year 1119 A.H.
- 611. A copy of an old Sanad granted in 1290 A.H.

Owned by Qazi Syed Saulat Hussain, Khatib, B.A. Anjangaon Surji, Berar

- 612. One old Sanad granted in the year 1094, A.H., the 44th year of the coronation of Aurangzeb Alamgir.
- 613. One old Sanad bearing the seals of Nizam-ul-Mulk and Samsam-ul-Mulk granted in the year 1176 A.H.
- 614. One Sanad bearing the seals of Nizam-ul-Mulk and Iradat Khan granted in the year 1138 A.H.
- 615. One Sanad granted to his ancestor in the year 1176 A.H., appointing him to the office of Qazi.
- 616. One Sanad granted in 1099 A.H.

Owned by Qazi Muhammad Siraj-ud-Din, Jagirdar Qalamb Berar

- 617. An old copy of the Firman of Aurangzeb granting a jagir to his ancestor in the year 1104 A.H.
- 618. One silver coin belonging to the period of Aurangzeb.

Owned by Qazi Syed Bashir-ud-Din, Jagirdar Darwah, Berar

- 619. Two very old manuscript in Deccani language.

Owned by Shri Sayyid Zulfiqar Hussain Khatib, Pleader, Achalpur (Berar)

- 620. Durru at Majalis MS. 1050 A.H.
- 621. Diwan-e-Hafiz MS.—2nd Rabiulawwal 1120 A.H.

622. Akhlaq-e-Mohsini MS. 1135 A.H.

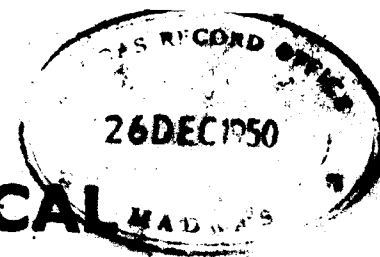
623. A manuscript copy of a book on Unani Medicine.

Owned by Shri Qazi Sayyid Hanifuddin, Achalpur (Berar)

624. Taweezi Quran. A very small Hashtphalu (Eight cornered) Holy Quran MS. Size $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 1\frac{1}{2}''$.

FROM PROFESSOR S. NAIMUDDIN.

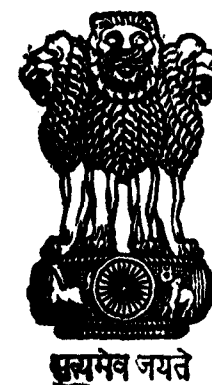
- 625. Fatawai Alamgeeri, Vol. I: Arabic, Islamic jurisprudence, copied 1166 A.H./1753 A.D.
- 626. Fatawai Alamgeeri, Vol. II: Arabic, Islamic jurisprudence, copied 1202 A.H./1787 A.D.
- 627. Fatawai Alamgeeri, Vol. III: Arabic, Islamic jurisprudence, probably copied in the 12th century Hijri (18th Century A.D.).
- 628. Fatawai Alamgeeri, Vol. IV: Arabic, Islamic jurisprudence, copied by Mohd. Sa'eed Ibu Abdul Hameed Sultanpuri, 12th century Hijri, (18th century A.D.).



INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

PROCEEDINGS VOLUME XXVII

PART II



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CHARLES DESVOEUX AT ACHIN 1772-73.

By S. N. Das Gupta.

On February 10, 1772, the Madras government decided to send two missions, one under Edward Monckton to negotiate the offer of the Sultan of Queda, the other to Achin under Charles Desvoeux to discourage private traders "from forming factories on their own account" and "to regulate trade and establish it on such a footing as would encourage merchants from all parts to the country".⁽¹⁾ This last was the outcome of the strong representations of the Court of Directors to Madras for detailed information of the exact nature of trade followed by private merchant associations like Jourdan, Sullivan and De Souza with Achin, Queda and other islands of the eastern archipelago, and the privileges which such associations have obtained "by means of their intercourse and traffic with these parts".⁽²⁾ The Directors were "surprised as well as displeased" at the knowledge of the establishment of a trading factory at Achin "by a set of gentlemen of your Presidency who, by the intrigues of their factors, supported by a naval force and some hundreds of sepoys from your coast, have gained such an ascendancy as to restrain the freedom of trade hitherto enjoyed by Europeans in those parts".⁽³⁾ They felt that such proceedings were alien to the express orders of the Company and "morally abhorrent", and foreshadowed the risk of involving the Company in disputes with other powers who may consider the activities of the agents of private firms as "invasion of the rights of their respective subjects". The Madras authorities were severely reprimanded for being blind to "such extraordinary measures" and for giving scope to "such an unwarrantable scheme to operate to such an extent"⁽⁴⁾. They were asked to employ every means in their power to put a stop to all abuses "which avarice of individuals may have prompted them to commit"⁽⁵⁾.

The above sentiments were expressed at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Court of Directors held on April 20, 1771, and received by Madras on December 31, 1771. The President and Council of Madras, in consequence, asked Messrs Jourdan, Sullivan and De Souza on January 24, 1772, to submit "a clear and particular

⁽¹⁾ Factory Records, Sumatra 15, Instructions to Monckton and Desvoeux.

⁽²⁾ Madras General Letters from Court, April 10, 1771; Factory Records, Sumatra 15.

⁽³⁾ *Ibid.*

⁽⁴⁾ *Ibid.*

⁽⁵⁾ *Ibid.*

account of the origin of that concern (the factory and trade at Achin), its progress from time to time and its present situation.....and satisfy the President and Council and the Court of Directors in respect to the several complaints".⁽¹⁾ On February 10, 1772, the reply from the firm of De Souza was received along with letters from Captain Francis Light in respect to a territorial offer from the Sultan of Queda.

The kingdom of Achin lies in the north-west promontory of Sumatra. The correct place name is "Acheh" or "Achai" meaning "splendid" or "fine". The word is said to have been uttered in admiration by the first visitors from India on sighting the beautiful coast.⁽²⁾ The word also means "a species of leach" which abounds in the forests along the western coast of Sumatra. The place is commonly but erroneously known to Europeans as "Acheen", "Atchin" or "Achin". This misconception was disclosed by Valentyn in 1688⁽³⁾. Achin saw the zenith of its power and glory during the first half of the seventeenth century. Its ascendancy was the outcome of the Portuguese policy of monopoly enforced on either side of the Malacca Strait resulting in the deflexion of the country trade from the usual resorts to "Acheh Besar" or "Achin proper". Achin rapidly developed in wealth and became the most powerful kingdom in north Sumatra. Its suzerainty stretched over a wide area considerably beyond its own frontiers, comprising at one time not only the whole of the east coast, with the kingdom of Siak, but also an extensive tract of the west coast including Padang and Indrapura. The Dutch were chiefly instrumental in bringing about the decline of Achin in the second half of the seventeenth century. Achin was forced to yield to a superior power and to a policy of aggressive diplomacy. The feudal system of government broke down. The power of the central authority weakened. The inland provinces and the subordinate chiefs increased in strength, and the ensuing struggle between the centrifugal and centripetal forces in eighteenth century Achin is not very dissimilar to the contest between the monarchy and the feudal baronage in medieval Europe. Thenceforth the power of Achin was gradually confined to the narrow limits of northern Sumatra.

The English East India Company had established a trading station at Achin in the seventeenth century though this had not proved profitable and had been withdrawn, chiefly due to the interference of the Dutch who "prevented the Company's agent from

⁽¹⁾ Goodlad (Secretary to the Madras Council) to Jourdan, Sullivan and De Souza January 24, 1772; Factory Records, Sumatra 15, 1772-73.

⁽²⁾ J.S.B.R.A.S. No. 5, June 1880, p. 37.

⁽³⁾ *Ibid.*

lading what he had agreed for and forced the English ships away to the loss of their whole voyage".⁽¹⁾ Trade with Achin, however, was not altogether abandoned and private English merchants, Surat and other country vessels continued to visit the place and did a profitable trade by bartering the "coast cloths" of India for Achin pepper, which was "bigger and heavier than that of Malabar and was hence more prized by Indians".⁽²⁾ Trade was carried on mostly upon credit and entirely by retail, "sometimes one piece of cloth, sometimes five and scarcely ever more than twenty at a time".⁽³⁾ The usual practice was to sell on credit to Malay merchants "opium, piece goods etc." for which they promised to return, in three or four months, betel-nut, pepper and other products of the islands of the archipelago; it frequently happened that they did not "come back so soon as the time stipulated".⁽⁴⁾ All matters relating to trade, commerce, and the customs of the port came under the jurisdiction of the *Shahbundar* who gave license to trade. The king, as usual in other Malay states, was the chief merchant and no trade could be done at Achinese ports without his letter of authority. The internal disturbances, however, were a hindrance to trade and when several visiting vessels were treacherously cut off, Achin was deserted by country traders and English merchants for many years.

Towards the middle of the eighteenth century, methods of conducting business came to be organised "on a definite and permanent basis". Firms took the place of "loosely associated individuals". The jointstock method of trade became more "permanent partnerships". Messrs Jourdan, Sullivan and De Souza was one of these several joint-stock trading firms which aimed particularly at re-establishing the English trade at Achin. In 1766, the *Indian Trader*, 350 tons burden, was purchased and despatched by Jourdan to Achin, with opium from Bengal and blue cotton cloth from Porto Novo, in charge of Gowan Harrop supercargo.⁽⁵⁾ Harrop "could not make any immediate sales on account of troubles that subsisted there".⁽⁶⁾ He had to land "a Moor agent" to take charge of the cargo, while he proceeded to Rhio. The agent was obliged, owing to increased trouble, to transport the goods under his charge on board

⁽¹⁾ Reports of the Council of Trade and Plantations, P.R.O.O.C. 77, VIII.

⁽²⁾ Purchas II, pp. 317-18.

⁽³⁾ Desvoeux to Du Pré, April 15, 1772; Factory Records, Sumatra 15, 1772-73.

⁽⁴⁾ *Ibid.*

⁽⁵⁾ Jourdon to Sullivan and De Souza, June 17, 1772, Sumatra 15.

⁽⁶⁾ *Ibid.*

a ship belonging to the king of Achin.⁽¹⁾ On an outbreak of hostilities between Achin and the French, the goods of the English traders were seized by the latter and in spite of representations to the Madras government no redress could be obtained by Jourdan's association for the losses sustained.⁽²⁾ On Harrop's return to Achin, the king, in lieu of some outstanding debts, offered him "a piece of ground to build an house and warehouse upon",⁽³⁾ and engaged to give the association

"one half of the advantages of the retail trade of his country, which from custom belonged to him, on the condition that we would advance money for the purchase of goods and keep on shore a number of our people armed, that in case of his being attacked, we might give him the assistance of a few men with firelocks of which the Malays are still apprehensive".⁽⁴⁾

To Jourdan and his associates "the offer appeared advantageous" and was immediately accepted. The strength of their forces on board the vessel *Indian Trader* was increased by seventy-five, enlisted and shipped mainly at Nagore, on the Tanjore coast.⁽⁵⁾ The king's move not only served to cover the initial losses sustained by the Madras adventurers but helped to increase their trade, and Achin from "an inconsiderable town" became once more a centre of commerce drawing to its port, as before.

"many English as well as Moor vessels, who, before had not ventured into that port, now came to trade, as Mr. Harrop frequently assisted them in the sales of their goods, sometimes taking off whole cargoes on account of the king for bills on me (Jourdan) by which, vessels that would otherwise have been obliged to wait many months to collect the goods of the inhabitants in payment of the goods by them sold, were enabled to proceed further into the straights and take the advantage of other markets".⁽⁶⁾

It was then that the incident of the *Fortune* occurred. The king, at the instigation of Harrop, had prohibited his subjects from having any trade dealings with the vessel when it touched the port of Achin. Complaints made by the merchants of the *Fortune* forced the

(1) Jourdan to Sullivan and De Souza, June 17, 1772, Sumatra 15.

(2) *Ibid.*

(3) *Ibid.*

(4) *Ibid.*

(5) *Ibid.*

(6) *Ibid.*

Directors to take cognizance of the dealings of Jourdan's association at Achin and despatch to Madras orders, referred above, to enquire into and remove the causes of complaint "or make it appear that the facts have been exaggerated to us".⁽¹⁾ Jourdan refuted all charges on his association to monopolize the trade at Achin and throw impediments on the way of other merchants. On the contrary, the association had "to run great risks" and had been "put to great expenses" in the pursuit of that trade, while the greater part of the advantages therefrom were reaped by the Company and other merchants trading to that port.⁽²⁾ Jourdan wrote:

"The amount of goods from time to time exported from the Company's bounds has not been far short of 300,000 pagodas, on which the Company's customs have been duly paid and the amount of goods imported (of which a considerable quantity of different articles have been sold to the Company for China) must have amounted to nearly as much which could not have, but for the protection of the king of Achin to Mr. Harrop"⁽³⁾.

Jourdan and his colleagues thus explained away the charges against Harrop as "ill-founded". The king of Achin, reduced to a state of penury, was "frequently obliged to borrow money for his subsistence, and his jewels, paltry as they are, are pawned".⁽⁴⁾ His main source of income was from the port duties which amounted annually to about Rs. 60,000. This he had farmed out for five years to merchants who agreed to pay him the amount in monthly instalments and "in consideration of the trouble and expense they were to have in collecting these duties, he had granted to them an exclusive privilege of trade".⁽⁵⁾ The king had also contracted a huge debt of over Rs. 40,000 from Jourdan's association and "was entirely subsisted from the factory on an enormous expense and this without the smallest prospect of advantage and a very precarious one of payment".⁽⁶⁾ For the discharge of this debt, he had entered into an agreement with Harrop to pay Rs. 10,000 annually out of the sum realized from the port duties. But Harrop had failed to obtain more than 100 pagodas in three years and was "frequently obliged, in order to avoid an open quarrel, to overlook chicanery and breaches of promise".⁽⁷⁾

(1) Madras General Letters from Court, April 10, 1771; Factory Records Sumatra, 25, 1772-73.

(2) *Ibid.*

(3) *Ibid.*

(4) Despatches to Duple, Achin, May 23, 1772, Sumatra 15, 1772-73.

(5) Same to same, Achin, April 15, 1772, *Ibid.*

(6) Same to same, December 9, 1772, *Ibid.*

(7) *Ibid.*

It may be surmised from the correspondence that the Madras government was not aware of any high-handed proceedings of the trading firm of Jourdan and his colleagues. The letter from the Court came as a surprise to them. The Court "being confidently assured that the greatest commercial and naval advantages may be obtained both for the Company and individuals by opening a more intimate connection with the Achinese" under the Company's flag, revised their previous opinion of April 10, 1771, and in a fresh despatch to Madras of May 8, 1771, sent instructions for taking necessary measures by which "the factory and settlement made by private persons, contrary to our knowledge and without any powers derived from the Company" should be delivered over to the Company "together with the powers and immunities with which those private traders may have been invested from the governing authority there"⁽¹⁾. Reasonable compensation was to be granted to Jourdan's association "for what they have actually expended in establishing a trade at that port (Achin)"⁽²⁾. Previous to forming an actual settlement, a convalidated servant, who could be depended on for his abilities as a diplomat was to be sent to Achin "to know what advantages and privileges the Company are to expect from the king upon forming such an establishment and to treat for and settle articles the most favourable for that purpose"⁽³⁾. Stipulations were to be of a purely commercial nature. Territorial acquisitions were to be wholly abjured. Political engagements with the king, if any, were to be defensive based on principles of non-intervention and should not in any way hurt the sentiments of other European powers⁽⁴⁾.

The instructions submitted to Desvieux by the Madras government were as follows: to take over on the Company's behalf, at a fair valuation, all the privileges which the private traders had secured at Achin; to provide military assistance to the king against external attack; to secure the port duties for the upkeep of the British force; failing this, to "insist that the collection, at least, of these duties be entirely left to the Company, who will account to the king for them and after defraying the annual amount of military charges pay the residue into his treasury if any should remain"; but if the collections were not sufficient to cover the military expenses, the king should compensate for the deficiency from his treasury. The Company had "no desire for any extensive territorial acquisition neither did it want to interfere or have any concern in the

⁽¹⁾ Secret Committee of Directors to Select Committee at Fort St. George, May 8, 1771; Factory Records, Sumatra 15.

⁽²⁾ Ibid.

⁽³⁾ Ibid.

⁽⁴⁾ Ibid.

affairs of his country⁽¹⁾". Its intention was "to render the undertaking as little expensive as possible"⁽²⁾. Desvieux was told:

"We do not mean that you should commence any extensive concerns or launch out into distant trade in the hope of acquiring considerable profit....we mean to confine you to barter on the spot the sale of such goods as may be consigned to you for staple articles proper for the China market or for money or gold dust and we shall be happy to find that the expenses of supporting you in the Residency are compensated for by such trade"⁽³⁾.

Desvieux reached Achin in the *Snow Adventure* on March 26, 1772, with Lieutenant Thomas Lane in command of the detachment of sepoys "to be employed in the service". Harrop was absent at the time and Desvieux considered it prudent to wait for his advice before an interview with the king. In the meantime, he investigated the state of affairs and submitted a severe condemnation on the transactions of Jourdan's association:

"The more I have enquired the more I have been amazed; here has been for four or five years past an extensive business carrying on by people by no means adequate to the charge; here has been money after money continually advancing to the Sultan without scarcely the most distant prospect of payment; here have been almost endless expenses incurred and losses sustained in removing the factory from one place to another without even a plausible reason to be assigned for it; in short, here have been so many absurdities committed, that one would almost imagine men must have been infatuated to have entrusted such large concerns into the hands of people so ill-qualified to conduct them"⁽⁴⁾.

In January 1772, Holloway, the Resident at Tappanooly had arrived with orders from the governor and council at Fort Marlborough "to endeavour to establish a factory for the Company at the place". The king of Achin had refused to comply with his demand⁽⁵⁾. Desvieux was troubled with the thought of failure. Harrop returned on March 29, and explained to Desvieux that the king personally had no objection to the establishment of a factory but that he had very little influence over his principal ministers who were

⁽¹⁾ Dupre to Desvieux, Feb. 23, 1772; Sumatra 15.

⁽²⁾ Same to Same, June 28, 1772, Sumatra 15.

⁽³⁾ Ibid.

⁽⁴⁾ Desvieux to Du Pre, Achin, March 28, 1772, Sumatra 15.

⁽⁵⁾ Madras Consultations, June 24, 1772, Sumatra 15.

"apprehensive in such a case that the protection the Sultan would receive from the Company would enable him to oblige them to pay him that respect and submission which they have for some years almost entirely shaken off"⁽¹⁾.

In his first audience with the king, Desvoeux was "very civilly received"⁽²⁾. The king, while expressing satisfaction at the prospect of military assistance from the English factory, was not willing to comply with the demand for the assignment of the port duties to the Company. On April 8, the king granted to the Company permission for the erection of a factory in the following terms:

"The Sultan of Achin thoroughly sensible of the friendship of the English East India Company now manifested towards him in a more particular manner by sending a body of troops for his protection is very happy at the thoughts of their establishing a factory in his country.

"The factory now occupied by Harrop for the purpose of carrying on the trade of his employers being inconveniently situated, the Sultan will grant to the Company a proper spot for erecting a new one, as soon as one can be pitched upon; but as this cannot be done immediately and as the Sultan is desirous that no time should be lost in testifying his gratitude and goodwill to the Company, he does hereby grant unto them the ground on which the factory now occupied by Mr. Harrop stand which is to be their property until another factory shall be elsewhere erected by them.

"The ground allotted for the new factory shall be nearer to the mouth of the river than the present for the greater convenience of landing goods from boats"⁽³⁾.

The British colours were hoisted on the same day. On the following day (April 9) Desvoeux succeeded in negotiating the privilege of exporting and importing goods free of duty in all parts of the king's dominions⁽⁴⁾. Before long, however, he realised the inability of the king to fulfil the terms of the agreement with the Company. By a previous agreement with merchants, the king had farmed out the port duties for a period of five years and "were he himself to bear

the Company's expenses out of the sums paid to him by the farmers he must himself starve"⁽⁵⁾. Moreover, one half of the duties were mortgaged to Harrop's employers for the payment of the large debt due to them, and the association was not inclined to close its business at Achin until the debt was recovered. Sullivan and De Souza communicated their sentiments to Governor Du Pre in the following terms:

".....declared our apprehension that those people whom we were always obliged to sell to on credit and who were now considerably indebted to us, would take advantage of the Company's intention and find means to evade payment of their just debt to us, unless compelled thereto by the authority of the Company"⁽⁶⁾.

In consequence of the contract with the king, Harrop had purchased goods to a considerable amount which, together with those in the warehouses, could not all be disposed of at once. Sullivan and De Souza hence writes:—

".....that from the nature and tenor of our contract entered into by our agent before the Company's intention could be made known to him and from the quantity of goods purchased by him, it would be absolutely out of our power to conclude our business at Achin for a considerable time"⁽⁷⁾.

The firm demanded reasonable compensation for closing their business at Achin:

".....as we shall be deprived by the Company's taking this trade into their own hands, of the fruits of our labour, expenses and risques in re-establishing and bringing it to its present footing and be left burthened with the heavy charge of two large ships bought particularly for this trade.....we shall be greatly embarrassed and suffer considerably in our private fortunes unless you be well pleased so far as to relieve us as to take on the Company's account at an appraisement to be made at Achin the goods and warehouses we have there, in doing of which the Company can sustain no loss....."⁽⁸⁾.

It was not the intention of the Company "to distress the concerned". On the contrary, the Company desired "to show every indulgence we can consistently with our duty"⁽⁹⁾. Du Pre gave

(1) Madras Consultations, June 24, 1772, Sumatra 15.

(2) Ibid.

(3) Translation of the Sultan of Atchin's Grant of a Factory to the English East India Company, dated April 8, 1772 (Enclosed in Desvoeux's Letter to Du Pre, Achin, April 16, 1772); Madras Consultations, June 25, 1772, Sumatra 15.

(4) Ibid.

(1) Desvoeux to Du Pre, Achin, April 15, 1772, Sumatra 15.

(2) Sullivan and De Souza to Du Pre, Fort St. George, June 17, 1772, Sumatra 15.

(3) Ibid.

(4) Ibid.

(5) President and Council, Fort St. George to Desvoeux, June 28, 1772, Sumatra 15.

assurance to Jourdan and his colleagues that the Company shall offer every assistance for the proper settlement of their concerns and the recovery of their debts and allow a reasonable time for the disposal of their effects "within which time no trade should be commenced on the Company's account". A despatch to Desvieux asked him,

"to permit the concerned to continue their trade on its present footing and without any interfering on the part of the Company until the end of January 1773", and "to receive from them the immunity by which they are entitled to half the duties on imports and exports till the Sultan's debt to them is discharged, but nevertheless to permit them to enjoy under the Company the advantages arising from that immunity till the said debt be discharged"⁽¹⁾.

The idea of Du Pre was to continue Harrop in the collection of the port duties "in the name of the Company as servants employed by you". Harrop was to render to Desvieux "a just, clear and true account of the collections" which was to be brought over in the books of the Company "as collected on the part of the Company and that done you (Desvieux) will restore to them (Jourdan's firm) the net amount to which they are entitled, in discharge of so much of the Sultan's debt"⁽²⁾. Desvieux, thenceforth, attempted mainly to secure the king's share of the port duties. But he was soon convinced of the king's "unwillingness to grant unto the Company any further immunities"⁽³⁾. All he could obtain was a verbal promise which was never confirmed in a written order. He wrote to Du Pre on December 9:

"As to his (King's) promise he paid very little regard to it; however, at length he consented that the customs on all vessels carrying European Commanders should be collected until the first day of January, 1773 by the Company's servants, one half of the sums so collected to be appropriated to the Company's use, the other half, after settling the accounts to be paid to Mr. Harrop in discharge of his debt to his employers, but after that day he reserved to himself the power of taking them again into his own hands if he should think proper; this is all I could obtain and even this with much difficulty"⁽⁴⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Ibid.

⁽²⁾ Ibid.

⁽³⁾ Desvieux to Du Pre, Achin, December 9, 1772, Madras Consultations, December 29, 1772, Sumatra 15.

⁽⁴⁾ Ibid.

The English factory, situated on the bank "of a very pleasant river", about a quarter of a mile from the king's fort, was not protected by any ramparts or ditch and was "quite exposed" to attack on the south and east. Lascars were employed in raising "a bastion of turf", but orders came from the king to stop the work of improving the fortifications as

"the bastion I had already erected had much alarmed his subjects who were universally possessed with a notion that the Company, after having built a strong fort intended to enslave them in the same manner as they had at Bencoolen and several other places on the west of the island"⁽¹⁾.

Reports also came to Desvieux that

"numbers of people came down from the hills with a design to drive us out of the country before the arrival of the reinforcement they imagined we expected from the coast"⁽²⁾.

To have delayed longer with the fortifications would have been "imprudent". In spite of further orders from the king, Desvieux "set about the work in earnest". The people from the hills "continued some days about the factory but at length returned home without attempting to molest us, having been prevented only.....by the fear of our musketry"⁽³⁾.

The king explained to Desvieux that this "uncommon concourse of people" must have been the result of a rumour that he had sold his country to the English. On November 15, Desvieux received "a formal message" from the king asking the English to leave the country "in peace" to prevent "a general insurrection"⁽⁴⁾. The king found himself under "the disagreeable necessity" of calling the grant of a factory he had lately made to the Company. A letter to much the same effect was addressed by the king to the President and Council of Madras⁽⁵⁾. Desvieux did not apprehend an open attack since he knew the Achinese "to be very deficient in courage". But they could be "troublesome" and distress the English by cutting off supplies and stopping communications with the sea. The handful of English at Achin may be placed under the unpleasant situation of struggling "for every article of provision". He, therefore, asked for

⁽¹⁾ Ibid.

⁽²⁾ Ibid.

⁽³⁾ Ibid.

⁽⁴⁾ Ibid.

⁽⁵⁾ Ibid.

immediate reinforcement from Madras and, in the meantime, informed the King that it was beyond his powers "to comply with his requests without orders from my superiors at Madras" from whom "an answer might be expected in the month of February"⁽¹⁾.

The decision of the Madras Council, January 16, 1773, was despatched by the Company's schooner *Cuddalore*, Captain John Wedderburn, on January 19, 1773, and must have reached Desvoeux in February 1773. The Madras government was convinced that Desvoeux could not "remain any longer at Achin either with safety to himself or any prospect of advantage to the Company"⁽²⁾. It was therefore resolved to withdraw the factory immediately and Desvoeux was advised "to return to the coast with his detachment and stores as soon as possible"⁽³⁾. The king was to make reasonable compensation to the Company for the considerable expenses incurred by the establishment of a factory at Achin or,

"at least that he should reimburse the charges they have sustained by the building and repairs of the fort which will become his property on Mr. Desvoeux's quitting the country"⁽⁴⁾.

Thus the attempt of the English Company to renew the relations with Achin was brought to a sudden end, and with it collapsed the trading adventure of the firm of Jourdan, Sullivan and De Souza.

⁽¹⁾ *Ibid.*

⁽²⁾ Letter to Desvoeux, Fort St. George, January 16, 1773, Sumatra 15.

⁽³⁾ *Ibid.*

⁽⁴⁾ *Ibid.*

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THE CORRESPONDENCE OF MODAVE.

(By S. P. Sen.)

In the second half of the 18th century a large number of French military adventurers swarmed the courts of the various Indian Princes in search of career and fortune. Some of them achieved reputation, power and wealth; while others were destined to remain in oblivion. Their adventures and experience give us an interesting view of the political situation of India after the disintegration of the Mughal empire. One of these French adventurers, less known to students of history than Sombre or Madec, was Louis-Laurent Dolisy Comte de Modave, who was in India from 1773 to 1777 and travelled extensively all over the country. Some extracts from his *Journal du voyage du Bengale a Delhi* have been translated by Sir Jadunath Sarkar and published in the *Bengal Past and Present* and *Islamic Culture*. They do not, however, give us a connected account of the adventures of this interesting Frenchman. A fuller and detailed history of Modave's career in India may be gathered from the large number of his letters addressed to Bellecombe, Governor of Pondicherry, and others, which are preserved in the Pondicherry Archives and which form an important collection of original manuscripts there¹. One letter in particular, written to Bellecombe in the form of a "memoire" from Sangi near Adoni, and dated May 1, 1777, is of great interest, as containing a detailed narrative of his adventures in northern India and in the Deccan, and an account of the state of affairs at the Courts of Delhi and Hyderabad and of the desire of the Emperor and Nizam Ali to have some French troops in their service to counteract the increasing power of the English.

Modave was in a way different from the rest of the French adventurers of the time, although he also came to India purely as a soldier of fortune. In contrast to the obscure origins and lack of education of most of his compatriots who sought careers in the service of the Indian Princes, Modave was a polished and cultured noble, quoting freely from the Classics as well as from Montesquieu and Voltaire. He was a keen observer of men and things and was gifted with an excellent style. These two qualities give his accounts a much greater interest to students of history than those of others. Modave was an officer in the Cavalry and had seen service in

1. Dec No. 283.—Catalogue des Manuscrits des Anciennes Archives de l'Inde Française, I.

Germany during the Seven Years War. He was later appointed Governor of Madagascar, but he soon gave it up and turned into a planter. His plantation schemes, however, only brought him financial ruin. He ran into debts and orders were issued for his arrest. Leaving his wife in the Isle of France (Mauritius), he came to India in 1773 to retrieve his fortune by offering his services to one of the Princes. He visited Pondicherry and Chandernagore, but did not stay long at either place for fear of being arrested. At Chandernagore he came in contact with Chevalier, who appeared not only cold towards him but positively hostile to his plan of seeking a military career in north India and wrote to Madec, then in the service of Najaf Khan, not to give any help or encouragement to him.

Modave remained in Bengal for eleven months, most of the time in Calcutta, where he had an opportunity of seeing from close quarters the military strength and the system of civil administration of the English. In his letter to Bellecombe, dated May 1, 1777, referred to above, Modave stated that contrary to the wishful thinking of many Frenchmen the English position in Bengal was quite secure, being based on two firm foundations, military strength and a benevolent civil administration. There were 3700 European troops, divided into three Brigades and stationed at Calcutta, Kasimbazar and Patna, besides 27,000 sepoys, divided into Battalions and commanded by European officers. Modave, who had witnessed a parade in 1774, did not think much of the European troops but was highly impressed by the sepoys. There was a large and well-served artillery, divided into three sections, supporting each of the three Infantry Brigades. Commenting on the strength and efficiency of the English army in Bengal Modave wrote, "I have seen this military machine and I have examined it carefully. I can assure you that it is not to be slighted in any way, and that being supported by the internal resources of the country and the fort of Calcutta it can be quite sufficient for defence." He had also seen the fort, a plan of which, he believed, must have been sent to Bellecombe by Chevalier who had taken it secretly from the office of Major Polier, the Chief Engineer of the fort. Modave disapproved of the way in which the troops were kept at Kasimbazar and Patna, completely exposed to any surprise attack. He expressed great admiration for the English Administration in Bengal and particularly for the wisdom and sagacity of Warren Hastings whose constant concern was to make "the British Government loved". Hastings had established law and order throughout the province, recognised the proprietary of the landlords and attempted to combine the principles of English law with the laws and customs of the Hindus and Muslims. The interests of the local people were fully protected by law and in fact

sometimes the scales of justice turned so much in their favour that as an Englishman complained to Modave in Calcutta, "it was difficult to get justice against a Bengali".

From Bengal Modave went to Faizabad and then to Lucknow towards the end of 1774, hoping to get employment under Shuja-ud-daulah who had just returned from a victorious campaign against the Rohillas. There were many well-known Frenchmen in Shuja's service at the time,—Gentil, Aumont, Visage and others; and although the English did not like any addition to their number, Shuja gave Modave the command of a detachment which he proposed to send to Delhi to the help of the Emperor, on a monthly salary of four thousand rupees. But the sudden death of Shuja in January 1775 upset all arrangements, as the English put effective pressure upon his successor not to give any employment to Modave, and in fact all the Frenchmen in the service of the Nawab of Oudh were thrown out.

Modave next thought of employment under the Emperor and wrote to Madec who was then in the service of Najaf Khan and has great influence at the Imperial Court. On Madec's assurance of all possible help Modave started for Agra, where he arrived on the 10th March, 1775. From there he proceeded to Bari, Madec's headquarters, and received a warm welcome. Two days after Modave's arrival at Bari there came a messenger from Delhi with a letter from a Frenchman settled there, informing him that the Emperor coming to know of Modave's arrival at Agra had ordered his minister, Abdul Ahad Khan, to contact him and to induce him to join the Imperial service and that a Wakil from the minister was waiting for him at Agra. Arrangements were quickly completed through the intervention of Madec who even supplied money and necessary equipments for the journey to Delhi. Modave reached Delhi about the middle of April 1775, and within a few days the terms and conditions of service were settled. He was given a salary of 2,500 rupees per month, besides the amounts to be paid to his "Diwan" and domestic servants. Two other Frenchmen, Dieu and Moncelet, who had joined Modave at Faizabad, also received appointments on 600 and 400 rupees respectively. After the terms had been finally settled Modave had his first audience with the Emperor where he was received "with the same solemnity which since then I have seen practised only for an Ambassador of Timur Shah, king of Kandahar". For his residence he was given the palace of Shaista Khan. A part of the troops under his command was garrisoned there, the remainder being stationed in the fort to guard the person of the Emperor. The fort of Shalimghar and the whole of the Imperial artillery were also to have been placed under his control.

Modave used to go to "the Darbar of the Minister everyday and three or four times a week to the audience of the Padcha": He was taken into confidence by the Emperor, who thought of utilising him for negotiations for an alliance with France. "This Prince expressed to me a great desire to enter into correspondence with the King (of France). I believe that it came from a hope to draw from it some help and by that means to impose his authority on his great vassals.....I come to this conclusion because of the attempts which this Prince made on several occasions to open a correspondence with the King of England.....As I felt myself greatly obliged to Madec, I wished to turn in his favour the desire which I saw in the Padcha to write to the King. I myself made the model of the letter². It was translated into Persian. The minister of the Padcha wrote on his side to M. de Sartine. Madec gave an account to the Minister about the object of this letter and of affairs in Hindusthan in general. The Padcha had authorised him to offer to the king Parawanas for the town of Tatta-Bakar and of the province of Sind"³. Modave continued that the despatch of the Emperor's letter met with an accident in the Ganges, "and the letter of the Padcha was so much spoilt that it was no longer presentable. The packet of Madec for M. de Sartine had not suffered from this accident. The Minister must have received it and I do not know what conclusion he will draw from it in the absence of the letter of the Great Mogol to the King mentioned therein. There were duplicates of all these documents in the hands of Madec. I do not know if he had made any use of them, for I left Hindusthan a few weeks after learning of the disaster to the packet".

It is better to interrupt the course of the narrative here and turn to another letter of Modave, dated Agra, October 19, 1775, and addressed to Moracin, Intendant at Pondicherry, which contains some interesting details about the proposal for an alliance with France and the cession of Tatta. Modave wrote to Moracin that the same despatch included a letter from the Emperor to Law, Governor of Pondicherry, expressing his full confidence in Madec. "He (the Emperor) begged Law to make known this confidence to the minister of the King (of France) and to write to France that Madec knew all his intentions. The object of this letter.....is to draw the attention of the Ministers to the things that Madec will write to the Court. In fact, the Emperor has asked him to propose an alliance between him and the King. He hopes from his overtures to be able to procure a corps of French troops, with which he will make

²"The first draft is contained in Modave's "Journal du Voyage du Bengale a Delhi".

³For an account of the Tatta Project see author's Paper, "A French Project for the Conquest of Sind", Proceedings of Indian Historical Records Commission, Silver Jubilee Session, 1948.

himself recognised and obeyed and in addition will be in a position to impress the English who are causing him great alarm by the successive acquisitions they are making on both sides of the Ganges in pushing up this river. The means which the Emperor is employing to obtain this help is the offer, pure and simple, which he has made to the King of a strong place and a large territory.....I am going to disclose them to you while asking you to maintain the greatest secrecy regarding this object. It is the town and the Souba of Tatta situated on the river Indus at a distance of 20 leagues from its mouth. The Emperor did not wish to inform Monsieur Law of this intention because he was afraid that the matter might leak out and the English might come to know of it. I have no fear in informing you about it, because I know very well that you will make a prudent use of this information and that you will induce M. Law to write strongly to France as the Padcha desires.....". Modave then stated what part he played in the negotiations and in what form letters were written to the Minister in France. "This negotiation which I have conducted in Delhi required, as you can well understand, some details to show its merit in France. It is for this object that I have come to Agra where Madec resides. As a result he has sent to the Minister a short account of his personal history, a detailed and well thought-out account of the intentions and views of the Padcha and a political sketch of the present state of the Mughal Empire, considered in all its parts, and he added to them a "memoire" on the town and Souba of Tatta-Bakar, with some observations on the advantage of this acquisition and on the means required not only to secure but also to extend it. That is the principal object of the account which M. Madec has rendered to the Court. I did not wish to be named in it in order to leave him the credit for the negotiation and also not to bring misfortune on the affair. If it succeeds I shall be rewarded for my troubles by the advantage that the nation may draw out of it and by the pleasure that I shall feel in seeing such an important negotiation being concluded under the very nose of M. Chevalier without his having the least knowledge of it". We have already seen how modave had reason to complain of Chevalier's conduct towards him.

Let us next resume the course of the narrative contained in the letter to Bellecombe, dated May 1, 1777. Modave had soon reason to feel dissatisfied with the service of the Emperor, who was profuse in his promises but had neither the means nor the will to fulfil them. He never received even half the salary he was entitled to, and whenever he complained he was told that he should not worry about petty matters, that the Emperor had great schemes in his mind for him, either to send him to France as his Ambassador or to entrust to him the government of the province of Sirhind with a revenue of

60 lakhs of rupees, but Modave at once realised that with the small force at his command he could not even think of conquering Sirhind from the hands of the Sikhs. In his financial distress he wrote to Madec, who promptly replied that he would arrange with Najaf Khan to transfer the assignment of his salary to his own jagir. In order to finalise the transaction Modave started for Agra, with the reluctant consent of the Emperor and of his favourite minister, Abdul Ahad Khan, who was then a bitter rival to Najaf Khan. He stayed in Madec's camp for nearly five months, down to the siege of Dig, at the end of which finding his position no better he decided to quit and asked Madec to settle his accounts. Madec was in great financial embarrassment after his recent defeat at the hands of Rohillas, and could pay only 8,000 out of 32,000 rupees due to Modave. But he told Modave that he was shortly going back to Europe, and in compensation of the money due he would give him a part of his army, one Infantry battalion with artillery. Modave accepted the offer and wrote to the Emperor that he was returning to his service with a well-armed and well-trained force. He received letters of welcome from the Emperor and from the Minister, Abdul Ahad Khan, but as he was starting from Agra his arrangements were suddenly upset. Aument, who had, through the good offices of Modave, been placed in charge of the administration of Madec's jagir, now instigated the latter to take back the battalion he had given to Modave. Madec stopped Modave at Agra and demanded back his battalion on the ground that because of a recent communication from the Imperial Court he had decided to postpone his departure from India (March 1776). Modave felt it useless to return to Delhi alone and decided to take the route to Hyderabad in the hope of getting employment under Nizam Ali. He started from Agra on the 24th June, and travelling via Karauli, Kota, Mandasore, Ujjain, Burhanpur and Aurangabad and reached the capital of the Deccan.

On his arrival at Hyderabad Modave presented himself to Nizam Ali but met with disappointment because of the instigation of one of the nobles of the Court in the pay of the Madras Government. He then wrote to de Lalee and Basalat Jang from whom he received encouraging response. In the meantime a Deccani noble named Ibrahim Beg, who had joined the army of Nizam Ali, offered to place Modave in charge of his artillery and his sepoy force with some European officers on a monthly salary of 700 rupees. Modave accepted the offer as he wanted to remain at Hyderabad in the ultimate expectation of being taken in the service of Nizam Ali, but when he was asked to sign a long-term contract by Ibrahim Beg he threw up the offer and went to Adoni, where through the good offices of de Lalee he was given an appointment by Basalat Jang on a monthly salary of 600 rupees. Modave gave an interesting account

of the high state of discipline and efficiency in the camp of de Lalee. The only punishment for breach of discipline or negligence of duty was expulsion from the camp. De Lalee himself was not only a brave soldier and a good organiser of men but also a generous and cultured person, and Modave recollected having studied with him at the same school although de Lalee was most reluctant to speak about his parentage or place of birth.

Modave regarded his service under Basalat Jang as a purely temporary accommodation and hoped constantly to be able to find a better employment under Nizam Ali. He realised that the only way of attracting the notice of Nizam Ali was by organising a small corps of his own, well armed and trained in the European fashion. His main difficulty was lack of money with which to procure arms. In a letter to Moracin at Pondicherry dated 1st May 1777, he begged to be supplied with 800 guns on credit, promising to repay the entire amount in eighteen months.

In a second letter to Bellecombe, written from Sangi near Adni and dated like the first one May 1, 1777, Modave referred to an interesting interview he had with the Chief Minister of Nizam Ali a few days after his arrival at Hyderabad. The Minister told him that in spite of the pressure of the English against employing any Frenchman in his service, Nizam Ali was willing to offer an appointment to Modave if the latter could give him service in the manner he wanted, and in this connexion the Minister enquired if Modave could raise a corps of European troops. Modave replied that "there was a large number of discontented and ill-paid men dispersed here and there, who would not fail to join me as soon as they came to know that I was in a position to receive them," but he could render greater service than merely collecting a number of vagabonds. He would "form a corps of sepoys, supported by a good artillery and led by white officers." He was then told that although the English and the French were at peace, he would be required to fight against the English if the Nawab broke with them, to which Modave replied that "from the moment I would be in his service his enemies would be mine". Next the Minister complained that while Nizam Ali had been trying for years to open a correspondence with Pondicherry and had even written to France he had not received any response to his overtures. He asked if Modave could help in transmitting a letter from Nizam Ali to the King of France and in getting a satisfactory reply, to which Modave said that he "was not properly qualified to undertake a mission of that sort". Besides it would be irregular to address a letter directly to the king when there was at Pondicherry a General of the highest rank and "depository of the authority and confidence of His Majesty". He assured the Minister that the new

Governor would give a prompt and favourable reply. Modave then wrote "This conversation was in the form of an interrogation. All my replies were written down and stamped with my seal and later this report was sent to the Nawab, but I have not heard anything further about it." He was, however, left with an impression at this interview that if he had a corps of troops under him he would have been immediately given an employment by Nizam Ali, and that is why he implored Bellecombe to give him a letter of recommendation and to induce Moracin to send him the guns he required. As regards the political attitude of Nizam Ali, Modave wrote: "It is certain that this Prince has a sentiment of affection and preference for the French nation, but the great power of the English on the Coromandel coast and the little response he has found from Pondicherry have benumbed this good will". It was this disappointment added to the fact that Bellecombe had sent this letter announcing his assumption of Government at Pondicherry through de Lalee, who was in the service of his enemy, although a brother, namely Basalat Jang, and not direct by a personal Wakil which explained why Nizam Ali had not replied to him. So Modave asked Bellecombe to send a second letter of notification to Nizam Ali which he would personally hand over to him, and with it another letter recommending him for a suitable employment under Nizam Ali. He assured Bellecombe that he was moved not merely by his personal interest but also by the interest of the nation, and begged him to persuade Moracin to supply him with the guns he required to form a corps of his own.

In another letter to Bellecombe, dated Sangi, 24th. June, 1777, Modave gave an account of the war between Haider Ali and a combination of the Marathas, Nizam Ali and Basalat Jang. Basalat Jang and Nizam Ali had fared badly and were looking for an opportunity to make peace with Haider Ali. Modave suggested that Bellecombe should act as a mediator and thus enhance the prestige and influence of France in the Deccan. In a second letter of the same date he informed Bellecombe that he was sending in enclosure copies of the letter from the Emperor of Delhi to the King of France and that of Abdul Ahad Khan to M.de Sartine in connexion with the Tatta project, regarding which Madec had already written to France.⁴

In a third letter of the same date Modave repeated his request to Bellecombe to send him a letter of recommendation for employment under Nizam Ali, and also a clever and intelligent Brahmin to serve as Wakil. He also enquired if the rumour of the arrival of Saint-Lubin at Poona was true. He knew Saint-Lubin personally and expected complete success in his mission.

⁴Unfortunately, however, these enclosures are not preserved in the Pondicherry Archives.

From a note addressed to de Lalee, dated 10th July, 1777, we learn that Bellecombe sent a letter to Modave for Nizam Ali dealing with the order of the King "to establish the old contact and friendship which existed before between our nation and the princes of the House of Nizamul-Mulk". But there is no document to show whether Modave presented the letter to Nizam Ali and with what result. All that is known is that Modave suddenly fell ill and retired to Masulipatam where he died on the 22nd December, 1777⁵. We further know from a letter of Bellecombe to the Chief of the French Factory at Masulipatam, dated 16th January, 1778, that the English at Masulipatam refused to accord funeral honours to Modave commensurate with his rank⁶.

⁵ Dec. no. 5180-Catalogue des Manuscrits des Anciennes Archives de L'Inde Française, VI (Extract from the Register of Deaths at Masulipatam).

⁶ Dec. no. 288, *Ibid.* I.

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A FRENCH ACCOUNT OF COMMERCE IN INDIA IN 1774

[By R. C. Mitra]

In the Archives of Pondicherry one frequently comes across reports and memoirs submitted by French Officers to the Government at home. Drawn with the obvious intention of convincing the home Government of the feasibility of an expedition in India, these documents dwell mainly on the political position of the European establishments in India. But sometimes they refer incidentally to trade conditions which have greater interest for us. The aim of the present article is to draw attention to a survey of the commercial resources of India in 1774, as contained in a document which treats primarily with the relative position of the European Colonies in India. The document¹ is dated at Pondicherry on the 20th of December 1774. Though there is no mention of the author, he was presumably some French officer whose general accuracy of information is however well attested by his political review, of which the present account forms part.

The commercial survey begins with Tata (Thatta in Sind) and Bacar probably because the French at this time considered the possibility of an expedition to India starting from these supposed vantage points. According to this report, "Thatta and Bakar and the region of Asmir (Ajmere?) abound in wheat, barley, cattle and pasture lands. Multan provides only horses camels and the best wool of the land. The district of Delhy is extremely fertile in all sorts of grain. The district of Agra yields less of rice but it possesses extensive commerce in textile, silk and gold and silver lace-work. Lahore furnishes textiles, carpets, (plain or with floral designs) silk and rock-salt. The region of Benares abounds in vegetables and grain of all varieties. Very fine muslins, gold and silver threads, turbans and waist bands highly prized throughout the East, are manufactured there. One can find there the superb woollen stuff of Kashmir. Patna, Bengal, Dacca and the adjoining regions abound in cotton and muslin, plain and embroidered, and of all varieties. One buys here opium, borax, sugar, rice, wheat, manufactured silk and salt-petre. Not only Patna offers the largest quantity of opium and the best, but one finds there rhubarb and musk which are imported from Tibet. The region generally known as the suba of Bengal carries on a considerable amount of commerce with the neighbouring

peoples, specially with Assam. The commerce with Assam consists principally in carrying there 20,000 to 25,000 tons of salt every year at a profit of 5 or 6 per cent. This commerce also comprises gold, silver, ivory, musk, aloes-wood, gum, lac and silk (The golden silk is not that crude stuff used for the manufacture of Mandagovttes² which serve for the dress of Indians). This commerce has to be carried on by the Indians or in their name, for the people of Assam do not like to have anything to do with the Europeans. At Cuttack which abounds in all kinds of grain there are several merchants who carry on external trade with Maldives where they send rice clothes of rougher quality, and silk, and receive in exchange 'cowries' and amber. The 'cowries' are small shells which serve as small coins in Bengal and are also much in demand by the negroes of the Guinea coast where they are exported by the Europeans.

Excepting this commerce with the Maldives, Assam and the neighbouring regions, which is still carried on by the people of Northern India, Bengal, Benares and Patna, the people are not in the habit of carrying the wealth of their country to other countries. They are occupied in manufacturing commodities and in supplying them as cargo for the European vessels.

The entire country comprised under the name of the Deccan generally abounds in cotton, textiles, plants necessary for dyeing, and salt. They manufacture white cloths, dyed cloths and cloths with coloured design of all varieties, muslin, handkerchiefs and gingham. The Deccan is one of the regions which specialise in furnishing the most beautiful products in large quantity.

The area known as the Northern Deccan, that is to say the region to the north of the Krishna and even the Condavir furnishes the most beautiful and the finest cloths. These are frequently printed or dyed but these have seldom painted designs. In this part of the country are also manufactured, dimity, gingham and the handkerchiefs which are the finest and best in respect of quality of thread, texture and their dye. The interior of this region produces a large quantity of rice and wheat, and the wheat of Golconda is the best in Hindusthan. This kingdom offers a lucrative branch of commerce in diamonds which are the finest in the world but the cost of mining must have been undoubtedly excessive for the mines are now practically abandoned.

The Carnatic produces lesser quantity of rice and food crops than are promised by the area and fertility of its soil. Cultivation is neglected here and the greater part of the limited population that

¹ No. 201 of the Manuscripts in the Archives of Pondicherry.

²Tamil word for the under clothes of women.

still lingers there is employed in manufactures. The people do not manufacture any other form of fine cloths except what is intended for being painted in varied colour of gold or silver. The other cloths are all dyed and are used by the local people. They manufacture large quantity of handkerchiefs of every quality, gingham, dimity of all varieties, and rough muslin. It is principally in Madras that the finest painted clothes are made, their colour is of the gayest, the designs are finely executed, and the colouring matter being of the finest quality the paintings last longest. In Madras and its neighbourhood are produced superb handkerchiefs, superior even to those of Palicat. Cuddalore produces the finest dimity. The Carnatic supplies a large quantity of salt and so does Tanjore which was the granary of the Coromandel coast.

In the district of Tanjore the author of this report records the same misery that he observed in the Carnatic. Yet he remarks that the extensive and excellent cultivation of this region had not previously prevented the development of various manufactures. The inhabitants used to produce an immense quantity of cloths, inferior to those of the North, but infinitely cheaper. A large quantity of ginghams, dimity, rough muslin and handkerchiefs were also manufactured. Madura, Morava and Tondaiman, also produced rice and a large measure of rougher clothes for the use of common people.

The external commerce of the Coromandel is absolutely in the hands of Europeans with the exception of a few Choulis of Naour, Porto Novo and Orissa who make their ventures to Achem, Pegu, Mergui, Siam, and Ceylon. They employ, for these voyages boats of 100 to 400 tons. Lead, iron, copper and rugs, bought from the Europeans, along with indigenous clothes and cotton serve in payment of wood, arrack, cardamom and elephants etc., which are sought for in these territories. They also go to Ceylon in search of dried fish, wood, and arrack and the voyages are made in boats of 20 to 40 tons.

The products of the Malabar coast consist principally of pepper, cardamom, sandal, teak and Bith wood, cinnamon (much inferior to that of Ceylon), ginger, cotton etc. The Banians, Armenians, Jews and Arabs settled on this coast once used to carry on an extensive commerce with the Indian Archipelago, Siam, Arakan, Pegu, Bengal, Coromandel, the Persian gulf, the Red sea and even the east coast of Africa. But now this commerce is absolutely in the hands of Europeans. The old regions and their inhabitants are restricted to internal trade and coastal trade only. Still everyday the European establishments are encroaching on their only means of independent

trade. The commercial survey is concluded with a mournful speculation on the trading possibilities of the Marathas in the west coast, if only they had not been entirely occupied in piracy. In that case "Chaoul, Daboul, Narzapour, Gueriah, Moulloudy etc., would become respectable marts and Surat could recover the ancient splendour which has declined for several years."

"But the troubles of the Delhi court, the Marhatta invasion, the preponderance acquired by Europeans, the brigandage of the Angriaes, and the form of sovereign control exercised there (in Surat) by the English have all contributed to the disappearance of this grand mart of all the nations."

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were often employed on special errands and were borne on the personal establishment of the Maharaja and paid out of the *Sarf-i-Huzur* or his personal expenses.

FATEH NAMA GURU KHALSA JI KA

[By Sita Ram Kohli]

This manuscript comprises three long ballads composed by one Ganesh Das to celebrate the three important victories won by the Sikhs over the Pathans, namely the victory at Multan in 1818 A.D., near Tiri hills (Naushehra) in 1823, and at Saidu near Akora on the banks of the river Lunda in 1827.

The script is Gurmukhi, but the language is what may be described as the Panjabised form of Western Hindi. Here and there, we also come across Urdu and Persian words and also words and expressions used in the Oudhi Hindi. A few of the English and French military terms which had found their way to the Court of Maharaja Ranjit Singh also occur in these ballads.

The form and style adopted by Ganesh Das in his compositions is that of the classical Hindi bardic poets like Chandr Bardai and Bhushan. Like them, he has used the Soratha, Sawayya, Doha, Kabbita and Chaupai. Though not so often or so frequently, as in the poems of Bhushan, yet we do come across, in Ganesh Das's compositions the use of ournamatapoeic words and expressions and here and there a pen-picture of feelings of joy or anger, courage or fear. But he is essentially a Panjabi poet and his language is what may be described as the Panjabised form of Western Hindi both in regard to choice of words and grammatical construction. Ganesh Das styles himself as Pingal. Beyond this, he does not tell us anything about himself nor have I come across any other work of this poet. It is also difficult to say to which part of the Punjab he belonged. The use of a few words which are peculiar to the dialect of the districts of Shahpur or Jhang would not justify the inference that Ganesh Das hailed from the West Punjab. What was the Poet's source of living is equally uncertain. I do not find Ganesh Das's name among those of the upper grade employees of the Government—the lists of these names which are in my possession were prepared after the examination of no less than 2,50,000 administrative papers of the Lahore Durbar (1810-49 A.D.). But the very minute events which he has mentioned in his composition leave no doubt in my mind that Ganesh Das had free access to the Court. May be that he was one of the many Bhayyas who were expected to be twenty-four hours near and about the person of Ranjit Singh and

The ballad relating to the Multan Yuddha is the longest of the three. It comprises 277 couplets and is divided into five *adhya*s or cantos. Each *adhya* ends with a definite stage in the progress of the battle. The first *adhya* gives us the story of the fall of the walled town of Multan and the retiring of the Nawab within the citadel. The Sikh forces are then detailed by their General Misar Diwan Chand, with a view to besiege the fort. They dug up trenches, threw earth-works and also ran a couple of mines. The Nawab was given the option of retiring from the fort of Multan to the town and fort of Shujabad (twenty-three miles south of Multan) where he would be left unmolested and in lieu of the loss of Multan he was promised a decent Jagir by the Maharaja. But he declined to accept the offer. "To die with honour was a thousand times better than to live with disgrace"—the aged Nawab observed in reply.

The siege then began in right earnest and both sides staked their all. Ganesh Das gives a lively pen-picture of the various encounters which were fought between the advancing columns of the Lahore troops and the grim defenders of the fort. The siege was prolonged and the issue of the battle became doubtful. The summer season too had advanced. Multan becomes hot like a furnace in the month of June. The Maharaja personally looked to the regular and unailing supply of the munitions of war from Lahore and kept on encouraging his troops with hopes and promises of rich rewards. When the issue of the battle was hanging in the balance, the poet introduces the divine element. The Muslim saints of Multan send a deputation under Shams Tabrez, the holiest of them all, to Guru Gobind Singh at his residence in the Paradise. The Pir pleads the Muslim cause and requests the Sikh Guru to withdraw his forces and let the Muslim rule continue in Multan for another two years. But the Guru was adamant and is represented by the poet to have personally come all the way from Paradise to render help to his followers. The tables then turned. The last assault made by the Sikhs carried every thing before it. The two "Suicidal Columns" led by their intrepid leaders Sadhu Singh Nihang and Fateh Singh Dutta rushed through the breaches and fell upon the garrison with the suddenness of lightning. The aged Nawab with a number of his kinsmen fell fighting near the Khizri gate of his palace and the surviving members of the family surrendered themselves to the victors.

The conquest of Multan (June 1818) brought a considerable accession to the territorial possessions of Ranjit Singh as also to his revenue resources. The province was estimated to yield an annual income of Rs. 7,00,000. This was the second great victory of the Sikhs over the Pathans—the first being that of Haidro five years ago, when the great Wazir Fateh Khan Barakzai of Kabul was obliged to quit the field after suffering heavy losses and leaving the occupation of the strategic fort of Attock in the hands of Ranjit Singh. Besides enhancing the military prestige of the Sikhs, these two victories gave to the ruler of Lahore a commanding position in respect of the two great routes which ran from Central Asia to India. The northern route passed through Khyber, Peshawar and Attock; and the southern route entered India at Multan and passed on to Lahore via Pakpattan and to Delhi via Bhatinda.

The victory of Ranjit Singh over Mohammad Azim Khan of Kabul (younger brother of the late Wazir Fateh Khan) forms the subject matter of the second ballad called "Peshawar Yuddha". This ballad has 111 couplets. This was the third great battle between the Afghans and the Sikhs which was fought in March 1823 near Naushehra and in which the heads of the two governments namely of Kabul and Lahore were present in person. Since 1813, Ranjit Singh was steadily extending his dominions westward beyond Attock and in 1818 he had even seized Peshawar from Mohammad Azim's younger brothers and had rendered them tributaries of the Lahore Darbar. Azim Khan was smarting under the disgrace which his brothers Yar Mohammad and Sultan Mohammad had brought on the family by accepting the vassalage of Ranjit Singh. He had therefore come prepared to settle the issue in a fight to the end. Unfortunately for him, however, the fight ended in favour of the Sikhs and Mohammad Azim Khan took his defeat to heart so much so that he expired within two months of his disastrous retreat from Naushehra.

Ganesh Das gives a faithful description of the battle which was fought near the hills of Tiri during the evening hours of the 14th day of March. We are told how the Afghans had taken initial advantage over the Sikhs by occupying the tops of a couple of mounds and blocked their further progress in the direction of Naushehra and Peshawar. In their first endeavour to dislodge the enemy from his entrenched position, the Sikhs had suffered serious reverses and set-backs and had lost a dozen or so of their best soldiers and officers like Baba Phoola Singh, Sardar Garbha Singh and the Gurkha Captain Balbhadra. "A Sikh soldier", observes the poet, "was not sure of even the small piece of ground under his feet".

The rank and file had lost their morale and but for the sustained efforts of the Maharaja himself which he made for restoring confidence in his men, it was likely that the Sikhs would have left the field greatly humiliated. The forty-three years old Maharaja donned his armour, took sword and spear in hand, mounted his favourite steed and rode forward to give lead to his soldiers. This ultimately turned the scales in favour of the Lahore troops. A general assault was ordered from one side, whereas from the other the bombardment of the position of the enemy was taken in hand by Prince Sher Singh who was posted with his artillery across the Lundah river. Azim Khan's advance from Peshawar towards Naushehra was kept in check by the Maharaja's European Officers namely Allard and Ventura. The Afghans lost their nerve but kept on the fight for a little while till they got an opportunity to run away under the cover of darkness. The Maharaja then proceeded to Peshawar where he held public Darbar and on Yar Mohammad's expressing sincere regret he was forgiven and reinstalled in the Government of Peshawar as the nominee of the Lahore Darbar.

The third and the last of this series of ballads contain only 73 couplets. It narrates the story of the *Jehad* (religious war) declared against the Sikhs by Khalifa Sayyad Ahmad 1827. Originally a resident of Bareilly, Sayyad Ahmad had come to live amongst the Afghans and had succeeded in gaining influence over the tribesmen of Hazara, Swat and Yusafzai hills and posed as the "deliverer of Islam from the thralldom of the followers of Gobind Singh". He reminded them of their glorious past when their rule had extended over the Punjab, Sirhand and Delhi and blamed and taunted them for having surrendered all that to the Sikhs. He thus worked their frenzy to the bursting point and the whole country from Attock to Peshawar was up in arms. This made Ranjit Singh apprehensive about his possessions in the trans-Indus region. Even his own nominee Yar Mohammad Khan was persuaded to throw in his lot with the Khalifa.

Ganesh Das narrates all the important incidents which happened during the period of two months of the disturbances: the unexpected night-attack made on the rather exposed position of Sardar Budh Singh Sindhanwalia's small division and the brave and courageous stand taken by the Sardar; Budh Singh's retirement next morning to a safer and better fortified place near the fort of Jahangira; the second attack delivered by the Afghans on the fortified position of the Lahore troops by pouring down in large numbers through the narrow and unfrequented pass of the Gidaragalla. The Sikh troops resorted to defensive measures and decided to bide their time till

help came from Lahore. The Khalifa got wind of their plans and hastened to launch his attack before fresh troops could come to Budh Singh's assistance. Sardar was able to keep his wits about him. He now resorted to his armoury of diplomacy and succeeded in weaning away Yar Mohammad Khan and a few others from their alliance with the Khalifa. They treacherously advised him to run away from the field if he wanted to save his life which he did. This rendered it possible for the trained Sikh troops to overpower the untrained military of the Afghans. "The battalefield of the village Saidu", the poet observes "was strewn with dead and wounded. The fleeing Afghans were massacred in thousands and an equally large number was drowned in the rapid waters of the rivulet which flowed close to the village."

The victorious Khalsa then moved to Peshawar where Yar Mohammad Khan came, paid homage to Prince Sher Singh and begged forgiveness for having joined the Khalifa. Ranjit Singh was not yet ready to take possession of this un-remunerative province and lock up a huge force to keep the Pathan in proper subjection. Yar Mohammad was once again given charge of the province of Peshawar and the Sikh troops returned to Lahore.

In composing these ballads, the poet seems to have been inspired by patriotic and religious motives. Whenever he finds an occasion, he tries to impress upon his reader that any one who recites or listens to the recitation of these valiant deeds of his bretheren will be rewarded with the usual divine graces of Dharm, Arth, Kama and Moksha. It may also be mentioned in this connection that, although Ganesh Das was inspired by feelings of love for his own people, he is not unjust to the enemy. He has not used a bitter or a scornful word or expression for them nor has he underrated the valour and the military skill of the Afghans.

The historical value of these ballads, is, indeed, great. I have compared the details as well as the order and sequence of events as given by Ganesh Das with those embodied in the books written by the Court historians like Sohan Lal and Diwan Amar Nath, and I was happy to find that all what he has said was confirmed by one or another of the contemporary writers. His accuracy is unchallengable. Nor does any one else give such a detailed and full-some account of the battles as given by Ganesh Das. His ballads have raised in my general estimation the value of bardic literature as a dependable source of contemporary history. His description of the siege of Multan, the encounters with the forces of Khalifa Sayyad Ahmad on the bank of the Lunda river and again of the

fierce encounters which the Sikhs had to fight at Tiri against the Afghans, leaves an impression on the mind of the reader that the poet was present near the scene of action. The actors in these frightful dramas are made to file off before our eyes one after another and we fancy we can still hear the cry of Wah Guru Ji Ka Khalsa, Wah Guru Ji Ki Fateh—the cry with which they used to encourage their comrades-in-arms at the time of an onslaught.

The pity is that the writer of the ballad has not cared to tell us anything about himself. Like the Hindu writers of yore, Ganesh Das seems to have been a believer in the principle of self-abnegation.

A Specialist in Sikh History, Mr. S. R. Khali is the Principal of the Ranbir College, Jind State, Pepsu. He is at present engaged in examining the manuscript of Fateh Nama. He has been associated with the Indian Historical Records Commission as a Corresponding Member for many years.

A TIRUCHIRĀPALLI GRANT OF VIJAYA RANGA CHOKKANĀTHA OF MADHURAI

(By K. R. Venkataraman)

The Copper Plate discussed in this short paper was in the archives¹ of the Darbār office of the former Pudukkottai State, and records a grant of Vijaya Ranga Chokkanātha Nāyaka (1706-1732) of the Madhurai² Nāyaka line. It is dated *sāka* 1644—*asvija* (*Bahula*), corresponding to October 1722 (lines 1-2). Lines 3-6 mention Venkatadēva Mahā āya—obviously Venkata IV of Vijayanagar—with some of his imperial titles as ruling the world seated on his jewelled throne in Ghanagiri (Penukonda). Lines 7-9 mention that Vijaya Ranga Chokkanātha Nāyanayya vāru, belonging to the *Kāyapa Gotra*, *Yajus askha* is a son of Ranga Krishna Muttavirappa Nāyaravāru (1632-89) and grandson of Chokkanātha Nāyana vāru (1659-1682) of the line of Visvanātha Nāyana (Nāyaka). Mā'appa, son (?) of Sūrappa Nāidu had endowed lands in Kattalūr and Perāmbūr³ which he had bought, for the daily service in the shrines of Sūra Pillaiyār (*Gaṇeśa*) and Vira Durgā (lines 10-14), which was conducted under the supervision of two *pandārams* (Śaivite monks). When an inquiry was made the *pandārams* were found to have neglected the daily services, and a royal order was issued to Mā'appa to see to their proper and regular performance (lines 15-17). Matters did not improve, and the king summoned the residents of the locality, and in their presence settled upon Mā'appa two additional villages *Koṭṭappattu* and *Kolakāṭṭupattu*⁴ for the better performance of the temple services (lines 20-32). The royal signature and that of the writer, Rāyasam Ramalingayya follow (lines 33-34) with the usual verse that one who fosters and perpetuates a gift has greater merit than the donor (lines 34-36).

This grant, followed by another⁵ in *Saka* 1649 (A.D. 1727) to the *pandāram* of the same temple, bears out Nelson's observation⁶ that this Ruler 'seems to have been principally distinguished by the extraordinary and illregulated munificence of his gifts to Brahmans churches and religious institutions'. It is further said of him that even 'when he was told that the presents of jewellery and other gifts he had made on a previous occasion were all missing, he would not do so much as institute an enquiry into the malversation, but would repeat his donations'.⁷

¹Before the merger of the State, the present writer had suggested the sending of the Plate to the State Museum. The file in the Darbar office relating to this plate bore the number D. Dis. 2731/38.

²Spelling approved by the Government. *Madhurai* (Madura); *Tiruchirāpalli* (Trichinopoly).

³Villages in the former Pudukkottai State.

⁴Now *indam* villages in the Tiruchirapalli taluk.

⁵Noticed by Sewell (C.P. No. 44)—*List of Antiquities Madras* Vol. II.

⁶*The Madura country* p. 240.

⁷Sathianatha Aiyar, R: *History of the Nayaks of Madura* P. 230 (quoting Taylor: *Oriental Historical Manuscripts*).

These shrines are close to the southern ramparts of the fort (now dismantled) of Tiruchirāpalli. Sūrappa and Mārappa, both *Naidus* (*Nayaks*), were evidently officers connected with the administration of the Fort area.

The grant raises the important question *when did Sūrappa acquire the lands in Kattalūr and Perāmbūr*? These two villages were the head-quarters of a *pālayam*, one of those created in the 16th century, by Visvanātha Nāyaka, the founder of the line. The territory held by the Chief was a fief over which he exercised all the rights of administration including the maintenance of law and order, and for the enjoyment of this position of prestige and authority, he paid the Nāyaka a tribute of about a third of his income from land and maintained an army for the service of the king. The *pālayakkār* (Polegar) therefore could not have alienated the lands in his own headquarters, since no part of a *pālayam* was alienable, though the king might, if he chose, dispossess a *pālayakkār* and bestow his territory on another. To find the proper answer to the question, it is necessary to recapitulate here some incidents, not generally known, in the history of the reign of this Nāyaka, that are told in the letters of *La Mission de Madure* and the old records of the Pudukkottai State, based on which the history¹ of the State for this period has been written. These incidents will throw much new light on the character of the reign.

Through some insidious intrigue, the Chief of Perāmbur-Kattalūr fell into disgrace in the court of Rāni Mangammāl, Regent (1689-1706) during the minority of Vijaya Ranga Chokkanātha and was finally deprived of his *pālayam* about 1707, by the young Ruler, who gave it as a personal appanage to Namana Tondaimān of Kolattūr, the younger brother of Raghunātha Rāya Tondaimān, the founder of the Pudukkottai State. Namana was a favourite of the Nāyaka, and the tenure under which he held the Perāmbūr Kattalūr tract was different from that of a *pālayakkār*. The alienation in favour of Sūrappa must therefore have been made *after 1707 by Namana himself or with his consent*.

The neighbouring chiefs, the Lakkayya (Lakki) Nāyakas of Kumaravādi and the Buchayya (Buchi) Nāyakas of Murangāpuri were in close alliance with the Perāmbūr Kattalūr chiefs, and by 1711 the Tondaimān brothers had subjugated them for the Madhurai Nāyaka.

At that time the Madhurai Kingdom was exposed to dangers, both internal and external, that threatened its very existence. Chikka deva Rāya of Mysore had nibbled away the northern districts of the kingdom, and in 1696, sent his *dalavāi* Kumarayya to lay siege to the fort of Tiruchirāpalli. A sudden incursion of the Marathas into the Mysore country necessitated the recall of the *dalavai*, which saved Tiruchirāpalli from the horrors and privations of a prolonged siege. The threat from Mysore had not completely passed, when in the east Raghunātha Tevar, better known as Kilavan Setupati, declared the independence of Ramnad which comprised the eastern districts of the Kingdom. Kilavan Setupati, who had once captured Madhurai, was again spoiling for a fight until his death. The hostility of the Marāṭha Ruler of Tanjore and the Maravars of Ramnad menaced the kingdom on the east. To add to these troubles some of the lesser *pālayakkārs* were in open revolt. Manucci mentions a letter that Rāni Mangammāl wrote to Daud Klān on

¹See the present writer's *A Manual of the Pudukkottai State*—Vol. II Pt. I—*History*.

April 20, 1702, soliciting help to quell 'the prince of Arupaliam' (Udayar-palayam), who in league with the Chiefs of Ariyalur Turaiyur and Valikanda-puram, all situated to the north of Tiruchirāpalli, refused payment of tribute to the Nāyaka. Raghunātha Rāya Tonḍdaimān marched at the head of a Nāyaka force, and brought these pālayākkars under subjection.

The liquidation of the perāmbūr-Kattalūr chiefship was the starting point for the subjugation of a number of lesser chiefships that formed a hostile ring round Tiruchirāpalli, the pivotal centre of the defence of the kingdom.

Vijaya Ranga Chokkanātha shared his great ancestor Tirumala Nāyaka's strength of religious convictions and love of charity, but lacked the latter's ability and statesmanship. He was easily imposed upon by his avaricious and corrupt ministers and *dalavādis* whom he could not keep under check. The rot had set in, and none but an outstanding genius could save the tottering State Madhurai. Poor Vijaya Ranga Chokkanātha was not equal to the task before him but it is palpably unfair to characterise him as Nelson has done probably on insufficient grounds, as 'a vain, weak-minded Prince, utterly unfitted to govern either himself or others'. The foregoing facts will not fail to present him in a better light, and convince the reader that Vijaya Ranga Chokkanātha was no *faineant*, and the energy and alacrity that he displaced in quelling the turbulent pālayākkars round about Tiruchirāpalli saved the State for about quarter of a century and might have prolonged its existence for a further period, had not Bāngāru Nāyaka opposed the claims of Rāni Mīnākshi to the throne and Chandā Sāheb's intrigues abruptly terminated the line of Madhurai Nāyaks.

Mr. K. R. Venkataraman Ayyar was formerly Director of Public Instruction and Historical Record Officer of the late Pudukkottai State. As an Ordinary and Associate member of the Indian Historical Records Commission representing the State and a Corresponding member after the merger of the State with Madras Mr Ayyar has been taking keen interest in the activities of the Commission and contributed several interesting articles in its annual sessions.

NOTES ON COMMUNICATIONS IN THE EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY

(By Arun Kumar Das Gupta)

The Old English Correspondence volumes available at the Bankura District Record Office give us some idea of the means of communication prevailing in the early nineteenth century. Although we do not derive sufficient information to be able to form a clear picture of the system of communication as a whole, we are none the less in a position to throw light on the Government's attitude to the existing means of communication.

Among the various means of conveyance which prevailed during the time of Akbar, Moreland mentions carts, pack animals, the palanquin, the ekka and the gari for use on land and boats and ships for use on water. (India at the death of Akbar—Moreland pp. 166-167). There is no reason to believe that the system underwent any fundamental change until the introduction of the rail-road in the middle of the nineteenth century. In connection with a report on the Government Sarais 'Carts and Cattle laden with property' have been mentioned (Letter to the Offg. Secretary, Government Judicial Dept. dated, 1833). The elaborate regulations relating to the Ferry, which appear in another letter (from Chief Secretary to Government to Acting Superintendent of Police in Lower Provinces, dated 1819), reveal that boats still served as a very important means of conveyance. Further from a letter from the Jt. Magistrate, Bankura to the Junior Secretary, Government of Bengal, Judicial Department, dated, August, 1846, we get the information that boats were used in large numbers for transportation of coal.

The construction of metalled roads and the introduction of the railways in the middle of the nineteenth century revolutionised the means of communication in India. But even at the pre-rail stage the British Government took care to improve the existing means of conveyance and established some sort of supervisory control over them. This point can be established without difficulty.

In a letter from the Chief Secretary to Government to Actg. Superintendent of Police in Lower Provinces (1819) a number of regulations relating to the Ferry have been stated. First, the Superintendent of Police is to be in charge of Communication between Government and Magistrates and Jt. Magistrates. Secondly, Magistrates

and Jt. Magistrates are authorised to limit and reduce the rates of toll, extend the exemptions, regulate the number and description of boats. They are further given the power of appointments and dismissals and promulgation of new laws. Thirdly, regarding ferries not to be declared public, interferences of magistrates are to be limited to objects of Police. Majhees, who endanger life and property by not keeping boats in order or overburdening may be punished. Fourthly, ferries are generally exempted from payment of any tax or revenue to Government. This regulation is intended mainly for "promoting the efficiency of the Police and the safety and convenience of the community". Fifthly, no ferries are to be assessed on account of Government except such as after providing fully for the safety and convenience of the public, and securing a liberal remuneration to the person in charge may appear to be so productive as to warrant the demand of a share of the profits for Government which share is extensively to be employed in repairing and constructing roads, bridges and drains, and otherwise, in facilitating the transit of property and the convenience of travellers. Sixthly, very few and the most productive ferries are to be taxed and even then the objects are to be explained to remove unpopularity. Seventhly, persons in charge of the public ferries are to be requested to pass free of tolls troops with military store and baggage, native police officers and bonafide public servants.

Evidently the authorities intended to extend their control over the Ferry without causing any damage to a profitable source of revenue which it was. The income derived from this source was again employed, as stated in regulation No. 5, in "repairing and constructing roads, bridges and drains, and otherwise in facilitating the transit of property and the convenience of travellers".

Further, from a letter addressed to the Offg. Secretary, Government Judicial Department, dated 1833, we come to know that the Sarais, both official and non-official, occupied an important position in the system of communication. It appears that the Sarais were built along the New Road, "the great medium of communication between the Presidency and the Upper Provinces", the safety of which was "of the utmost importance". "The primary object of the Government Surraes was to afford travellers in general, a nocturnal asylum free of expense." They were "well adapted.....to accommodate travellers of every persuasion, and particularly to protect the property of merchants frequenting the New Road.....". "All the Government surraes were apparently similar in construction.....the enclosure between the outer and inner wall and the square inside affording a safe position for carts and cattle, laden with property". They were generally safe from dacoits. In case they were attacked

"its inmates and the adjoining chuttee would be alarmed ere the Robbers would gain access within the walls". In the District of Damghur about 100/150 persons resorted to each sarai every night. Although the pilgrims generally frequented the Government sarais where they existed, the traveller in comfortable circumstances had the option of putting up at a moodee's shop. The needy travellers were very often compelled to sleep under the trees as they could not "afford the usual charge made by the Moodies of 1 pice for lodging and fire-wood, exclusive of the price of food". The Government Sarais were put under the supervision of the Dy. Postmasters of the Districts.

The sarais and the chuttees were thus institutions of immense value because they greatly facilitated long distance movement of goods and persons. But that was not enough. The full utilisation of the means of communication depended on an essential pre-condition viz. security in the countryside. That the Government was aware of this situation is proved by the fact that the Superintendent of Police was put in charge of communication between Government and Magistrates and Jt. Magistrates (Ferry regulation No. 1).

One peculiar feature of the letters available at the Bankura Record Office is that a large number of them, especially those of Mr. Blunt, the Collector of Bankura, refer to continuous and widespread lawlessness. In spite of numerous expeditions undertaken by the authorities the disturbances continued. This was partly due to the turbulence of the local inhabitants but partly again to the inefficiency of the local police. The Jt. Magistrate of Gurbeytah writes in course of a letter (dated, 1847) to the Jt. Magistrate of Bankura that the local police-men, some of whom were Jaygeerdars, were totally inefficient. Moreover, according to him, they themselves were always perpetrators of the numerous crimes committed in the Thannah of Bissenpore. The evidence of the convictions during the year 1846 indicate that these policemen were definitely in league with the "Dacoits and Budmashes"; when such was the condition of law and order in the countryside can it not be reasonably inferred that the travellers and the merchants and the pilgrims could hardly utilise to the full even the small facilities provided by the Ferry, the New Road and the Sarais?

APPENDIX A

*Copy of the appointment letter from Maharaja Madho Rao
Sindhia of Gwalior*

GANGADHAR SHASTRI

(By Dr. Kalikinkar Datta)

In a paper read at the Twenty-third session of the Indian Historical Records Commission, Rao Bahadur Sardar M. V. Kibe discussed the identity of Gangadhar Shastri, income of whose territorial property of some villages in U.P. was utilised for the establishment of the Agra College. Recently I managed to secure through Pandit Vishnulal Shastri, a Research Assistant of mine, transcripts of some old papers from village Kachari¹ in the Aurangabad sub-division of Gaya district in Bihar which show that Pandit Gangadhar Shastri was an inhabitant of this village. These papers were found in the possession of the descendants of Pandit Gangadhar Shastri, who are still residing in this village. I have selected for study here only those few which are of historical interest.

Gangadhar Shastri was born in the middle of the eighteenth century. He completed his Sanskrit studies at Nadia in Bengal and acquired considerable proficiency in astrology. His fame in this respect reached the Gwalior *darbar* through one Bhau Bakshi and one Abha Chitnavis, the latter being an inhabitant of Gwalior, then employed in the service of the Nawab of Daudnagar (Gaya district) and he was appointed there on a handsome remuneration of Rs. 5,000 (a month²). Daulat Rao Sindhia granted him seven villages in Eglas taluq in Aligarh district rent-free as a reward for some propitious astrological performances by him to the interest of the Sindhia.³

On the death of Gangadhar Shastri, the Company's Government decided that one-fourth of the income from his property in Eglas taluq amounting to Rs. 2,589 would go to his heirs and three-fourths amounting to Rs. 7,767 were to be utilised for "public and charitable purposes"⁴. It is clear⁵ that the latter amount was "afterwards appropriated to the use of the college at Agra."

(1) *Vide* Appendix.

(2) Appendix 'A'.

(3) Appendix 'B'.

(4) Appendix (G).

(5) Appendix 'H', and Fisher's Memoir quoted. *

* Sharp, Selections from Educational Records Part I, ps. 185-186.

"स्वस्ति श्री-सर्वोपरि वीराजमान सकल-गुणनिधान वेदशास्त्र संपन्न राज्य मान्य राज्ये श्री-श्री पंडित गंगाधरजी जोग्य-लीला श्री-मंत महाराज माधौ राव संधिया-बहादुर का अनेक साष्टांग दंड प्रणाम प्राप्त होय अत्र कुशल तत्रास्तु आगे वृत्तांत आपका सविस्तार भाउ बकसी वो आभाचट नवीस के जाहर करने सो सरकार में मालुम भया इस वास्ते सरकार को आपका बुलवाना मंजूर है। आपका आवना उहां सों बिना परवानगी नवाब आसबदोला बहादेर के नहीं हो सकता इस वास्ते वलीता नवाब साहेब के नामलेके आभाचट नवीस जाते हैं आपको रुकसत कराये के साथ अपने लावेंगे आपके घरच का वा सरिस्ता मुलाकात का वमुजम नवाब साहेब के हमकु मंजूर है इस वास्ते चिठी मोहोरी बतोर संनध के आपके नाम की जाती है सो आप कृपा करके आइयेगा तपसी घरच को बाद हजामुला कौल का वई तपसील सरका मंजूर हैं आपके लिवावने के वास्ते मय सवारी सरकार के सत्रस्तक जायेंगे सीवाह ईसके बैठक आपकी दरवार में आधी-गदी पर होयगा ओर घरच का बंदोवस्त आज की तारीख सों पांच ५००० हजार रुपैया का दरमाहा आपको हमेसा सरकार सों मुकरर भया सो आपको मिला जायगा जादा शुभ—

मिति चैत्र सुदी ५ संवत् १८४५

APPENDIX A

Seal of Scindia Bahadur Madhav Rao

Hail prosperous, the most exalted, repository of all virtues, learned in the Vedas and the Shastras, honoured by the State, the Splendour of the kingdom, Sri Pandit Gangadhar; may you accept the obeisances of exalted Maharaj Madhav Rao Scindia. All is well here. Further, detailed news about you have been known to us through Bhau Bakhshi and Aba Chitnavis. For this reason His Highness is agreeable to calling you here. You cannot come here from that place without a permit from Nawab Asaf-ud-daulah Bahadur. Consequently, a *kharita* has been sent to the Nawab through Aba Chitnavis. He will bring you here after obtaining necessary permission. We are agreeable to bear all your expenses as per letter of the Nawab Sahib. We are, therefore, sending a letter to you bearing our seal in this connection. So please come here. Details of expenses for the interview are acceptable to His Highness' Government. His Highness with his retinue will travel one Kos to receive you. Besides, you will be given a seat near the throne. From this

date you will be paid Rs. 5,000 monthly for your expenses. You will always secure this sum as agreed upon by my government. The rest is alright. Miti Chait Sudi 5, Samvat 1845.

Miti Chait Sudi 5, Samvat 1845

Sd. Raja Scindia Bahadur Madhav Rao Singh.

(Translation same as in proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission 23rd Session, p. 61.).

APPENDIX B

Copy of a Sanad granted to Pt. Gangadhar Shastri by Daulat Rao of Gwalior for villages in Eglas Taluq in Aligarh in Samrat 1853.

श्री महाराजाधिराज श्री महाराज आलीजाद सुबेदारजी श्री दौलत रावजी सिंह बहादुर के सिरकार स सनद करि दई तालुके इगलास परगने हवेली सिरकार को ससुवे अकबरा-वाद के आमिलान हाल ईस्तकवाल को मालुम होय आगू वेद शास्त्र समपन्न वेद मूर्तिराज श्री गंगाधर पंडित पुत्र मिश्र देवनारायण कु शाकद दीपी ब्राम्हण इन्हों हजूर से जाहर करिके सुभचितक पूजा वा सेवा भजन सुमरन दौलतवाही में अभिष्टा चिंतन करै है और घरच ब्राम्हनों विद्यार्थी वा आदमी आये गये का अघेक राखै है उमेदवार है के तालुके मजकुर उदक पुन्यार्थ नाम सुभचितक के मुकर ही और परवाना सिरकार का नाम आमिली-हाल वा ईस्तकवाल के करि पाउ जो सवाल दसवती जगन्नाथ राव बहादुर का दफ्तर में पोंहचा ओर मुसाइले थोर वसत पात्र है जालीयें लिखाजाह के तालुका मजकुर सिवाय घरनी मिलक व बानात कदीम सायर सहित कुल पाव ओर कुल कानून पटी वा पटी हाल ओर तीसरा हिंसा सिरकार का जल त्रिनि काष्ठ पाषाण निधीनिक क्षेत्रघा सब बावतों समेत पुत्र पौत्र कों नाम पंडितजी को छोड़ देना और कोई तरै भेट बैगार वे सकल सर देहीन जरातों वगैरे सो मुजाहम न होना के वहां की आमदनी कु पंडितजी अपने ब्राम्हनों के वर्ष में लाये के सिरकार कु आशीरवाद देत रहै या बात में ताकीद जान के लिये क अमल में लावना

१ अगलास मौजे

१ मौजे असावर

१ मौजे करघला

१ मौजे भीलपुर

१ मौजे सीता पुर

१ मौजे गिदौली

१ मौजे लालपुर

सद्रह तालुके अगलास परगने हवेली सिरकार का सिवाय घरनी मिलक वा बागात कदीम उदक पुन्यार्थ नाम पंडित जी के हजूर से करार करि दीना सो चलावना जो वे पावते रहै सायर दषल देना मिति आषाढ़ वदी ११ समत १८५३

English version of Appendix 'B'

Shri Maharajdhiraj Alijah Subedarji Shri Daulat Raoji Sindhia Bahadur does hereby grant this Sanad to the great scholar Shri Gangadhar Mishra son of Devanarain Mishra of village in Eglas Taluq, Pargana Haveli, Suba Akbarabad. Let it be known hereby to all the officers employed now or in future that the said Pandit has offered pujas and benedictions for the welfare of His Highness who has been pleased to grant him these villages so that he may meet the expenses of the Brahmins, students and guests coming to him. These villages are granted to him with all their rights including those that accrue from water, grass, forest and stone-querries, and free from Begar, Peshkash, Nazarana, etc., so that while enjoying the profits of these villages he may offer blessings for the welfare of His Highness. All the officers are directed to act according to this written order.

List of villages:

1. Village Eglas.
2. Village Bhilpur.
3. Village Asahar.
4. Village Sitapur.
5. Village Karthala.
6. Village Gidauli (Gandauli).
7. Village Lalpur.

APPENDIX C

Copy of a Sanad of village Kahada under Sahjahawnabad granted to Pandit Gangadhar Sastri of village Kanhari in gaya District by Daulat Rau, Sindhia in Samvat 1861.

श्री महाराजाधिराज राजराजेश्वर महाराज सुबेदार जी श्री जसवंत रावजी होल-कर आलीजाह बहादुर के सरकार से सनद कर दी परगने निगोर सरकार सहारन-पुर सूबे साहजहानबाद के आमिलान हाल इसतकवाल के कु मालुम होई मौजे कहडा परगना मजकुर को बमूजब परवाने राजे श्री दौलत राव सीधे वेदमूरत राजे श्री-गंगाधर पंडित बाबत फते लड़ाई उहेलो के मुकरर है सो उलमूजब लीषा जाता

जो गांव मजकूर सीबाह हमलाक बागात मुसारन अलहकू छोड़ दी ज्यों जो मुसारन अलह गांव मजकूर कू वार कि आसीरवाद देते रहे और किसी बात से सात इलत भेट वेगार वेस नजराने वगेरे से मुजाहमत न करनी और हर साल सनद नइ न मांगनी इस बात में विशेष ताकीद जान लीये माफक अमल में लावना

मीती कातिक बदी ७ संमत १८६१

APPENDIX D

Copy of document of mauzajhudavai granted to Pt. Gangudhar Sastri by Maharaja Madho Rao Sindhia in Samvat 1861.

श्री महाराजाधीराज राजराजेश्वर महाराज सूबेदार जी श्री जसवंत राव जी होलकर आलीजाह बहादुर के सरकार से सनद कर दीआ मीलान हाल वा इस्तकवाल परगने अछनेरे सूबे अकबराबाद के कुमाल महोइ वों झुडावई परगने मजकूर को वमूजव परवाने राजे श्री माधो राव सीधी दै वहादुर वेद मूरतराजे श्री गंगाधर पंडीत वीन देवनारायन वीरामहन सांकलदीपी के नाव मुकरर रहे सो उस मूजवलीया जाइ हे जो गांव मजकूरनगरा मुधा छोड़ देना जो मुसारन अलह गांव मजकूर कू पाइके आसीरवाद देत रहे और किसी बात से सातइलत भेट वेगार नजराना पेसक सब गेरे मुजाहमत तकरनी ओर हर साल सनद नइ न मांगनी इस बात से विशेष ताकीद जान लीये माफक अमल में लावना

मीती कातिक बदी ९ संमत १८६१

APPENDIX 'E'

To

The Hon'ble

N. B. Edmonstone Esqr.,

Vice-President in Council,

Fort William.

Hon'ble Secretary,

Rev. Dept.

We do ourselves the honour to submit for the consideration of Government copies of a correspondence with the Collector of Allygurr relative to seven villages under the denomination of Talooka Eglas hitherto held free of rent by the late Gungadhar Pundit together with a Translate of the sannud produced by his heirs and which from the attestation of Mr. Cunyngham bearing date the 9th January, 1804, appears to have been produced by the Grantee at the first introduction of the British Government into these provinces.

This grant has already been noticed in our address of the 16th September, 1814, in regard to other lands similarly held by the deceased in the district of Agra and as this grant is similarly conditional for the education of pupils and the distribution of alms exclusive of the maintenance of the grantee himself we beg leave to suggest that three-fourths of the produce of the lands be similarly appropriated under the superintendence of the Magistrates and Collector to the public benefits contemplated by it. The produce of the lands is estimated at Rs. 10,356.

Board of Commissioners

Furrookabad,

The *30th Oct., 1815.

I have etc. etc.

(Sd.) E. Colebrooke,
Board of Commissioners,
the 6th February, 1816.

True copy

(Sd.) M. Moore,
Secretary.

APPENDIX 'F'

To

The Local Agents,

At Allygurrh.

Gentleman,

The Right Hon'ble the Governor General in Council having been pleased under date 5th ultimo to authorize the appropriation of a portion of the produce from the lands formerly held by the late Gungadhar Pundit amounting to Rs. 7,768 (or 7,767) to public and charitable purposes I am directed by the Board of Commissioners to desire that you will superintend the administration of the concern.

For your further information a copy of the Board's address to the Government with an extract from a letter from the acting Secretary to Government in reply is herewith forwarded.

Board of Commissioners,

Furrookabad, the 6th Feb., 1816.

I have, etc. etc.

(Sd.) M. Moore.

Secretary.

APPENDIX G

Extract of a letter from the Acting Secretary to Government in Finance Department dated 5th January 1816.

Para 2.

As the sunnud under which the lands in the district of Allygurh were holden by the late Gangadhar Pundit appears to be authentic and to have been produced by the Grantee on the first introduction of the British Government into that district the Governor General in Council is pleased to authorize the appropriation of the produce of the lands in question which is estimated at Rs. 10,356 as suggested by you.

3. Under this arrangement one-fourth will be appropriated for the heirs of Gungadhar Pundit.....2589.....and three-fourths to public and charitable purposes.....7767.....

4. It is considered to be preferable to commit the administration of this concern to the Collector and Registrar of the district of Allygurh in the capacity of Local Agents instead of associating the Magistrate with the Collector for this purpose as proposed by you. You will therefore be pleased to issue the necessary instructions to the local Agents.

Board of Commissioners,
The 6th February, 1816.

True extract.
(Sd.) M. Moore.
Secretary.

APPENDIX 'H'

To

C. Macsween Esqr.,
Commissioner of Revenue
for the Division of Agra

Sir,

I have the honour to forward my proceedings on the claim of the heirs of Gungadhar Pundit deceased, to the amount in deposit from the receipts of Talooqa Englas from the period of attachment by the Collector to the date in which the orders of Government authorizing the appropriation of the produce was enforced.

The heirs of the deceased Pundit presented their petition to the Board of Revenue who on the 23rd February 1816 and 5th September 1817, called on the Collector to report, by some oversight the report was never furnished. The heirs of Gungadhar have frequently importuned me and when forming the Settlement of Talooqa Englas the year before last under the provisions of Regulations 7 of 1882 I promised to report their claim to the Commissioner; pressure of business has delayed it till now.

On the introduction of the British Government Talooqa Englas was held rent free by Gungadhar Pundit: in Ughum 1221F Gungadhar died* in consequence of disputes amongst the sons of the Pundit the collector on the 3rd October 1814 corresponding with 4 Koar 1222 F attached the estates reporting the circumstances to the Board on the 25th March, 1815; on the 5th January 1816 the Government authorized the produce of the Talooqa to be appropriated as follows:

One-fourth to the heirs of Gungadhar Pandit, three-fourths to charitable and public purposes. These orders were transmitted by the Board on the 6th February 1816 and enforced as appears by the Robakaree of the Collector on the 28th February 1816 corresponding with 16 Fagoon 1223 F.

The enquiries instituted by the Collector to learn what disbursement has been made by the heirs of the Pundit between the period of their father's death and the orders of Government for resuming $\frac{3}{4}$ of the produce of the estate afterwards appropriated to the use of the college at Agra and the following is the sums expended.

	On acct. of a seminary for teaching Bede (Veda) Shastrer	On acct. of Charity	Total
1221	6,496 9 3	4,994 5 0	11,490 14 3
1222	6,567 15 0	5,839 12 9	12,427 11 9
1223	7,198 0 3	6,200 9 9	13,398 10 0
1224	4,418 9 9	4,439 2 6	8,857 11 3

As it may appear inconsistent that so long a sum was yearly expended whilst the collection of Talooqa Englas never exceeded much more than 10,000 rupees it is necessary here to mention that in addition to Talooqa Englas Mauzahs Chaundaree and Chamma Zillah

(2) Died in December 1813. Home Dept (Education) Proceedings, August 1882, No. 43.

Agra were held by the heirs of the Pundit to meet the above expenditure.

Allyghur Collectorship

The 14th August, 1831

(Sd.) M. N. Tylar,

Acting Collector.

Dr. K.K. Datta is professor and Head of the Department of History, Patna College and an Associate member of the Commission on behalf of the Government of Bihar. He is the Convener of the Bihar Regional Records Survey Committee set up by the Indian Historical Records Commission. He has several historical works of outstanding merit to his credit all based on the study of original documents.

A FRESH 'PATIA' OF THE TIME OF THE LAST CHAUHAN RULER OF SAMBALPUR—ATHARAGARH.

[By L. P. Pandeya.]

For the Trivandrum session of the I. H.R.C. an article entitled "Two palm leaf Pattas of the time of the last Chauhan Ruler of Sambalpur Atharagarh was contributed by me. It appears in the Proceedings of the Meetings Vol. XIX pp 111-114, December 1942.

Quite recently I have come across a fresh *Patta* written in *Hindi* language and *Devanagari* script from the Sarsiwan Tract, formerly in the Bilaspur District and now in the Raipur District of Madhya Pradesh.

The Sarsiwan tract is a Hindi speaking tract and formerly consisted of a group of about 42 villages called "Sarsiwan Biya lisi". This tract used to be administered by the Chauhan Maharajas of Samblapur, who were lords of 18 garhs under the Sambalpur Raj. The Sambalpur Raj was at that time a *bi-lingual* administrative unit as it were.

To the N.W. of it, lay the Chandrapur Taluq consisting of about 175 villages and the Sarsiwan tract referred to above, where people spoke *Laria* (Hindi) as distinguished from 'Oriya' which was, and still is the common language of entire Sambalpur Raj. *Laria* is another name for "Chhattisgarhi" the spoken language of Chhattisgarh (meaning a land of 36 forts of which it comprised in olden days.)

According to the late Dr. Sir G.A. Grierson's "Linguistic Survey of India" Chhattisgarhi or *Laria* is a dialect of Eastern Hindi.

The present Hindi *Patta* was meant for a village 'Amalidih' lying in the Sarsiwan tract adjoining the present Sarangarh Sub-Division of Raigarh district. The Hindi *Patta* is a proof of the fact that the language of the people was duly respected and recognised by the liberal and wise policy of the Chauhan Rulers of the time. It is also an example of administrative expediency. The *Patta* is written in Hindi on a thin yellow coloured piece of paper. The top portion contains the royal emblem चक्र (discus). It is in 16 lines and is duly dated in Vikram Samvat 1893=1837 A.D. The signature of the Ruler is in *Oriya* script at the end of the document.

The village of 'Amalidiah, was leased for two years, i. e. 1894 and 1895 Vikram. For 1894 the village was granted मफ़ी (Revenue free) while for the year 1895, the revenue was fixed at Rs. 15/- in *Nagpuri* silver coins to be paid in one kist or instalment. At the expiry of the lease period, the *Patta* in original was to be returned to the Hazur (the Ruler).

The text of the *patta* is reproduced below : -

सोसती श्री श्री महाराजघोराज श्री श्री महाराजा श्री श्री
नराएनसीध देव के

मीजा अमलीडीह जेदेवलाल गौटीआ को गौटी पत्र संमत १८९४
साल लगाएत संमत १८९५ साल समेत दो साल को दीआ गया
तीसका सिरसता असा जो संमत १८९४ साल का माफी वो
संमत १८९५ साल को नागपुरी पंद्रह १५ रुपया एक किश्त
मो बेवाक दाखिल करोगे वो सरकार का हुकुम बमोजीब वो मुल्की
दस्तुर बमोजिब बंठि वगेर जो कुछ के पड़ेगा सो देना करोगे
वो आबादी वो बैरानी का उजुर नहीं रखोगे मिआद आखरी
पर पटा हजुर मो दाखिल करोगे फकत मीती आसुन बरी ६
संमत १८८३ साल ।

(In उड़िया script) सही

DANGER TO JHANSI IN 1774-75

(By T. S. Shejwalkar)

The precariousness of Maratha rule in Northern India has not been properly understood by historians, to judge from their writings. It was a continuous struggle which lasted up to the end of Maratha rule. Scarcely a year passed without some trouble cropping up somewhere, necessitating a military expedition. Posts changed hands so many times that it becomes a difficult matter to give a continuous history of the whole region. This state continued even after the advent of British rule, till 1860. Jhansi, which had become the key-post for Maratha rule in Bundelkhand, stood in constant danger of being taken by the enemies. It had been lost after Panipat and retaken after four years by Malharrao Holkar. Since 1770, it was under the command of Raghunath Hari Nealkar, who found it difficult to hold, surrounded as he was by redoubtable enemies Shuja-ud-daula of Oudh, the Ruhelas, the Jats, the Bundela Rajas, the Gujars, the Rajputs, besides agents of the Delhi Emperor, were now and then thinking of occupying this important post. Hearing of the murder of Narayanrao Peshwa, Shuja had sent one Mir Naim,¹ at the end of 1773, to occupy lands south of the river Jumna, but he was defeated at great cost by the Commandant of Jhansi and other Maratha Captains in the vicinity. The Vazir had defeated the Ruhelas with the help of the English battalions thereafter and occupied lands in the Doab belonging to the Marathas. He met Mirza Najaf Khan the Commander of the forces of Shah Alam at Etawah and settled the future line of ousting the Marathas in consultation with him on 27th February, 1774. Anupgir Gosavi² rented the lands in the Doab for Rs. 51 lacs from Shuja, who ordered him to cross the Jumna if the civil war begun by Peshwa Raghoba in the Deccan continued further. He sent his assistance against the Maratha posts, Mirachgir to Jhansi and Shinggir to Gulsarai.³ They invested these posts at the end of 1774. Raghunath Hari found himself in great danger, and was at his wit's end how to meet it and whence to find the money to carry on the operations. Seeing the Gosavi troops in overwhelming force, the local rebels raised their heads and stopped payment of revenues to the Marathas. They began to occupy one post after another and loot the region. Besides Jhansi, Gwalior

¹PD 29-281.

²PD 29-280.

³PD 29-279.

and Kalpi were the two other Maratha posts in similar danger, but the Gosavis were particularly against Jhansi, as they had been driven away from it after it had remained in their charge for a number of years. The Gosavi troops¹ are reported to have been some 15,000, while Raghunath Hari had 2,500 horse and 3,000 infantry with which to defend not only the fort, but the surrounding region on which it depended for provisions and succour. We have found out a copy of a letter written to Raghunath Hari by Tryambakrao Apaji Shrikhande on 12th November 1774 before the siege started. This Tryambakrao appears to be an unnoticed notable of the period. Possibly he was a relation of the Nevalkar family of Parola in East Khandesh and was a Kamavisdar of the Holkars of Indore.² His place of residence was the important fortalice of Thalner on the north bank of the river Tapti in west Khandesh. A vigorous Marathi writer with good Sanskrit education, his letter shows particular loyalty and friendship for the Nevalkar family in general and Raghunath Hari of Jhansi in particular. Raghunath Hari had sent letters to all Maratha Sardars as well as to the Central Government at Poona then conducted by Sakharam Bapu and Nana Fadnis. The Central Government found it difficult to defend its precarious position against Raghoba, who was sojourning in Central India and carrying on talks with Mahadji Shinde and Tukoji Holkar that they might join him in his adventure of becoming the Peshwa. Naturally the Centre could do nothing for outlying posts like Jhansi at this juncture. Raghunath Hari therefore asked for support from local captains in Central India and he found a staunch supporter in this Tryambakrao Apaji who writes from Kanar near Shajapur as follows³:—

“Your letter of 21 Saban received on 2 Ramzan and the contents noted. Your letter was received after the army had taken possession of Ujjain and begun its march forward. I was personally however still at Ujjain for some talks at the Darbar. Your anxiety as expressed in your letter is appropriate enough. What you had written on account of delay from this side was perfectly true. But we had already been caught in the mesh and therefore could not act according to your hint. We have begun the march of the army and God willing shall reach Sironj till Kartik Vadya 2, with 2000 troops. I am writing this at a distance of 20 Kos from Ujjain. Just as you have defended your side up to now, you should continue to do it for some two or three weeks more, (till we reach the destination). Bhausahab, you have exhibited the greatest courage up till now and

should not lose courage for a further short time. God has brought the matters to a pass when the enemy will surely be defeated. Shrimant Tukoji Holkar has arrived at Indore. He has met Shrimant Patil Bawa (Mahadji Shinde) at our request. Tukoji's nephew Bapu Holkar and Mahadji's relation Bahirji Takpir, with 5000 horse and 10,000 Pendharis, have started. Provision for 8,000 more Pendhari troops has also been made on oath. Express despatches have been sent to Bahirji on Kartik Shuddha 5. I have given full information of the state of affairs in Bundelkhand about the Jatila (i.e. Gosavi) invasion to Patil Bawa and convinced him about the danger. I have started as a vanguard with 2000 horse with full authority for the conduct of the campaign in my name. How hard I have worked to get the force started, God only knows. I have accepted the burden for draft worth Rs. 50,000 on my own responsibility to be paid at Sironj and will be relieved of this burden either by you or God. What I have done with full heart in the matter can be understood by you only. The troops are of the best quality with good arms and ammunition. Jagannathrao Mane, brother of Ghanashyam Mane (is in charge of these troops). I have not acted merely as a Vakil on your part in this affair, but have stood as Raghunathrao himself, taking the whole burden on myself, when the nation (the people) has raised its head and begun to move. You know that Patil Bawa has no particular care for this side and therefore it should be clear how much he can do for us! All these affairs cannot be put down in writing. I have started correspondence with the Chief of Gohad from this place and have spared no effort for attaining your end. Only God can now crown our efforts with success. You should not lose courage, depending on the news from the Gosavi. Understand that I am reaching your place in a short time. If you came to Sironj with the necessary funds so far so good, otherwise you should send some responsible man of full confidence with the necessary money. If your coming to Sironj is likely to derange matters there and loosen your authority, you should not come if you care. But the provision of money, if made without loss of time, will bear instantaneous fruit. The troops are pestering me here and not you. Knowing this, you should relieve me from this quahndary and save me from any untoward happening at the hands of the troops. Knowing that you are in imminent danger, and the empire has entered in troublous times, I have offered myself as a victim to this cause, because without such a step no other remedy was open to us. If we turn our face at such a juncture, then when can we be of any use to men like you? I have become a partner in your difficulty. God only can reward me in the end. As I am your well-wisher, further writing about this is superfluous. For the last three weeks I have fallen in this pit. Henceforward we should act according to the circumstances and what we think needful.

¹PD 29-282. .

²Rayarikar Collection (Manuscript).

³Navalkar Collection (Manuscript).

Even if you send the money, it is not certain that the posts occupied by the enemy will at once fall into our hands. But some 40-50 families of the Marathas are living as if imprisoned in them. We should send them to Sironj, and looting the enemy territory, bring him down. Thinking like this, I have offered money according to the wishes of the Sardars (Shinde and Holkar). Writing to Trim-bakrao (Odhekar) I have called the horsemen and he has made the army start on its journey after great exertions. But no body knows what will happen to this post before your money is received in Sironj and the army reaches this place. Sonari lies some five/six Kos from this place. Bhaskar Jagannath Dhavadshikar was in charge of that post. It was invested by the army from Datia. I sent my horsemen who drove away that investing army. We have killed some fifty soldiers there, amongst which one notable Thakur, a near relation of the Chief of Datia, was one, whereupon the Raja of Datia himself came with an army of 4000 together with cannon and attacked the post. But the men inside the fortress were select and Bhaskar Jagannath is also a valiant man. They repulsed the attack in which some 100-150 men of the enemy lost their lives. Dhavadshikar also lost some fifteen men. By the enemy's bombardment, the fortress is damaged and it was not proof against the enemy's attack. We could not support him because we are a very small party. As the Raja was intent on taking the fort there was little possibility of the said Dhavadshikar escaping with his life from that place. But God has saved him, as the Raja took fright of our coming and bolted from the place. Really speaking we had little strength. But when the captains in charge of the fortress opened talks with the surrounding force, one on the enemy's side allowed Dhavadshikar to get out safely with his men for some consideration. A great disaster has been averted. Up till now we have not lost in the skirmishes that have taken place, but as there is no money for daily expenses, the men in the army have become most depressed. Balajipant Baba (Kher Bundele) was also suffering from the same difficulty. As we could not pay, our army lost all hope. For the last four months we are pulling on in this condition. In the meanwhile the enemy is proceeding leisurely from one post to another. As soon as the provisions were exhausted, the post had to be vacated. In this manner we have vacated five posts, after holding out according to our strength for some time. Now the fort (?) has been surrounded by the enemy. If within a fortnight or a month at most succour does not reach from the Sardars, the future is dark. Who can tell what will happen next if the fort is lost. I have been placed between two mill-stones. What you have written is true enough. But under the present circumstances returning to the Deccan will not improve matters. Very likely we will find ourselves in worse condition (in the Civil War between Raghoba and

the Barbhais). So I have decided to continue in our present condition and I am prepared for the worst that may happen here. Blessings to you."

We have thought it necessary to translate the whole letter because it gives an inside view of the matters going on then. Jhansi was not still completely invested and the whole danger from Oudh suddenly disappeared in a moment in January 1775, with the death of Shuja-ud-Daula. Not that the Gosavi troops scattered in Bundelkhand were withdrawn or defeated at once, but the main source of machinations against the Marathas in the Darbar of the Vazir in Lucknow ceased to exist on account of the internal difference of opinion. The English were not in a position to take advantage of the situation by planning a forward policy. They had no interest in the expansion or resuscitation of the Mughal power. It appears from some unrelated letters quoted by Parasnis¹ in his Bundelkhand Chapter that Shinggir (or Singargir?) was finally defeated at Gulsarai by Dinkar Baburao Kher, a nephew of Govindpant Bundel of Panipat fame, in September 1775. The promised help from Shinde and Holkar, however, did not reach Sironj (as referred to in the letter) till the beginning of the year 1776, i.e., one full year later. That was how Maratha affairs were going on then.² The Gosavi brothers Anupgir and Umraogir lost favour under the successor of Shuja, and they themselves found their position untenable. The English resident at the Court of Lucknow was ordered from Calcutta not to allow the young Nawab to cross the Jumna against the Marathas, as peace proposals were being discussed between the English and the Marathas in the Deccan. The Maratha troops reoccupied Kalpi in 1776 by dispersing the Gosavi troops after many skirmishes. Many Gosavi troops took service under Mahadji Shinde and finally Anupgir himself took service under him. This shows the principleless scramble for power and anarchy obtaining throughout India in the last quarter of the 18th century.

¹ *Marathyanche Parakrama* (Bundelkhand Chapter), p. 178.

² *Ibid.*, p. 181.

Reader in Marathi History in the Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute at Poona, Mr T. S. Shejwalkar has written several papers on Maratha History. He is an Associate Member of the Commission on behalf of the Institute to which he belongs.

ODUH AND THE QUESTION OF SALT TAX IN 1867

(By Nandalal Chatterji)

Among the old records preserved in the Deputy Commissioner's Court, Lucknow, there is a bundle of papers relating to an official controversy on the question of salt tax. The matter under discussion is: 1. whether the existing rate of Rs. 3 per maund was unduly high, and, 2. whether internal manufacture could be permitted. According to the Oudh Superintendent of Stamps and Excise, 1. the rate was excessive, and 2, internal manufacture was desirable. (Vide E.N.C. Braddon's "Report Upon The Oudh Salt Question", July, 15, 1867).

The grounds given by the Superintendent in support of his contention may be thus summarised:—

1. The salt sources of Oudh and the N. W. Provinces are practically limitless in number. The richest tracts are comparatively few, but in some districts there is scarcely a single village in which good salt can not be made. "God has granted these saline wells or mines to Oudh, and no man now will advocate the closing of them".

2. On natural equity argument the people should be permitted "to enjoy the gifts with which it has pleased Providence to enrich the lands they live on".

3. Existing restrictions encourage smuggling and illicit manufacture. Kumaon and other hill tracts are supplied by salt smuggled by the Bhutias from Tibet and China "in exchange for rice getting and equal measure of salt" (Vide Diary of the Commissioner of Customs, 22nd September 1866).

4. The rate of tax prevents the people from obtaining as much edible salt as is necessary for them and their cattle.

These arguments, ultra-modern as they sound, are controverted in detail by the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner of Customs in their respective reports. (Vide Reports, dated 4th September 1867).

That internal manufacture would not ease the situation is thus shown by the critics:—

1. The present customs line would have to be maintained to prevent the western salts from getting in untaxed.

2. Internal manufacture would "drive our taxed manufacture out of the market and deprive us of our whole revenue".
3. An enormous and costly establishment is required to permit local manufacture and secure the tax on the produce.
4. "The natural equity argument is unsound".
5. Internal manufacture would not stop or discourage smuggling.

That the rate of tax (Rs. 3 per maund) was not high is thus demonstrated:—

1. A full year's supply costs no more than seven annas per head. The average income of the poorest man does not "fall short of Rs. 36 per annum; on this income then the total cost of the salt supply is only 1.2 per cent; such a price is not prohibitive".
2. Good edible salt can scarcely be sold for less than Rs. 4 a maund, or 5 annas for three seers.
3. "The total annual cost of the poorest man's food is not less than 18 Rs. per annum; is it reasonable to talk of people being deprived of salt, because its cost amounts to 1.40th of the total cost of their food?"
4. The incidence of the tax is "infinitesimal", and even in the case of the poorest classes it amounts to "considerably less than 1 per cent on their earnings".
5. Facts and figures do not support the view that the salt laws are detrimental to the health of people and cattle. The Commissioner states, "I have never yet met the native who could afford to purchase a meal could yet not afford to procure as much salt as was necessary to season it".

The Commissioner clinches his argument with this sarcastic question, "What has Oudh done that her residents should pay less duty than the rest of Upper India? Why should Oudh be thus favoured, and how can the Government afford to relinquish 2-3rds of the tax now levied on Oudh-consumed salt?"

Before being appointed as Reader of Modern Indian History at Lucknow University, Dr. N. L. Chatterjee has been serving the University as a lecturer in History. He is an Associate Member of the Indian Historical Records Commission and has to his credit several historical works of outstanding merit, the most important being *Mir Kasim and Verelst's Rule in India*.

NOTE ON SOME UNPUBLISHED LETTERS OF WILLIAM SMYTH (1658-1664)

(By S. Natarajan)

The Hyderabad State Library contains a very interesting collection of fourteen unpublished letters some original and some copies of William Smyth, a factor at Viravasaram¹ (Verasheroone). One of these dated 14th September 1663 was addressed to his brother Edward Smith, Bridge House, Tooley's Street, Madras Merchant, South York and the rest were written to his father John Smith of North Nibley in the country of Gloucester. The most important of these letters are those dated 24th December 1658, 29th December 1659, 12th January 1660, 30th December 1661 and 2nd June 1663 which were written from Viravasaram, and those dated 13th September 1663 and 19th January 1663/4 written from Madapollam and Fort St. George respectively. These letters have been preserved well being neatly bound in one volume bearing the title "The East India Company, Sec. XVIII Mss letters from India, the Circars and Madras 1658-1664." The accession number in the State Library is H.4, 1556. Almost all letters have seals—probably that of the factory—in perfect condition with the red tape binder under the seals.

These are written in a legible hand in the characteristic script of the Pre-Restoration period. But it is full of odd and old spelling and unconventional abbreviations which add to the difficulty in reading these letters. There is no uniformity in spelling proper names and Gloucester, for example, is spelt in half a dozen different ways. These letters cover in all 21 pages of foolscap size paper each page containing on average 50 lines consisting of about 12 words.

The first three of these letters mentioned above were in the possession of Mr. Reginald Cholmondeley, of Condover Hall in 1876, but his collection had since been dispersed. William Foster referring to these letters in his 'English Factories in India 1655-1660' regretted that the "present ownership of these interesting documents is not known" and had to be satisfied with referring to account given in the Fifth report of the Historical Mss Commission (Sessional Volume No. 40 of 1876, p. 360).² The Hyderabad State Library is the

¹ I am deeply indebted to Mr. K. Sajjanlal, M.A., for giving the information about the whereabouts of these letters.

² The English Factories in India 1655-1660 by William Foster p. 2361.

proud owner of not only the three letters referred to above but 11 more ranging over a period of nearly 6 years. It is not possible at present to state how and when they were acquired by the library.

William Smyth was appointed as one of the merchants on 25th 1 at Viravasaram, a small inland town nearly 40 miles from Masulipatam. He seems to have been an industrious and earnest worker and was given a good character by the Company. In his letter to his father dated 24th December 1658 he wrote that "Mr. A Count our chief Mr. Seymour our second dae very well agree which is the life of our trade".

In his letter dated 12th January 1660 he wrote that "in the month of June last Mr. Roger Seymour second of Verasheroone was unfortunately drowned seeking to passe a river on horse back, by which means I am advanced to the secondshipp of that factorie". There is a reference to this drowning tragedy in a letter from Madras to the Court dated 11th January 1661.¹ This difference in the dates has been responsible for some confusion. It has been suggested by the Historical Mss Commission that Smyth's letter was written a year before the Madras letter to the Court. But this discrepancy in dates is due to the fact that while Smyth's letters are dated according to the Old Style the other is dated according to the New Style introduced by Pope Gregory XIII. This view is confirmed by the fact that Smyth's letter from Fort St. George is dated 19th January 1663/4. In other words the year of the letter would be 1663 according to the Old Sytem and 1664 according to the New. It is only on this assumption that we can synchronise the dates of the other incidents referred to in the letters with the dates of those events gathered from other sources.

Soon after this, in September 1661, Daniel the Chief Factor died and from now for nearly 2 years he was in "the sole management of this factory and have my selfe alone without any assistance gone through and compleated the Companys Investment of a considerable some". But he got into trouble by reason of a difference he had with Mr. Roger Kilvert and was subjected to "Greate deale of Injustice". This was not his only misfortune. In his letter dated June 2, 1663 he informed his father that he got into trouble for seizing "in the name and for the use of the Hon. Co. goods belonging to Mr. William Jearsay then an interloper or private person now Chiefe for the Hon. Co. in Metchlepatam under which this factory of Verashroone is subordinate". This created feelings of deep hatred and malice in the Chief and Smyth was afraid that he would not "be employed in their service for the future in anything unlesse

¹ The English Factories in India 1655-1660 by William Foster p. 2361,

copying of a letter or some such means employment". When a complaint was made to the President at Surat and his Agent, he was informed that the case would be heard in full Committee at home. But he was afraid that the company would be more influenced by clandestine information than by real reports of the incidents and so he requested his father to use his influence to secure the good offices of some influential men in England on his behalf.

From August 16, 1663 when his contract was at an end he left the Company's service "not for any self interest or dislike of employment" but "because of the difference betwixt the now Chiefe Mr. Wm Jearsey and selfe which hath not only extended to words but blowes in soe much that I have received sufficient affronts which must lye buried in oblivion until wee meete in place where both parties may appeale and not as here where heeis as well judge as partie".¹

In his subsequent letter from Fort St. George dated January 19, 1663/4 he wrote to his father that "by the desire of the senior Edward Winter our agent againe enterneyed my selfe in the Co. service but with this proviso not to enter into bonds until I heare from my friends out of England neither doe I againe intende to oblige my selfe unlesse my imployment be answerable to my time and experience in these parts soe that till then I am bounde or free at my pleasure".

The expiry of the Company's character and the prospects of "new election espetially if his Majestic doe againe confirme their charter of which some here doubt"² roused his ambition and he wrote to his brother "If I have friends in the committee and any new election should bee I may bee in the hopes of getting some perfirmment my standing and insight being as old and greate as most". Unfortunately we have no information if his expectations were realised or were only frustrated hopes.

These letters contain some interesting details regarding the conditions then prevailing at Viravasaram "I find the Contrie to agree with mee very well. It bein att present not much hotter than with you in the midst of summer, but wee are in auttum and therefore mast expect it hotter.....I am placed in the healthiest place in all India or the coast of Cormondell. It is an Innland towns some 40=English miles from the Metripolitan port and factory which is

¹Smyth's letter to his brother from Madapollam, dated September 14, 1663.

²Letter from Smyth to his brother from Fort St. George, dated January 19, 1663/4.

called Metechlupatam this countrie is Levell for 100=miles or more nott one hill to be seene but as plain as our downes in England; we have such an abundance of wild foule the cheepest of our diet all the yeare Longe Is wild⁽¹⁾ and such like ⁽²⁾.....Had I a good cloth coate with a large silver lace which is all the weare here and the badge of an Englishman and on the contrary without it and others answerable to it not esteemed nor regarded. Likewise the cheefest thing needeful Is good hatt.....This country is a very cheape place of residence, weare it not for the state and multiplicities of servants we strangers are constrained to keepe; all men being respected according to his traine and habbit. We have at present belonging to our factory near 70 persons, to whom wee covenant to pay betwixt 4=& 5d ster per moys each, they finding themselves all provisions and necessaries, these covenant servants are allowed when they travel or are sent abroad on our business 2d per diem which is the rate wee give to all day laborers and porters which we usually imploy to carry burdens 50:60 or 100 miles outright which is the usual conveyance we make use of for all sorts of goods we sende from place to place, all sorts of provisions are extreame cheape the usual rates of beasts is from 5 to 8d.....but of those we seldom can procure not so much for want of plentie as for that these ignorant people fancie that when they die their souls go into the bellies of Oxen Cows calves and the Like on according to the estate they leave behind them. If rich then their souls goe into the bellies of oxen and soe their soulds desende and assende as their estates ebbs and flowes; yet they will not strike to monke these their Gods even unto death but will not be branded with selling their Gods unlesse nessesitie Inforseth, on these cattle they carry bundles as we doe on horses In England and the midle sort of people ride thereon these beasts have a hole bored through their nose wherein a string or small cord is passed whereby they guide them at their pleasure—they will go a habling pace as fast as our ordinary horses trot and continue it a day 2 or three; for goates and sheepe we have in great plentie from 6 to 10 pence per peace hens 2=pence and all other things per proportionable". A statement of the Masulipatam factors dated 13th October 1659 states that "we have at present soe great a famine in these parts, the people dying dayly for want of food, that we cannot have goods brought in as we expected"⁽³⁾ It is surprising that while Masulipatam was suffering from starvation things were so plentiful and cheap at Viravasaram which was only 40 miles from Masulipatam. It only shows that transport and other facilities were completely lacking and things could not be conveyed from places of plenty to relieve the miseries of the people of the famine stricken areas.

¹The word is not legible in the Mss.

²Smyth's letter dated 24th December 1658.

³The English Factories in India 1655-1660 p. 263.

In a subsequent letter he complains that "I finde not India to Answer to mine & other mens expectations, who supposed that if a man get but once to India and have but his health.....there was noe feare of presently getting an estate, as though here houses were filled with diamonds and streetes paved with rubies and that shovels were a comodities to showell up golds which lay as dust which I find far otherwise, for in my judgment it is as difficult a thing to get a livelihood in these country's as in any others especially if a man have but a small beginning which is my condition"¹. Symth's experience is contrary to those of many other persons whose numerous private letters give very interesting details on this point. Smyth's unfortunate experience was due to his rather miserable pecuniary conditions. His capital outlay was very small. His salary in the early days was only 25 l Even this was not paid in full and was "being kept so meene by the company that instead of 25l per annum I receave but 8 l 6s 8ds and the allowance for the house see low (?) that thrice as much more will not sattisfie the overplus of my parte besides other necessary expenses which dayly fall in". He was also unlucky to lose much of his merchandise in shipwrecks and other ways and many of his letters to his father contain pressing requests for monetary assistance. He could not borrow from the local people because of high interest which went up to 18 per cent.

There is also a reference to the personal quarrels and misunderstandings between the various factors. For example in his letter of January 19, 1663/4 he writes "greate discontents and heart burnings is betwixt the Agent and our Chiefe in soe much that it is almost come to an open warr. The natives and Dutch laugh at these transactions I suppose that when the Co are sensible of the dangers they susteyne by it they will not bee well satisfied, they are both moneyed men and the one ought not and the other will not stoope". Mention has already been made of the quarrels between Smyth and William Jearsay and Roger Kilvert.

We further learn that "Mortalitie hath soe domineered amongst the English in all parts of India that of those that were enterteyned 3 years agoe. I really beleeeve there are not one half of them now Liveing, and it is to be feared that If it continues and noe supplys sent out, here will scarcely bee left people to write home news of their fellow servants death"². Some of the important persons whose death had been reported were those of his cousin Broomfield, Skipwith identified by Sir Henry yule with the second Baronet of the Prestwould branch of the Skipwiths³ Roger Seymour, Daniel, his own

¹Smyth's letter dated 29th December 1659.

²Smyth's letter dated December 30, 1661.

³Diary of William Hedges Vol. II, p. 346.

grand father and grand mother the Broomfields and Kendrick Edisbury¹ The report about heavy mortality is corroborated by other letters from different individuals. Probably because of the hot weather some of the people were attacked by a fatal fever lasting not more than 6 or 8 days.²

The spiritual welfare of the factors and the Christian residents were completely neglected and no provisions were made for the appointment of priests at Viravasram. Smyth could not even christen his new born son for want of a minister and had to plan a trip to Masulipatam for the ceremony.³

There are also frequent references to some of the ships that arrived at or sailed out of the Indian harbours, the progress of their voyage, the calamities that befell them, the causes thereof etc., in one of the letters we are told that the cause of a ship losing voyage was "the dutch gave warrs with the queene of acheene as well as with many others her neighbouring kings which they like not to dae provided they can see but a profit to be made, whereof they are generally hated."⁴ Thus we find that these letters are of absorbing interest to the historian dealing with the history of the early settlements of the Company on the Coromandel coast.

¹There is a reference to his death in the English Factories in India 1660-1665 p. 151.

²The English Factories in India 1655-1660 p. 201.

³Smyth's letter dated January 19, 1663/4.

⁴Smyth's letter dated 24th December 1658.

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THE RECORDER'S COURT AT MADRAS (1798-1801) AND SOME OF ITS FINDINGS.

(By C. S. Srinivasachari)

I

The Mayor's Court was started under a Charter of 1688 engrossed only by the Company's Seal and not by the Great Seal of England; and it was thus technically a Company's Court. It was superseded in 1727 by one established under the Royal Charter of 24th September 1726, which applied to all the three Presidencies. At the same time the Charter instituted trial by jury for all criminal cases in the Sessions Court of Oyer and Terminer set up by it; and it included not only the Petty Jury of twelve for the actual trial, but also the Grand Jury of twenty-four for the preliminary finding of a "true bill", which could make presentments to the Bench on all matters affecting the administration of justice. The Bench was composed of the President and two or more of the five senior Members of the Council who, as Justices of the Peace, had to hold Quarter Sessions four times a year. This transfer of criminal jurisdiction from the Mayor's Court was only a reversion to previous practice in Madras. The Mayor and Aldermen were usually members of the Grand Jury and often made Presentments that "lacked in due respect for the authority of the Council." Attempts were made by the issue of a Book of Instructions and of forms as to the methods of proceeding in all suits and trials and by the Directors' scrutiny of the annual registers of the proceedings of the Courts, in order to keep them in "the straight and narrow path of English law", and to instruct them in the fundamental English principles of a fair trial. The Charter of 1753 continued the arrangements of 1726 with only some slight alterations; and it expressly exempted from the jurisdiction of the Mayor's Court all suits and actions between 'natives' only, which should be settled among themselves, unless both parties voluntarily submitted them to its determination. But 'Indian' litigation constituted a major portion of the Court's work even from the first years of its functioning. The only Court then available for civil litigation among the Indians at Madras, was the Court of Requests for trying suits of small value, established by the Charter of 1753. The Madras Council decided in 1770 to establish a Court for the adjudication of disputes according to the "customs of the natives"; but the resolution was not implemented till 1795 when the Governor-in-Council

established a special Cutcherry Court, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the Charter Act of 1793⁽¹⁾. The Regulations for the Cutcherry Court were passed by the Council on 25th October 1796. But a new Charter of Justice provided for the appointment of a Recorder, and for the constitution of the Recorder's Court; and the Cutcherry Court was closed from 31st May 1798.

Sir Thomas Strange, the first Recorder, brought with him the Charter of 20th February 1798 for "erecting a new Court of Justice in the room of the existing Jurisdictions of this Presidency."⁽²⁾ The Recorder's Court began to function as from 1st November 1798 under a proclamation.

Strange had been called to the Bar in 1785 and had functioned for some time as the Chief Justice of Nova Scotia. He was knighted on his appointment as Recorder at Madras.

II

The Court of the Recorder for the Madras Presidency superseded the Mayor's Court, and took over its records as well as all the causes pending at the time in that Court, and proceeded to their final adjudication. The new Court also took over the judicial powers till then vested in the Governor-in-Council, whether as a Criminal Court or as exercising an appellate jurisdiction from the Mayor's Court, and transferred to itself their records. Thus the appeals pending before the Governor-in-Council devolved upon the Court of the Recorder.

All the Advocates and Attorneys and Proctors practising in it had practised in the Mayor's Court and held the Company's license; and the changes in the *personnel* of the officers of the Court were few. The Court accepted for its jurisdictional limits the territorial limits of Madras as recently fixed by Government. The papers of the Cutcherry Court were deposited by the Government with the Recorder, the Government returning to such suitors, as had causes pending in it at the time, the fees they had been obliged to advance

¹The Governor thus minuted on the necessity for such a Court:—"At this moment in a Commercial Capital and under a British Government, where either of the Parties is indisposed to justice, the creditor has no legal means of recovering his debt or the heir his Inheritance. (Lord Hobart's minute proposing the establishment of a Court of Adulet for the decision of Civil Causes between native and native.)"

²The British Legislature being finally of opinion that an approximation to the Supreme Court at Bengal was desirable for the other two Settlements, the Act of the 37th of the King, Ch. 142, was passed; and shortly after, His Majesty was pleased, by virtue and in the pursuance of the powers it conferred, to grant a new Charter in February 1798.

for the purpose of carrying them on, and leaving it to them to renew them as they might be advised, under the new Charter⁽¹⁾.

While the Mayor's Court was composed of a Mayor and nine Aldermen, the Court of the Recorder was composed of the Mayor and three of the Aldermen, the Recorder presiding. His presence was deemed to be generally essential to the exercise of the Court's jurisdiction; but he was vested with the power of delegating his authority to the other members of the Court in his absence. The Recorder, either with the Mayor or with one of the Aldermen, constituted a Court for all purposes of the Charter⁽²⁾. The Jurisdictions created by the Charter were similar to those of the Supreme Court at Calcutta, and the details of its procedure were also much the same. It was determined not to have Pundits or Moulvies as referees about the laws of the Indians, but to trust rather to the available sources of information, as questions that arose might call for. The same course was followed, in the Supreme Court of Madras, that superseded the Recorder's Court, on 4th September 1801, with Sir Thomas Strange as the first Chief Justice. //

III

Some Instructive Findings of the Court

(1) *Park v Mootiah*; and *Mootiah v Park*. March 4 to April 30, 1799

(*Illustrative of the corrupt dealings of English officials with the Nawab.*)

The original bill was filed in the Mayor's Court in 1794 to recover the sum of 59,000 pagodas upon a note dated 30th June 1780, payable in three months, and on a mortgage bond of 21st August following, alleged to have been given for the balance of an account then settled.

¹The ancient institution of the Choultry Court for deciding disputes of landed property and registering property transfers among 'natives', which was transferred to the Court of Cutcherry, was finally abolished in March 1800, and its records were transferred to the Court of the Recorder. (P. Consultations, 18th and 19th March 1800).

²"The Court of the Recorder of Madraspatnam" should be holden by and before one principal Judge, who should be called the Recorder of Madraspatnam and should be the President of the said Court, and by and before the Mayor and three of the Aldermen of Madraspatnam to be from time to time selected in rotation to be assistant of Judges thereof all Judicial powers and authorities heretofore exercised by the Mayor's Court at Madras, and by the Governor and Council as a Court of Appeal from the same, and by the Court of Oyer and Terminer and Goal delivery, have by virtue of the directions contained in His Majesty's Letters Patent, thereby ceased and determined; and that all Civil, Criminal, Ecclesiastical and Admiralty Jurisdiction will hereafter be exercised in the Court of the Recorder of Madras." (Fort St. George Consultation, 1st November, 1798.)

The answer of Mootiah admitted the execution of the note and bond, in favour of the Complainant's testator Douglass; but it stated, that Douglass was the confidential agent of a gentleman of the name of *Johnson*, who was the party interested in these instruments; and they had been executed by Vaidyanatha the intestate, at the instance of the then Nawab of the Carnatic, in consideration of services rendered to him by *Johnson*, Vaidyanatha and Douglass having been both merely nominal parties in the transaction.

The Recorder's Judgment dismissing the original bill reveals the consideration which was the basis of the charge against the bond, as one which would not be endured by the law and would not bear the light of scrutiny. It is a revealing page in the book of corruption that was then so rife in Madras.

It further says:—"The Government of this Presidency having in 1779, taken possession of the Guntoor Circar, Mr. *Johnson* being at that time a Member of the Council, overtures were made to him by the then Nawab, through the mediation (as appears) of one *Bagavanloo*, that if he would, in Council, promote his Highness's views of obtaining possession of this Circar, he would give him 50,000 Pagodas; that this being agreed to by *Johnson*, a bond was given by the Nawab for the money, which not being paid, was renewed, and renewed again; but the better to cover what was to be concealed, and that a Councillor's name might not appear in a transaction of such a nature, it was renewed in the name of Douglass, the Plaintiff's testator, the notorious agent, as stands proved, of this gentleman's durbar corruptions."

"It is indeed a contract that must stamp this gentleman's name with discredit, as long as it shall be remembered; a contract, which neither he, nor his confidential agents representing him, can recover upon."

"It is void by the common law, and the reason why the common law says such contracts are void, is for the public good;—You shall not stipulate for iniquity—All writers upon our law agree in this; no polluted hand shall touch the pure fountains of justice—whoever is a party to an unlawful contract, if he have once paid the money stipulated to be paid in pursuance of it, he shall not have the help of a Court to fetch it back again. If it is not paid, the party claiming it shall not make a Court of Justice auxiliary to his corruptness. "*Procul! O! Procul este profani!*"

FRANK V. BARRETT.

(2) Another interesting case of March 1799 on the Plea Side was based on a question whether a person in the service of the Nawab

of the Carnatic was entitled to diplomatic privilege. The defendant Barrett was the Principal Secretary and English Interpreter of the Nawab, as certified by an affidavit sworn by John Battley, the Nawab's Persian Translator. The plea of Barrett was that the Nawab was living within the British Presidency, though he was a Sovereign and independent Prince, and that he was not employing any wakil or ambassador for himself, but personally regulating all his relations with the Company. Barrett having been his Principal Secretary and English Interpreter, by reason "of all and singular the premises aforesaid, by the law and custom of nations, and the statute made in the seventh year of the Reign of Queen Anne, intituled *"An Act for preserving the privileges of Ambassadors, and other public Ministers of foreign Princes and States,"*—he was not liable, nor bound to answer the plaint. The suit stopped at this stage, the defendant satisfying the demand.

It may be noted here that even as early as 1779 a collision had occurred between the Sheriff and the Nawab's guards, on the occasion of the Sheriff attempting to take possession of a house belonging to Prince Amiru'l Umara, the second son of the Nawab, which had been sold by the Court after an action was brought against the Prince for debt; and as the latter did not appear in Court, judgment was given against him (*vide* Minutes of the Mayor's Court, 21st September 1799). The Nawab wrote in consequence to the Governor requesting exemption from the jurisdiction of the Mayor's Court for himself, his family and servants; and his letter of the 9th October 1779, was as follows:—

"Some of my Family having lately experienced some trouble from the Orders of the Mayor's Court, which gave me much uneasiness as I have already acquainted you, I should be deficient to myself and to the high Station in which the Almighty has been pleased to place me if I did not complain of it as an infringement of the rights of an independent Prince in strict alliance with their own Sovereign, who has quitted his Capital for many Years with a view of strengthening and establishing his Friendship and connection with the English Nation by residing amongst them. (P.C. vol. cxxii., 26th October, 1779.)⁽⁵⁾

⁽⁵⁾Closely related to the subject was this Presentment on two occasions of the Grand Jury of the Madraspatnam Sessions, drawing attention to the prevalence of hooliganism in the village of Triplicane, adjacent to the Nawab's residence at Chepauk, where most of his followers lived. The Presentment of the first sessions of 1799, was forwarded by the Recorder to Government, with the remark that Triplicane was within the jurisdiction of his Court. Lord Mornington, the Governor-General who was at Madras at the time and in control of the Government, answered on 2nd February 1799, a severe letter of warning to Nawab Umdatul-Umara asking him to prevent such disorders.

(3) JOHNSTON v. EAST INDIA COMPANY, JULY 1799.

Another suit on the Plea Side, decided on 1st July 1799, was on the question whether the Plaintiff was entitled to a verdict and for how much, on account of the grain delivered by the Nawab of the Carnatic in discharge of a war subsidy under a particular treaty and received. It was held that the grain so delivered, was not to be regarded as revenue in the hands of Government so as to be within the restriction of the Charter and excluding that particular subject from the jurisdiction of the Court. The argument for considering the grain as the Company's revenue was that "it was delivered and received in part payment of four-fifths of the revenues of the Carnatic, under the war article of the treaty of 1767; and that the Nawab, having had credit given to him for it, as such in account, it thereby became revenue in the hands and under the management of the Governor in Council."

The Judgment of the Recorder was as follows:—"It is then, an appropriation of so much of the Nawab's revenue for the purpose of a war subsidy; and a war subsidy payable out of his revenue, as every subsidy, from one state to another, must issue from the revenues of the State that engages to pay it. But this no more made it Company's revenue, than where a man pays a debt out of his salary, the money so paid becomes salary, in the hands of the creditor who receives it. By the payment, the property is changed, and what was salary in the hands of the debtor, becomes an unqualified sum of money in those of the person receiving it. So here, the grain in question, on being transferred, ceased to be revenue, and became subsidy, applicable, not to the ordinary purposes of revenue, but to the expenses of the war only, by the particular stipulations of the treaty."

"It would seem, therefore, for anything contained in the first plea to the contrary, that the subject matter of it is within the Court's jurisdiction."

(4) PLEA SIDE—DOE ON DEMISE OF LATOUR v. ROE. 10th April 1801

A double issue was involved in this case for ejection, to recover possession of a house in Pudupakam in Madras, of Khadar Nawaz Khan who claimed to be a servant of Nawab Umdatul-Umara and in immediate attendance on him. The first issue was that the Khan was advised that "neither he, nor his house and garden were, by the laws of nations, and of England, subject, to the Court's jurisdiction." The affidavit also said that the Nawab, who was the real creditor, was ready and willing to come to a fair settlement with the lessors of the Plaintiff, and to do them ample justice, if they would refer their accounts, without reserve, to arbitration, so that His

Highness might have them investigated. "without submitting himself to the jurisdiction of a municipal court." Lastly, it argued that the Lessors of the Plaintiff were not British subjects by birth; that one of them, Lautour, was born at Alsace and the other two, Coulon and Gesslin, were Frenchmen by birth and inhabitants of Pondicherry; and of them the former was actually at Pondicherry at the time of its capitulation in the present war, and now a prisoner of war.

It was counter-argued that, on the ground of privilege "first, as to the Nawab being his own ambassador, Ambassador implies privilege. Not necessarily so a sovereign. He may be resident in another's dominions for his amusement.".....

"There was a distinction, in this respect between the rights of an ambassador and those of his servants. The ambassador's extend to every thing about him; and even his house is protected from the ordinary visitations of justice and police. (Vattel. S.IV. ch.IX.S.117). The servant's is confined to his person. But the privilege of the ambassador himself is not applicable to immoveable property. As to the enjoyment, it applies, but not as to the right to it. The Statute of Anne does not comprehend the case of an ejection, in which the house is seized as the house of the lessors of the Plaintiff."

As to the alienage charge of the lessors of the Plaintiff, the objection, it was contended, was not sustainable.

"The conquest of Pondicherry gives the lessors of the Plaintiff a title to protection. The off spring of English parents, born at Tournay after the conquest of it by Henry the 8th, was considered as a subject of England. The property of the inhabitants of Pondicherry, since our conquest of it, is liable to capture by the French. (Vattel, L.3. ch. 9.). It would be hard, therefore, if they should be under personal disabilities in our Courts. War exists between sovereigns and their armies; but not between individuals. The capitulation with Pondicherry stipulates protection. It is the consideration upon which obedience is due.".....

"The objection of alienage does not exist in the colonies.....Our possessions in India do not indeed come under the idea of colonies or plantations of the King's. We hold them by conquest. The conqueror either leaves the laws he finds, or introduces new ones. The Jaghire (district round the Presidency) is an acquisition by purchase. The Company holds it under a grant from Delhi."

In reply it was insisted that a prince coming into the dominions of another, with the consent of the local government, for the purpose of conducting his affairs, was entitled to all the privileges of an ambassador; for which was cited Vattel, L. 4.ch. 7.s.108 and(2)

Ward's Enquiry into the history, etc., of the law of nations, p.597.—In the Nawab, it was said, was combined every consideration upon which ambassadors were entitled to privilege. "He is here, as representative of his people, having concerns with those employed by the Government of England to transact with him, where he is. If a sovereign chooses to be his own ambassador, it is competent to him to be so; and the consequence follows; he is entitled to exemption from process, and so are his servants, while his functions continue."

In the case of Bujungarow v Abdul Mauboud Cawn Bahadur, on the Plea Side of the Supreme Court, 21st February 1802, the issue of the privilege of the Nawab and his followers was discussed further.*

*In the course of the arguments of this case it was contended that the Nawab could not send an ambassador, and, if he could not, then he could not in his own person claim the privileges of one. Sovereign princes only can send ambassadors. There are instances of German princes, so called, who yet cannot send ambassadors. The Statute of Queen Anne related to ambassadors from foreign princes, accredited and received as such by our Court. Here the Nawab, upon this certificate, appears recognized only by the Company's Government. The late Nawab Wallajah was recognized by the foreign Courts. But he must be also a sovereign prince; now he is described here only as an independent one. Does independent necessarily imply sovereignty?—The consideration of the privilege is the convenience of the public, and it continues to exist only during the period of the actual discharge of the function.

"The kind of residence set up here, from the year 1768, carries with it a train of connections, to which it is difficult to set bounds. There is no probability of the residence ever ending. The privilege pre-supposes a sovereign coming here, and returning. In this case, for any thing that appears to the contrary, the Nawab was born, and is established here.

"To the objection that he should appear to be a sovereign prince the answer was that the Germanic princes are independent, but not sovereigns; yet they send ambassadors; for which was cited Vattel. The right may belong to princes or States not sovereign. The name of Nawab excludes the idea of sovereign; the Emperor of Delhi alone is sovereign.—The British Legislature has recognized Native princes. The statute under which the late Court was held prohibited the lending money to Native princes. Here the certificate adds the term, independent.

"The policy of the English Government and of the Nawab's family have been to act together.

"Then, if the one comes for that purpose into the territory of the other, are his privileges to be less than if he had come here on some particular emergency, perhaps hostile to the English? Then, recognizing the relative condition of the two powers, the consequences follow. An ambassador's privileges are limited. But, in the case of a sovereign there cannot be the same limitation. He must have a proportionately greater suite, including all who come for his comfort and occasions. It will carry the whole of his family not merely his domestique. The Defendant is the uncle of the present Nawab. The Nawab's uncle is considered by the English law, for the purpose of rank. The Nawab considers him as one of the family, and the Defendant considers himself so." (pp. 146—152 of T.S. Strange: Notes of Cases in the Supreme Court of Judicature at Madras ending in the year 1816—Vol. 1. *1827).

The connected cases decided in the Supreme Court (1) Crown Side, 4 June 1810 The King v. Thomas Monisse, Razoo Meah & Modoon Navaz Cawn (a habeas corpus lies to release persons improperly deprived of their liberty by the Nawab); and (2) Plea Side, September, 1810—Zeibun Nissa Begum, v. Nawab Azam Doulah Bahader, (an action of damage will not lie against the Nawab residing at Madras with the concurrence of Government as his own ambassador.); and (3) the remarks of Sir Elijah Impey, Mr. Justice Le maiastre and Sir Robert Chambers of the Supreme Court, Calcutta, on the sovereignty of Mobarik ul Dowlah Nawab of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa in reference to whom as such privilege had been claimed for Roy Radha Charan as his ambassador. These are instructive findings in the subject.

Equity Side

August 1801

(5) VEERAPERMAILL PILLAY v. NARAIN PILLAI & OTHERS, EXECUTORS OF
COLUNDA VEERAPERMAILL

The case is illustrative of the Court proceeding to decide on some intricate points of the Hindu Law, pertaining to adoption and disposition of property; and the parties were well-known persons in the Madras society of those days.

The following note and several quotations above have been taken from Thomas Strange's *Notes of Cases in Madras from 1798 to 1816*. Strange resigned his office of Chief Justice in 1817 when he returned to England. He has remarked that the Madras judicature had attained "a maturity beyond its years" and it "embraced every species of jurisdiction known to our juridical constitution." He further remarks that "in deciding suits involving the interpretation of the laws of the Indians, the trust imposed on the Bench should be most delicate and should be never satisfied by a mere reference to a Pundit or a Moulavie."

Strange thus summarises his views as to Hindu adoption:—

August 5th, 1801.

"If a Hindu by his will expresses a wish to be represented by the unborn son of a particular person whom he names, who has but one son at the time, and who has no other living at the death of the testator, his widow is not bound to wait indefinitely the birth of a second son, but may adopt any competent person she thinks proper.

Essentials of adoption by the Hindu law, are the giving and receiving.

"It is not necessary that the person adopted by a widow, after the death of her husband, should have been named by him. It is sufficient that she had his authority to adopt, express or implied. This is indispensable.

"The adoption of an elder son is improper, but not invalid.—If a man have two wives, and by the first a son, and by the second several, the elder of those by the younger wife may be given and received in adoption.

"If the father of the boy to be given be dead, the consent of the elder son, as representing him is sufficient; the consent of the mother may be presumed from circumstances.

"The adoption is good, tho' the adopted be above five years of age, and have under-gone the ceremony of purification, provided he be the son of a near relation of the adopter, tho' not a *sagotra*, i.e. not descended in a direct male line from one common male ancestor.

"The restriction as to age respects only the three superior casts, and is not binding upon Soodras; and with respect to the superior classes, the criterion is, not the particular age of the adopted, but whether he has undergone the ceremony of inauguration, namely, that of tonsure and boring the ears.

"The property in dispute in this case was considerable, amounting to between two and three hundred thousand Pagodas.

"It embraced a number of questions on the right and mode of adoption. The principal one, as to the right of making the one which had taken place, arose on the will of a Hindu; a disposition of property, according to our sense of it, not known to the Hindu law, and to be defended in our Courts, in which it has perhaps improperly been admitted, only by analogy to the Hindu of gifts. Much as the case was contested on other points, the question as to the competency of a Hindu to make a will was not touched in it, both parties, the Complainant and Defendants, claiming under the bequests and directions which it contained.....this is certain, that a dying Hindu, failing male issue, may authorize an adoption to take effect after his death, and this by writing, as well as otherwise. The will in this case therefore, with reference to the parts of it that were in question, must have been construed as a direction in writing by the testator to adopt. As such, it would have been unquestionably good, and the discussion would have turned, as it did, upon the construction to be put upon it."

The will in dispute is illustrative of institutions and modes of thinking among the Hindus, and, as such, a matter of historical curiosity.

"The cause was heard upon bill, answers, and deposition. Among the witnesses were a number of Sastrees, who had been examined to the different points of Hindu law, upon which chiefly the suit depended. There were not fewer than ten or twelve on either side; and their answers upon every point, were in direct opposition to each other. From such oracles an English Court was not likely to derive much satisfaction. That there was a great deal of corruption among them was plain. Under these circumstances, resort was had to other sources of instruction, as to the law, as will appear from the judgment."

It was one of the last given in the Court of the Recorder. The Supreme Court shortly after succeeding, an application was made to it for a rehearing, but withdrawn; nor was there any appeal, the parties finally acquiescing in the opinion delivered.

The peculiarity of the will in question is seen in the following paragraph translated from it which has been compared with the will of the Raja of Rajashahi addressed to Rani Bhushani Devi authorizing her to adopt a son after his decease.

Vayalur Veerapermall Pillai in his will duly witnessed thus provided:—

"You are to give my emerald ear-ring to Iyah Pillay. If Iyah Pillay begets a son, beside his present one, you are to keep him to my lineage; and name him Colunda Veerapermall Pillay. You are to give him a good education, and introduce him to the best society, giving him the jewels that are in the house, the remaining garden, and remaining villages."

Before becoming Principal of R. D. M. College, Sivaganga, S. T. Dewan Bahadur C. S. Srinivasaiah had served for many years as Professor and Head of the Department of History and Politics, Annamalai University. An enthusiastic member of the Indian Historical Records Commission, the Dewan Bahadur is an author of many important publications based on original records. As Convener of the Madras Regional Records Survey Committee, he has brought to light a large collection of records in private custody.

BOUNDARY DISPUTES BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND MAYUR-BHANJ IN THE 18TH CENTURY

(MAINLY BASED ON THE MIDNAPUR DISTRICT RECORDS)

(By Tarit Kumar Mukherji)

The river Subarnarekha was looked upon generally as the limit of the Company's territory on the west and that of the Maratha occupations on the east. The river however was not the real boundary as the Marathas held territory north-east of the river in parganas Bograi, Kamarda, Pataspur and Shahbandar. The Company's possessions on the right bank of the river included among others Naya-basan, Ghatsila, Janpore, and Bhelorachur. Nayabasan was one of the Parganas in the western jungles forming the thana of Janpore.¹ It was situated partly on the west and partly on the east of the river. Pargana Bhelorachar (now within the District of Balasore) was the only Pargana that the Company possessed "to the southward of Subarnarekha."²

To the west of the river was the State of Mayurbhanj the ruler of which became a tributary of the Marathas after the latter had made themselves master of Orissa. The northern boundry of Mayurbhanj terminated at Nayagramgarh. From there the eastern boundary commenced and extended upto the village Mulida in the pargana Bhelorachar, a few miles south of Rajghat. To all intents and purposes the ruler of the State was independent. The Maratha claim to supremacy appears to have always been resisted by the Raja. Bhowani Pundit in 1764 expressed his intention "to root out the rebellious Zemindars of Harrurpoor" (Capital of Mayurbhanj).³ In 1766 Thomas Motte while at Balasore wrote, "There is usually at Balasore a party of thirty horse and five hundred foot but at this time they are with Pellajee collecting the tribute of the Mahur Bunje country".⁴ During their long rule over Orissa (1751-1803) the Marathas seldom succeeded in reducing the Rajah of Mayurbhanj to submission. Even as late as 1784 an attempt was made to crush Damodar Bhanja but it proved to be of no account. On November

¹Letter from the Collector to Mr. Duncan, Revenue Dept., dated Midnapore, 24th August 1782.

²Letter from the Resident to the Hon'ble Harry Veroist, dated the 5th May 1767.

³Calendar of Persian Correspondence, 1764, letter No. 2481.

⁴Early European Travellers, p. 4.

25 that year the Collector in a letter referred to what had been reported to him by Captain Hamilton. Captain Hamilton, Commander of Company's Troops at Jaleswar wrote, "The Rajah of Mohrbunj has again started creating troubles; Moodajee wishes to crush him and I flatter myself I should require two small guns to take his country. Rajahram Pundit is now with a large army at Nilgurrya endeavouring to reduce the Rajah but I hear he will not effect it".⁵

Fear of punishment at the hands of the Marathas led Damodar Bhanja to seek the friendship of the English. Early in 1761, Damodar Bhanja sent his vakeel Moti Ram to Mr. Vansittart. The latter acknowledged Rajah's profession of loyalty to the Company and sent in turn Mr. Johnstone to Mayurbhanj and instructed him to treat the Rajah in a friendly manner.⁶ In 1767, Lt. Fergusson "settled the parganas (Nayabasan and Bhelorachar) in the Mayurbhanj Rajah's possession for Rs. () a year".⁷ In 1768 when Sambhaji Ganesh the Maratha Subahdar of Cuttack, in a letter, expressed his intention of invading Bengal and sought his assistance, Damodar Bhanja pleaded his inability owing to scarcity of rice. Bulbuddar Bhanj the Rajah's envoy to the Resident of Midnapore, stated that the Rajah was desirous of shaking off the yoke of the Marathas, and that his country was so advantageously situated that with a very little assistance from the English he should at any time be able to prevent the Marathas from entering into Bengal from the southward.⁸

This friendly relation between the Rajah and the English however did not last long. During the closing years of the rule of Warren Hastings, dispute arose between the Rajah and the Company over the possession of the two Parganas, Nayabasan and Bhelorachar. It appears from the records that since 1767 the Rajah held the pargana of Nayabasan as a revenue paying estate and quite distinct from his independent territory. Great difficulty was experienced in realising the government demands from him. From 1777 onwards the Rajah became very irregular in his payments. "With regard to Damoodur bunje, Zeminder of Nayabussaun", wrote the Resident, "I beg leave to observe that in 1184 (B.S.) Mr. Higginson, Chief of Burdwan, in conformity to the orders of the Hon'ble Board made mocurrer settlement of the Junguls and fixed for the Jumma of Nyabussaun Alla Sicca Rs. 5293-12-13".⁹ In 1184 the balance due

⁵Public Letter Copy Book, 1784, Vol. 8, Part I.

⁶Calendar of Persian Correspondence, Letter Nos. 1020, 1112.

⁷Midnapore Records, Vol. I, P. 147.

⁸From the Resident to the Hon'ble Harry Vereist, dated Midnapore the 5th July 1768.

⁹From the Collector to the Hon'ble Warren Hastings, dated Midnapore, the 10th Oct. 1779.

from him was Rs. 2174-4-15, in 1185 it was Rs. 1273-5-8 and in 1186 Rs. 2043-13-4. The Rajah on his part complained of over assessment and demanded a reduction of Rs. 2000 from his fixed mocurrer settlement. "The only alternatives", observed the Resident, "that occur to me is either to comply in some small degree with his demand or to take the pergunna entirely out of his hands and thereby supersede his influence, by what the Tannadar would consequently acquire, when supported by a small military force that might be stationed in the Killa of Nyabassaun, at present occupied by the Rajah's sardars and pikes".¹⁰

The company at that time was not in a position to apply force against the Rajah. But it did not however accept the Rajah's proposal for a reduction in his Jumma. This offended the Rajah and he waited for an opportunity to extend his sway over the Company's possessions on the right bank of the Subarnarekha. Chimnaji Bapoo, proceeding from Nagpur "by studied deviation and delays" reached Cuttack in May 1780. In March 1781, irregular bands of Maratha horse started creating widespread disturbances in the district of Jaleswar. The Resident reported that "fifty Maratha horse made an inroad into our pergunna of Belorachour, plundered Suntospore and four other villages on the west side of the Subarnarica" between the 2nd and 7th March. On the 8th another "band of 200 Maratha horse after plundering some villages in Ismailpore and Lampochaur proceeded to Mohunpore a considerable town where are sundry cloth factories belonging to the Company and to several Bengal merchants; these they plundered as well as the houses belonging to Ryots".¹¹

Taking advantage of the confusion resulting from the inroads of the Marathas, Damodar Bhanja arrived at Bhelorachar and plundered several inhabitants. His Choudries and Naibs started collecting revenue from the Ryots. The Thanadar of Jaleswar reported that "upon the first incursion of the Pindaries the Zemindars and many of the Ryots went to the Ghur of Amerdaw in Bhelorachour, that soon after the Mahr Bhunj Rajah taking the opportunity entered Amerdaw, and plundered those he found there". Major Macpherson with his regiment "not above 1½ cose distant from Amerdaw could not come to the aid of the unhappy ryots; as any troops sent across the Subarnrica might alarm the Morattoes and impede the negotiations on foot", between Warren Hastings and Chimnaji Bapoo.¹² The

¹⁰From the Collector to the Hon'ble Warren Hastings, dated Midnapore, the 4th July 1780.

¹¹From the Collector to the Hon'ble Warren Hastings, dated Midnapore, the 12th March 1781.

¹²From the Collector to Mr. David Anderson and Members of the Board of Revenue, dated Midnapore the 24th March 1781.

Rajah was audacious enough to send his people opposite Fort Knox at Jaleswar in pursuit of the riots of Bhelorachar; but they were stopped by Major Macpherson who threatened to fire upon them from the fort "in case they came within reach in such pursuits".¹³

The presence of the Maratha horse in the vicinity of Mayurbhanj reminded the Rajah of his allegiance to the Maratha Government. He proposed to pay his tribute from the collections of Nayabasan. Anguin Paury, the Rajah's Vakeel was asked to send the "two next kists of that pergenna directly to him intending it as a part of the tribute to be given to the Morattoe Chief whose troops he expected, having received a letter from Chimnaji of his intentions of marching through Harriorpore though not in hostile manner. Anguin Paury likewise mentioned that the Mohrbunj Rajah had removed his Zenana and effects from Harriorpore into places of greater safety".¹⁴

"Improving upon his original claim of only 81 villages in the pergunna Bhelora-chour", wrote the Resident, "the Rajah has by his own authority taken seisin of the whole pergunna and finding no effectual opposition to his encroachments but rather a calm uninterrupted enjoyment he has enlarged his views and on the 8th of this month he sent his moonshey to erect a staff and lay claim to Dhonpore and seven other villages on the Western side of the Subarnirica forming part of the Pergunna Jellasure" and "has likewise seized Punnysuary, Multanny, and Razigaut, the three Gauts belonging to Jellasure and directed a toll to be levied upon passengers and goods".¹⁵

By promising to pay his tribute the willy Rajah succeeded in disarming the suspicion of the Maratha Government and in enlisting the support of Nana Rao, the Maratha Foujdar of Balasore - in his claim to Bhelorachur. On May 31, 1781, the Resident wrote to Mr. Anderson, "I should conclude from the proceedings of the Mohrbunj Rajah that he has been endeavouring to deceive the Phousdar of Balasore to screen himself from his payments there..... copy of a letter the Mohrbunj vakeel brought me from Nunna Row, Phousdar of Balasore, wherein, he advises me to give quite possession in conformity to the Governor General's order of the villages claimed by Mohrbunj in Bheloriachour because he was indebted to the Morattoes two Laacs of Rupees. In my reply which I likewise enclose I observed that he must have been misinformed relative to the

Governor General's orders—that the lands in dispute belonged to the Company, which nevertheless the Mohrbunj Rajah had already taken possession of by his own authority; that however it could not be expected he should be suffered to collect from the Company's lands and riots in order to pay his balance to the Morattoes..... No other opportunity than the one that offered would have availed the Mohrbunj Rajah in thus putting himself in possession for had not the Subarnirica, at that time been the Ne plus Ultra, to the Company's troops on the one side and to the Morattoes on the other", troops might have been sent "which would have effectually prevented the Rajah from seizing the 'districts'".¹⁶

Bhelorachur formed one of the parganas of the Chuckla Jaleswar. It devolreed to the Company upon the cession of that Chuckla. This was never disputed by the Marathas. The pargana had all along paid either peshcus or rent to the Company either through the Canongoe or Thanadar of Jaleswar. In the Tuxeen papers the Zemindar appeared paramount of the whole pargana consisting of 113 villages; the claim of the Mayurbhunj Rajah to 81 villages had no "other foundation than his having at different times but with long interruptions held them in farm; before they came into his hands they were held from the Zemindar as Etmaum by two Sardar pikes of Jallesore; ever since the year 1178 the Mohrbunj Rajah has held no part of the pergunnah".¹⁷

On July 25, 1781, Mr. Anderson was informed by the Collector of Midnapore that troops sent to Bheloriachur had done their duty and that the Tahsildar was then in possession of the villages lately held by the Mayurbhanj Rajah.¹⁸ The Collector in another letter pointed out that two companies of troops should be stationed in the frontier districts "to deter the Rajah from attempts on that quarter, and drive him out should he undertake any".¹⁹ With regard to Nayabasan a settlement was reached in 1784, whereby the Rajah agreed to pay a yearly revenue of Rs. 3,200 for his estates in Midnapore.²⁰

¹⁶Ibid.

¹⁷From the Collector to Mr. David Anderson & Members of the Board of Revenue dated 9th May 1781.

¹⁸From the Collector to Mr. David Anderson & etc., dated 25th July 1781.

¹⁹From the Collector to the Hon'ble Warren Hastings, dated 3rd October, 1781.

²⁰Letter Book, Midnapore Collectorate, 1784, Vol. 9, Bengal District Gazetteer Vol. 2 P. 38.

¹³From the Collector to Mr. David Anderson & Members of the Board of Revenue dated 9th May 1781.

¹⁴From the Collector to the Hon'ble Warren Hastings dated 7th March 1781.

From the Collector to Mr. David Anderson and Members of the Board of Revenue dated 31st May 1781.

VISUAL TELEGRAPHS, CALCUTTA TO CHUNAR, 1816-28

[By R. H. Phillimore]*

The archives of the Government of India contain many early stories of sad failures, brave experiments, and glorious achievements. It is possible that this story of the *Visual Telegraph* falls somewhere between the first two.

In 1813 William Boyce of Bombay offered to establish a system of visual telegraphs from one end of India to another, improving on a model that had been successful in Europe. The Government of Bengal was interested, and after consulting the Surveyor General appointed a Telegraph Committee, with the Surveyor General as President, to examine and report on the subject. After obtaining the view of William Lambton and others, this Committee recommended that survey should be made of a line from Calcutta to Chunar that might be extended later through Nagpur to Bombay.

George Everest, then a young artillery officer, who was later to become Surveyor General of India, and whose name has been given to the highest mountain in the world, was given charge of this survey which he completed by October 1818. The line followed generally the "new military road" through Hazaribagh that was later abandoned for the Grand Trunk Road which ran further north, avoiding the high lands of Chota Nagpur.

Major Playfair, Superintendent of the Military Roads, constructed the towers before 1821, and a succession of Officers held the post of Superintendent of Telegraphs till it was abolished in 1830, and the towers abandoned to their fate. A few of those between Calcutta and Burdwan were made use of by the Great Trigonometrical Survey about 1830.

The following extracts are taken from original correspondence of the Survey of India and consultations of the Political and Military Departments of Bengal:

*Colonel R. H. Phillimore, C.I.E., D.S.O. (late Royal Engineers and Survey of India) has undertaken, on his retirement from Government service in 1934, the monumental task of compiling a history of Surveys in India from the earliest days, of which the first volume, 18th century and the Volume II (1800 to 1815) have already seen light. The third volume is designed to cover the period 1815 to 1800 and the Colonel's ambition is to carry this important history forward to 1883. A corresponding member of the Indian Historical Records Commission, Colonel Phillimore has been actively co-operating with the activities of the Commission and the National Archives of India and has also contributed several illuminating articles to the *Indian Archives*.

Boyce, to the Government of Bombay, 6th December 1813¹ submits "a plan for establishing a Telegraph communication across the Peninsula of India.....I have effected improvements in the Telegraph which I wish to introduce, which render it infinitely superior to any Telegraph whatever, and.....I have conquered difficulties in the system in general which have hitherto been regarded both in England and on the Continent of Europe as insuperable barriers to telegraphic perfection....."

"When an overland dispatch arrived, or any news of importance by sea, it could be communicated to the Supreme Government in half an hour, and an answer received back in the next half hour".

In passing this proposal to the Supreme Government the Bombay Government remarked, 13th January 1814², that "it is probable that a man better qualified than Mr. Boyce.....could hardly be found. He was for some years employed.....in the management of the Telegraphs in Ireland, and there is every reason to believe that he would discharge the trust reposed in him with fidelity and ability".

Boyce was optimistic as to the labour and expense that would be entailed. He estimated the cost of each tower at Rs. 2,500 and suggested two lines: Route 1. Bombay-Poona-Hyderabad-Ellore-Cuttack-Calcutta, 75 stations;—Route 2. Bombay, along coast to Mangalore, then Seringapatam-Bangalore-Madras, and from Madras to Calcutta, 133 stations.

Government asked the Surveyor General, Charles Crawford, for his comments, and he replied, 20th June 1814³, "Whilst I have the highest opinion of the great superiority of Mr. Boyce's Telegraph over any other invention of the same kind, and also duly acknowledge the numberless advantages that would accrue,.....yet I cannot help differing in opinion from him when he proposes to commence the towers without having the whole extent of country examined by a skilful Engineer.....Nor do I think with him that the building of wooden houses by way of lessening the expense would answer, as they would be so liable to such rapid decay, not only from the nature of this climate, but also from the destructive nature of the white ants.

"In respect to the number of towers required, I do not think it could ever be even nearly guessed at for, as the telegraphic part of the tower is only about 16 or 17 feet high, when a jungly tract

¹N.A.I. Pol. Cons. 4 March 1814, No. 10.

²N.A.I. Pol. Cons. 4 March 1814, No. 9.

³Survey Records, DDn. 143; pp. 73-8.

was to be got through, they could not see each other at a furlong's distance.

"In Mr. Boyce's laudable anxiety to carry this most useful plan into execution he has, I am afraid, overlooked some obstacles that, had he travelled much in the Peninsula, he would have found very difficult to overcome. I shall first take notice of the danger from the Pindaries or any other lawless tribes for, although the towers may be musquet-proof, and sufficiently strong to prevent the tower being carried by force, yet how are they to procure water or provisions if the tower must be protected? then only one man can go on this errand, whose fate could easily be guessed were the Pindaries determined to get rid of those who are so very likely to raise their suspicions or provoke their enmity.....In many places where towers could be found most absolutely requisite, the distance from any supplies, and what would be still worse not being able to procure water or of its being bad, would prove a difficulty very difficult to be overcome....

"The hills in general in this country are universally unhealthy and without running water, and stagnant water found among the rocks is sure to bring on fevers of the worst kind. Indeed, I cannot help thinking that the want of water fit to drink would prove one of the most unsurmountable difficulties....In most of these jungles it would often happen.....that in all probability the whole of the complement of men would be sometimes all down in fevers at the same time".

Boyce was summoned to Calcutta, and in a letter dated 3rd August 1816¹ asked to run an experimental line between Fort William and Barrackpore. In another letter from the Military Department, dated 12th August 1817², Government nominated Lt. Colonel Mackenzie, Surveyor General, to be President, and six other military officers to be members, of "a Committee for the purpose of establishing an experimental Telegraphic communication between Fort William and Nagpore.....The whole question of applying that mode of communication to India being deemed important and interesting, it has been judged expedient that you should progressively extend your enquiries beyond the point more immediately submitted to you, and should hold in view the probable extension of the system at a future period".

On the 21st October Government wrote to the Telegraph Committee³ acknowledging "the receipt of your letter of the 20th

¹ N.A.I. Pol. Cons. 3 August 1816, No. 38. We have found nothing further about Boyce.

² N.A.I. Mil. Cons. 12 August 1817, No. 119-122; Survey Records, 64 (p. 71).

³ N.A.I. Mil. Cons. 21 October 1817, No. 106.

ultimo, with its enclosures, reporting the reasons which induce you to give a preference to the line of the military road over that of the river for the telegraphic communication between the Presidency and Chunar, and recommending that two officers might be appointed to survey the preferred line.....

"The Hon'ble the Vice President in Council.....entirely concurs in the preference you have given to.....the military road, and has accordingly appointed Captain-Lieutenant Everest of the Regiment of Artillery and Lieutenant Ferguson of the Ramghur Battalion to survey and report on that line under your directions".

The Committee then wrote to Lambton, 9th January 1818¹, asking for his opinion on the general question; "The plan itself is a very simple one. Mr. Boyce.....has.....four balls which, being numbered from 1 to 4, are singly or by combination sufficient to express the nine units. For applying this system therefore to written language, it was only necessary to form a vocabulary of all words and forms of words that can be useful, together with names of persons and places, and then to number them in such a manner as to exclude 0 or zero.....The apparatus for communicating them is composed of a mast and yard, to the latter of which are affixed four pulleys serving to raise and lower the balls, which are from four to six feet in diameter according to the distance at which they are to be seen, and made of the lightest bamboo work covered with black canvas.....

"The difficulties arising from the nature of the ground in this side of India are those peculiar to flat countries abounding in woods and forests, which being very lofty exact a corresponding elevation in the telegraphic building.....The other obstacles arising from the variations of the atmosphere prevail very generally to a certain degree.....Enquiries on this head may furnish the Committee with information to enable them to trace their lines in such a manner as to conduct them through those parts of the country which are least subject to these inconveniences....

• "Commercial advantages of very considerable public service are anticipated from the increased rapidity of conveying intelligence across the Peninsula. Bombay in fact may be considered as the key to the Persian Gulph, the Red Sea, the Mauritius, the Cape of Good Hope, and even during that portion of the year when the navigation of the Bay of Bengal is interrupted to China and the Eastern Seas. A safe and rapid communication with the western coast of India is therefore an object of the utmost consequence....

¹ Survey Records, DDn. 67; p. 71.

"On the expediency of establishing one general line of connection between the three Presidencies,.....the different lines would naturally meet both to the east and the west of Berar. Such general line.....should traverse the several Presidencies in their greatest dimension consistent with the avoidance of too great a sacrifice in point of distance".

The Committee suggested two alternative routes to both Madras and Bombay, with distances thus estimated:

1st	Calcutta to Hyderabad via Orissa	790 miles	to Bombay	760
	Hyderabad to Madras	310 "		440
	Calcutta to Madras via Orissa & Hyderabad	1100		
	Calcutta to Bombay via Orissa & Hyderabad	...		1230
2nd	Calcutta to Nagpur via Allahabad	750 miles	to Bombay	750
	Nagpur to Hyderabad	300 "		500
	Hyderabad to Madras	310 "		
	Calcutta to Madras via Nagpur & Hyderabad	1360		
	Calcutta to Bombay via Allahabad & Nagpur	...		1250
The whole line, with branches,	by 1st route	...		1540
	by 2nd route	...		1860

Lambton replied on 30th January 1818¹, pointing out that in the south peninsula "there is a part of the year when the tops of the highest mountains.....are frequently concealed in fogs, either the whole or during the greatest part of the day. This happens before the south-west monsoon sets in, and that generally from the beginning of February when the atmosphere becomes loaded with humid vapour and assumes a hazy appearance. After the rains commence the fair intervals are remarkably favourable for observing distant objects....In advancing into the Nizam's dominions...excepting the months of March, April, and May, my survey has been carried on during the whole year....The features of the country are uncommonly favourable.

"With respect to the two lines of communication...between Calcutta and the other two Presidencies,...your reasoning as to the importance of Bombay in a commercial point of view requires no support from me. But when to these we add others concerning its consequence as a naval station, and ...if we take into consideration

the direct communication with the great military stations in the western provinces and in the Deccan, all circumstances taken together must give a decided preference to the route by Nagpur".

The Committee wrote again to consult Lambton on 26th February 1818¹: "The Telegraphic survey under Captain Everest reached Shérgatty about the middle of the current month. His distances average nearly 9½ miles, but, as a great portion of the country hitherto passed over is covered with thick forest, that average may be considered rather low, and in fact the distances between his stations since he has reached the open country have occasionally been as high as 12 and 13 miles.

"The surveyors were furnished with the common achromatic telescopes generally used by military men in the trenches, or in reconnoitring parties. They are from 2 feet 6 inches in length when drawn out to their focus, and their object glass is about 1.6 inch in diameter....All of them...are stated to be insufficient for a greater distance than 7 miles in the low woody country, and somewhat more on the open plains....I beg the favour of your opinion as to the power of telescopes which...you would deem sufficient to ensure a view of telegraphic spheres of 6 feet diameter throughout the year at the distances of 7, 9, 12, and 14 miles".

Lambton replied on 6th March 1818², that the power of telescope "would be best estimated by observing at what distance these balls can be clearly distinguished by the naked eye. For instance, if they can be seen at the distance of a mile sufficiently distinct...without the aid of a telescope, then a magnifying power of 7 would be proper for viewing the same object at the distance of 7 miles".

Everest and Ferguson spent the hot weather and rains of 1818 at Chunar working up maps and reports, Everest sending a full account to Lambton³ on 1st June 1818, in which he states that through the plains "there is a peculiar vapour in the hot weather which affects the atmosphere at a less height than 100 feet above the surface of the earth, and causes so great a divergency in the rays of light that telescopes of large magnifying powers are of little use, and in such situations the telegraphic distances have seldom been greater than 7½ miles, whilst in the hilly tracts 18 miles has not been too great".

On 10th September 1818 the Surveyor General wrote privately to the Military Secretary⁴ that "the duty of surveying and select-

¹ Survey Records, DDn. 91; pp. 157-9.

² ib. 92; p. 39.

³ ib. 91; pp. 163-70.

⁴ ib. 154; pp. 13-19; cf. notice Asiatic Journal, XIX; (1825), p. 634.

¹ Survey Records, DDn. 63; p. 463.

ing the stations has been reported completed". The Committee hoped to have ready "for Lord Hastings' information on his arrival" all the temporary stations between Calcutta and Chunar, and that until the telegraph was "in a state of activity from Calcutta to Chunar" no further extension should be put in hand.

"It has been found by the late experiments that the medium distance of the stations from Calcutta to Chunar is nearly 10 miles.... Though it is highly probable, and almost certain, that telegraphic stations may be extended throughout all India...by circuitous bendings, yet it is indispensibly necessary that the stations...should be previously sought for, examined, and after repeated trials only, determined, that the signals may be seen and repeated. There are other considerations that may afterwards affect the choice.... Salubrity of air, convenience of water, markets, protection, etc." Mackenzie went on to emphasize that the actual line and its individual stations could only be chosen by an officer specially deputed to go over the ground for that purpose.

He admitted that his duties as President of the Telegraph Committee left "little spare time to other objects, however grateful.... Had my official duties been cast in happier circumstances, I should have felt pleasure in the pursuit of a discovery that even before its establishment in England was a matter of contemplation, tho' not in this shape or name, with some of my early friends in India. So early as 1788 a project of the kind was submitted to a Governor of Madras (Sir Archibald Campbell)¹ for alarming the country in case of invasion". A yet earlier use of such signals was made in 1767 by Thomas Barnard to give warning of invasion of the Carnatic by Haidar Ali's horsemen.²

Everest and Ferguson were struck off duty on "the temporary erection of telegraphs" from 15th October 1818,³ and Everest then marched down to Hyderabad to take up his appointment under Lambton as chief assistant in the Great Trigonometrical Survey of India. Ferguson was assistant on the construction of the permanent towers during 1820-21.

The survey, construction, and maintenance of the line of towers cost nearly five lakhs of rupees between 1816 and 1828. It is not known, however, though search in the National Archives might reveal, whether the towers were ever fully manned from one end to another of the 500 miles stretch—whether any message was ever

transmitted—how long it took—and how far it was distorted! At any rate, in welcoming the decision to close down the department, the Directors recalled that they had from the first expressed great doubt as to its practical value¹.

A note on one of the last of these towers that was still standing appeared in the *Calcutta Statesman* of 13th November 1939².

¹ Court Despatch, 14 November 1832, para. 70 (replying to Ben. Pub. 27 April 1830, paras. 266-291).

² Article by Ramesh K. Ghoshal, *Statesman*, 13 November 1949, p. 13.

¹ Sir Archibald Campbell (1739-91), Govr. of Madras 1786-9.

² *Historical Records of the Survey of India*, Vol. 1, p. 311.

³ N.A.I. Mil. Cons. 26 September 1818, No. 132-33; Survey Records, DDn. 133, pp. 399-400; Everest's maps; Survey Records, MRIO. 51(15), 81 (37-91).

THE OLD ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE IN THE DISTRICT COLLECTORATES OF BENGAL

[By Tapan Kumar Ray Choudhuri]

The class of documents known as 'the Old English Correspondence' in the record-offices of the district collectorates in Bengal is not entirely unfamiliar to persons interested in Indian historical records. Hunter in his *Bengal Ms. Records* (1782-1807) utilised a small fragment of this immense volume. The early statistical studies of the Bengal districts, e.g., Taylor's *Dacca* and Glazier's *Rangpur*, also made use of them. These records, of course, were drawn upon more copiously in *Hunter's Statistical Account of Bengal* and the *District Gazetteers*. But Firminger's *Midnapore District Records* (1763-1770) in two volumes is practically the only work in which a fraction of these documents were published. So the old English correspondence as an important source of British Indian History, distinct from the other records in the district collectorates, has remained practically unknown to present-day researchers.

The West Bengal Regional Records Survey Committee in course of its survey—work in eight district collectorates this term (1949-1950), was able to form some idea regarding the immense volume and importance of this class of documents. They cover nearly a century and half, extending from 1763 to 1899. As regards their quantity, the seven district collectorates of 24-Parganas, Nadia, Birbhum, Bankura, Hugli, Burdwan and Malda are said to possess 1609 volumes altogether. As the reports of the district record keepers on this score were checked up in most cases, this figure may be taken as being more or less authentic. And to this staggering number we have to add that of the volumes in the possession of the Midnapore district collectorate. According to the Register of Records, there are 3,469 bundles of old English correspondence in the record office of the district. The classified list alone accounts for 1197 volumes.

These volumes in every district are of a standard size each running into three to four hundred closely written pages, substantially bound. But with the exception of Midnapore, no list of these volumes, let

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alone their contents, could be found anywhere. At least in two districts, the record-keepers had no knowledge of even the existence of these volumes and they could be discovered only after a thorough and patient search. This state of affairs is due to the fact that the old English correspondence is of no use for current administrative purposes. So while all the other records, both current and non-current, are carefully preserved and listed, these volumes, so important to the researcher, have suffered from an understandable negligence. In some cases, large parts of these papers have apparently been destroyed. The Bankura Collectorate, for instance, has only eleven volumes in its possession, in strange contrast to the other collectorates mentioned above. Even where apparently there has not been any deliberate destruction, quite a number of volumes are known to have been lost or misplaced. The surviving ones also are not in too good a state of preservation. Pages of many volumes have partly been lost or moth-eaten; oftener still, the writing inside has become illegible due to the absence of proper methods of preservation. Still, fortunately, the bulk of these records is in a fairly good state, partly due to the quality of the paper and the binding.

These records may be broadly classified under two heads: letters received and letters issued. The former, apparently by far the larger in proportion, consists of letters received by the district authorities from the higher bodies in Calcutta and from their subordinates as also of petitions filed by various parties. The second type chiefly consists of copies of letters written by the district authorities to their superiors in Calcutta. Another principle of classification is current in several districts whereby the records are divided into three groups according to their nature: miscellaneous or general, judicial and excise. This principle, however, is not everywhere in vogue. The old English correspondence in the 24-Parganas Collectorate are classified under five heads: Khas Mahal, Khallery, Land Acquisition, Settlement, Magistracy and Miscellaneous. In Midnapore, they are of seven varieties: general, miscellaneous, salt, settlement, excise, wards department and embankment. All the eleven volumes in the Bankura Collectorate on the other hand belong to the class known as 'general' in the other districts.

A difficulty which faces the researcher in studying these papers, is the manner in which they have been bound together. In most cases, but for the broad classifications, no general principle,—chronological or subject-wise,—has been applied in grouping a number of papers together in a volume. Thus a single volume may contain papers scattered over a wide stretch of time. The only relieving feature is that all papers referring to one particular topic are to be found within the same covers.

As the volume and variety of the papers obviously suggest, very little of their actual contents could be studied in course of a single term. This was more so because the chief object of this year's survey-work was to form an over-all idea as regards the types and volume of records of historical importance in the district collectorates of Bengal. Thus the time at our disposal being short, a general method was followed in studying the contents of the old English correspondence. A few volumes belonging to different periods were picked up from each type and some of the letters contained in the volumes thus selected were thoroughly studied.

Such a perfunctory method,—though perhaps the best possible under the circumstances,—surely does not authorise us to make any general statements regarding the contents of those papers. And it ought to be made very clear at the outset that as regards the materials contained in the overwhelmingly large portion of these numerous volumes, we are still in the dark. Yet an analysis of the little we have seen will be enough to convey some idea of the importance of this source.

Subject to the limitations mentioned above, we may make some observations regarding the nature of these papers. Even from the small fragment we studied, it may confidently be asserted that this little-used source is sure to yield a very considerable amount of fresh data for the socio-economic and administrative history of the 18th (latter half) and 19th centuries. Hunter, in his preoccupation with revenue-history, ignored important aspects of the very papers he used. The *District Gazetteers* and the *Statistical Account* were concerned more with current conditions than with past history. Even Firminger's volumes dealing with a small period leave out much that is important. It appears that the 'letters issued' are likely to prove of greater value than the 'letters received'. For the latter are mostly in the nature of circulars or general instructions from the authorities in Calcutta. The 'letters issued', with local affairs and problems and thus afford a direct glimpse of the life of the people almost unique in character. Among the 'letters received' also there are those written by the subordinate officers in the mufassils which are at least as important as the 'letters issued'. But so far as we could see, such letters are comparatively slender in volume. The class of correspondence labelled 'judicial' is also comparatively less important. For these are mostly circulars issued by the *Sadr Nizamat Adalat* and so such volumes in the possession of the different collectorates are likely to be reproductions of the same matter in the main. But as these circulars often deal with affairs of importance or with some local problem, they are not without interest for the student of history. A large part of this immense volume, dealing with mere routine matters is, however, sure to prove useless from the view-point of the researcher.

A detailed account of the data collected this year from the old English correspondence will be out of place here. For such data have been fully discussed in the reports on the records available in the various district collectorates which are incorporated in the *Annual Report of the West Bengal Regional Records Survey Committee, 1949-50*. Here we shall merely try to give some idea as to the various types of data found in this source by way of an indication of what it is likely to contain.

Even the cursory study of parts of a few volumes afforded a very clear glimpse of the actual workings of the Company's administration in Bengal. The problems of peace and security which faced the administration even in the last years of the 18th and the early years of the 19th century are vividly reflected in some letters. In 1785, an armed force was required as escort for sending revenue from Nadia, as the ordinary *barkandazes* were no match for the dacoits. The unhappy frontier district of Midnapore was subject to repeated Maratha raids between 1788 and 1799. These raiders, we learn, found a ready ally in the Raja of Mayurbhanj and the Chuars, the latter being a perpetual threat to the peace and security of the district. The Bankura records, going back to the early days of the 19th century, refer to a similar alliance between the Chuars, other criminal tribes and the Bishnupur Raja and to the repeated expeditions necessitated by their lawless activities. In 1846, even the Jagirdars acting as police were found to be in league with the dacoits. In one of these letters were found detailed statistics of the crimes committed in the lower provinces of Bengal during 1818-1819.

Besides the problems of peace and security, is to be noted the work of administrative organisation and settlement which was in progress during the latter half of the 18th and the earlier half of the 19th century. One letter in the 24-Parganas Collectorate refers to the measurement and the preparation of a detailed statistical account of the district. Another found in Midnapore supply similar information in reply to a questionnaire from the Board of Revenue in 1800. The establishment of the office of Qanungo is discussed in one letter dated 1818.

Continuation of various elements of the older system of government is also indicated by some of these documents. In 1795 the Registrar, *Sadr Nizamat Adalat* is found prescribing flogging and making of public roads, on the ground that these were punishments sanctioned by Islamic law. In 1796, the *Qazi-ul-Quzzat* is found still functioning. In 1794, we are told, there were 400 *Patwaris* or village-accountants in Birbhum. The changes which were coming over older institutions are also reflected in some of the documents. It was ordained, for instance, in 1796, that the Ghatwals were to be henceforth "considered in the light of dependent talukdars".

The problems of revenue administration, particularly in the early days of the post-permanent settlement period, feature prominently in quite a number of these records. Burdwan in this respect appears to have been a sort of plague-spot. In 1788, the family of Raja Chaitan Singh of Bishnupur was put into prison for non-payment of revenue. In Midnapore in 1799, the Raja of Kasijora, organised a furtive no-rent campaign. The following year saw extensive sales of lands for default of revenue in the same district. High assessment and fraudulent practices are described as being the chief causes for this state of affairs.

Some of these letters throw light on the interest taken by the Company in the secondary functions of state. A letter from the Committee for considering means of improving the town of Calcutta, dated 1804, recommended the building of wide roads and the stationing of fire-engines in each quarter. Some records in the Bankura Collectorate tell us of the government's share in the maintenance of *sarais* and ferries. In a letter, dated 1783, we read of a Committee of Grain set up to regulate the sale, distribution and price of corn at a time when a famine was raging in the Upper Provinces beyond the Company's domains.

Many interesting items of information regarding the judicial and excise departments are also scattered through the letters labelled 'Judicial Correspondence' and 'Excise Correspondence' respectively. A circular of the *Sadr Nizamat*, dated 1814 discourages the practice of taking evidence through agents, which, apparently, was then very much in favour with the trying magistrates in the districts. Another circular, dated 1841, prohibits the practice of inscribing the names of heathen deities on top of official communications though any interference with similar practices in case of petitions etc. from private parties is strictly forbidden. The Government's income from excise duties in the early part of the 19th century alongside the expenses incurred for the maintenance of 'Abkari establishments' is given in some of these records. A letter, dated 1857, mentions the prohibition of import of sulphur by sea and authorises the seizure of such stuff on payment of proper price.

Besides such detailed information a clear picture of the general character of the administration during the period is presented even by the comparatively few records we studied. Many of the apparently useless letters, containing mere routine matters and endless official admonitions for the dilatory ways of the district staff, are important from this point of view. For they constitute the most objective evidence of the slow working of the official machinery and of the growing menace of red-tape.

The data for socio-economic history contained in these letters are also of considerable variety. The problems with which the landed classes were faced in the new set up after 1793, for instance, is vividly portrayed in a number of documents. One letter in the Birbhum Collectorate, dated 1796, which has been used by Hunter in his *Bengal Ms. Records* gives the exact amount of profit of a Zamindar from his estate as also the assessment. This significant data, however, was ignored by Hunter. The 'Miscellaneous correspondence' have much to tell us regarding the actual condition of the ryots. In a letter dated 1789 in the Burdwan Collectorate, an account of the oppression of the ryots by the farmers or *ijaradars* and the consequent desertion is given. The same letter mentions the steps taken by the Company in its own interest to protect the peasantry. Some letters in the Nadia Collectorate, on the other hand, describe how the ryots complained of having advances forced on them during the extension of indigo-cultivation in 1792-'93. A problem of a different sort faced the Hugli ryots when the Company cancelled the Dutch *Pattahs* in 1827 and the peasantry, accustomed to the more leisurely ways of the Dutch, found even the processes of British Indian law rather inconveniently fast. The letters also refer frequently to agricultural conditions in the country. In 1789, for instance, we find the Company actively encouraging mulberry plantation. A letter, dated 1800, gives an account of under-production of betel-leaves and over-production of betel-nuts and tobacco in Midnapur district.

Informations about commerce and the Company's commercial enterprise may also be collected from this source, particularly the 'Excise correspondence'. Thus one of the documents gives a full list of the salt markets in Midnapore in 1766. Another dated 1793 mentions the grant of assignments on Birbhum treasury to Commercial Residents for investment in sugar, raw-silk and cloth. A detailed account of the Company's plans to introduce opium shops in the interior of Midnapore district is given in a letter dated 1806. Various types of smuggling constitute a prominent feature of the data contained in the Excise papers. Smuggling of opium, particularly from Bihar through Calcutta merchants, of provisions into the Dutch Settlement of Chinsurah and of Maratha salt may be mentioned as instances in point. Information of an even more interesting character is supplied by a number of records in Bankura Collectorate. These papers tell us of a prolonged struggle between two rival coal companies of Ranigunge motivated by monopolistic tendencies.

Numerous data regarding salaries, wages and prices are also strewn through these papers. A Secret Department circular. 1785

mentions for instance the somewhat surprising fact that the President and Members, Board of Revenue might in cases be granted a commission on the Government's income from revenue. The Collector's salary at that period was fixed at about Rs. 3,000 per mensem. Other papers in Burdwan, Malda and Midnapore give accounts of the pays of Abkari staff, muhuris or clerks, workers in salt factory and day-labourers. A Birbhum paper gives the price of rice in 1796 as being 3 mds. per rupee. A bill of goods supplied to French prisoners Midnapore in 1812 mentions the price of many articles, while another record dated 1812 gives an estimate of expenses for building a bridge.

Data of a purely social character are also available. A record in a 'Magistracy Volume', 24-Parganas Collectorate, gives a long list of 'Suttee' burnings in 1819. Another in the Birbhum Collectorate mentions the voluntary payment of a pie in the rupee by the ryots in a Muslim Zamindar's estate, for the maintenance of Hindu religious establishments.

These surely do not exhaust the variety of the types of information available from this little-known source of Indian history. Perhaps a thorough study of these papers may for the first-time lead to the correct reconstruction of the socio-economic history of Bengal under the Company. But before any such task can be undertaken, two things are essential: first, proper preservation of these very valuable records and secondly, preparation of a press-list. For these, again, it is necessary to bring them to some central and more accessible place. The West Bengal Regional Records Survey Committee has been trying to induce the State Government to take some such step. Perhaps the influence of the Indian Historical Records Commission might profitably be utilised to attain this end.*

*The writer of this paper was kindly permitted to utilise the notes made by his co-workers and the Secretary of the West Bengal Regional Records Survey Committee from the old English correspondence of the different district collectorates.

THE MUKHBIR-I-SADIQ OF LUCKNOW

(By K. SAJANLAL*)

Last year, I contributed to the *Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission* a paper on the *Karnamah* of Lucknow. In this article I propose to describe its local contemporary the *Mukhbir-i-Sadiq*.¹ The following account is based on a study of the issues of this paper, dated 5th April 1872 to 24th December 1872.²

The *Mukhbir-i-Sadiq* was a weekly journal published by Mr. Salamat Ali from Mohalla Golagunj, Lucknow. The contents of its issues throw a flood of light on the activities of its contemporary newspapers and provide valuable information on the educational, social and economic condition of the people during the seventies of the last century. In this article we will give special attention to the references to press and education and will cursorily touch upon the social and economic aspects, though materials on these subjects are also available in abundance in the issues of this journal. The *Mukhbir-i-Sadiq* was always a champion of freedom of the press, and its columns were open to all irrespective of colour or creed. It evinced great interest in the uplift of the people in general and Muslims in particular; and it gave wide publicity to the appeals of Sayyad Ahmad Khan for the establishment of *Madraset-ul-ulum*. We also come across reports about the working of a *Madrasa-i-Imamia*, Canning College, Norman College, and of colleges and schools in Bombay and Baroda.

This paper drew upon a wide range of sources, e.g., *Oudh Akhbar*, *Shams-ul-Akhbar*, *Karnamah*, *Nur-ul-Anwar*, *Koh-i-nur*, *Tahzeeb-ul-Akhlaq*, *The Lawrence Gazette*, *Jalva-i-tur*, *Akhbar-i-Alam*, *Kasim-ul-Akhbar*, *Patiala Akhbar*, *Dabdaba-i-Sikandari*, *Kashf-ul-Akhbar*, *Akhbar-i-Sharishta-i-Taleem*, *Roznamcha*, *Shola-i-tur*, *The Benares Gazette*, *Akhbar-ul-Akhbar*, *Manshur-i-Muhammadi*, *The Mayo Gazette*, *The Akhbar-i-Scientific Society*, *Jam-i-Jamshid*, *The Hindu Patriot*, *Omdat-ul-Akhbar*, *Lauh-i-Mohfuz*, *Mufferah-ul-Qulab*, *The*

*Mr. K. A. Sajan Lal, F.R.S.A., has distinguished himself by his original research on topics connected with the history of Indian periodicals. He has collected the files of a number of important periodicals of the early 19th century.

¹ For its description read my paper published in the *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress*, Madras Session, Page 486.

² I am grateful to Dr. Rahatullah, Curator of the State Library for providing me facilities to take exhaustive notes from the copies of the paper belonging to the State Library. Some of its issues are missing. In all there are 610 pages.

Indian Public Opinion, The Delhi Gazette, Akmal-ul-Akhbar, Najm-ul-Akhbar and etc.⁽¹⁾.

The *Mukhbir-i-Sadiq* after assessing the respective merits of these newspapers, praised some for maintaining a high standard, considered some others as satisfactory and condemned a few for their low standard of journalism. While writing about the foreign press, the editor spoke of Addison's *Spectator* and Steele's *Tatler*, and paid them very high tributes. He described the early history of these papers and even went so far as to give a quotation from *The Spectator* as to what should be the aim and object of a newspaper. He exhorted Indian newspaper editors to copy and maintain high standard set up by them. He also praised the *Tahzeeb-ul-Akhlaq* and *The Akhbar-i-Scientific Society* and called them *The Spectator* and *The Tatler* of India⁽²⁾.

Due to differences in outlook and policy of these newspapers, bitter attacks against one another became a regular feature of their publication. For example, *The Shams-ul-Akhbar* always espoused the cause of Christianity and made adverse comments on the Muslims. The *Mukhbir-i-Sadiq* took up the challenge and published a series of articles in reply. Similarly the *Nur-ul-Afaq* of Kanpur carried on a bitter campaign against Sayyad Ahmad Khan and called him an infidel. The rejoinders published by the *Tahzeeb-ul-Akhbar* bore a high standard of culture and scholarship and proved to be most convincing. In the course of our narrative we shall have occasion to refer to the other activities of these papers. But what is more important is that the majority of the contributors and correspondents happened to be well versed in literature, history, religion, philosophy etc. Some of them played their part so well that even to this day their names are honoured and respected. Among them were Moulvi Sayyad Ahmad Khan, Muhammad Ismail, Padre Rajab Ali, Moulvi Mehdi Ali, Munshi Piaray Lal, Nazir Ahmad, Imdad Ali, Ghulam Haidar, Mushtaq Hussain, Chirag Ali, Pandit Ratan-nath, Babu Sheo Prashad, Babu Kesab Chandra Sen and Raghunath Rao Tethi.

The *Mukhbir-i-Sadiq* always fought for the rights and privileges of the press. When any of the journalist happened to be in trouble

¹ Due to space limit, it is not possible to give details of the above mentioned papers. However for the interest of readers, the names of the editors for 1872 of the first 21 journals are given below:—1. Gulam Mohamad Khan, 2. Padre Seymore & Rajab Ali, 3. Md. Yakub, 4. Munshi Alijazz Hussain, 5. Harsukh Rai, 6. Sayyid Ahmad Khan, 7. Jameeluddin, 8. S. Murtuza, 9. S. Wajahat, 10. Md. Kasim, 11. Md. Raunaq Ali, 12. Hasan Khan, 13. Aman Ali, 14. Sheo Narayan, 15. Fida Ali, 16. Abdulla Bilgrami, 17. Govind Raghunath Rao Tethi, 18. Mir Fiaz Ali, 19. Md. Kasim, 20. Nasir Ali, 21. Md. Ismail.

² The writer has read some volumes of the *Tahzeeb-ul-Akhlaq* of 1872 onwards. He entirely agrees with the opinion of the *Mukhbir-i-Sadiq*. For the work of the Scientific Society, Aligarh, read the *Urdu Quarterly*, July 1935.

with the authorities, the Indian papers made a point to be united and tried their best to win the case. A number of such instances could be cited, but we would give a brief resume of two such cases.

Babu Govind Raghunath Rao Tethi, the editor of *The Benares Gazette*, published in the issue of 30th May 1872 a report of an incident to the effect that the police extracted a confession from an accused in a theft case after bribing him heavily and thereafter they gave him a severe beating. The editor was prosecuted and the Magistrate of Benares found the editor guilty. He was fined Rs. 1,000 or in default to undergo six months imprisonment. The poor editor after serving 19 days imprisonment was set at liberty through intercession of Sir Jung Bahadur. The Lieut. Governor, Sir William Muir on being apprized of this case remitted the fine and issued a warning to the magistrate and ordered that local officers should not take action against the press without his sanction. This incident created a feeling of bitterness between the press and the local authorities. The journalists were jubilant when the editor was set free and his fine was remitted. They hailed the Lieut. Governor as the guardian angel of the press.

Another case was that of Padre Rajab Ali, missionary of Bara Banki and Secretary of District Conference, Oudh versus Munshi Hanuman Parshad, Deputy Inspector of Schools which came up for hearing before Mr. Nicholson, Asst. Commissioner. The Deputy Inspector of Schools filed a suit of libel against Rajab Ali, claiming Rs. 400 as damages from him. He alleged that the missionary had made defamatory remarks against him in his article entitled "What is the aim and object of the Government in establishing Schools?"⁽¹⁾ The plaintiff objected to a particular passage casting aspersions on his character. The reports of the examination of witnesses were given in details in the issues of the *Mukhbir-i-Sadiq*. Munshi Gokul Parshad, Babu Raghunath Rao Sahai, Pandit Mohanlal, Aminullah Khan, Babu Tarlok Nath, Moulvi Sayyad Muhammad Husin, Moulvi Chirag Ali, Munshi Vilayat Hussain were summoned to give evidence in this case.

* When the Prince of Wales recovered from his illness, Babu Kesab Chandra Sen sent a message of congratulations to the Queen and it created some controversy. *The Public Opinion* made disparaging remarks in its columns about Babu Kesab Chandra Sen's action in doing so. The *Mukhbir-i-Sadiq* took this paper to task by saying that Kesab Chandra sen was an illustrious son of Bengal and was perfectly justified in sending a congratulatory message to the Queen.

¹ Vide *Shams-ul-Akhbar*, dated 19th April 1872, Vol. IV, No. 2.

The paper published a detailed account of the work of Sayyad Ahmad Khan. His speeches at Benares, the scheme for the establishment of *Madrasat-ul-ulum*, subscriptions and donations collected for this purpose and selection of the site, and other such matters were given full publicity. The controversy as to the selection of the site of *Madrasat-ul-ulum* raged for some time. The text of Northbrook's letter regarding his donation of Rs. 10,000 was also published. It was at this time that the announcement of a donation of one and a half lac of rupees by Khawja Abdul Ghaani for the installation of water pipes brought forth a severe attack from the editor who sarcastically remarked "what! for pipes a lakh and half, and for *Madrasat-ul-ulum* only Rs. 1,000". The *Public Opinion* on the other hand under the caption "Charity for the Public Good", appreciated warmly the non-sectarian spirit of the donor.

The establishment of *Madrasa-i-Imamia* and its slow progress were given full publicity. At the first meeting donations of Rs. 5 per month from each of the taluqdars of Oudh were announced. This brought scathing criticism from the pen of the editor who wrote that the petty donations from the high placed dignitaries of Oudh should make one sick and ashamed. In its columns one finds a detailed account of the work of the Madrasa, its teachers, expenses, examinations and prize distribution ceremony etc. The reports of the work of Canning College, its prize distribution etc. are also to be found in the *Mukhbir-i-Sadiq*.

In its issue of 26th July we find the names of Indian students prosecuting their studies in England along with their subjects and the colleges to which they were attached. There were 18 such students from Bengal and 20 from other parts of the country.

From the account appearing in the *Omdat-ul-Akhbar* of Bhopal, the *Mukhbir-i-Sadiq* published numbers of deaths due to cholera as follows:—

Jaunpur	...	3,408
Allahabad	...	1,725
Basti	...	4,106
Mirzapur	...	3,907
Benares	...	344
Azamgarh	...	1,050
Gorakhpur	...	1,118
Kanpur	...	1,003

The statistics of mortality in the Punjab for the month of January were reported to be 46,179 deaths out of a total population of 9,506,449 and in the words of the editor the death rate was 48 per thousand.

We are also supplied with details about the number of Europeans and Indian Christians carrying on their missionary work. There were 7,480 priests, 727 churches, while the number of students studying in missionary schools was 137,000 out of 270,000 followers of Christianity.

There are also to be found some appreciative references to the work of the Delhi Society. Lachhmandass was requested by the Society to translate the Rigveda in Urdu. The translation was to be revised by Pandit Bisheshwar Nath and to be published by the Zakaullah Press. It was to be priced at Re. 1 per copy. The encouragement afforded to the study of oriental languages by the government was given good publicity. From 1st April 1871 to the end of March 1872, the award of various prizes were announced. In all Rs. 4,200 were disbursed as awards to 25 writers and translators, lists of whose names together with the titles of the books and the amounts of awards were published.

Even as early as 1872 the Indian press favoured prohibition. The Bangalore excise contract was given for rupees eight lacs per year. The editor of this journal criticised the excise policy of the Government which according to him instead of stopping the drink evil actively encouraged it.

Another news item gives us the information that the Maharaja of Kashmir and Jammu, in recognition of the expert knowledge of Babu Dev Shastri of Benares in foretelling accurately the solar eclipse, awarded him Rs. 2,000 and a *khillat*.

The visit of the King of Siam, and Lord Mayo's visit to Port Blair and his assassination by Sher Ali were reported in a number of its issues. A three page note appeared on Sher Ali from the pen of the correspondent of *The Friend of India*⁽¹⁾. Reports regarding condolence meetings and resolutions passed on the death of Lord Mayo are also to be found in its columns.

Advertisement, announcing the publications of new newspapers such as the *Akhbar-ul-Akhiar* of Lucknow, the *Tilasam-i-Kirtan* of Bangalore, *The Patrika* and others appeared in its issue of 13th December, 1772. There was also published jokes and snippets some of which became so popular as to be published in almost all the contemporary newspapers.

⁽¹⁾ The facts of the assassination of Lord Mayo were reported in details so much so that at times it tallies with James Grant's note *Vide Cassells' History of India*, pp. 412-413.

A NISHAN OF MUHAMMAD AKBAR HEIR-APPARENT OF SHAH
ALAM BAHADUR BADSHAH GHAZI

(By A. H. Nizami*)

Translation

Heir-apparent Muhammad Akbar son of Shah Alam Bahadur
Badshah Ghazi 1170.

(Seal)

The sublime and gracious firman is hereby
issued from the Royal Court out of bounty and
munificence (to the effect)

that the village of Akari ? in the sarkar of Kora of the Allahabad
subah is, as per endorsement, granted by us as an altamgha gift to
supplicating Sarab Sukh, bearer of the sacred thread (Brahmin) and
his sons and dependents, by way of an offering for the safety of the
auspicious head of His Majesty possessing the power of fate and the
rank of Solomon, and of ourselves, with effect from the autumn har-
vest of the year 1167 Fasli. The chaudhuris, qanungoes, muqaddams
and cultivators of that mahal as well as the present and the future
officers of that place, deeming the above-mentioned village fixed as
an altamgha gift in favour of the said grantee and his sons, should
give him full possession thereof, and regarding the peshkash of
faujdari etc., such as jarimanah, zabitanah (i.e. allowances paid to
measurers and assessors) and all civil taxes and imperial dues, as
remitted and written off, they should not demand a new sanad every
year or cause inconvenience and obstruction on the score of any of
these levies, so that, spending the proceeds of the aforesaid assets
on their necessities, they (the grantee and his children) may, from
father to son and generation to generation, constantly busy them-
selves in praying for the life and prosperity of the empire of His
Majesty, the Shadow of God, and of ourselves. Compliance with
these orders is strictly enjoined. Written on the nineteenth of the
solar month of Muharram in the 6th year of royal accession.

*An Ordinary and Associate member of the Indian Historical Records Com-
mission representing the Vindhya Pradesh Government, Mr. A. H. Nizami,
is also the Honorary Secretary of the Vindhya Historical Records Commission.

REVERSE

Endorsement is being written Endorsement:—Supplicating Sarab
Sukh, bearer of the sacred thread, is occupied night and day in pray-
ing for the increase of the life and prosperity of the eternal empire
and there is no source whatever of livelihood for (his) dependents.
Prays that village Akari ? may be granted, to him and his
sons, as an altamgha gift by way of an offering for the safety of the
auspicious head and that royal signature may be affixed in order to
enable His Majesty's mutasaddis to prepare and hand over the
altamgha firman so that, making (it) the source of his livelihood,
(he) may persist in prayers for the everlasting life, prosperity and
fortune of His Imperial Majesty. Intention of the sacred signature
to the effect that the mutasaddis may hand over the sanad.

Copy received in the office of His Majesty on the nineteenth
Muharram, year 6. H.

Sealed on the nineteenth Muharram, year 6.

F

AKARI V.

As a result of a preliminary survey of records in Rewa Town this
Nishan of Prince Muhammad Akbar, heir-apparent of Emperor Shah
Alam, was brought to the notice of the Baghelkhand (now Vindhya)
Historical Records Commission (*vide* Administration Report for
1947-48). The document is in the possession of Pt. Raghubir Sharan,
son of late Pt. Balmik Prasad, Rajavaidya of His Highness Bandha-
vesh Maharaja of Rewa whose ancestor, Sarab Sukh, is the original
grantee. The grant was made in the 6th year of accession of Shah
Alam, i.e., 1765 A.D. on the 19th Muharram, bears a *tughra* seal of the
heir-apparent, dated 1170, and is written in good *nastaliq* hand
with the usual *zimm* on the reverse. A contact print of the docu-
ment has been acquired by the Commission.

Prince Ali Gauhar (Shah Alam) the eldest son of Emperor Alam-
gir II, having escaped from Delhi into the Doab in May 1758, thanks
to the jealousy of his father's domineering *Wazir*. 'Imad-ul-Mulk,
embarked on his thirteen years of wanderings. He married a
Sayyid girl, named Mubarak Mahal at Miranpur and proceeded
through the country of Shuja-ud-daulah, the hereditary enemy of
'Imad, to Allahabad on the invitation of the imperial governor of
the place who offered him support in the conquest of Bihar. From
here he led his first invasion of Bihar in 1759. As the siege of Patna
ended in total failure Bihar had to be evacuated and the baffled
prince arrived near Mirzapur. Maharaja Ajit Sinha of Rewa invited

him and sent his *Diwan*, Lal Chain Sinha, to escort the Prince, received him at Mangawan (on the Great Deccan Road) eighteen miles from the capital. Shah Alam reached Amahiya¹ outside the city on 20th July 1759 and halted here for the rainy season. After the rains Shah Alam left Rewa, leaving his pregnant Begum, whom he had recently married, to the care of the Maharaja. By way of Mirzapur and Sasaram he marched to Ghotauli where he received the news of his father's murder at Delhi and on the 24th December proclaimed himself Emperor. He then busied himself in preparations for his second invasion of Bihar in 1760.

According to tradition Maharaja Ajit Sinha lodged the Begum at Mukundpur, ten miles south of Rewa, in a house which still exists in a dilapidated condition. A son was born to the lady here on 7th *Ramzan* 1173 H¹. (1759) and was named Muhammad Akbar. The 'chhathi' of the prince is still pointed out in a small room which is yet intact in the building and deserves the attention of the Department of Archæology. The Maharaja assigned the income of the village of Mukundpur for the expenses of the baby prince and his mother. When Shah Alam returned from his third invasion of Bihar (1761) he sent for the mother and baby and Ajit Sinha personally escorted them to Allahabad. Meanwhile the battle of Panipat had been fought, Delhi had been cleared of the Marathas and the Durrani conqueror had set out on his return journey after nominating Shah Alam as Emperor and writing to him to come and occupy Delhi. So, the Emperor started from Patna fort (12th April) at the invitation of Shuja-ud-daulah who undertook to escort him to his capital. Shah Alam invited Ajit Sinha to go to Delhi with him. The party started up the river Ganga till they reached Jajmau near Kanpur on 23rd July, where the Emperor went into cantonments for the rainy season. Ajit Sinha took leave of Shah Alam there and the latter granted him the *ilaqa* of Chaukhandi, revenue free. Ajit Sinha returned to Rewa but failed to get possession of Chaukhandi. When the English East India Company took over the district of Allahabad the Rewa Durbar claimed possession of Chaukhandi but the claim was dismissed on the plea that the grant belonged to the period when the Emperor himself was in exile⁽¹⁾.

From Jajmau Shah Alam, entirely moved by the leading strings of Shuja-ud-daulah, started on 7th November 1761 for the recovery of his dominions in Bundelkhand. In 1763 the Emperor negotiated with the Rohillas for his installation at Delhi by a united Muslim force but the plan broke down. In 1764 Shah Alam accompanied

¹ Tawarikh-e-Baghelkhand (Urdu) by Khan Bahadur Maulvi Rahman Ali Khan (Unpublished).

² Ibid.

Ibid.

Shuja to Buxar in order to assist Mir Qasim Ali Khan to recover Bengal. The Nawab Wazir's crushing defeat at Buxar led to the complete prostration of Oudh at the feet of the English. The derelict Emperor, who had been insulted by Shuja before the battle of Buxar and abandoned after it, took shelter with the English and was honourably lodged by them in Allahabad fort, which they took in his name on 11 February, (1765). By the Treaty of Allahabad, dated 16th August, the English took the districts of Kora and Allahabad from Shuja-ud-daulah and gave them to the Emperor for his maintenance with an estimated revenue of 28 lakhs a year. An English force was posted at Allahabad for the protection of the Emperor. The result was that the Emperor became an English pensioner and now began for Shah Alam a long period of settled life (1765-71) at Allahabad. He was a sovereign without a capital or any ruling authority, but he was saved from starvation and guarded from attack, thanks to the English. During this uneventful period in his life it was impossible for him to cease hankering for a return to Delhi, as a visible symbol of his full sovereignty. The English had promised, as early as 1761, to escort him to Delhi, the promise had been repeated year after year but it was never fulfilled. At last Shah Alam made an agreement with the Marathas in 1771 to get their help for returning to Delhi and left the civilized comforts and regular income so long enjoyed by his family and entourage at Allahabad for the privations, danger and poverty of Delhi which he entered in 1772. In 1788 Shah Alam was blinded by Ghulam Qadir Rohilla and in 1803 was formally taken under the protection of the Company who settled on him a pension of Rupees one lac per year. He lived to a ripe old age and died in 1806.

The Maharaja of Rewa, it seems, continued to send to the Emperor the income of the Mukundpur village for some years. According to Rewa State records Maharaja Jaya Sinha (1809-33) put on a *khillat* received from the Emperor (now Muhammad Akbar Shah 1806-37) on the occasion of his *Rajyabhisheka*. There is some correspondence among the Moti Mahal Papers, preserved in the archives of Vindhya Pradesh at Rewa, which shows that the last Emperor, Bahadur Shah (1837-58), sought the help of the Governor General of India for the resumption of the remittance of the Mukundpur income which had been stopped and which he claimed as a *tiyul-i-shahi*. As the Governor General interceded on his behalf, Maharaja Raghuraj Sinha (1854-80) offered to resume the remittance of the amount to the Emperor and there is evidence to show that the money was sent to the Delhi for some years till the outbreak of the Mutiny of 1857 stopped it for good.

These facts, for which I am indebted to local sources, traditional as well as documentary, besides Vol. II of Sarkar's *Fall of the Mughal*

Empire which has been freely drawn upon, are relevant to our study of the document under examination. According to the descendants of Sarab Sukh who have the *Nishan* in their possession, Jageshwar Ram who came to Rewa with the help of his relative, Tiwari Sobhachand, presumably during the reign of Maharaja Ajit Sinha (1755-1809), had two sons one of whom was Sarab Sukh, the grantee in the present *Nishan*. The Tiwaris are the earliest settlers among the Gaur Brahmins of Rewa, and their profession has been that of Rajavaidyas. Jageshwar Ram was a Vyās and the earliest grant in the possession of his descendants is dated Samvat 1863, (1809 A. D.) Presumably the Vyāsas in 1765 were still have-nots among their Gaur compatriots. It is very likely that young Sarab Sukh, son of Jageshwar Ram, attended to the royal mother and baby, during their stay under the Maharaja's protection, as a protegee of the Tiwari Rajvaidya, who may have deputed him to officiate for him, off and on, during the period of delivery and confinement. Any material reward could hardly be expected from the royal family in this period of adversity when they themselves were dependent on services volunteered by hosts like the vassal Maharaja and when Shah Alam himself was away from their place of refuge. In the 6th year of accession, when the heir-apparent had attained the age of seven, Providence brought Shah Alam to live at Allahabad with two districts allowed by the English for his maintenance. It was a good opportunity for the Brahmin aspirant, Sarab Sukh, to approach the royal presence with petition in his hand and blessings in his tongue. His prayers met with imperial approval. To the young heir-apparent, namesake of Akbar the Great, who differed from his illustrious ancestor in all but the circumstances of his birth, the issue of the *Nishan* must have been a pleasant task, one thing is significant that while 1170, the date of the seal, taken as the *fasli year*, corresponds to 1762 A.D. and the date of the issue of the *Nishan* is 6th year of imperial accession-1765 A.D. the grant is to take retrospective effect from the year 1167 *fasli*-1759, the year of the prince's birth at Mukundpur. The grantee is thus sought to be compensated for the period of 6 years that had elapsed since the auspicious occasion of the gift arose.

The sojourn of Shah Alam in Allahabad was so well begun for Sarab Sukh but the pleasure turned out to be ephemeral. The prospects which looked so promising, were blighted when the authorities of the Company refused to honour the grant of the imperial exile as they did in the case of a similar grant in favour of Maharaja Ajit Sinha. Thus the debt of gratitude which the imperial family owed to the Raja and his Rajavaidya alike remained unpaid. Sarab Sukh's possession of village Akari in *sarkar* Korah (now Fatehpur district) was only nominal or short-lived. The tradition in

the family is that the possession was never obtained at all. Nevertheless the document has been preserved with meticulous care as a token of imperial gratitude for services rendered during adversity.

PARWANA RELATING TO THE SANAD OF SARDESHMUKHI GIVEN TO SHAHU CHHATRAPATI

(By B. W. Bhat)

At the meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Baroda in December 1940, Dr. A. G. Pawar discussed some original documents relating to *Chauthai*, *Sardeshmukhi* and *Swaraj* Sanads given to Shahu Chhatrapati by the Mughal Emperors. Four English extracts from the translations of important portions of these documents made by Captain Grant Duff, historian of the Marathas, kept in the British Museum, one letter of Balaji Vishwanath Peshwa and Yadi of Shankaraji Malhar were brought to light by Dr. Pawar and his paper contained a discussion relating to these Sanads. As the original sanads are still not available and there are very few chances of discovery of these documents hereafter, any new document relating to these Sanads will prove valuable and useful for judging the authenticity of important terms and conditions of the grant of these Sanads.

In this paper I propose to notice a new document, a Parwana relating to the *Sardeshmukhi* Sanad, which so far no historical researcher has mentioned. This Parwana is in Persian and I have given its free translation and have discussed some important points connected with it in this paper.

Before giving a translation of this document it is necessary to describe the procedure which seems to have been observed by the Mughal Emperors with regard to the grant of Sanads or Farmans issued by them. Whenever any grant of village lands or other property was made by the Mughal Emperor to any person a Sanad or Farman regarding the same was prepared by an officer of the Imperial Court. Along with the preparation of this grant additional copies of the same were prepared. Out of these one seems to have been kept with the Imperial records; one was given to the grantee, and the rest of the copies sent to the *Deshmukh* and *Deshpande* Watandars of the Paragana in which the property given in grant was situated. In case any such original Sanad is not found its counterpart prepared according the above procedure is as reliable as the original for knowing its contents. In addition to this a Parwana relating to the said Sanad or Farman was sent to the *Deshmukh* and

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Deshpande Watandars of the Paragana in which the property given in grant was situated for their information and for being kept in their record.

The Sanad of *Sardeshmukhi* granted to Shahu related to the revenues of the six Subahs of the Deccan, consequently the counterparts of the original Sanad of *Sardeshmukhi* as well as all other documents relating to the same were forwarded to the several Watandars of the Paraganas in the six Subahs of the Deccan including *Khandesh*. *Nandurbar* Paragana formed part of the *Khandesh* Subah. It was for this reason that all documents relating to the *Swaraj* Sanad were sent by Mughal Court to the Watandar Desai family of *Nandurbar* Paragana. The present holder of the Desai Watan of this Paragana has in his possession old documents of the Mughal Emperors. According to the procedure as stated above a Parwana relating to this Sanad was in due course sent to the Desai Watandar just at the time when the Sanad of *Sardeshmukhi* was given to Shahu Chhatrapati. The head of the Watandar family to whom this Parwana was sent prepared a copy of this Parwana and kept the same in his record for his use. It is this copy upon which this paper is based.

The free translation of this document is as follows:—

“Nawab Amerool Umra Bahadur Feroj Jung Sipah Sardar

Copy

The Parwana bearing the seal of Kazi Muhammad Shafi dated 19 Rabiul-Awwal San 7 is to the following effect: In accordance with the order of the *Badashaha* (Emperor) and in accordance with the order of *Bakshi Mulak* and in accordance with the order of (Nabab Amerool Umra Bahadur Feroj Jung Sipah Sardar) the *Sardeshmukhi* of the six Subahs of the Deccan with effect from the spring harvest of the current year in return for a *peshkash* amounting to Rs. 1,17,19,390 and 12 annas has been given under a *Kaul* (agreement) to Raja Shahu Chhatrapati. As soon as the order of *Badashaha* is received one fourth amount of this should be paid in the Government treasury, and the remaining amount should be paid by instalments. Raja Shahu has been given as *Rusum* Rs. 10 out of every hundred rupees. He should enjoy this privilege. He should take care to increase the population and to guard the interest of Government, he should also destroy those who oppress the subjects. If the property of anybody is looted the same should be given to him and he should punish thieves. He should also maintain an efficient army and should diligently perform his duties. He should see that the Government dues are paid in the treasury according to instalments and he should never wish to take anything more

from any one than the fixed amount payable to Government. Be it known to all the Deshmukhs, Deshpandes, Mukaddams owners of lands, citizens etc. that the rights of *Sardeshmukhi* are given to Raja Shahu Chhatrapati.

Order of Amerool Umra Feroj Jang Bahadur Sipah Sardar to the effect that one fourth of the sum of rupees one crore seventeen lacks, nineteen thousand, three hundred ninety and annas twelve, and the rest of the amount should be paid by instalments (by Shahu) and that 10 per cent of this should be given to Raja Shahu as Rusum from the Rabbi season. And a Kararnama relating to this should be taken from Raja Shahu Chhatrapati:—

The Wakil of Raja Shahu agrees and executes Kararnama dated 16th Rabiul awwal 7th Julus as follows:—

For many days in the Deccan area oppression is taking place and the country has become desolate therefore the Sanad of *Sardeshmukhi* of the six provinces of the Deccan granting 10 per cent of the amount as Rusum has been given. If such a Sanad is granted by the Emperor to Raja Shahu peace will be established in the country, lands in villages will be brought under cultivation, thieves and oppressors will be suppressed and the subjects will become happy. Raja Shahu Chhatrapati agrees to do all this. Peace in the country should be so established that travellers, merchants and others should feel confident when travelling through the country. If the goods of any such person are looted the same would be restored to him. Thieves would be punished. The responsibility of recovering Government revenue will be of Shahu Chhatrapati. Efficient army would be maintained and diligence would be observed in rendering of service to the Emperor. The revenue of the country has deteriorated and therefore nothing more than what is due would be recovered. Government revenue would be collected according to Government rules. And therefore it is provided that the sum of Rupees 1,17,19,390 and annas 12 would be paid in the treasury. (A Kararnama about the acceptance of the *Sardeshmukhi* is executed on behalf of Shahu Chhatrapati). Immediately on the receipt of the order one fourth of the amount would be paid in the treasury and the remaining 3/4 of the amount would be paid by instalments. A Sanad for this should it is prayed be given. The portion of the amount (3/4 of the total revenue) would be credited in the (revenue) accounts of the six subahs

Subah Khujasta Buniad (Bijapur)	Subah Varhad one crore fifteen
One crore, Seventeen lacks, nine-	lacks, twenty three thousand
teen thousand three hundred	five hundred and eight.
ninety and annas twelve.	

The total revenues of the Subahs 18 crores 5 lacks 18 thousand two hundred and ninety four rupees and 5 annas.

In Dr. Pawar's paper published in the Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission (in 1940) the names of the six subahs of the Deccan are given along with the total revenue of each Subah.

The figure of the total amount of the six subahs of the Deccan is also given.

In the copy of the Parwana under consideration the names of the two Suahs viz. Khujasta Buniad (Bijapur) and Varhad are given as also the figures of the revenues of these Subahs. The figures of the total revenue of Varhad or Berar exactly tally with each other in both the copy of the Parwana and the figure given in Dr. Pawar's paper. The figure of total revenue of Khujasta Buniad i.e. Bijapur does not tally with the figure of the total revenue of the Bijapur province as given in Dr. Pawar's paper. The grand total of the revenues of the six provinces of the Deccan is given in the copy of the Parwana as 18,05,18,294 and 5 annas. This figure as given in Dr. Pawar's paper is Rs. 18,05,17,294 and 5½ annas. It seems that the person in the service of the Nandurbar Desai who copied the Parwana failed to copy the names of the four Subahs which are not to be found in the copy along with the figures of the total revenues of these subahs, owing to his not being able to make out the names of these subahs. There is a mistake of one thousand rupees in the figure of the grand total of the revenues of the six provinces. This seems to be due to oversight of the copyist. The names of the six subahs along with their total revenues and the figure of the grand total of revenues of the six subahs are given by Dr. Pawar in a foot note and not in the main body of the paper. In the foot note the reference given is Br. Mu. 26,606. It may be that in the original document reference of which has been made in Dr. Pawar's paper the writer may have committed mistakes in giving the figures of the total revenue.

CONTEMPORARY BIOGRAPHY OF A FIFTEENTH CENTURY SUFİ SAINT OF BIHAR.

[By Syed Hasan Askari]*

In 1811-12 Francis Buchanan found in the "Division of Daudnagar" in the Gaya Dt. "at least 500 Pirzadas who were mostly descended from Mahbub Subhani (Hazrat Abdul Qadir Jilani), a saint buried at Baghdad" (in 571-1175). "One of the eleven sons" of this celebrated founder of the Qadri order of Sufis, "Abdul Keza" (Razzaq) was the direct ancestor of "Muhammad Qadri", "who", we are told by Buchanan, "came here and destroyed the infidels and was buried at Amja (Amjhar) where his descendants have 3 whole manors". Amjhar, a village 10 miles to the north east of Daudnagar, and some 25 miles from Palmarganj Station of E.I. Railway in Gaya District, is still the seat of a Khanqah—founded by Syed Muhammad Qadri in the middle of the 15th century A.D. and its "Chief Pirzada" and "Gaddinashin" in the time of Buchanan was Shah Manzelat Ali¹ who probably represented the line of one of the three sons of the saint. The descendants of the saint had already in the time of Buchanan branched out into many families and are now found spread over the Districts of Gaya, Patna, and Shahabad.² They are said to have been in possession of valuable manuscripts and records, but only one of them Moulvi Syed Ahmad, Uruj Qadri, representing the line of Sulaiman Qadri,³ a grandson of the saint and the first of a long line of Qazis and Naib Qazis⁴ since the time of Akbar down to that of the East India Company could be persuaded to show a few

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¹ This name does not occur in *Bisala-i-Jawadīa* a Persian ms. containing genealogical tables with some incidental notices (kindly lent to the writer by Hakim Shuaib Saheb of Phulwari). Probably the author wrote it before Buchanan.

² A *Farman* of Alamgir I, dated 2nd Zihijja, 14th year of Julus, made a *mokarri* grant, by way of *Madad Maash*, in village Muhammadnagar *alias* Jogia with *Dakhli* of Rasulpur in Pargana Danwar of Sarkar-i-Shahabad to the sons, dependents, adherents, fakirs and wayfarers attached to Syed Abdur Rasul, a descendant of Mahbub Subhani. He was the son of Abdullah a grandson of the eldest son of the saint of Amjhar.

³ See an interesting account of him in *Risala-i-Jawadīa*. *Mahzarnama* with the stamp office seal of Calcutta, dated 1833 says that he was appointed by Akbar as Qazi of Parganas Ancha & Manorah in Aurangabad sub-division of Gaya district.

⁴ The *Risala-i-Jawadīa* document contains a list of the various personages of the family who held the offices of the Chief and Naib Qazis.

of the documents in his possession¹. These include, besides a few *sanads* and *Firmans*, some granted to the family members, others submitted to them as exhibits, a valuable Persian manuscript of 51 folios, entitled *Manaqib-i-Muhammadi*, which contains an account of the founder of the Amjhar Khanqah and his sons and adherents, written by Ali Sher Shirazi, one of his chief companions, only six years after his death in 946 as is evident from a versified chronogram² found at the end of the manuscript. Shirazi refers to another biography of the saint in Arabic, *Tarikh-i-Husaini*, by Karimuddin Husain Makki, which, unfortunately, is no longer available. The same is the case with *Daqaiq-ul-Haqiq*³. *Tahzil-ul-Quran*⁴ or *Hizbul Adiya* by the saint-founder of Amjhar and with *Fatawa-i-Masudi*⁵ by Amir Masud Qadri, his grandson and a Qazi in Akbar's days. In spite of the many references to the miracle-working powers of the saint and things which cater to the needs of the credulous, there is much in Shirazi's work of cultural and historical interest.

This manuscript of ten chapters contains much information about the early⁶ life and the activities of the saint outside India and about the various stages of his training and education, the courses of studies he followed, the institutions where, and the savants under whom, he studied, his habits, manners and customs, his physical⁷ appearance, his dress,⁸ his piety and zeal for Islam, his hobby for learning and acquiring proficiency in the languages⁹ of other peoples and countries, and the men whom he met and who became devoted

¹ By virtue of the office of Qazi held by them they used to receive such documents and perhaps some of them could not be returned. Among them are (i) a *Farman* of Shahjahan, dated 1043 granting *Madad Maash* lands in Pargana Ballia of Sarkar Bihar to Bibi Mah Koch, Md. Asim etc., (ii) Shahjahan's *farman*, dated 29th year Julus or 1065 addressed to Raja Jaswant Singh regarding disputes about certain lands in Bihar with his brothers (iii & iv) Two *Sanads* issued on behalf of Md. Shah (30th Julus) and Alamgir II (6th yr.) appointing the recipients Qazi of pargana Shahjahanpur in Bihar.

² The relevant lines are "Girafam Qalam Ra Bebastam Do Lab-nawisham Manaqib Ham Andar Seh Shah-Tu Az Harf-i-Fael Wa Harf-i-taman-Bekun Sale Tarikh Guftan Ayan". Three times of the numerical value of the word *shab* which is 906 plus that of *Mim* which is 40 representing *darfaman* and Harf-i-Fael give the year.

³ *Risala-i-Jawadīa*. Of this 6 pages in the handwriting of the saint himself had been kept as a treasure by Chindas, Kanungo of Manauro.

⁴ *Tazkirat-al-Mumajjad*.

⁵ A member of the family is said to be still in possession of this rare work but he refuses to let any one consult it.

⁶ Born at Baghdad in 816 A.H., he had completed his education and become an accomplished scholar when he was only 23 years old. After practising many austerities he began his missionary activities at the age of 27.

⁷ Big-bodied with sinking belly, large forehead, thin expanded eyebrows, high nose, broad nostrils, long white bearded with sprinkling of black hair at the time of death, broad chest, average-sized fingers, eyes and ears, and fair complexioned.

⁸ 4th Chapter. Wore a latia cap sticking to the head, and white or green in colour, with a white turban, arranged in knots and circular in form, and a white 'pairahan' or long robe with shirts with a blanket (?) of black wool round the body.

⁹ Chapter 6 on speech and language "During his travels wherever he went he lost no time in picking up the local dialects.....within the frontiers of India he was in position to speak to the Indian Mashailkhs (holy personages) in their own language with correct pronunciation".

to, or admirers of, him during the course of his journey from Iraq to India. Although these things are not devoid of interest for a student of history and culture, lack of time and space compels the writer to relate only a few facts connected with the life of the saint in India.

The first thing which strikes one's notice in the manuscript is the definite reference to the peaceful penetration of Islam and to Muslim settlements at such an early date in those parts of Gaya, bordering on Chotanagpur, which as late as the time of Hunter "consisted of hills and jungles abounding with wild animals"¹. The manuscript was completed in 3 nights at Kutumba, mentioned in the *Ain*, at the instance of a local resident, Hakim Munawwar, who had welcomed and become a devotee of the saint and has been described as "the Plato of the time and the Aristotle of the Age". The author had been deputed by the saint to carry on his work in the regions of Kutumba and, as we learn from another source² he lies buried there. Some other villages, inhabited by the Muslims, including Hasipur whose chief, Malik Qazim, was at first hostile to the saint and later relented and founded a village named Mahuli after the Mahua tree, and where the Khanquah of Shaikh Ahmad had been situated have been mentioned. Syed Sulaiman Mashhadi, a devotee and adherent of the saint of Amjhar died "a martyr for the sake of God" and his shrine lies Navnava in Pargana Ekil, situated in subdivision of Jahanabad, in Gaya.

It was for the sake of Islam that Syed Muhammad undertook the arduous journey to Hindustan. Touched by the tale of woe narrated by a refugee from the present Aurangabad sub-division namely "the pious and tall-statured, Shaikh Muhammad Ali, and also commanded in a dream", as the biographer would have us believe, Syed Darvesh, the father of Syed Muhammad, directed him to "attend to the complaint of, and secure justice for the Indian from his oppressor, try to bring the latter into the fold of the faith, and failing that pray for his overthrow and settle down in that land so that the people thereof might find the true path through his guidance". He was also instructed to marry in a family of good extraction preferably in that of Syed Ahmad Qadri who had already migrated to India. The saint traversed with his forty companions, the whole distance from Baghdad to Bihar, full of hills and dales, deserts and plains, on the back of horses and camels, within a period of 7 months and 11 days in 846 or 1442 A.D. During the journey he passed through Qandhar³ and Multan,⁴ and also stopped for a fortnight at Surharpur in U.P.

¹ Hunter, W. W., *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, Vol. XII; p. 18.

² *Risala-i-Jawadia*.

³ The ruler of Kandhar had already heard of the reputation of the saint from Syed Nasiruddin Tabrizi and he and Shaikh Mansoor, the most learned man there, gave him a fitting reception.

⁴ He was introduced to the Sharif by 'Makhdoom Syed Agli Siraj-ul-Millat Waddin' one of whose three sons, Sulaiman Mashhadi, accompanied the saint in his journey to India.

where he married Bibi Piyaran (a significant Indian name). He arrived near the strong-hold of the tyrannical Kol chief named Jiwan.

Kols and Santhals, Mundas and Oraons, Cheroes and Kharias, of Chotanagpur are supposed to have been at one time the governing tribes in different parts of Bihar. According to traditions recorded by Buchanan, the territory of the Kol Rajas may have at one time extended from Baidyanath to Banaras and the English statistician noted that much of the country in South Bihar was "dotted here and there with rude forts which local tradition rightly attributed to the Kols or wild tribes of Central India". He found relics of the three great fortresses of the Kol chiefs in Kabar, Kutumba or Ramghar and Shahabad. Ali Sher Shirazi has also added something to our knowledge in this respect. We are told that the place where the saint arrived and which later came to be known as Narahna was a lowland near which a river (Raud) was flowing and it was infested with wild beasts and reptiles. Pointing to a fortified place which stood at the extremity Shaikh Muhammad Ali cried out "This is the fort of the tyrant who practised oppression on us and made my brothers, their wives and sons, martyrs because one of our relations had gone to the length of entering into discussion with him and had declared that the idols and idolworshippers were futile and false. At this the lord of the fortress destroyed all our relations. I, however, managed to survive the carnage and laid my grievances before every one but none cared to come to my help". The saint approached the tyrant "whose name was Jiwan and who belonged to the tribe called in India Kolhia". He said "Why did you kill the Musalmans? Do you not feel afraid of God the Great Avenger? It is better for you to tread the path of peace (Islam) otherwise you will have to face retribution". The Kolhia burst out in anger "What have you got to do with me? Be off". The saint returned to the wilderness of Narahana and prayed to God for punishment. It so happened that on account of a heavy downpour the walls of the fortress collapsed killing Jiwan and his family under the debris. The brother of Jiwan, Kolhia named Karmoon Kolhia who had his stronghold at Dumra, one kos from there, began the search of the saint but finding no trace of him gave up the pursuit.

The saint continued to practise austerities in the wild and inaccessible regions where many a miraculous thing were seen. During his stay in the jungle a cowherd became a convert and he was "given religious lessons in Hindvi" and was named Sadiq. He used to supply milk to the saint and his followers. One day he saw two brothers, Haji Khan and Jami Khan, in a distressed condition and lamenting over their lot on the bank of the river. He elicited the

information from them that they were the employees of "Darya Khan,¹ the ruler (Wali) of Bihar" who had sent them to Sasaram to purchase a horse for him from a dealer there. The horse while being lead across the river got accidentally drowned. They felt mightily afraid of their lord and master, Darya Khan, who they said, was "a man of ferocious disposition". They were brought to the saint who taking pity on them successfully prayed to God for the restoration of the horse but he enjoined upon them not to disclose this affair to the Wali of Bihar lest the animal might be lost again. They could not, however, resist the temptation of doing so with the result that the horse ultimately died as had been foretold. But the ruler of Bihar on knowing the whole affair became so impressed with the saint's miraculous powers that he sent presents in cash and kind which were accepted. He ordered a mosque, a *Khanquah*, and a mansion (*koshak*) to be built at the place where the incident had taken place.

The fame of the saint spread far and wide, specially after so much attention had been bestowed on him by the powerful ruler of Bihar, and crowds of people began to come to him. He, therefore, directed his followers to leave the place for a more inaccessible wilderness. Sadiq felt astonished at this end and questioned him "O my lord? Why are you leaving such a furnished villa?" "As he was a Hindi (Indian) and was not so intelligent and sharpwitted as to understand the reality of things, His Holiness replied to him also in 'Hindi' only this much. 'Na Mana Jiva Inha Na Rahna'" (my heart did not permit me to stay here). From that time that jungle along with the stream came to be named *Narahna* and all are now heard speaking of it as '*Narahana*'.

After some months the saint came to, and settled down at Amjhar. One day the Muezzin's call to prayer having reached the ears of Karmoon Kolhia, he enquired about it and was told that the saint "whose pursuit he had given up largely on account of the fear of Darya Khan, the ruler of Bihar, was likely to create such a situation as might eventually result in the loss of the wild tracts over which he exercised his sway". At this he sent a body of non-believers with orders to kill the saint and his followers but they were struck by lightning and were either destroyed or dispersed. He then sent his own son, Chattr, at whose orders stones were pelted at the saint while he was engaged in his prayers and his forehead was badly wounded. This provoked Shaikh Muhammad Majzub so much

¹ Darya Khan Luhani (Nuhani Khaskhael) of Bihar, a contemporary of Sultan Sikandar Lodi and his son and successor, who, besides his own province took possession of the whole country east of the Ganges and defeated in several engagements the troops sent against him by Sultan Ibrahim Lodi. He died not long before the death of the Sultan at Panipat. He was succeeded by his son, Bahar Khan, the patron of Farid Khan Sur (later Sher Shah) and to him the rebellious chiefs in Bihar transferred their allegiance proclaiming him king under the style of Muhammad Shah. According to the author of *Makhazan-i-Afghania* Darya Khan had also proclaimed his independence and assumed the style of sovereignty such as the reading of the *Khutba* and issuing of coins in his own name.

that he managed to kill Chattr and buried him near the stream. His men who had already lost heart ran away. This brought Karmoon Kolhia himself on the scene. After some exchange of words between him and Shaikh Hassan when the Kol Chief raised his sword to kill the saint, as it was the will of God, he died with his own weapon.

All this, as also some other incidents such as the visit of the saint to Hashipur at the invitation of Shaikh Ahmad, the slights and insults shown at first and remorse and contrition eventually shown by Malik Qazin, occurred within a year of the arrival of the saint at *Narahana* for Shaikh Hassan who figured prominently in all these affairs was sent in 847 to Surharpur in U.P. to fetch the newly-wedded wife (Piyaran) of the saint. But Shaikh Hassan died at Surharpur and was buried there. Bibi Piyaran had to be escorted by the men of her brother, Syed Hussain. The saint observed on one occasion, "However much I wish to live in isolation and retirement so as to avoid the crowds I feel helpless before God who seems to have ordained otherwise". A disciple from Bengal, Shaikh Masud, sent a purse containing 100 gold pieces which were at once distributed among the followers to meet their expenses and provide clothes for them. Strange things continued to happen such as the miraculous escape from the watery grave of Usman Khan and Miyan Khan who were coming on boats from Shekhpura, and the suggestions received in a dream by a learned man of Biharsharif, named Bhikhan Bihari, to betake himself to the saint and to become a tutor to his two sons, Jalaluddin and Muinuddin, who were born respectively in the year 849 and 868 A.H.

The medieval age was an age of superstitions. People believed in all sorts of abnormal things and supernatural elements. There is nothing surprising, therefore, that we got accounts of such things in this manuscript. But shorn of all that is unbelievable, the analytical sketch given above contains some very valuable information about the zeal shown by the early Muslims for the propagation of their faith, in unknown lands infested with wild beasts, among semi-Hinduised local chiefs of aboriginal tribes like Kols who had thrown up fortifications and exercised sway over rough jungles and wild impenetrable tracts; the indifference displayed by the local Muslim rulers to individual cases of ill-treatment of their co-religionists; and the last but not the least, the effective method adopted by the adventurous Sufi preachers and missionaries to find an entrance into the hearts of the natives by learning their language¹ and communicating

¹ The contribution of Bihari saints towards the evolution of the mixed language of Urdu or Hindustani was by no means negligible even before the saint of Amjhar made India his home and the final resting place and cultivated the language of the indigenous population so as to make it a medium of inter-communication and exchange of thoughts and religious beliefs. We find the celebrated saint of Biharsharif, Makhdum Sharfuddin Yahaya Maneri using such expressions as "Bat Shali par Sankri-Des bhala per dur". This occurs in his *Malfuz*, *Maadan-ul-Maani* compiled by his well known companion, Sheikh Badra Zain Arabi in 747 A.H. or 1357 A.D.

their thoughts and beliefs through their spoken tongues. The word *Inha* in the Hindi utterance of the saint quoted above is particularly significant for in rural areas of Bihar it is still in use. The observation of the saint made in reply to the question put by his biographer regarding the superiority of the Indians as linguists forms an interesting reading. One may not agree with him when he says that Adam who knew all the languages was sent down from heaven to Ceylon (Sarandip) which is a part of India, and that the "Suhuf" (scripture) of Adam was also in the Hindvi language" and so on and so forth: but it is a fact admitted not only by him but by others also, notably by the celebrated Amir Khusru in his *Masnavi*. Nuhsepahr, that the "Hindian (Indians) are capable of learning any language they like and acquiring a command over it as if it was their mother tongue while the same is not the case with others who feel inclined to learn Hindvi". The references to and the names mentioned of the three Kol chiefs and the mention of Darya Khan Luhani, the ruler of Bihar have got their own significance.

The author of *Manaqib* enjoyed, like the saint of Amjhar, a fairly long life, having performed *Tawaf* of Kaaba eight times with him, accompanied him to India, and outlived him. He therefore tells us much not only about his spiritual guide but also about his sons and daughter and grandchildren and about the most intimate and pious disciples such as Shaikh Hasan 'Madani-ul-Quraishi', Shaikh Muhammad Majzeb, the silent, Syed Alauddin Tabrizi, Malik Tajuddin "commonly known as *khandasher*¹ for he was sharp tongued as sword", Syed Sulaiman Mashhadi, Syed Ali Manikpuri, Syed Shamsuddin Husaini, etc.

¹The presence of such Hindi words in the Ms. is significant. The author Ali Sher Shirazi, appears to have taken pains to learn the indigenous language. He once said to his spiritual guide: "Of all the languages the letters in the Indian lexicons are the largest in number and that is the reason why non-Indians cannot pronounce all their letters as well as they do. Their language appears to be the most difficult. However much we try, we are unable to reach the height of eloquence in it. What is the reason?"

RECORDS OF THE RAJAJNA FAMILY OF WAI

[By G. H. Khare]*

In the course of my records survey work in 1949-50, I visited my native place Wai (North Satara). There I had the opportunity to examine a part of the old records in the possession of my friend Mr. M. K. Panta, who belongs to an old aristocratic family¹. Members of this family served as Deshpandes (village accountants) of the Wai *pargana* during the Nizamshahi, the Adilshahi and the Shivaji periods along with the ancestors of another family. Before 5 May 1731 Hari Moreshwara, a member of the former family was appointed *Rajajna* in addition to his duties of a Deshpande². This post of *Rajajna* was equivalent to Superintendent of the household or the personal representative of Chhatrapati Shahu or the Lord Chamberlain as he is designated in England. It is not definitely known when the office of *Rajajna* was created in the Maratha administration. In all probability it did not exist during Shivaji's regime. Its earliest mention is to be found in a Marathi letter dated the 6th of *Rajab Shuhur* year 1086 (19th May 1686 A.D.)³, but the person who held the post at that time is not known to us. However, it can be said with certainty that between 1689 and 1730, Shankaraji Pandita, Uddhava Yogadeva, his son Rangarao Uddhava, Naro Ram Mantri, Pantaji Shivadeva, Chimanaji Damodara and probably Moro Jivaji, the father of the above-mentioned Hari Moreshwara, held this post in succession and it had become temporarily hereditary⁴. Though the post was a very important one it did not have the status of a minister and consequently the person holding it had no seat in the Council of Ministers. This office continued to be held in this family for five generations (Hari Moreshwara, his brother Bhavanishankar Moreshwara, his son Haibatrao, his son Bhavanishankar, and

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¹Since then my friend has very kindly sent all the papers to the Bharata Itihasa Samsodhaka Mandala for examination, which work has not been completed as yet.

²*Selections from the Peshwa Daftar* (SPD), Vol. XXII, No. 65.

³*Shivadharitra sahitya* Vol. IX, No. 67.

⁴*Shivacharitrpradina*, p. 30; *Life of Chhatrapati Shahu* by Malhar Ramrao Chitnis—Kavyetihasa Sangraha edition p. 3; *Itihasa sangraha*—Information gleaned from the sanads etc., deposited in the Peshwa Daftar p. 336; *Bharatavarsha*—A narrative of The Maharashtra Mandala pp. 40-42.

his son Moro Bhavanishankar) after which a person from a different family was appointed to hold this post.⁵ During the regime of Balaji Bajirao, the third Peshwa, in addition to the two-fold duties of a Deshpande and a *Rajajna*, (Haibatrao Bhavanishankar) was made the hereditary *subahdar* of Wai division.⁶ Thus for over fifty years three offices were combined in one person belonging to this family.

In view of these facts it is quite natural that Mr. Panta's family possesses large bodies of old papers. When I visited the place, there were over twenty gunny bags full of such papers, besides more than 25 old account books. I could not examine and check each and every document in this very large collection; but a cursory scrutiny showed that it contained thousands of daily, monthly and annual accounts and balance-sheets, agreements and bonds, news-letters and administrative papers, orders and returns of various types, decisions in revenue, civil, criminal, religious and social cases, sanads and confirmatory letters and a variety of other documents. The earliest document (No. 17) which I have come across in this collection is an order of Haibatkhan (Nizamshahi) dated the 14th of Jumada II Shuhur year 1009, (15th September 1608 A.D.). There are several documents of Aurangzeb's period; and of the Peshwa period there are thousands of such papers. Several pages will be required to describe documents of each variety. I shall, therefore, deal with only a few of them which are important for the study of political history.

Document No. 1 is a long Marathi letter written in Modi script and refers to the attack on and capture of Tasgaon (South Satara) by Bajirao I, the second Peshwa, in 1738 A. D. This event has been indeed referred to in a document (published in *Rajwade* Vol. XVI, No. 86) which is an order dated the 25th of Rabi I, Shuhur year 1139 (2 July 1738 A.D.) and was issued by Chimanaji Narayana Sachiva to the Deshmukh of Kanada territory. He was asked therein to present himself with twenty-five combatants at Simhagadh for the purpose of the Tasgaon expedition (*Rajwade*, Vol. II, p. 80). *Bharata-varsha Chronology* (p. 15) also contains a reference to this; but there it is only stated that on the 18th of Rajab, Shuhur year 1139 (21st October 1738 A. D.), at Poona came the news of the capture of Tasgaon from Shrimanta (Peshwa Bajirao I) and that his son Nanasaheb and his secretary Baba Purandare had accompanied him there. These three references, however, do not furnish any details of the expedition. The document in Mr. Panta's collection is dated Thursday the 17th Jumada II, corresponding to 21 September, 1738 A.D. and is addressed by one Sham from Tasgaon, i.e. from the scene

⁵ *ibid*—last reference.

⁶ Selections from the Satara Raja's and the Peshwa's Diaries (S.S.R.P.D.), Vol. I, p. 228.

of action, to one Anyaba who was probably residing at Wai. As this paper is a contemporary one and gives detailed information about the expedition, it is worthwhile to summarise it here. Its gist runs thus: "Here is the news of the court. Panta Pradhana appeared before Tasgaon earlier and lost one person of note on the day of the siege. Raghuji Bhosale arrived later and encamped on the plain at an arrows' throw distance from him (Panta Pradhana). Yesaji Shinde⁷ met Rao Pradhana secretly and promised on solemn oath to hand over Tasgaon to him if His Majesty (Chhatrapati Shahu) would forgive him, favour him with an interview and include him among His Majesty's servants. The siege, therefore, is only a pretension as men on both the sides have begun to indulge themselves in recreation. His Majesty on hearing the news thought that he must not allow such a capitulation as he (Yesaji Shinde) instead of seeing His Majesty directly wished to see him through Panta Pradhana. His Majesty, therefore, would often advise Rao Pradhana to leave Tasgaon and capture Athani (Belgaum) by going thither and that His Majesty and Raghuji Bhosale would try to capture Tasgaon. Yesaji Shinde on his part entreated and argued with Rao Pradhana that he had waited and held the post till his arrival and had agreed to surrender it after his arrival and after a promise of better prospects for himself. He (Rao Pradhana) was thus in a fix. On the one hand there was his promise and on the other there was the obstinacy of His Majesty. He, therefore, began to correspond and was reluctant to leave the place. In the meanwhile a special messenger, Daryaji Naik came from His Majesty with express orders to pull down the tents of Raya (Panta Pradhana) and make him leave for Athani. Rao Pradhana, therefore, immediately despatched Mahadoba (Purandare) to His Majesty, who after much discussion prevailed upon His Majesty to proceed to Tasgaon. Narabava Mantri⁸ had also come there. They held mutual consultations yesterday and decided that Tasgaon should be occupied by Panta Pradhana and Athani by Raghuji Bhosale and Rao Pratinidhi⁹ after proceeding thither. Tasgaon has practically fallen. The flag of Rao Pradhana would be unfurled as soon as he hoists it. Raghuji Bhosale is leaving today for Athani. We have sent our contingent fairly equipped. But when we met on last Sunday, Raghuji Bhosale, being ill-advised, was much displeased to find that it consisted neither of a hundred horsemen as promised nor included any tried-men and wellbred horses. He pays the daily allowance after every five or six days; he paid

⁷ This person sided with Udaji Chavhan, a rebel who proved a nuisance to Chhatrapati Shahu for a long time and who had held Tasgaon on behalf of Udaji Chavhan against Shahu.

⁸ A trusted counsellor of Chhatrapati Shahu.

⁹ (a) Athani was actually captured by Pratinidhi on the 8th November 1738 A.D. (Itihasa Sangraha Information, gleaned from Sanads etc. of the Peshwa Daftar, item 39, page 29).

the last instalment four days back, but nothing since then. I have accosted Nurkhan, Shahaji Kadam, Konherpanta⁹ and his honour himself; but have not succeeded in getting the daily allowance. We must make up the number by recruiting some more horsemen who can at least maintain the air of combatants. It will be very difficult to pull on if we do not get the daily allowance. (Here follows various private and obscure items). Parata Pradhana has asked Raghuji Bhosale not to recruit deserters from his camp for which reason he is rather displeased."

Document No. 5 is addressed to one Anya by one of his younger relatives Bhau, who was encamping at Gaurwad (South Satara), is dated Saturday, the 8th of Rabi II and refers to the capture of Gumat¹⁰ by Chhatrapati Shahu and Sambhaji of Kolhapur together. Probably on the basis of the *Bharatavarsha Chronology* (p. 8) and *Kavyetihasa-sangraha* collection of letters No. 9 (both later compilations) R. B. Sardesai has ascribed this incident to 1730 in his *Life of Bajirao I* (p. 159) and has dated the letter (SPD Vol. XI, No. 8) which refers to this incident 8 October 1730 A.D. But as before 1730 Shahu and Sambhaji never co-operated in their plans for conquests and as document No. 1 which undoubtedly belongs to 1738 A.D. refers to the capture of Tasgaon and Athani which happening is again referred to in this document, I would ascribe this letter to 1738 A.D., though the details of dates in both these letters work out correctly as 1730 and 1738 A.D. (SPD Vol. XI, No. 8 and document No. 5). The date of this document, therefore, comes to 15 July 1738 A.D.

The purport of this letter runs thus: "I was sent by Swami (Chhatrapati Shahu) to encounter Udaji Chavhan at Yelavi (Tasgaon, South Satara). But as he had left for Athani, I was ordered to fetch the two guns that were at Rethare Haranaksha (Walwe, South Satara). I have brought them here accordingly and handed them over to the proper custodian. The royal contingents were paid from our purse owing to which we have been reduced to a very wretched pecuniary condition. The flag of Chhatrapati Shahu was hoisted at Gumat on Tuesday the 4th of Rabi II. Both Shamrao and Apaji Mane had interview with Shahu. Sambhaji insisted that both of them should be ruthlessly cut to pieces. But the Maharaja (Chhatrapati Shahu) allowed them to vacate the post together with arms, combatants, non-combatants and half the store of corn. Both

⁹ Konherpanta was the Diwan or chief secretary to Raghuji Bhosle and the other two persons were probably the latter's subordinates.

¹⁰ Same as Shirol (Kolhapur); Shirol is sometimes called Ghumat, Shirol or Shirol-with-the-dome, because it used to have a large domed tomb of a Bijapur officer named Nurkhan which Pa ashuram Bhau, Patvardhan is said to have destroyed in 1779. (Bombay Gazetteer, Vol. XXIV, Kolhapur, p. 319).

¹¹ SPD Vol. XI, No. 8 is very similar to document No. 5 but has some discrepancies. They are, however, only apparent and can be easily reconciled.

the persons were honoured with dress and wristlets. I am not certain but it is rumoured that Tasgaon and Athani would be the next targets. Let the tried horsemen be sent here so that the fresh recruits can be sent back."

I will now summarise four documents, which though not supplying altogether new information, furnish different details and are of corroborative value.

Document No. 19 is addressed to Haibatrao Rajajna by one Bhalachandra Jagannath from his camp at Ainapur (Athani, Belgaum) near the Krishna river, dated the 1st of Rabi II and purports to the following effect. "Shrimanta (Peshwa?) has encamped here for the present but has despatched Mahadaba (Purandare) to the Karnataka and we shall be ordered either to accompany him or remain with Shrimanta, who intends to leave for the Ganga (Godavari). But perhaps his honour may travel through the tract owned by Angre".

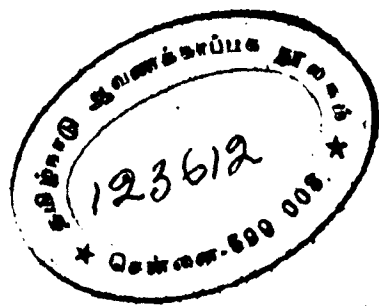
I am not quite certain about the date of this document; but in all probability it belongs to 1755 A.D. The exact date of the document comes to 14 January 1755 A.D. when Balaji Bajirao, the third Peshwa, was encamped near Ainapur.

Document No. 26 is addressed to one Shamji by one Ramachandra Mahadeva and bears no date. But it certainly refers to the early movements in connection with the battle of Udgir fought between Balaji Bajirao, the third Peshwa, and the then Nizam Salabat Jang in the beginning of 1760 A.D. It can be summarised thus: "The army of Shrimanta (Balaji Bajirao) is at Ahmadnagar while that of Bhausahib is at Parali Vaijanatha (Bid, Nizam state). The Mughal's (Nizam's) army is at a distance of twenty villages (60 miles). Nana Purandhare, Visaji Krishna (Binivale) and Balavantarao (Mehendale) have been sent in advance with an army of ten thousand soldiers".

Document No. 4 is incomplete, is addressed to Ramachandrapanta, Moropanta and Bhanopanta by one Moro Khanderao from his halting station at Avantika (Ujjain) and is dated the bright 2nd of the intercalary month (Shravana). As it refers to the movements of Marathas and Durrani troops in 1760 A.D., its exact date comes to 14 July 1760 A.D. Its gist runs thus: "Bhausahib, Shinde, Holkar, Pawar and other generals have encamped at Agra, while Gilja (Ahmadshah Durrani) has encamped on the other bank of the Yamuna, where Madhosingh and other chiefs of Hindustan met him. Surajmal Jat and Shuja-ud-daula had formerly sided with the Dekkanis. But Najibkhan saw the latter and persuaded him to join Ahmadshah with his fifty to sixty thousand men. Thus our army is one-third of that of the enemy; but due to good luck of Shrimanta (the Peshwa) we are sure to win. Owing to the fracture of my arm. I wished to return home; but according to the suggestion of Shrimanta to proceed to Agra, I have retraced my steps but have

to remain here owing to the rainy season. I wish to proceed to Agra by Vijayadashami (19 October 1760) along with others". ~~Rajwade~~, vol. I, Nos. 216 and 217 are very nicely corroborated by this document.

Document No. 27 is addressed to Panta Swami (Haibat Rao Bhavanishankar?) by Chitako Shankar and Krishnaji Ananta and is dated the bright 3rd of Chaitra. As it refers to Raghunatharao Peshwa's flight to Gujarat and Haripanta Phadake's pursuit of him, its exact date comes to 3 April 1777 A.D. It states that Haripanta Tatya (Phadake) is on the Ghats, Ap. Balavanta (Mehendale) is near Navapur (West Khandesh), Dadasaheb has halted at Songadh near Mandvi and the English have commenced peace talks with the Marathas at Purandhar.



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