

Kumbheswaraswami's heavy wooden car that was richly adorned with grotesque tapestry.

AN ADDRESS AT THE SCHOOL.

Their Excellencies and party halted at the Native High School, in front of which was a fine pandal. Here they were welcomed by Rao Bahadur S. Appu Sastriar and shown over the various class rooms. The narrow building was literally crammed with students and others invited for the occasion. Row Bahadur S. Appu Sastriar read the following address :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCIES,—We, the Manager, Headmaster, Proprietor, Assistant Masters and Pupils of the Native High School, Kumbakónam, beg to tender our most sincere thanks to Your Excellency and Lady Amthill on the occasion of Your Excellency's visit to this institution, the Native High School, Kumbakónam, the first and the most successful example of self-help and independent effort in the field of secondary education, in this Presidency. We beg to be permitted to take this opportunity of stating to Your Excellency that this institution has been in existence from the 1st March 1876, that it has from the very beginning strictly enforced the rules laid down by the Director of Public Instruction from time to time regarding the levying of the rates of fees and the regulation of education, that in spite of the peculiar difficulties and disadvantages of its position it has all along

done good and efficient work, producing uniformly successful results, and competing with the recognised Secondary and Collegiate institutions in the Presidency, that it has paid particular attention to discipline, the cultivation of good manners and morals, to the excellent character of which successive Inspectors of Schools and Directors of Public Instruction have borne testimony, that the successful work of the school has been recognised and encouraged by all the Directors of Public Instruction from 1876, the University, the Madras Government, and the Government of India which conferred on the Manager, Headmaster and Proprietor, S. Appu Sastri, the title of *Rao Bahadur* as a personal distinction in 1889, in recognition of his humble educational labours, that this institution has been steadily increasing in strength, efficiency, and prosperity—the numerical strength having more than doubled itself within the last 12 years, and that it has, all along, served as an important feeder to the Government College, Kumbakonam, from 1876. We beg to submit that it may not be out of place to state that the Headmaster, Manager and Proprietor, Rao Bahadur S. Appu Sastri, has been working continuously here with single-minded devotion and earnestness for the last 26 years, that he has earned the good opinion of such distinguished gentlemen as the late Mr. H. B. Grigg, M.A., C.I.E., the Hon'ble Dr. Duncan, M.A., D.Sc., the Hon'ble Mr. A. Monro, M.A., now Inspector-General of Education in Nagpore, the late Dr. W. W. Hunter,,

M.A., LL.D., President of the Education Commission, the late Hon'ble Sir T. Muthuswami Aiyar Avargal, K.C.I.E., the Hon'ble H. W. Bliss, C.I.E., the Hon'ble H. E. Stokes, K.C.S.I., and His Excellency Lord Connemara. The warm interest and sympathy which Your Excellency has graciously condescended to evince by Your Excellency's visit to this institution will not only be a great encouragement to the Headmaster and the staff, but also a tower of strength to this institution. It is therefore our most earnest request that Your Excellency should patronise this institution, and continue Your Excellency's sympathy and support. It is a sign of happy augury to the prosperity and stability of the school that so trusted and honoured a representative of Our Gracious Sovereign should have been pleased to pay a visit to this institution. The value of it is enhanced a thousandfold, because Your Excellency's visit coincides with the anniversary of the school which was founded this very day, 26 years ago. We beg permission to add that, humble as we are, we yield to none in the sincerity, earnestness and love with which we offer our most loyal greetings. In conclusion, we beg to offer our most heartfelt and grateful thanks for Your Excellency's gracious recognition of the work done by this institution. We most fervently pray to the Giver of All Good who watches us all with a sleepless eye from above to shower His choicest blessings on His Imperial Majesty, the King-Emperor, Edward VII, on Your Excellency, His trusted and

honoured representative, and on Your Excellency's consort, Lady Ampthill.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

GENTLEMEN,—Owing, I suppose, to some omission, I was not aware, until the moment I entered this verandah, that I was to receive an address here. I have also had no opportunity of becoming acquainted with the contents of the eloquent address which has just been read. I must therefore confine myself to thanking you for your kind words of welcome and to saying that I learn with pleasure that our visit to Kumbakónam has coincided with so interesting an occasion as the anniversary of the school. I am looking forward to seeing the school, and I assure you that no thanks are due to me for paying you a visit. My principal object in coming to Kumbakónam was to see its educational institutions; but it is not merely a matter of duty, but a source of great pleasure to me to visit important educational institutions in the Presidency.

His Excellency was then conducted upstairs to see the library, the laboratory and the reading-room with which he expressed himself well pleased.

AT THE GOVERNMENT GIRLS' SCHOOL.

A move was next made to the adjacent building, wherein is located the Government Girls' School. Here Their Excellencies were welcomed by the Headmistress Sellathammal and the teachers and pupils. The school was originally started by the municipality

in 1872. In 1882 it passed into the hands of Government, and since then it has been doing good work in the way of promoting the education of caste Hindu girls. It is managed by a staff consisting of a Headmistress, Miss Sellathammal, who received her early training here and has been devoting the best portion of her life in educating her sex, and four assistant Mistresses, all of whom are duly qualified teachers and former pupils of the school. The present strength is 139, and the school has, year after year, been producing good results in the Lower Secondary Examination. One reason why this school has remained a Lower Secondary School is that its strength consists mainly of Brahman girls who are withdrawn from school as soon as they complete their eleventh year, if not earlier. Instruction is imparted in this school in the following subjects:—Reading, writing, arithmetic, history, geography, hygiene, needle work, domestic economy, drawing, singing, Kindergarten occupations, object lessons and drill with calisthenics. The Headmistress is the life and soul of the institution, and she has been working here steadily since 1882, and much of the success and prosperity of the school is due to her personal influence and example.

As Their Excellencies entered the hall, the little girls sang welcome songs that gave an idea of their best vocal training. There was some drill with calisthenics and they sang action songs in which the girls acquitted themselves again creditably. This over, Miss Krishnammal, a smart girl, aged eleven,

the grand-daughter of Dewan Bahadur R. Raghnatha Rao, welcomed Their Excellencies in a neat little address in English, the delivery of which was strikingly good and the pronunciation most distinct.

Their Excellencies made no formal speech, but expressed themselves exceedingly pleased with all that they saw and heard in this school. Their Excellencies were glad to note the very flourishing condition of the institution and the excellent discipline maintained in it. Lady Ampthill, who takes a warm interest in matters conducive to the progress of her sex in India, expressed her great pleasure at having visited the institution and hearing a good English address from a little Hindu girl. Their Excellencies then drove straight to the residence of Mr. Lionel Vibert, the Acting Head Assistant Collector.

AT THE PORTER TOWN HALL.

Leaving Mr. Vibert's bungalow in the afternoon after lunch Their Excellencies halted at the Porter Town Hall entrance in a simple pandal for a minute or two. This Town Hall is in memory of the late Mr. W. A. Porter, the distinguished Principal of the Government College, one of the very few pioneers of higher education in Southern India. Their Excellencies were welcomed by the Town Hall Committee with the usual honours.

AT THE TOWN HIGH SCHOOL.

A move was next made to the Town High School. This school was started under the auspices of the

late Messrs. W. A. Porter and Rai Bahadur T. Gopal Rao as a feeder to the college. The school is registered under the Indian Companies Act and is managed by a committee of wealthy local native gentlemen. It has risen from small beginnings to its present position holding its own among the leading high schools in the Presidency.

Here Their Excellencies were received by Mr. N. Krishnaswami Iyengar, High Court Vakil, and Secretary to the Committee, and taken over the long rooms where the pupils were at work. In the hall, as Their Excellencies sat, they were greeted by two pupils with welcome songs in Sanskrit and Tamil composed for the occasion. This over, Mr. N. Krishnaswami Iyengar, in offering Their Excellencies a kind and cordial welcome, said that Their Excellencies had conferred a rare honour on the school by their visit by adding their names to its list of distinguished visitors. He took it as an appreciation of their humble efforts. They had a few requests which he said would be submitted in proper time and place for His Excellency's consideration, and hoped they would receive a liberal and sympathetic support and consideration at His Excellency's hands.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

MR. KRISHNASWAMI IYENGAR, GENTLEMEN, AND STUDENTS OF THE TOWN HIGH SCHOOL,—Lady Ampthill and I are exceedingly obliged to you for the cordial and kind welcome which you have accorded to us. That which was expressed by Mr.

Krishnaswami Iyengar in my own tongue I was able to understand. I am perfectly certain that the other forms of welcome which you gave us in languages with which I am unfortunately not acquainted, were equally cordial and equally kind. I am only sorry that I have not the knowledge of the languages to appreciate both the sentiments and the art with which they were composed. You have nothing to thank me for in my coming to see your school to-day; it is not only part of my business to do so, but it is also a matter of great interest and pleasure to do so. You tell me that you have a few requests to make and that you have considerably refrained from doing so now. For that I am much obliged to you: but I have a request to make of you which I will not refrain from making now, and that is to request you that you will be pleased to give the students of this school a holiday in honour of our visit.

Their Excellencies inspected the library and drove straight to "Padmavilas" and paid a half-hour's private visit to Mr. A. Seshayya Sastriar, C.S.I., formerly Dewan-Regent of Pudukkottai. After taking leave of Mr. Seshayya Sastriar, Their Excellencies visited

THE GOVERNMENT COLLEGE.

At the entrance, the party was met by Mr. H. S. Duncan, the Principal, and the other Professors of the College. After inspecting the various class rooms, Their Excellencies entered the main hall. Odes of welcome specially composed for the occasion

were recited. In welcoming Their Excellencies, Mr. H. S. Duncan said that he and his staff and students thanked them most heartily for paying a visit to their college. His Excellency's presence greatly added to their happiness and pride in working in an institution which had a great past.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

In reply, His Excellency said that he and Lady Amthill were exceedingly grateful for the very kind welcome as expressed by Mr. Duncan and his two colleagues who were good enough to recite odes of welcome. He neither understood their sentiment nor appreciated their versification, but he felt sure they conveyed the most cordial welcome. It was a great pleasure to visit educational institutions. There was no need whatever to thank him for his presence, as it was part of his duty to visit great educational institutions in this country. He was going to ask Mr. Duncan a favour and that was to grant a holiday to the students in honour of their visit. This was acceded to by the Principal.

TO THE RAILWAY STATION.

After taking tea on the college grounds with Mr. and Mrs. Duncan, Their Excellencies and party drove to the station where they took special train for Tanjore at 5-45 P.M., the departure being private, and on arrival at Tanjore at 6-45 P.M., they drove to the residence of the District Judge, where they will be guests of Mr. and Mrs. Power till their departure to-morrow evening for Trichinopoly.

GRAND ANICUT, 3rd March.—After dinner at the District Judge's house, Their Excellencies and party left for the Tanjore Railway Station, where His Excellency took leave of Mr. C. Brooke-Leggatt, the District Superintendent of Police, who made excellent Police arrangements throughout his district. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew accompanied the party for the rest of the journey in the Tanjore district.

VISIT TO THE GRAND ANICUT.

Their Excellencies and party reached Tiruverumbúr this morning by special train from Tanjore. On arrival at Tiruverumbúr, Their Excellencies were met by Mr. R. H. Shipley, Collector, Trichinopoly, Mr. C. G. W. Clogstoun, District Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly, Mr. A. Ramachan Nedungadi, Head-Quarters Deputy Collector, Tanjore, Mr. Annamalai Pillai, Tahsildar, Trichinopoly, and Mr. Kolandasawmi Pillai, Tahsildar, Kumbakónam. Driving straight to the Grand Anicut, the party halted at Uthamacheri, near the Vannár old head works, where they were met by Mr. C. J. Ussher, Superintending Engineer, V Circle, Mr. L. L. Wickham, Executive Engineer, Tanjore Division, Mr. R. Sundaram Iyer, B.C.E., Sub-Divisional officer, and escorted by Mr. C. Sambasiva Iyer, Inspector of Police, Srírangam. At this place Lady Ampthill and Mrs. Andrew drove ahead to the Public Works Department Rest-house, Grand Anicut. His Excellency in company with the

Public Works Department and other officers, started on his inspection of the head works of the irrigation system of the Cauvery delta, whose value and importance occasioned the visit. The whole system is composed of three graded sections: (1) the Upper Anicut near the Ilamanur station, on the Erode section of the South Indian Railway, where the Cauvery and Coleroon branch off from the main stream known up to that point as Akhanda Cauvery; (2) the Grand Anicut and the new Cauvery and Vennár regulators erected 17 miles lower down the Upper Anicut; (3) the Lower Anicut near Aduthorai station on the other side of Kumbakónam, 50 miles lower down the Grand Anicut. The whole system owes its origin in the first instance to the engineering skill of the officers employed by the Chola dynasty, the original builders of the Grand Anicut and the designers of the Great Irrigation System in the Tanjore district. This system was subsequently revised, redesigned and resuscitated by Sir Arthur Cotton, the father of the Irrigation System in this Presidency on British engineering lines.

THE OLD VENNÁR HEAD WORKS.

The old Vennár head works were first visited. These works served originally as regulators of the Tanjore deltaic irrigation. They are about 3 miles higher up the present modern regulators at the Grand Anicut. As at the former place the bed of the Vennár was found to be rocky and higher than the

level of the bed of the Cauvery, and consequently diminishing the flow in the Vennár and affecting the cultivation of the ayacut under it, they were superseded by the present regulators, 3 miles lower down at the Grand Anicut. According to Sir Arthur Cotton's scheme the only improvements made to these works was the addition of covering-sluices to the old masonry dams. At the old Vennár head works, only the old masonry bridges of very narrow widthways remain, rendering cart traffic over them very irksome and dangerous. Walking down the right bank of the river, His Excellency halted at what is now known as the Pillaivaikal No. 1, originally, a cluster of three masonry vents, of which two have been closed and one remains for irrigating a village or two adjacent to it. His Excellency's route then lay along the flood protection banks of the Cauvery from which His Excellency made a diversion by road to the Thovur village. Going through the village along its rural paths for some distance, His Excellency and party got on the line bank once more to inspect a progressive work of 10 feet of stone revetment intended as permanent river protection, as also a few *modasals*, of temporary protection put up from time to time to prevent erosion of the river banks.

THE NEW VENNÁR-CAUVERY REGULATORS.

This monument of modern British engineering skill in Southern India, that is reputed to possess the biggest head sluices in the whole of the river

irrigation system in India, was next visited by His Excellency and party. The regulators here consist of 11 big masonry arches, each 37 feet span. Each big arch has three small sluices of 10 feet span. On the whole, this section of the works on the other side of the nose is made up of 33 small sluices fitted up with iron screw gearings. The height of the shutters is 10 feet 4 inches, and these are opened in June and remain closed in March. The normal width of the river at this point is 600 feet, and the irrigable area is 469,604 acres wet land. The supply is reckoned at 2 cubic yards per acre per hour.

THE NEW CAUVERY REGULATORS.

His Excellency then inspected the adjoining set of regulators over the Cauvery from which the Vennár branches off at this point. This system consists of 14 big masonry arches, each 37 feet span, every big arch being composed of three small sluices of 10 feet each; on the whole, there are 42 such sluices fitted up with iron screw gearings, the height of the shutters being 8 feet. The shutters are closed in March and opened in June; the normal width of the river at this point being 900 feet; 463,127 acres of wet land is the total irrigable area under this system and it is reckoned that 3 cubic yards is the volume of water that flows per acre per hour. The head sluices in the Vennár-Cauvery regulators are considered to be the biggest irrigation head sluices

in all India. The Vennár old head works here were proposed, designed and executed by Major E. Lawford, and the works were carried out in 1851 by Mr. J. F. Bishop, Collector, and Mr. P. Grant, Special Assistant Collector, of Tanjore. The new Cauvery-Vennár regulators were commenced in February 1883, and completed in August 1886, by Mr. Peters, Special Executive Engineer, under the direction of Colonel J. O. Hasted, R.E., Chief Engineer, during the time of the Right Honourable M. E. Grant Duff. Below the new Cauvery-Vennár regulator, there is an interesting drainage structure known as "the Syphon Sluice," which was, however, not visited by His Excellency, for want of time.

THE GRAND ANICUT.

His Excellency and party next walked down the road, and turning a corner came upon the Grand Anicut, from which the surplus drainage channel runs north-east into the Coleroon which runs down at about a distance of 3 furlongs. The Grand Anicut was originally, in the times of the Native Rajahs and Nabobs of the Carnatic, a mere masonry stone dam or *calingula* which in 1804 was fitted with 32 arches with upright stones and in the place where the present nineteenth arch stands, the local legend says that Hyder Ali caused a big breach which destroyed the whole of the Tanjore district cultivation at the time by inundation. A small *Hanumar* (monkey-god) temple is erected at this legendary site, and he is even now popularly held

to be one of the two guardian deities for the safety of this great system of irrigation, the other being *Karuppannasami*, pitching his post on the other side of the bridge. The ten under-sluices at the Grand Anicut were built in 1830 A.D., under Sir Arthur Cotton's scheme, and Lieutenants F. C. Cotton and C. E. Faber, Civil Engineers, subsequently provided them with falling shutters. The bridge was raised and the under-sluices were fitted with iron screw gearings in 1836-83. In 1896-97 under Colonel A. M. Smart's scheme the falling shutters were replaced by lift shutters which reduced manual labour in inverse ratio to the results of the mechanism and improved the prospects of success of future irrigation developments in the Tanjore district, such as the Bhaváni reservoir and the Vadavar project projected by Colonel Smart and Rai Bahadur S. A. Subbramania Iyer, B.C.E.

The new Cauvery-Vennár regulators cost Government about eight lakhs, and the later improvements to the Grand Anicut about a lakh of rupees. The present Grand Anicut consists of 39 arches each 32 feet span, with 10 under-sluices each 4 feet by $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet. The crest level of the anicut with reference to the mean flood level is 189.30 feet. 682.30 cubic feet is the maximum volume of discharge through the Grand Anicut. The lift shutters are each 5 feet high and are open in the months of July and August to drain off into the Coleroon the Cauvery surplus. The normal width of the *Ullar* or the

inner river is 1,000 feet, while that of the Coleroon at this point is 4,000 feet, 1,080 feet is the total length of the Grand Anicut.

While crossing this interesting bridge His Excellency got down the flight of steps on the eastern end and saw the under-sluice shutters at work, and at the west end over the bridge he saw the lift shutters worked by Mr. Wickham.

Finishing the inspection of these interesting works and their powerful and costly mechanism, His Excellency and party reached the Public Works Department rest-house at 10 A.M., after a hard morning's work.

RIVER-TRAINING WORKS.

About $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles below the Grand Anicut, near Sukkambar, have been completed last year at a cost of Rs. 23,000 some very interesting river-training and protection works to which His Excellency paid no visit for want of time. The object of these new works is to avoid future breaching in the already eroded right flood-bank of the Coleroon and to reclaim about a furlong of *padugai* land eroded by floods after the introduction of the new Cauvery-Vennár regulators, and since then the small anicut at this point has been closed up for drainage, as it was before. The eroded *padugai* land forms a portion of a hereditary shrotriem, a charity endowment, at the limits of which these regulators and the Grand Anicut are situated.

A BIG IRRIGATION WORK IN PROGRESS.

In this connection it may be noted that another important irrigation work is at present in progress at the Upper Anicut for increasing the volume of the flow in the Cauvery and the Vennár during low freshes and to act as an effective drainage during high floods when the drainage at the Grand Anicut is too weak to cope with the contingency. The works cost about 6 lakhs of rupees, and it is understood that the future possibilities of this new work are very great.

CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.

This afternoon His Excellency had a talk with the ryots, at the Grand Anicut bungalow. To the ryots who had assembled there, His Excellency said that he would be very glad to hear anything they had to say, and he did not want to go away after inspecting the Grand Anicut without giving them an opportunity of saying what they wanted to say. Mr. Ramachan Nedungadi, Head-Quarters Deputy Collector, Tanjore, was the interpreter for the occasion. The first ryot to step forward was a Tanjore Mirasidar of Eswarancoil village, holding 20 velies of land, 10 of them being under dry and the rest under wet cultivation. He said that in the settlement his dry lands were classed as wet. The assessment therefor was Rs. 9 per acre, though there was no proper drainage or irrigation resources. From fasli 1303 till now he has been paying wet assessment for those lands, and he wanted a dry

assessment, *plus* water-rate, to be charged therefor. His Excellency enquired whether he was speaking of his own lands or on behalf of others as well. The ryot said that he was speaking on behalf of the ryots of the wet lands from his village right on to the Kandan village. He complained that wet assessment at present was a very high one, as much as Rs. 14 per acre. His Excellency asked whether the lands so charged were not good ones; the ryot said that the assessment was too high, the old assessment varied from Rs. 7 to 9 per acre. In the case of *padugai* lands, he said the old assessment was Rs. 2-4-0, but now it was Rs. 9 per acre, four times the old rates. In such lands assessment was charged for second crops. He complained that there was no bank between the Cauvery and the Kodamuruti rivers. The absence of the bank led to the inundation of all their lands when there were heavy floods. The official explanation was that the banks there were low. The ryot said that there was no right bank for the Cauvery and left bank for the Kodamuruti river in the place he was speaking about. Further official explanation followed to the effect that there was no room for two banks there. His Excellency told this ryot that he was sorry to hear he had so many grievances and inquired whether he had anything more to say. The ryot complained of the present state of the road from the Grand Anicut to Tanjore. It was in such rotten state that urgent repairs were necessary. Another grievance he put forth was that at present

water was let out of the Grand Anicut in June and the ryots very much desired to have the water let out in May to enable them to raise seedlings early enough in the season. His Excellency enquired whether generally there was enough of water in May. The ryot said that the number of years in which they had water in the river in May were greater than those in which there was no water at that time. Last year there was water available in May, but it was let out in June. His Excellency enquired why the water was let out in June last year. The answer elicited was that it was done so on account of works going on in the Tirukatupalli bridge. His Excellency enquired why, having known the cause, he complained about it now. The ryot replied that the general rule was to let out water in June, but they would prefer to have it henceforth let out in May when it was available. His Excellency remarked that they always got water when it was available. He wanted to know why they wanted water in May. The man replied that in all the villages east of Tirukatupalli the lands were single crop ones. West of that village they had double crop lands that required an early supply of water to raise timely crops. His Excellency enquired whether in the case of lands west of Tirukatupalli village they were not raising two crops already, and whether this particular ryot was not raising two crops. This ryot said that he was raising two crops always. His Excellency enquired with reference to his request to have the water let

out in May, whether he wanted such a course to be adopted for raising three crops. The ryot said that it was not with that object; he proceeded to complain of the time taken for raising two crops. He said that by the 30th Ani the first crop had to be raised. They began the second crop in Puratasi. His Excellency next enquired of some ryots the nature and extent of their holdings. One man said he paid Rs. 200 kist; another Rs. 150 and a third Rs. 80. One ryot said he paid a kist of Rs. 1,500. He belonged to the Sathanur village, and held 100 acres. He complained of damages to the crops by floods and the want of a proper drainage system east of Kovilar. Another ryot who belonged to a dry village complained of partial shavi on account of the absence of rain. There was no good rain, he said, last year in his village, and for five or six years he had no good crop. He wanted the Uyyankondan channel to be repaired as it would give water to about 500 villages. His Excellency enquired whether there were any others who wanted to say anything which was not said. One man stepped forward and wanted permission to have the hook-swinging procession renewed. Ever since it was stopped he said they had no good crop. His Excellency enquired whether this ryot thought that hook-swinging had anything to do with crops. The ryot said that since the stopping by Government of hook-swinging during the Ammankoil car festival, cholera and small-pox had been on the increase, and there was no good rain. His Excel-

lency asked of the ryot why he said that cholera and small-pox were on the increase since that order. The man said that the birth and death registers would bear out his statement, and his own experience convinced him of what he said. His Excellency enquired whether the ryot had compared these birth and death registers. The ryots instanced the case of a house in which there were five children. Since the stopping of hook-swinging by Government, there were no children at all in the house, or the number of children was gradually decreasing. His Excellency said that he did not agree with the opinion of the ryot as to the connection between hook-swinging and rain and cholera and small-pox. He next asked of the ryot whom he would propose to swing on the hooks, if the order to revive the customs were given. The ryot said that the Ammankoil pujari and his house people were generally selected for hook-swinging. His Excellency asked of the ryot whether he would like to be hooked up, if other ryots selected him therefor. The ryot said that if it was the will of God that he should be hooked, he was prepared to abide by the call. His Excellency asked the ryot whether he had ever seen a hook-swinging procession in his life. The ryot said that he saw many such, and it was about ten years ago that it was stopped. His Excellency next enquired whether any one else present wanted to say anything. A ryot of Maruvur village complained that channels were getting silted up annually

and that they required repairs. He said that after the settlement, there was no good crop, and they were unable to bear the burden of the present assessment. Another grievance of his was about the present mode of kist collection. They had now to pay it in four instalments and, before, they were paying in eight instalments. He complained that in the case of lands under the Coleroon, they were subject to inundation, there being no proper drainage, and he was for the surplus being left through the Manniyar anicut. One ryot paying a kist of Rs. 500 and holding 20 acres was asked what advantage they had by reverting to the old system of paying the kist in eight instalments. He answered that instead of paying a large amount at one time the demand at a time would be less and wanted that four instalments should be collected in the *kar* season, and four in the *samba* season. His Excellency enquired when he paid the kist now. The ryot replied that he did so in four instalments from January to April. The ryot was next asked when, under the old system, he was paying the kist. He said he began to pay in November and continued to do so eight months following November. His Excellency said that they were paying kists now after both crops were harvested. The ryot said that the yield from the first crop was spent away before the kist demand and they had then to meet the cultivation charges for second crop as well. His Excellency observed that if they spent away what they got in a crop without keeping the necessary

amount to meet kist demand, it was their own fault. One ryot complained that the number of village servants was on the increase, and that two servants for a village would do, as the village servants had no work, and owing to their being retained in large numbers they had to pay an increased village service cess. If the number of village servants were reduced they would pay a proportionately less cess. Another ryot complained that in his village, which was a dry holding, the tank was not in proper order, the sluices being leaky. He said that the neighbouring village tank water inundated his nanja lands as there was no proper drainage. His Excellency enquired whose business it was to look after the tank. The ryot said that it was under the management of the Collector to whom a petition was sent about three months ago to which there was no reply. Another ryot complained about the neglect of repairs to the Uyyankondan channel. He wanted a railway station between Budalur and Tiruverumbúr. His village was eight miles from either of these railway stations. As the line went along the tank bund within half a mile from his village, a station near his village would be of some use. A Bráhmín ryot of Aharapatti village was the next to have his say with His Excellency. His complaint was that the head of one of his channels was ordered to be placed in some other place, and the adoption of such a course would prejudice the interests of his village. From the Vennár two rivers branched out, the Akandha Cauvery and the Pillayarvaikal. In the *Gazette* it

was announced that the Pillayarvaikal head would be altered. Such a course would not be beneficial to the ryots as they did not believe in what the Public Works Department opined. One ryot said that repairs were necessary to a portion of the bank of the Cauvery near the Ponnáni as they apprehended damage during heavy floods. A masonry dam was also wanted by them. Another ryot complained of the depression of paddy trade and the consequent loss to the ryot owing to the bad condition of the road from the Grand Anicut to Tirukatupalli. The ryot who was anxious to have hook-swinging operations revived, repeated what he said before on the subject. His Excellency in taking leave of the ryots said that he was glad to see them and that he would think over what they said.

THE KOVILADY CHARITIES.

At the end of the ryots' deputation, Mr. R. Vasudeva Rao, nephew of Dewan Bahadur R. Raghunadha Rao, welcomed His Excellency on the occasion of this his visit to Grand Anicut which was close by his own village and presented him with a pamphlet, giving the history of Kovilady charities in the then Tiruvadi and now Tanjore taluk. These charities were founded in 1818 by Rai Raja Rai R. Venkata Rao, Dewan of Travancore, and Native Assistant to the Commissioner of Mysore. Kovilady is a village situated on the high road from Madras to Trichinopoly, and between the latter place and Kumbakónam. It had from

its vicinity to Ramnad, Sivaganga and the territory of the Raja Tondiman long been notorious for robberies, and was also entirely destitute of any place for shelter for travellers. In 1818 Rai Raja Rai R. Venkata Rao employed his savings in the erection of a charitable choultry in this village, and endowed it with lands purchased from the Mirasidars. In 1833 he applied for a favourable assessment being fixed and the same continued in perpetuity as the lands were an endowment for charitable purposes. On the recommendation of the Board of Revenue, the Government in 1836 sanctioned the proposed grant subject to the payment of a jodi of Rs. 800. A title-deed of a Dharmadayam was granted and a quit-rent was fixed. This tenure was converted into an absolute freehold and the inam was confirmed in perpetuity. In 1897 the Government agreed with the Advocate-General in considering that the water-rate and second crop charge could be legally levied on these lands, but on grounds of public policy and expediency they agreed with Messrs. Stokes and Andrew that the charge ought not to be levied and that Mr. Kindersley's pledges made at the time of the grant should be respected. This endowment is being properly administered and confers a boon on many a weary traveller.

THE DEPARTURE.

Their Excellencies and party left the Grand Anicut in the evening for Tiruverumbúr where they

took the special for Trichinopoly. They leave tomorrow morning by special train for Dindigul.

DINDIGUL, 4th March.—Their Excellencies and Party reached Dindigul this morning by special train from Trichinopoly. The arrival here was public. Their Excellencies were received by Mr. A. G. Cardew, I.C.S., Collector, Madura, Mr. E. L. R. Thornton, I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Dindigul, and Dr. Chester, the Municipal Chairman. There were present on the platform: Mr. E. P. Oakshott, of Messrs. Spencer & Co., Ltd., Mr. Manning, Local Agent, Cigar Factory, Mr. V. Narayanasawmy Iyer, District Munsif, the Zamindars of Vadagarai and Chatrapati, the local officials, pleaders and merchants. After some formal introductions the party drove straight to the Sub-Collector's bungalow.

THE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

At noon His Excellency received the following Municipal address that was enclosed in a neat casket and read by Mr. Manning:—

On behalf of the inhabitants of Dindigul, we, the Members of the Dindigul Municipal Council, most heartily welcome Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill to this town of increasing importance. Your Excellency's visit is very highly valued by us, and will be specially held in remembrance, as it happens to be in the memorable year of the

coronation of His Most Gracious Majesty, our King-Emperor. In 1866 Dindigul was constituted a municipality, and from that time it has been growing in extent and importance both in commerce and population. The last is compared below with the census of the past three decades—

1871	...	...	...	...	12,865
1881	...	...	...	...	14,182
1891	...	...	...	...	20,203
1901	...	...	...	...	25,154

The principal industries of the town are the tanning of leather, manufacture of cigars and work in metal. We would most respectfully submit for Your Excellency's consideration that the supply of water we receive at present from the water-works, to the east of the railway station, is unfortunately far short of our needs. Your Excellency's Government has, however, ordered the extension of water-works, in another direction, almost south-east of the town, at the foot of the Sirunallee, called the Odukkam valley, situated at a distance of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the present reservoir. Experimental works are now being carried on, and we have every reason to hope for an adequate supply from that source. A promise was held out by Your Excellency's Government for a future grant and loan of Rs. 22,500, in G.O., No. 142, Mis., dated 8th January 1897, for another extension, since condemned, *vide* also, G.O., No. 32, Mis., dated 6th January 1898. Such promise was withdrawn in the case of the Odukkam valley experiments in

G.O., No. 890, Mis., dated 26th February 1900, for no fault of the Council. But on representation of the Council, the Government has postponed the matter till the results of the present experiments are known. (G.O., No. 1612, Mis., dated 13th August 1900.) We now venture to approach Your Excellency with a request to be gracious enough to sanction the grant and loan required for the completion of the scheme when the final results are placed before Your Excellency for disposal. We would also lay before Your Excellency the utmost importance of the opening of the Dindigul-Palghat Railway, which has been so frequently brought to the notice of Your Excellency's Government, by several responsible bodies. In conclusion, we wish to express our appreciation of the sympathy and the anxious care with which Your Excellency watches our interests. The various proofs, in this direction, that Your Excellency has shown, in the short term of your administration, have laid us under a deep obligation and lead us to expect that Your Excellency's future administration will be characterized by the same sympathetic and impartial spirit. Praying to God that He may spare our King-Emperor of India long to reign over us and give Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill long life to carry on your labours for our advancement, etc.

In reply, His Excellency said :—

GENTLEMEN OF THE DINDIGUL MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,
—I beg you and the inhabitants of Dindigul, on behalf of whom you have spoken, to accept our

best thanks for your exceedingly kind reception. It is good of you to say that our visit will afford you a pleasant recollection, and Lady Ampthill and I on our part are not likely to forego the pleasure of seeing your town and the cordial manner in which you have welcomed us. You draw my attention to the fact that Dindigul has been a municipality for upwards of 35 years, and that during that period, it has grown in extent and importance so much so that the population has nearly doubled. I gather from this that you have not found municipal taxation overburdensome, or the working of the Municipal law oppressive. It appears, however, from the last annual report that there is still a good deal to be done in the way of improving the sanitation of the town in order to mitigate the ravages of cholera, and that the collection of taxes left much to be desired. I hope that the appointment of a Secretary, which I am glad to see that you have already made at the suggestion of Government, will facilitate the transaction of your business. The comparative failure of the existing water-supply scheme is a matter for great regret. The scheme was, in the nature of an experiment, failing other known sources of supply; and it is notoriously difficult to calculate or determine, with any approach to accuracy, the quantity of water to be obtained from wells and underground sources. The failure of supply in the dry months of 1901 was, no doubt, also attributable to the long series of years of short rainfall which preceded.

I am glad to learn that the experiment now being made in the Odukkam valley promises better success. The refusal in 1900 of a grant-in-aid of the execution of this scheme which superseded the scheme projected in 1897 in aid of which a grant was promised, was due to the exigencies of the financial situation. How far it will be possible to meet your wishes in respect of a grant for the Odukkam valley scheme, I cannot now say; but you may rest assured that the facts which you have brought to my notice will receive my fullest and most sympathetic consideration when the report on the result of the experimental works being undertaken, which has been called for, comes before me. As regards the Dindigul-Palghat Railway, there is no immediate probability of any such line being made, and I understand that if there should be any likelihood of the Madura District Board being able to undertake railway projects the requirements of the coast portion of the district where communications are very defective, would have the first claim to consideration.

I am glad to hear that your commerce is growing. The manufacture of cigars has given your town a very widespread fame, and I shall have the pleasure, in the course of the afternoon, of seeing the process of manufacture at Messrs. Spencer & Co.'s factory. You are good enough to credit me with sympathy and impartiality in the discharge of my duties and while I do not hesitate to lay claim to the former quality, I am naturally less confident

as to my possession of the latter. We all try to be impartial in our dealings, whatever our position in life; but it is only those who are endowed with exceptional mental qualities who can always retain a perfectly unbiassed opinion. While thanking you for your good opinion which I do not feel to have merited, I can only say that I desire and shall constantly endeavour to be impartial in all my dealings. As His Majesty's representative, I thank you for your loyal sentiments, and I am grateful to you for the good wish you have expressed towards Lady Ampthill and myself.

THE RATE-PAYERS' DEPUTATION.

This over, His Excellency received a deputation of the rate-payers of Dindigul who presented him with the following address:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the undersigned rate-payers of the town of Dindigul, respectfully beg to submit this humble memorial for Your Excellency's benign consideration and feel grateful for Your Excellency's having kindly consented to receive it on this memorable occasion. The town of Dindigul has, by its natural situation, a salubrious climate and it is steadily increasing in point of extent and population. But its chief drawback is the scarcity of water-supply, and this was felt most bitterly last year. The subject of water-supply to this town was for over twenty years under contemplation and various schemes were

proposed, during this period, for the alleviation of the sufferings of our townsmen in this respect, till at last, the one by means of underground shafts near the railway station, was recommended by the Sanitary Engineer's Department and was sanctioned. As the site selected for sinking the shafts was unsuitable for the purpose, and as calculations of the expected yield of water were based upon incorrect data, this project eventually proved a failure. On representations made by the Municipal Council, however, the Government was pleased to sanction a further grant and a loan towards supplementing the water-supply by extension of the present water-works. But difference of opinion then arose between the Sanitary Engineer's Department and the Municipal Council as to the selection of a site for the proposed extension, the former having proposed the site of the present water-works and the latter the site of the Odukkam valley, and before the site suggested by the Municipal Council was approved, the contribution graciously offered by Government lapsed. The extension at the Odukkam valley has now to be carried on, and it is impossible to have the same completed without substantial help at the hands of Your Excellency's Government. It will not be out of place here to mention that, unlike many Indian towns, this town depends chiefly upon its industries. The chief among them, the tanning industry, which was in a very flourishing condition once, has, of late, irretrievably fallen. The manufacture of iron and

metal works does not fare well. The only remaining branch of industry that is worth the name is the cigar manufacture, and this too, has now practically left the hands of the native inhabitants of the town. In the state of the resources of the town above set forth, we beg to represent that new taxes such as arts-tax and water-tax have been specially imposed to meet the expenditure on water-works. These taxes are not being paid without much discontent and hardship inasmuch as there is no corresponding benefit to the people, the supply of water available from the water-works being about one gallon per head of population during a few months of the rainy season, and then dwindling to less than half a gallon throughout the rest of the year. Under these circumstances, any addition to or increase in the taxation, to meet further expenditure on water-supply, will fall heavily and oppressively on the people. We, therefore, respectfully pray that Your Excellency be pleased to extend a helping hand to the suffering inhabitants of the town by sanctioning the requisite funds to meet the expenditure on water-works and thus to leave a lasting memorial of Your Excellency's visit to this town.

His Excellency the Governor replied as follows :—

GENTLEMEN,—I hope you will be satisfied with my assurance that the Memorial which you have just handed to me will receive my most careful and sympathetic consideration, and that I am unable to reply to it in the same manner as I have replied to

other addresses is due to the fact that the memorial just presented did not reach me until I was just about to start on the tour, and that actually this memorial was not seen by me until an hour ago. You will, I am sure, understand me that once I am launched on a tour like the present, quite apart from the difficulty of correspondence with Secretaries and other people concerned, it is impossible for me to find time to peruse the papers and consider a matter of this kind. As you know, most or the greater part of my time is occupied with various functions and public duties, and any little interval that there may be between sight-seeing, speechifying, interviewing and inspecting is naturally filled up with ordinary duties of administration from which I am not absolved even while going on tour. In these circumstances, when I once start from Madras it is impossible for me to go into questions of this sort. But I shall be very glad to do so on my return to Madras and promise to consider the point raised in the memorial. I am very glad, however, to have met you this morning, because it gives me a chance of thanking you and the people of Dindigul for the extremely kind manner in which you have received us here and telling you how greatly I admire the beautiful manner in which you have decorated the town in honour of our short visit. I assure you we greatly appreciate this mark of your loyalty to the King-Emperor, of whom I am the representative here. I am glad, therefore, to have had this opportunity of thanking you, and I

hope that you will convey my thanks and those of Lady Ampthill to your fellow-citizens.

VISIT TO MESSRS. SPENCER & CO.'S CIGAR FACTORY.

This afternoon, Their Excellencies and party paid a visit to the Cigar Factory established here by Messrs. Spencer & Co., Ltd. This is the third time that a Governor has visited this factory, Lord Wenlock having visited it in 1892, and Sir Arthur and Lady Havelock in 1897. The factory and the Superintendent's bungalow are situated in extensive premises which have been turned into a garden by the zealous care bestowed upon them by the officers in charge. Flags, banners and bannerets of varied hues and artistic tints were used in profusion for decorating almost every portion of the buildings and premises. Triumphal arches, with appropriate greetings, formed no mean feature of the ornamentation, and monster cheroots hung from the centre of a few of such arches betokened the speciality of the big tobacco industry carried on in it. The factory was opened by Messrs. Spencer & Co., about 1887. The various departments of the factory were shown to Their Excellencies by Mr. Shortt, the Factory Manager, accompanied by Messrs. Oakes and Oakshott. It was as interesting as instructive to notice the various operations by which a combination of the indigenous and foreign leaf was clearly and carefully manipulated into the well-known brands of cigars, "Gold Mohurs,"

"Little Randolphins," "Imperials," "Siestas," "Beaconsfields," "Torpedos" and "Flor de Spencer."

The indigenous foreign leaf that is purchased by the English capitalists at cheap rates from the country around is first brought into the factory into which are also imported a choice selection of the fragrant leaf from Sumatra and Java. These are carefully packed up in country bags and gunnies, piled one over the other to the very top of the ceiling in the factory godowns. They are next taken out and doused in big masonry tubs and then unpacked and brought into the shade on the verandahs and exposed till they retain but scant moisture. The ribs are then removed from the leaf and brought into the manipulating hall, where, between three and four thousand workmen, consisting of adults and boys roll them into "fillers" (inside of the cigar) to suit various shapes and brands; over this the foreign leaf is pasted as wrapper with corn-flour paste. The long rollers are then removed into the central hall where another set of workmen cut them to shape and size by means of machines. It is noteworthy that the cut end of these "fillers" and the ribs of the leaf are carefully stored and sold to tobacco chewers and snuff vendors, to the advantage of both the parties. From the cutting hall the finished cigars are "binned" or kept in big wooden boxes until they are assorted, branded and boxed, labelled and despatched to the different parts of the world.

Another kindred industry that is going on in the same premises is the box-making department in which a number of workmen are engaged in sawing into thin sheets of different dimensions red cigar logs imported from Palghat and other places. These sheets are removed to the papering department and made up into the familiar cigar boxes. Here a large number of native girls and women are engaged in pasting over the edges of these boxes, coloured paper, and on the lids and sides, varied and appropriately designed printed labels that bespeak the flavour and quality of their respective contents. The maximum outturn per day is a lakh of cigars, and an adult workman would roll at the highest a day from three hundred to four hundred cigars, their wages ranging from Rs. 6 to Rs. 30 a month according to the quality and expeditiousness of their work. At the factory bungalow Their Excellencies and party and a large number of other guests, in all about thirty ladies and gentlemen sat down to an excellent lunch provided by Messrs. Spencer & Co. Their Excellencies and party returned to the Dindigul Station in the evening and took the special for Madura.

AT MADURA.

MADURA, 5th March.—Their Excellencies left Dindigul by special train at 5-15 and arrived here at 6-45 P.M. and were met on the railway platform by several European ladies and gentlemen and many

leading native gentlemen. Mr. A. G. Cardew, the Collector, who accompanied the party from Dindigul, introduced those present to Their Excellencies. Thousands of spectators had assembled outside the station compound, and all along the route, which was most gaily decorated with flags, and triumphal arches bearing appropriate inscriptions. Their Excellencies' stay with Mr. Cardew during their visit to Madura. After dinner Their Excellencies drove to the Teppakolam tank to witness the illuminations and fireworks there. This tank is one of the biggest, if not the biggest, in Southern India, and has a garden in the midst of it with a small temple and tower in it. The flight of steps and the parapet walls were most gorgeously illuminated with thousands of lamps and the effect was heightened by the reflection in the placid waters. Hundreds of Chinese lanterns suspended from the trees and plants in the garden in the centre of the tank lent colour and variety to the scene. Their Excellencies and party and the European residents remained for an hour admiring the splendid illuminations as well as the effective display of fireworks.

THE PALACE AND THE TEMPLE.

This morning, accompanied by Mr. A. G. Cardew, Mr. L. M. Wynch and Mr. E. Labouchere Thornton, Their Excellencies visited Tirumala Naick's Palace, where the seat of the government of the Nayaka Dynasty was located during the centuries they reigned in Madura. The Governor

then visited the Hindu temple, so well-known throughout India for its architectural and sculptural beauties. They spent over three-quarters of an hour in minutely inspecting almost every part of the temple and admiring the many special points of sculpture in it. The large collection of valuable jewels and table service belonging to the God were also inspected.

THE HINDU PERMANENT BENEFIT FUND.

From the temple Their Excellencies drove to the new premises of the Madura Hindu Permanent Benefit Fund, and on the way stopped for a little while in front of the residence of the Hon'ble Mr. G. Srinivasa Rao, who garlanded Their Excellencies and introduced to them the principal members of his family. At the premises of the Fund, the Hon'ble Mr. Srinivasa Rao and other Directors met Their Excellencies and conducted them to the verandah where they took seats placed under a flowery arch. The following address was read to His Excellency:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—On behalf of the share-holders of the Madura Hindu Permanent Fund (Limited) we beg to accord Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill a most hearty welcome and to submit that we esteem it a privilege to have the new building for the location of the Fund office opened by you.

The fund entered upon the ninth year of its existence in January last, having been established

on the 21st of January 1894. It commenced operations on a small scale on that date with but 15 subscribers who had taken 175 shares among them. But the progress of the fund has been steady and at the end of the first cycle of seven years on the 20th January 1901, the total number of subscribers was 1,025 with 6,538 shares among them.

One main object of the institution is to enable persons, especially the poor, to save money and that this object is being fulfilled is testified to by the fact that 60 per cent. of the subscribers held, each of them, five shares and under, while no less than 10 per cent. held but a solitary share.

Another object of equal importance is to enable persons to secure loans at a favourable rate of interest; and at the end of the seventh year the fund had lent out Rs. 2,79,911. 370 acres of land distributed over 30 villages in the district were mortgaged to the fund, which the Directors submit is a specially gratifying feature to note, as showing that the agricultural population in the rural parts has begun to appreciate the benefits of the fund and profit by the low rate of interest of $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. per annum on all loans and by the provision for their liquidation by means of small monthly subscriptions.

Our list of subscribers is a thoroughly representative one, being made up of persons of all grades of society from the Government official, the lawyer, and the landlord to the peasant, the dhoby and the barber. The institution is in fact a co-operative

credit society of the kind contemplated by the Agricultural Banks Committee. We have perused with great interest the recommendations of that body and await anxiously the measures that may be taken by the Government of India to give effect to them. We would, however, submit that it would be a great advantage to us if Your Excellency will be pleased to permit us to deposit our cash in the Government Treasury, as such a concession is sure to increase the public confidence in us.

We would also beg leave to take this opportunity to bring to Your Excellency's notice that the present enhanced rate of search fees levied by the Registration department for encumbrance certificates is felt to be too heavy a charge by borrowers from the fund. One-half of the loans given by us on the mortgage of immoveable property is for sums not exceeding Rs. 600, and more than a fifth for sums not exceeding Rs. 300. Loans are advanced for even less than Rs. 100, as our aim is mainly to benefit the poorer classes. The heavy search fee of Rs. 20 detracts considerably from the usefulness of the fund, and we pray that the fee may be reduced to a nominal sum in the case of institutions like this.

In conclusion we beg to offer our respectful thanks to Your Excellency for this act of gracious condescension in having consented to open the new fund building and wish Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill long life and prosperity.

The Governor's reply was as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you for your very kind welcome to Lady Amphill and me, and I assure you it will remain in our memory as one of the many pleasant events in our present tour. I am glad to be associated in your important institution by opening this new building, which stands as a conspicuous proof of your success during the first nine years of your existence. You have been good enough to give me some concise information with regard to the fund in your address, and I recognise with pleasure that your institution is in effect one of those Agricultural Banks the need of which all over India has been so strongly represented. I congratulate you on the initiative which you have taken in this important matter, and on the success which has hitherto attended your enterprise, and which, I trust, will be continuous and progressive. Your example, so far as I can see, may well lead to the establishment of Agricultural Banks in other parts of the Presidency, for it is to the enterprise and initiative of private persons that we must mainly look for the attainment of this most desirable end. The purpose of my visit, however, is not to speak on the wider aspects of your undertaking, but to open your new building and to reply to your specific representations. I shall, therefore, pass on at once to two requests which you make to me, and which were also made me last week by a deputation from the Tanjore Permanent Fund, from whom I received much interesting and useful informa-

tion. You ask in the first place that you may be permitted to deposit your cash in the Government Treasury. As I only received your address on the eve of my departure from Madras, and as the deputation at Tanjore also came at short notice, I have not yet had an opportunity of enquiring whether there would be any objections to granting this request, and I am under the impression that the required sanction would have to come from the Government of India, as an alteration in the Civil Account Code is involved. I told the Directors of the Tanjore Fund that I would enquire into the matter on my return to Madras, and this is also my answer to you. You next ask that the search fee levied by the Registration department may be reduced to a nominal sum in the case of your institution. The Tanjore Directors went a step further and asked for permission to search the register free of charge. I promised them that I would consult the Inspector-General of Registration and consider the question. This I shall of course do on your behalf as well as on theirs, and if it should be possible to grant the larger concession, I presume that it would not be unwelcome to you. Although I can make no promise without having duly considered these matters, I can say at once that I hope it will be possible to meet your wishes. Before I declare this building open, let me once more thank you for your kind welcome and good wishes and on my part I hope that your institution will enjoy long and continued prosperity and that it will be

the means of encouraging thrift and rendering timely assistance to many of those who need it, and particularly to the poorer classes in your district.

PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES.

At noon, the Municipal Council and a deputation of the inhabitants of the city and district waited upon His Excellency with addresses of welcome, which contained at the same time long statements of their wants. His Excellency received both the bodies under a well decorated pandal in the compound of the Collector's bungalow.

THE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the members of the Municipal Council of Madura, beg to accord to Your Excellency and Lady Amphilh a most hearty welcome to our ancient and historic city.

On behalf of the citizens of Madura, we beg that Your Excellency will be pleased to convey to His Most Gracious Majesty, The King Emperor, our feelings of deep loyalty and heart-felt devotion to the throne.

Our pleasure in welcoming Your Excellency to our city as the representative of His Most Gracious Majesty, the King Emperor, is greatly enhanced by the fact that Your Excellency's reputation for courtesy and affability and for a desire to know things for yourself at first hand, alike from the wealthiest zemindar and the meanest ryot, has preceded Your Excellency's arrival.

The population of Madura has vastly increased during the last decade, so that it is now the second city in the Presidency. Our responsibility in regard to the health and well-being of her citizens and the sanitation of the city, which has become heavy already, is bound to become heavier still in the near future by the stimulus to pilgrim traffic which the opening of the Madura-Pámban Railway must necessarily give.

We are badly in need of a good hospital building and a good market and we are directing our attention to these wants. Our water-supply fails during the hottest months in the year when it is most needed and a supplementary scheme for its improvement is now engaging the attention of the Sanitary Board and will, we hope, be shortly placed before Your Excellency in Council for sanction.

The health of the city is seriously affected by want of a proper system of drainage. The Council has been alive to this prime necessity and has brought the subject prominently to the notice of Your Excellency's predecessors and of the Viceroy during their visits to Madura. Levels have been taken with the sanction of Government and a scheme is under preparation by the Sanitary Engineer to Government, which, we hope, will soon be completed and laid before Your Excellency in Council. Considering the limited state of the finances of the Municipality, the Council has resolved to restrict the scheme for the present to within the four Masi streets. Even thus restricted, the scheme is likely

to cost about six lakhs of rupees. Weighted as we are with a debt of Rs. 2,27,500 on account of the original water project, for which we shall have to provide a heavy sinking fund for the next fifteen years and which we shall have to extend and improve at a great cost, and with a further debt of Rs. 13,000 due to Government on account of the old jail buildings, we shall not be able to work out even the restricted drainage scheme for many years without substantial help from Government by way of a liberal grant and loan at a reduced rate of interest. In fact, unless Government is pleased to extend to us such help, the second city in the Presidency will, we fear, be obliged to continue in an insanitary condition. Your Excellency's predecessors have viewed our request for a drainage scheme sympathetically and Sir Arther Havelock was pleased to say in his reply to our address on the occasion of his visit to Madura in October 1897 :—
 “If the scheme to which you allude comes before Government in a well-digested form, as you say it will during the next year, I promise you it shall have our best attention and every encouragement and assistance that we can properly give it.” The scheme has been for one reason or another delayed for four years, but the need for it and for the encouragement and assistance of Government has grown in the interval. We pray that, when the time comes for us to make a definite request, Your Excellency will be pleased to view it favourably and accede to it in a generous spirit.

In conclusion, we pray that God Almighty may bless Your Excellency and Lady Amphill with long life and all prosperity and happiness.

His Excellency's reply to the Municipal address was as follows :—

GENTLEMEN OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,—Lady Amphill and I are sincerely grateful to you for your words of welcome and the kind manner in which you have received us. You have added not a little to my pleasure at finding myself in Madura by the assurance of your personal goodwill towards me, a friendly feeling which I heartily reciprocate. It will be a pleasant duty to convey to His Majesty the King-Emperor the expression of your loyalty and devotion to the throne. The expansion and growing importance of Madura must, as you say, add greatly to the duties and responsibilities which you undertake on behalf of your fellow-citizens, and I hope that your labours will result in such improvement of their general well-being as will earn their appreciation and amply reward you for your trouble and anxiety. I am glad to learn that you are able to undertake the construction of a new hospital which cannot fail to be of great benefit to your town. You have also done wisely in taking steps to construct a new market, which, I understand, is very sorely needed, the present markets being badly constructed and in bad repair. Plans and estimate for the improvement of your water-supply are now before the Chief Engineer by whom they will be

scrutinised and forwarded to you at an early date for approval and submission to Government with your proposals for financing the scheme. The laying out of proper drainage works in the town is, you assure me, a very pressing want, and I am told that you have not overstated your needs in this respect. You bespeak my sympathetic consideration of your claim for assistance from Government to carry out the scheme which you expect shortly to be able to lay before Government. I can safely promise you that you shall have that, but I cannot pledge my Government to make a grant-in-aid, for, as I have said elsewhere, in answer to similar appeals, the principle laid down by the Government of India is that such grants should not be made unless the local authority is quite unable to finance the scheme out of its own revenues, increased taxation or by means of a loan. The facts which you have brought to my notice as to your financial condition will, however, be borne in mind when the papers come before me in complete shape. I notice, however, in the last Annual Administration Report of your Municipality that there are balances outstanding under the several taxes amounting to no less than Rs. 21,000. Forgive me for saying that you cannot well plead poverty so long as you are as remiss as this in the collection of your revenue. I thank you on behalf of Lady Amthill and myself for the kind manner in which you have added to the generous store of good wishes which we have received during the course of our present travels

and which we regard, I assure you, as something more than empty words.

ADDRESS FROM THE INHABITANTS OF THE
CITY AND DISTRICT OF MADURA.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—On behalf of the inhabitants of the City and District of Madura, we beg leave to accord to Your Excellency and Lady Amthill a most hearty welcome to our ancient and historic town and to request that Your Excellency will be pleased to convey to His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward VII, Emperor of India, our respectful assurances of deep loyalty and devotion to His Majesty's Person and Throne.

2. Madura is famous as the capital of the ancient Pandyan Kingdom, and one of the capitals of the Kingdom of the Nayak Dynasty which made itself so famous in the seventeenth century at Gingee, Tanjore and Madura. Of all the rulers of that dynasty, the most famous was Tirumala Nayak who greatly enlarged the temple, constructed the Teppakulam with its picturesque island and especially built the great Palace which, in its present state, is but a small remnant of the original structure.

3. Madura's renown was established long before these great structures were erected, by the Tamil Colleges of Poets that were gathered here. Even as late as the year 1609 the Jesuit Fathers reported ten thousand Brahman students as studying in the three Universities of the Town. This spirit of literary pursuit has had many and long interruptions.

But the desire for learning was never lost and from time to time reasserted itself. At present various flourishing institutions of learning are fostering the ancient spirit, directing it in ways of usefulness and wisdom.

4. We congratulate ourselves on the near prospect of the opening of the long-wished-for Madura-Pámban Railway, and thank the Government for ordering its early completion.

5. We all feel the need of suitable drainage in the town, a subject brought before Your Excellency in the address of the Municipal Council.

6. The British Government has placed our district under everlasting obligation by the construction of the Periyár Project. While we gratefully acknowledge the benefits resulting therefrom, we feel it our duty to call attention to some of the difficulties under which the ryots labour in connection with its administration. Whereas the mamool wet lands irrigated by the Periyár water have been registered as single crop lands, the waste lands recently sold and assigned by Government are treated as double crop lands. We would respectfully submit that the imposition of a compulsory double crop asséssment on these lands works great hardship as (1) experience has shown that water is not available for a sufficiently long period to enable the ryots to grow two crops successfully and (2) the waste lands which are mostly poor cannot for some time to come bear the strain of two crops every year. An option to the ryots to raise a single or double crop according to

circumstances will not, we submit, act to the detriment of public revenue, as the ryots' will, in their own interest, always cultivate more than one crop whenever feasible.

7. The owners of lands irrigated by Periyár water suffer from want of roads to take manure to and produce from their lands. The District Board has, after careful investigation, decided upon the roads to be constructed and taken steps to acquire lands, and has also pledged itself to devote the whole of the extra land-cess derived from the Periyár Project to their construction and maintenance. But without the help of Government it is able to do very little. Successive Collectors and the Board of Revenue have recommended that a portion of the proceeds derived from the sale of waste lands may be utilized for the purpose of constructing roads, and we pray that effect may be given to the recommendation.

8. Again, many of the villages affected by the Periyár have no forest adjoining them for purposes of pasture and manure leaves. Nor do they possess sufficient waste land reserved for the grazing of cattle and other communal purposes, or for being assigned to ryots for the purpose of raising manure leaves. We therefore pray that, before conducting further sales of lands under the Project, a sufficient extent of land be set apart for the purposes mentioned above.

9. We would also submit that, with the present supply of Periyár water, no tanks, however small in extent, should be abandoned, since they are necessary

for man and beast when the channels are dry, and are useful to supplement Periyár water and to raise seedlings before the water is let down from the lake.

10. We would next invite the attention of Your Excellency to the fact that reserved forests often abut upon occupied lands ; and we pray that the reserved portions may be kept at a sufficient distance from them to relieve the ryots from the hardships caused by their cattle straying into the forest. The restriction of permits for grazing to a single block even in villages in which more than one are thrown open for grazing, is, we submit, another needless hardship to the ryots, as they do not always understand in which block they are to graze their cattle and sometimes cattle stray from one block into another with the result that the owners are subjected to the penalties under the Forest Act. Considering that the country mainly depends upon agriculture and that according to the declared policy the chief object of the reserved forests throughout the greater part of the country is the provision of pasture, small timber, fuel, and leaves for manure or litter, we venture respectfully to submit that free permits may be ordered to be granted for grazing in, and for taking manure leaves and materials for agricultural implements and huts from portions of reserved forests to be set apart for these purposes year after year by rotation.

11. We rejoice that the subject of forming agricultural banks is engaging the attention of

Government and pray that speedy steps may be taken to bring them into operation.

12. We also pray that a demonstrative and experimental farm may be opened at Madura as it would tend to improve the extended agricultural operations now going on under the Periyár Project.

13. The ryots of the Presidency owe a debt of gratitude to Your Excellency for having secured the abolition of Court-fee for remission petitions. We would respectfully urge that the insistence upon a written application, the prohibition of collective applications and the obligation to apply before the end of January which has the effect of precluding the grant of remission in respect of crops which may wither subsequently, still remain as grievances. We would also submit that the collection of tax on lands for which there is not sufficient Government water for raising a crop in a particular year, simply because the ryots laid them waste in good years also, or because they are portions of survey field, and the levy of tax on lands which, owing to deficiency of water, fail to yield enough to cover the cultivation expenses, are felt as great hardships by the ryots, and we pray that the remission rules be ordered to be amended in these respects.

14. The Hindu and Muhammadan sections of the community possess several large temples with vast endowments in this district, but their management is not what it should be. They have with one voice been asking for very many years for a change in the law fully believing that that would conduce

to the better management of the endowments. They fully subscribe to the policy underlying Act XX of 1863 of abstaining from anything like executive interference by the Government or its officers with the religious concerns of the people. They merely seek to make the existing Act more effective by remedying admitted defects in it. With this object in view, they would submit the following suggestions :—

(a) abolition of the life membership of Committee members;

(b) compulsory periodical meetings of Committee members and publication of their proceedings;

(c) compulsory preparation of a budget every year;

(d) annual auditing of accounts and the publication of an abstract of the same;

(e) affording the facilities to the public for the inspection of records and accounts and taking copies thereof on payment of charges; and

(f) abolition of Court-fee in respect of suits against members of Committee, Trustees, Managers or Superintendents, in cases in which the District Court sanctions the same and also in respect of those which the members of a Committee may bring against Trustees, Managers or Superintendents.

It is submitted that none of the suggestions tend to alter in any way the principles embodied in the Act and that steps may be taken to amend Act XX of 1863 on these lines, at all events so far as this Presidency is concerned. The last suggestion

seems to have already commended itself to the Government of India (*vide* G.O., No. 114, Legislative, dated 23rd October 1894).

15. Lastly we would beg leave to mention that the recent raising of fees in the Registration Department is a real hardship, especially to persons borrowing from funds and to creditors and debtors when lands are brought to sale through the Court, as in such cases the production of encumbrance certificates is invariably insisted upon. In view of the declared policy of Government that the Registration fees are not to be considered as a source of profit to be used for general purposes and of the handsome surplus that now exists to the credit of the Department, we respectfully pray that the order raising the fees be cancelled.

In conclusion, we devoutly pray that Lady Amphill and Your Excellency may be blessed with long life, prosperity and happiness.

His Excellency replied to the address as follows :—

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you sincerely for all that you have done by word and deed to show that you welcome Lady Amphill and me to your ancient and far-famed city, and we shall remember the kindness and cordiality of your reception as long as we remember the interesting and beautiful sights of Madura. It will be a gratification to me to convey your message to His Majesty the King-Emperor who appreciates the loyalty and devotion of the peoples of India with that heartfelt solicitude and sympathy

which His Majesty owes not only to the great example of Queen Victoria, but also to his own personal acquaintance with the land in which we live. I am glad to recognise in the opening remarks of your address the just pride which you feel in the historic fame of your city and in its present resources, for I am one of those who believe that municipal patriotism is a sure basis for the wider patriotism of nations and empires, and that local administration, which to be efficient must be animated by local pride, is the best training school for those who wish to have a voice and to take part in the wider spheres of Government.

I have just visited Tanjore, the former capital of the Chola dynasty, and it is therefore particularly interesting to me to find myself now in the ancient capital of the Pandyan dynasty, who were the obstinate rivals of the Cholas until both of them fell under the sway of the great kingdom of Vijayanagar when the feud was carried on by their successors the Naicks of Madura and Tanjore. There are still grounds for rivalry between Madura and Tanjore, but only of an archæological and perfectly friendly nature, for while Tanjore can boast of the more ancient temple, you are able to assert that their palace was copied from yours. I shall not venture to attempt a decision between such nicely balanced claims. Your reference to the College of Poets has led me to acquaint myself with the interesting tradition which typifies the Tamil revival against the Sanskrit in its tale of the "Kural" which expanded

on the poet's seat until all the Professors of the Sangattar were ejected, and I am obliged to you for thus attracting my attention to this picturesque piece of folk-lore. I am looking forward to seeing the Madura College in which you keep up your old reputation for learning, and I have already seen and admired the Teppakulam tank in exceptionally favourable and picturesque circumstances.

But for the excessive rainfall in November and December, the Madura-Pámban Railway might have been opened last month, but in the present circumstances we cannot, I fear, hope for the opening until June. Passing by the question of drainage, which, as you say, is dealt with in the Address of the Municipal Council, I come to the 6th paragraph of your address.

What you say about the registration as double crop of the waste lands sold in villages to which Periyár water is supplied shall be brought to the notice of the Board of Revenue, before whom I understand a reference from the Collector on the subject is pending. I understand, however, that the hardship is not quite so serious as your Address would imply. The purchasers at the sales know beforehand the condition under which they buy, and the average prices realised during last year do not show a decline below the prices realised three or four years ago when lands were first sold, so that the earlier purchasers would not appear to have discovered that they had made a bad bargain.

Then again the bulk of the lands sold are lands classed in the settlement register as dry lands, and in regard to them I may remind you that concessions were made by Government in 1899. For the first year after sale only one-fourth assessment is charged, in the second year only half, and so on, full assessment not being levied until the fourth year. I quite understand, however, that the water-supply varies according to the position of the lands on the channels, those nearer the head getting a better supply than those lower down, and your representations shall be fully considered.

The conversion of so much dry land into irrigated fields has naturally changed the face of the country; and tracks across which carts were formerly able to travel in dry weather without much difficulty have no doubt now become impassable, so that the necessity for new roads, to which you call my attention, has indeed become an urgent one. Government has not been unmindful of it and called for an estimate in February, 1900, for the most important road, in order to form an idea of the cost of construction of the 100 miles of cross roads which have been investigated (besides an equal length of village roads). Arrangements are being made for the speedy completion of this important work. The question as to how funds can be provided will then have to be considered. The Collector has, I understand, asked for a grant of Rs. 2 lakhs from Provincial funds, and the matter shall receive my careful consideration when it comes before me.

The provision of forests in this tract is out of the question, but before further sales of lands take place the reservation of lands required for house-sites, cattle-stands, threshing floors and similar communal purposes will be considered, but the case of each village requires separate treatment and no general principle can be laid down. Temporary leases have also been ordered to be granted at a low rent for raising plants suitable for leaf manure.

The retention of all tanks is, I am told by the Collector, not only unnecessary, but would result in positive waste of water. The abandonment of tanks will be conducted with great caution. Only 37 tanks have been ordered to be closed up to date and no indiscriminate closure will be insisted on. Orders have recently been issued by the Board of Revenue to meet the difficulty you refer to about forest boundaries adjoining cultivated land. The system of dividing forest grazing areas into blocks is necessary in order to prevent over-grazing, and the difficulty of distinguishing one block from another would not seem to be a very serious one to villagers who must know the locality from childhood. I understand, however, that it is largely due to the practice of leaving the cattle in charge of young children who are often, either wilfully or through ignorance, heedless where they drive the cattle. This, however, is purely a matter for the local officers to settle. As far as my information at present goes, the unreserved lands are available for free grazing and for the free collection of leaves for

manure, firewood and small timber for *bônâ fide* domestic purposes. Your request that the forests should be thrown open for similar purposes is, I am afraid, inadmissible, with due regard to the exigencies of any system of proper conservancy. Experience has shown that irreparable mischief is done by herd-boys lopping leaves and twigs and by the holders of free permits by unsystematic and unscientific felling, by thoughtless blazing and ringing of trees, and in various other ways.

Your next request for an experimental farm to be opened at Madura shall have my attention, but before starting any more farms we have deemed it best to await the development of the two existing farms in Bellary and Koilpatti.

The duty of fostering the establishment of agricultural banks has been entrusted to the Hon'ble Mr. Nicholson, and I am sure you will all agree that no one better qualified by patient study of the subject and by intimate knowledge and experience of rural economics could be found for the task. The report of the committee appointed by the Government of India to consider the question has been received and the best means of giving practical effect to its suggestions will receive the most careful consideration of my Government. The establishment of rural banks is an undertaking demanding for its success the development in a high degree of the qualities of mutual confidence and self-help: and we look to the leading men

among the native community for assistance in fostering these qualities, and I may add, for a greater amount of initiative than they have hitherto displayed in conducting experiments, for it is only through experiment and possibly failure that eventual success can be achieved--towards arriving at a solution of the problems involved.

The question of revising the remission rules to which you next call my attention has been under consideration of Government for some time, and orders on the subject will shortly be issued. In ordinary seasons the rule requiring a written application for remission is necessary in order that the Revenue officers may have timely information of the locality to be inspected and to show that remission is required. Remission being purely a matter of grace, it is not too much to insist that application should be made for it. But in bad years, when the loss is widespread and when the District officials will themselves have taken the initiative in the matter of ordering general inspection, some relaxation in the rule may be found possible. As regards remission for *mamool* waste and remission for part fields and for fields which do not yield enough to cover cultivation expenses (whatever proportion of an ordinary crop that somewhat vague expression may be meant to cover), the rules cannot be relaxed in ordinary years with due regard to the principles on which the land settlement in the Presidency has been made. How far it may be possible or advisable to amend them to meet extensive losses

in exceptional seasons is now being considered by myself and my colleagues.

The amendment of Act XX of 1863 has before now been urged upon the Government of India, but that Government was of opinion that the need for legislation in respect of Hindu religious endowments had not been established, and I cannot hold out any hope of any further attempts being made in this direction at an early date.

With regard to the last subject to which you allude, viz., the recent raising of registration fees, the only case in which, so far as I can learn, registration fees have been raised by the orders of 1900 arises from the removal of the maximum fee for searches which previously existed. The abolition of the maximum fee was not intended to raise the receipts from fees: it was decided upon to save the department the unnecessary work thrown upon them by applicants who, though they had a very fair idea of the period within which the search should be confined, generally preferred to ask for a search through the whole of the records of the department. The principle now adopted of making a separate charge for each year's records searched through seems, therefore, to be not unreasonable. But if you are not satisfied with these remarks I must ask you to be good enough to make your representations through the ordinary channels in somewhat more explicit shape. I thank you once more for your welcome and for the kind manner in which you

have wished Lady Ampthill and me prosperity and happiness.

The deputations then withdrew.

VISIT TO THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

This Institute rose from a combination of two or three desultory institutions in Madura that were dragging on a miserable existence some years ago. It was visited by Sir Arthur Havelock and recently by the Industrial Commission. The industrial section of the present Institute rose from the Municipal Industrial School sparsely attended at the time, the agricultural section having been contributed by the Farmer's Club and now hopelessly given up; and the Normal section was taken over by the Government Normal School, which, since last year, has been separated into a distinct institution by itself. Originally, this Institute was known as the Technico-Normal Institute, but since the separation of the Normal department it has been designated the Technical Institute. From the very commencement this Institute has been in charge of Mr. G. Subbusawmi Iyer, B.A., L.T., its able and popular Superintendent, to whose untiring efforts the Institute owes all its present prosperity. It has, in fact, come to be at present a little more than a self-supporting institution as the District Board's outlay for its maintenance and upkeep of the workshops is more than compensated for by the sale-proceeds of the Industrial branch. The carpentry class is the most largely attended of the Industrial

department, and there are five Brahmins on the rolls who have cheerfully taken to the chisel. There are, besides this, the blacksmith's section, brass and bell-metal section, and an aluminium section. The training section of which drawing forms the chief feature, is located in the second floor of the building and is very largely attended by different ages and grades of pupils. At the entrance to the school, which was tastefully decorated, Their Excellencies and Party, who were accompanied by Mr. Cardew, the President of the District Board, were received by Mr. G. Subbusawmi Iyer, the Superintendent, who conducted them through the various departments. The first section visited by Their Excellencies was the Drawing section where the finishing touches that were being given by a pupil to an oil-colour likeness of His Majesty the King-Emperor, and another the portrait of the local Minakshi temple, attracted the attention of the distinguished visitors. Led downstairs into the Industrial department, Their Excellencies inspected with much interest the various artizan pupils at work in their respective departments, wood carving of a rare quality and lock-making and other fitter's work of superior finish, being the specialities of this institution, as has been remarked in the visitors' book by several experts. Among the products of this section that were exhibited for sale, the attention of Their Excellencies was drawn to an exquisitely carved round teapoy, artistically etched on the surface with various Swamies and mounted on four carved

elephant heads with ivory tusks, which were also the results of laborious carving. A stud of stags, made of sandalwood, a brass gopuram with a pedestal in the centre, a wooden puzzle box, a few patent locks and one or two aluminium native vessels were among those over which Their Excellencies spent a few minutes in examining their finish and general get up. Her Excellency being struck with the teapoy described above has honored the Institute with an order for one of its kind for her drawing-room, costing about Rs. 250. The inspection over, Their Excellencies were garlanded with Madura lace, and the Superintendent thanked Their Excellencies in a few well chosen words for their kind visit, and His Excellency on behalf of himself and Lady Ampthill expressed himself well pleased with all that they had seen that afternoon. His Excellency then shook hands with the Superintendent, who introduced the rest of the staff. It is peculiar that the Industrial section is attended by pupils who are mostly of the local artizan class, and the remarks in the visitors' book by such men as Mr. A. Chatterton, Mr. H. A. Bhabha, Dr. King, Lieutenant-Colonel H. D. Love, and others testify to the real usefulness of the institution and its wonderful progress. Orders for wood carving are being registered from Germany, Austria, France and other places, besides the United Kingdom, and the Superintendent is of opinion that if carved articles are kept in stock ready made, the District Board could make tens of thousands of rupees annually by

their sale-proceeds. From here Their Excellencies made a move to the Normal Department in the southern wing of the building and were pleased with the work turned out therein.

AT THE AMERICAN MISSION GIRLS' SCHOOL.

From the Technical Institute, Their Excellencies and party drove straight to the American Mission Girls' School building to lay the foundation stone of the new premises. The building was tastefully decorated, and as Their Excellencies entered the *shamiana*, the school girls sang a lyric of praise. The Rev. Mr. Chandler in welcoming Their Excellencies, made the following speech :—

YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LORD AND LADY AMPHILL, AND LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I have the privilege of welcoming Your Excellencies on behalf of the American Mission, the managers, teachers and pupils of the Girls' Training and High School and a Christian community of 17,000 from all castes in the district. The Periyár project brings from the west, streams of water that flow through this needy land and make it fruitful; so the Missionary project brings from the west, streams of living water that flow into many souls and make them fruitful in the grace of Christian manhood and womanhood. This Girls' school was started 62 years ago (the year when His Majesty the King-Emperor was born) outside the limits of the town on the east, but now finds itself surrounded and crowded by a growing population, and is obliged to find room for its further development in this site on

the west. The new building will cost Rs. 59,000, of which two-thirds have been provided by Christian women in America, who have named it Capron Hall, as a memorial of Mrs. Capron who spent many years here in India, and was manager of this school, and who, after burying her husband on the banks of the Vigai river, thirty miles from Madura, retired to Boston, where she still lives and works for the missionary cause. The other third of the cost we hoped to receive from Your Excellency's Government. While the Director of Public Instruction has not seen his way to receive it all for us, we are thankful for the Rs. 12,000 that has been sanctioned. The lack of the remaining Rs. 7,500 will oblige us to leave a part of the upper story unfinished for the present, but we hope the school will so commend itself as to secure the necessary amount later on. We do most heartily and cordially acknowledge our indebtedness to Your Excellency's Government, for permitting this work to be done departmentally, and to Mr. Keeling and his subordinates for their personal and sympathetic interest in the work. The young woman, who will present a paper on the school, is one of two who have been the first to pass the Matriculation Examination from this school. They were successful in passing this examination last December. The two women who will garland Your Excellencies formerly studied in the school, and are now mothers of pupils who will participate in the exercises of this afternoon. This company of 300 girls now in the school and 3,000 women who formerly studied in it,

are one of the truest indications of the presence in this part of the Presidency of an independent, intelligent, self-respecting Christian community; for they represent homes that are scattered over the districts from the sea on the east, to the mountains on the west. It is the law of new England that every school house shall have the national flag flying over it in school hours, and travellers by rail can distinguish the country school houses by the flags waving over them. So the patrons of this school have sent out to it the British and American flags, which we wish to have unfurled after the laying of the corner stone—the one as a token of the loyalty to the throne, and the other in recognition of the friendship that binds together the two nations and unites them in the work for the common good.

The American Madura Mission Girls' Training and High School is the highest educational institution for girls in the Madura district, and the only one for training women as teachers. The date of the foundation of the school very nearly coincides with that of the American Madura Mission. In 1835 one of the early missionaries opened a little day-school for girls in Madura. That was the first girls' school in the district, and was the germ of the present school. Five years later that was organised as a boarding school. For years, in addition to free tuition, books, food, and clothing were supplied by the school, and a donation of Rs. 48 was given on gradation to every girl who took the full school course. Up to 1854 the girls were kept in the

school until they were married. In that year a regular course of study was adopted. The first results grants were received from Government in 1870. Six years later a teachers' class was formed, and the best pupils from other schools in the district were sent to Madura, to be trained as Primary teachers for their Mission schools. In 1881 the school presented its first candidates for the Middle School Examination. About fifteen years ago the Training School was reorganised in accordance with the requirements of the Educational Code, to train students for Primary and Lower Secondary Teachers' certificates. In 1890 a class for the Higher Examination for Women was formed, and the grade of the Training school was raised to the Upper Secondary. In the same year English was introduced as a regular study. Within a few years, a High School department has been added, and last year two girls passed the Matriculation Examination for the first time from this school. At the present time nearly all the women teachers in the girls' schools of this city, whether Mission or Government, were trained in this school. They might roughly estimate that more than 3,000 Christian girls have been educated here, and during the past sixteen years 366.

He then formerly asked His Excellency to lay the foundation stone for the building. This over, the *Alumni* of the institution next garlanded Their Excellencies. Then followed an English song. One of the two girls that passed the Matriculation Examination last year from this institution next read a

brief account of the school. In 1840 the institution was started with 9 girls on its rolls and now there are 315 pupils from different districts reading here. After another song and a prayer, His Excellency laid the foundation stone of the building and the British and American flags were next unfurled by Lady Ampthill amidst cheers.

After declaring the foundation stone well and truly laid, His Excellency made the following speech:—

Before we bid you farewell I must beg leave to express very sincere thanks on behalf of Lady Ampthill and myself for the most kind reception that you have accorded us. I assure you that it has been a very real pleasure to us to have been here and to have taken part in the interesting event which marks yet another stage in the prosperous and useful existence of the American Mission High School. I have had pleasure in seeing something of the good work of the American Mission at Vellore. I am, therefore, particularly glad to have also seen something of what the American Mission is doing here. I am one of those who are proud of the British kinship with the great American race, and who rejoice that the old misunderstandings have been so largely removed, and that the friendship, which ought to exist between those of the same blood, is becoming firmly established between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race (cheers). It is, therefore, a sincere satisfaction to me to find Americans taking part with us in

the work of education in India. It is time that the field is open to all nations, and it would be ungracious of me to forget the great work that has been done in the past, and is being done now, by the earnest, disinterested, devoted, men and women of all nations. But I may be pardoned if I feel a special pleasure in meeting those who, although they are not subjects of His Majesty the King-Emperor, belong to our own race, speak our own tongue and are joint inheritors of our traditions, and, more than any other nation, share our ideas and principles (cheers). The British and American flags have waved together on many a platform during the past few years, and that they should wave together here to-day in this land, whose fortunes have been so strangely confided by Providence to the keeping of the British race, seems to me not only appropriate to the present occasion, as typifying the joint educational work which is being done by the British and Americans in Madura, but also a happy augury for the future and an omen of the joint work which will be done by our two nations all over the world in the cause of peace, progress and Christian goodwill towards all men. I have read the reports which have shown the history and progress of this useful flourishing school. I did so for my own information, and I do not propose, although I know it is very often the custom on occasions of this kind, to detain you by reciting facts which are far more familiar to you all than they were to me until a few hours ago. Rather will I tell you that we have greatly enjoyed

and been deeply interested in what we have seen and heard here this afternoon, and this interesting event in which we have taken part will be one of the most pleasant recollections of our pleasant travels. Lady Ampthill and I wish your school continued prosperity and success, and we hope that from the new home which will rise here will go forth many well-qualified teachers to spread education among the women of Southern India.

A scarf drill and song followed and the singing of the National Anthem terminated the proceedings.

Later in the evening His Excellency paid a visit to the Masonic Lodge.

VISIT TO A VILLAGE.

MADURA, 6th March.—This morning, His Excellency the Governor accompanied by Mr. A. G. Cardew, the Collector, Colonel O. V. Boddy, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Mr. H. Keeling, Executive Engineer, and Mr. T. Ramalinga Iyer, Special Executive Engineer, Periyár, paid a visit to Pothumbu, a village 6 miles from Madura. The party drove a distance of 4 miles over a country road just repaired for His Excellency, and then rode a mile and half on a tank bund before reaching the village. The ryots of the place had decorated their village in honour of the visit. On arrival at the village His Excellency inspected the village, walking along its narrow lanes, into the temple yard and in the back-yards of the houses, and thus saw village life as it

is in thousands of villages in Southern India. The chief object of the inspection was to see on which side the village could be extended, as it is greatly overcrowded. Since the opening of the Periyár project, almost every available plot of land has been taken up for cultivation, and all the waste lands in and around villages have been sold at public auctions to the highest bidders; with the result that very little land is left for communal purposes. In this village there is literally no margin of land left uncultivated and the villagers hardly have sufficient land on which their cattle can stand or graze.

Many retired officials and thriving Vakils rushed to this district to invest their superfluous wealth in lands which from time immemorial have been lying waste, and they bought up any and every plot of land, and the ryots born and bred in the villages, not being able to compete with speculating capitalists, are in the majority of cases holders of only small areas of land under the project. But they have now got a more certain and steady supply of water for irrigation and are therefore much better off than before. Still, they have their own grievances in regard to several matters, which were placed before His Excellency when he arrived at the pandal in front of the village *chavadi*.

When His Excellency took his seat, a Brahman gentleman, who had purchased 1,000 acres of land as an agent for a wealthy native gentleman belonging to the legal profession in Madras, came forward as the spokesman of the ryots who had desired him

to represent their wants to His Excellency. But the latter said that he had come to see and speak to the ryots directly, and he would, therefore, like to hear what they had to say and not then hear the wants of purchasers of lands under the Periyár. He had not come there to receive petitions or see *tamashas*, but to learn what the ryots had to say about themselves. There were some wants which they could represent to Tahsildars, some others to the Deputy Collectors and others still to the Collectors. With those things His Excellency had not much concern, though he would be very glad to hear them on those matters. They could speak to him quite freely and they need not be afraid as to what they said. When these preliminary words of encouragement had been conveyed to the ryots they came forward to state their wants.

THE WANT OF BUILDING SITES.

The first want brought to His Excellency's notice was insufficiency of house-sites in the village owing to the enormous and rapid expanse of cultivation all around. The deputation begged that 10 acres of the tank might be assigned for the purpose and filled at Government expense. His Excellency told them that he had been round the village and had seen that they were crowded, that the Collector had explained matters to him and told him that he was going to give the villagers a corner of the tank adjoining the village. They must, however, fill up that portion of the tank at their own expense.

ASSESSMENT COMPLAINTS.

A second ryot represented that since the introduction of the Periyár water, assessment had been increased. He begged that it might be reduced. The increase was one rupee over the former rate of assessment for *mamul* wet lands. In reply to His Excellency the ryot said that he had a certain supply of water since the Periyár project had been opened, and that the *punja* lands had improved; but the yield from the lands under the old *ayacut* had grown less than before, as the lands had become deteriorated. The conversion of dry into wet had resulted in bigger crops. His Excellency told him that he had been through the village and noticed their paddy fields had been well cropped, and they had well-stacked heaps of straw.

THE LACK OF GRAZING GROUNDS.

A third ryot complained that they had no ground for cattle to stand or graze on, all the waste lands having been sold. The Deputy Collector informed His Excellency that 20 acres had been assigned for the purpose, but from enquiry I learn that there are not more than 12 acres allotted, and that even these were not in suitable localities.

A PLEA FOR BETTER ROADS.

A fourth ryot who owned 15 acres, four pairs of bullocks, and paid Rs. 100 kist, urged that roads were necessary for manure leaves to be brought from forests. At present, owing to the absence of

these very necessary means of communication, the ryots suffered a great deal and they could not get as good a crop as they would with the aid of manure. A road from the village connecting it with the road to Madura was a desideratum. It was brought to His Excellency's notice that the Taluk Board of Madura had asked for a contribution from the village towards this road, and he asked the deputation why they could not pay such contribution. They said that they did pay the contribution. But it would appear that the amount was insufficient for the purpose and that an application was now made for some contribution from Provincial funds.

OTHER WANTS.

The next request was for the provision of a *pucka* village *chavadi* for them to meet and transact communal business. His Excellency thought it could not be granted as it would be establishing an inconvenient precedent. If granted to one village this concession would be applied for by other villages.

It was next submitted that the Government should not levy a third crop assessment as it was rumoured that it was going to levy such. His Excellency replied there was no foundation for the rumour.

The request was again preferred by a few more ryots that double crop assessment should be reduced and that 10 acres of land should be assigned for house sites and five acres for cattle grazing. The ryots also represented that the sluices in the tanks

were not sufficiently broad to allow of a proper supply of water to their wet lands. They also complained that the seigniorage on manure leaves was very high and should be reduced; the present rate was 3 pies per head load and 5 annas for a cart load and was too heavy to allow of using leaves as manure. They also complained that the administration of the Forest laws by the subordinates was very hard. The last request preferred was that the quit-rent on *inam* lands assigned to the temples was very high and should be reduced.

His Excellency then dismissed the deputation, but hardly had he gone out of the street when he was met at the entrance to the village by a body of poor Panchamas who begged that they might be given some land for house sites and also helped with funds to dig a drinking-water well. They said that those were their only wants and they would ever be grateful to His Excellency if he would help them.

His Excellency then returned to Madura in time for breakfast.

DEPUTATIONS.

At noon His Excellency received two deputations from the Sourashtra and Muhammadan communities. From the first body he received an address on the same lines as that presented to Sir Arthur Havelock on the occasion of his visit, which was as follows:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Sourashtras of Madura, most respectfully welcome

Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill to this city, the centre of weaving and dyeing industries in Southern India.

We beg to inform Your Excellency that we originally inhabited the Kingdom of Sourashtra, in the Province of Guzerat, and settled ourselves in this part of the country, in response to an invitation from Tirumala Naik, the greatest of the Naik Princes, more than two hundred and fifty years ago.

It would be interesting to Your Excellency to learn that this community now forms about forty-five per cent. of the population of this second important city in the Presidency, and it has been carrying on the industries of weaving and dyeing for which this city has been famous, ever since.

Our industries have been suffering from the importation of aniline dyes from Germany and Switzerland, of gilt threads from France, and of yarns of fine counts and piece-goods from Glasgow and Manchester.

The Industrial Schools Committee appointed by the Government of India, during their sittings in this city, a few weeks ago, declared that the industries of weaving and dyeing have reached such a stage, as to need expert advice if they are to thrive and cope with the improved industries of Europe.

Your Excellency will be glad to hear that the water of the Vaigai river has been pronounced by expert German Chemists as best suited for purposes of Turkey Red dyeing, and this has been confirmed by our long experience.

We therefore beg to bring to Your Excellency's kind consideration, the urgent need for the establishment of Textile Schools and Technical Dye-houses here in this city on scientific lines guided by experts and aided by Government.

Your Excellency's predecessor during his visit to this city in October 1897 in his kind reply to our address was pleased to direct us to submit a detailed and workable scheme about the establishment of practical weaving and dyeing schools, assuring us that it would receive careful attention from the Government; and such a scheme prepared after mature, though we regret to say unduly long, deliberation is now on hand which we hope to place shortly before Your Excellency.

We now therefore invite Your Excellency's sympathetic attention to this subject and pray that it may please Your Excellency to start the schools prayed for, conducting them on caste lines and thus confer a boon on this important weaving community of South India.

His Excellency made a brief reply which was translated to them in Tamil by Mr. L. Tulsiram their spokesman, and which was as follows :—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

I thank you for your kind welcome. I have heard with great interest what you have told me about your community. I gather that you do not ask me to do anything until you have submitted the scheme which you have in hand. When I receive it,

I shall be very glad to give it my most careful attention. I am extremely anxious that everything which will encourage indigenous industries should be done. Further, if the scheme is one in which Government can fairly help, you may be sure that it will have my full sympathy. I do not think that your address requires any further reply than that. I am very glad to have seen you and if one of you wishes to add anything to what was already said in the address, I shall be glad to hear.

Mr. Tulsiram said that there were only a few educated men in the community and asked that as a sort of encouragement to the community their Matriculates and F.A.'s might be allowed to appear for Deputy Collector's Tests.

His Excellency said that they were asking for some preferential treatment, but that was a thing which could not possibly be granted and would not be fair to other classes of population. Wherever he went he was asked for special privileges, but Government could not grant them; the only test it applied was test of superior merit, and if there were Sourashtras possessed of merits better fitted for these places they would certainly be recognised and rewarded.

A MUHAMMADAN DEPUTATION.

After dismissing the deputation of the Sourashtras of Madura, His Excellency proceeded to discuss the most important question of the disposal of the dead of the local Muhammadan community. There

were over 30 representative members of the community present, headed by the Khazis of Madura, Dindigul, Palni and Periyakulam, His Excellency told the members that he more or less knew what they had come to speak to him about, but all the same he would like to hear it in detail from their own lips, and asked if one of them could speak on behalf of the others.

The Khazi of Madura, who was put forward as the spokesman of the deputation, began by expressing the gratification of the community at His Excellency's visit to Madura and by wishing long life and prosperity to His Excellency, who, he hoped, would in time become the Governor-General of India. With this loyal opening, the Khazi proceeded to state the views of the community on the question of Mussalman burial-grounds in the town. Muhammadans had been living in Madura over 900 years, and during all that time had their burial-grounds situated within the town. The question of the disposal of the dead amongst Muhammadans was closely connected with their religion, and the British Government had adopted the policy of non-interference in all religious matters. Their religious code enjoined the burial of their dead near their places of worship, so that the souls of the departed might hear the prayers offered in their mosques. The dead with them did not cease to exist after their departure from this world, but always lived in the tombs and were respected in the same way as the living. Prayers were offered in

their mosques six times a day, and these were partly for the benefit of departed souls, and every Muhammadan was bound to offer such prayers daily. This was laid down both in the Koran and in the blessed utterances of their prophet, the latter having equal weight with the commandments of the former. Some 300 years ago, when the Madura fort was built, care had been taken by those responsible for its construction to so construct its walls as not to interfere with the compound wall of their burial-ground. So much for the religious aspect of the question.

Then, if a gosha woman died, only certain relations of the deceased could see the dead body or carry it to the graveyard, these relations being the father, the paternal and maternal uncles, the brothers and their sons. Other relations were not allowed to see or touch the dead body and so could not carry it. A gosha woman was carried to the graveyard in gosha form, and bodies should be buried before the expiry of the day or the night in which the death took place. Nor could corpses be carried to the burial-ground on carts or by hired men. This was a strict injunction of the prophet. In the case of poor families, they found it very difficult to carry their dead even to their nearest graveyard. Much more so would this be the case if one had to carry the dead outside the town. The grave was generally dug 6 feet deep and was well closed after the corpse was covered with perfumes, such as camphor, sandal, etc. They smeared the

tomb with sandal paste for three to six months after burial, so that there could be no smell. On account of all these difficulties, the Khazi submitted that their burial-grounds should not be removed to any place far from their quarters. The British Government had always protected Muhammadans and the deputation had come to His Excellency in the full hope that he would continue the same treatment.

In reply to a question from His Excellency, the Khazi submitted that the farthest distance to which they had to carry their dead in Madura was only about a furlong. In fact, practically all of them lived together round the burial-ground and there were, to his knowledge, no Muhammadans in Madura who lived further than half a furlong from it. Their burial-ground in Madura was a very extensive one, and it could never get filled up at any time. They did not bury in the same place over again, and yet there was still room in their graveyard. They were prepared to show that this was the case. If some burial-grounds happened to be small, it meant that only a few houses used it and therefore it could not become too full. If an adjoining plot of ground was available, they bought such for purposes of extension. The Khazi was not aware of any Muhammadan burial-ground in Madura or any elsewhere being closed for want of room. He said that the burial-ground in Triplicane was within the town and he had heard that the same was the case in London with regard to Muhammadan graves.

His Excellency next questioned the Khazi of Periyakulam, asking if he knew the reason why Government wished to close the existing burial-grounds and give them other sites. The Khazi answering in the negative, the Governor explained that it was not for interfering with religion in any way, but that it was wholly on sanitary grounds. When corpses were buried underground too near dwelling-houses, water percolating through it polluted the underground supply and choleraic and typhoid diseases were generated. Therefore, a burial-ground like that did harm both to themselves and to people outside their community.

Asked if the health of Periyakulam had been good, and whether there had been no more cholera and typhoid than in other places, the Tahsildar, who was present, explained that every year they had cholera at Periyakulam and in a severe form and worse than in other places. There were no wells near burial-grounds at Periyakulam.

Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas, the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, who was also present at the interview, on being questioned by His Excellency, said that any water within a catchment area of 220 yards from burial-grounds would be affected by them.

The Khazi of Palni next submitted that there was no drinking-water well near the burial-ground in his town and there was a high compound wall raised around it. The burial-ground, which had a large vacant space in it, was surrounded only by Muhammadan houses, and had a rocky substratum, so that

no source of drinking water was likely to be contaminated.

The Dindigul Khazi said that there were nine burial-grounds in his town and most Muhammadans lived around the one in the central part of the town. It was a rule with them that all relations should be buried in the same ground. There were no wells near any of their burial-grounds, which were kept particularly clean. There had never been any cholera or plague at Dindigul. Sick children were usually brought to the mosque and mud from the burial-ground was mixed with milk and given to them as medicine, with successful results. The Khazi mentioned with pride that many Sub-Collectors had inspected the graveyards, and being satisfied with their condition, had recommended their retention.

His Excellency was informed by the officials that at Palni a new site had been selected within 6 furlongs from the Muhammadan quarters, and at a distance of a mile at Dindigul and 6 furlongs at Periyakulam, one for the northern and one for the southern part.

In dismissing the deputation, His Excellency said that he perfectly understood their objections, but had not then formed any opinion on the matter. He had yet to hear what else had to be said about it, and so had not made up his mind. He would, however, remember all that they had told him and consider their representations carefully when he got back to Madras. Just then he could not give them

any assurance, or make any promises, as it was a matter which required careful thought. He was glad to have seen them and heard what they had to say. With reference to the observation of the Khazi of Madura on the subject of graveyards in London, His Excellency said that these were now being removed far from dwelling-houses, and in many cases dead bodies were carried 4 or 5 miles from town and buried there. He did not know anything about Muhammadan graves in London.

The deputation then withdrew.

In the evening His Excellency paid a visit to the Madura Union Club, where he was welcomed by the Hon'ble Mr. G. Srinivasa Rao, the President, and members, and shown round.

At 5-15 P.M. Their Excellencies attended a Garden Party at the Collector's residence, to which Mr. and Mrs. Cardew had invited all the European ladies and gentlemen and the leading native gentlemen.

VISIT TO THE JAIL.

7th March.—The forenoon of this day was devoted to visiting the District Jail and the Hospitals in the town. At the District Jail, Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas, I.M.S., who is in charge of it, met His Excellency and conducted him over the several wards, where the prisoners, who numbered 401, were at work. His Excellency remarked in the

Visitors' Book:—"I visited the Jail this morning and saw nothing to criticise. First-rate order seemed to prevail."

THE MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

Their Excellencies, accompanied by Mr. L. M. Wynch, Captain Molesworth, Captains Fife and Strong, Mr. A. G. Cardew and Mr. E. L. R. Thornton, then visited the Municipal Hospital. Here Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas, I.M.S., the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, and Mr. C. Munisami Mudaliar, the Assistant Surgeon in immediate charge of the Hospital, received Their Excellencies and took them over the building. There are 70 beds in the hospital, and as many as 60 were occupied. There is also a maternity branch attached to the hospital, where Colonel Thomas trains midwives and sends them out to the districts. Two are trained every year and Colonel Thomas recently obtained two scholarships for midwifery students from the Dufferin Fund. For efficiency in hospital work this stands first among mofussil hospitals, and it also occupies the first rank for maternity work. Over 250 out-patients attend the hospital every day. His Excellency left the following record in the Visitors' Book:—"Everything seems to be in as good order as the antiquated and inconvenient buildings permit, and I am very glad that a new hospital is about to be constructed on modern lines and more adequate to the requirements of the district." Her Excellency also stated that the women in the

hospital seemed to be most carefully and kindly looked after.

Shunmugappa Chetty and Arunachalla Chetty, two of the leading Nattukottai Chetty merchants of Madura, have each offered to construct a ward of six beds each, the one exclusively for Brahmans and the other for other classes.

THE ALBERT VICTOR HOSPITAL.

The next institution visited by Their Excellencies was the Albert Victor Hospital popularly known as Dr. Van Allen's Hospital. This is a handsome two-storied structure, which cost Rs. 40,000, the amount being entirely contributed by the native gentry of the Madura and Tinnevely districts, especially the Zamindars of Singampatti, Setur, Sivagiri, Ramnad, and the rich and influential Nattukottai Chetties. There are two wards, each containing one bed, and during the last year 1,200 major and minor operations were performed in the hospital, which, under the medical charge of the genial Dr. Van Allen, has achieved great popularity among natives of all classes. The hospital is maintained by the Madura American Mission and is well stocked with a large store of medicines and the best surgical appliances in use in hospitals of this description. Their Excellencies inspected with interest the glass operating table, which had been purchased in America at a cost of Rs. 1,000, contributed by American ladies. No higher compliment can be paid to the excellent management of this

hospital than that recorded by His Excellency in the following words :—" It has been a real pleasure and highly interesting to see this model hospital. I have told Dr. Van Allen that if I were ill I should not desire better treatment or more comfort than I should get here." Before returning to the Collector's residence for breakfast, His Excellency inspected the new premises for the Collector's office, which is rapidly approaching completion, while Her Excellency visited the Mission Women and Children's Hospital, which is doing exceedingly good work in affording medical relief to hundreds of women in Madura.

VISIT TO THE SETUPATI HIGH SCHOOL.

MADURA, 7th March.—This evening, His Excellency Lord Ampthill performed two most interesting functions, the first being the distribution of prizes to the little girls of the "Ranee Girls' School" that were assembled at the Setupati High School, and the second being the prize-giving to the successful students at the Native College. His Excellency first visited the former institution and His Excellency and party were here conducted to the *shamiana* by Mr. Narayanasawmi Iyer, B.A., L.T., the Headmaster, and Mr. S. S. Venkatramana Iyengar, Pleader and Member of the Managing Committee of the Institution. The welcome by the girls, their playing on the violin and the kolatam

dance showed the excellence of the training imparted to the girls attending the girls' school. There was then a short dialogue, the text of which was the approaching coronation and a welcome to His Majesty the King-Emperor and His Excellency Lord Ampthill. The following address presented here was taken as read :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—It is with feelings of great pride and happiness that we beg leave to approach Your Excellency with this humble address and cordially welcome Your Excellency to this institution. This is one of the largest aided high schools in the Presidency, counting on its rolls more than 1,000 pupils and having on the staff ten graduates, five of whom are licentiates in teaching. Moral and religious instruction forms an additional feature in the curriculum of studies provided in the institution. The efficient working of the school and the hostel may be seen from the following remarks of the Director of Public Instruction :—“The Director is glad to note that the Victoria Hostel is being well managed. The general condition and the tone and discipline of the school continues to be satisfactory. The school acquitted itself very fairly at the public examinations and at the inspection. The generally efficient manner in which the institution is conducted is creditable to the Manager and the staff.” In the “Ranee Girls' School” attached to the institution, Native music and other instruction adapted to Hindu homes are

imparted in addition to the curriculum of studies prescribed by the department. The institution which was established in 1889 is under the management of Mr. S. S. Venktaramana Iyengar, who has made no small sacrifice in securing for the school suitable buildings and necessary equipments at a cost of between 60 and 70 thousand rupees, and whose energy is now directed towards raising a permanent fund for its further development. The popularity and success of the high school and of the hostel is mainly due to the munificent help of its patron the Setupati and his Ranee, after whom the institutions are named in grateful acknowledgment of their patronage. We also beg leave to avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our feelings of gratefulness to Your Excellency's Government for the increased allotments made under Educational Grants which, we trust, will relieve the Managers of efficient and deserving institutions from their present financial difficulties, and we pray that during Your Excellency's sympathetic administration, our Manager's hostel scheme for providing accommodation for 100 students, will receive the liberal support of Government. Before concluding, we invoke Heaven's choicest blessings on Your Excellency for the great kindness with which Your Excellency has been pleased to grace the institution with a visit and encourage us in our work; and we devoutly pray for the long life and continued prosperity of Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

His Excellency distributed the prizes to the girls and this over, he made the following speech :—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I am bound to tell you, lest you should be disappointed, that I was entirely unprepared for this magnificent reception that you have accorded and for the extremely bright entertainment which I have just had the pleasure of witnessing. I came here under the impression that I was merely to see the school and the school building and glean information about it from the Manager. Instead of that I find that you have erected a magnificent pandal and prepared an extremely pretty entertainment for me, that I have been called upon to give away prizes and now I suppose a speech is expected of me. I am afraid that even Governors are not able to turn on speeches like a phonograph at a moment's notice. I hope that you will not be disappointed if I tell you that I have no speech appropriate or fitted to the occasion to give you. All I can say is that it has been a very real pleasure to me to witness the pretty performances of the little girls, two of whom I am interested to hear are daughters of two gentlemen whose acquaintance I have had the pleasure of making since I have been in Madura and with whom I hope I have established a friendship which will last for some time. I mean Mr. T. M. Rangachariar and Rao Bahadur M. S. Narayanasawmi Iyer, both of whom have been extremely kind to me

during my visit to Madura. I am glad also to know that one of the two budding orators whose dialogue I greatly appreciated is also a son of Mr. Narayanasawmi Iyer and I congratulate him very much on having such a promising offspring. I greatly regret that it has not been possible for Lady Ampthill to be present here this afternoon. When I describe to her what I have seen here, I am sure that she will share my regret and disappointment. I am sure it would have greatly delighted her to have heard the music and to have seen the *kolatam* and to have shared with me your very kind welcome and this very handsome entertainment which you have been good enough to give me. I have learnt with pleasure of the flourishing condition of the school, and I hope that it will continue to prosper in the way it has been doing in the past. I shall carry away extremely pleasant and interesting recollection of my visit here and before I bid you farewell, I have one request to make of Mr. S. S. Venkatramana Iyengar, to whom I am much obliged for all that he has told me. I will ask him to place me under one more obligation by granting a holiday to the boys and girls in honour of my visit.

VISIT TO THE NATIVE COLLEGE.

A move was next made to the Native College where His Excellency and party were welcomed by Mr. S. Vencobachariar, B.A., the Principal, and Rao Bahadur M. S. Narayanasawmi Iyer, the Secretary to the Managing Committee. Here there was

a welcome song in Tamil, followed by an *ex tempore* speech by an F.A. class student on "Knowledge is power." This over, Rao Bahadur M. S. Narayanasawmi Iyer presented His Excellency with the following address:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Members of the Committee of the Madura Native College, beg to offer Your Excellency a sincere and cordial welcome on the occasion of your visit to this institution. The Committee wish to avail themselves of this opportunity to place before Your Excellency a short history of the origin and growth of the Madura Native College. The institution is the outcome of purely indigenous efforts in the cause of secondary education. In the year 1880, some of the leading gentlemen of this city found it necessary to establish a high school. It was designated the Native High School and managed by a Committee. When the Government College was abolished on the 1st January 1889, in pursuance of the recommendations of the Education Commission, this Committee, at the request of the leading inhabitants of the district, offered to Government, through the then Director of Public Instruction, to open college classes in their high school, if the Government would be pleased to hand over the college buildings to them. On the strong recommendation of a former Collector of the district, Mr. Edward Turner, the Government kindly accepted their offer and transferred to them not only the college buildings rent-free, but also all its

furniture, library and apparatus. The Native College was thus established in February 1889, and has been managed since by a Committee with the Collector of the district as their President. The institution embraces three departments,—College, Upper Secondary and Primary,—and is open to all classes of the community. It has at present on its rolls 1,074 pupils with a staff consisting of 45 teachers. It is maintained from school-fee collections and from grants from Provincial and Municipal funds. It has a library of over 2,000 volumes, gymnasium with a complete set of apparatus, a reading-room, debating societies and lawn tennis, badminton and foot-ball courts. Attached to the institution are one endowed scholarship called the Ramnad Ranees Tamil Scholarship and one endowed prize, the Nilakanta Sastri Gold Medal. The Committee beg to bring to Your Excellency's notice that, ever since the institution came under their management, the responsible officers of Government, who have visited it in the course of their official duties have borne testimony to the earnest endeavours of the Committee to make it useful to the public and also to the success which has attended their efforts and in his latest proceedings on the working of the college, the Director of Public Instruction has remarked that "the continued efficiency of the institution reflects credit on the management and the staff." The rapid development and the present flourishing condition of the college are mainly due to the special encouragement

which the Government has been pleased to extend to it from time to time. The strength of the institution was only 228 when it was first raised to the rank of a second-grade college. It doubled itself within the next two years. Additional accommodation became therefore absolutely necessary. The Director of Public Instruction promptly recognised the necessity and strongly urged the Government to enlarge the building at its cost, as there was no Government College in the Presidency to the south of Kumbakónam and as it was in the interests of the State to make this institution as efficient as possible. The Government acceded to his recommendation in a liberal spirit and sanctioned the proposed enlargement. This spacious hall where we have the privilege of welcoming Your Excellency and the adjoining buildings were then constructed and Lord Wenlock who was then Governor of Madras did us the honour of opening them on the 9th November 1892. While we fully appreciate to the assistance and encouragement we have received from the Government and are highly grateful for the same, we feel we shall be wanting in our duty, if we fail to bring to Your Excellency's notice on this occasion the need for a completely equipped hostel to enable the college to fulfil all the objects of an educational institution. A beginning has been made in this direction and a house taken on mortgage for the purpose. But it has not been found possible to provide accommodation in it for students of all castes. With a view to erect suitable buildings to

meet the needs of this expanding institution, the Committee applied to the municipal council for a site, none being available by the side of the college, as the adjacent lands had all been taken up for the Madura-Pámban Railway. The council has, with the permission of the Government, generously resolved to sell the site for Rs. 6,100. But the final sanction of the Government has not been accorded yet, pending a reference to the municipal council as to whether another site for municipal purposes can be purchased for the amount to be paid by the Committee. We respectfully pray that, when the matter comes up before Your Excellency in Council, Your Excellency may be pleased to accord sanction to it especially in view of the fact that there is no other site available in the vicinity of the college and also to direct a liberal grant-in-aid to be made towards the erection of the hostel buildings. We respectfully beg to assure Your Excellency that, as in the past, we shall spare no pains to make the college worthy of the special favour which may be extended to it. In conclusion, we beg to tender to Your Excellency our most heartfelt thanks for the very great honour you have done us by your visit to the college, and wish you and Lady Ampthill long life and prosperity.

His Excellency then distributed the prizes and made the following speech :—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I thank you sincerely for your kind words of welcome and for the cordial reception which you have given me. I greatly

regret that it has not been possible for Lady Ampthill to accompany me here this afternoon and to share with me the kind reception you have given me. By no means the least interesting part of my tour has been my visits to the important educational establishments which flourish in the districts of Tanjore and Madura, and I shall carry away with me the pleasant impressions of the earnest and strenuous efforts on the part of the teachers and Managers in the cause of the rising generation who are profiting by the instruction they receive and fitting themselves to take part in many important spheres of life. I am much obliged to you for having made your address the means of acquainting me with the origin, progress, formation and resources of your college, all of which I have listened to with great interest. You refer with becoming modesty to the favourable opinion about the college entertained by the educational officers of Government and I have myself perused the annual reviews of the Director of Public Instruction for the past six years and learned with pleasure that throughout that period the general condition, tone and discipline of the college have been satisfactory and have reflected credit on the Managing Committee, the Headmaster and the staff. I am therefore in the pleasant position of being able to offer them my congratulations which are accompanied by a sincere hope that they will be successful in maintaining the efficiency of the college in the future as they have been in the past. There is an old saying that "thanks-giving

for a former doth invite a further benefit," and you have not failed to act in accordance with this time-honoured principle. You acknowledge very handsomely the assistance you have already received from Government, but you want more. Well, I do not blame you for this, and indeed I think you are right to ask Government for anything you think you can get out of it. There is nothing to be lost by asking, so far as my experience of this world goes. Well, your present requests are that sanction should be accorded to the purchase of the site offered to you by the Municipal Council, and that Government should make you a liberal grant-in-aid towards the erection of the hostel buildings. The matter, as you say, has not yet come before Government in a complete form, and you rightly recognise that it is, therefore, not possible for me to make you any promise. All that I can say, and I think that it is all that you wish me to say, is that it shall be considered with care and sympathy.

And now, gentlemen, I offer you once more my thanks and good wishes and I repeat that I am glad to have had this opportunity of seeing this flourishing institution and presenting prizes to some of its most promising students. To them and also to all their school-mates I wish that success in life which results from industry, good conduct and high character. Before I bid you farewell I should like to make one request of the Headmaster and that is that he will be good enough to give a holiday to all the boys and students of the school in honour of

my visit. It will be a very great gratification to me, if he will kindly accede to my request and add very much to the pleasure of my visit.

His Excellency then left for the Collector's residence amidst the enthusiastic cheering of the boys.

DEPARTURE FROM MADURA.

After dinner the Governor and party accompanied by Mr. A. G. Cardew left Madura for Ammayanáyakkanúr which was reached about 10-15 P.M. Here they slept at the travellers' bungalow for the night.

THE PERANAI ANICUT.

8th March.—Early in the morning His Excellency the Governor accompanied by Mr. Cardew, Colonel O. V. Boddy, R.E., Mr. L. M. Wynch, Mr. Labouchere Thornton, Mr. H. T. Keeling, Executive Engineer, and Mr. A. Ramalinga Iyer, the Executive Engineer in charge of the Periyár Irrigation, went out to visit the Peranai, or the big anicut which is situated about twelve miles from the railway station. Part of the distance was done by means of carriages and part by riding. The Peranai was reached about 7-30 A.M.

For a proper understanding of the part played by the Peranai or "great dam" and the "Chinnanai" or "little dam" (lower down the Vaigai) in the irrigation of the Madura country it will be

useful to dwell shortly on the river system in the district, which is of the simplest character. The Vaigai and the Surliyar are the two main streams which carry off the drainage of the immense valleys formed by the mountain system of Madura. These two rivers, after meandering some 30 miles down the valley in almost parallel curves, meet a little south of Allinagaram in the Bódináyakkanúr valley, the Surliyar becoming merged in the Vaigai and being no more heard of. The Vaigai enters the Madura district at a spot some eight miles distant from Sholavandan, on the South Indian Railway. Then it takes a decided south-easterly course and flowing along a shallow sandy bed from 200 to 400 yards wide in an almost direct line across the district and finally empties itself into the sea, that is to say, the waters of the Vaigai take this direction and reach the sea when sufficient in volume. Mr. J. H. Nelson describes the bed of the river Vaigai as being all but dry during by far the greater portion of the year even at Madura 100 miles or so from its mouth, and dry all the year round at Ramnad. Near the point where the Vaigai enters the Madura country it is dammed up by the Peranai and by this means a considerable portion of its waters was diverted into a channel taken off from its left bank, and a few miles lower down it is again obstructed by the "Chinnanai" or "little dam," the Vaigai emptying into a channel on its right bank the greater part of what may be left of its now greatly diminished stream. It is unnecessary

in this connection to give particular descriptions of the other so-called rivers in the district, which form together an important feature of the river system such as it exists in the district.

ANCIENT LOCAL IRRIGATION SYSTEM.

The manner in which the former ruler of the country utilized the supplies of water rendered available in the Vaigai and other minor tributary rivers is somewhat interesting. Mr. Nelson says :—
“ The Native rulers early discovered the fact that to the east of the mountains the district slopes down constantly towards the sea with an average fall of about 10 feet per mile, and they took advantage of this lie of the land to establish a simple but effectual system of irrigation. Wherever the surface dipped a little on either side of the Vaigai, a strong curved embankment was run up to the height of a few feet with its concave side facing the river ; and a channel was taken off at a spot nearly as high above the level of the sea as the top of the embankment. By means of this channel water was made to run in flood time to the low-lying land and the tank or reservoir was complete. Flowing against the embankment the water rose to the required height and became available for irrigation by means of sluices and channels.” These sluices and channels carry the waters to innumerable tanks and reservoirs which form so peculiar a feature of the irrigation system of the district.

Visvanatha Naick, the founder of the Nayaka dynasty, who succeeded to power in 1559, was the builder of these dams. He saw the languishing condition of cultivation generally and the scanty and insufficient population of the tracts through which the Vaigai flowed, and set himself to remedy these defects by taking off large channels from the upper reaches of the Vaigai, by the construction of dams, and by building new villages on the tracts watered by the channels, which then came into existence. All these schemes of improvement from the time of Visvanatha down to our own have had for their object the making of the Vaigai more useful than it naturally was. The immense Periyár project has done and was intended to do no more. The Periyár water, after leaving the tunnel, enters the bed of the Viravanar and the Surliyar a tributary of the Vaigai by which it flows to the Peranai ; at which point the distribution channels take off. From the tunnel to this dam it is about 86 miles.

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE PERANAI.

The Peranai is an old anicut of native construction for the benefit of the Vadagarai channel which already irrigated 4,200 acres through an open head. This anicut is 1,300 feet long and runs in a tortuous line across the river. The crest is not uniform, there being in places a difference of a foot in level and the section is also very irregular. Through repeated repairs, however, it has become

fairly massive and though the maximum flood velocity is computed to be 28 feet, per second, the greater part of the coping is of granite and it was, therefore, decided not to make extensive alterations. About 900 feet on the right the foundation is of rock and the coping is laid on a body wall of brick of varying length. The left portion is built on a soft soil and a massive but irregular apron has accumulated in the rear. These portions were practically left untouched, but on the extreme left a scouring sluice was built consisting of five vents of $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet $\times$ 6 feet, the shutters are worked by screw gearing from a platform $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the crest of the anicut, and $3\frac{3}{4}$ feet above the highest recorded flood, the sill of the sluices being $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet below the crest. On the right and left, massive wings form a junction with the anicut and head sluices respectively; and the left bank of the river in rear is heavily revetted. The head sluices of the Periyár channel which takes off at the Peranai dam is an important structure of eight vents of 10 feet span each with sluice gates $10\frac{3}{4}$ feet worked by double screws connected by a chain of toothed pinions. The sills are 6 feet below the anicut crests, the platform being at the same level as that of the scouring sluice. The area of the vents when free from silt is 480 square feet and they are designed to pass 2,000 cubic feet a second. The particulars of the description are taken from Mr. A. T. Mackenzie's standard volume on the Periyár works. The discharge at the head sluice of the Periyár channel is 1,200 cubic feet per

second, which in the result gives 2 cubic yards of water per hour for an acre. The total ayacut under the Periyár channel is 80,000 acres. Despite the existence of three old sand sluices in the old dam, and the existence also of the scouring sluices constructed on modern principles, the silting at the head sluice could not be satisfactorily put an end to, and during the last two years or so 102 falling shutters were fixed on the lower sections of the old anicut so as to allow silt being washed down the river when the water overflows the shutters. The provision of the falling shutters has led to a law suit by Mr. Fisher of Madura, who contends that the ryots lower down the Peranai dam are entitled to the water overflowing the Peranai and that the provision of the falling shutters is an interference with such rights. It is proposed, however, to demolish the present Peranai dam which runs diagonally across the river and to construct a new regulator on the pattern of the Cauvery-Vennar regulators across the river, the normal width of which is 450 feet. The proposed regulator will begin from the old sand sluice and will consist of 10 vents about 36 feet each. The top of the proposed shutters will be on a level with the crest of the present anicut.

His Excellency, in company with the engineering officials, examined the head sluice, the covering sluice, and the Peranai dam itself very carefully and also had the plans and estimates of the proposed regulator explained to him minutely.

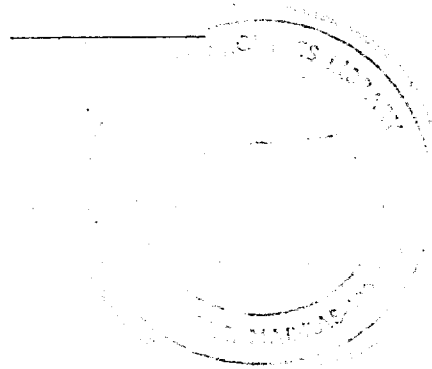
THE RETURN TO MADRAS.

After refreshment at the Public Works Department bungalow the party returned to Ammayanáyakkanúr in time for breakfast. After this His Excellency and party took train to Sholavandan whither they went snipe shooting. In the evening they took the fast mail for Madras at Sholavandan. At Ammayanáyakkanúr Mr. Cardew, the Collector, took leave of His Excellency the Governor and stayed behind. Mr. Thornton accompanied the party as far as Dindigul and there took leave of His Excellency.

The South Indian Railway authorities deserve congratulation on the excellent arrangements they made for His Excellency's journey in special trains, without the least hitch or inconvenience to the ordinary train service. Colonel Creighton, the Locomotive Superintendent, and Mr. H. Davies, the Traffic Manager, travelled with the party throughout and personally superintended the whole Railway arrangements, while Mr. F. Fawcett, the Superintendent of Railway Police, and his staff of Inspectors looked after the arrangements in regard to the Railway platforms.

His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Mr. L. M. Wynch, I.C.S., Private Secretary, and Captain Strong, A.D.C., arrived in Madras by the 9th March morning's fast mail train of the South Indian Railway, after a tour in the Tanjore and

Madura districts. His Excellency was met on the platform at the Egmore station by Her Excellency Lady Ampthill, who came accompanied by Captain the Hon'ble R. Lygon. There were also present Brigadier-General Gilchrist, Mr. J. Twigg, I.C.S., Collector of Madras, and Mr. O. R. Jones, Commissioner of Police. His Excellency's arrival was private. Mr. F. W. Fawcett, Superintendent, Government Railway Police, travelled in charge of the train.



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THE SIXTH AND SEVENTH TOURS

OF

His Excellency LORD AMPHILL,
G.C.I.E.,

IN THE

PROVINCE OF MYSORE AND IN THE COIMBATORE
DISTRICT OF THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

MARCH—APRIL 1902.

Extracts from the "Madras Mail," the "Madras Times"
and the "Hindu."

MADRAS:

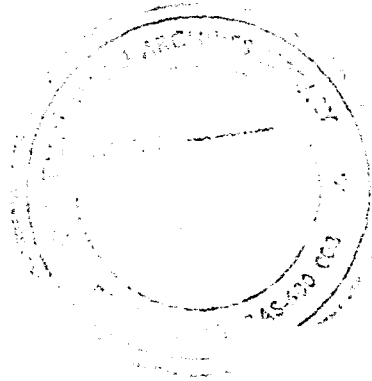
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1902.

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SIXTH TOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

The party that accompanied His Excellency was as follows :—

Captain R. D'A. FIFE, *Acting Military Secretary.*

Captain N. B. G. STRONG, *Aide-de-Camp.*

DETAILED

Month and date.	Day of the week.	Leave or Arrive.	Stations.
1902. March 23	Sunday ..	Leave.	Madras
„ 24	Monday ..	Arrive. Leave.	Bangalore Cantt. .. Bangalore City ..
„ 25	Tuesday ..	Arrive. Leave.	Birur Birur
		Arrive.	Tarikere
		Leave.	Tarikere
		Arrive.	Hebbi
		Leave.	Hebbi
		Arrive.	Hipla
„ 26	Wednesday ..	..	At Camp Hipla ..
„ 27	Thursday ..	Leave. Arrive. Leave.	Hipla Tarikere Tarikere
„ 28	Friday ..	Arrive.	Arsikere
„ 29	Saturday ..	} ..	At Camp Arsikere ..
„ 30	Sunday ..		
„ 31	Monday ..	Leave. Arrive. Leave.	Arsikere Bangalore City .. Bangalore Cantt. ..
April 1	Tuesday ..	Arrive.	Madras

PROGRAMME.

Time.		Distance.	Remarks.
A.M.	P.M.		
..	6-15	Miles. ..	By the Madras Railway mail train.
6-7	..	216	
..	5-0	..	
12-26	..	131	
..	..	..	By special train, Southern Mahratta Railway.
about 1-0	..	15	
about 7-0	..	..	By road.
..	..	30	
..	..	..	By road.
..	..	5	
..	..	..	
..	P.M.	..	By road.
..	P.M.	35	
..	10-23	..	By Southern Mahratta Railway.
1-59	..	43	
..	..	..	
2-9	..	..	By Southern Mahratta Railway.
7-40	..	103	
..	8-5	..	By Madras Railway mail train.
7-10	..	216	

N.B.--All arrivals and departures were private.

ACCOUNT OF THE SIXTH TOUR.

March and April 1902.

His Excellency Lord Ampthill, accompanied by Captain R. D'A. Fife, Acting Military Secretary, and Captain N. B. G. Strong, Aide-de-Camp, left Madras for Bangalore by the south-west mail train of the Madras Railway at 6-15 P.M. on Tuesday the 23rd March. Her Excellency the Lady Ampthill and the Hon'ble Maud Lygon left for Ootacamund by the same mail. Amongst those present on the station platform to see their Excellencies off were:—The Hon'ble Colonel Sir George Moore, Mr. F. A. Dene, Mr. J. Twigg and the Hon'ble Mr. H. A. Sim. Mr. Fawcett, Superintendent, Railway Police, and Mr. Wyman, District Traffic Superintendent, proceeded in charge of the train.

RECEPTION IN BANGALORE.

BANGALORE, 24th March.—His Excellency Lord Ampthill, Governor of Madras, arrived in Bangalore by this morning's mail train from Madras *en route* to the Kadur jungles on a shooting expedition. His Excellency was accompanied by Captain Fife, Military Secretary, and Captain Strong, Aide-de-Camp.

The arrival was private, but notwithstanding this, there was a fair number of officials, and gentlemen present at the Cantonment station to meet His

Excellency. The verandah in front of the arrival platform of the station was gay with flags and other decorations and the whole length of the station platform was covered with the conventional red baize.

Lord Ampthill, on alighting from his state saloon, was received by the Hon'ble Colonel Robertson, c.s.i., Resident of Mysore, who introduced to His Excellency Mr. Krishnamurthi, c.i.e., the Dewan, and the other gentlemen present. After being garlanded, His Excellency exchanged a few words with those present, and with the Hon'ble Colonel Robertson entered the latter's carriage and was driven to the Residency, accompanied by an escort of the Madras Lancers.

Among those present at the Cantonment station were Mr. Russell, I.C.S., Assistant Resident, Major Wilkieson, D.S.P., and Mr. E. S. Lloyd, I.C.S., Collector and District Magistrate, and Mr. Narrain Rao, Deputy Commissioner. A salute of 17 guns announced Lord Ampthill's arrival. His Excellency spent a quiet day at the Residency and left Bangalore by the Southern Mahratta Railway mail train from the City station at 5 P.M. to-day. The approaches to the station, the overbridge and the station platform were tastefully decorated with flags, the overbridge especially presenting a very pleasing appearance.

His Excellency accompanied by the Hon'ble Colonel Robertson, c.s.i., arrived punctually at the station at 4-45 P.M., after paying a visit to the Lal

Bagh on the way. His Excellency was received at the entrance to the overbridge by the Dewan and other officers of the Mysore State and conducted to the saloon. Before the train started, His Excellency was garlanded and presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers. The train started punctually at 5 P.M., and the departure was announced by a salute of 17 guns.

SHOOTING TRIP.

TWO BISON AND A TIGRESS.

CHIKMAGALUR, 29th March. — His Excellency Lord Ampthill and party arrived in the Jagra Valley on the evening of the 25th instant. On the following day the party were taken out by Mr. Sparkes for bison, and two bulls were shot, the larger one by His Excellency and the other by Captain Fife, Military Secretary. The bison the Governor bagged was fourteen years old, having good sized horns and some old wounds with bullets imbedded. The stalking was most difficult. The rogue elephant was untraceable and the party returned to Tarikere on the 27th evening, and proceeded to Arsikere, arriving on the 28th morning for tiger shooting. They proceeded to the place where a tiger was marked down, which was about 14 miles from the railway station. Colonel Jones accompanied the party to the spot and Mr. Theobald, the State Shaikari, met them, and placed them on the *machans*. The beat soon began and a fine tigress fell to the rifle of Captain Strong, Aide-de-Camp. Only one shot was required to lay him out. As there was still time, a second beat was organised, but

unfortunately "Stripes" was absent, and a few wild pigs only were found. The party then went up the Tripaty Hills to beat for bears and spotted deer.

RETURN FROM THE JUNGLE.

PASSING THROUGH BANGALORE.

His Excellency Lord Ampthill and party, accompanied by Mr. Fraser, I.C.S., Tutor to His Highness the Maharajah and Major Jones, returned to Bangalore by the 7-40 train from Arsikere this morning. There were present on the City station platform to meet His Excellency, the Hon'ble Colonel Robertson, c.s.r., Mr. C. L. Russell, Assistant Resident, Mr. Krishnamurti, c.i.e., Dewan of Mysore, Mr. Wilkieson, d.s.p., Mr. E. S. Lloyd, District Magistrate, Mr. Narain Rao, Deputy Commissioner, and some other gentlemen. The arrival was private, and Lord Ampthill on alighting, conversed for a few minutes with Colonel Robertson and others present; and then, accompanied by the Resident, was driven to the Residency. The station and the approaches thereto were decorated in the same manner as on the occasion of His Excellency's departure to Kadur.

1st April.—His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Captain Fife, Military Secretary, and Captain Strong, Aide-de-Camp, returned to Madras this morning at 7-10 by the Madras Railway from his shooting trip to the Mysore Province.

The usual salute of 17 guns was fired from the Fort battery.

SEVENTH TOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

L. M. WYNCH, Esq., I.C.S., *Private Secretary*.

Captain N. B. G. STRONG, *Aide-de-Camp*.

Captain the Hon'ble R. LYGOX, *Aide-de-Camp*.

} Accompanied
His Excel-
lency.

DETAILED

Month and Date.	Day.	Arr. or Dep.	Station.	Time.	
				A.M.	P.M.
1902.					
April 13	Sunday ..	Dep.	Madras ..	..	6-15
" 14	Monday ..	Arr.	Pódanúr ..	7-16	..
				7-30	..
				9-30	..
					2-0
					4-0
					5-30
					8-0
" 15	Tuesday ..	..	Coimbatore ..	6-45	..
				8-15	..
				9-30	..
				12 noon.	..
					1-0
					2-0
					4-45
					6-30
					8-0

PROGRAMME.

Functions and Remarks.
By the Madras Railway. Departure private.
Arrival public. Guard of Honour, Madras Railway Volunteers. Chota hazri at Station.
Visit to the Pódanúr Sugar Works and thence drive to Coimbatore.
Breakfast. Private interviews to Mir Sultan Mobidin Sahib Bahadur. Deputy Collector, and T. Ramasami Iyengar, Retired Sub-Judge.
Luncheon.
Levée and Addresses from (i) the Municipal Council and (ii) the Coimbatore Landholders' Association—both in the College Hall. Guard of Honour, Nilgiri Volunteer Rifles at the Levée.
Industrial Exhibition at the Victoria Town Hall.
Dinner.
Visit to the Central Jail.
Visit to the United Coffee Growers' Co.'s Factory.
Breakfast.
Addresses at the Collector's bungalow from (i) the planters of the Anamalais and (ii) the people of Udamalpet taluk.
Private interview to Mr. Gadsden, Jail Superintendent.
Luncheon.
Inspection of the District Court, the Collector's Office and the Coimbatore Spinning and Weaving Mills.
Entertainment at Rao Bahadur A. T. Thiruvengadasami Mudaliyar's.
Dinner.

Month and Date.	Day.	Arr. or Dep.	Station.	Time.	
				A.M.	P.M.
1902. April 16	Wednesday.	..	Coimbatore ..	6-45	..
				7-45	..
				9-30	..
					2-0
					5-0
					5-30
					8-0
					8-0
,, 17	Thursday ..	Dep.	Coimbatore ..	8-16	..
		Arr.	Méttupálayam.	9-24	..
		Dep.	Do.	10-0	..
		Arr.	Coonoor ..	..	1-20
		Arr.	Ootacamund ..	..	3-30

Functions and Remarks.
Visit to the Perur Temple. Inspection of the Hospital and the Laying of the Foundation Stone of Rao Bahadur A. T. Thiruvengadasami Mudaliyar's Lying-in Ward, <i>en route</i>. Inspection of Cultivation under wells and interview with ryots. Breakfast. Luncheon. Visit to St. Michael's College, and the Industrial School and the Roman Catholic Cathedral. Mr. Fakir-ud-din's Garden Party at the Collector's compound and Address from the Mussalman community. Despatch of the English Mail. Dinner. By the Madras Railway. Departure public. Breakfast at Railway Station. By the Nilgiri Railway. (Break of Gauge.) Luncheon at Railway Station. Drive to Ootacamund. By road. Arrival private.

List of Gentlemen presented to His Excellency the Governor at the Pédanūr Railway Station.

No.	Name.	Designation.
1	V. A. Brodie, Esq. ..	District Judge.
2	C. H. Mounsey, Esq. ..	Collector.
3	C. T. H. Johnson, Esq. ..	Head Assistant Collector.
4	H. H. F. M. Tyler, Esq. ..	Assistant Collector.
5	A. W. Inghington, Esq. ..	District Forest Officer.
6	A. B. Jackson, Esq. ..	Do.
7	S. D. Pears, Esq. ..	Executive Engineer.
8	Mir Sultan Mohideen Sahib Bahadur.	Treasury Deputy Collector.
9	Mahomed Yakub Sahib Bahadur.	Head-quarter Deputy Collector.
10	M.R.Ry. P. S. Vasudeva Rao Avargal.	Huzur Sarishtadar.
11	M.R.Ry. E. T. Vedanayakam Pillai.	Tahsildar, Coimbatore.
12	M.R.Ry. T. S. Balakrishna Iyer.	Public Prosecutor and District Board Member.
13	M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur A. T. Tiruvenkatasami Mudaliar.	Chairman, Municipality.
14	Syed Dewan Fakr-ud-din Sahib.	....
15	Khazi Gulam Moideen Sahib.	....
16	P. E. Messinier, Esq. ..	District Board Member.
17	Rev. C. Petite ..	Do.
18	Rev. A. W. Brough ..	Do.
19	M.R.Ry. K. Venkatakrishna Iyer Avargal.	Do.
20	M.R.Ry. S. P. Narasimhulu Naidu Garu.	Do.
21	M.R.Ry. K. Chowdappiah .	Do.
22	M.R.Ry. Muthu Ramasami Kalingaroya.	Do.

No.	Name.	Designation.
23	M.R.Ry. M. G. Arokiasami Pillai.	Municipal Councillor.
24	M.R.Ry. T. H. Govind Singh.	Do.
25	M.R.Ry. C. N. Kolandavelu Pillai.	Do.
26	M.R.Ry. C. S. Swaminatha Chettiar.	Do.
27	M.R.Ry. V. Nanjappa Chettiar.	Do.
28	M.R.Ry. C. Subbarama Chettiar.	Do.
29	M.R.Ry. S. Balakrishna Pillai.	Do.
30	Kadir Batcha Sahib ..	Do.
31	Mr. W. Fraser ..	Do.

NARRATIVE OF THE SEVENTH TOUR.

April 1902.

His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Mr. L. M. Wynch, Private Secretary, and Captains Strong and the Hon'ble R. Lygon, Aides-de-Camp, left on the evening of 13th April for Coimbatore, *en route* to Ootacamund. He will halt at Coimbatore for three days and arrive at Ootacamund on Thursday evening. His Excellency's departure was private.

THE ARRIVAL AT PÓDANÚR.

COIMBATORE, 14th April.—His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Mr. L. M. Wynch, Private Secretary, Captains Strong and the Hon'ble R. Lygon, Aides-de-Camp, arrived at Pódanúr station by the ordinary mail train this morning about 8 o'clock. The platform was prettily decorated with flags, bunting and foliage, and a salute was fired as the train steamed in. His Excellency was received on the platform by Mr. C. H. Mounsey, the Collector, Mr. V. A. Brodie, District Judge, Mr. S. D. Pears, Executive Engineer, Mr. A. Tiruvenkatasawmy Moodelliar, Chairman of the Municipality, the District Officials, District Board Members,

Municipal Councillors and other gentlemen. A Gaurd of Honour of the Madras Railway Volunteers, with band, saluted Lord Ampthill as he passed to his carriage, and there was a large crowd of spectators outside the station.

THE PÓDANÚR SUGAR FACTORY.

His Excellency and party drove to the Pódanúr Sugar Factory where they were shown the various processes by the Proprietor, Mr. A. Tiruvenkatasawmy Moodelliar. The factory was also decorated and the band of the Madras Railway Volunteers played while His Excellency was looking round. The factory stands in a spacious compound and possesses very complete and powerful plant for the manufacture of sugar. It was started in 1895 by a local company, but could not be made to pay, and in 1897 was acquired by the present proprietor. About 100 workmen are employed and the daily outturn is over 3 tons of sugar and over 2 tons of molasses. The daily melting of jaggery averages 35 candies. After inspecting the factory, refreshments were served to the Governor's party, who then drove to the Collector's bungalow at Coimbatore. Three cheers were given for His Excellency as he left.

THE WELCOME AT COIMBATORE.

The whole of the 4 miles of road from Pódanúr to the Collector's bungalow at Coimbatore was decorated. There were several arches, all bearing loyal mottoes, and hundreds of flags were flying

from short poles by the sides of the road. Many houses were also decorated, and Mr. Tiruvenkatasawmy Moodelliar had put up three pretty arches opposite his house near the Coimbatore railway station. Everybody turned out to see the Governor drive by and he was cheered along the road.

AT COIMBATORE.

THE PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES.

COIMBATORE, 14th April.—At 4 o'clock this afternoon His Excellency the Governor held a well-attended levée at the Native College, after which he received two addresses—one from the Municipal Council, and the other from the landholders of the district. The municipal address was read by Mr. Tiruvenkatasawmy Moodelliar, the Chairman of the Municipality, and was presented in a handsome casket. The landholder's address was read by Mr. N. G. Arokiasawmy Pillai, who headed the deputation of landholders, and this was also enclosed in a casket. His Excellency was garlanded after the presentation of the addresses, to which he made separate replies.

THE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—With feelings of profound respect and loyalty, we the Municipal Councillors of Coimbatore, beg to approach to cordially bid welcome to Your Excellency.

2. We feel extremely disappointed and consider ourselves singularly unfortunate, in not having on this happy occasion an opportunity to welcome also Her Excellency Lady Amphill into our midst.

3. In welcoming Your Excellency we earnestly wish Your Excellency a happy sojourn in this land of ours.

4. Though it cannot boast of much historic renown, or of much antiquarian interest save perhaps for the sacred Pagoda of Perur,—yet in point of climate, it is one of the pleasantest parts of this presidency. That the charms of this place are daily on the increase will be evidenced by the fact that hundreds of foreigners resort to it for the benefit of health and many have actually made it their permanent abode.

5. The main drawbacks through which our town suffers are want of a proper water-supply and the absence of an adequate system of drainage and consequent bad sanitation—in other words they are absence of conditions essential to the general health and well-being of the people. These causes account for the occasional outbreaks in this town in a sporadic form of diseases like cholera and small-pox which can be eradicated by a proper supply of water to the town and the introduction into it of proper drains; but every step towards amelioration is baffled for want of sufficient water.

6. As matters at present stand, the people of the town have to resort to a few deep wells situated at

great distances, and since of recent years, water scarcity has increased owing to the increase of population and to the scantiness of the south-west monsoon which formerly used to bring in copious showers of rain.

7. This will sufficiently show Your Excellency how badly this town stands in need of water. In order to relieve of this difficulty, we have already, as will appear from below, had under consideration a few water projects which we are able to assure Your Excellency, have been pushed to a sufficiently mature stage. All that is now required is the approval, sanction, and help of the Benign Government which, as Your Excellency has always the welfare of the people at heart, we sanguinely hope will graciously be accorded sooner or later, while Your Excellency, is at the helm of the Government of this presidency.

8. So late as in 1892, on a representation made by the then Municipal Council, the Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Jones, proposed a scheme of water-supply by the use of infiltration galleries from the Noyil river at a cost of about 4 lacks of rupees. This scheme had to be abandoned owing to its costliness.

9. The present Chairman being alive to the pressing need of the bulk of the population revived the question in August 1900, by first addressing the Sanitary Engineer and then the Government for the suggestion of a cheaper scheme similar to that introduced in Conjeeveram. At the same time he

formulated a scheme of his own at the Sanitary Engineer's request, for the conversion into a reservoir of the Muthannankolum tank situated at the northern end of the town by supplementing it from the Noyil by means of the Chithrachavadi Raja Voykal.

10. This tank, however, after inspection by the Sanitary Engineer in company with the Collector and the Chairman on the 16th January 1902, has been pronounced to be unsuited for the purpose of water-supply.

11. But the Sanitary Engineer is of opinion that another tank next to it which is called the Komarasawmy tank, seems to offer prospects of a project of sufficient storage capacity and much less costly than the Noyil gallery scheme.

12. If this be feasible, we seek for the necessary help from Your Excellency's Government to have it carried out for the alleviation of the suffering of the so many inhabitants of this town and if it should succeed we are sure that Your Excellency will leave here an ever memorable name to be handed down to posterity.

13. We have already occupied much of Your Excellency's valuable time, for which we humbly beg to be excused. We once more heartily welcome Your Excellency and request to be allowed to conclude this address with our sincere prayer for the welfare, happiness and longevity of Your Excellency and Her Excellency Lady Ampthill.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S REPLY.

The following is the reply to the address of the Municipal Council:—

GENTLEMEN OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,—I am greatly obliged to you for your kind words of welcome, and I regret, perhaps even more than you do, that Lady Ampthill is not here to share them with me. Her Excellency, I may tell you, was extremely anxious to accompany me here, as she wishes to do on all my tours, but was obliged to go up to Ootacamund under doctor's orders. If she had been well enough she would certainly have come, and it is a great disappointment to her as well as to me that she has been unable to do so. You tell me that Coimbatore cannot boast of much historic renown or antiquarian interest, but that in point of climate it is one of the pleasantest parts of the presidency. I have always heard that this is the case, and that Coimbatore is a favourite resort of the retired official, who ought to be a good judge of climatic and other advantages, seeing that he has generally had experience of a great many different places. Well, if I had to choose between antiquarian interest and climatic advantage for my own place of permanent abode, I should certainly choose the latter, and I therefore think that you are fortunate in living here.

But you go on to speak of the drawbacks from which your town suffers, which you say are the want of a proper water-supply and the absence of an adequate system of drainage. I am sorry to say that

I have heard the same complaint in a good many other towns which I have visited, and I know that in each case it has been well-founded. I am fully alive to the dangers and inconveniences of an inadequate water-supply, and I can tell you, as I have told the people of other towns, that the Government is ever ready to lend a sympathetic ear to complaints in this respect. Indeed, my colleagues and I are most anxious to give assistance to each and every practicable scheme for improving the water-supply and sanitation of the towns in the presidency, but our powers of so doing are subject to certain restrictions. The first of these is that the Government of India will no longer permit us to make a free grant of half the cost of the scheme as was formerly the practice of the Madras Government. Our present powers of rendering financial assistance are therefore limited to the making of loans. Secondly, as the amount of money available for loans is not unlimited, we have to compare the claims of all the places which have water-supply schemes on hand and give priority in strict order of merit.

In deciding these claims we are naturally more disposed to help those who make real efforts to help themselves.

You tell me that you have had under consideration a few water projects which have been pushed to such a mature stage that nothing further is required except the approval, sanction and help of Government. I wish it were so, but as a matter of fact, you have spoken somewhat loosely.

The first scheme which was proposed was obviously impracticable on financial grounds. Even if Government had contributed half the initial cost and lent the other half, and you had imposed taxes at the maximum rates, you would not have been able to provide the amount required for the liquidation of the loan and the annual maintenance charges.

The next scheme, the Muthannakolum tank scheme, was proved to be impracticable on sanitary and other grounds, and there only remains the latest suggestion for utilizing the Komarasamy tank. I call it a suggestion for no investigation has as yet been made, and you are therefore still far from having a matured scheme to submit for the sanction and assistance of Government. The present position is that you have been asked to consider how you would finance the scheme when prepared, before you spend money on investigating it. Until the Government have received your reply on this essential point, it is clearly premature and impossible for me to make any promise of assistance. I can only express a sincere hope that a good and adequate water-supply from the Komarasamy tank will prove to be practicable both from the engineering and the financial points of view, and that I may myself see the realization of your hopes.

I thank you for your kind wishes, and I assure you that you have not taken up more of my time than I have been glad to give.

THE LANDHOLDERS' ADDRESS.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—On behalf of the inhabitants, landholders and agriculturists of Coimbatore we beg most respectfully to heartily welcome Your Excellency to our district. We also recognize Your Excellency's sterling qualities and assiduous disposition to improve the welfare of the people committed to Your Excellency's charge. Availing ourselves of this auspicious occasion we respectfully beg to lay before Your Excellency our chief wants and grievances with the sanguine hope that Your Excellency will graciously be pleased to remedy them.

The river Noyel, our chief source of irrigation, flows through Coimbatore, Palladam, Dhárápúram and Erode taluks. It has 32 anikats and irrigates about 19,400 acres. Water in the river is not sufficient to fully irrigate the ayacut under it. The insufficiency of water for the purposes of cultivation and the uncertainty of the monsoons have harrassed the ryots not a little and beyond that, have impoverished them in many cases. Often the ryot, encouraged by a flood in the river, begins cultivation in his lands only to lose his labour and seed-grain by the subsequent failure of rains. To overcome this difficulty in many instances ryots have sunk wells at their own cost and are content to raise inferior kinds of grain, as cholam, ragi, etc., though the higher rate of wet assessment has been levied on such lands. The Hon'ble Mr. F. A. Nicholson, who knows personally the agricultural conditions

of Coimbatore ryots, having at various times been Head Assistant, Sub-Collector and Collector in this district, describes in detail the sufferings of the ryots in his District Manual. He says "loss ensues certainly to the ryot and often to the Government—" *vide* page 289, paragraph 2. Thus the agricultural population is yearly growing poorer and poorer and is falling an easy pray to usurers.

We respectfully beg leave to point out to Your Excellency that owing to insufficiency of water for irrigation purposes the Government had to make remissions to the ryots of Coimbatore taluk alone to the extent of about Rs. 1,30,000 from fasli 1297 to 1309. If proper irrigation is secured similar losses could be avoided in future and a positive gain, about Rs. 30,000 effected annually, by converting certain dry lands into wet and by redeeming the wet lands transferred to dry for want of water.

We beg to submit for Your Excellency's information that about 40 years ago Mr. Collier, an Engineer of the Public Works Department, suggested to the Madras Government the diversion into the Noyel of Muthukulam river, a perennial stream, the water of which is simply wasted at present. The suggestion was subsequently approved of and recommended as highly beneficial both to the ryots and Government by Mr. Fraser and Colonels Montgomery and Vibart, Engineers, and Messrs. E. B. Thomas, P. Grant, A. Wedderburn, J. H. A. Treemenhere, J. Thomson (now the Honourable) and J. Sturrock, Collectors. The Honourable Board

of Revenue also recommended the project. We respectfully invite Your Excellency's attention to Board's Proceedings, No. 735, dated 1st September 1888, which gives some figures and information about the project. When the matter was laid before Lord Wenlock, a predecessor of Your Excellency, Colonel Drake Brockman, Chief Engineer, after personally inspecting the place and examining everything reported favourably on the project. Mr. F. W. Ashpitel and Mr. A. A. G. Malet, Executive Engineers, who had the opportunity to inspect the place and look into all the details were also in favour of the scheme. But unfortunately for the agriculturists of Coimbatore the constant change in the office of Engineers prejudicially affected the accomplishment of the project, and the officers hardly found time with their multifarious duties to minutely examine everything connected with the project and to devote their personal attention to the scheme. We therefore very respectfully beg to suggest that a special Engineer be deputed for the work and if that is not feasible we beg to request that Your Excellency will be pleased to post Mr. F. W. Ashpitel, who has been in the Coimbatore division for some time and who has thoroughly studied the question, to Coimbatore division, and leave him undisturbed for some time so that further investigation be made if necessary and substantial operations fairly begun during Your Excellency's tenure of office.

Our sympathetic Collector, Mr. C. H. Mounsey, and the Municipal authorities of the town will, we

are sure, agree that a good portion of the district and the whole town of Coimbatore will be very much benefited by the project. Our town suffers severely from scarcity of water. This town is fast increasing in population owing to the existence of coffee curing, cotton cleaning and sugar manufacturing factories; the educational institutions are increasing in size and importance; and for purposes of trade and for the sake of health this town is largely visited by outsiders.

Secondly, there is a tank by the name "Narasambadhi." This tank has under it more than 500 acres of land, with a revenue of about Rs. 4,000. We are given to understand that the tank has been abandoned as an irrigation source and that it is proposed to irrigate the lands (that were irrigated by the tank) by the Chitrachavadi channel. The proposal, we are afraid, is likely to bring distress on the owners of the lands under the said tank, and subject the Chitrachavadi ryots to considerable inconvenience and loss. Irrigation by means of this channel may appear to be feasible, yet in practice it will be found not so beneficial as irrigation from the tank. We respectfully beg to submit that although this tank has been abandoned and no repairs were executed still the ryots utilized the water stored in the tank for their crops and without it the lands would have produced no harvest at all. We beg to hope that our popular Tahsildar M.R. Ry. E. T. Vedanayagam Pillai Avargal, who personally knows all our sufferings, and our good hearted

Collector, Mr. C. H. Mounsey will fully endorse our representations. Whatever may be the theoretical calculations of the officers of the Engineering Department, the ryots have found by experience the abandonment of the tank to be productive of untold miseries and serious hardships to them. We beg to add that the ryots have sunk wells in many fields to supplement the irrigation when there is no water in the tank. If the tank is fully abandoned the supply to the wells will be very much affected and the wells will become useless, for they will lose the benefit of percolation from the tank. We therefore beg to request that Your Excellency will be graciously pleased to order that the tank "Narasambadhi" be restored and retained as an irrigation source.

Thirdly, we are given to understand that it is proposed to transfer the work of distribution of water from the Revenue officers to the officers of the Public Works Department. The proposal, we very respectfully beg to submit, is seriously objectionable for the following reasons. The Revenue officers are the only officers who have facilities and opportunities to know the sufferings of the ryots. They are the officers who collect kists from, and grant remission to, the ryots and to whom the ryots often go on various business. They being the officers responsible for the collection of kists will take care to irrigate the crops sufficiently, lest the ryots should curse them when they demand kists. Sense of duty on one side and sense of sympathy and close contact with the people on the other side will compel the Revenue officers to

be always mindful of the proper irrigation of the crops. The officers of the Public Works Department have no sufficient opportunities to know the sufferings of the people and people will not have so much facility with them as they have with the Revenue officers. Therefore we beg to request that the distribution of water be left in the hands of the Revenue officers as has been the case hitherto.

Fourthly, Kuniyamuthur channel is an important channel supplying a series of tanks, Kangeya Samudram, Soitayandi kuttai, Perur tank, and Senkolam tanks. This channel is not in good repairs. The channel, besides being much silted up, has a very great danger to it and is every year breached very seriously, throwing the major portion of its water into the river. The danger is this. There is a jungle stream called Ravalan pallam on the 6th mile of the channel. Its torrent is very forcible and at the place where it joins the channel, it causes a great breach turning the channel itself into the river. By this breach water goes to the river and the channel is filled with sand. The poor ryots on each occasion at their cost make turf bund, etc., to close the breach. Whatever may be their labour and energy in closing the breach, it is certain that they could not do it without wasting much water.

When Mr. J. Hannan was the Superintending Engineer, the ryots represented to him the disadvantages their irrigation source is subjected to. That gentleman, with the Sub-Divisional officer, inspected the place and being convinced of the truth

of the representations, directed that the jungle stream should be thrown into the river through an aqueduct and, so far as we are given to understand, plans and estimates were prepared for the purpose, but the matter was ordered to lie over as funds were not then available. Unfortunately for the ryots Mr. Hannan was transferred and after his transfer the subject seems to have escaped the notice of the officers concerned. Now availing ourselves of Your Excellency's visit, we beg to request that Your Excellency will issue orders to construct the aqueduct in this season and thus avoid the danger which threatens the ryots very seriously year after year, so that the tanks may have full supply in the next monsoon. Besides this, our tanks are very much silted up and require deepening, and when deepened, will contain supply for three months more. We therefore pray that the tanks be ordered to be deepened.

Fifthly, with utmost deference we beg to lay before Your Excellency some of our grievances in the way of kist collections. Ryots holding lands in this district happen to be residents of places in other districts. Even though they make some arrangement for prompt payment of their kists through their tenants, it so happens that they fail to pay up the kist in time and the lands are brought to sale resulting in serious loss of property to persons residing outside. We, therefore, beg to suggest the following remedy to avert the difficulty :—

(i) Treasury officers must be authorized to receive payments made to them on account of the

land or other revenue, duly accompanied by a chalan giving therein the number of patta, the name of the village, taluk and district and the fasli for which the payment is made. This system which was known as payment by local remittance was in force sometime ago, but abandoned on the supposition that it involved additional work on the Treasury officials. The abolition of the system is found from experience to be productive of much hardship to the ryots and we respectfully beg Your Excellency to order the revival of the old system.

(ii) In the adoption of coercive processes we beg to submit the following for Your Excellency's consideration. In the case of attachment of immoveable property it is now enough even if the notice is affixed to a tree in the land. This is dangerous. In many cases the avaricious adjacent landowner and the village officers acting in collusion bring the land to sale under the pretext that notices were served by affixing the same to the trees on the land; and the landowner becomes aware of the sale, etc., long after and is thus deprived of his property as well as every remedy. Therefore we beg to suggest that notice of attachment must be served personally on the landowner, and in the event of sale of the land the landowner must be given the option of redeeming the land within a month, provided he pays the arrears together with the incidental expenses as provided in the Civil Procedure Code in the case of judicial sales; and to give an opportunity to the landowner to get the sale set aside, he must

be given notice to the effect that his land has been sold and that the sale will be confirmed, should he fail to pay the arrears and incidental expenses, specifying the same in the notice; and this notice also must be served personally on the landowner or enjoyer of the land. By amending the rule thus, sales of many lands will be avoided and there will be no chance for clandestine sales, etc.

Sixthly, we beg to submit to Your Excellency's benevolent consideration a very important matter which affects very seriously the poor ryots in rural parts. It will be observed that forest laws and rules are very stringent with regard to the grazing of cattle. The hill sites and porambokes are under the control of the Forest officers. There are no pasture grounds set apart. The cattle and sheep have to graze in the porambokes and on the hills. For this the ryots have to get permits on payment of a certain amount. The poor ryots are put to inconveniences and troubles which are beyond expression. The forest watchers and guards unscrupulously impound the cattle even though they are protected by permits and the ryots have to take the cattle back only on payment of the pound fee and, in many instances, cases are launched in criminal Courts as if the ryots had illegally rescued the cattle seized by the forest men. The Magistrates, we very respectfully beg to submit, for the reason that they are departmental cases, are more inclined to award conviction. Thus though the ryots do not grudge to pay the permit fee, yet they cannot bear

this oppression they are made to suffer at the hands of the forest servants in the villages. We therefore very respectfully beg to request that Your Excellency will be pleased to make grazing in forests free. We also beg that leaves may be allowed to be taken for manuring purposes and wood may be allowed to be cut for ploughs and other agricultural implements free.

Seventhly, we are glad to find that our district board under the Presidency of our popular Collector has proposed to open a railway line from Pódanúr to Palni-Dindigul. But it is rumoured that the Railway authorities propose to have the line *viâ* Dhárápura. This, we beg to submit, is not beneficial to the people or to the proprietors of the Company. Pollachi and Udamalpet are more important places than Dhárápura in point of commerce and there are numerous pilgrims who go to Palni from Palghat and its neighbourhood throughout the year. Thus a line from Pódanúr *viâ* Pollachi and Udamalpet is more lucrative and convenient than a line through Dhárápura. Therefore we earnestly pray that Your Excellency will be pleased to adopt the line from Pódanúr *viâ* Pollachi and Udamalpet to Palni-Dindigul.

And lastly we beg to request that Gobichettipalayam Kangayam and Kaniyur Komaralingam post offices may be made combined post-and-telegraph offices.

In conclusion we earnestly pray that Your Excellency's rule in our Presidency may bring years of

happiness and plenty to Your Excellency's subjects and that God may bless Your Excellency and Lady Amphill with long life and prosperity.

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

The following is His Excellency's reply to the address of the landholders :—

GENTLEMEN,—If I may measure your confidence in my desire and ability to improve the administration of the Madras Presidency by the amount of your demands on my attention and sympathy I am satisfied that it is very considerable. I do not say that the questions which you have brought to my notice in your truly portentous address are not all of them questions which demand my attention, but I should have preferred to deal with them separately and under less pressure of time than is possible in the preparation of replies to your addresses. I shall not however find fault with you because your notion of what is appropriate on an occasion like this differs from mine, but I shall endeavour to the best of my ability to reply to your representations.

I only ask you to bear in mind that if I do not follow you into every detail it is because you have not given me time to do so.

The first point to which you call my attention is the insufficiency of water in the river Noyel for the irrigation of all the lands dependent upon it, and you bring to my notice a project for supplementing the supply by diversion of the Noyel to the Muthu-

kulam river. This project has been investigated at various times and was condemned by Mr. G. T. Walsh, Chief Engineer for Irrigation, in 1888 and again in 1890. Mr. Malet, Executive Engineer, who made some further investigations, submitted, as you say, a more favourable report, but it has been found that the data on which he relied were in some cases incorrect. There is considerable diversity of opinion as to the amount of water available, and Government has so many more promising investigations in hand that it is impossible at present to comply with your request to appoint a special officer to make further investigations. The question depends largely on the decision that may be come to in regard to the Bhaváni reservoir, and the Muthukulam project must lie over until that question has been decided.

As regards the Narasambadhi tank, I find that, though this was ordered to be abandoned some years ago, it has not actually been given up, and the Board of Revenue has called for a report from the Collector as to the circumstances in which it has been retained, and I have no doubt that, in making his report, the Collector will give full weight to your representations on the subject. With a view to preventing the breaching and the silting up of the Kunnamuthur channel by the inflow of the Ravanapalayam and the Thettipalayam jungle streams, estimates for constructing two under-tunnels to carry the streams across the channel have been submitted by the Superintending Engineer.

The cost of constructing these under-tunnels, with sufficient capacity to carry maximum floods, would amount to Rs. 23,000, and this sum is considered to be out of all proportion to the benefits to be derived. It has therefore been decided to abandon this project.

No proposal to transfer the work of distribution of water from the Revenue officers to the officers of the Public Works Department has, as yet, come before me. If it should do so, the objections which you have just urged shall be carefully considered.

The fifth matter to which you refer relates to the payment of kists by absentee ryots. Owing to the enormous number of minute sums in which land revenue is collected, it has been found necessary, in order to obviate fraud and prevent confusion and delay in accounting, to insist on kists being paid either in the village or, at any rate, in the treasury of the taluk in which the land is situated. The system of permitting payments to be made by Post office money orders was given a three years' trial, but it was abandoned as it was found that very few persons availed themselves of the privilege. Payments by Post office money orders were not made to any great extent by non-resident pattadars, but rather by those who were at enmity with the village monegar or by litigant parties who sought to set up a claim to the land in dispute by the payment of the Government dues. In view, however, of the fact that the money order commission has just been reduced from two annas to

one anna in the case of sums not exceeding five rupees, and of the fact that the existing orders requiring the payment of Government dues in the treasury of the taluk in which the land is situated were issued subsequent to the discontinuance of the system of payment by postal money order, I shall be prepared to reconsider the question of giving the system a further trial and will do so on my return to head-quarters.

Your second proposal that notice of attachment of land for arrears of land revenue must be served on an absentee landowner personally, is impracticable. A pattadar has his obligations as well as his rights. It is his duty as an honest man to satisfy himself that his dues are properly paid, and Government cannot undertake to relieve him of this obligation. Nor would it do to allow an absentee landowner, in the event of the sale of his land, the option of redeeming the land within a month of the date of sale. This would only have the effect of introducing uncertainty into the sale, which would seriously affect intending purchasers and thereby deter them from bidding for the land. Further I learn from the Collector that as a matter of fact no sales of land have taken place in this district during the past five years on account of default of payment of kists by pattadars residing in other districts.

Your next request that grazing in forests may be allowed free, is inadmissible. Every facility is, I learn, allowed to the ryots in this district for obtaining grazing permits, and prosecutions for

illicit grazing are very carefully watched. If, therefore, hardships are inflicted in individual cases by unscrupulous forest watchers and guards, the proper course is to bring such cases to the notice of the Collector and his Forest officer. Rules which are intended for the benefit of the community as a whole and for the preservation of forests and grazing grounds, cannot be abrogated because they may occasionally lead to abuses. Leaves for manure can be obtained free from all unreserved lands, and I understand that large quantities of such leaves are actually collected free of charge and sold.

As regards the projected railway line, you urge that it should be taken from Pódanúr *via* Pollachi and Udamalpet to Palni, rather than to Dhárapuram. Government has recently declined to express a preference for either route until the surveys have been made and the opinions of the railway companies interested, considered. The reasons which you have urged in favour of the Palni route will, however, receive the consideration they undoubtedly deserve.

Your next request for combined Post and Telegraph offices at Gobichettipalayam and other places should be preferred through the District Board to the Postmaster-General and the Director-General of Telegraphs. If the necessary guarantees are forthcoming, it will, no doubt, be favourably considered.

I thank you sincerely for the words of welcome with which you commenced your address and the

good wishes with which you concluded it. I could wish nothing better for myself than that which you have wished for me in your prayer that my administration may benefit the people of this presidency.

AN INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

After the replies His Excellency and party visited an Industrial Exhibition in the Victoria Town Hall of a large number of interesting exhibits consisting of various kinds of timber, fibre, and other forest produce sent by the local Forest Department; different kinds of food-stuffs and vegetables by local agriculturists; a large number of samples of native silk and other cloths manufactured in Coimbatore; exhibits by the United Coffee Growers' Company and Messrs. T. Stanes & Co., and the Coimbatore Spinning and Weaving Mills, and the Wesleyan Mission School at Karur, which showed some excellent rattan and cabinet work. Besides these there were private exhibits of gold and silver jewels, native toys, and brass and silver utensils. His Excellency took a great interest in the Exhibition, and stayed some time.

A VISIT TO AN ANIMAL SHOW.

He afterwards paid a brief visit to the local S. P. C. A. Animal Show, which opened yesterday. He then returned to the Collector's bungalow.

AT THE COIMBATORE CENTRAL JAIL.

COIMBATORE, 15th April.—This morning His Excellency and party paid a visit to the Coimbatore Central Jail. The Governor was conducted over the institution by Mr. E. H. Gadsden, the Superintendent, and spent over an hour on the premises. He was received at the entrance to the jail by a guard of warders, and after looking at the prison oil mill, rice-pounders and water-lift, proceeded to inspect a very creditable display of vegetables grown in the jail. He was then taken over the solitary cells and proceeded to the extensive weaving plant which is one of the most note-worthy features of the prison. There are no fewer than 74 looms in the building, 40 of which were at work this morning, and all are of modern pattern. The jail has its own dye works, and this, with the weaving and other processes, gives work to over 200 convicts. His Excellency also inspected the cells, the carpenters' shops, and the manufacture of coir matting. He was then taken to see an improved hand-loom that has been invented by Mr. Kuppusawmy Iyer, a silk-weaver of Madura, and has been sent to Mr. Gadsden for report. This loom, the inventor claims, greatly simplifies the weaving of ornamental borders on native cloths, and the justness of his claim was borne out this morning by the fact that a boy, certainly not more than 12 years old, was weaving a silk cloth with a border bearing a loyal address to His Majesty King Edward VII, which Mr. Kuppusawmy Iyer intends sending Home for

the Coronation. The inventor of the loom presented His Excellency with an address in the form of a silk band, in which the following was woven in gold:—"To His Excellency Lord Ampthill, Governor of Madras. Your Excellency,—I heartily welcome Your Excellency here to see my humble hand-loom at work. Happy are we under the British *Raj*: long may this *Raj* continue, long may King Edward reign, and long live Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill." A patent for the loom has been applied for. Lord Ampthill also inspected a small exhibition of the various kinds of work done in the Jail, among the exhibits being some very creditable carpets, carvings, cabinet work and cloths. Before leaving he made the following entry in the Visitors' book:—"I have been much interested in all that I have seen in this splendid and well-organised jail."

THE UNITED COFFEE GROWERS' COMPANY.

Lord Ampthill then drove to the works of the United Coffee Growers' Company, a company of planters, which was started in 1900 to place locally grown coffee on the market in a manufactured form. His Excellency was met by Mr. H. W. Leeming, the Manager, who conducted the party over the works. The processes of testing, roasting and grinding the coffee were explained, and very excellent coffee was served during the visit. The Governor was especially interested in the plant the Company has put down for making tins to hold the

coffee, and was much struck with the wonderful accuracy and quickness of the various machines.

The party paid a short visit to the Coimbatore Club before returning to the Collector's bungalow.

THE ANAMALAI PLANTERS' ADDRESS.

This afternoon at the Collector's bungalow, His Excellency received addresses from the planters of the Anamalai Hills and the land-holders and merchants of the Udamalpet taluk. The former was read by Mr. Windle, a well-known planter, and ran as follows :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the resident planters of the Anamalais, are much pleased at the opportunity afforded us to-day of welcoming Your Excellency to this district, and of expressing our appreciation of the interest evinced by Your Excellency in planting affairs. We trust it will not be considered out of place if we make use of the occasion to offer some remarks on the progress and wants of the new planting district now opening up on the Anamalais, in which our lot is cast and our capital invested.

The district was first thrown open to planting capital by Your Excellency's predecessor, Sir Arthur Havelock, thereby giving scope to the expansion of the industry in making available good forest land which, in the older planting districts, was no longer procurable. That this policy was at once appreciated is, we think, shown by the facts that upwards of 19,000 acres of land have already been taken up,

and that planting operations have been carried out involving an expenditure, so far, of upwards of Rs. 10 lakhs. The products under cultivation at present are coffee, tea, cinchona, and cardamoms, while rubber and pepper are being tried experimentally. This satisfactory progress is largely due to the liberality of Government in the matter of roads and bridges, for which we wish to express our appreciation and best thanks. Twenty-eight miles of a good ghât cart road are nearly completed, and will, when finished, be an immense assistance in bringing in grain to feed the large labour force employed on the estates; also machinery, building material, manure and other necessities, and for the carting out of produce.

The district is, however, a large one; and branch roads are urgently needed to connect outlying portions of the district with the main road. The opening up of these roads we consider is a necessary preliminary to the expansion of planting, and we trust Your Excellency will keep this, our chief want, in sight. Apart from the necessity for these branch roads for the exploitation of the district, we would point out that conditions have already arisen to show that in the interest of the owners of estates whose branch roads must pass through other leased lands, early steps must be taken to acquire the rights-of-way provided for in clause 7 of the agreements to lease. Under this clause the Government has retained the right to acquire the land necessary for such roads, thereby securing

to the lessee access to his property. If acted upon at once, these roads would pass only through uncleared forest; should the intervening blocks, however, be cultivated before the branch roads are made—a contingency which has already arisen in one case—the compensation would necessarily be on a higher scale, and, if longer deferred, would be paid on mature cultivation,—the damage to which might be considerable. In further reference to branch roads, we would desire to express to Your Excellency our opinion, that the reading of clause 29 of the agreement to lease, as at present interpreted by the Revenue Board is a distinct hardship. The Board has held, with reference to a case recently sent up, that, under this section, payment of compensation is always on the lessee. We wish respectfully to submit that it is the right of every lessee of Government that he shall be provided with a right-of-way to the land leased him free of all cost, and that it should only be in the event of a lessee requiring a second or other road to his land that this clause for compensation should apply.

We trust that Your Excellency will consider the rapid and extensive expansion of our district gives us some claim to express an earnest hope that the projected railway from Pódanúr to Dindigul *via* Pollachi, will soon become an accomplished fact, and will pass through Udamalpet and Palni, thus connecting these important markets directly with Pollachi and the main line at Pódanúr, and at the same time securing the traffic from the northern

outlet of the Kanan Devan Hills—a large and flourishing district.

We conclude by humbly thanking Your Excellency for being graciously pleased to pay a visit to this district.

In reply His Excellency said:—

GENTLEMEN,—One of my principal objects in coming to Coimbatore was to glean information from those who are personally acquainted with the needs of the district, and I am therefore glad to have met you and to have had this opportunity of hearing you. I am sadly aware that the planters of Southern India are in none too prosperous a condition, and this naturally inclines me to listen with readiness and sympathy to their representations. The remarks you have made are therefore thoroughly appropriate to this occasion which you have chosen for offering me a welcome for which I heartily thank you.

I am glad to find that you appreciate the policy of opening up the Anamalai Hills and that fair progress has been made in planting operations in the lands already leased out. The ghât cart road has unfortunately suffered heavy damage owing to exceptional rains but funds have been sanctioned for repairing the road. The construction of branch roads is no doubt, as you say, necessary for the expansion of planting, and your request that the necessary branch road should be laid out and the right-of-way over other leased lands acquired at an early date in order to obviate unnecessarily heavy expenditure on

compensation, appears to be reasonable and shall have my careful attention. The construction of the ghât road has, however, cost a great deal more than was originally anticipated, and I am afraid that it may not be possible to provide money for the construction of branch roads as fast as you might wish.

You draw my attention in this connection to the question of the interpretation of clause 29 of the agreement which stipulates that the lessee should pay the compensation awarded by the Collector for land required for "all or any branch roads" constructed by the lessee in or through the lands of neighbouring lessees, and you claim as a matter of right to have one right-of-way to the land leased, free of all cost. I have not had sufficient time to examine this question closely but will do so on my return to head-quarters.

I shall be glad to do everything in my power towards furthering the extension of local railway enterprise in this Presidency. The way has been pioneered by the Tanjore District Board, and I trust that the efforts of the Coimbatore District Board to bring about the construction of a line from Pôdanûr to Dindigul may be crowned with success. The proposals of the District Board to levy the railway cess have been approved by Government, and the District Board, in endeavouring to interest the investing public in England, is adopting the only course which affords any prospect of the early completion of the project. Its inclusion in the "All-India

programme" for many years to come is out of the question. The Financial Member of the Viceroy's Council remarked in his Financial statement that the requirements for capital expenditure on railways are growing larger year by year, and that the fulfilment of these requirements threatens to absorb the whole of the capital resources of the Government of India leaving little or nothing for new construction.

As I remarked yesterday in replying to the address of the landholders of Coimbatore, the Government defers, for the present, making any pronouncement on the choice of route until the surveys have been completed and the opinions of the Railway Companies interested have been considered.

In conclusion, let me assure you once more that it has been a pleasure to me to have met you, and that I shall carefully bear in mind what you have said.

THE UDAMALPET LANDHOLDERS.

The Address from the landholders and merchants of Udamalpet which was read by Mr. V. S. Ramasawmy Iyer, was presented in a handsome inlaid casket, and was as follows :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the landholders and merchants of Udamalpet taluk, beg respectfully to offer Your Excellency our most sincere welcome to the district and to express our deep feelings of loyalty and devotion to the British throne through Your Excellency as the august representative of His Gracious Majesty

the King Emperor, whose sovereignty over this vast Empire, we feel sanguine, will be as productive of important and beneficent results as that of his illustrious mother.

Encouraged by Your Excellency's earnest desire, from the very beginning of your administration, to acquaint yourself directly with the conditions and requirements of the people entrusted to your benevolent care, we venture to lay before you some of our wants in the full confidence that they will receive your sympathetic consideration. Udamalpet is the southernmost taluk in Coimbatore bordering on the Travancore frontier. In point of agricultural industrial and commercial importance it is second to none in the district. The river Amarávati is the chief source of our wealth irrigating more than 7,000 acres of land in this taluk alone. The scope for improving well-cultivation is large in the fertile tracts of this taluk and we are in hopes that the labours of the Irrigation Commission will result among others in providing help in the shape either of grants in aid or of state loans on easier terms for digging and deepening wells. The ryots in this taluk and in Dhárápúram and Karúr are greatly interested in a scheme which Colonel Smart many years ago suggested in respect of a reservoir for the river Amarávati in Kallapuram where it enters the plains and begins to irrigate. The scheme was supported by Mr. Hannan and is regarded by the public as one that would be most useful and productive especially lower down the river where the

supply is now insufficient. It has been estimated that, by a dam across the river connecting two hills on its either side, a reservoir will be formed whose water-spread will cover about 4,000 acres for a depth of 60 feet and will be enough to irrigate 40,000 acres in the three taluks in the place of the existing area irrigated of 25,000 acres only. The extensive floods during the south-west monsoon now run to waste which the reservoir will retain for use when the river supply falls short or fails altogether in the lower portions in summer. The scheme is worthy of a thorough investigation and should Your Excellency be pleased to order a detailed survey and direct measures to be taken to give shape to the scheme by estimates and plans, its feasibility and productive character will become clear. The three taluks of Udamalpet, Dhárápúram and Karúr will hail this project with delight and the work will become a monument of Your Excellency's sympathetic care and benevolent interest in the welfare of the agricultural population. The Travancore State is extending cultivation by clearing forests near the source of the river and is likely to use a larger quantity of the Amaravathi water, which in the course of a few years will affect our irrigation. The proposed reservoir will provide for such a contingency.

The next subject which we beg permission to press on your kind attention relates to the want of a railway to connect our station with Coimbatore. Through the kind efforts of our popular Collector Mr. Mounsey the need for a branch line has been

brought to the notice of the Government. It is unfortunate that there is no prospect of the line finding a place in the "All-India programme" for a number of years. We are grateful to the Collector for his proposal as President of the District Board to levy a small cess under the new provisions in the Local Boards Act to enable the Board to open a light railway between Pódanúr and Udamalpet *viâ* Pollachi. The traffic statistics collected by the Madras Railway Company some years ago will show that the line will be paying. The existence of the weekly market at Pollachi which is the largest in the Presidency with transactions exceeding in value one lakh of rupees a week, the extensive pilgrimage to Palni from various parts and especially from Malabar, the opening of the Poonachi Hills for coffee plantations, the construction of a road *viâ* Manupatti to the Devikolam plantations on the Travancore Hills, and the development of coffee cultivation on lower Palnis, are additional circumstances in favour of the railway. The cultivation of the valuable products of cotton, sugarcane, tobacco and cummin seeds for which Udamalpet has earned a name will receive considerable impetus, and trade will develop immensely if the railway becomes an accomplished fact. The absence of a bridge for the Amaravathi is now an impediment to the extension of commerce with Dindigul and other commercial centres in the east. The bridge at Madathukolam washed away about thirty years ago has not been rebuilt. When the branch line is constructed and continued to

Dindigul, the railway bridge could be so erected as to provide space for cart traffic also and a long felt want would thus be supplied. We appeal to Your Excellency's sympathy and solicitude for our welfare and prosperity to suggest to the Madura District Board the utility of formulating proposals for opening a line from Dindigul to Madathukolam so that the two Boards may obtain the sanction of Your Excellency's Government and undertake the work at an early date.

The third and last subject which we are anxious to lay before Your Excellency is the question of agricultural banks. In the hands of the Hon'ble Mr. Nicholson this question has received the fullest consideration, and in accordance with his views the townsmen of Udamalpet will, we beg to submit, be prepared to open a *nidhi* and advance loans to agriculturists and to village associations that may be formed on the principle of mutual co-operation, at moderate rates of interest, repayable in convenient instalments, subject to such control and supervision as the Government may prescribe, if the Government is pleased to favour the *nidhi* with the following concessions :—

(1) That the amount lent on mortgage of lands may be recovered by the bank by the sale of the property mortgaged, in cases of default, without having recourse to Civil Courts.

(2) That the certificates of encumbrance from registration offices may be provided free of cost.

(3) That documents executed by the agriculturist in favour of the bank may be exempted from stamp and registration fees. A nidhi on a small scale is in the course of formation in Udamalpet, and a village association of the kind that is in working order in the North-Western Provinces is also being started. Should Your Excellency be pleased to extend your sympathy to the movement and grant the concessions prayed for, a practical working of the recommendations of Mr. Nicholson will come into existence and a step taken towards the solution of an important question affecting the prosperity of the ryots.

We beg in conclusion to express our thanks for the privilege accorded to us of paying our humble respects to Your Excellency on this occasion and for the permission to lay before Your Excellency some of our wants, and pray that Your Excellency and Lady Amphill may be blessed with long life and prosperity.

In reply His Excellency said :—

GENTLEMEN,—It is a pleasure to me to have this opportunity of meeting you and to have heard your representations on the principal matters which affect the future welfare of your taluk. Before I give you my reply let me thank you sincerely for the kind words of personal welcome which you have combined with the loyal professions you addressed to me as the representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor.

Now to begin with the first subject to which you refer, the Amarávati project. A certain amount of investigation has already been carried out, and although the figures which you have given in the second paragraph of your address seem to over-estimate the capacity of the reservoir and the area that would be benefited by irrigation from it, yet the construction of a reservoir seems to be perfectly feasible, and I am glad to be able to tell you that I sanctioned an estimate in February last for completing the investigation. I trust that when the plans and estimates are ready, funds may be forthcoming for its execution.

The railway project, which is the next subject referred to by you, I have already dealt with in my replies to previous addresses, and I have only to add that there would, so far as I can learn, be no engineering difficulty in constructing the railway bridge over the Amarávati so as to carry cart and passenger traffic as well. It is only a question of cost. During my visit to the Madura district last month, the people of Dindigul pressed upon my notice the necessity for the speedy construction of the Pódanúr-Dindigul line, but I had to tell them in my reply that so far as their district was concerned the District Board would first have to weigh carefully the claims of the southern portion of the district where communications are in a very backward state. It may not be possible therefore to carry the construction of the line as far as Dindigul in the first instance.

As regards your last request, I can only tell you that the whole subject of Agricultural Banks is now under the consideration of the Government of India and the concessions which you have asked for are amongst the subjects for deliberation. If I have replied somewhat briefly it is, I assure you, not from any lack of sympathy or from any want of appreciation of the importance of the questions you have raised. It is because these questions are all in a state of evolution and because I have not yet studied them sufficiently to comment on them in detail. The fact that I have heard the views of those most directly concerned from them in person will certainly increase my interest in these matters when they come before me after full official preparation.

Allow me, in conclusion, to reciprocate your good wishes by wishing continued and increasing prosperity to your district.

VISITS OF INSPECTION.

COIMBATORE, 15th April.—This evening His Excellency, accompanied by his staff, visited the District Court and Collector's Office. He was shown over the buildings by Mr. Mounsey, and took especial interest in the fine Forest Museum at the Collector's Office. The party then drove to the Coimbatore Spinning and Weaving Mills. His Excellency was met by Mr. R. Stanes, the local Secretary of the Company, and other officials, and

was shown over the extensive premises by the Manager, Mr. Rockley. The mills are owned by a limited Company, with a capital of Rs. 6 lakhs, and were opened in 1890. The Company started with 15,000 spindles, but business has steadily increased, and there are now 24,076 spindles at work, all of the ring-spinning type. It was at first intended that the mills should be fitted with weaving as well as spinning machinery, but the demand for cotton yarn is so constant that up to the present only this is manufactured, and the whole of the mills' huge outturn finds buyers in Coimbatore and the adjoining districts. The mills, which are well-built and fitted with every convenience, are lighted throughout by electricity, and give employment to about 1,000 men of all castes. The workmen are supplied with a free meal every day, and the mills have their own medical attendant, who gives free advice and medicine to the employés. I am informed that, while the Company has not been unaffected by the unfavourable conditions bearing upon the cotton industry in India during the past few years, the Directors have, by careful management, been able to pay a dividend of over 8 per cent. a year from the commencement of the Company.

A GARDEN PARTY.

After leaving the mills His Excellency attended a garden party at Mr. Tiruvenkatasawmi Mudaliyar's house in Big Bazaar Street, where a

large number of the leading residents of Coimbatore assembled to meet him. His Excellency did not leave the party until close upon 8 P.M.

THE MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

16th April.—This morning, His Excellency visited the Municipal hospital and laid the foundation stone of the new Lying-in-ward which is to be presented by Mr. Tiruvenkatasawmi Mudaliyar. His Excellency was received by Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. Marsden, Medical Officer, and taken over the hospital. Mr. C. H. Mounsey, as President of the Hospital Extension Committee, read the following brief address in which he explained the history of the proposal:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—In June 1897, a public meeting at the suggestion of the Hon'ble Mr. Bradley, then Collector of Coimbatore, resolved to build a new hospital to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Imperial Majesty, Queen Victoria, Empress of India. Mr. Bradley shortly afterwards left the station, and subscriptions not coming in as expected, it was decided at the end of 1899 to devote the fund to enlarging and improving the present hospital.

To do this it was resolved to extend and build to the west, but a subsequent proposition to utilize the buildings opposite, used by the offices of the Public Works Department, postponed matters till

towards the end of 1901 when that scheme was finally given up.

The original scheme was then reverted to, the Sanitary Commissioner being addressed as to how to overcome the objection to the site from certain sanitary defects therein.

From the very first, M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur A. T. Tiruvenkatasawmi Mudaliyar Avargal has promised a Lying-in-ward, and M.R.Ry. Angappa Chettiar Avargal has promised an equivalent to the cost thereof. Other funds available amount to nearly Rs. 20,000. Your Excellency's Government having now notified (only this month) that the land to the west of the hospital may be acquired under the Land Acquisition Act, there is nothing to prevent work being begun. Rao Bahadur A. T. Tiruvenkatasawmi Mudaliyar is ready to begin to carry out his share of the proposal and has asked me, as President of the Committee for improving the hospital, to request Your Excellency to graciously lay the foundation stone of the Lying-in-ward he is giving.

Mr. Tiruvenkatasawmi Mudaliyar also read an address in which he said the hospital was being enlarged and extended to perpetuate the memory of Queen Victoria. To this work he had been anxious to contribute in the shape of a Lying-in-ward, and he considered himself extremely fortunate in being able in person to ask His Excellency to lay the foundation stone.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

After laying the stone His Excellency said he was very glad to have taken part in the inception of that good work, first because the work was a good one; secondly, because it formed part of the memorial to Queen Victoria; and, thirdly, because he was glad to be able to have that opportunity of showing his appreciation of yet another of Mr. Tiruvengkatasawmi's many activities.

The provision of medical aid for women was one of the most useful directions in which private munificence could find a sphere. The women of India had hardly had their fair share in the material and moral progress which had been enjoyed by men, and the least that could be done was to relieve preventable sufferings due to ignorance and prejudice. In conclusion His Excellency congratulated the donor on his public spirit and benevolence.

The ward will consist of three rooms, each containing one bed, and designed in accordance with the latest standard plan. It is estimated to cost Rs. 1,700. His Excellency was presented with a silver trowel with a suitable inscription.

THE PÉRÚR TEMPLE.

After laying the foundation stone of the new Municipal hospital His Excellency and Staff, accompanied by the Collector, drove to Pérúr, where he inspected the temple. He was shown over by Mr. Ramakrishna Iyer and other members of the Devasthanam Committee, and the very fine stone

sculpture in the temple was minutely inspected. Afterwards His Excellency witnessed a dance and listened to the performance of a native flute player. He was presented with a handsomely bound album, containing photographs of the temple, and after being garlanded drove to a *pandal* on the Pérúr-Coimbatore road, where he interviewed a number of ryots. Mr. Mir Sultan Mohideen, Deputy Collector of Coimbatore, and Mr. Vedanayakam Pillay, Tahsildar, acted as interpreters.

INTERVIEWS WITH RYOTS.

The first to come forward were two men who said they came from a Nunjah village. One of them requested His Excellency to have the Narasampadi tank repaired. This tank irrigated his village, and should be repaired, as it irrigated land assessed at Rs. 7,000 a year. His Excellency promised to have the matter looked into. The man then asked that the assessment, which had been raised from Rs. 4 and Rs. 6 to Rs. 6 and Rs. 8 should be reduced to the former figures. The ryot was a very fluent talker, and His Excellency asked him how he had learned to put his requests so well. The man replied that twenty years of placing his grievances before the District officials had taught him eloquence.

An old man, the owner of 200 or 300 acres in Chitrachavadi, asked that the water of the Muttukulam river might be diverted into the village tank, which did not contain enough water to meet the needs of the inhabitants. His Excellency said this

subject had already been disposed of in his reply to addresses in Coimbatore.

A poor Brahman, who said that he lived by begging and had some small position in the Pérúr Temple, requested His Excellency to order the repair of the Pérúr tank, but was told that this was the work of the Devasthanam Committee.

Three or four ryots, living near the Ballampatty Forest, complained of the rigour with which the Forest Rules were being worked. They were not allowed to take water from the forest streams or cut firewood or take leaves, and they had frequently been made to work at clearing the forest boundary lines without payment. This had been going on ever since the formation of the Forest Department. They had to go down to the plains to work for ryots and earned by this means two annas a day. There were nearly 300 of them in the forest. His Excellency said their complaints would be considered.

Another ryot requested free grazing for cattle in the forests and the widening of the Kudimathu channel. A ryot of Pagathapolliam village, who was the owner of dry lands, asked for the free grazing of cattle in reserve forests and the abolition of the house-tax by the village union. His Excellency said those were not grievances.

Two other ryots requested that cattle might be allowed to be penned in forests where they grazed, instead of being driven home every evening as was now the case. The Collector said that the practice of penning cattle in the forest was allowed in

Kollegal Forest, but not elsewhere. This was probably due to the risk of people setting the forest on fire. His Excellency promised that the matter should be enquired into. These ryots also asked for the construction of a road from Madanapali to Pachanur, and were referred to the Deputy Collector. Another request was also made that prickly-pear should be removed from the banks of local tanks.

A ryot of Chettipolliam complained that the Salt and Abkári laws were too strictly enforced in his district. He said that unless certain dues were paid to the Abkári officials, the ryots were frequently prosecuted for keeping fermented toddy when, in fact, it was merely sweet toddy that had fermented either by being exposed to the sun or by the pot being kept on the tree too long. His Excellency said that the ryots should complain to the District officers, and if the ryots would not do so, it was quite useless for them to come to him. The ryots said that if they complained to the District officials, the Abkári officers would have them imprisoned.

A native poet now came forward with poems inscribed on palm leaves, and asked permission to read them to His Excellency, but was refused.

A ryot complained that about 30 acres of land had been covered with sand by the diversion of a jungle stream from Narasampatti to Krishnampatti, and that the land of a number of ryots had been affected. He had tried to prevent this by building a revetment himself, but it had been washed away. Representations had been made to the District

authorities in October last, but no reply had been received.

A cart driver wished to have his grievances heard, but was told that His Excellency would hear only ryots.

A ryot from a village about five miles from Pérúr asked for free grazing and also that goats might be allowed to graze in the forest. At present they were not allowed to do so, even on payment. His Excellency said that goats did a great deal of damage in forests.

The ryot also asked for the construction of larger sluices in the Chithavadi channel.

The party drove back to Coimbatore at about nine o'clock.

THE VISIT TO ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE.

AN ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

COIMBATORE, 16th April.—This evening His Excellency paid a brief visit to St. Michael's College, a 2nd Grade College, maintained by the Roman Catholic Mission. The Principal of the College is the Rev. Father Rondy, and there are 17 teachers and over 500 students.

On the arrival of His Excellency, the Principal read the following address of welcome, and the students sang an Ode in honour of his visit:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Principal, Professors, and Students of the St. Michael's

College, most heartily welcome Your Excellency in our midst.

We are fully alive to the keen interest taken by Your Excellency in the educational progress of the rising generation.

We sincerely trust that the educational changes, mapped out by our benevolent Viceroy, will give a fresh impulse to the cause of education in this Presidency and, relying on the sympathy and encouragement of Your Excellency, we hope to work to answer fully the generous aims of the Government of His Majesty, the King-Emperor.

We fervently hope that His Majesty, the King-Emperor, whose glorious Coronation is soon to come off,—an event which is hailed with enthusiasm by His Majesty's subjects from all parts of the world—will build the Empire on Love and draw to himself the heart of the Indian nation.

We are indeed flattered with Your Excellency's visit to our College, and we will mark this day of April as a red-letter day in our College Calendar.

How shall we adequately repay the goodness of Your Excellency but by raising our hands in prayer, and invoking the Lord's blessings on Lady Ampthill and on Your Lordship.

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

In reply His Excellency said that wherever he went he made it a point to visit an educational establishment, and it had always been a genuine pleasure to him to do so, and see the rising generation

and those who were labouring for their moral and material welfare assembled in schools and colleges. The kind of welcome which they had given him was a most pleasant and agreeable surprise. His Excellency then complemented them on their musical training the excellence of which was shown by the way in which they had sung the song composed in his honour, and they had an exceedingly clever poet and a clever composer. His Excellency was sorry that Lady Ampthill was not present to have shared the graceful and kindly welcome which he knew she would have appreciated. He would not fail to describe to her the manner in which they had received him.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

His Excellency visited the Industrial School in connection with the College where 40 students are taught useful handicrafts; and he also paid an informal visit to the Cathedral.

A MUHAMMADAN ADDRESS.

His Excellency then attended a garden party given in the compound of the Collector's house by Mr. Saiyid Dewan Fakruddin Sahib Bahadur, a wealthy landowner of Udamalpet. Here an address was presented by Mr. Mahomed Shah, on behalf of the Muhammadan community.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Muhammadans of Coimbatore district, beg to welcome Your Excellency, on Your Excellency's

first visit to this place with great pleasure, as a representative of our King Emperor Edward VII.

No assurance is needed from us as regards our loyalty to the crown, for we have fought side by side with the British army, even against our own co-religionists, under its flag which flies with honour and glory in all parts of the world.

The liberty that we enjoy cannot be dreamt of under any other Government, and for the various favours that we have received and are receiving, we find no words to adequately express our gratitude.

Turning to recent events Your Excellency's visit to the Muhammadan conference pandal at Madras, and Your Excellency's encouraging speech on the occasion, and the cheers given by the European spectators to the cricket team of Aligarh students on their victory are impressed on our hearts.

The sixty millions of Muhammadans under His Majesty's régime hold a most enviable position and it is their interest to live or die under His Majesty's glorious banner. The power and civilization which the British Government has achieved is the work of centuries on lines of liberty, no other European nation can boast of them, much less an Asiatic. We, therefore, pray for the stability and prosperity of the British Raj in our own interests.

We have an illustrious past in literature, science and war; to-day we are classed as a backward nation. In the public service we do not complain of our due share in appointments carrying

salaries of Rs. 10 a month or less, or even Rs. 20 a month: but above that our position is simply lamentable. Of appointments on Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 5,000 a year, out of 463, we have only eleven, and of 5,000 and above, out of 464, we have but four. Similarly on railways and other departments of public labour, we are practically unrepresented. This state of affairs on the one hand has produced and is producing poverty and discontent, on the other hand, has deprived the Government of the good services of the sons of Islam, which for administrative purposes are needed in very many instances.

Note.—Result of the present educational system from Madras, Hyderabad and Mysore: Out of 7,320 graduates, 57 are Muhammadans; out of 5,707 B.As., 41 are Muhammadans; out of 116 M.As., 2 are Muhammadans; out of 900 B.Ls., 7 are Muhammadans; out of 11 M.Ls., none; out of 150 L.M.S., 7 are Muhammadans; out of 35 M.Bs., none; out of 6 C.Ms., none; out of 73 B.C.Es., none; out of 232 L.Ts., none.

In 1871, the Government of India finding them handicapped in various ways passed a resolution to the effect "that it was much to be regretted that so large and important a class possessing a classical literature replete with works of profound learning and great value and containing among its number a section specially devoted to the acquisition and diffusion of knowledge should stand aloof from active co-operation with our educational system and should lose the advantage, both material and social, which others enjoy. His Excellency in Council believes that secondary and higher education

conveyed in the vernaculars and rendered more acceptable than now, coupled with a more systematic encouragement and recognition of Arabic and Persian literature, would not only be acceptable to the Muhammadan community, but would enlist the sympathies of the more earnest and enlightened of its members On the side of education, in avowedly English schools established in Mussalman Districts, the appointment of qualified Muhammadan English teachers might with advantage be encouraged. Grater encouragement should also be given to the *creation of a vernacular literature for the Muhammadans; a measure the importance of which was specially urged upon the Government of India by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India on more than one occasion.*"

In 1872, the Madras Government disagreeing with the opinion of the educational authorities remarked, "that it cannot be said that the ordinary Government colleges and schools which Mr. Powell describes as institutions to which Muhammadans with all others are admissible, are, in fact, as at present arranged, suitable places of instruction for Muhammadan youths. In the lower schools and classes in which instruction is imparted mainly through the medium of a vernacular language, that vernacular is invariably a Hindu language and in such schools and classes Muhammadans are in consequence placed at so great a disadvantage that the wonder is not that the Muhammadan element is so small, but that it exists at all. The schools in

fact are organized, and the scheme of instruction is framed, with exclusive reference to Hindus.

This opinion of the Madras Government is supported by that of the Supreme Government in a G.O. of February 1882, *i.e.*, "In Provinces where the Muhammadans were scattered and not numerous, where they mostly spoke a different language from that of the majority of the population, or where their teaching was in a different tongue, and according to entirely separate traditions, *there the special arrangements required to meet their circumstances had not always been organised, and the claims of the Muhammadan community had been always inevitably disregarded.*"

We beg to submit that it is this acknowledged unsuitable system that has handicapped us and has this day reduced us to *abject poverty and humiliation* in the eyes of the world.

Often we approached the Government and its officers as regards our unfortunate position, and it was painful to have been reminded of self-help.

Our appeal was, and is, for fair and impartial treatment. Our traditions will show that proud as we are of our past history, we consider it undignifying to benefit at the expense of other classes; but if it is self-help to claim our just rights from a paternal Government, which is impartial to all, the grievances on our side are, that we have not received our due share both in the matter of education for which we contribute and also in the matter of state appointments, to which we are better fitted from

absence of caste bondage and on account of good physique; our appeals on many occasions for special measures, we regret to say, have been misconstrued as concessions, and summarily dismissed.

We are sure that Government when it is trying to lift up the Panchamas, for whom specially over $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs are spent annually, will not see the Muhammadans suffer.

From the repeated orders of the local as well as the Imperial Governments, it will be seen that our backwardness is mainly due to the faulty educational system which needs to be revised, as the Hindus derive almost exclusive benefit from it. So far as this Presidency is concerned it is not possible for us to establish through self-help an Aligarh College, the result of Sir Syed Ahamed's 30 years' hard labour in a Muhammadan Province, or a Kumbakonam College, a practically Hindu institution among several others established by Government. The study of Hindu vernaculars as second language for public examinations is of no use in the least to the Muhammadans (not even to Lubbais and Mappillas). Beyond the ability to write and read manuscripts which is necessary only for certain professions and which could easily be acquired in a few months, their study for higher standards is simple waste of time. The general educational system has not only proved harmful to the Muhammadan community, but also to Europeans and Eurasians in spite of the fact that over 7 lakhs of rupees are specially spent for their education annually in this Presidency. Though in

the matter of wealth, influence and self-help, they stand higher than ourselves, nevertheless they are not able to help themselves, and it has, therefore, been found necessary to improve the existing system of education for them throughout India and a committee has recently been appointed for revising the educational regulations. The need for this is still greater in the case of Muhammadans and we beg that Your Lordship will be good enough to have a similar provision extended to us also.

The Muhammadans are practically unrepresented in the legal profession; and in the public service, in appointments carrying a monthly salary of Rs. 200 and above they have but 19 out of 927. They have neither influence nor wealth. This miserable condition of Muhammadans will lead to their utter extermination in the public walks of life if early measures are not adopted to divert a good portion of the educational allotment for their suitable education to make a lee way up, and we are sure that the Hindus who now prosper will not grudge to let us have a little share.

His Excellency Lord Wenlock, during his régime, ordered the reorganization of the Madrasa-i-Azam, which we are glad to see will be an accomplished fact during Your Excellency's time. To become a success it should have a first-class European Head Master assisted by a well-paid staff and a boarding-house for mofussil students just as other Government institutions have or will soon have.

This itself will not be sufficient to meet the wants of such a large but scattered community. Among other necessary measures are the reorganization of Hobart's Girls' school, new girls' schools in the mofussil, increased educational inspecting agency, appointment of Hindustani and Arabic Munshis in public schools in places where there is a decent Muhammadan population, a proper representation in the higher educational service, the supervision of the Muhammadan education in the Presidency under one officer, for instance, the Inspector of Schools, Madras Circle, instead of different men. *In fact all the recommendations made by the Education Commission need to be carried out.* Another special grant of 2 or 3 lakhs will be ample for these. This is not much in the face of the fact that for over a century we had derived little or no benefit from the educational system costing 70 to 80 lakhs annually.

We have not got also a proper share in the various branches of the public service, and though the Supreme and Local Governments desired that we should not be shut out as we are, yet for want of definite orders the heads of departments, among whom there are constant changes, lost sight of the matter. In each district and in each department a certain number of appointments ought to be reserved for qualified Muhammadans; such reservation for particular classes is not without precedent and we beg to append a modest list for Your Excellency's consideration, as certain departments are now monopolised by particular classes. In

Madras town and in the mofussil, a decent Muhammadan population exists, so one or two employments for Muhammadans in each department will prove advantageous to the service itself and we are sure our Hindu brethren, who have had a complete monopoly of all good places till now, will not grudge a few of them.

Even if the Government were to sanction our prayer, these appointments may not be filled up for another quarter of a century to come, but it will produce emulation among the Muhammadans. Our present number of higher appointments (nineteen) is just what it was when that memorable G.O., No. 288, dated 7th October 1872, Educational Department, was passed 30 years ago. Whether we have had fair treatment or not, whether our repeated cries and apprehensions have been just or not, and how and why it is that we have been so much ignored, we leave Your Excellency to consider.

Both in the matter of education and Government appointments it is impossible for the Muhammadans to compete with others, under their present unfavourable conditions. The Government which has the control of education and state patronage alone can rectify matters even though late; and after the Muhammadans are lifted up to their proper place they will doubtless trouble Government no more. We appeal to Your Excellency that in the matter of the above two important subjects which concern us most, Your Excellency will be pleased to pass definite orders.

We beg to thank Your Excellency for giving us a patient hearing and pray that the Almighty will bless you with courage and sound health to carry out that policy which Your Excellency enunciated in your parting speech in England, "that India was won with the sword and should be preserved by means of Justice." "*Justitia Firmatur Solium*" and that Your Excellency's administration in this presidency which is quite on improved lines will be prosperous and memorable. We regret Her Excellency Lady Amphill's absence on this occasion, for whom also we offer our sincere prayer for sound health and happiness.

List of appointments that may be reserved for qualified Muhammadans in the Presidency.

One Judge, High Court, by turn.

One Judge, Small Cause Court. There are two Hindus, one in Small Cause Court, and another in City Court.

Persian and Hindustani Translator to Government.

Assistant Commissioner of Police, Madras, by turn.

One Inspector of Police in the Madras City.

One appointment in each of the Presidency Head offices on Rs. 200 or above, and two on Rs. 100 and above.

One Deputy Collector for every two adjoining districts.

In Malabar where the Muhammadan population is about one-half, one Deputy Collector (at least Treasury for the present if Malayalam-knowing Muhammadan is not available), three Tahsildars, three Sub-Magistrates, and three Inspectors of Police.

One Tahsildar and two Sub-Magistrates for each District.

One Deputy Commissioner, Revenue Settlement, for the Presidency.

One Deputy Conservator of Forests for the Presidency.

One Assistant Conservator of Forests for the Presidency.
 One Special Forest-Settlement Officer for the Presidency.
 Two Customs Collectors for the Presidency.
 One Assistant Commissioner, Salt Department.
 One Inspector for every three districts.
 One Assistant Inspector for a district.
 Two Superintendents of Post Offices for the Presidency.
 One Telegraph Superintendent for the Presidency.
 One Sub-Judge for the Presidency.
 One District Munsif for each district.
 One Registrar for every five districts.
 Three Sub-Registrars for each district.
 One Assistant Inspector of Schools for every five districts.
 One Sub-Assistant Inspector for each district.
 One District Medical and Sanitary Officer for the Presidency.
 Three Assistants for the Presidency.
 One Superintendent and three Assistant Superintendents of Police for the Presidency.
 One Executive Engineer for the Presidency.
 Three Assistants for the Presidency.
 Three Inspectors of Police for each district.
 One Municipal Secretary for each district.
 One Huzúr Sarishtadar for every five districts.
 One English Head Clerk for every five districts.
 One District Court Sarishtadar for every five districts.
 One Head Clerk for every five districts, and similarly a fair distribution in other departments of the Presidency town and in mofussil.
 One Chair for Arabic Professor in the Presidency College, as there is practically no one of high Arabic attainments in the Provincial Service to assist Government in matters relating to Muhammadan affairs, and to carry out the injunctions of the Secretary of State and Imperial Government relative to Muhammadan literature.

In reply His Excellency said :—

GENTLEMEN,—It is a pleasure to me to receive the welcome which you say it is a pleasure to you to accord, and I accept every word of what you have told me with regard to your loyalty to the British Crown and your appreciation of the blessings and advantages which you enjoy under British rule. As your address is long and will oblige me to make a lengthy reply, I shall not waste time with preliminaries, but shall turn at once to the highly important questions which you have raised.

You draw my attention to the pitiable state of deterioration into which your community has fallen, which you attribute mainly to the system of education and to the paucity of appointments conferred upon Muhammadans. The extracts which you have recited from orders of Government describe the state of affairs twenty and thirty years ago and you imply that your community are no better off now in the matter of facilities for education than they were then. I find, however, on turning to more recent sources of information the following passage in the report of the Director of Public Instruction for 1899-1900 :—“ For many years past the special “ attention of Government has been directed towards “ the development of Muhammadan education, and “ exceptional assistance has been rendered to the “ community. Muhammadans have for long been “ enjoying the privilege of paying half fees in all “ public schools and colleges, and Muhammadan

“students who undergo training for the profession of teaching are given an increased rate of stipends from Provincial funds. Under the Grant-in-Aid Code all schools for Muhammadans are treated as poor schools, irrespective of the proportion of poor pupils. Favourable rates of salary grants are allowed to teachers employed in schools intended for Muhammadans, and results grants are given to Muhammadan boys at 25 per cent. higher than the standard rates.” Besides these special concessions a larger number of scholarships are annually offered for Muhammadan male pupils in proportion to their numbers than for pupils of other communities. Yet with all these advantages very few Muhammadans who offer themselves for employment in the public service satisfy the conditions of admission.

You say it is the system of education that is at fault, that it is devised to suit the requirements of the Hindu community, and that it does not meet the needs of Muhammadans. That you are handicapped and unable to compete with other communities on account of your poverty and by having to study some Hindu vernacular as a second language for public examinations. The passage which I have just quoted from the report of the Director of Public Instruction shows how Government has endeavoured to cheapen the cost of education for Muhammadan students, and with due regard to the community at large I do not see that you can reasonably ask

Government to do more in a claim for “fair and impartial treatment.” The real difficulty is one which you have refrained from mentioning, but as I myself have learnt what it is from the lips of more than one Muhammadan gentleman of high social position and recognized intelligence, I do not hesitate to tell you what it is. It is the religious difficulty. Muhammadan boys have to be taught the principles of their religion and law, and until they are well grounded in these subjects their parents do not like them mixing with those of other faiths. This religious study involves an immense amount of learning by rote and is a severe handicap, for the Muhammadan boy starts several years behind the others in his secular education. It is for you to devise the means of counteracting this difficulty, for it is clear that Government, which is solemnly pledged not to interfere in the religious faiths of the people of India, cannot undertake the reform of methods which are peculiar to your religion and sacred to your personal and domestic lives.

I am not sure that I quite understand your difficulty about the study of the Hindu vernaculars. Here in the south of India the Muhammadan community is so dispersed amongst the Hindus that the use of the Hindu vernaculars is very general amongst them, and as all public business is carried on in the vernacular or in English, knowledge of these languages is indispensable for employment in the public service. Hindustani is, however, recognized as the first or second language in all the public

examinations, and is also accepted for the vernacular tests. It is also recognised for the University examinations. It is true that where a knowledge of English is required as well, a Muhammadan lad needs to study three languages, whereas a Hindu boy need only learn two. That no doubt is a disadvantage, but it is hardly a grievance, and the remedy for it seems to lie in greater assiduity in study and greater industry. In former times the Muhammadans were noted for their wealth of learning, and the reason why they have now fallen behind seems to be that they have rested on their oars and held aloof, while others have outstripped them by adapting themselves more readily to changed conditions of public service. I am not saying more than was said by one of the most revered of your co-religionists, Nawab Imad-ul-Mulk Syed Hussain Bilgrami, at the Muhammadan Educational Conference of 1900.

But I cannot agree with you that the outlook for the Muhammadan community is no brighter now than it was thirty years ago. On the contrary I see many hopeful signs, which might well have encouraged you to adopt a less pessimistic tone in your address. The success which has attended the Aligarh College has indicated the lines on which improvement may be reached, and though it may not be possible for you to found and endow a similar institution down here in the south for some time to come, you can at least emulate the example of those who have shown that self-help and self-sacrifice are

at once nobler principles of conduct and surer paths to worldly success than sectarian reserve or the hope of exceptional indulgence. I was very much struck by the earnestness of purpose of those who attended the Muhammadan Educational Conference last December, and by the spirit of self-reliance which animated their proceedings. So long as the needs and requirements of Muhammadans are discussed and put before Government in that spirit, they will receive the fullest and most sympathetic consideration, as the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Boddam, who so ably presided over that conference, remarked in his concluding address. What is now wanted is sustained effort on the part of each and every one of the community to aid in carrying out the resolutions passed at the conference. I have learnt with much pleasure from Mr. Boddam that, as one outcome of the conference, eight scholarships for Muhammadans of 15 per mensem, tenable for from three to five years, have been raised and that the Muhammadan Educational Association of Southern India has been formed. The idea is to organise the whole community in Southern India and to raise amongst them funds for educational purposes. This is great step in the right direction, and I shall watch with great interest the progress of the movement and give it all the help which may lie within my power.

Coming now to your particular request, Government has purchased the "Umdah Bagh" for the Madrasa-i-Azam and funds have been allotted in

the current year's budget for improving the building. Your suggestion that a first-class European headmaster should be appointed was made by the Board of Muhammadan Education in 1895, and will, when the time comes, receive the careful consideration of Government. The other wants which you enumerate, viz., the reorganization of the Hobart Girls' school, the starting of new schools for girls in the mofussil, the appointment of Hindustani and Arabic munshis in public schools, the representation of the community in the higher grades of the educational service, are all matters requiring careful consideration, and cannot be dealt with off-hand in a reply to an address, but if and when the needs of your community in these respects are put before me in a fuller and better digested shape, they shall receive my earnest attention.

From what I have already said, you will have gathered that your last request for a definite number of appointments in Government service, to be set apart solely for Muhammadans is not the sort of request that can be granted. Government is naturally anxious to see a proper proportion of Muhammadans employed in the public service, and the attention of heads of departments has frequently been drawn to the necessity of securing this object. But the qualification for public service and the essential condition precedent to preferment therein is and must continue to be "merit." As the statistics show, there is no lack of employment of Muhammadans in the lower grades of the service, and it

is a gratifying sign that Muhammadans are at last beginning to recognize that they must avail themselves more largely than they have hitherto done of the means available for obtaining higher education and thereby of qualifying themselves for higher appointments.

I am grateful to you for the kind words with which you concluded your address. With a happy intuition you have prayed the Almighty to bless me with courage and sound health. Courage and sound health—if you had asked me I think that I should have told you that those are the two most essential requirements of him who represents His Majesty the King-Emperor and earnestly desires to improve the lot of His Majesty's subjects in this land.

THE DEPARTURE FOR OOTACAMUND.

COIMBATORE, 17th April.—His Excellency and party left Coimbatore this morning by mail train for Coonoor *en route* to Ootacamund. On the platform a large number of ladies and gentlemen were present, the departure being public. A guard-of-honour furnished by the Nilgiri Volunteer Rifles was drawn up on the platform and presented arms as His Excellency arrived. His Excellency had a few words to say to several of those present, and, before leaving, thanked the Collector and the members of the Reception Committee for the excellent arrangements

made for his reception. Among those present, besides Mr. and Mrs. Mounsey, were Mr. V. A. Brodie, Mr. S. D. Pears, Mr. D. Robertson, Mr. T. Ramasawmy Iyengar, Mr. A. T. Thiruvengadasawmi Mudaliar, Mr. A. W. Lushington, Mr. H. A. Gass, Mr. E. H. Gadsden and Mr. R. Krishna Iyer.

566H I
THE EIGHTH TOUR

OF

His Excellency LORD AMPHILL,
G.C.I.E.,

IN THE

PERIYÁR PLATEAU, THE NATIVE STATES OF
COCHIN AND TRAVANCORE AND THE
DISTRICT OF TINNEVELLY.

SEPTEMBER 29—OCTOBER 31, 1902.

Extracts from the "Madras Mail."

MADRAS:

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

1903.

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EIGHTH TOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

DETAILED

Date.	Day.	Arrival or Departure.	Station.
1902. September 29	Monday	.. Departure.	Ootacamund ..
		..	Coonoor
		Arrival.	Mettupalaiyam ..
		Departure.	Do. ..
		Arrival.	Erode
		Departure.	Do.
.. 30	Tuesday	.. Arrival.	Trichinopoly ..
		Departure.	Do.
		Arrival.	Ammayanayakanur.
		Departure.	Do.
		Arrival.	Periyakulam ..
		Departure.	Do.
October 1	Wednesday	.. Arrival.	Kuruvanuth ..
		..	Tekkadi
.. 2	Thursday	.. ..	Periyar Dam ..
.. 3	Friday	.. ..	....
.. 4	Saturday	.. ..	Malapara

PROGRAMME.

Time.		Distance.	Functions and Remarks.
A.M.	P.M.		
10-30	..	..	By road for Coonoor. Departure private.
..	12-15	11	By the Nilgiri Railway.
..	2-30	17	Lunch at Railway Station.
..	3-20	..	By the Madras Railway mail train. (Change of gauge).
..	7-15	84	Dinner at Railway Station.
..	8-25	..	By the South Indian Railway. (Change of gauge).
2-35	..	88	By special train.
3-0	..	..	Chota hazri, breakfast and luncheon at the Local Fund Bungalow.
6-40	..	71	By road. Drive.
..	3-0	..	After dinner at the Travellers' Bungalow provided by Messrs. Spencer & Co., leave for Kuruvanuth.
..	6-30	28	After breakfast ride up the ghât to Tekkadi (Kumili).
..	9-0	..	Meet Mr. Keeling, Executive Engineer, Madras Public Works Department, the Assistant Resident in Travancore, and Messrs. A. Venned, Travancore Magistrate, and O. H. Bensley, Travancore Superintendent of Police, the Hon'ble Mr. Acworth, Mr. Knight, Mr. Fenning, Assistant Resident in Travancore and Cochin. Inspect Periyar pumping station and sluices
A.M.	..	41	Lunch.
11-30	..	7	Leave in launch for the Periyar Dam.
..	P.M. 3-15	..	Shikar.
..	..	..	By steam launch to Malapara. Reach Malapara by dark.
..	6	..	

Date.	Day.	Arrival or Departure.	Station.
1902.			
October 5	Sunday ..	..	....
" 6	Monday ..	..	....
" 7	Tuesday ..	..	....
" 8	Wednesday ..	..	....
" 9	Thursday ..	..	Shaitan Mullay ..
" 10	Friday ..	..	Totta Kunnenpara.
" 11	Saturday ..	..	....
" 12	Sunday ..	..	Tekkadi
			Uttamapalem ..
" 13	Monday ..	Arrival.	Periyakulam ..
		"	Ammayanayakanur.
		Departure.	Do.
		Arrival.	Trichinopoly ..
		Departure.	Do. ..
" 14	Tuesday ..	Arrival.	Erode
		Departure.	Do.
		Arrival.	Podanur

Time.		Distance.	Functions and Remarks.
A.M.	P.M.		
..	..	..	} Shikar.
..	..	..	
..	..	..	
..	..	..	
..	..	..	March from Malapara to Shaitan Mullay, 20 miles by steam launch, 10 on horseback, and 2 on foot.
..	..	..	To Totta Kunnenpara on foot — a march of about 1½ hours.
..	..	..	Shikar.
..	..	..	Return to Tekkadi for luncheon.
..	..	..	Leave for Kuruvanuth and thence after tea by bullock transit. For Uttamapalem for dinner.
..	8	..	Leave after dinner for Periyakulam.
about 6	..	42	After Chota hazri (provided by Messrs. Spencer & Co.) leave for Ammayanayakanur.
11-0	..	27	Breakfast and lunch and tea at the Travellers' Bungalow (provided by Spencer & Co.).
..	5-15	..	By the South Indian Railway special.
..	8-30	71	Dinner at Railway Station.
..	9-10	..	For Erode. By the ordinary train.
2-40	..	88	
4-50	..	..	By the Madras Railway mail train. (Change of gauge).
7-16	..	..	Her Excellency the Lady Ampthill, the Honourable Violet Douglas-Pennant and Captain R. D'A. Fife, join His Excellency. Chota hazri at station.

Date.	Day.	Arrival or Departure.	Station.
1902.		Departure.	Podanur
		Arrival.	Shoranur
		Departure.	Do.
		Arrival.	Ernaculam ..
October 15	Wednesday ..	..	At Ernaculam ..

Time.		Distance.	Functions and Remarks.
A.M.	P.M.		
7-35	..	..	
10-25	..	117	Breakfast at Railway Station. The Resident (the Honourable Mr. G. T. Mackenzie) meets His Excellency on the platform. The Diwan and two other Cochin Officers will welcome His Excellency on the Southern platform.
11-30	..	..	By special train on the Shoranur Cochin Railway.
..	2-45	65	Arrival public. His Highness the Raja of Cochin meets His Excellency on the platform. Guard-of-Honour, Cochin troops. Drive to the Jetty (where His Highness takes leave) and then go by boat to the Residency (Bolghotty).
	3-0	..	Luncheon at Residency.
	8-0	..	Dinner at the Residency. No guests.
7-0	..	..	Leave the Residency by boat for British Cochin and meet Collector of Malabar, &c., at Victoria Jubilee Jetty, 7-30. Receive address of the Cochin Municipal Council. Drive round the town and visit St. Francis' Church, and return to the Residency by boat.
10-0	..	..	Breakfast.
	1-0	..	His Highness the Raja pays State visit to His Excellency at the Residency.
	2-0	..	Lunch on.
	5-0	..	His Excellency pays return visit to His Highness the Raja, at the Darbar Hall, Ernaculam.
	8-0	..	State Banquet in the College Hall at Ernaculam. His Highness will be present. Illumination of the shores of the lagoon and fire-works.

Date.	Day.	Arrival or Departure.	Station.
1902.			
October 16	Thursday ..	..	At Ernaculam ..
" 17	Friday ..	..	Ernaculam ..
		Departure.	Ernaculam ..
" 18	Saturday ..	..	....
		Arrival.	Quilon
" 19	Sunday ..	..	Quilon
		Departure.	Do.

Time.		Distance.	Functions and Remarks.
A.M.	P.M.		
7-0	..	..	Visit the Ernaculam College and receive an address from the students. Inspect the Ho-pital and Jail.
9-30	..	..	Breakfast at the Residency.
	2-0	..	Luncheon.
	4-30	..	Garden Party at the Residency with boat races. His Highness attends.
	8-0	..	Dinner.
7-0	..	..	Visit the Jewish Synagogues at Matancheri.
9-30	..	..	Breakfast at the Residency.
	2-0	..	Luncheon at the Residency.
	5-0	..	Inspect the protective works at the Cruz milagre gap.
	8-0	..	Dinner at the Residency.
..	10-0	..	Leave for Quilon by boat. Departure private.
about 9-0	..	48	Breakfast at the Karumadi Bungalow on the way.
	2-0	..	Luncheon in the boats.
..	6-0	40	Arrival private. Diwan of Travancore (Mr. K. Krishnasami Row, C.I.E.) and Bishop Hodges meet His Excellency at the Residency.
	8-0	..	Dinner.
9-30	..	..	Breakfast.
	2-0	..	Luncheon.
	8-0	..	Dinner.
..	9-30	..	Departure private for Trivandrum by boat.

Date.	Day.	Arrival or Departure.	Station.
1902.			
October 20	Monday	Arrival.	Trivandrum ..
" 21	Tuesday	..	Trivandrum ..

Time.		Distance.	Functions and Remarks
A.M.	P.M.		
7-0	..	..	(Boats halt at Chackay to dress). Arrival public. His Highness the Maharaja receives His Excellency as he alights from the boat. Guard-of-Honour, Travancore troops, at the landing place. Drive to the Residency. Maharaja takes leave at the drawing room.
9-30	..	..	Breakfast.
	12	..	Interview to Mr. Shangrasoobya, retired Diwan of Travancore.
	2-0	..	Lunch.
	4-0	..	The Maharaja pays State visit to His Excellency.
	4-30	..	His Excellency holds a Levée at the Residency.
	8-0	..	State Banquet given by the Maharaja in the Darbar. Illumination and fire-works.
7-0	..	..	Visit the Gardens, the Museum, the New Library and the School of Arts.
9-30	..	..	Breakfast.
12 noon.	..	..	The Maharaja pays a private visit to His Excellency at the Residency.
	1-0	..	Her Highness the Senior Rani, and Her Highness the Junior Rani, accompanied by the Valia Koil Tamburan pay a visit to Her Excellency.
	1-15	..	Private interview to the Diwan of Travancore.
	2-0	..	Luncheon.
	4-0	..	His Excellency returns State visit to the Maharaja at the Darbar Hall.
	6-30	..	Visit the Masonic Lodge.
	8-0	..	Dinner at the Residency with guests.

Date.	Day.	Arrival or Departure.	Station.
1902.			
October 22	Wednesday ..	..	Trivandrum ..
		Departure.	Trivandrum ..
		Arrival.	Madathoray ..
" 23	Thursday ..	..	Madathoray ..
" 24	Friday ..	Departure.	Madathoray ..
		Arrival.	Courtallum ..
" 25	Saturday ..	..	Courtallum ..
		Departure.	Courtallum ..
		Arrival.	Tinnevelly ..
" 26	Sunday ..	..	Tinnevelly ..

Time.		Distance.	Functions and Remarks.
A.M.	P.M.		
7-0	..	..	His Excellency returns private visit to the Maharaja at the Fort.
7-10	..	..	Her Excellency visits the Maharaja's Caste Girls' School and Miss Blandford's School in the Fort, where His Excellency meets her.
9-30	..	..	Visit the Maharaja's College.
..	1-0	..	Breakfast.
..	6-0	32	Departure private. Escort accompanies for two miles.
..	..	..	Shikar.
6-30	..	..	For Courtallum. Drive.
10-0	..	..	Breakfast at Tenmalai with guests (officials on construction of the Quilon Railway).
..	3-30	35	Arrival private.
..	8-0	..	Dinner.
6-0	..	..	Visit the neighbourhood and Ryots Darbar.
10-30	..	..	Breakfast.
..	2-0	..	Departure private. The Resident takes leave here. Tea at a Traveller's Bungalow en route.
..	6-0	36	Arrival private.
..	8-0	..	Dinner at the Collector's house.
9-30	..	..	Breakfast.
..	2-0	..	Luncheon.
..	6-30	..	Attend Church Service.
..	8-0	..	Dinner.

Date.	Day.	Arrival or Departure.	Station.
1902.			
October 27	Monday ..	..	Tinnevelly ..
.. 28	Tuesday ..	..	Tinnevelly ..
.. 29	Wednesday ..	..	Tinnevelly ..
		Departure	Do. ..
		Arrival.	Tuticorin ..

Time.		Distance.	Functions and Remarks.
A.M.	P.M.		
7-0	..	..	Visit the Jail, the Deaf and Dumb School and the Sarah Tucker College, and drive through the C.M.S. Mission compound. Receive address from the Christians of Tinnevelly.
9-30	..	..	Breakfast.
11-0	..	..	Receive Addresses from { 1. The District Board, Tinnevelly. 2. The Municipal Council, Tinnevelly. 3. The Municipal Council, Palamcottah.
	2-0	..	Luncheon.
	8-0	..	Dinner.
7-0	..	..	Visit the Palamcottah Hospital, the Police Office, and the St. Francis Xavier's High School.
9-30	..	..	Breakfast.
11-0	..	..	Deputation of Ryots.
	2-0	..	Luncheon.
	5-0	..	Garden Party at the Judge's (Mr. J. Hewetson) house.
	6-30	..	Masonic Lodge.
	8-0	..	Dinner at the Judge's house.
7-0	..	..	Visit the Hindu College and the C.M.S. College.
9-17	..	..	Her Excellency, Miss Pennant and Captain Martin leave for Madras.
9-30	..	..	Breakfast.
12 noon.	..	..	By special train. Departure private.
..	1-30	36	Arrival private. Drive to the club.
	2-0	..	Luncheon at Club.
	3-0	..	Municipal Address and Deputation of the Landing and Shipping Dues Committee.
	5-0	..	Sail in harbour.
	8-0	..	Dinner. No guests.

Date.	Day.	Arrival or Departure.	Station.
1902. October 30	Thursday	Departure. Arrival.	Tuticorin .. Kumarapuram ..
		Departure.	Do. ..
„ 31	Friday	Arrival.	Madras (Guindy) ..

Time.		Distance.	Functions and Remarks.
A.M.	P.M.		
4-30	..	..	Departure private. By special train.
6-0	..	36	Visit Shooting Camp of the Zamindar of Ettayapuram.
11-20	..	..	By special train. (Breakfast before starting).
	2-30	..	Luncheon at Madura station. Leave by the fast mail, 3 P.M.
	5-2	..	Evening Tea at Dindigul (8 minutes).
	7-38	..	Dinner at Trichinopoly Junction (31 minutes).
6-9	..	..	Chota hazri at Chingleput (8 minutes).
7-15	..	400	Arrival private. Drive to Government House, Guindy.

The party accompanying His Excellency consisted of —

* Her Excellency the LADY AMPHILL, C.I.

* The Hon'ble VIOLET DOUGLAS-PENNANT.

L. M. WYNCH, Esq., I.C.S., *Private Secretary*.

Major W. MOLESWORTH, I.M.S., *Surgeon*.

† Captain R. D'A. FIFE, *Aide-de-Camp*.

Captain H. M. MARTIN, *Aide-de-Camp*.

‡ Captain R. L. MATTHEWS, *Aide-de-Camp*.

* Joined H.E. at Podanur on the 14th October and left on 29th October for Madras.

† Joined H.E. at Podanur on the 14th October and left H.E. at Trivandrum.

‡ Joined H.E. at Tinnevely from Madras on the 25th October.

ACCOUNT OF THE EIGHTH TOUR,
September and October 1902.

His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Mr. L. M. Wynch, Private Secretary, Major Molesworth, I.M.S., Staff Surgeon, and Captain H. M. Martin, A.D.C., left Ootacamund on the morning of September 29. His Excellency's departure was private. Mr. Mullaly, the Collector of the Nilgiris, was present on the platform of the railway station at Coonoor. Mr. Mounsey, Collector of Coimbatore, met His Excellency at Méttupálaiyam and travelled with him as far as Coimbatore. His Excellency travelled by special train from Trichinopoly to Ammayanáyakkanúr arriving there at 6-40 A.M. He was met on the platform by Mr. Cardew, the Collector of Madura, and Mr. S. Rungaswami Iyengar, the Deputy Collector. After early tea, His Excellency, accompanied by the Collector, Mr. Wynch, Captain Martin, A.D.C., the Deputy Collector, and Tahsildar, walked to the village of Silkuvarpatti and had an informal interview with the ryots, walking through the fields, and looking at the betel gardens. Afterwards His Excellency called up the village officers and inspected some of their registers and accounts. The ryots asked that a project to improve the irrigation of some of their wet lands by

excavating a river channel might be investigated. His Excellency asked the Collector to look into the matter. The ryots had no complaints to make.

After luncheon His Excellency and party drove to Periakulam. Mr. Cardew accompanied His Excellency the first stage of the journey. Periakulam was reached in time for dinner, after which the party proceeded by bullock transit to Kuruvánuth arriving there early next morning.

1st October.—Mr. Keeling, Public Works Department Executive Engineer, rode with His Excellency up the ghát to Kumili (Tekkadi) and showed His Excellency the mouth of the tunnel whence the waters of the Periyár lake are discharged down a series of foaming cataracts into the thirsty plains below.

His Excellency and party arrived at Kumili on the borders of the Travancore State at 11-30 A.M. and were met by Mr. O. H. Bensley, Superintendent of Police, Mr. Vernede, Acting District Magistrate, Lieutenant W. M. Fenning, Assistant Resident, and the Hon'ble Mr. G. L. Acworth and Mr. H. M. Knight, representing the planters. His Excellency inspected the head sluice and other works at the entrance of the tunnel. Luncheon was taken in the camp. The Governor was much pleased with the hill-men's work in the construction of the camp. The party left in a launch at 3-15 P.M. for the Periyár Dam which was reached and inspected by His Excellency just before dark.

The following accounts of the shooting trip from its special correspondent appeared in the *Madras Mail* :—

GOVERNOR'S CAMP, 4th October.—On the 2nd instant the programme was for His Excellency to shoot over the hills north of the Periyár Dam. His Excellency was up at 4 A.M. and before daylight he, with Captain Martin and Mr. Bensley, left in a boat to get to a good starting point. But though they covered a considerable stretch of country they saw nothing but a few sambhur (two stags and a hind); nor were there any fresh tracks. Thus the day proved a blank as far as sport was concerned, but it was much enjoyed for the opportunity it gave the Governor of studying the lie of the Periyár Lake, with its long and narrow creeks.

On the 3rd instant 4 A.M. was again the hour of rising; and again a boat journey began the proceedings, this time, up a long arm of the lake running into the hills south of the lake. It is a very enjoyable mode of starting, to glide along in the early dawn among the silent hills. The ground chosen for this day's operations was an amphitheatre of hills in the midst of which is a salt lick that always has great attractions for game. The mist hung thick in the valleys, but nothing was to be seen on the hill tops in the way of game, nor were there any fresh tracks. While this fact was being ascertained it was also partly explained by the roaring of a tiger in an adjoining sholahi, and when the salt lick was reached it was still further

accounted for by the presence in the stream of the half-consumed carcase of a hind sambhur, the sand showing the impress of the feet of a pack of wild dogs. Things began to look blue and up to breakfast time nothing was seen. The only fresh track found was that of a bear. In the afternoon, however, Runga, the shikari, whose eyesight is really marvellous, spotted bison high up on the Punnyara Para plateau, above Dighton's Dingle.

It was now 3 o'clock and the distance of the game showed that it would be a tough job to get through the stalk and back home in time. But all haste was made. Eventually, in rounding a hill, Lord Ampthill had the satisfaction of seeing wild elephants for the first time, as on an opposite slope there defiled over a saddle of the hill 17 elephants of various sizes. All were cows and calves (some of the latter very small) except one tusker. The latter, however, carried such small tusks that it was decided to continue after the bison, as the glasses had shown a good bull. His Excellency had therefore to content himself with quite a short study of the movements of the herd of elephants, and once more had to breast the slopes of the plateau. Upon approaching the spot where the bison had been seen, it was found that the bull was lying down on the top of a steep hill, with his stern to the wind and his face to the slope above. To stalk him was therefore most difficult; but by trying different curves of the hill, His Excellency at last found himself on the same hill as the bull, but with a steep slope of long grass

between. This had to be climbed in order to get a sight of the bison, and when the top was almost reached the head of a cow over the top announced that the stalker's approach had at last been detected. With a loud snort the cow gave the alarm and galloped off, upon which the bull got up to see what was the matter and Lord Ampthill gave him an eight bore bullet in his throat at 10 yards which rolled him over dead. He was a fine bull and in his prime.

The day's adventures were, however, by no means over. It was 5 o'clock and the boats were many a weary mile off, but they had to be reached and the hill-men led off at a good pace. As the light failed it became evident that there would be a long tramp through the dark. And so it turned out. But stumbling along through the long grass the party followed their unerring guides, until to the delight of the tired party an answering hail showed that they were nearing the boats. Here were torches; and the return began. A weird and unique effect was produced by the glare of the torches as it shone upon the gaunt stems of the dead trees standing out of the water. The late return caused some anxiety in camp and relief expeditions went to look for the belated Governor, who did not reach home until 8.45 p.m. none the worse, however, for his hard day.

KUMILI, 9th October.—Mapara Camp was reached on the 4th instant and the elegant and

ingenious method of building *etah* (elephant grass) huts adopted by the Munnars (the hill tribe that inhabits that locality) evoked His Excellency's admiration. An expedition to the Ibex Hills, where he had a running shot at a stag which he failed to bag, resulted in a more successful attempt at a brown buck-ibex which he shot behind the shoulder while it was running at a distance of about 70 yards.

Monday, the 6th instant, was a red-letter day. The start was, as usual, at the first glimpse of dawn and the place chosen for the day's sport was Chembracollum. The party had not proceeded far before they saw a solitary tusker feeding on a distant slope, and it was at once decided to stalk him. As the exigencies of the situation demanded a *détour* round several grass hills, the party pursued their course. Then Nyen, the leading Munnar, signalled that game was in sight, and at a short distance was seen another solitary tusker quietly feeding on a grass hill. It was at once decided to commence operations upon him, and the pursuers cautiously approached. When within 80 yards, measuring down and up the opposite slope, the tusker became aware of danger and began to move. It was not therefore possible to get much nearer, so Lord Amptill, after approaching a little further, took his shot which, however, hit too far back to touch the brain. The first shot was, however, quickly followed by a second, while Mr. Bensley and Captain Martin also fired. The tusker's fate

was sealed, as after running about a hundred yards he collapsed, burying his tusks in the ground, and the Governor had the satisfaction of smoking a pipe upon his first tusker. And a magnificent fellow he was. His tusks when subsequently taken out and cleaned, measured 4 feet 5 inches in length, and 15½ inches in girth and weighed 50 lbs. the pair, and were perfectly symmetrical. The circumference of the fore foot (which means half the probable height) was 55 inches.

After having realised the first thrill of success, in so ideal a consummation of sport, the question was raised as to whether the tusker originally marked down had heard the sound of the firing or whether he was still to be found, and a fresh start was made. It was soon found that the first tusker was still in the original valley, but in grass that feathered up above even his enormous bulk. Captain Martin went down into the grass, and passed within a few yards without seeing the elephant, and by the time he had located him, the tusker had moved into a dense sholah. Here again Captain Martin followed him, but though he got close to the elephant he could only see his feet and other parts of the body and could not get a shot at his head on account of the dense cover. Captain Martin, therefore, rejoined the rest of the party and it was resolved to beat the tusker out of the sholah. His Excellency took one side and Captain Martin the other, while Mr. Bensley proceeded up wind to drive the animal towards them. This manœuvre was

eminently successful as the elephant directly he got the wind made up the sholah towards the other guns; but here the difficulty appeared that though he came out of the sholah first on one side and then on the other, the gun to whom he was nearest saw the least of him owing to the height of the grass. Thus two of the guns saw the infuriated monster with head raised approach the Governor's position while he could only see its back and could not get a shot. Eventually with a wild trumpet and with raised trunk he rushed madly down into the sholah again, where it was considered advisable to leave him.

Thus it will be seen that the Governor was within an ace of bagging two magnificent solitary tuskers in one morning before breakfast.

The way home led through a Munnar village, where His Excellency had an opportunity of seeing these interesting people in their own homes and where they had the pleasure of receiving a visit from the Governor of Madras.

THE GOVERNOR'S SHOOTING TRIP.

IN THE TRAVANCORE HILLS.

Now that the Governor's shooting trip in the Periyár Hills is over there is time to send you a few particulars which I was unable to recount in detail before. You have published particulars of His Excellency's doings up to the 6th instant, so it is from that date that I shall now continue.

On the 7th we proceeded to a series of hills north of Mlapara and on the way put up a stag at which Lord Ampthill had a running shot but missed. Nothing more was seen until breakfast time when, seated near the top of a hill with plates and dishes spread around, we heard a rustling in the grass, and galloping down towards us came a saddle-back. There was a rush for rifles, no one being able at the moment to get what he wanted. The Governor ran to the edge, caught sight of the ibex in full career, and fired, but missed. In the afternoon when turned towards camp, Captain Martin went down the valley to see if he could spot any game, and saw a bear. He took a steady shot and thought he had bagged it, but the bear moved on. Captain Martin found the blood trail and followed. At length being at fault, while he, his shikari Kunniiah and a Munnar were looking for the track in different directions, he heard a scuffle and looking round saw the Munnar and the bear having a bout of quarter-staff. Captain Martin could not fire for fear of hitting the hill-man, so ran to the rescue, in doing which he slipped and rolled into the middle of the fray, when he proceeded to kick at the bear, with the result that the latter made off and a volley was fired after him, but he was never seen again. The Munnar boy was sprinkled with blood from the bear, but it was found that he was not touched. This day, therefore, turned out a blank.

On the 8th, Captain Martin went after the bear again, but the rain had washed away the trail and

he did not find it. His Excellency and Mr. Bensley went on to the hills south of the camp. The mist was so thick that little could be done, and when it lifted no game was to be seen. At last a fine stag sambhur was seen feeding on the brow of a hill, which after a long and interesting stalk Lord Ampthill shot. The hill-men had a great time cutting this up. The liver was first broiled and eaten by them, and as much of the meat as they could carry was taken home, the rest being concealed from vultures and left to be brought back on the next day.

On the 9th, we bade farewell to Mlapara Camp and started for Shaitan Mullay, and as we neared Milla Periyar we saw two stags swimming the lake at one of the broad reaches. We slowed down and watched them reach the bank and emerge on the side of the lake opposite to their pursuers, the wild dogs. Upon reaching Tekkady quite a crowd awaited the arrival of the launch, and a procession moved to the Sluice House where breakfast was prepared. The procession was headed by Mr. Johnson, the Vice-Admiral of the Periyar flotilla. Next came two boatmen, clad in their new blue naval uniforms (supplied only just in time by the Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery!) each carrying on his shoulder an elephant's tusk. Next came the Governor, whose tall form with his flowing green shooting cape gave an Imperial touch to the whole. And lastly the smaller fry. A fourteen-mile ride followed. We crossed the Shenkara River on a raft, and walked three or four miles to the Shaitan

Mullay Camp. Here we saw bison at once, but it was too late to do anything that evening.

On the 10th, we started after the bison, but the wind was behind us, and it soon began to pour with rain. After searching some sheltered valleys we rounded a corner, when a sound of galloping told us the herd was off. Lord Ampthill ran forward, and saw one that he thought was a bull, but was not able to get a shot, and we then saw the herd in full career below, making for cover. As we stood with chattering teeth and drenched clothes on a hill-top vainly seeking warmth from a pipe and the shelter of some rocks, a solitary tusker was seen on an opposite slope. But he very soon got our wind and began to travel, frequently putting up his trunk. We went in pursuit, but he had gone and on looking back we saw on the hill from which we had come, but down below, another solitary tusker. At last we were on the right side of the wind, and Captain Martin suggested a bee line across the valley. The hill-men objected on the score of the precipitous nature of the ground and the dense *etah* cover at the bottom of the valley; but it was resolved to try this course. It was soon found that our mountain friends had not exaggerated the difficulties of the way; but by dint of slipping and climbing we at length emerged exhausted in the grass on the opposite slope. While we were recovering our breath we saw to our surprise an elephant's head with raised trunk waving above us at about 30 yards distance! The tusker had heard our approach and

had come to see who we were! The Governor, having paused to steady himself after his climb, took his shot, which Captain Martin followed by another and the Governor gave him a second barrel as he rolled over with all four legs in the air. Such a roll did he give that we half expected to have him down upon the whole party; but his legs prevented this and we had the satisfaction of smoking a pipe upon Lord Ampthill's second tusker. The tusk measured $45\frac{1}{2}$ inches, girth $11\frac{3}{4}$ inches and weighed 27lb. We found that the two first shots had penetrated the brain within three inches of each other. No more game was seen that day, and we moved to Tottem Kunnen Para, whither all the camp kit had been removed in the day.

On the 11th, we saw bison in an impossible place far off with no bull visible, so explored a tract of ideal country without seeing a horn, hoof or tusk. After working all day we went homewards when a fine jungle sheep was seen. This Captain Martin shot, and when we had got within about half a mile of camp the lynx-eyed Runga spotted a tusker near the edge of a sholah close to the road. When within 50 yards His Excellency gracefully allowed Captain Martin to have the shot. He therefore took the lead and got up to within ten yards, the Governor covering close behind with his 8-bore Paradox. At 10 yards Captain Martin fired and His Excellency put in his shot directly after and the grand beast rolled over dead. We reached camp just as it got dark.

The shikar trip was now over and the results were as follows:—

		Fired at	Bagged.	Missed.	Wounded and got away.
Elephants	...	3	3	0	0
Bison	...	1	1	0	0
Sambhur	...	3	1	2	0
Ibex	...	2	1	1	0
Jungle sheep	...	1	1	0	0
Bear	...	1	0	0	1

Although the camp was equipped with the care and comfort suitable to an occasion of the kind when the host and guest were of such exalted position, His Excellency showed from the first that he was determined to work hard in a thoroughly sportsman-like fashion. Thus 4 o'clock every day was the hour for rising, and dark the time of return to camp. The mid-day hours found him either lying in drenched clothes or in blistering sun upon the hill-side. In taking the bag into consideration it is to be remembered that the sport was neither obtained by riding up to the game on the back of an elephant nor by sitting in the top of a tree while it was driven to him; but by sheer hard work on foot out in the open.

On the 12th, His Excellency with Captain Martin and Mr. Bensley returned to Kumili, where the Governor was good enough to express to the different officials concerned his pleasure at the arrangements that had been made and his appreciation of the efforts that had been put forth to make the trip a successful one. Lord Ampthill and

Captain Martin started for Kuruvánuth at 2 p.m. and soon after Mr. Wynch, Major Molesworth and Lieutenant Fenning returned from their camp, where they appear to have thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

After completing the final arrangements for breaking up the camp, two of the party had to leave for further duties in connection with His Excellency's visit to Trivandrum. They soon had cause to be thankful that their travelling has generally to be done in Travancore and not in Madura and Tinnevely, for at Periyakulam an unbridged river crosses the road, which they were with difficulty able to cross after paying some rupees to coolies to assist the passage. While on the road between Tinnevely and Aramboly the mud holes nearly led to the capsizing of one of the transits and the last six miles through Pannagali to the frontier is in a condition which I trust is without a parallel in India.

THE VISIT TO COCHIN.

FROM SHORANUR TO ERNAKULAM.

ERNAKULAM, 14th October.—His Excellency Lord Amptill, accompanied by Mr. L. M. Wynch, Private Secretary, Major Molesworth, I.M.S., Captain H. M. Martin, Aide-de-Camp, left Kuruvánuth at 6 p.m. by bullock transit, dined at Uttamapalem and went on the same night to Periyakulam, which place was reached early on the morning of the 13th.

From there they drove in to Ammayanáyakkanúr where a halt was made for breakfast. Leaving Ammayanáyakkanúr by a special train at 5-15 p.m. the party reached Podanur at 7-15 on the morning of the 14th. There they were joined by Her Excellency Lady Amptill, the Hon'ble Violet Douglas-Pennant, and Captain R. D.'A. Fife, Aide-de-Camp, who had arrived there the night before and slept in their saloons in a siding till daybreak. The whole party arrived at Shoranur at 10-25 a.m. and were met on the station platform by the Hon'ble Mr. G. T. Mackenzie, the British Resident in Travancore and Cochin. After breakfast at the railway refreshment room, Their Excellencies and staff walked over the overbridge to the southern platform of the Shoranur station which was gay with flags and bunting. A flagstaff flying the Union Jack and bearing the Cochin coat-of-arms was erected on the platform in honour of His Excellency's visit to the State; and a pretty pandal, made entirely of evergreens and ferns and profusely decorated with plantain leaves and bunches of fruit as well as green cocoanuts, was erected on the platform which was covered with the customary red baize. Their Excellencies were welcomed under this pandal by Mr. N. Pattabhirama Rao, the Dewan of Cochin, Mr. Arni Subba Rao, Superintendent of the State Police, and Mr. A. Sankara Menon, the Peishkar of the Northern Division, who were commanded by His Highness the Rajah of Cochin to extend a formal welcome to his distinguished guest. His Excellency expressed to the

Dewan the great pleasure it gave him and Lady Amphill to be able to visit His Highness's beautiful and interesting State.

Their Excellencies who were profusely garlanded by the Dewan then got into a special train of the new Shoranur-Cochin Railway and left for Ernakulam at 11-30 A.M. Mr. D. Ross Johnson, the Traffic Manager of the Madras Railway, and Mr. Napier, the District Railway Engineer, were in charge of the train, which steamed out of the station yard, a salute of fog signals being fired to announce the departure. This new line, which will long continue to be a standing memorial of the enlightened administration of this flourishing and historic little State by His Highness Sir Rama Varma, assisted by his able and enthusiastic ex-Dewan, Mr. P. Rajagopala Chariar, runs through a remarkably favoured tract of country which abounds in magnificent scenery. Along the whole length of 64 miles, on both sides of the line, the country is covered for miles and miles with vast gardens of graceful areca and stately cocoanut palms intermingled with extensive patches of paddy cultivation. The enterprise of the Cochin Government in constructing this comparatively small line of railway is to be commended, for it promises to prove a thoroughly paying one in the course of a few years more. As it is, with its limited and practically insufficient rolling-stock the monthly earnings from passenger and goods traffic on the line amount to about Rs. 25,000, which is calculated to give an

interest of very nearly 2 per cent. per annum on the capital investment. The Cochin authorities originally expected that the goods traffic on the line would be much larger than the passenger traffic, and on that calculation they gave orders for a larger number of goods vehicles than for carriages for passenger traffic. But actual experience has shown them that passenger traffic has developed beyond all expectations with the result that the stock of carriages in their possession is by no means adequate to meet the daily growing demand of passenger traffic. It is, however, expected that the State will be able to add to the rolling-stock next year and to offer better and more adequate facilities for passenger traffic.

The special train consisted of two first and second class composite bogie carriages and one third class bogie carriage and a goods van—all of which were patterns of the neatness of execution and of the excellence of workmanship of the Madras Railway Workshop at Perambore. The journey between Shoranur and Ernakulam, which used to be accomplished in previous years by means of tongas, brought down at great cost from Ootacamund, and in house-boats by backwater in 14 to 16 hours, does not now take much more than three hours. All the stations *en route* were profusely decorated and were thronged outside the premises with hundreds of villagers who had been waiting from an early hour in the day to see the special train carrying Their Excellencies.

THE ARRIVAL AT ERNAKULAM.

The party arrived at the Ernakulam terminus at 2-45 P.M. and here also the station premises wore a holiday appearance. In front of His Highness's well-furnished waiting room on the platform were present a large number of leading State officials, besides His Highness the Rajah and the Elaya Rajah, to receive Their Excellencies as they alighted. Their Excellencies' saloons were drawn up right in front of the waiting room and His Highness shook hands with Lord and Lady Ampthill, and the Elaya Rajah and the principal officials were next introduced to His Excellency. A guard of honour furnished by the Nayar Brigade paraded on the platform with band and colours and His Excellency inspected the same in company with the Rajah. Their Excellencies, accompanied by the Rajah and the Elaya Rajah, and escorted by His Highness's bodyguard then drove to the jail jetty along the new road and Palathode road which were lined with hundreds of people, and were spanned with arches and decorated with foliage, flags, etc.

AT THE BOLGHOTTY RESIDENCY.

At the jetty the party got into the steam launch and proceeded to the Residency at Bolghotty. His Highness took leave of Their Excellencies at the jetty and returned to his Palace, while Their Excellencies spent the evening quietly at the Residency, having no public functions to attend. A saluto

of 17 guns was fired from the Ernakulam Esplanade when the flag was hoisted at the Residency.

A VISIT TO BRITISH COCHIN.

ERNAKULAM, 15th October.—This morning was devoted to a visit to British Cochin situated on the other side of the backwater about three miles from Ernakulam. Their Excellencies, accompanied by the Hon'ble Mr. G. T. Mackenzie, the British Resident, Mr. L. M. Wynch, Private Secretary, Major Molesworth, I.M.S., Captain Fife and Captain Martin, left the Residency by launch for British Cochin at 7-15 A.M. The steam ferry which plies daily between Ernakulam and British Cochin has been engaged by the Cochin Sircar for four days for the use of Their Excellencies and party. The party arrived at the Victoria Jubilee jetty at British Cochin at 7-30 A.M. and was here met by Mr. A. F. Pinhey, the Collector of Malabar, and Mrs. Pinhey, Mr. G. E. Baudry, the District Superintendent of Police of Malabar, the Bishop of Cochin and his Secretary, Mr. S. Locke, Captain Laverette, the Port Officer, Mr. C. Sherman, Assistant Commissioner of Salt and Abkari, Mr. A. G. Gover, the Chairman of the Cochin Municipal Council, Dewan Bahadur K. V. Lakshmana Rao, Deputy Collector, Dr. Fernandez, and the members of the Cochin Municipal Council among whom were representatives of the various communities in British Cochin. Mr. Pinhey received Their Excellencies on landing and introduced the

leading officials and non-officials present. After Their Excellencies had taken their seats, Mr. A. G. Gover read an address extending them cordial welcome to Cochin on behalf of the municipality and the inhabitants generally of the town. The address ran as follows :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—As representatives of the municipality and inhabitants of the town of Cochin, we, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Councillors of the municipality delight to have this opportunity of expressing to Your Excellency the great pleasure it affords us that you have been pleased to make this visit to our town, a pleasure which is vastly enhanced in that you are accompanied by Her Excellency Lady Amptill; no similar circumstance has occurred within the memory of any of us. We most heartily welcome Your Excellency here.

Since last we had the pleasure of welcoming a Governor of Madras we have happily been brought into much closer communion with the rest of the presidency by the construction of the railway from Shoranur to Ernakulam, a convenience which will be brought home to Your Excellencies in the comparison of the journey, which Your Excellencies will be making southward from this, with that you have made between Shoranur and here. Previously to the opening of the railway the journey would have occupied some sixteen hours by road and boat, whereas it is now done in three. Yet we respectfully draw Your Excellency's attention to

the fact that the communication with Cochin itself is far from complete for, as there is no public conveyance from the station to the town, it is necessary to travel about six miles to reach the station which is in sight of this jetty or to hire a special boat at a cost almost equal to that of the second-class fare for the whole distance from the station to Shoranur. We hope that we may have Your Excellency's countenance to some scheme by which a good international and comprehensive steam or other rapid water service may be had, not only between the town and the station but connecting all the chief places on this magnificent backwater and linking up the two present termini, Ernakulam and Quilon. This is, we know, outside the council's own proper province; but yet we are deeply interested in it as we are convinced that it would tend immensely to the prosperity of the town, and that it will be absolutely necessary if it should be that the proposed harbour scheme be carried out. We have called it international for the three jurisdictions of British India, Cochin and Travancore would each be an integral element in the scheme.

It is with great regret that we have to refer to the very severe visitation of small-pox which has afflicted the town during the past few months carrying off between 300 and 400 of the inhabitants. Efforts have not been spared to promote vaccination, but it is difficult to persuade adults to submit to the operation. It is probably the congested state of the population which is over 15,000 to the square mile

that prevents the measures taken from being more successful.

As frequently noticed before on occasions similar to the present the serious evils of leprosy and elephantiasis are ever present in, as Your Excellency will see, very sad prominence owing, as Doctors say, to the insalubrious water. The council would earnestly welcome some scheme by which good portable water might be brought to the town; but as $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of salt water separate us from the mainland we see no help in any wise commensurate with the pecuniary means of the municipality. The Madras Government did generously attempt an artesian well the tube whereof remains to a depth of 380 feet, but as the rod then broke the scheme failed.

The Sanitary Commissioner has frequently urged the necessity of improved drainage more especially in the Mussalman quarter. The council feels the necessity but is powerless without a considerable loan for which an application will probably again be made to the Government when we hope it will have the favourable consideration of Your Excellency.

We have no further particular requests to make to Your Excellency as we are assured that the interests of this town will have all that attention which, amid the many other concerns of the presidency, Your Excellency can bestow upon them.

In conclusion, we hope that Your Excellencies will carry away with you a not unpleasing memory of our town and its surroundings.

We pray that happiness may attend you both.

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

In reply, His Excellency said :—

MR. CHAIRMAN, MUNICIPAL COUNCILLORS AND GENTLEMEN OF THE TOWN OF COCHIN,—Her Excellency Lady Amthill and I thank you for your cordial welcome to your town which, though small in area, is rich in historical associations, recalling to mind, as it does, the exploits of those great pioneers of the Portuguese Settlements in India, Vasco da Gama and Albuquerque, the subsequent struggles with the Dutch and the eventual establishment of the British dominion on the foundations which they had laid. Communication between the east and west has been vastly accelerated since those days, but the last move in that direction remained to be taken by the enlightened Rajah of Cochin to whose commendable enterprise it is due that I have been able to make the journey from Shoranur here by rail in the short space of three hours. At the same time, a feeling of regret is, I think, not unpardonable at missing the beautiful drive from Shoranur to Trichur and the interesting sight of the latter place which I have found so graphically described in the reports of the tours of my predecessors. A link in the chain of communication is, as you point out, still lacking in the absence of a steam ferry service. The Agent of the Madras Railway has, I understand, been addressed on the subject and the Traffic Manager has been instructed to make a traffic survey and report. I trust therefore that it will not be long before your wants in this respect are satisfied. The severe

visitation of small-pox to which you next refer, is a matter for deep concern. I gather from the last administration report that considerable attention has been paid to vaccination which is, I understand, compulsory in this town, and I can only urge you not to relax your efforts. Improvement in the registration of births and thereby improvement in infantile vaccination appears to be still possible, and something more might perhaps be done by the exercise of your personal influence with adults to whom the compulsory clauses of the Municipal Act do not apply, by taking steps to open up the more congested parts of the town and by measures of protection against importation of the disease from outside.

As regards your water-supply, all the schemes hitherto suggested appear to have been beyond the means of the municipal council to maintain, even if the Government had been in a position to make the necessary grants towards the first cost of construction. The artesian well to which you refer, seems to have been the most promising, but apparently the suggestion made in 1897 by the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner to sink a well round the head of the tube and pump the water thence into a service reservoir, was found impracticable. I hope that you may find it feasible to adopt the suggestion of your Civil Surgeon, which has been recommended to your attention by Government in the recent review of your administration report for 1901-1902, and undertake the distribution of portable water by municipal agency. Your application for a loan for

the improvement of drainage in the most insanitary quarter of the town should be made without delay and I can assure you that it shall have my sympathetic consideration.

One of the principal objects of my tour was to see the Cochin harbour in which I am particularly interested and to which my attention was directed even before I left England. Although you have made no reference to the matter and are not directly or immediately concerned, perhaps you will allow me to make a few remarks on a subject which is of great importance to Cochin.

For a great many years past the question of providing a harbour on the West Coast of the Madras Presidency at which European vessels can be accommodated has occupied the attention of Government, but hitherto no practicable scheme has been presented. Now of all the possible harbours on the West Coast, Cochin possesses the greatest natural advantages. In fact you have a perfect harbour greater in area than all the docks of Great Britain put together but the difficulty is to get into it. To render the harbour accessible to vessels of any size it would be necessary to dredge a channel from the anchorage to the entrance of the backwater, two miles long, 500 feet wide and 30 feet deep and to keep this channel open. A few years ago this would have been impossible, but such wonderful improvements have been made recently in modern suction dredgers that there is, I am informed, no longer any engineering difficulty. The question is

merely whether it is worth while from a commercial and financial point of view to improve the harbour of Cochin. Now it seems to me that there is at any rate one strong reason why this question which has so long been dallied with should now receive very serious consideration and that is the establishment of railway connection with the interior which is due to the far-seeing enterprise of His Highness the Rajah of Cochin.

More than forty years ago the Rev. M. J. Whitehouse, who was minister of the Government Church here and wrote some interesting historical notices of Cochin, anticipated that this place would be the natural central mart for the valuable products of Travancore, Cochin and Malabar when the resources of those fertile states and district were fully developed. He pointed out that the geographical position of Cochin on that side of India which is most readily reached from England and the magnificent natural harbour were advantages which were bound to command attention in the future and he then wrote the following words which, I hope, will prove to be prophetic :—

“The telegraphic wire has already put the place
 “in connection with all the chief centres of influence
 “in India and when its usual accompaniment, the
 “railway, shall have reached thus far and projected
 “plans be accomplished for the improvement of the
 “harbour, there will be nothing to hinder its rapid
 “rise to a very considerable commercial importance.”
 This was more than forty years ago and the question

has been discussed continually both before and since that time.

Now we have actually got the railway, the resources of these western states and districts are showing great possibilities of further development, and modern engineering is capable of overcoming difficulties which before were insuperable. In these circumstances I thought that the time had come for giving serious consideration to the Cochin harbour question and as a first step I have asked the India Office for an expert opinion as to the feasibility of the proposed dredging, the probable cost and other kindred questions. But here I must warn you that we are in no way committed to the enterprise, for there is much that needs further consideration. If it turns out that the dredging is possible and the cost not prohibitive we shall next have to consider whether the trade of Cochin warrants the investment of the capital required. And if after careful examination it is proved that the undertaking is justifiable on financial and economic grounds, we shall further have to consider whether it should be entrusted to a local body or whether it should be executed with provincial funds.

Such, gentlemen, is the present position of the Cochin harbour question, an enigma almost as hoary and baffling as that of Madras, and it will be a bitter disappointment to me if my term of office does not see its satisfactory solution.

The pleasant impression we have received of the town of Cochin and its picturesque surroundings

is not likely to fade in our memories, nor shall we forget the good wishes of the representatives of its people for which we are sincerely grateful.

You may rest assured that in future your interests will be to me a matter of increased concern.

From the jetty His Excellency proceeded to inspect the guard of honour furnished by the Malabar Volunteer Rifles, and then left for the ancient and historic Church of St. Francis. It was built by the Portuguese at the end of the fifteenth century and when the Dutch took possession of Cochin in 1659, they converted the church into a Protestant one and later it passed into the hands of the British. Now there are in it several Portuguese and Dutch graves covered over with tombstones bearing inscriptions which are in some instances very indistinct. Of these the most recent is a tombstone bearing the date of 1789 A.D. which was 10 years after the church itself had been renovated. The oldest of the Dutch inscriptions is dated 1664, this being the year after the Dutch took Cochin. Another inscription appears to bear even an earlier date, viz., 1606, but it would seem, according to the register kept in the church, that the year is probably 1696. This tombstone, it is believed, was taken from the tomb of a Portuguese gentleman—as his death in 1560 and of a relative 25 years later is recorded on the under side of the stone—and had been cut to make it fit the Dutchman's grave! Among the tombstones bearing inscriptions which

are preserved with great care in this church is one which is said to cover the remains of Vasco da Gama, the famous Portuguese Ambassador to the east who paid a visit to the Zamorin of Calicut about the end of the fifteenth century. Their Excellencies spent some minutes in the church, inspecting the inscriptions and the quaint architecture of the building and then drove to visit the lighthouse on the beach. The height of this structure has during the last year or two been reduced from about 180 feet to 47 feet (it had suffered from the effects of a heavy storm), as it was considered by the Port authorities that one of the present height would serve all practical purposes. His Excellency also inspected that part of the shore with special reference to the harbour scheme and the dredging operations connected therewith. From the beach the party drove through crowded and decorated streets to the Customs House where Mr. C. M. Sherman, the Assistant Commissioner, met His Excellency. The latter, with Mr. Pinhey, the Collector, Mr. Sherman and Mr. V. S. Annasami Iyengar of the Salt, Abkari and Customs Department, discussed details of a scheme for constructing a proper Customs House, adequate to the growing needs of local trade, or for enlarging the premises. This question has for several years been engaging the attention of the Board of Revenue, which, as a result of careful enquiry, has come to the conclusion that it is desirable to construct a new Customs House. But the execution of the work was

recommended to be postponed if there was any likelihood of the harbour question being taken up. This question having now come up for consideration and discussion, the scheme for the construction of a new Customs House has been brought to His Excellency's notice. The object of a new Customs House is to provide godown accommodation for merchants who at present store their goods in their own wharves and warehouses.

THE RAJAH'S VISIT TO HIS EXCELLENCY.

At 1 P.M. His Highness the Rajah, accompanied by Mr. N. Pattabhirama Rao, the Dewan, and the Sarvadhikaryakar, paid a State visit to His Excellency at the Residency. On arrival at the Bolghotty jetty His Highness was met with all the finely graduated ceremonial proper to these occasions until he found himself in the presence of His Excellency who received His Highness at the edge of the carpet and conducted him to a seat on his right. The Dewan, the Sarvadhikaryakar and members of the Governor's staff having taken their seats at the appointed places, the formalities connected with a State visit of this description were gone through. At the close of the visit His Highness was conducted back to his palanquin and to his State barge with the same formalities which were observed at his arrival. A salute of 17 guns was fired both when His Highness left the jetty at Ernakulam and the jetty at Bolghotty on his return. A guard of honour furnished by the Nayar Brigade was drawn up in

front of the Residency and saluted His Highness on arrival at and departure from the Residency and during the interview a band played outside the Residency.

RETURN VISIT TO THE RAJAH.

At 5 o'clock in the evening a Durbar was held in the Durbar Hall at Ernakulam when His Highness the Rajah received a return visit from His Excellency. All ladies and gentlemen who were on the Durbar list were present in response to invitations issued. Their Excellencies were met at the Ernakulam Huzurjetty by the Elaya Rajah and conducted to His Highness's State carriage. They were accompanied by the Elaya Rajah and the Resident and escorted by His Highness's body guard. His Excellency was conducted upstairs with all the formality prescribed by regulations governing State visits. Her Excellency was conducted by the Elaya Rajah, and the whole Durbar ceremonies occupied about 20 minutes, at the end of which the party returned to Bolghotty. The usual salutes were fired on the occasion of the arrival and return of His Excellency and a guard of honour paraded.

There was a State banquet at night.

THE STATE BANQUET.

ERNAKULAM, 16th Oct.—State banquets have come to be looked upon as a standing institution in connection with visits paid to Native States by

Governors and Viceroys, and have been made the occasion, not merely for acknowledging mutual feelings of friendship, but also for making official pronouncements in regard to matters of deep interest to the rulers and people of these Native States; and the banquet given yesterday night at the Ernakulam College Hall by His Highness the Rajah of Cochin in honour of his distinguished guests was no exception to the rule. His Highness had invited over 60 guests—including almost all the important European ladies and gentlemen both at Ernakulam and British Cochin; among the guests being the Hon'ble Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson and Mr. and Mrs. Pinhey. The college premises were splendidly decorated by the students themselves, and the dinner hall and table were well arranged by Mrs. Davies, the wife of the Vice-Principal of the College. The foreshores of Muttonchery, Vypeen, Ramanthuratty, Bolghotty, Venduruthy and Ernakulam were illuminated at 6-30 P.M., and the illumination lasted till late at night. About 7 P.M. it began to rain, and it was feared that the careful arrangements which had been made to make the illuminations and fireworks a success, would be interfered with; but fortunately the rain not being heavy, this part of the programme was carried out without any hitch.

At the conclusion of the dinner, His Highness who sat at the table throughout, rose amidst deafening cheers and proposed the health of his distinguished guests, Lord and Lady Amphill, in the following excellent speech which was characterised by deep

sincerity, and concluded with an assurance that in the fulness of their devotion to the British Throne, he and his people yielded to none. The toast of Their Excellencies was drunk with great enthusiasm by the guests.

YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—
It now gives me much pleasure to propose the health of our distinguished guests, Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Amphill.

It is exceedingly kind of Your Excellency to pay this visit to my State at so early a stage of Your Excellency's Governorship, whereby you have the opportunity of becoming personally acquainted with the special features of this place and people, which, I am sure, will greatly help Your Excellency in dealing with important matters which will in the usual course come before Your Excellency's Government for consideration and disposal. Your Excellency has by this visit further evinced the keen and benevolent interest which Your Excellency takes in the affairs of this State, for which I and my people feel very grateful to Your Excellency.

When I invited Your Excellency's predecessor, Sir Arthur Havelock, to honour my State with a visit, I felt very anxious about the inconvenience and fatigue which His Excellency would have to suffer during the long and uncomfortable journey from Shoranur to this Residency. It is very gratifying to me to know that on this occasion, Your Excellency and party have not had to experience that inconvenience. Yesterday, when the train with

Your Excellency and suite glided into the Ernakulam station, I felt rejoiced, especially at the recollection that my railway, so soon after its construction, should have been able to carry to my capital Your Excellency and Lady Amphill.

I take this opportunity to offer Your Excellency my respectful thanks for the continual and various forms of help which I have from time to time received from Your Excellency's Government. I feel also much obliged to Your Excellency for the congratulatory manner in which you have spoken about the introduction of the railway into my State.

Ladies and gentlemen, I had the great privilege of making Lord Amphill's acquaintance in Madras in February last and of being received by Lady Amphill and His Excellency with a kindness and consideration, the recollection of which will ever fill me with very grateful pleasure.

I need hardly say, Your Excellency, that I highly prize the honour you have done me in visiting my State. In cordially welcoming you both to Cochin, permit me to assure you that I and my people yield to none in the fulness of our devotion to the British Government, our esteem for Lady Amphill and yourself, and the sincerity of our welcome.

I hope that in the future Your Excellencies may always retain pleasant memories of your visit to my State.

Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to drink to the long life and prosperity of Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Amphill.

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

His Excellency Lord Amphill's speech, in proposing the health of his host, ran follows:—

YOUR HIGHNESS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—His Highness the Rajah does not do anything by halves; on the contrary it seems to me that he does a great deal by doubles if I may be permitted to coin a new phrase to express the thought which is in my mind. His Highness has accorded us a double welcome, for not only has he received us into his State with all the time-honoured observances of an Indian welcome, but he has also honoured us with a form of welcome which is peculiar to Englishmen in the shape of a banquet and a toast. I hope that His Highness will permit me to say that whether he figures as an Indian Rajah or as an English host he acquits himself equally well in either part. Lady Amphill and I thank him sincerely for the kind and graceful manner in which he has proposed our health and we are grateful to you all for having received the toast with so much cordiality.

Now I can at once give you another instance of the thoroughness which characterises His Highness and which I endeavoured to describe by saying that he did things by doubles. His Highness was good enough to invite us to pay him a visit at Cochin and, not content with this, he now says that it is kind of us to come. I must protest at this attempt on the part of His Highness to deprive me of the pleasure of offering him my grateful thanks for having invited us to visit his beautiful and interesting country

and for having received us with such splendid hospitality.

His Highness says that I have come here at an early stage of my Governorship. I do not regard my visit as any too early, for a strong desire to visit Cochin possessed me long before I came to India in an official capacity. After I had been in India ten years ago as an ordinary traveller, I was conscious of a regrettable omission in having neglected to visit the south and particularly the States of Cochin and Travancore. That omission is now being repaired in the most agreeable manner possible, and deep though the interest of Cochin would have been to me as a mere globe-trotter, it cannot compare with that which I feel now for the reasons to which His Highness has referred.

The relations which have existed between the Madras Government and the State of Cochin for over a hundred years have always, to the best of my knowledge, been of the most cordial and friendly nature. At the present time with a high-minded and able ruler at the head of a prosperous people, devotedly loyal to the British Government, those relations are not only friendly but also most agreeable and easy to conduct. I can assure His Highness that my colleagues and I find all the negotiations which we have to conduct with him as pleasant as they are interesting. It has been a real satisfaction to us to have been able to assist the Cochin State with a loan of trained Madras officers who have been placed at the head of the departments of Forest,

Police, Abkâri and Survey and appointed for the revision of the system of accounts which was inaugurated by the late Dewan Rajagopalachari. We shall be glad and willing to render any similar assistance which His Highness may ask for in the future and we shall not grudge giving him the best men that we can spare.

I take this opportunity of wishing Mr. Pattabhirama Rao a term of office as successful and prosperous as that of his distinguished predecessor.

I do not doubt that ere long Cochin will be able to be without our assistance in this way. The example of a ruler who is himself hard-working and conscientious and who is so well acquainted with every detail of administration as to be capable of being his own Dewan, cannot be without effect upon the young men of Cochin who are enjoying the advantage of good and carefully fostered education.

I need hardly say that our journey over the new State Railway was full of interest to me as well as very comfortable. His Highness had invited me to open the railway in April and I had very willingly promised to do so, but unfortunately there were delays on the part of the contractors, which deprived me of the pleasure of performing that interesting ceremony. The Shoranur-Cochin Railway was however opened in the most appropriate manner by His Highness himself travelling over it, and I hope that it is not too late for me to offer the congratulations and good wishes for which there was no formal opportunity.

I do most heartily congratulate His Highness on the bold and spirited enterprise on which he has embarked and I hope that it will be attended by the full measure of success which it deserves. It required no mean order of courage to initiate a financial policy that was so entirely new to the Durbar and to face the objections and prejudices which I know were abundant. His Highness and Mr. Rajagopalachari overcame them all by their firmness, tact and personal influence, and their courage did not fail them when the cost of the enterprise became larger than was at first anticipated and when delays which were due to causes outside of their control, postponed the remunerative operation of the railway. I sincerely hope that the time is not far distant when the Shoranur-Ernakulam line will prove a great advantage to the State and repay with interest the capital which has been invested in it.

His Highness has remarked that we made acquaintance with one another in Madras this year and I can assure him that the pleasure was mutual, but his visit was unfortunately marred by the sad bereavement which befell his family at that time. I hope that His Highness will give me the opportunity of returning his hospitality on some future occasion by coming again to Madras as my guest.

I can promise His Highness that Lady Amptill and I will always retain a most pleasant recollection of our visit to Cochin and of His Highness's kind and hospitable welcome.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am sure that you will all share my sincere hope that our princely host may enjoy health and strength for many years to come and that his rule may so prosper as to make his name live for ever in the hearts and affections of his people. If that is your hope you will join with me in drinking a cordial toast to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin. The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm.

At the conclusion of the dinner the guests witnessed a grand display of fireworks, and it was past midnight when they began to disperse.

VISIT TO THE COLLEGE.

16th Oct.—This morning Their Excellencies visited the Ernakulam College where were assembled a very large number of the residents of the town. They were received at the entrance to the college by Mr. F. S. Davies, the Vice-Principal of the college, and conducted upstairs to their seats on the platform. His Highness the Rajah was amongst those present, and after Their Excellencies took their seats a student of the senior class read the following address on behalf of the students of the college, welcoming His Excellency in his double capacity of the representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor and as Chancellor of the Madras University.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCIES,—We, the Students of the Ernakulam College, beg leave to offer to Your Excellencies a warm welcome to our

college, and to thank you heartily for having been pleased to pay us a visit. We cannot adequately express in words our joy on this occasion; it must appear in other ways. A visit like the one, which Your Excellency has been pleased to make to our institution in your double capacity as representative in this Presidency of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor, and as Chancellor of the Provincial University, is a source of no small encouragement to us, and its interest is accentuated by the fact that Your Excellency is connected with that historic house of Russell, whose name we are taught to honour as associated with all that makes for civil liberty and national progress.

The college rose from small beginnings. An English school, open to all castes and creeds, was established by the Sirkar nearly half a century ago. In 1865, it was placed under the care of a European headmaster and since then it has continued to make steady progress. In 1876, pupils were sent up for the First-in-Arts examination. Under the fostering care of the Durbar and the able management of two well-known educationists, our late Principal, the lamented Mr. A. F. Sealy, and our present Principal, Mr. D. M. Cruickshank, now on leave, the college has gained an honourable position among the second-grade colleges of the Presidency. Lastly, when speaking of ourselves, we shall do ourselves an injustice, if we do not express our gratitude to His Highness the Rajah for the keen interest he has always evinced in our progress, and for the personal

regard he has graciously shown, among other ways, by many visits paid to our institution.

We again beg to thank Your Excellencies heartily for the honour done to us by this visit, and we pray Almighty God to bless Your Excellencies with health, long life and continued prosperity.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

His Excellency delivered the following reply:—

YOUR HIGHNESS AND STUDENTS OF THE ERNAKULAM COLLEGE,—No thanks are due to me for having come to pay you a visit. The object of my present travels is not only to enjoy the kind hospitality which His Highness the Rajah offered to me, but also to gain some personal knowledge of everything that is of importance and interest in Cochin.

The Ernakulam College is, without doubt, one of the most important institutions in this State and I always find it interesting to see the rising generation in the places which I visit in the course of my official tours. I should therefore have neglected what is both a duty and a pleasure if I failed to come here, but I can assure you that whatever part duty played in guiding my inclinations, now that I am here I have no other sense than that of pleasure.

I thank you heartily for the welcome that you have given to me not only in my representative and official capacity but also as an individual. I do not mind telling you that I am proud of being greeted as a Russell and a descendant of all those Russells who for nearly four centuries have been the counsellors

of the Sovereigns of England, as well as the champions of the people. I am the first Russell who has filled an administrative post in India and I have no other ambition than to do my duty equally by my Sovereign and by his people in India as my forefathers have done at home.

Let me congratulate you on the steady progress and the increasing successes of this college, which you very rightly ascribe to the ability of past and present Principals, to the fostering care of the Durbar and the great personal interest shown by His Highness the Rajah. I may, however, add to what you have said, that credit is also due to the students, for the best teachers and the amplest resources are of no avail if the pupils are not willing to learn and capable of receiving instruction.

I am interested to hear that your Principal, Mr. Cruickshank, comes from Aberdeen, but it is no longer a matter of surprise to me to find wherever I go capable and clever men who were educated in that wonderful city.

Two of the ablest officials in the Colonial office where I worked for five years were Aberdonians and the Colonial service was full of them, and now in the Madras Government I find myself relying on the brains and energy of a colleague and a Chief Secretary who both come from Aberdeen. I refer to the Hon'ble Mr. Thomson and the Hon'ble Mr. Forbes.

I make no excuse for what might appear to be a digression as the striking success of Aberdeen

illustrates the immense influence which a school, college or centre of education where sound principles and good traditions prevail, is able to exercise over the destinies of those who are brought up there. Therefore I say cherish your lawful pride in your college and strive everyone of you to add to its credit and good name. Let each individual student learn to regard his success as won for the honour of the college at least as much as for himself and his failure as a discredit to the college. In so doing you will not only gain advantages for yourselves under the additional stimulus of patriotic feeling, but you will establish for those who come after you, perhaps your own sons, the great advantage of a school which can impress its scholars with the unmistakeable stamp of its own good spirit and reputation.

You have greeted me as the Chancellor of the Madras University, and in that capacity I feel called upon to give a few words of paternal advice which are addressed to all of you whether you are coming before me to receive degrees or not. My advice is this: Try to understand and never forget that the object of education is to train and develop the mind, not to fill the memory. It is the power of learning, not the thing learnt that is the thing worth learning. The amount of actual knowledge which even the cleverest student can acquire at school and college is of the smallest value of itself and is not a sufficient equipment for his profession in life. Take for instance law or science—the amount of knowledge

in either of these branches of learning which a student can acquire at college is a mere nothing to the mass which he must master if he is to earn his living by one or other of them. My point then is this: That education does not end with final examinations and degrees; it only begins there. The education of school and college is no more than the foundation for the expert and technical knowledge which makes a good lawyer, a capable official, or a successful business-man. Therefore, beware of regarding your college education from a merely utilitarian point of view. It is not enough to commit to memory just that which will enable you to pass your examinations and enter professions. Nothing which you learn by getting to understand it, is wasted, for it all tends to develop the mental faculties. Without those faculties of accuracy, thoroughness and grasp of thought, success in life which depends on a constant acquisition of further knowledge, is impossible. The miner is not satisfied with the gold which he finds near the surface; that alone would be of very little profit to him, and he has to dig deep into the earth to obtain the hidden treasure which will make him wealthy. In the same way you should not be contented with your text-books alone; they are superficial and only serve to show where knowledge is to be found. Dig deep beneath them, sink long shafts of thought, and golden will be your reward.

Time does not permit me to make more than these very general remarks on a very large and important

subject and I have referred to it not because I think that you particularly are in need of this advice, but because the maxims that I have quoted are of universal application and are in some danger of being forgotten.

We live in an age of intense competition and rivalry, from the competition of nations for the commerce of the world to the competition of individuals for places in professions and trades. Hence there has arisen all over the world an urgent demand for technical and expert training which politicians and educationists are striving to meet; but with this great movement there has also arisen a danger that those who are concerned with the education of the young may neglect the indispensable foundation of general knowledge, power of learning and habits of thought, in their haste to impart the particular knowledge which is required for passing examinations and entering professions. But as a house which is built on insecure foundations will eventually fall, so the youth who confines his studies merely to that which is apparently useful and neglects the foundation of the mind trained to thought, is bound to fail as soon as he is required to grasp new ideas and solve new problems.

His Excellency the Viceroy during his recent visit pointed out to you that at any rate here in Cochin there are many possibilities of new openings for young men who have the grit and enterprise to strike out a line of their own. I am much interested at hearing from the Resident that a son of

Mr. Justice Govinda Pillai of the Travancore High Court has set you an example in this respect, by entering Mr. Brunton's firm to work as an apprentice. I wish him success particularly because there are too few young men in India of similar enterprise and originality.

Lady Amptill and I are grateful to you for your good wishes which we heartily reciprocate both as regards yourselves and the Ernakulam College.

Before Their Excellencies left the college they were heartily cheered by the students.

VISIT TO THE HOSPITAL.

Next the local hospital was visited. Dr. Coombes, the Medical officer in charge, received His Excellency at the hospital and showed him round the several well kept wards. The Governor made a close inspection of everything connected with the institution and recorded the following expression of opinion in the visitors' book:—"The arrangement and equipment of this hospital does credit to the State, and its present condition and management are equally creditable to Dr. Coombes. I am glad to have seen such an admirable institution and much interested by all that I have been told about it."

The party then left for the Bolghotty Residency by the steam launch. There was no other public function to-day except a Garden Party at the Residency ground given by His Highness the Rajah in honour of Their Excellencies' visit.

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN COCHIN.

ERNAKULAM, 17th Oct.—Among the different communities of loyal subjects over whom several successive Rajahs of Cochin have been exercising their sway for many centuries, none is perhaps more interesting than that of the White and Black Jews who inhabit a portion of Muttoncherry or Native Cochin. The story of the migration of this historic community into Cochin is 20 centuries old and its origin is lost in remote antiquity. According to one tradition the Jews are said to have migrated to Malabar from Yamen as early as B.C. 79, while another fixes the date at A.D. 68, in which year they are said to have fled from Jerusalem after the destruction of the temple. They migrated to Cranganore on this coast originally and sought refuge at the hands of the Native Chiefs of Cochin. By their peaceful industries and thrifty habits these immigrants pleased the Hindu rulers of this State in the early centuries of the Christian era to such an extent as to secure special privileges for their communities at the hands of Bhaskara Ravi Varma, an illustrious ruler of his day. In A.D. 379 this Hindu Prince, who is better known to students of history as Cheraman Perumal, gave copperplate grants to Joseph Rabban, the Chief of the Jewish community, conferring on him the village of Cranganore together with 72 proprietary rights such as "the salute by firing guns, riding on animals, the revenue of Cranganore, the right to burn a lamp

in day time, a cloth spread in front to walk on, a palanquin, a parasol, drums with trumpet, a gateway, an arch, a canopy in the shape of an arch, a garland" and so forth. "Tolls and tax on balances" were also remitted to them, and they were exempted from paying the dues which the other inhabitants of the city paid to the Royal palace, but were none the less allowed to enjoy the benefits which others enjoyed. The copperplate records show, in characteristic language that "to Joseph Rabban of Anjuvannam (Cranganore), to the male and female children born of him, to his nephews, and to the sons-in-law who have married his daughters, we have given Anjuvannam as an hereditary estate, as long as the world and moon shall exist"! The Jews were, as might have been supposed persecuted by the Portuguese, and as a result of their tyranny and oppression left Cranganore in 1504 and came to Cochin. Here also the rulers of Cochin gave them refuge and protection and conferred on their Chiefs the title of Moodelliar which is held even to-day by their descendants. They were also given the privilege to punish their brethren and their slaves within the four walls of their synagogues. For many a long century the Jews have been a prosperous and flourishing community on this coast but during the last century they have sadly deteriorated in their material condition. As subjects of the native rulers of Cochin they have ever been exceedingly loyal. In their turn, the Rajahs of Cochin have ever been

kind to the Jews and allowed them fullest liberty to follow their ancient religion and method of worship.

THE WHITE JEWS.

Every successive Governor of Madras, who has paid a visit to the Cochin State, has invariably paid a visit to the Jewish synagogues at Muttoncherry; and Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Amphill, who crossed over to Native Cochin from the Residency, spent an interesting hour among the White and Black Jews who were assembled in their respective synagogues to give them a welcome. The party, who were accompanied by Mr. G. T. Mackenzie, were received at the Muttoncherry jetty by Mr. Pattabhirama Rao, the Dewan, and Mr. S. Locke, and were conducted first to the synagogue of the White Jews, whose Chief Rabbi received Their Excellencies at the entrance and led them into the interior of their sacred edifice. They spent nearly half an hour here in inspecting the sacred Scriptures which are written in Hebrew characters on parchment and enclosed in five silver cylinders surmounted by golden crowns. The Jews showed His Excellency, with apparent grateful pride, the copperplate grants which their ancestors had received over 1,500 years ago at the hands of Bhaskara Ravi Varma. Even to-day the Jews are exempt from certain kinds of taxes remitted to them centuries ago. At this synagogue, which was built in 1568, but destroyed by the Portuguese in 1662, and subsequently re-erected

in 1664, the Chief Priest offered prayers in Hebrew for the long life and prosperity of the King-Emperor and Queen Alexandra, as well as for those of Lord and Lady Ampthill. The latter, before leaving the synagogue, spent a few minutes in the company of a number of Jewish ladies who were gathered in a balcony. They seemed to be very much pleased with Her Excellency's kindness in coming to see them at their homes.

THE BLACK JEWS.

Next the synagogue of the Black Jews was visited. This building is not so ornate or substantial as that of the White Jews, for the latter have always been much more influential and wealthy than the Black Jews. There is a long standing and almost historic dispute between these two branches which promises to continue to the end of time, in regard to the question of the priority of their advent to this country from their motherland. The Black Jews claim that they were the earlier immigrants to Cochin while the White Jews assert, with equal force, their claim to that distinction and in support of this claim produce the copperplate grants of 379 A.D. which are in their possession to-day. The Blacks, however, say that the copperplate grants were made to their ancestors, and that the Whites who came later and who happened to be much more wealthy and influential had taken them by force from the original recipients. They explain their black complexion by the fact of their longer

residence in this country and to the admixture of native blood in them.

The Black Jews also showed Their Excellencies their own Mosaic Scriptures preserved in silver cylinders, and offered prayers for their health and prosperity, and presented His Excellency with an address which referred to the Coronation of Edward VII at the Westminster Abbey as having taken place in the presence of the Christian and Jewish Nobility of England.

The whole congregation in the synagogue sang in Hebrew the Psalm opening with the words, "I was glad when they said unto me 'Let us go to the House of the Lord.'"

THE CORONATION PALACE.

From the synagogue of the Black Jews the party went over to the old palace of the Rajahs of Cochin which is a substantial structure of Dutch architecture. The palace is over 200 years old and it is within its walls that the Rajahs of Cochin are crowned, the last function having been held in connection with the present Rajah by the Hon'ble Mr. J. Thomson when he was Resident. Their Excellencies spent some time in admiring its architectural beauty, especially the carved wooden roof.

THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

Before returning to the Residency, Their Excellencies paid a visit to the Women and Children's Hospital maintained by the Durbar for the benefit

of the residents of Muttoncherry. Here they were received by Dr. Coombes, the chief Medical officer of the State, and Mrs. Williams, the Lady Superintendent, in immediate charge of the hospital, and shown round. It is an exceedingly well-kept and useful institution and is resorted to by over 200 patients daily. Her Excellency entered in the Visitors' Book the following remark:—"I have been much interested in going round this hospital and feel sure that it must be a great boon to the great number of patients who use it. I have admired it very much." His Excellency recorded, "I have also had great pleasure in visiting this hospital and seeing the many signs of the good work it is doing well."

VISIT TO THE CRUZ MILAGIRI GAP.

In the evening His Excellency the Governor, in company with Mr. A. F. Pinhey, Collector of Malabar, Captain Leverette, the Port Officer, the Hon'ble Mr. G. T. Mackenzie, the Hon'ble Mr. F. A. Nicholson, Mr. L. M. Wynch, Mr. N. Pattabhirama Rao, Dewan, and Mr. R. Haffield, the acting Chief Engineer, paid a visit to the Cruz Milagiri Gap in the foreshore belonging to the Cochin Durbar, to the west of Bolghotty. The gap takes its name from an old Portuguese Church which stood on the site about a century ago and which had been destroyed by the erosive action of the sea on that part of the foreshore. The site of the old church is now said to be about three-quarters of a

mile in the sea from the shore. The gap was formed in 1864 connecting the backwater with the sea. It was a mile and-a-half to the north of the existing bar and tended to interfere with the efficiency of the existing bar. The Cruz Milagiri Gap was deep and wide enough to allow of ships of small tonnage drawing 6 to 8 feet of water, passing through it, and brought in a certain amount of trade to Cochin, the benefits of which were enjoyed by the Durbar. It was allowed to continue open for a period of 10 years apparently on account of the divided responsibility for its closure between the British Government and the Durbar. However, in 1874, under the provisions of the Inter-portal Convention, an arrangement was come to, with the result that the breach in the foreshore was repaired by means of an artificial bund 150 feet in length, fortified by rough stone work on either side, extending in all over 500 feet. Since 1874 this bund has been maintained intact, though its safety has often been threatened during the monsoon. The Government of Madras is naturally anxious to permanently secure the bund by means of substantial protective works. For this purpose it has under consideration a scheme estimated to cost nearly a lakh of rupees. Pending the carrying out of permanent protective works, a small allotment of Rs. 10,000 has been granted for constructing wooden groynes as a temporary measure. The danger to the safety of this part of the foreshore will easily be realised when it is known that the

sea has been steadily encroaching upon the foreshore at an average rate of 20 feet per year. This aggressive and persistent destructive process that has been going on is to some extent being checked by large heaps of sand which are being thrown up by the action of the waves between the bund and the water's edge. But it is unsafe to depend upon the alternate destructive and constructive action of the sea for the preservation of the foreshore, and, therefore, special protective works are urgently needed. His Excellency was given a clear idea of the state of affairs by means of a plan details of which were explained to him by Captain Leverette, the Port officer, and Mr. Vas, the Public Works Department Sub-Divisional officer. This personal inspection of the scene will certainly enable His Excellency to arrive at a decision in regard to this important matter; for a breach, if again formed at the place, will lead to difficulties, especially in view to the proposed Cochin Harbour.

After dinner at the Residency Their Excellencies and party left for Quilon by house-boats, the Dewan having taken leave of the party on their return from the Cruz Milagiri Gap.

During the stay of Their Excellencies in Cochin, the Durbar had made most splendid arrangements for their comfort, for the success of which Messrs. S. Locke and F. S. Davies, who were in immediate charge of the whole arrangements, were solely responsible.

THE DEPARTURE FROM COCHIN.

ALLEPPEY, 18th Oct.—Their Excellencies and party, with the British Resident, left Bolghotty Residency in house-boats after dinner yesterday night. Early in the afternoon Mr. Padmanabha Iyer, Dewan Peishcar of Kottayam, came to Bolghotty to make arrangements for the journey by backwater. At the frontier of Travancore territory, at Arukutti, grand preparations had been made for giving Their Excellencies a fitting reception, and as the boats passed there was a display of fireworks, etc. Triumphant arches with inscriptions were also put up, the water course being illuminated. All along the backwater Their Excellencies' boats were escorted by boats carrying numerous lights.

IN TRAVANCORE.

THE RECEPTION AT QUILON.

QUILON, 19th Oct.—His Excellency the Governor arrived at Karamadai bungalow near Alleppey at 7-30 on Saturday, escorted by four large boats belonging to the Hindu temples there. Each boat carries about 60 rowers who row with a stately ceremonious stroke, with many flourishes, keeping time to a weird chant. The effect is very striking indeed. Mr. and Mrs. Maltby of Alleppey met Their Excellencies. After breakfast the party left for Quilon. The route south was one continuous

triumphal progress. The lagoon might by a stretch of imagination be likened to the Thames during the Henley Regatta. Every sort of boat from rafts bearing lofty paste-board castles garrisoned by mail clad warriors, down to tiny dug-outs, paddled by naked urchins, kept pace with the Governor's barge so long as breath lasted. The decorations were superb. The smallest hut on the bank was decked with flowers and foliage. Enthusiasm infected the rowers, who propelled the Governor's barge at the rate of six miles an hour, and broke the record by reaching Quilon, 40 miles from Karamadai, in seven hours. At the Quilon Residency, the Governor was received by the Dewan of Travancore and Bishop Hodges.

On Sunday morning Their Excellencies attended divine service. At luncheon they met the Roman Catholic Bishop of Quilon and his Secretary and other European ladies and gentlemen resident in the station and afterwards drove through the crowded and decorated streets to Tangasséri Point to inspect the site of the proposed Quilon Harbour. Mr. Mackenzie, the British Resident, and Mr. Hoogwerf, Master Attendant, Quilon Port, explained the details of the scheme, which is likely to cost Rs. 27 lakhs. It is proposed to enclose a portion of the sea on the foreshore, which has a natural bend there towards the land, by constructing a breakwater of three-fourths of a mile out in the sea on the foundation of a coral reef which runs from north to south. From Tangasséri Point

Their Excellencies next drove to church to attend Divine service, Bishop Hodges conducting the service.

DEPARTURE FOR TRIVANDRUM.

After dinner the party left by boats for Trivandrum.

AT TRIVANDRUM.

A CORDIAL RECEPTION.

TRIVANDRUM, 20th Oct.—Their Excellencies and party arrived at 8-20 A.M. to-day at Kalpalakadavu landing place, where they were accorded a most cordial reception by His Highness the Maharajah, the Dewan and other State officers. There were also several ladies and gentlemen present, including the Valia Coil Thambiran, the consort of the late Senior Ranee, and Mr. Sankara Subbier, the ex-Dewan. His Highness the Maharajah received Their Excellencies at the jetty platform and after a few words with those present they left for the Residency. The Maharajah, His Excellency, the Resident and Captain Martin were driven in the State carriage, Lady Ampthill with the Hon'ble Violet Douglas Pennant and Mr. Wynch following in a second carriage. The route Their Excellencies took was throughout thronged with thousands of spectators, who occupied every available post of vantage to watch the procession. Every one was in holiday attire and the whole town with its charming scenery and profuse and tasteful

decorations, in the shape of triumphal arches, appeared at its best. Opposite the Maharajah's Palace Their Excellencies saw a unique gathering of school girls seated in rows on a gallery arranged in a pandal. The girls were from several local institutions and belonged to all communities. It was a charming collection of children and was much admired by Their Excellencies, who received bouquets from children chosen from the different institutions. After a drive through the main streets, they reached the Residency at about 9 o'clock. His Highness took leave of Their Excellencies at the Residency and returned to his palace. At the landing place the Nair Brigade furnished a Guard of Honour and richly caparisoned State elephants and other paraphernalia of the Durbar were drawn up in front of the pavilion.

A STATE VISIT.

TRIVANDRUM, 20th Oct.—This afternoon His Excellency the Governor accorded a private interview to Mr. Sunkara Subbier, the ex-Dewan, and at 4 o'clock His Highness paid a State visit to His Excellency at the Residency. The Maharajah started from his Palace at 3-30 in his State carriage, drawn by four horses, escorted in front and rear by all the paraphernalia of a State procession. The Nair Brigade, with Band, State elephants carrying howdas, and the State Lancers formed the procession. It was a gorgeous show of Oriental pomp.

On His Highness alighting at the Residency portico in front of the Drawing Room of the Residency, the Guard of Honour of the 27th Madras Infantry presented arms and saluted him. Captain Fife received the Maharajah at the carriage door, and the British Resident at the flight of steps, and conducted him up to the middle carpet in the Drawing Room where His Excellency met him, and conducted him to a sofa. His Excellency's and the Maharajah's Staffs having taken their allotted places, the usual formalities observed on State visits were gone through. After a few minutes' stay His Highness took leave of His Excellency and those assembled and returned to the Palace, the same ceremony as on arrival being observed. Salutes were fired both on arrival and departure.

A LEVÉE.

Half an hour later His Excellency held a Levée, at which the leading European and native residents were presented.

A STATE BANQUET.

SPEECH BY THE MAHARAJAH.

There was a State Banquet to-night at the Durbar Hall, to which the leading European ladies and gentlemen of the Station, both official and non-official, were invited. At the conclusion of the Banquet after proposing the health of His Majesty

the King, His Highness proposed the health of Their Excellencies in the following speech :—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I rise with great and sincere pleasure to propose the health of my distinguished guests—Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Amphill.

The kindness which prompted His Excellency to cordially accept my invitation and Lady Amphill to graciously accord the honour of her company during the visit has laid me under a debt of deep obligation. I feel therefore bound to offer the heartiest welcome to Their Excellencies ; but I fear the deed falls short of the desire. I can however promise Their Excellencies that their goodness and this happy occasion will be among my pleasantest reminiscences in times to come.

This gracious visit also, I gratefully acknowledge as a token of that deep and abiding interest on the part of the Paramount Power which has secured to this ancient and loyal State, its happy condition of peace, prosperity and enlightenment.

In His Excellency, we are honouring a noble representative of a renowned House, worthy of the best traditions of his country and his people. Endowed with a deep sense of responsibility and a manly, endearing disposition, and equipped with a sound political training, His Excellency has stamped his name in the annals of our Presidency as a successful administrator.

His infinite sympathy has already won for His Excellency the esteem of the people he has been

called upon to govern, and his earnest devotion to their needs and interests has been so aptly testified to by His Excellency the Viceroy when he recently expressed his admiration for the “ conscientious and sympathetic solicitude which Lord Amphill devotes to the welfare of even the humblest of the people.”

Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to drink to the health and happiness of Lord and Lady Amphill.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

In responding to the toast, His Excellency spoke as follows :—

YOUR HIGHNESS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—His Highness the Maharajah speaking under the generous impulses which are characteristic of him, asks you to believe that in accepting his splendid hospitality I have laid him under an obligation and that the pleasure of this occasion both present and prospective is entirely on his side. I need hardly tell you that this is not my view of the case. His Highness must forgive me if in this matter I hold an opinion diametrically opposed to his and maintain that all thanks should be rendered to him by me.

All the former Governors of Madras with whom I have conversed and not a few private travellers dwelt fondly on their recollections of Travancore and Cochin and they inspired me with a strong desire to visit these Arcadian lands long before I came out to India. When, therefore, I received His Highness' kind invitation to visit his State I accepted it with

alacrity and since then looked forward to my visit with eager anticipation. I can assure His Highness that the pleasant reality has in no way fallen short of my expectations and if I am not gifted with the eloquence which can dwell on the charms of fairy landscape, idyllic scenes and the happy smiles of contented people, I have none the less been impressed and fascinated by all that I have seen.

Thanks to His Highness' hospitality which began with a week in that paradise for the sportsman, the Periyár, I am enjoying an experience which will continue to give me pleasure long after I have left Travancore, India, and all that is now absorbing my attention.

But I must not forget that I am addressing you with the object of thanking you for the very kind manner in which you have received the toast which the Maharajah proposed in far too flattering terms. Lady Ampthill and I thank you sincerely for this expression of the welcome which has in many other ways been made manifest and for this evidence of cordial and kindly feeling towards us. I am truly glad that I have now made personal acquaintance with His Highness the Maharajah in the midst of his people. It is one of the most interesting concerns of the Madras Government to be in close political relations with the State of Travancore and that those relations are wholly smooth and pleasant is a natural consequence of that loyal attachment of the Rulers of Travancore to the British Crown, which has subsisted unbroken for more than a century and of the

admirable administration which has won for Travancore the designation of a "model State."

His Highness will, I am sure, be glad to admit that in his successful and enlightened administration he has received no little assistance and advice from the Madras Government. In particular, have we not given him some of our best intellect and greatest ability in the persons of Sir Seshayya Sastri and Sir Madhava Rao? What we have done in the past we shall be ready to do in the future and I can assure His Highness that any assistance for which he may ask and which it is in the power of my colleagues and myself to give, will be given most readily and ungrudgingly.

As His Highness has spoken of the qualities which he believes to be mine I feel no compunction about alluding to his own character.

I think that no one will disagree with me when I say that His Highness' character presents a rare and valuable combination of conservative instincts with enlightened and progressive views. Now it is under influences such as these that the whole mighty fabric of the British Empire has been built up. The British Race, while it has remained more conservative than any other in all such matters as religion, the Crown, and the Constitution, has yet always marched in the van of civilization, progress and reform.

Here in Travancore many of the same influences which have made for the prosperity of England are at work on a totally different soil and among a totally

different people. The people are pious, law-abiding, industrious and loyal. The country is rich in undeveloped resources. A rising generation of young men is growing in intelligence and enterprise under the fostering care of the State, and the Ruler of the Land who is revered with all the devotion which is accorded to an ancient and renowned Royal Lineage is striving diligently for progress and reform. With those conditions I see no reason why the prosperity of Travancore should stop where it is now, or why the spirit of modern enterprise and progress should not be successfully grafted on to the old-world spirit of this Arcadian Land to produce fruits more beautiful and more abundant than heretofore.

Let but the youth of Travancore emulate the example of their Ruler; let them keep and hold fast to all the good things they have inherited, their piety, their loyalty, their patriotism, but let them at the same time strive to advance in every direction in which energy, industry, and enterprise hold out the prospects of honest reward. Thus on the foundations of sound administration, regular justice, personal security and religious toleration which the Maharajah and his Dewans have done so much to establish, there will rise a new superstructure of commercial and industrial prosperity and increasing wealth.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sure that you all share my confident hope that the name of our illustrious host will for ever be associated with the commencement of such a new era in the History of

Travancore and abide in the grateful hearts of future generations of his people.

I therefore ask you to fill your glasses and drink to the health of His Highness the Maharajah of Travancore.

On the conclusion of the Banquet, Their Excellencies and party adjourned to the verandah, and witnessed an excellent display of fireworks. The big compound of the Durbar Hall was very effectively illuminated in a manner for which Travancore is famous, as well as the route taken by Their Excellencies.

VISITS TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

TRIVANDRUM, 21st Oct.—This morning Their Excellencies and party paid a visit to the Museum and Public gardens, Mr. Ferguson, the Curator and Superintendent, kept the distinguished visitors fully engaged for nearly one hour, showing them several interesting things in the well-stocked and admirably arranged show cases. At the Public Gardens, which are a model of their kind, are several varieties of animals and birds. Next Their Excellencies visited the new buildings for the Public Library and then proceeded to the local School of Arts where also Mr. Ferguson received them and showed them specimens of accomplished ivory workmanship and wood-carving. They saw workmen actually engaged on fine specimens of work which are being got ready for the Delhi Exhibition. Pottery of finished manufacture, as

well as the preparation of plantain fibre and weaving it into cloth are also special features of work of this School. The latter however is still in an experimental stage. His Excellency expressed himself extremely pleased both with the Museum and School of Arts, and complimented Mr. Ferguson on their excellent condition. The Dewan, Mr. Krishnasami Rao and Mr. K. P. Sankara Menon, Dewan Peishkar, accompanied the party on the visit to the several institutions.

PRIVATE VISITS.

TRIVANDRUM, 21st Oct.—At noon to-day His Highness paid a private visit to His Excellency the Governor at the Residency. At 1 P.M. the Senior and Junior Minor Ranees, in company with Valia Koil Thamburan, paid a visit to Her Excellency Lady Ampthill at the Residency. This was followed by a private visit from the Dewan to Lord Ampthill.

PUBLIC DURBAR.

At 4-30 P.M. a public Durbar was held by the Maharajah in the public offices, at which he received a return State visit from His Excellency. This was a very imposing ceremony. Twenty-six elephants were drawn up in front of the Durbar Hall, and a Guard of Honour of 100 rank and file of the Nair Brigade paraded in front of the offices. Their Excellencies, accompanied by their Staff, the Hon'ble Violet Douglas Pennant and Mr. Bensley

arrived, escorted by the Residency Guard. In front of the Durbar Hall Their Excellencies were met at the carriage by His Highness, who, accompanied by the British Resident and the Dewan, conducted them to a sofa at the head of the spacious and tastefully furnished Durbar Hall. Several European ladies and gentlemen were present at the Durbar, and were seated in richly-upholstered Durbar chairs. With the exception of the Dewan and the Chief Justice of the Travancore High Court, there was no native official present at the Durbar. After a few minutes' stay at the Durbar, when the usual courtesies were shown by the Maharajah and his Staff, Their Excellencies and party left for the Residency.

VISIT TO THE MASONIC LODGE.

His Highness next left for the Palace, and at 6 P.M. visited the local Masonic Lodge.

VISITS TO SCHOOLS.

AT THE MAHARAJAH'S COLLEGE.

TRIVANDRUM, 22nd Oct.—His Excellency the Governor returned the private visit of His Highness the Maharajah at the Palace in the Fort this morning. Their Excellencies then visited the Maharajah's Caste Girls' High School and Miss Blandford's School in the Fort. At both of these institutions they spent some time. Next His Excellency received the following Address from the

students of the Maharajah's College assembled in the Jubilee Town Hall:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Students of His Highness the Maharajah's College, Trivandrum, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with this address of respectful and cordial welcome on the occasion of Your Excellency's visit to our institution.

It is a source of gratification to us that Your Excellency's visit to our land should take place in this year of the Coronation of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor, to whom in his own august person and as the son of Victoria the Good, our loyalty, devotion, and homage are tendered through Your Excellency. His Majesty's recent illness has been a matter for deep regret and anxiety to us in common with the many millions of subjects that own His beneficent sway and His complete restoration to health is an event for which we take this opportunity of expressing our heartfelt gratitude to the Almighty.

We have the happiness to-day of meeting the King-Emperor's Vicerent, whose appointment to this Presidency was hailed with joy, since the selection of one who has been trained under a Colonial Minister whose energetic Imperial policy has done so much in recent years to weld together the different countries and peoples of the British Empire, cannot but be regarded as a happy augury of the time when those races shall be brought into still closer union with the central power. The frequent

tours undertaken by Your Excellency must, to quote the words of the Viceroy, enable Your Excellency "to acquire an insight into the circumstances, needs and feelings of all the different parts and peoples" of the Presidency which is committed to Your Excellency's administration, and the personal knowledge with which those tours have equipped Your Excellency and the fresh and first hand sympathy inspired by them have already been apparent in Your Excellency's public utterances and administrative acts.

We crave permission to say a few words about our College. This institution was founded so far back as 1834 under the title of "His Highness the Rajah's Free School" and was raised to the status of a First Grade Arts College in 1869. It is now, with one exception, the oldest institution of its class in South India. The courses of instruction for the Arts degrees comprise English, Sanskrit, Tamil, Malayalam, Philosophy, Chemistry, Mathematics, and History, and we understand that there will very soon be added a Chair of Physics with a well-equipped Physical Laboratory. The College possesses a valuable library of over five thousand volumes in various branches of Literature and Science, and a Reading Room supplied with the leading English and Indian newspapers and magazines. Connected with the institution are several literary associations, of which the College Debating Society is one of the oldest of the kind in Southern India. Since the foundation of the College 414 students have

graduated from it and the public service of the Travancore State is almost wholly officered by men who have received their training in this institution.

As students and subjects we thankfully acknowledge our indebtedness to the wise and liberal policy of a succession of Maharajahs, and especially to that of our beloved Ruler, His Highness the present Maharajah, who has ever evinced the greatest solicitude for the spread of liberal culture in the land—a large-minded policy which has raised Travancore to the proud position of being the best educated portion of the Presidency under Your Excellency's care.

Offering Your Excellency once more our cordial and respectful welcome, we beg leave, with Your Excellency's permission, to subscribe ourselves, etc., etc.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

In reply to the above address His Excellency spoke as follows:—

YOUR HIGHNESS AND STUDENTS OF THE TRIVANDRUM COLLEGE.—It is with no ordinary interest that I have come to visit your institution to-day and my pleasure has been greatly enhanced by your cordial words of welcome for which I heartily thank you.

The manner in which you have alluded to the Coronation of His Majesty the King-Emperor and to the grave national anxiety which preceded that solemn and momentous event, cannot but be gratifying to me, for your words evince the deep feeling

with which you have shared the hopes, the fears, the sorrows and the joys which during the past two years have agitated His Majesty's subjects in every quarter of the globe. Loyalty is a quality in which the people of Travancore have never been deficient and I am glad to see that the rising generation are keeping alive the traditions of staunch friendship and loyal devotion to the British Crown which began at the time when the British Arms saved this beautiful country from being devastated and ravaged by the ruthless hordes of Tippu Sultan.

You have made a graceful allusion to the fact that I am a disciple of the great Colonial Minister who first struck the chord which awoke responsive vibrations from every part of the world where the British flag flies, and whose words and actions have done so much to make the ideal of Imperial Unity a living and powerful reality. I am proud of having served Mr. Chamberlain and of having received my first official training under him. I am still prouder of having been appointed Governor of Madras by Her Majesty Queen Victoria and of having received from her own lips a parting injunction to treat the people whom she confided to my administration with the greatest sympathy.

I therefore claim no credit for endeavouring so far as in me lies to discharge what is to me the most solemn and sacred of trusts.

It is a peculiar pleasure to me to hear you speak of your College with so much pride, pride for which you have every justification. I myself had

the good fortune to be educated in a College which inspires all its students with pride and affection. I have never heard of an Etonian who is not proud of Eton and who does not retain an affection for his old school which will last until his dying day. The patriotism which thus begins at school and college is a sure foundation for the wider patriotism which places nation and empire before every personal consideration and which is the only path to progress and the amelioration of humanity.

His Excellency the Viceroy when he paid you a visit not two years ago pointed out to you how you can best prove your patriotism and show your gratitude for the advantages which you now enjoy, by striving, each of you in your own way, to render some appreciable service to your native country. I cannot improve upon that advice, but I am sure that you will not take it amiss if I recall it to your memories, and remind you that whatever your vocation in life, whether you become officials, lawyers, teachers, scientists or business-men, you will have the opportunity of using your talents for the good of the State as well as for your own.

I wish that I had the opportunity of attending one of the meetings of your Debating Society, for it is there that I should learn much about your ideas and aspirations. I hope that the interest in the debates is not confined to a few, as they afford a most admirable mental exercise and training. I can speak with some experience of debating societies as in my student days I was President both of the Eton

Society and of the Oxford Union which are the oldest and most famous of their kind and have had as former members many of our greatest men. The fault which I noticed amongst the youthful debaters who were my contemporaries was that they were too diffident to give expression to their own ideas clothed in their own language and resorted largely to borrowed opinions and borrowed phrases. I do not mind telling you that I did the same myself and have always since regretted it.

I dare say that this failing of young Englishmen is also a failing among the young men of Travancore and if I may offer you advice upon this subject I would suggest that you should think out for yourselves opinions on every question which you debate, and express them as simply as you can in the words which come naturally to you. It is only thus that you will find debating of real value and ever increasing interest.

In your splendid library you can no doubt find information on every subject which you discuss. Read everything you can on both sides of the question but then put aside the books, talk the matter over with your friends and make up your own mind what you think it right to say and how you are going to say it. I can promise you that if you follow this method you will find yourselves amply repaid for the extra labour and thought which it involves.

I am glad that you duly recognize how much you owe to a succession of Maharajahs who have been patrons of learning and especially to His Highness

the present Maharajah. The foundation of the Curzon Prize for Graduates with a stipulation that the essay must show original research and not be a mere compilation was, if I may say so, one of the best things His Highness has done, and the same enlightened and liberal policy is manifested in the sending to Europe of two graduates to study Geology and Mining. I hope that their studies will be crowned with success and that this new departure will be farther extended.

Now let me say that having seen you all assembled here I have received a personal impression of the Trivandrum College which will give me a lasting interest in its concerns. You may think this a far-fetched sentiment, but it is nevertheless a fact that one is more interested in a place that one has seen than in one of which one has only heard.

I shall always be glad to hear of the prosperity of the Trivandrum College and of the success of its individual students and I wish you all well in your future vocations.

After breakfast at the Residency, Their Excellencies and party left Trivandrum at 1 P.M. by road for Madathoray *en route* to Courtallam and Tinnevely.

IN THE TRAVANCORE JUNGLES.

A DAY'S SHIKAR.

TENKASI, 25th Oct.—Their Excellencies and party, who left Trivandrum on Wednesday at noon,

arrived in the evening at Madathoray Camp, 32 miles from Trivandrum. The Camp was pitched in the midst of the Travancore jungles, so as to enable His Excellency to shoot in the surrounding parts. Their Excellencies were accommodated in the Forest bungalow, which was specially furnished. The rest of the party had special apartments constructed for them out of bamboo and *etah* grass, and fitted with camp furniture. Yesterday morning His Excellency accompanied by Mr. Wynch, Mr. Bensley, and Captain Martin, went out into the forests about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and came upon the tracks of a tusker, which is a rogue elephant, and for the destruction of which the Travancore Durbar has offered a reward of Rs. 100. The party followed up the tracks for a few yards beyond which the traces were lost in the thick and tall hill grass. They then came upon the tracks of a herd of three cows and a small tusker. The party followed up these, and got within 10 or 15 yards of them, but did not want to shoot them. It was impossible to go further, and the party returned to the Camp at about 4-30 in the evening.

ON THE MARCH.

AT A SACRED POND.

This morning the party resumed their journey to Courtallam, and eight miles from Madathoray halted for a few minutes at Kolathurpollay and had a look at the fish pond close to the Temple. These fish are specially looked after under instructions from the Durbar, no one being allowed to fish in the sacred

pond, which abounds with fish. Some of the party fed the fish with rice and cocoanut.

A HALT FOR BREAKFAST.

At Tenmalai, 15 miles from Madathoray, a brief halt was made for breakfast, at which a number of the Quilon-Tinnevely railway officials were present. Courtallam was reached at 3 P.M.

AT COURTALLAM.

VISIT TO THE WATERFALLS.

Later in the evening Their Excellencies visited the waterfalls and the temple. The road from Trivandrum to Courtallam lies through extensive forests rich in scenery. There are magnificent varieties of timber trees. Mr. G. T. Mackenzie, the British Resident, accompanied the party as far as Courtallam, where Their Excellencies are the guests of the Maharajah at the Residency. They will continue to be his guests till they reach Tinnevely. Mr. L. E. Buckley, the Collector, met the party at the Residency. Mr. Bensley returned to Trivandrum from Madathoray.

VISIT TO VILLAGES.

25th Oct.—Very early in the morning His Excellency, accompanied by Mr. L. E. Buckley, the Acting Collector of Tinnevely, Mr. L. M. Wynch, Captain Martin, A.D.C., the Head-Assistant Collector and the Tahsildar of Tenkasi rode out to Kanakapillaivalsa, a village between five and six miles to the north of the Residency bungalow at

Courtallam. The village has a population of nearly 3,500 and yields an annual revenue of Rs. 4,853 to the Government. His Excellency arrived at the village about 7-30 A.M., his arrival being quite unexpected. Almost in an instant the ryots began to assemble, with the village Karnam and the Munsiff at their head. Thereupon His Excellency called for the village registers maintained by the Karnam and inspected them and saw how his accounts were kept. It is the Village Karnam's accounts which are at the very foundation of the huge Accounts Department under the management of the Controller-General of India, and the Karnam himself is a very powerful factor in the village organisation of Southern India. He is a man whose friendship is assiduously to be cultivated by the ignorant villager if he wishes to have a peaceful time of it. In fact the Karnam is a valuable friend and a bad enemy and one to be avoided. Often he either defrauds the Government or the cultivator, and in the simple villager's mind the institution of Karnam is associated with considerable power for mischief, so much so that according to a Tamil proverb you are to have no mercy for the Karnam or the crow. You are to kill them on the spot wherever you meet them. They are both pests of Society!

His Excellency then entered into conversation with some of the principal ryots of the village and asked them if they had any local wants to bring to his notice. They asked for a school in the village, the nearest Primary school which their children could

go to being in the village of Elunjee which was about two miles away. Again, there is a Lower Secondary school at Tenkasi which was also three miles off from their village; so they submitted that one for the children in their village was an urgent necessity. Asked if they had ever applied to the taluk or District Board for the establishment of a school of that description in their village, they gave His Excellency a negative reply. His Excellency thereupon pointed out that that was the first step they should take in the matter and advised them to send an application to the taluk or District Board.

Another request which the ryots preferred was for a third bridge across a stream in their village at a point where they usually crossed it when they carried their village god in procession. They also pointed out that the vents in one of the already existing bridges were too small to allow of the free flow of storm water.

Yet another representation made related to the Achancoil Canal scheme which was for diverting a hill stream and bringing it down to the plains for purposes of irrigation. The scheme has already been investigated and involves the boring of a very long tunnel or excavating a channel, many miles in length, round the contour of a hill.

In reply to His Excellency the ryots said they had plenty of water for cultivation purposes as they had very good rains. He was also gratified to learn that they had not experienced bad seasons of any description since 1895.

His Excellency next turned to the Village Munsiff and asked him a few questions about the revenue collections in his village and whether the revenue last year had been collected without any arrears. The Village Munsiff submitted that there were no arrears outstanding nor had there been any sales of land for recovery of land revenue arrears in the past six or seven years, a state of things which must be eminently satisfactory alike to the Government and the ryots. The Governor next enquired if the ryots in that village cultivated the lands themselves or sub-let them to others. One man who apparently owned more lands than he could himself attend to, said that he cultivated a portion of them himself and sub-let the rest of them.

His Excellency then informed them that he would be glad to hear from them of any other wants they might have. This expression of readiness to listen to their grievances encouraged two of the ryots to come forward with a complaint that the Punitive Police tax was levied on vacant houses. His Excellency desiring to be taken to any vacant houses in the village on which the tax was levied, they proceeded to point out two such houses. One of the two houses shown was found to be occupied and not vacant, and the man had obviously made an incorrect representation. But he was not without an explanation, which he apparently considered was very satisfactory. He said that he did not cook his food in that house but only used it for sleeping in. This, according to his ideas, did not

amount to occupation ! The second man's house was found to have been damaged by heavy rain about two months ago, while as a matter of fact he had paid the Punitive Police tax on that house about five or six months ago, when it had been actually occupied. The levy of this tax has been entrusted to a Special Sub-Magistrate and people were given an opportunity of appealing against the levy of the tax within one month. The Special Magistrate looks after the whole matter very carefully.

The party then rode from this village to Tenkasi where they stopped to have a look at the old Hindu temple with its ruined *gopuram* which had been partially burnt down about 70 years ago. They walked round the temple and then proceeded to the local Taluk Cutcherry, one of the old-fashioned type which are slowly being replaced throughout the Presidency by modern ones. Here they saw the Treasury, the Sub-Jail and the Police Station and rode back to Courtallum at 10-15 A.M. having ridden 12 miles over pleasant country, everywhere green with cultivation.

DEPARTURE FOR TINNEVELLY.

Courtallum was left at 1 P.M. The Hon'ble Mr. G. T. Mackenzie, the Resident, took leave of the party. Mr. T. Rajaram Rao, the Diwan Peishkar of Quilon, in whose jurisdiction the party had made the longest stay, was given an interesting souvenir by His Excellency who expressed himself very

pleased with the admirable arrangements made for his visit.

After a drive of nearly five hours Tinnevely was reached at nightfall. Their Excellencies are the guests of Mr. L. E. Buckley.

AT TINNEVELLY.

TINNEVELLY, 27th Oct.—After a long and tiresome journey of over 100 miles by country and ghat roads Their Excellencies and party had a quiet day yesterday. In the evening they attended service in the Tinnevely Church, when Bishop Morley officiated.

A fairly full programme has been drawn up for His Excellency during his stay at the head-quarters of this district. This being the most important centre of Christian Missionary work in Southern India, the programme for the day included visits to the several institutions under the management of Church Missionary Society. At 7 o'clock this morning His Excellency, accompanied by Mr. L. E. Buckley, Collector, Mr. L. M. Wynch, Major Molesworth and Captain Martin first drove to the District Jail in Palamcottah and spent half an hour in inspecting the same. Mr. Chamier, the officer in charge of the jail, received His Excellency and conducted him round the several wards, which were kept in an extremely tidy condition. The prisoners seemed well looked after, and had few or no complaints to make.

THE DEAF AND DUMB SCHOOL.

From the jail His Excellency drove to the premises of the Deaf and Dumb school maintained by the ladies of the Church of England Zenana Mission, the only one of its kind in Southern India. He was welcomed here by Bishop Morley, the Rev. A. Margüschis and Miss Swainson, the Lady Superintendent of the school. Lady Ampthill and the Hon'ble Violet Douglas-Pennant joined the party here. Miss Swainson is a missionary lady of remarkable talent and great enthusiasm, combined with whole-hearted devotion to the philanthropic work she is doing among the unfortunate deaf and dumb. Under her unique method of education, which is based on large experience, the deaf and dumb children who have had the good fortune to come under her fostering care, have exhibited great capacity to profit by the education given in the school. There are at the present moment about 70 deaf and dumb children who are taught under Miss Swainson's direction. Most ingenious indeed are the devices adopted by the teachers to make the children understand what is being imparted to them with the help of gestures, etc. In the first place there are well recognised and long tried symbols for the several letters of the alphabet in the English language, and though it is mysterious how the children are taught to learn and use these, still the fact remains that Miss Swainson's pupils are adepts at it. They are made to observe the movements of the lips of the teacher in his or her attempts to give

expression to a particular word and to note them carefully so as to enable them to understand on a subsequent occasion that a particular word was expressed with a particular movement of the lips. They are again made to feel with the tip of the fingers the vibrations of the vocal chords when particular sounds are uttered, to enable them to make out by means of these vibrations what sounds are meant to be expressed by particular vibrations, so that by training them in the use of their eyes and the delicate sense of touch they are given a wonderfully exact idea of the letters of the alphabet both of English and Tamil; and once they acquire a correct knowledge of the letters, writing sentences, etc., comes by practice. The children's knowledge of things is tested by making them put down in writing what they understand by a series of signs made to them by the teacher. It is indeed remarkable what extraordinary powers of acquisition these afflicted children possess. Nature, which has deprived them of the use of speech and hearing has given them an abundance of intelligence to compensate for the physical disadvantage they labour under. Education for these unfortunates is a blessing, and they find great comfort in each other's company, and, possessing a highly developed artificial symbolic language, they pass their time much more happily and usefully than the ignorant of the same class. Among the pupils here I noticed a dumb youth who was a compositor in a printing press, but who has joined the school to improve his knowledge of

English ; and his caligraphy in English is particularly good.

From all parts of India these afflicted children come to Miss Swainson's school where their minds, hearts and intellects are expanded. "It is a happy and fascinating work, the education of the dumb and deaf," remarks the Lady Superintendent, and one has only to be in her school for a few minutes to be struck by the extraordinary interest she takes in her self-imposed task.

Their Excellencies also saw the grown-up pupils of the Industrial School connected with the Zenana Mission, drawn up in the premises of the school, and inspected samples of their clever needle-work, weaving, knitting, etc.

After thanking Miss Swainson for the many interesting things she had shown them, Their Excellencies took leave of her and the children, who were greatly pleased at their visit.

THE SARAH TUCKER COLLEGE.

Next a visit was paid to the Sarah Tucker College for girls which is a lasting memorial to the illustrious memory of Miss Sarah Tucker who founded the institution. During the half century of its existence this school, among other agencies, has done a great deal to make the honoured name of the Church Missionary Society and its unselfish labours known throughout Southern India. This missionary body is one of the oldest in the country and has achieved large success in the field of the

elevation of the lower classes in Southern India. In this noble work the Sarah Tucker College has had no small share, for in many a Native Christian home throughout the South there are "Sarah Tucker" girls contributing their share to the general advancement and enlightenment of the community. Miss A. J. Askwith, the lady Principal of the college, received Their Excellencies at the entrance, and in their honour the pupils of the school sang a song of welcome. Miss Askwith is well known for the great powers of organisation and management which she has used to the best advantage in establishing the Sarah Tucker College on a firm base. The institution teaches up to the F. A. standard and has on its rolls about 400 pupils. It has attached to it a training and practising department where capable and promising girls are trained for the teacher's profession, which for years to come will need the services of all the available number of teachers. Already many have gone forth from the Sarah Tucker College to spread education among the masses in the district, for whose benefit the Church Missionary Society has opened several village schools. As in the case of all boarding schools, there is a fairly well equipped hospital maintained in connection with this institution, and the health of the children is specially looked after by the College authorities. Miss Askwith is the life and soul of this excellent undertaking and to her unceasing efforts is due the high standard of efficiency which has been reached by the college and high school.

She is assisted in her good work by zealous and willing assistants whose esteem and regard she has won by her uniform kindness and tactful management.

An interesting feature of Miss Askwith's good work is the education of a number of blind boys and girls. As in the case of the deaf and dumb, special methods of instruction have been adopted for the education of the blind, who also show considerable aptitude for study. From published reports, the blind students appear to have done very well indeed at their examinations. The Director of Public Instruction has consented to have special concessions made for blind candidates by allowing them to gain teacher's certificates by passing a *vivâ voce* and practical test before the Inspector of Schools. This, Miss Askwith believes, will open the door for regular employment of the blind as teachers whenever they are qualified for it.

The Sarah Tucker College with its affiliated branches and village boarding schools and schools for the blind is doing a great and useful work, of which Their Excellencies were enabled to have a clear idea by their visit to the institution this morning. The children of all the affiliated schools were assembled in a spacious compound, and greeted Their Excellencies on arrival. They were put through several varieties of physical exercises such as drills, action songs, etc. After over half an hour's minute inspection of all the good work done there, Their Excellencies took leave of Miss Askwith,

complimenting her at the same time on the excellence of her institution.

AN ADDRESS FROM CHRISTIANS.

On the way back to the Collector's residence a brief halt was made by Their Excellencies at the premises of the Rev. T. Kimber, where a large number of Native Christians, a few European Missionaries and boys of the C.M.S. High School were assembled. Lord and Lady Amphill were met by Bishop Morley, the Rev. A. Margüschis, the Rev. E. S. Carr and others, and conducted to seats arranged on a temporary platform under a *pandal*, and His Excellency was then presented with an address of welcome on behalf of the Bishop, Clergy and Christians of the Tinnevely district and of Ramnad, in connection with the Church of England. The address ran as follows:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Bishop, Clergy and Christians of the Tinnevely district and of Ramnad, South India, in connection with the Church of England, beg to approach Your Excellency on the auspicious occasion of your visit to this district.

These Missions date from 1780, and were commenced by the famous Missionary the Venerable Schwartz of Tanjore. One of the earliest records shows that in 1837 there were 4,352 baptized Christians and 269 children in the schools. There are now 80,565 baptized Christians and 6,891 Catechumens. The native contributions for 1901 were Rs. 62,867-14-10. There are 104 European and

Indian Clergymen, with the Right Rev. Samuel Morley, D.D., Lord Bishop in Tinnevely and Madura. There are also 22 English ladies working in the Missions.

Regarding education as a most important agent for propagating the truth, we have two second-grade Colleges, one for boys and one for girls, five High schools for boys and two for girls, besides numerous other schools containing in all 24,320 children. Several girls have passed the Matriculation examination of the Madras University, and last year the degree of B.A. was taken for the first time by one of our Tamil girls. There are also four Normal Training schools, an Art-Industrial school, and schools for the blind and for deaf-mutes. With regard to primary education, as Your Excellency is probably aware, the Government grants for some years past have been reduced to the lowest minimum, and there has been a very serious disproportion between the amounts earned and those actually received. We are glad to note that this impediment to the progress of education amongst the masses is partly to be relieved, as the Government recognizing the need have sanctioned a larger expenditure.

For treating the sick of all classes, without distinction of race or creed, eight hospitals and dispensaries are maintained by the Missions.

We know that Your Excellency moves freely amongst all classes of the people and takes a warm interest in their welfare, and we believe that you and Lady Amphill both appreciate some of the various

efforts made by the Missions. We have therefore all the more pleasure in welcoming Your Excellency to this the scene of much missionary enterprise and we shall watch with interest any steps Your Excellency is pleased to make to exemplify the truth which has given stability to the British rule that "Righteousness exalteth a nation."

We beg Your Excellency to accept our local devotion and oriental salaams, and we pray the King of Kings to shower upon Your Excellency and family the dew of His Blessing for ever and ever.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

In reply, His Excellency said :—

MY LORD BISHOP AND GENTLEMEN,—Lady Amphill and I deeply appreciate the kind thought which prompted you to come and give us a greeting in the name of all our fellow-Christians in Tinnevely and Ramnad, and we thank you heartily for your cordial words.

My tours in the Presidency have enabled me to see for myself a good deal of the wonderful educational work which has been achieved by Christian Missionaries in Southern India and all that I have seen and heard is of the deepest interest to me. During my visit to Tanjore this year I saw the scene of the first labours of the great Missionary, Schwartz, and had gratifying testimony of the reverence and gratitude in which his memory is held. I am therefore glad of this opportunity of seeing the

development of his life work further south and of hearing from yourselves of the wonderful progress it has made.

Truly we have cause to be thankful that Missionary work in India has been so peaceful and prosperous and that the people of this country have shown themselves so appreciative of the educational system which the Missionaries have wisely and rightly made one of their first cares. It is a remarkable testimony to the patient tact and forbearance of Christian Missionaries and to their loyal support of the solemn pledges of the British Government that they have not in any conspicuous instance provoked animosities in a country where religious feelings often run high. I should, however, not omit to say that the natural toleration of the mass of the people in India has also contributed to this blessed result. We have seen in other parts of the world terrible results where the Missionaries have not been sufficiently broad-minded to see any good in other religions and customs which they fail to understand, and where they have displayed the sad spectacle of Christians fighting among themselves. In India I think it may fairly be said that many different sects of Protestants and Roman Catholics work harmoniously side by side at the same good work of communicating light, imparting instruction and giving relief.

You have told me in a few brief sentences of the general nature and growth of these Missions and I have made it my care to obtain further information from the sources at my disposal. I have read official

reports on all the schools and colleges to which you specially refer and I am glad to see that they are almost without exception in a satisfactory and efficient condition and that they have been turning out a very good proportion of successful students. The Government have greatly deplored the necessity of reducing their grants in past years owing to financial pressure, but I am glad to be able to inform you that we propose this year, if possible, to pay results grants to all schools at full rates. It is also our hope and intention to continue to pay the grants in full if the Government of India are able to sanction sufficient allotments for education in the future as they have done this year.

I remember well the interesting occasion when I had the pleasure of conferring the degree of B.A. on Gestiyal, the Tamil girl, to whom you refer, and I hope that many more of your girls will distinguish themselves in the same way.

My answer to your concluding remarks is that I live in the constant and humble prayer that Almighty God, whose blessing you have invoked on me and mine, may be pleased to guide me in the way of righteousness.

At the special request of His Excellency the school boys were granted a day's holiday. This if anything added to the heartiness of the cheers they raised for Their Excellencies before they left the place.

MORE ADDRESSES.

After breakfast His Excellency, accompanied by Mr. Buckley, Mr. Wynch and others drove to the District Board's office where deputations from the Tinnevely district and the Municipalities of Palamcottah and Tinnevely were assembled to present him with addresses of welcome. The District Board's address was as follows:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Members of the District Board, Tinnevely, beg to offer Your Excellency and Lady Amphyll a most cordial welcome to our district.

2. We are very grateful that Your Excellency is actuated by a sincere desire to be personally acquainted with the real wants and grievances of those of His Majesty's Indian subjects who are entrusted to your care. We have watched with admiration and sincere thankfulness Your Excellency's kind efforts to establish a personal touch with the people and we beg to assure Your Excellency that you have won their love and gratitude.

3. We regret we have to admit that our roads are by no means what they should be; and we are therefore all the more grateful to Your Excellency's Government for the most liberal and timely grant of Rs. 20,000 towards their improvement. We respectfully venture to express our hope that Your Excellency's Government will be pleased to allot a similar grant in future years.

4. We beg to inform Your Excellency that a beginning has been made in a small way towards the

education of the Maravar community by the opening of four free schools for their special benefit, in Maravar centres. The Inspecting Agency and the Director of Public Instruction seem to be in favour of having a Maravar school in each taluk, at the same time recognizing the Maravars as a backward class. This would mean the opening of five more schools involving a large additional expenditure; and the grant from Local funds for education is already a considerable one and the money required cannot be found except at the expense of allotments under other grants. We therefore respectfully request that Your Excellency's Government may be pleased to help us by making a special annual grant from Provincial funds in consideration of the peculiar circumstances of this district. We trust that these measures for the amelioration of such an educationally backward class as the Maravars will result in the permanent elevation of that community.

5. It is very desirable that the traffic in this district should be developed by supplying greater facilities of transport, and better means of communication; with this end the construction of a railway between Sérmádévi (a station on the Tinnevely-Quilon Railway) and Panagudi (a town near the Travancore border) is now occupying the attention of the Board.

6. In conclusion we beg to offer Your Excellency and Lady Amphyll a pleasant tour in this district and we pray that God will bless you both and your children with long life and prosperity.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

His Excellency replied as follows to the address:—

GENTLEMEN OF THE TINNEVELLY DISTRICT BOARD,—Lady Amphill and I beg you to accept our warm thanks for the cordial welcome of which we have been assured, not only by your address, but also by your presence here. As I do not claim to have done anything more than my simple duty in endeavouring to acquaint myself personally with the wants and grievances of the people, I am grateful to you for the appreciation which you have so kindly expressed. I have always gone on the principle that there is nothing like a little encouragement for the toilers in every walk of life, and you may take it from me that even Governors are the better for an occasional pat on the back. It serves at any rate to counteract the abuse to which they are subjected at least as much as other people. So long as everybody gets his fair share of both kicks and half pence, no harm is done and I have certainly nothing to complain of in that respect. If I am sometimes misunderstood and abused, it is more than made up for by the very generous praise which I meet with at other times.

I am glad to observe that you are alive to the importance of maintaining your roads and communications in good order. As you are doubtlessly aware, the first beginnings of local taxation in this country took the form of a cess for the improvement and maintenance of district roads and

I understand that, to the ordinary ryot, the contribution which he makes to Local funds is generally known by the name of "road cess." The benefit of good roads for the transport of produce is of course more widely shared in by the mass of the tax-payers than any of the other benefits which the expenditure of Local funds is intended to secure, and hence the policy of Government has been to insist on the expenditure of a minimum of half the land cess *plus* the net receipt from tolls on communications. I am glad to see from the administration report of 1900–1901, which is the latest that has come before me, that your Board has worked up to nearly 95 per cent. of this minimum. I regret that I cannot hold out to you any hope of a repetition next year of the special allotment of Rs. 20,000 for which you express your gratitude. This allotment was your share of a special grant made by the Government of India from Imperial revenue for the purpose of improving roads and communications, and it was a special condition of the grant that the works on which the money was to be spent, should not involve any further special allotment.

I am pleased to find that the Maravar schools to which you next allude have made such encouraging progress. I understand from the Director of Public Instruction that you are mistaken in supposing that it has been proposed to open a Maravar school in every taluk. The recognition of the Mavarars as a backward class might be allowed under the Grant-in-Aid Code, but I am told that that would impose an

additional burden on your educational grant, as grants-in-aid would be claimed at higher rates than at present, and the grant is already in excess of the average for the Presidency. Your request for a special annual grant from Provincial funds does not, I am informed, commend itself to the Director of Public Instruction, but I am not at present in a position to give you a definite answer on that point, and I can only assure you that when the matter comes before me, I shall bear in mind what you have said.

It is satisfactory to me to learn that you are considering the advisability of extending railway communication in the district by means similar to those adopted by neighbouring District Boards, and I trust that your enterprise in this respect will be successful and productive of much benefit to the people of this district.

Let me thank you once more for your welcome and for the good wishes in which you are good enough to include my family, and let me say on my side that I shall always consider it a particular pleasure to hear of your welfare and of the prosperity of this district, from which I shall carry away many pleasant recollections.

His Excellency then received the following addresses from the Municipalities of Tinnevely and Palamcottah:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Councillors of the Tinnevely Municipality, beg to offer Your Excellency and Lady Amphill a most

hearty welcome on this happy occasion of your visit to our ancient and historic town.

The municipality we have the privilege to represent, is among the oldest in this Presidency and quite recently its extent has been largely increased.

We are happy to be able to represent to Your Excellency that the administration of this municipality has all along been fairly satisfactory and we have tried as much as our means have permitted, to improve education and to satisfy the sanitary and other requirements necessary for the health of the inhabitants. We beg leave to represent that it is nearly impossible to make the administration of the municipality as efficient as might be desired without a proper scheme for watersupply and drainage. The matter have been under consideration for some years past and schemes for supplying the town with water have been formulated. The outlay involved is much more than can be met from the revenues of the municipality and we venture to hope Your Excellency's Government will be graciously pleased to make liberal grant from the Provincial funds to enable us to carry out this urgent and important scheme so indispensable for the health and well-being of the people.

We are thankful to Your Excellency for the opportunity thus afforded us of expressing on behalf of the people of Tinnevely their loyal devotion to British Government and their heartfelt gratitude for the numerous blessings conferred on them and we

most fervently pray that the Almighty may bless Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill and your children with long life and continued prosperity.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Chairman and Councillors of the Palamcottah Municipality, respectfully offer Your Excellency our most hearty welcome on this occasion of your visit to our town: and we trust that we may be allowed to bespeak your sympathy with our humble efforts to promote the good of our fellow-subjects.

2 The town of Palamcottah, which was a Military Cantonment up to the year 1882, was first formed into a municipality in 1866. The present area of this municipality is $3\frac{1}{2}$ square miles with a population of 39,545 and 10,167 houses; while the original area was only 1 square mile. Our municipality, therefore, is at present $3\frac{1}{2}$ times as large as it was when first formed, with an income of Rs. 48,297. We have done as much as we could to improve our roads and sanitation; but we admit that much more could be done if our income was larger. We have in view a joint water-supply scheme for this municipality and that of Tinnevely, and we humbly hope that Your Excellency will see your way to helping us substantially in carrying out this scheme.

3. In conclusion, we venture to entertain the hope that Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill will

carry away with you pleasing reminiscence of our town; and we wish you and Lady Ampthill a safe and pleasant journey back.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

To the addresses of the Palamcottah and Tinnevely Municipalities His Excellency made the following joint reply:—

GENTLEMEN OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TINNEVELLY AND PALAMCOTTAH,—I hope that you will not think me wanting in courtesy or appreciation of your kind welcome if I make a single reply to your two separate addresses. As both of your addresses invite my attention to the same important subject, the supply of good drinking-water, it will save repetition and be convenient to all if I reply to them at the same time.

But first let me thank you heartily for the kind manner in which you have greeted Lady Ampthill and me, and for the good wishes of which you have assured us. As we ourselves are truly solicitous of the welfare of all the people of the Madras Presidency, it is pleasant to find wherever we go that our wishes are reciprocated and that the cordial good wishes which are offered to us are not only for the Governor and his wife, but also for Lord and Lady Ampthill and their children.

Now let me turn to the question of water-supply to which your two addresses principally refer. It is, I fear, one of long standing difficulty as the matter was first broached as long ago as 1839. I need not

describe the various negotiations which have taken place since that time as you are all perfectly familiar with them, and I have of course made it my business to study the official correspondence on the subject.

The present position is that the question is under the consideration of the Sanitary Board and I learn from the preliminary report of the Sanitary Engineer that the only possible scheme is to pump water from the Tāmbraparni river. Other schemes have been suggested from time to time, but they have all been proved impracticable for different reasons, such as the liability of the sources to pollution, the prohibitive cost of the acquisition of lands required, and the certainty of endless dispute with ryots who would have a claim on the water for irrigation. Unfortunately, the scheme under present consideration is far too costly, for, even if Government were in a position to make a free grant of half the initial cost, your municipalities would not be able to raise sufficient funds to meet the maintenance charges and the interest on the loan that would have to be taken.

Another difficulty which has not yet been investigated, is the possibility that in the dry season the flow in the Tāmbraparni will not be sufficient to give the quantity of water required.

I hope that it will be found possible to modify the scheme in such a manner as to make it practicable, and when this has been done and you have considered the ways and means of carrying it out, I can promise that your representations will receive the careful and sympathetic attention of Government.

I wish that I could give you a more definite and encouraging answer, but I am sure that you will recognise that in the existing circumstances it is not possible for me to say more than I have said. It may interest you to know that, excluding immature schemes like your own, there are at the present moment no less than fifteen municipal water-supply schemes ready for execution, and that of these only three can be undertaken without grants-in-aid from Provincial funds. In all the other cases, Government are asked to assist the councils not only with loans but also with grants-in-aid. I have had calculations made which show that if these councils raise taxation to the maximum limits and use all their available resources to provide for the annual maintenance charges and the repayment of the maximum loans they can afford to borrow, they will still be unable to finance the schemes without Provincial grants to the amount of nineteen lakhs.

Now, the principles which the Government of India have laid down in respect of grants-in-aid to local bodies for the execution of sanitary and other projects undertaken for the benefit of the inhabitants of local areas, are as follows :—

1. That the entire cost of such undertakings should, as a general rule, be borne by the rate-payers who benefit thereby.

2. That the assistance of Government when required should usually be given in the form of loans.

3. That where the cost is too heavy to be wholly borne by the local body and the work is nevertheless too important and useful to be postponed, a grant-in-aid of the portion of the cost may be given by Government from its accumulated surplus, if it has such a surplus.

You will see therefore within what narrow limits it is possible for our Government to assist local bodies with free grants. Apart from other conditions, we can in no circumstances give a grant-in-aid, unless we have a surplus balance and, as you know, it is a long time since we have had anything like a surplus, let alone nineteen lakhs. This question of local water-supply schemes, which is made a matter of urgent representation to me wherever I go, is therefore fraught with very great difficulties and I can assure you that it occupies my constant and anxious attention. I am not without hope that if the financial prosperity which commenced this year is continued and if we continue to share in it, we may, by careful management and economy, yet find ourselves the happy possessors of a surplus balance lawfully accumulated under the Provincial system. I can promise you that in those circumstances, my colleagues and I would seize eagerly on the opportunity of helping those local bodies who are doing their best to help themselves in the important work of improving public health and guarding against epidemics.

There is a matter which you have not mentioned in either of your addresses, but which I should have

been glad to discuss with you, and that is, the amalgamation of your two municipalities. My predecessor, Sir Arthur Havelock, commended this question to your notice when he came here in 1897 and it seems to me that since you are going to have a combined hospital and are discussing a joint water-supply scheme, the proposal is one which you might well take into serious consideration.

You claim that your respective councils are doing all they can, with the means at their disposal, to improve the administration of your respective municipalities, and I am glad to see from the annual reports that your claims are not unfounded.

I hope that your joint labours for the welfare of your fellow-citizens will prosper in every way and result not only in their advantage, but also in pleasure and satisfaction to yourselves,—the pleasure and satisfaction which attend the faithful discharge of public duty.

The deputations then withdrew and the Governor drove back to the Collector's residence, where, in the afternoon, he received visits from the Zamindars of Ettiyapuram and Singampatti.

ROUND OF INSPECTION AND VISITS.

TINNEVELLY, 28th Oct.—This morning's programme began with His Excellency's visit to the local Municipal Hospital which was inspected in company with Captain Watson, I.M.S., District

Medical and Sanitary Officer. Thence His Excellency drove to the Head-quarter office of the District Police where Mr. Cardozo, the District Superintendent of Police, explained to His Excellency the inner working of the Head-quarter office and the uses of the several forms and Regulations. Mr. Cardozo brought to His Excellency's notice an important defect in the present management of the department; and it was that while in the Military Department there were special officers to make periodical inspections of the fire-arms used by the members of the Force, there was no one to do this work in the Police Department. The majority of the Constabulary who used rifles had no knowledge of the mechanism of a rifle, and it appeared to him necessary that there should be a special officer to examine the rifles, etc. Before returning to the Collector's residence, the Governor paid a visit to St. Francis Xavier's High School, where he watched the teachers impart instruction to students and the students at play in the Gymnasium. He left the institution pleased with what he had seen and announced to the students that the Principal of the school had consented to grant them a holiday in honour of his visit.

Her Excellency Lady Ampthill paid a visit this morning to Rajah Sir Ramaswamy Moodelliar's Maternity Hospital, which is much appreciated by all classes of the community in Tinnevely, and complimented Miss Bernard, the Lady Superintendent, on her useful work.

A LANDHOLDER'S DEPUTATION.

As a result of the experience gained in the course of his long tours in the Southern, Central and Western districts of the Presidency, His Excellency has initiated a new departure in connection with his visit to this district in the matter of acquainting himself with the wishes of the large landholding classes who form the backbone of the country. Hitherto the practice has been for Governors to receive addresses, generally at head-quarter towns, presented in the name of the people of the district. Municipal Councils and District Boards have a definite constitutional status and well-defined functions to discharge and their capacity and right to represent certain specific wants and defects in their respective administrations have been acknowledged on all hands. Outside the scope of Municipalities and District Boards there are a great many subjects such as Land Revenue, Irrigation, Forestry, Salt and Abkari and other large questions of State policy which affect the welfare of the people at large. Whenever addresses were presented to touring Governors in the name of the people on these important subjects, they gave expression mainly to the advanced views of the articulate section of the Indian community, mostly those of the vakils and pleaders. And it was only natural that it should be so; for from the very commencement of English education in this country the lawyer class has worked its way up to the front and claimed for itself the largest share of public attention; so much so that a public

function has only to be set on foot now-a-days and the acute vakil is there with the leading strings already in his hands. While in their own sphere the vakils are rendering most valuable service to their countrymen, in others they have not been an unmixed blessing. The ryot population have to a large extent lost independence of thought, and with it the power of giving expression to their wants and grievances. The ryot has steadily been taught to lean too much on the vakil and to believe that unless he engaged the services of one he will not succeed in his representations to the Government or district officers. Thus the ryot looks elsewhere for his friend, philosopher and guide than in the quarter where he ought to look for help. For this deplorable state of things, Government officials in recent years have in no small measure been responsible. The ryot population have been forced to go to vakils on the slightest provocation, with the result that the officials now find it most difficult to transact any business, be it ever so small, without a vakil being brought in between them and the ryots. This evil has assumed considerable proportions in respect to addresses presented to Governors on tour. They were made the means of putting forward a hundred and one pet proposals of the articulate section, and the people proper with their numerous practical wants which affect them in their daily life in the country were left in the cold!

His Excellency, who has himself come in direct contact with the people in their village homes

has for sometime past been particularly anxious to establish more sympathetic and personal relations between the Government and the most important and largest section of its subjects. It cannot be imagined for a moment, however, that His Excellency has objections to hearing representations from vakils *qua* landholders. But apparently His Excellency's great desire is to come in direct contact with landholders resident in villages, and not so much to interview absentee landlords. With this object he had caused a Notification to be published in the *District Gazette* that he was anxious to receive a deputation of genuine representatives of the agricultural population and hear from their lips a statement of their wants during his visit to the district. He has accordingly dispensed with "an address from the people" which usually contained a large number of representations, of the immediate bearing of which on their daily life they had not even the remotest idea, and invited a select body of representative landholders who had an intimate, practical and personal knowledge of what they represented. Much of the success of this wise departure in policy inaugurated by His Excellency depends on the ryots and large landholders themselves, and it is to be hoped that they will avail themselves to the fullest extent of the advantages thus offered for personal direct communication with the head of the administration in this Presidency.

In response to the public invitation of His Excellency a small deputation of large and representative

landholders of the district waited upon him at the District Board's office at 11 A.M. to-day. It had been arranged that seven men should form the deputation; but from unavoidable causes such as illness, four out of them were absent and therefore the following three alone were present, viz., Mr. Mahomed Mustafa Rowther, a landlord of Tenkási, and lately the Chairman of Tenkási Union; Mr. M. Martandan Pillai of Vizianarayanam village in the Nángunéri taluk, an influential landed proprietor, and for years a member of the District Board; and Mr. Sessa Iyer of Taruvai village, a large landholder, and member of the Taluk Board. Besides these chosen representatives, there were many others present in the hall while the conference was proceeding. The following officials were also present fortified with all documents for ready reference and explanation:—Mr. L. E. Buckley, the Collector, Mr. E. W. Legh, I.C.S., Mr. F. Hemmingway, I.C.S., Mr. D. T. Chadwick, I.C.S., all Head Assistant Collectors in charge of Divisions, Mr. P. M. Lushington, District Forest Officer, and Mr. C. Gopala-krishna Iyer, Executive Engineer. The proceedings were throughout conducted in Tamil and in the absence of Mr. S. Krishna Iyer, one of the most influential and leading ryots, Mr. P. Seshiah, the Huzur Sarishtadar, acted as the interpreter between His Excellency and the Deputation. A perusal of the following report of the unique conference, which lasted for over two hours, will serve to show what remarkable grasp, clearness of exposition and cogency

of reasoning these intelligent landholders brought to bear on the points under discussion. They have given information based on first-hand knowledge which they alone of all are capable of giving to a Governor intent on getting a correct idea of details; and the example set by this body of men in the study of agricultural problems, and problems of rural economy, deserves to be followed by ryots elsewhere.

His Excellency received the members of the Deputation in the following words:—

I am not going to make a speech and I hope that you will not make me a speech. My object is to have an informal talk in order that we can discuss these matters quite freely. I know who you gentlemen are, and I also know that you are well qualified to speak for the ryots of the district. I hope that you will not hesitate to speak out as freely as possible. I know generally the subjects that you wish to speak about as you were good enough to send me a memorandum of the particular points. So what I want now is to hear further your views on these particular points which you mention generally in your memorandum. You understand, of course, that my principal object is to gain information for myself in order that I can better understand the position of the ryots and the needs of the district. That is my principal object in asking you to come, and let me say before I go any further that I am much obliged to you for coming to meet me here for that purpose. We will now take the different points in order.

Mr. Sesha Iyer, the spokesman of the Deputation, in acknowledging His Excellency's kindness and condescension in sending for them to hear their grievances in person, said that they verily believed that their grievances were at an end as His Excellency had been pleased to hear them. He assured the Governor that the people of this country had never heard or seen of a subject population enjoying greater happiness and security under any other Government than they did under the British Government. Traders, officials, fishermen and hill tribes, in fact men of all classes and communities, were happy under the British rule.

With these preliminary assurances the Deputation proceeded to lay before His Excellency several grievances, Mr. Sesha Iyer acting as the spokesman and the Huzur Sarishtadar acting as the interpreter.

SETTLEMENT AND ASSESSMENT.

The first representation made was that the ryots of the district felt that the assessment on wet lands was heavier than in other districts and that they required early relief in the matter. Sesha Iyer was sure that if the ryots had had an opportunity of bringing that fact to the notice of His Excellency's Government before, their grievances would have been redressed earlier. He continued that under the old revenue system the ryots had not been able to cultivate the lands and so abandoned them and ran away. Subsequently in Mr. Lushington's (a former Collector) time the commutation rate was

fixed at Rs. 2-12-0 per cotah of paddy (116 Madras measures) and thus enabled ryots to live in peace. He had given them fixity of tenure although that did not in any way help them to save much. And during Mr. Puckle's settlement also, he had not been able to do much for them in response to their representations, as the old assessment had been high and the new could not be much less than the old. In those days ryots had no opportunity of meeting His Excellency the Governor in person as now and representing their grievances in person, and the result was that agriculturists as a class were deteriorating from day to day in the district and their property was decreasing; and other means of livelihood were limited. They were then labouring under many difficulties. The landed proprietors purchased lands at Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000 per acre. Such high prices were paid for lands as they knew of no other forms of investment for their money. They considered that investment in land was safer than any other forms and this form of investment did not give them more than the Government Savings Bank interest.

His Excellency said that he could not reconcile the two statements that the agriculturists were suffering greatly, and that at the same time the lands were worth Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000 per acre, which was a very high rate. If land was as valuable as it was said to be, then it must be a good investment.

The spokesman explained that they invested their money in the land not for the interest they got from it, but because they knew of no better investment.

If they had wished to make money by lending, they could have done it, but they had been agriculturists from time immemorial, and that was why they were so much attached to investment in land. An additional reason why they preferred this form of investment to others was that they could always realise the money at any moment by selling the land, which was not the case with regard to other investments.

Next His Excellency asked if the landholders as a rule cultivated their lands or sublet them to tenants.

The Deputation replied that the proprietors found it difficult to find suitable tenants as land did not yield good profits, so that they were obliged to cultivate their lands themselves. But in some places tenants took up land on lease.

Mr. L. E. Buckley said that his idea was that there was a good deal of sub-tenancy.

Mr. Sesha Iyer said that used to be the case before, but now the number of tenants available for taking land for lease was decreasing; besides they were demanding a larger share of profits.

His Excellency next asked what amount an acre of land was let for when sublet to tenants.

The spokesman submitted that an acre of land was let for from Rs. 12 to Rs. 60 according to the quality of the soil. He submitted that that was not good rent inasmuch as cultivation expenses had increased considerably.

Mr. E. W. Legh, I.C.S., Divisional Officer, explained in regard to the question of sub-letting, that a good many of the big landholders in his division were Brahmins who did not cultivate, but sublet their holdings.

Mr. Sesha Iyer said that he was a Brahmin proprietor and cultivated his own lands with the aid of servants as there were few tenants available to take up land for lease. That was the case in a majority of instances. In some places where tenants were available, lands were sublet, and even in these few cases the tenants were not able to fulfil the terms of the lease, and the landlord had to share the produce with the tenant.

His Excellency observed that he understood that there were these difficulties sometimes. That was the case everywhere; but his general impression was that the price of wet land was high, and that the rents were fairly good.

The spokesman replied that His Excellency ought not to think that because the price was high the lands were necessarily good. The value of the land did not depend upon its quality or the yield. People in this district were more anxious to invest in land than those in other parts, and that was why the price was high. They got a better outturn from the land because they took a lot of trouble in cultivation. In Tanjore ryots had greater yield with less exertion as the silt of the river was a rich manure to the lands.

His Excellency: You are regarding agriculture from the point of view of a commercial investment.

Mr. Sessa Iyer said that it was by no means their desire to get large profits out of the land. He only mentioned it casually for His Excellency's information that they did not get more than a Savings Bank interest from investments in land.

His Excellency: Everything that you said was from the commercial point of view. But the point of view I regard it from is the economic one. What I want to know is the condition of ryots and their grievances and not whether it is better from a financial point of view for a man to invest his money in land or to invest it in the Savings Bank or anywhere else.

The deputation replied that the reference to the question of Savings Banks interest was only a casual one and no more. Continuing, the spokesman said that at the time of Mr. Puckle's Settlement the outturn for a first-class land had been taken at 11 cotahs, the commutation value being fixed at Rs. 4-3-0 per cotah. Deducting the cost of transporting grain, the price had been adopted as Rs. 3-9-0 giving a total of Rs. 39-3-0 for each acre of first-class land. The ryots could not and did not get 11 cotahs of paddy per acre; but even supposing they did, the outturn at current price of Rs. 6 per cotah would be Rs. 66. From this would have to be deducted the cultivation expenses. In the first place the price of seed grains required for sowing an acre, at current price, was Rs. 4, whereas at the time of

the settlement it was fixed at Rs. 2-4-10. The value of the straw obtained had been set against the cost of ploughing, though it never was sufficient. The cost of manure had more than doubled since the last settlement, and the cost of weeding had risen from Rs. 1-12-0 to Rs. 2-8-0 per acre. At the time of the settlement no calculation was made in regard to transplanting seedlings, but at present they had to spend Rs. 2-13-0 per acre on this item. The cost of preparing the seed-bed and the land for transplanting, etc., had not been taken into account at the settlement, and it cost them Rs. 2-7-0, and they had now to pay for another item, viz., for a man to look after the watering of lands, Rs. 2-10-0 per acre. This had also been left out at the settlement, Reaping, which had been calculated to cost Rs. 1-13-9, now cost them Rs. 3-9-0. The cost of threshing the paddy by cattle treading had risen from Rs. 1-0-3 to Rs. 1-10-0. There had been a similar increase in the cost of carting grain from the field to the house, viz., from Rs. 1-0-3 to Rs. 1-10-0. The cost of cutting the ridges and their reformation, which was 8 annas per acre, had not been taken into account. The cost of carting the manure was Rs. 1-10-0 and this had also been left out. Therefore against the total outturn of Rs. 66 per acre of first-class land they had to set cost of cultivation which amounted to Rs. 47. They thus got Rs. 19 net for each acre. Calculating the assessment at half the value of the net yield, it should be Rs. 9-8-0, and from this a deduction of 10 per cent. had to be made for vicissitudes of season, so that

the assessment would have to be Rs. 8-9-0 per acre. At the time of the settlement, as already observed, the outturn was calculated at Rs. 39 and cultivation expenses at Rs. 15-4. Half the net outturn was charged as the assessment which was thus much higher than what it ought to be. Those were the figures for a first-class land, and return must be proportionately less for inferior lands.

His Excellency remarked that the effect of what they said was to show that paddy was not worth cultivating. Yet they told him that an acre of land was worth Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000 which amounted to 75 years' revenue and more. They also told him that they sublet lands for amounts ranging from Rs. 15 to Rs. 60 per acre according to quality. He believed there were cases in which a land was let a second time. How would they reconcile these differences!

The spokesman of the deputation said that the leasing of the land was for two crops, whereas the figures he had been giving were for one crop.

His Excellency: There is another question which I wanted to ask. You say the cost of cultivation has increased. This was of course estimated at the settlement which took place nearly 39 years ago, and the assessment was fixed on certain principles in accordance with the average price of grain. I want to know whether there has been a corresponding rise in the price of grain.

The deputation explained that the cost of cultivation had increased owing to the paucity of

cultivating tenants and rise in wages. The price of grain had also risen. At the time of the settlement it was fixed at Rs. 3-9-0 per cotah, and now it was Rs. 6-8-0.

His Excellency: That shows the price has nearly doubled.

Mr. Sesha Iyer explained that the figures he gave were based on the increased price of grain. The cost of cultivation had been estimated at Rs. 15-4-0, but the present cost came to Rs. 47.

His Excellency said that that was a matter which he could not discuss at length then. He had no knowledge that could enable him to dispute what the deputation said on the point. It seemed to him likely that the spokesman was over-estimating the cost of cultivation. It seemed to be improbable that the rise in the cost of cultivation could be out of all proportion to the rise in the price of grain.

Mr. Sesha Iyer pointed out that some items of cultivation expenses had been left out at the settlement and there were other items for which no money had to be paid. He had put the cultivation expenses at the lowest figure possible and they were based on his own experience and that of other ryots.

In reply to His Excellency the other members of the deputation said that they had consulted with one another in calculating the figures and they were entirely correct.

Mr. Mahomed Mustafa Rowther submitted that His Excellency appeared to question the accuracy of

the statement and to believe that they were over-estimating; if so, he would ask him to depute any one of the officials to pay a surprise visit to their villages and examine their accounts.

His Excellency said that it was a matter which would have to be very carefully investigated when the re-settlement took place. He supposed that they knew it was nearly due now.

Mr. Sessa Iyer said in concluding their representations on this subject, that His Excellency was the King of the earth and the people were dependent on the land for their sustenance as calves depended on cows and he hoped that His Excellency would see that they were not starved but got sufficient to live.

His Excellency said that the points they raised would be considered when the re-settlement was begun.

DRY AND WET ASSESSMENTS.

The next point the Deputation referred to was that large tracts of dry land in the northern parts of Srivilliputtur taluk were very heavily assessed at so much as Rs. 2-9-0 per acre.

In reply to His Excellency Mr. E. W. Legh, the Divisional officer, said that he was rather inclined to think that it was so. A great deal of the dry land in his division was close to hills and some of it was very far from villages and there was a tendency at present to give up that land. The rate per acre was Rs. 2-8-0.

His Excellency told the Deputation that this was also a matter which should be looked into at the re-settlement. There were great difficulties about anticipating the re-settlement of the district.

The next subject brought before His Excellency was that second crop cultivation on non-compounded wet lands in this district was assessed with three-fourths of the assessment on such lands, while the proportion obtaining in many other districts was only half. They complained about this difference in the treatment accorded to this district in this matter.

His Excellency said that he believed it was so. The Tinnevely district had been one of the earliest to be settled and, therefore, that principle of assessment had been adopted before the principle of half rate for second crop was adopted in other districts. At first sight he saw no reason for any difference in treatment, but the explanation was as he remarked above. Since then other principles prevailed elsewhere and he had no doubt it would be very carefully considered whether the same principle as that adopted elsewhere should not be adopted in Tinnevely. He believed that at the time of the old settlement three-fourths rate for second crop represented a considerable concession. Before the settlement the same rate had been paid for the second as for the first crop, so that its reduction to three-fourths was a great concession.

Mr. Sessa Iyer explained that in one part of the district 24,000 acres of land were assessed for second crop at half rate.

His Excellency told the Deputation that the matter would be considered at the re-settlement.

IRRIGATION QUESTION.

Another subject of importance which the Deputation pressed on His Excellency's attention was that use of water for dry lands from Government sources was often finally assessed on very flimsy pretexts of a technical character. They prayed that applications for use of water might be directed to be disposed of before it was too late for beginning cultivation, and that no penal assessment might be levied where the use of water, though unauthorised, had not led to any remission of tax on *ayacut* lands under the same source of irrigation.

Mr. Buckley, the Collector, explained to the Deputation that it was absolutely necessary that the Revenue officers should have control over the water and that it should not be left to the option of the ryots. Each application for the use of water for dry land had to be decided more or less on its own merits. In the case of a large tank with a small *ayacut*, permission might be given at once. But where a tank had to get filled four or five times a year one had to be very careful before allowing water for dry land. If water were taken for such land it would interfere with the supply for the wet *ayacut* which had the first claim. Where application was made and sanction was delayed and the application was unobjectionable, the penal rate for using the water was very nominal.

It was also pointed out by another official present that holders of wet land had threatened to sue the Government for damages caused to them by dry lands being allowed to have the use of the water.

The matter was noted for consideration.

The Deputation's next prayer was that the capacity of rain-fed tanks might be increased by their bunds and calingulas being raised and by land being acquired in the foreshore so as to extend the tank and by other means.

His Excellency remarked that the question of raising the bunds and calingulas was one fraught with difficulty and would be objected to by people owning lands under tanks lower down. They would rush to Court the moment the bund of the tank above was attempted to be raised.

The spokesman said that it might be done where that could be done without trouble.

Mr. Mahomed Mustafa Rowther said that if the bunds of other tanks were also raised people would not object.

His Excellency: I am afraid that is not my experience. We have endless difficulties in this matter. The best way to improve the capacity of a tank is to remove the silt from the bed of the tank, but unfortunately the removal of silt is so costly that it is quite impracticable.

Mr. Mahomed Mustafa Rowther said that the ryots could not be expected to consider the question of cost. They wanted certain defects to be remedied and it was only when those were met they

could be happy. The ryots should be helped by Government. Were they to suffer under unredressed grievances? Whom were they to complain to if not to the British Government under whose protection they were? Was there any other Government they could appeal to? His Excellency had asked them to represent their troubles and grievances; and when these were put forward, was it right that they should be met by the answer "It is a highly costly scheme and there are no funds, etc."?

His Excellency, who could not follow all that Mr. Mustafa Rowther poured forth in his heated eloquent Tamil, simply remarked that the way in which a ryot could help himself was by taking the silt for purposes of manure.

The Deputation then asked for the investigation of a number of irrigation projects in the district for affording increased facilities for water-supply. One of the projects referred to was the construction of the proposed reservoir at Pápanásam which was described as both practicable and likely to be immensely useful. They asked for the speedy conclusion of the investigation now ordered and early construction during His Excellency's time.

His Excellency replied that the investigation was being pushed on as quickly as possible and if the scheme was thoroughly practical it would be carried out.

Another project urged for the favourable consideration of His Excellency was the construction of a reservoir above the Kumaraswami anicut in the

Nánganéri taluk, and the construction of another near Khansahibpuram village in the Sríviliputtúr taluk so as to receive the waters of both the Chittoor and the Periyár into it. His Excellency said that the Periyár could not be interfered with. It was a very big and important work and there was no surplus water to be spared. As for the other scheme, he said, that would be enquired into when more important projects were finished. Other schemes were the Kullar project in Tenkási, Pullukuranki project in Sríviliputtúr taluk and the Vaippar project.

His Excellency said that the first two were costly and could not be of much benefit. As for the others, those that were not already under investigation would be enquired into. Those were, however, highly technical subjects and were not suitable for discussion at that place. But he would have the schemes investigated by Engineers who were competent to form an opinion. He assured the Deputation that he would himself look into the matter.

FOREST GRIEVANCES.

Forest grievances formed the subject-matter of the next prayer. In the first place the Deputation asked for land to be set apart for grazing purposes in each village. The places at present set apart were scattered and intermingled with cultivated lands.

His Excellency said that they could not alter the general conformity of the country to provide them grazing reserves in each village. There could be

no hardship whatever about the fees for grazing cattle. It would be advisable to limit to a certain extent the number of cattle to be allowed to graze. That was important and necessary not only from the point of view of the interests of the forest, but of the cattle themselves. It would not do to let too many cattle to graze in the forests because these would destroy them. If the number is limited, grazing in the forest will tend to improve the breed of the cattle and if it were indiscriminately increased the cattle would become deteriorated and practically valueless. His Excellency then explained to them the scientific reason underlying the conservation of forests. He said:—"The preservation of forests is an exceedingly important matter everywhere and particularly in this district. Forestry and preservation of forests is a matter which is being very carefully studied in Europe and recent experience of many scientific experts dealing with forests has very much increased the knowledge which is brought to bear on it. And what is now quite certain, not only in India, but also in countries of Europe where there are large forests, is that the destruction of forests means the diminution of water-supply. Where you cut down forests water is not held up on the hills and streams run down to waste. Where they are they ensure a good water-supply and secure good rainfall. Therefore the restrictions which are imposed under the Forest Rules are for the good of the whole population not only at the present time, but

also for future generations, and I am sure you will admit that it is our duty to look after the interests of those who are to come after us in future years as it is to look after those who are living at present. Therefore, the grievances of a small cultivator cannot for a moment be weighed against the great interests which depend on the conservation of forests. I have heard a great deal of forest grievances in other districts, and I have considered this matter very carefully and I have let the ryots have everything that can fairly and safely be granted; and my instructions are that the Forest Rules are to be applied with as much leniency and indulgence as can safely be.

The deputation next referred to the difficulties they laboured under from forest reserves being situated in close proximity to villages. They spoke of a few particular villages where such a state of things were said to exist. But Mr. Lushington, the Forest officer, who was present at the interview, said that even in the case of those villages they mentioned, the reserved areas were not so close to the village site as they represented.

His Excellency told them that it was quite impossible to lay down an arbitrary rule that a forest reserve should be at least one mile away from a village. That was quite impracticable, but care was taken in every case not to bring reserve limits near to villages. He did not think there was anything in the matter they mentioned which called for his interference.

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

The deputation then invited His Excellency's attention to the want of village roads for carting manure and grain. They contended, with apparent justice on their side, that the road funds which they contributed should be devoted to first meeting their wants in this respect. They could not understand the justice of their contributions being spent on roads far away from the surroundings.

His Excellency said that he quite recognized that village roads were required; but they appeared to him to discount the value of main roads which were more important and contributed to the benefit of the community as a whole.

The spokesman said that Government might supplement the funds available by grants from its funds.

His Excellency replied that it did so whenever it could and pointed out that a grant of Rs. 20,000 had been made only the other day to the Tinnevely District Board. He learnt from the deputation that some of the villages maintained their own village roads and others helped to look after those that existed. He said that it was purely a matter of money and that the Government would do what all it could when it had funds to spare.

Mr. Sessa Iyer then told His Excellency that it was not possible for ryots to go to his head-quarters to pay a visit to him. They were all, therefore, very happy at the opportunity afforded to them for expressing their grievances to him in person. They

suggested that the Divisional officers might, in a similar manner, meet them and hear their grievances as Mr. Buckley, they were glad to say, had recently done on two or three occasions in connection with certain forest matters.

His Excellency said that there was nothing to prevent a ryot going to see the Divisional officer any day.

The spokesman said that ryots were generally afraid to do so, and, unless they were asked to come, they could not go.

His Excellency remarked that the Divisional officer was touring in the district constantly and he had never heard of any officer declining to see a ryot.

The deputation:—The ryots have not the courage.

His Excellency:—I am afraid I cannot give them courage if they have not got it. There is no reason why a ryot should not have the courage to speak to his Divisional officer. You are not afraid to talk to me freely.

The deputation:—We have been asked to come and represent our wants and that has given us courage.

His Excellency:—Why should they be afraid of the Divisional officer?

The deputation:—They sometimes think that it may not suit his convenience to see them.

His Excellency:—Seriously, I do not think the ryot can complain that he has no opportunities to

represent his grievances to his District officers. My experience of District officers is that they listen with the greatest patience and care to the grievances brought to their notice, and many of them are not genuine grievances.

The spokesman said that it was no doubt so. If the District officers would only let ryots know at what time they could conveniently see them, many would go to see them and tell them their wants.

His Excellency said that the time of the District officers was wasted very often by petitions of grievances which were not genuine. And if the members of that deputation would use their influence to prevent smaller ryots and cultivators from bringing forward grievances which were not genuine and from making incorrect representations, they would do a great deal of good.

The deputationists said that they were using such influence wherever possible.

His Excellency:—If you will tell your people never to make a complaint which is not absolutely true, they will relieve the time of the District officers a great deal and they will get a great deal more help from them. I went to see a village the other day and one of the villagers complained to me that he was charged Punitive Police tax on a house which was unoccupied. As I was in the village I said "Show me the house." He led the way. I went to the house and I found that he had been living there and, therefore, the house was not

unoccupied. Then another man told me in the same village that he had to pay tax on his house which was ruined and had tumbled down. I asked when the house was ruined. He said two months ago and then I found on enquiry that the tax had been paid before the house was ruined. What happened to me will happen undoubtedly to the District officers. It is that kind of thing that wastes much of the officers' time and energy which they are only too anxious to devote to serious matters which tend to the welfare of the people.

In conclusion, His Excellency told the deputationists that he was much obliged to them for having come and talked to him. He would gladly hear them if they had anything else to say.

The spokesman said that they considered that God had come in the form of His Excellency to redress their grievances.

THE PALMYRA TREE QUESTION.

One other matter on which His Excellency wished to have some information was in regard to the palmyra tree question. The deputation had submitted in their memorandum that palmyra and other trees held by ryots under patta were often wrongly entered as to their number in the karnam's accounts, and men relying on these *pattas* were compelled to pay 30 times the assessment for losses of trees supposed or real, while the *pattadars* might not really be responsible at all. They contended that unless it was proved that the pattadar had actually removed any

tree he should not be saddled with any penalty. The trees were far away from their houses and they could not be held responsible for their loss.

His Excellency said that he had talked over that matter with Mr. Buckley and understood that the present system was open to grave objections and presented many inconveniences. He hoped to learn from them any remedies they might suggest.

The deputation not being ready with any well-considered suggestions, His Excellency advised them to think over the matter amongst themselves and submit their suggestions. The concerted opinion of the people on the matter would be of great help to Government in view to the pending resettlement.

THE PUNITIVE POLICE TAX.

In regard to their prayer for the abolition of the Punitive Police tax, His Excellency said that as soon as ever Government was satisfied that there was no danger of an outbreak amongst the troublesome element of the population, it would abolish it, but until the district was absolutely settled, the question could not be discussed. He knew of no other arrangement by which the dangerous element could be suppressed.

In dismissing the deputation His Excellency told the members that he would not forget them and the interview he had with them and hoped that everything would go on well with them.

The deputation expressed its gratitude for the patient hearing he had given to their representations. The deputation then withdrew.

AT TINNEVELLY.

A GARDEN PARTY.

TINNEVELLY, 28th Oct.—This evening Their Excellencies attended a Garden Party given by Mr. and Mrs. Hewetson and His Excellency paid a visit later to the Local Masonic Lodge. In the morning Her Excellency paid a visit to Rajah Sir Ramasawmy Moodelliar's Maternity Hospital.

TINNEVELLY, 29th Oct.—This morning His Excellency visited the Tinnevelly Hindu College and the C.M.S. College.

AT TUTICORIN.

TUTICORIN, 29th Oct.—His Excellency arrived here at 1-45 P.M. by special train and drove to the club for lunch. He was met at the platform by Mr. Wallace, Sub-Collector, Mr. H. D. Baddeley, Port Officer, and Mr. Zelwegger, Municipal Chairman, and others.

THE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

TUTICORIN, 29th Oct.—At 3-30 P.M. to-day His Excellency received the following address from the Tuticorin Municipal Council, a deputation of which waited on him at the Tuticorin Club where His Excellency and party lunched as guests.

1. MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Chairman and Municipal Councillors of Tuticorin, and through us the population of this town, beg to tender Your Excellency a most hearty welcome on this occasion of your visit. The feelings of joy and gratitude we experience by Your Excellency's presence in our midst are intensified by the fact that this town has not had the advantage of a gubernatorial visit during the last seventeen years. But though Tuticorin is situated at the extreme end of the Presidency and at a distance from the seat of Government, we need scarcely assure Your Excellency that its inhabitants lack nothing in loyalty to the Throne and to its worthy representative who has incurred the discomforts of a long and tedious journey to honour with his presence our town and its municipality.

2. Tuticorin can boast of no great history, nor picturesque sights, nor buildings of striking architecture. We can boast, however, of our sea-borne trade, of our extensive salt works, chank and pearl fisheries and our numerous steam mills and factories. From being a sandy waste Tuticorin has risen to be an important centre of commerce, and it speaks much for the activity of its inhabitants that in

spite of many local disadvantages our exports to the different parts of the world stand to-day second to the Presidency port alone. Moreover Tuticorin has, for some time, been the centre of the enormous passenger traffic between India and Ceylon. In other words, it may be characterised as the southern gate of India, and we recollect always with supreme satisfaction that it was at Tuticorin that His present Most Gracious Imperial Majesty King Edward VII, on his memorable tour through Hindoostan, first set foot on Indian soil. A sumptuously decorated train drawn by an engine bearing the beloved name of "Alexandra" stood in readiness on his arrival, and was the first train to inaugurate the railway which has since linked us to Madras and Northern India.

3. Times have somewhat changed in the meanwhile. A rival line of railway has lately been opened from Madura to Pamban with the avowed object of doing away with the Tuticorin route. There is a talk of a bridge to Ceylon across the Pamban Straits, of a deep harbour on the island of Rámiésvaram, which, if the promoters of the scheme are to be believed, is to attract the fleets of the whole world, and to deprive Tuticorin as well as Madras and Colombo of their respective trades. There are similar projects of harbours being built on the West Coast of this Presidency, at Cochin or even as far south as Cape Comorin, and we beg to inform Your Excellency that if we do not regard these schemes with anxiety, we do not regard them with indifference.

4. If a railway to the sacred island of Rama threatens us on the north, another railway on the west which is making rapid strides towards completion, bids fair to give us ample compensation before long for any loss we may sustain thereby. We mean, of course, the Tinnevely-Quilon Railway extension, which is to tap the rich districts of Travancore and distant Malabar, and should benefit our port in no small degree.

5. Conscious also of the fact that a defective water-supply has been the undoing of towns more important than ours, we have been at great pains, for many years, to remedy this defect, and we are glad to say that, with the help of Your Excellency's Government, our new water scheme is about to become a reality, inasmuch as the work is to be taken in hand in the early spring of next year. The scheme consists in erecting fresh bunds to the Korampallam tank from which we derive our water-supply, and to convey its water into the town by means of a substantial masonry conduit instead of a sandy channel as hitherto, which caused about 80 per cent. of the water to percolate into the ground and be lost before it reached Tuticorin. In connection with the above, we beg to point out to Your Excellency that though this saving of 80 per cent. will naturally increase our water-supply, we have some misgivings about the latter proving continuous during the hot months of the year when water is most needed. The Korampallam tank, which is to form our water reserve, is fed by the Tambraparni river and is the lowermost of a chain of tanks which have to be filled

up first with their maximum supply before we can receive any water. And it has happened repeatedly in recent years, during the summer months, that though the river was in flood, and millions of gallons of water were running waste into the sea, our town had to remain without water, because by the time the water reached our reserve tank, the freshes had ceased and the tank did not get its proper supply. There is no certainty that the same will not occur again under the new water scheme and there appears to be no reason why some remedy should not be possible in this direction as well.

6. Another matter of importance is, that it appears highly desirable that something should be done to improve our harbour which is gradually silting up and compels the steamers coming to this port to anchor 5 miles off the shore. We believe our energetic Port officer has formulated some proposals for deepening the harbour and providing increased jetty accommodation, which recommend themselves by their moderate cost and feasibility. For this reason alone we beg to commend them to Your Excellency's kind consideration. At the same time we may be allowed to point out that the revenues of this port have been steadily increasing in recent years, thereby facilitating such expenditure. Moreover, as we have no surf nor monsoon to contend with, which close other ports during several months every year, the improvement of this harbour is all the more desirable and would not be so costly as similar schemes in other places.

7. The above remarks contain a short summary of our more pressing needs. We respectfully submit that they are not unworthy of attention, and we venture therefore to hope Your Excellency's Government will not deny us a share of its sympathy and support to enable the above projects being carried out.

In conclusion, we pray that Your Excellency may long be spared to contribute to India's welfare and prosperity.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

The following is the reply which the Governor made to the address :—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,—I was surprised to learn that fifteen years have elapsed since a Governor of Madras has visited Tuticorin and the very kind welcome which you have accorded to me convinces me that my two immediate predecessors missed a very pleasant experience. I am not going to be tempted into a discussion of the much vexed question of the advantage or otherwise of Governor's tours; all that I shall say is that I know touring to be a great advantage to me and that I am very glad to hear that you consider a Governor's visit an advantage to Tuticorin.

It was as far back as 1887 that the first steps were taken to remedy the defects in your water-

supply which your predecessors brought to Lord Connemara's notice, and if my visit should enable me to expedite the removal of your last remaining anxiety in this respect it would be a great satisfaction to me.

After hearing the well-founded complaints of a great many municipalities who have water-supply schemes which they are unable to carry out for want of funds or who are unable to discover practicable schemes to meet their necessities it is refreshing to come to a place where the water scheme is ready for execution and where the necessary funds are available. I congratulate you on finding yourselves in a position which compares very favourably with that of most other municipalities, but which you have thoroughly deserved after your long and anxious discussions.

Fifteen years is a long time to have waited and in the end you were not a day too early in asking for sanction of your scheme and for a grant from Government. If you had delayed any longer we should most probably not have been able to help you as you will have learnt from the replies I have been obliged to make to other municipal addresses. Happily we were able to make you a grant of half the cost of your scheme at the time when you asked for it, and as you tell me, the work is to be commenced early next year.

I hope that it will be speedily carried out and prove altogether successful, but there still remains your anxiety lest the supply of water should be

inadequate in the event of a deficient north-east monsoon. The Collector tells me that the supply to the Korampallam tank, which is to form your water reserve, cannot be improved without enlarging the north main channel, a work of which the cost is likely to prove prohibitive. The crest of the Srívaikuntam anicut was raised by two feet not many years ago and it is probably impossible to raise it further. Mr. Buckley, however, informs me that there is a proposal to improve the shutters in the surplus weir of the Korampallam tank and that if this can be done a considerable volume of water which is at present lost will be saved. I shall make enquiries in the Public Works Department and see whether the execution of this improvement cannot be pushed forward and I shall hope to find in it the solution of your last remaining difficulty.

It will probably be many years before any scheme for cutting a canal through the island of Rámés-varam, making a deep harbour there, bridging the Pamban Straits, and linking up the railway with Colombo, can be carried out, so that there is no immediate cause for anxiety as to the effects of such measures on the prosperity of your town. On the other hand, you do well not to shut your eyes to the fact that these proposals which at present have not yet been definitely formulated for the orders of Government, do constitute a menace to the position of Tuticorin as the southern gate of India, and to cast about for means to discount any loss that they might entail. The approaching completion of the

Tinnevely-Quilon Railway affords such means and you may reasonably hope to attract a considerable proportion of the export trade from Travancore, which will here find an improved outlet.

The possibility of improving the harbour and particularly the arrangements for conveying passengers and goods between ship and shore, which are at present, I understand, in a very unsatisfactory condition, are matters which will more appropriately come up for discussion with the deputation of the Landing and Shipping Dues Committee, which I am shortly going to receive.

The merchants of Tuticorin have achieved much already by their energy and perseverance in spite of many disadvantages, and I have no doubt they will be able to make some valuable suggestions to remedy the defects to which I have alluded. Exports and imports as well as passenger traffic have increased considerably since Lord Connemara's visit, and I trust that my successor may find a similar steady advance in trade and prosperity.

Gentlemen, you have alluded to your lack of picturesque sights, striking buildings and historical associations. Let me assure you that I find your thriving mills and factories, your chank and pearl fisheries, none the less alluring and interesting. I could wish that there were more towns in this Presidency which could show as much mercantile and industrial enterprise and afford such a variety of subjects of that nature to arouse the interest and engage the attention of a "Gubernatorial" visitor.

I acknowledge with gratification your assurance that the inhabitants of Tuticorin vie with the people of other places in their loyalty to the throne and I thank you heartily for the welcome you have accorded to me as the representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor and for your personal good wishes.

LANDING AND SHIPPING DUES COMMITTEE.

TUTICORIN, 29th Oct.—His Excellency the Governor's visit to Tuticorin was taken advantage of by the members of the Landing and Shipping Dues Committee of Tuticorin, to discuss certain matters affecting the port. A deputation of the Committee waited on His Excellency at the Tuticorin Club with Mr. H. D. Baddeley, the Port Officer, at their head. The important point discussed was the question of the possibility of dredging a channel from a point near the present anchorage to a basin which will have also to be dredged out between the Aripa Beacon and the lighthouse on Hare Island. The proposed basin will be 1,000 feet square. The channel which is to be 500 feet long is proposed to be dredged out to a depth of 25 to 26 feet. The bottom of the channel is mixed sand and mud, and for the purpose of dredging the same it was considered by the Committee that a sand-pump dredger would be sufficient; but Mr. Baddeley, who visited Bombay recently, thought that a sand-pump dredger could not be constructed in the Bombay Docks, and that after all it would be

advisable to get a bucket dredger to do the work. The soundings have not varied since 1879 and there has not been any movement of the sand along the coast as there has been in Madras and other places. The proposed basin will be in still water at all times of the year and ships could load and unload in still water. Afterwards, when funds become available, the channel will be continued from the basin to the shore where docks and quays will have to be constructed. But for the present the Committee thought it would meet their requirements if a channel were dredged out. The basin will be $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the shore and the length of the channel to be dredged will be $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The channel starts from near the place where a B.I.S.N. steamer went down six or seven years ago and where the remains of the wreck are still to be seen. Rupees 6,000 has been sanctioned for the current year to make experimental borings, but up to the present moment nothing has been done in that direction and it is said that it will not be possible to do anything at all till February or March next.

His Excellency, who had a chart before him, followed the discussion closely, and said, at the conclusion, that when the experimental borings had been made, and a feasible and promising scheme submitted to him, he would give every consideration to it; and then the scheme would be a legitimate object for which to make a grant from the funds of the eastern group of ports. After a short and informal discussion about port funds and harbour dues

accounts, the deputation withdrew. At 5-15 P.M. Mr. Baddeley took the Governor and party in a steam launch up to the point where the channel would start from and showed him what the course of the channel would be.

After dinner at Mr. E. H. Wallace's (Sub-Collector) residence, the party slept in the Railway saloons which were drawn up in the harbour siding.

SHOOTING AT KUMARAPURAM.

30th Oct.—At 4-30 A.M., the special train, which was in charge of Mr. H. Davies, the Traffic Manager, and Mr. C. E. Crighton, the Locomotive Superintendent, left Tuticorin for Kumarapuram station where they halted for over four hours. At this station the young Zamindar of Ettayapuram had made elaborate arrangements to give His Excellency a hearty reception. The station premises were gorgeously decorated and a camp was pitched on the side of a hill about a mile from the station. His Excellency and party, accompanied by Mr. L. E. Buckley and the young Zamindar, drove to the camp and thence went out to shoot in the Kurumalni hills.

The Zamindar led the party who were out for nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours and shot some small game. About 10 A.M. they returned to the camp, where they were entertained at breakfast by the Zamindar.

His Excellency and party left Kumarapuram by special train at 11-20 A.M., the Zamindar being

present on the platform to see the party off. At Virudupatti Mr. L. E. Buckley took leave of His Excellency and returned to Tinnevely.

AT MADURA.

Madura was reached at 2-30 P.M., and His Excellency was met by Mr. A. G. Cardew, the Collector, and Mr. H. Wilkinson, District Superintendent of Police. Here the party transferred themselves to the fast mail train and continued their journey to Madras.

THE ARRIVAL AT GUINDY.

31st Oct.—This morning the train halted for a few minutes at Guindy to enable His Excellency and staff to alight from the train and drive away to Government House, Guindy. At the platform His Excellency was met by Mr. G. W. Dance, the Collector of Chingleput, and Captain the Hon'ble R. Lygon. His Excellency here took leave of Mr. C. E. Smith, the Railway Superintendent of Police, who had accompanied him throughout the railway journey.

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THE NINTH, TENTH AND ELEVENTH
TOURS

OF

His Excellency LORD AMPHILL,
G.C.I.E.,

TO

THE DELHI DURBAR, AND TO MYSORE
AND PAMBAN.

DECEMBER 1902, AND JANUARY AND MARCH 1903.

Extracts from the "Madras Mail," etc.

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1903.

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NINTH TOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR.

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ACCOUNT OF THE NINTH TOUR,
December 1902 and January 1903.

In response to the invitation of His Excellency the Viceroy to attend the Durbar held at Delhi on the 1st of January 1903 for celebrating the coronation of His Majesty the King Emperor, EDWARD VII, His Excellency the Lord Ampthill, G.C.I.E., accompanied by the members of his family and the officers of his staff noted below, left Madras by special train at 3-30 P.M. on Monday the 22nd December 1902 and reached the Delhi Central Camp Station at about 12 noon on Thursday 25th December. At the station His Excellency was met by Mr. Gordon Walker, I.C.S., Commissioner of Delhi, Major W. M. Campbell, Military Secretary, who had gone to Delhi in advance to complete the arrangements of His Excellency's Camp, Mr. A. R. Knapp, I.C.S., the officer in charge of the Madras Provincial Camp, and Major Molesworth, I.M.S., His Excellency's Surgeon in medical charge of His Excellency's Camp. Their Excellencies drove to the camp escorted by a detachment of His Excellency's Body Guard which had reached Delhi some days in advance. The next day the European guests of His Excellency arrived by special train from Madras.

The party that accompanied His Excellency to Delhi was as follows:—Her Excellency the Lady Ampthill, C.I., Emily Lady Ampthill, Hon'ble Constance Russell and Hon'ble Romola Russell, Lady Mary Lygon, Lady Agnes Lygon, Hon'ble Violet Douglas Pennant, Mrs. Alan Daly, Major Hon'ble A. Russell, Hon'ble Theo. Russell, The Right Rev. Henry Whitehead, Bishop of Madras, Mr. L. M. Wynch, Esq., I.C.S., Private Secretary, and Captains R. D'A. Fife, Hon'ble R. Lygon, and R. L. Mathews, Aides-de-Camp.

The following is a complete list of the private and official guests entertained by Their Excellencies at Delhi:—

Guests.

Ampthill, Emily Lady.
 Arbuthnot, Sir Geo., Lady and Miss.
 Atkinson, I.C.S., The Hon'ble Mr. J. N. and Mrs.
 Benson, I.C.S.; The Hon'ble Mr. Justice R. S. and Mrs.
 Daly, Mrs. Alan.
 Douglas Pennant, Hon'ble Violet.
 Forbes, I.C.S., The Hon'ble Mr. G. S.
 Gordon-Gilmour, C.B., D.S.O., Colonel R. G. and Lady Susan.
 Hodgson, Mr. H. P.
 Lygon, Lady Mary.
 Lygon, Lady Agnes.
 Madras, The Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of.
 Molesworth, Mrs.
 Moore, *Kt.*, C.I.E., Lieutenant-Colonel The Hon'ble Sir G. M. J.

Price, K.C.S.I., Sir J. F.
 Russell, Hon'ble Constance.
 Russell, Hon'ble Romola.
 Russell, Major The Hon'ble Aliak.
 Russell, Hon'ble Theo.
 Shelley, Major A. D. G.
 Sim, C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon'ble Mr. H. A.
 Sinclair, C.S.I., Surgeon-General D.
 Spring, C.I.E., The Hon'ble Mr. F. J. E.
 Strong, Captain N. B. G.
 Stuart, The Hon'ble Mr. G. H. and Mrs.
 Stuart, I.C.S., Mr. H. A.
 Thomson, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon'ble Mr. J., Mrs. and Miss.
 Thurston, Mr. E.
 White, The Hon'ble Sir C. A.
 Winterbotham, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon'ble Sir H. M., Mrs. and Miss.

Staff.

L. M. Wynch, Esq., I.C.S., Private Secretary.
 Major W. M. Campbell, The Black Watch, Military Secretary.
 Captain R. D'A. Fife, Yorkshire Regiment, Aide-de-Camp.
 Captain R. H. Dick Cunyngham, 21st Lancers, Aide-de-Camp.
 Captain Hon'ble Robert Lygon, Grenadier Guards, Extra Aide-de-Camp.
 Captain H. M. Martin, Somersetshire Light Infantry, Extra Aide-de-Camp.
 Captain R. L. Matthews, Monmouthshire Engineers, Extra Aide-de-Camp.
 Captain E. K. Molesworth, R. E., Extra Aide-de-Camp.

Major W. Molesworth, I.M.S., Surgeon to His Excellency.

Major F. C. Logan-Horne, Commanding His Excellency's Body Guard.

Captain H. C. Oakes, Adjutant, His Excellency's Body Guard.

Subadar-Major Shaikh Farid Bahadur, 1st Madras Lancers, Native Aide-de-Camp.

The principal events during Their Excellencies' stay at Delhi are detailed in the following diary:—

Friday, 26th December 1902.—Arrival of European official guests from Madras.

Saturday, 27th December 1902.—Garden Party to the Native gentlemen invited as guests of the Government.

Sunday, 28th December 1902.—Their Excellencies attended divine service conducted by the Metropolitan in the Shamiana at the Viceroy's Camp.

Monday, 29th December 1902.—State arrival of His Excellency the Viceroy and His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught.

Their Excellencies entertained a party of sixty-eight at dinner including His Excellency Lord Northcote, Governor of Bombay, Lady Northcote, His Honour Sir James LaTouche, Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh and Lady LaTouche.

Tuesday, 30th December 1902.—Their Excellencies attended the opening of the Indian Arts Exhibition.

Their Excellencies entertained a party of seventy-one at dinner including His Honour Sir Charles Rivaz, Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, Lady Rivaz, and His Honour Mr. James Bourdillon, Officiating Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

Wednesday, 31st December 1902.—Visit of General Surawonga, representative of Siam at the Durbar. Visit of His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India. Visit of His Excellency the Governor-General of Portuguese India. Visit of His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir and Jammu.

Their Excellencies entertained a party of seventy-one at dinner including His Excellency the Viceroy, Her Excellency the Lady Curzon, His Excellency General Viscount Kitchener of Kartoum and the Vaal, Commander-in-Chief in India, and Sir George Wolseley, Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces, Madras.

Thursday, 1st January 1903.—Their Excellencies attended the Durbar, and the State dinner at His Excellency the Viceroy's Camp.

Friday, 2nd January 1903.—Visit of His Highness the Maharaja of Kapurthala. Their Excellencies dined with His Excellency Lord Northcote, Governor of Bombay.

Saturday, 3rd January 1903.—Visit of His Honour Sir James LaTouche, Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. Visit of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore. Visit of His Highness the Raja of Cochin. Return visit to His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore. Assault-at-Arms. Investiture.

Sunday, 4th January 1903.—Church service.

Their Excellencies entertained a party of sixty-nine at dinner, including His Honour Sir Frederick Fryer, Lieutenant-Governor of Burma and Lady Fryer.

Monday, 5th January 1903.—Review of Native Chiefs' Retainers. Assault-at-Arms. Their Excellencies dined with Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Curzon. Death of the Prince of Arcot.

Tuesday, 6th January 1903.—Return visit to His Highness the Raja of Cochin and the Maharaja of Kapurthala. State ball.

Wednesday, 7th January 1903.—Masonic meeting.

Thursday, 8th January 1903.—Review of troops.

Their Excellencies entertained a party of seventy-seven at dinner including His Royal Highness The Duke of Connaught, Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Connaught, and His Royal Highness The Grand Duke of Hesse.

Friday, 9th January 1903.—Polo, final match, and evening party to the Native Chiefs at the Viceroy's Camp. Their Excellencies dined with Sir Charles Rivaz and Lady Rivaz.

Saturday, 10th January 1903.—State departure of His Excellency the Viceroy and His Royal Highness The Duke of Connaught

Detailed accounts of the several State functions will be found in the official history of the Durbar: they are not therefore given here.

Sunday, 11th January 1903.—His Excellency accompanied by Her Excellency the Lady Ampthill, C.I., Emily Lady Ampthill, Hon'ble Constance Russell, Hon'ble Romola Russell, Lady Susan Gordon-Gilmour, Lady Mary Lygon, Lady Agnes Lygon, Major Hon'ble A. Russell, Hon'ble Theo. Russell, Mr. L. M. Wynch, Private Secretary, Major W. M. Campbell, Military Secretary, Major and Mrs. Molesworth, and Captains Fife, Hon'ble R. Lygon, R. L. Matthews, and Dick Cunyngham, Aides-de-Camp, left Delhi at 9-30 A.M., by special train, and made a halt of about seven hours at Agra in the afternoon to see the Taj Mahal, for which arrangements had been kindly made by Mr. Cobb, the Collector of Agra. After dining at the Railway Station,

and paying another visit to the Taj by moonlight, Their Excellencies resumed their journey to Madras and arrived at the Central Station at 9 P.M. on Wednesday the 14th January, after an absence of about twenty-three days. The party then drove to Government House, Madras, direct. The special containing the remaining guests arrived at Madras at about 7 A.M. on Thursday the 15th January, having left Delhi at 9-30 P.M. on Sunday the 11th January.

TENTH TOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

His Excellency The GOVERNOR.

Her Excellency The Lady AMPHILL, C.I.

L. M. WYNCH, Esq., I.C.S., *Private Secretary.*

Major W. M. CAMPBELL, *Military Secretary.*

Major G. G. GIFFARD, I.M.S., *Surgeon.*

Captain R. D'A. FIFE, *Aide-de-Camp.*

Captain R. L. MATTHEWS, *Aide-de-Camp.*

DETAILED

Month and Date	Day.	Arr. or Dep.	Station.	Time.	
				A.M.	P.M.
1903.					
Mar 15	Sunday ..	Dep.	Madras ..	..	10-0
„ 16	Monday ..	Arr.	Bowringpet ..	6- 0	..
		Dep.	Do. ..	6-40	..
		Arr.	Champion ..	7-30	..
		Dep.	Do. ..	..	2-45
		Arr.	Bangalore Cantt. ..	..	5-15
„ 17	Tuesday ..	Dep.*	Bangalore City. ..	..	11-0
„ 18	Wednesday.	Arr.	Maddur ..	About 3-0	..
		Dep.	Do. ..	7-0	..
		Arr.	Sivasamudram..	A.M.	..
		Dep.	Do. ..	..	P.M.
		Arr.	Maddur ..	..	P.M.
		Dep.	Do. ..	..	About 10-0

* Her Excellency, Hon'ble Constance Russell and two members of Rocks on the 19th morning.

PROGRAMME.

Functions and Remarks.
By M.R.C. Special train; departure private.
Chota Hazri.
Arrival private. His Excellency will be met by the Diwan, who will welcome His Excellency on behalf of His Highness, the Resident, the Secretary, Geological Department, and the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District. His Excellency and party will inspect the surface works. Late Breakfast at Major Hancock's bungalow at about 11 A.M.
By M.R.C. Special train; departure private.
Arrival private. His Excellency will be met by the First Assistant Resident, the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police, C. & M. Station.
By S.M.R.; departure private.
Sleep in carriages.
Drive.
Breakfast at 10-30 A.M. See the Electric Works.
Drive.
Return in time for dinner.
By S.M.R. Special train. The Special will stop at French Rocks until the morning when Her Excellency's carriage arriving from Bangalore will be attached to the Special.

the staff remained at Bangalore and joined His Excellency at French

DETAILED

Month and Date.	Day.	Arr. or Dep.	Station.	Time.	
				A.M.	P.M.
1903.					
Mar. 19	Thursday ..	Arr.	Mysore ..	8-0	..
„ 20	Friday ..	..	At Mysore ..	..	..
„ 21	Saturday ..	Dep.	Mysore ..	About 6-0	..
„ 22	Sunday	Arr.	Shooting Camp.	A.M.	..
„ 23	Monday	..	At Shooting Camp.	..	..
„ 24	Tuesday ..	Dep.	Shooting Camp.	..	..
		Arr.	Mysore ..	..	..
		Dep.	Do. ..	NOON 12	..
		Arr.	Bangalore City.	..	6-10
		Dep.	Do. Cantt.	..	10-15
„ 25	Wednesday.	Arr.	Madras ..	7-20	..

PROGRAMME—cont.

Functions and Remarks.
Arrival public. His Highness the Maharaja pays a visit to His Excellency at 12 noon and His Excellency returns the visit at 5 P.M. English mail closes here at or before 9 A.M.
His Excellency and party pay a visit to Seringapatam in the afternoon.
Her Excellency returns to Bangalore on the morning of the 22nd.
At Heggadevankot.
By S.M.R. Special ; departure private.
Arrival private.
By M.R.C. Special ; departure private.
Arrival private.

ACCOUNT OF THE TENTH TOUR, *March 1903.*

Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Ampthill and Staff left by special train at 10 p.m. on the 15th March for the Mysore Province on a visit to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

AT KOLAR GOLD FIELD.

KOLAR GOLD FIELD, 16th March.—His Excellency the Governor arrived at the Gold Field punctually at 7-30 A.M., and was met by Sir Donald Robertson, Resident in Mysore, Sir P. N. Krishna Murti, Diwan of Mysore, Major Hancock, Mr. F. C. Carr, Dr. Smeeth, Sir John Lambert, and Mr. T. E. Piercey. The Kolar Detachment of the Bangalore Volunteers under the Command of Captain Bullen furnished a Guard of Honour, and there was also present a body of Punjabi mine watchmen. His Excellency inspected the Guard, among whom were many old soldiers with medals, and then drove with Sir Donald Robertson, Resident, Sir P. N. Krishna Murti, Diwan, and the Secretary, Geological Department, and other Mining Officials, to see the crushers, stamps, tailing, sifting and washing processes. The Cyanide processes were minutely inspected and the

electrical power house with the "stepping up" and "stepping down" of the current were elaborately and carefully explained to His Excellency. The whole assay work was carefully demonstrated from the powdered rock stage to the production of pure gold. A delicate chemical balance capable of weighing $\frac{1}{100000}$ grain was explained. The smelting furnace, and the whole process of casting gold ingots—each worth £2,500—were then shown. The Gold Field was in holiday attire for the occasion, triumphal arches and decorations being everywhere visible. The mine head and shaft were examined and explained, but His Excellency did not descend into the mine.

There was a breakfast given at Major Hancock's bungalow at which an amusing speech was made by Major Hancock, to which His Excellency made a graceful and humorous reply.

AT BANGALORE.

BANGALORE, 16th March.—His Excellency left the Gold Field at 2-45 P.M. and arrived at Bangalore at 5-15 P.M. Their Excellencies were met on the platform by Sir James Wolfe Murray, Commanding the Bangalore District, Mr. Lloyd, I.C.S., District Magistrate of Bangalore, Mr. Moss King, I.C.S., Assistant Resident, and a good many other prominent residents of the station. His Excellency and party then drove to the Residency direct. There was a State dinner at the Residency at which General Sir

James Wolfe Murray and the principal officers of the Garrison were present.

A QUIET DAY.

BANGALORE, 17th March.—The Gubernatorial party spent a quiet day at the Residency to-day.

A VISIT TO THE LAL BAGH.

Their Excellencies visited the Lal Bagh with Sir Donald Robertson, the Resident, in the cool of the evening.

AT SIVASAMUDRAM.

THE CAUVERY POWER SCHEME.

MYSORE, 19th March.—The Governor accompanied by the Hon'ble Sir Donald Robertson, K.C.S.I., Resident, Major Giffard, I.M.S., Surgeon, and Captain R. L. Matthews, Aide-de-Camp, left Bangalore by special train at 11-20 P.M., on the 17th and halted at Muddur early next morning. They arrived at Sivasamudram after a drive of 30 miles at 8 o'clock. The road was kept by the Police and the village watchmen. Muddur was *en fête* with flags and arches. In Malvalli town three large arches of bamboo and coloured cloth were put up, and red, green and yellow garlands were presented. All along the road there were poles bright with flags and arches of flags and *thoranams*. On arrival, breakfast was served at the Sivasamudram Public Works Department inspection bungalow. At about 1 P.M. the party started on an inspection. The descent

of the cliff by a wire rope way is a sensation to the new comer on account of an alarming 400 feet drop. A derailment of an ascending car stopped the staff and party half way down, but this was soon put right. The Turbine-house and the current generating dynamos were minutely inspected by the Governor and were explained to His Excellency by the American Specialist, Mr. Gibbs, and Captain Traill, R.E. The party went up again to the Transformer House, similar to the one at Kolar. The current here is "stepped up" from 22,000 volts to 30,000 for transmission. Mr. Gibbs explained all the mysteries of voltage, ampereage, Ohms, Watts, horse-power, etc. The inspection was over at 2-30 and after a rest and refreshments at 3-30 P.M., a start was made in carriages to the Falls which presented a very beautiful view from a projecting spur. Then a halt was made to see the river water used for power. The party then drove to the old stone bridge made of uncemented blocks which has stood the floods of 100 years. The drive back to Muddur took three hours. Mr. Gibbs and Captain Traill, and the Traffic Manager, Mr. Mercer, stayed to dinner which was served in camp near the station. The special train started at 10-30 P.M. Lady Amptill's carriages arriving by mail train from Bangalore, were attached to the special at French Rocks at 6 A.M. in the morning.

THE ARRIVAL AT MYSORE.

The Governor and party arrived at Mysore at 8 A.M., the arrival being public and full dress being

worn for the occasion. The Railway Station was ablaze with colour and the streets were lined with troops. Near the station were Military Bands, elephants, camels and the Mysore State Insignia. On the platform the Resident formally introduced to His Excellency the Diwan, Lieutenant-Colonel Desraj Urs and the Sirdars, the Members of Council and the Municipal Councillors.

The party drove to Government House, the first carriage containing the Governor, the Resident, Major Campbell and Captain Fife, Aide-de-Camp; the second Lady Amptill, the Hon'ble Constance Russell, Mr. Maconochie and Captain Matthews; and the third Messrs. Moss King, Wynch and Major Giffard. Government House was reached after a long drive through the streets of the town.

THE DURBAR.

At noon Mr. Moss King and Captain Fife were deputed to the Palace to escort His Highness the Maharaja to the Durbar, where he paid his State visit to His Excellency, at which full dress was worn. Chairs were arranged in a semi-circle, with the Mysore officials on the right and the Staff of the Governor of Madras on the left.

THE PRESENTATIONS.

The Resident presented in turn to the Governor the Diwan, the two Members of Council (Mr. V. P. Madhava Row and Mr. C. Srinivasa Iyengar), Lieutenant-Colonel Desraj Urs, Mr. Lakshmi Kantaraj Urs, the Rana Sahib of Wanna, and Mr.

Aga Jan. The Maharaja then received attar and pan as did all the members of his suite. The proceedings terminated with the Guard of Honour presenting arms and the Band playing the Mysore National Anthem.

RETURN VISIT TO THE MAHARAJA.

At 5 P.M., the Governor and Staff, in full dress, paid a visit to His Highness at the Durbar Hall in the Fort. The ceremony was similar to that of the morning and some more presentations were made which included the Principal of the Maharaja's College, the Physician to His Highness, the District Judge and others.

A STATE BANQUET.

There was a State Banquet at Government House at 8 P.M.

AT MYSORE.

MYSORE, 20th March.—This morning His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by the Resident and Staff, drove through the town to His Highness the Maharaja's stables, where over 100 horses were inspected.

They then walked to the Zoological Gardens, the Superintendent of the gardens conducting the party round. His Excellency was much interested in seeing five fine tigers in one cage. The party then drove to the Palace.

The plans and structural designs of the new Palace were explained to the Governor by Mr.

Raghava Naidu, Superintendent of Works. The new wing of the Palace is to cost some Rs. 25 lakhs and is rapidly rising. His Excellency closely inspected the stone carving in every stage. The wood, stone and ivory in-laying works were seen in all their stages, and the massive silver repoussé panels for the hall doors were shown to the party.

The carved stone pedestal for the King's statue, to be erected on the Mount Road, Madras, which is being made here, is nearly ready.

This evening the Governor and party drove to Seringapatam and inspected Tippu's tomb, the Dariah Daulat Bagh, the Fort, the dungeons, the breach, etc. The Resident explained their history and pointed out the places of interest.

Mysore town was again illuminated and also the outskirts of the city for more than a mile round.

At the banquet at Government House, the Resident introduced the principal European residents to His Excellency.

After drinking the King's health, the Resident proposed the Governor's health in a short speech, emphasising the cordial relations existing between Mysore and the great Southern Presidency.

His Excellency replied, hoping that these relations might long continue and be cemented by a close personal friendship between the respective rulers.

The town was illuminated. The Maharaja did not appear at the banquet.

Mysore, 21st March.—The Governor left this morning with Major Campbell, and Captains Fife and Matthews for the shooting Camp.

LADY AMPHILL'S RETURN TO
BANGALORE.

Her Excellency, the Resident, Mr. Wynch and Major Giffard, I.M.S., left for Bangalore this evening, Mr. Wynch returning to Madras from Bangalore on the 24th, a day in advance of His Excellency.

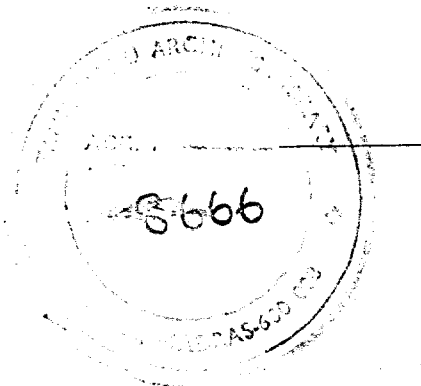
MADRAS, 25th March.—Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Ampthill returned to Madras by special train from Bangalore at 7-30 this morning. The arrival was private. A salute of 17 guns was fired by the Military authorities. His Excellency unfortunately got no sport at the Shikar Camp near Mysore, though Captain Fife managed to shoot a panther. No other game was seen.

ELEVENTH TOUR OF HIS EXCEL-
LENCY THE GOVERNOR.

The party accompanying His Excellency was as follows:—

L. M. WYNCH, Esq., I.C.S., *Private Secretary.*

Captain the Hon'ble R. LYGON, *Aide-de-Camp.*



DETAILED

Month and Date.	Day of the Week.	Arr. or Dep.	Station.
1903.			
March 29 ..	Sunday ..	Dep.	Madras
„ 30 ..	Monday ..	Arr.	Madura J.
		Dep.	Do.
		Arr.	Mandapam
„ 31 ..	Tuesday ..	Dep.	Do.
		Arr.	Port Ampthill ..
		Dep.	Do.
		Arr.	Pámban
		Dep.	Do.
		Arr.	Mandapam
April 1 ..	Wednesday ..	Dep.	Do.
		Arr.	Madura J.
		Dep.	Do.
„ 2 ..	Thursday ..	Arr.	Madras

N.B.— All arrivals and departures above were private.

PROGRAMME.

Time.		Remarks.
A.M.	P.M.	
..	6-15	By Fast Mail, South Indian Railway.
11-0	..	
..	12-15	By South Indian Railway Special.
..	5-0	
7-0	..	By launch.
8-30	..	
9-0	..	
10-30	..	
..	4-0	By launch.
..	P.M.	
9-35	..	By South Indian Railway Special.
..	2-35	
..	3-0	By South Indian Railway Fast Mail.
7-45	..	

ACCOUNT OF THE ELEVENTH TOUR,

March and April 1903.

THE DEPARTURE FROM MADRAS.

MADRAS, 30th March.—His Excellency Lord Ampthill accompanied by Mr. L. M. Wynch, Private Secretary, and Captain the Hon'ble R. Lygon, Aide-de-Camp, left Madras last night by the South Indian Railway for Pámban. The departure was private. Mr. J. Twigg, Collector of Madras, and Mr. C. H. Travers, Acting Commissioner of Police, were present on the platform, and Mr. F. Fawcett, Superintendent, Government Railway Police, also accompanied the party. A large body of head constables belonging to the Railway Police, who are now attending the Ambulance class in Madras, paraded on the platform under Inspector Jay Singh. The usual salute announcing His Excellency's departure was fired by the Royal Garrison Artillery this morning.

THE PÁMBAN PROJECT.

INSPECTION OF THE SITE.

MANDAPAM, 31st March.—His Excellency the Governor accompanied by Mr. L. M. Wynch,

I.C.S., Private Secretary, and Captain the Hon'ble R. Lygon, Aide-de-Camp, arrived here from Madras yesterday evening. The party reached Madura at 11 A.M. by the fast mail train and was joined by Mr. C. G. Todhunter, the Collector of Madura, Major A. D. G. Shelley, R.E., Agent and Manager of the South Indian Railway, Mr. T. Michell, Engineer-in-Chief, Madura-Pámban Railway, Mr. H. F. Wilkinson, District Superintendent of Police, Madura, and Mr. R. Sanger, District Traffic Superintendent. After breakfast at the station, His Excellency and party entered a special train and left for Pámban a little after 12 noon. Lunch was served for the party in the special train which reached Mandapam, the terminal station of this new and important branch line at 5 P.M. Here His Excellency was met at the station by Mr. J. R. Huggins, Head Assistant Magistrate of the Ramnad Division, Rajarajaswara Dorai Rajah and his brother, the minor sons of the Rajah of Ramnad, Mr. C. K. Subramaniya Iyer, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mr. Kasim Mahomed Marakayar and Mr. G. Govinda Rao, the Agent of the Lessees of the Ramnad Zamindari. After a few words with those present, the party adjourned to the Railway Rest-house which had been fitted up in excellent style for His Excellency's accommodation during his short stay here. The other members who formed the party were all accommodated in tents pitched near the rest-house, the camp commanding the best situation on the beach, facing the Gulf of Manaar.

TURTLE-TURNING ON HARE ISLAND.

They next proceeded on a trip in the steam launch *Rameswaram*, to Hare Island, about six miles to the south-west of Mandapam. This island belongs to Mr. Kasim Mahomed Marakayar, a big merchant and landholder of Mandapam, who carries on cattle breeding and sheep-rearing there. It is called *Musal* Island by the natives, because of the large number of hares which are to be found there. Turtles abound all round the island and grow to prodigious size, and turtle-turning affords an amusing pastime to those who travel thither. His Excellency's visit was mainly to witness this amusing spectacle, and it proved a complete success. Female turtles generally come out on land during moon-light nights to lay eggs. Before they can get back into the sea they are intercepted and turned on to their backs. Once they are so turned they present an absolutely helpless appearance and kick their legs about, throwing up sand all around. Some turtles had been caught and kept for the purpose of being exhibited to His Excellency. They were turned on their backs and eventually let go into the water. The party had tea on the island in a tent which had been pitched there. An interesting fact in connection with Hare Island is that several years ago Captain Dundas Taylor of the Indian Marine Department, who wrote many interesting papers on these small Islands in the Gulf, advocated the cutting of a ship canal across the mainland which should begin with its mouth opposite this island. He argued that

there was deep and good anchorage there and that a ship canal might with success be dug across to Muttupet Port on the coast of the Bay. Captain Dundas Taylor is said to have written in prophetic vein about several projects and proposals concerning the potentialities of this part of the sea coast; many of which are reported to have been realised. For one thing he is said to have advocated the construction of a lighthouse on Minicoy Island, and it has now been in existence for years. Mr. Kasim Mahomed Marakayar, the proprietor of Hare Island, accompanied His Excellency and showed him everything that was of interest to be seen on his seagirt little estate. The party returned to camp at 9 P.M., late for dinner, but the interesting character of the visit compensated in a measure for the lateness of the dinner.

THE PROPOSED SHIP CANAL.

At 7 A.M. to-day Mr. Mansfield, the local Agent of the Madura Company, was ready with his steam launch, which had been placed at His Excellency's disposal at the temporary jetty erected by the Railway authorities in front of the camp. At 8 A.M. His Excellency accompanied by Mr. Wynch, Captain the Hon'ble R. Lygon, Mr. C. G. Todhunter, Major A. D. G. Shelley, Mr. T. Michell, Captain J. Batt, the Port Officer, and Mr. J. R. Huggins went on board and steamed down the southern coast of the Pámban Island up to Kundugal Point—whence the proposed ship canal is to be dug across the land connecting the Gulf of Manaar on the south with

the Bay of Bengal on the north. Kundugal Point—which, from the moment of His Excellency's visit to it, has been happily named Port Amphyll—was marked by a triumphal arch erected on the spot; and the southern approach to the proposed canal, was marked out with flags and buoys for His Excellency's inspection. At Port Amphyll Mr. J. T. Lewis, the Executive Engineer of the South Indian Railway, in immediate charge of the proposed scheme, came on board the boat with plans and drawings of the canal which he, in company with Mr. Michell, explained in great detail to His Excellency who followed them with keen interest. The launch's head was then turned to proceed north by the present Pámban passage along the coast to Rámésvaram.

PÁMBAN.

In connection with Pámban, the following is a short account of the island taken from the Handbook to the Ports on the Coast of India between Calcutta and Bombay, by Lieutenant H. S. Brown, R.N.R., a Port Officer in the Madras Marine Department:—

“Pámban takes its name from the vernacular word *pambu*, a snake, said to be named from the character of the channel. In early days this gap was probably bridged by a continuous isthmus; and it is related in the ancient records preserved in the temple of Rámésvaram, that in the year 1480 a violent storm breached the isthmus and that despite efforts to restore the connection, subsequent storms

rendered the breach permanent. The passage was formerly impracticable for ships, being obstructed by two parallel ridges of rock about 140 yards apart. Sir Arthur Cotton surveyed it in 1822 and the operations for deepening and widening the channel commenced in 1838 and have been continued ever since. In 1844 the channel was deepened to 8 feet at low water, and two small gunboats passed through. Ten years later the uniform depth was $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet at low water springs, and the total expenditure up to that time was over £32,000 sterling. The main channel, through the longer reefs of rocks, has now been carried to a minimum depth of 14 feet. Its length is 4,232 feet with a width of 80 feet. There is a second passage to the south of the main one, called Kelkari passage, which is 2,100 feet long and 160 feet wide, and has been dredged through a sand bank to the depth of 12 feet.

“The traffic passing by the Pámban passage is mostly of a coasting nature, between Ceylon and the mainland. The small coasting steamers of the British India and Ceylon Steamship Companies use the Pass weekly, and hundreds of native craft of all rigs and sizes pass through to and from Chittagong, Burma and East Coast parts, to the ports in Malabar and South Canara on the West Coast.”

HISTORY OF THE CANAL PROJECT.

The present proposal as already mentioned is to dig a ship canal across the Island of Pámban, so as to give improved facilities in the way of harbour

accommodation and bring about improvement of the navigation generally round the south of India. Up to the present time, the only means of access from the Gulf of Manaar to Palk Bay is through the Pámban Pass which is an artificial channel cut through the reef, popularly known as Ramien's anicut, for about 150 feet in width, which has been deepened to about 13 feet since 1837; but from its tortuous character, liability to silt up from cross currents and from the strong through currents at the Pass caused by wind and tide, the Pass is not suitable for a large ship canal. Several schemes for a ship canal to connect the Gulf with the Bay were proposed at long intervals in previous years. That of Captain A. Dundas Taylor, mentioned in connection with Háre Island, was abandoned on account of its prohibitive cost and the scheme was never seriously considered. The next proposal was by Mr. Townshend, of Plymouth, to deepen the present channel for the passage of large vessels at a cost of £1,386,000, but the scheme was rejected as outside practical considerations on account of its exposure to cross currents and as affording no possibility of erecting wharves alongside for ships to coal or to take in and discharge cargo. In 1862, a Parliamentary Committee was appointed at the request of Sir J. D. Elphinstone, *Bart.*, to report on the site for a canal across the Island of Rámésvaram and it recommended one which was almost identical with that selected afterwards by Mr. Stoddart, Chief Assistant to the Surveyor-General in Ceylon,

situated two miles east of Pámban and crossing the island in a straight northerly direction. In the following year Sir William Denison, R.E., Acting Governor of Madras, recommended, as a result of his visit to Pámban, a site about a mile further east from that recommended by the Committee. In 1872 Mr. George Robertson, Harbour Engineer for India, visited Pámban and selected a new site about a mile from Pámban, with its southern entrance well within the protection of the Cureuddy and Shingle Islands leaving the northern entrance quite unprotected. Mr. Robertson's scheme was, of course, not adopted, but one point in his report is of particular interest, viz., the statement: "It is rather remarkable to think that Rámésvaram, a barren island, not connected with Ceylon or India by road or rail, will be the only point in the peninsula of India from Calcutta to Karachi (not excepting Bombay in its present want of ship accommodation), where a large vessel will be able to land and discharge her cargo direct or to a quay without the intervention of cargo boats." Subsequently, two other schemes were proposed, but were never taken into serious consideration with the object of putting their practicability to the test. The successful completion recently achieved, of the Madura-Pámban Railway, has again brought into prominence the question of a ship canal across the island which has engaged the minds of Engineering and Marine experts for nearly a century. It has been left to Mr. T. Michell, the Engineer-in-Chief, under whose able personal

direction the Madura-Pámban line was constructed, to tackle this great problem of the ship canal again.

THE PROPOSED SCHEME.

The present scheme for which Mr. Michell is mainly responsible deals with the extension of the new Madura-Pámban line to Rámésvaram and the opening of a canal across the island. It is proposed to carry the railway to Pámban over the reef which extends in a straight line from Toni Turai, on the west, to Pámban, on the east. But this is in a large measure associated with and dependent on the canal scheme.

The proposed canal will run in a north-easterly direction from a point half a mile to the west of the East Port beacon, or about 4 miles from the west coast of Pámban. The length of it will be about $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles or about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles including its approaches on the north and south. Its bottom width will be 80 feet, the same as the width of the Suez Canal, the depth being 30 feet. At the southern entrance to the canal on the western side, it is proposed to construct a wharf wall 2,500 feet in length alongside of which vessels will be enabled to come and discharge cargo as well as receive it. At present it is proposed to provide berths for five vessels, but if in future there were to be any larger demand for additional berths, these could be easily met by widening the canal and extending the wharf wall. About half way up the canal, on the same side as the wharf wall, provision will be made for a coal depot in which

can be stocked 50,000 tons of coal. Opposite the coal depot it is proposed to widen the canal so as to form a turning basin to allow of vessels being turned by warps. At each end of the canal moles will be built in order to keep the entrance free from sand, and lights will be put at the end of the moles so as to guide vessels coming into the canal. It is proposed to put a rubble bank right across the reef and block up the present channel connecting Palk Straits with the Gulf of Manaar, only providing a small channel at the eastern end of the reef near Pámban to enable small country boats to go from one sea to the other. This channel will be spanned by a bridge of 20 feet under which boats can pass by lowering their masts. At Pámban there will be a flag station. The line will then run from Pámban in an easterly direction towards the village of Tangachimadam between two to three miles from Pámban on the western bank of the canal. At the southern end of the canal a station will be erected for the accommodation of passenger traffic, cooly traffic and goods. This station will be for the accommodation of the steamboat which it is proposed to ply daily between the new harbour and Ceylon, so that passengers will be able to step direct from the wharf on to the ship and *vice versa* without having to undergo inconveniences experienced in landing at ports like Tuticorin. Above, to the north of the station, there will be a large goods station which will be connected with Tangachimadam and the goods yard will be built with electric travelling cranes for the purpose of transferring

cargo from ship to wagons direct. It is proposed that this goods yard should have three large warehouses and one bonded warehouse and also be fitted up with the most modern scientific appliances, all the machinery being worked by electricity. Immediately to the north of this will be the coal depot as already stated. The line will proceed from Tangachimadam by crossing the proposed ship canal over a swing bridge and go direct to the town of Rámésvaram where special accommodation will be provided for pilgrim traffic. Where the railway crosses the canal, it is proposed to establish a ferry similar to that at El Kantara on the Suez Canal.

THE ADVANTAGES OF THE PROJECT.

The construction of the proposed ship canal across the island will have most far-reaching effects on the trade of South India and on the navigation round the south of India. It is hoped, in fact it can with confidence be anticipated that, when the canal is completed, all vessels plying between the ports of Madras, Calcutta and Rangoon and all ports on the West trading with Madras, Calcutta and Burma, will go through the canal, thereby saving 200 or 300 miles of journey. The islands of Rámésvaram and Manaar with the shallows of Adam's Bridge and the Pámban reef which intervene, offer an effective barrier between India and Ceylon, and block out the direct route for all shipping between Europe and the ports in the Bay of Bengal. Thus large vessels are forced to make a

long detour round the southern end of Ceylon. The direct route, which is blocked at present, has the great advantage of being a sheltered one, and also of being free from uncertain currents, while the journey round Ceylon under existing conditions has, besides being unsheltered, always been a comparatively stormy one, attended by all the inconveniences and dangers of uncertain currents. Another great advantage of the proposed canal is that it will enable vessels proceeding to the ports of Madras, Calcutta and Rangoon to coal at a minimum cost, as there will be no charges for lighterage, as in the case of Colombo and Port Said. Besides, the coaling can be done from the wharf in an absolutely protected position instead of it being done under more or less exposed conditions as in nearly all East India ports. It is expected that the receipts from the canal and harbour traffic will pay a very handsome dividend on the outlay, whatever that works out to be.

When the Indo-Ceylon Railways are linked up, as they may be in the remote future as part of an Imperial scheme, Pámban will play a most prominent part as an important and big naval base in the east. But even as it is, when the proposed ship canal is carried out, Pámban will prove to be a very popular port with vessels on account of the many facilities which it will offer to them. It will in every way be a superior and safe port for the imports and exports of Southern India. The saving of distance to steamers now having to call

at Colombo for coal, but coaling at the proposed canal when it is completed, will be, in the case of vessels to Madras 350 knots, to Calcutta 250 knots and to Rangoon 115 knots, while to steamers not now calling at Colombo the saving will be 40 knots less all round in the case of these ports. To steamers coming from Bombay or Karachi to Madras, Calcutta or Rangoon, the saving of distance will be in the case of steamers having to call at Colombo for coal 365, 265 and 130 knots, respectively, while in the case of those not calling at Colombo, it will be 30 knots less than in the previous case, viz., 335, 235 and 100 knots, respectively. The new harbour of Port Amphill will be well protected, for there are, in the immediate south, a series of small islands at short intervals connected by natural reefs which serve as splendid break-waters giving protection to the harbour in the south-west monsoon.

No small measure of credit is due to Mr. Michell and Mr. J. T. Lewis, the Executive Engineer, for the great trouble they have taken in thoroughly investigating every detail connected with this scheme about the feasibility and importance of which they speak with great confidence and enthusiasm -- confidence and enthusiasm which will be conceded to be thoroughly well justified when one knows that these gentlemen have left no part of the scheme unconsidered in any of its bearings, not even in the minutest detail. And when the scheme is approved and sanctioned for execution, Messrs. Michell and Lewis will have done a great deal to earn the

gratitude of South India generally and that of the mercantile and trading communities in particular. In a few days a full report on the project based on the survey of 1902 will be issued and it is expected to contain interesting and full details.

THE VISIT TO RÁMÉSARAM.

To resume the account of His Excellency's trip in the steam launch. After passing through the present Pámban Pass, the launch proceeded in a north-easterly direction along the coast to the town of Rámésaram, which was reached at 12 noon. His Excellency and party landed at a temporary jetty, improvised for the occasion, opposite to the great temple. At the head of the jetty His Excellency was met by a small body of the leading residents of Rámésaram headed by Mr. Ibrahim Sah Marakayar, whose influence and popularity in the island have won for him the proud name of "Rámésaram Marakayar." His Excellency was garlanded and welcomed under a gorgeous pandal erected in front of a mandapam, and driven over to the temple which was a short distance to the west of the jetty. Here he was received under a canopy of richly brocaded gold and silk cloth supported on silver posts, and presented with a long address which referred with considerable pride to His Excellency's visit to Rámésaram. "The inhabitants of this island in the Indian seas," said the address, "are proud to think that, while our British brethren in the Isle of Man in the British seas had the honour for the first

time in their history of welcoming our most gracious Sovereign Lord amidst them, we have had similarly for the first time in our history the honour of welcoming amidst us the Representative of that Sovereign in Your Excellency's person." The address also dwelt on the importance of Rámésaram as one of the most sacred places of pilgrimage to Hindus throughout India. No pilgrimage to Benares or any other sacred spot in India is complete in the eyes of Hindus without a pilgrimage to the confluence of the two seas—, namely, a point on the coast of the island about 18 miles to the east of Rámésaram. Almost every inch of the island and its approaches are associated with the sacred name of the great Rama, the divine hero of the Ramayana; and the history of the island therefore dates back over 5,000 years. During all this long period Hindus have held the sacred shrine of Rámésaram in the highest estimation. In fact a life career which does not include a visit to Rámésaram and Kasi, or Benares, cannot be a meritorious one to a pious Hindu. Any Hindu who in any way assists a pilgrim bound for these holy places or contributes to his comforts during his long period of pilgrimage is also considered to have done a good and holy deed worthy of imitation by others. It is this inborn feeling akin to sacred religious obligation which accounts for the hundreds of *chuttrams* or free boarding houses all over the Madura country along the route to Rámésaram. These *chuttrams* were liberally endowed, in times gone by; by charitably inclined and pious Hindu Rajahs and,

noblemen, and have for centuries been largely appreciated by millions of pilgrims. The Rajah of Ramnad is the hereditary guardian of the "Setu" or Causeway, "the Setupati" or "Lord of the Setu." According to Hindu tradition, a very remote ancestor of the present Rajah of Ramnad, at the dawn of Hindu civilisation, is said to have received at the hands of the divine Rama himself, the noble commission of keeping watch and ward over the millions of pilgrims who resort to Rámésvaram from every part of India, including far away Cashmere and Nepal. Be it said to the credit and fame of the Setupatis, that speaking generally they discharged the functions of their sacred office with religious devotion and care. The latest proof of this given by the present Setupati is the establishment of a chuttram at Mandapam railway terminus where daily several hundreds of pilgrims are treated with great kindness and consideration by a superintendent appointed by the Rajah.

THE MADURA-PÁMBAN RAILWAY.

Despite the holy character and importance of Rámésvaram of which its inhabitants are justly proud they have not been slow to recognise the value of blessings which have ever followed the wake of British rule and Western civilisation in this country. Especially loud are they in their praises when railways are extended to places of pilgrimage, as in the case of Rámésvaram. A journey to this sacred shrine which occupied as many as five days

from Madura is made now in five hours without any of the great inconveniences and discomforts which were a marked feature of the old order of things. This blessing of railway is the subject of grateful talk among the inhabitants of the island who were shut out for centuries from easy communication with other parts of India. The townspeople of Rámésvaram referred in their address "to the great pleasure it gives us to note that the great Pámban Harbour Scheme and the proposed connection of 'India's Utmost Isle' with the mainland by the Indo-Ceylon Railway, both of which schemes are fraught with unspeakable blessings to the people of India, not to speak of Imperial and Commercial interests, are to be inaugurated during Your Excellency's memorable régime and in the first few years of our Gracious Sovereign's reign, which abounds with good auguries for the prosperity of us all, as evidenced by the recently-extended gracious measures of relief in the matter of salt and income taxes by our parental Government of India."

AN ADDRESS FROM THE INHABITANTS OF RÁMÉSIVARAM.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Inhabitants of Rámésivaram, beg respectfully to approach Your Excellency with this our humble address of welcome on the occasion of Your Excellency's visit to this far-famed and sacred town of the Hindus, second only in all India to Benares. This is the first time that the inhabitants of this

island have had the honour of receiving, welcoming and paying their dutiful homage to the Ruler of this Presidency and hence this day will remain a red-letter day in the annals of this island of the Setupatis.

This visit of Your Excellency has further created a deep impression in our hearts of Your Excellency's devotion to the welfare of those over whom Providence and our Gracious Emperor have placed Your Excellency to rule, by the fact of Your Excellency having taken this trip in the hottest part of the year, regardless of your health. We need hardly say how thankful we feel for this noble sacrifice on Your Excellency's part, and the nature of this weather is the only consolation for the deprivation of the honour and pleasure we should have had of welcoming along with Your Excellency Her Excellency Lady Amptill, C.I.—a pleasure and an honour which we look forward to realise in the near future.

We, as inhabitants of this island in the Indian seas, are proud to think that, while our British brethren in the Isle of Man in the British seas had the honour for the first time in their history of welcoming our Most Gracious Sovereign Lord amidst them, we have had similarly for the first time in our history the honour of welcoming amidst us the Representative of that Sovereign in Your Excellency's person. This island has been always held by the Hindus as one of their most sacred places of pilgrimage and no pilgrimage to Benares or any other sacred spot in India is complete without the

pilgrimage to the confluence of the two seas—now eighteen miles away from here—and to the famous shrine in this town where Rama established his famous Lingam. The third *prakharam* or colonnade is one of the most celebrated structures in India and while receiving the unstinted praises of such admirers of architecture as Fergusson, this great and everlasting monument to the memory of the celebrated Setupatis of old who constructed it entirely has attracted in the past and continues to attract a very large number of visitors outside the Hindu religion and Europeans and Americans are not the least admirers of this famous colonnade.

Our town, which was the capital of the Setupatis when they were kings of Ramnad and ruled over even a part of Ceylon, has now become a village in the Ramnad Zamindari and is a union under the Taluk Board of Ramnad. With the advent of the railway, which has been happily opened for traffic during Your Excellency's régime, our town bids fair to rise in importance and our wants are in proportion greater with a view to equip ourselves suitably to the position we shall very soon occupy as residents of a small town with tens of thousands of pilgrims who congregate here on festive occasions, taking advantage of the newly-opened railway.

It gives us great pleasure also to note that the great Pámban Harbour Scheme and the proposed connection of "India's Utmost Isle" with the mainland by the Indo-Ceylon Railway, both of which schemes are fraught with unspeakable blessings to

the people of India, not to speak of Imperial and Commercial interests, are to be inaugurated during Your Excellency's memorable régime and in the first few years of our Gracious Sovereign's reign, which abounds with good auguries for the prosperity of us all, as evidenced by the recently-extended gracious measures of relief in the matter of salt and income taxes by our parental Government of India.

For the better supervision of the sanitation of the town, we beg respectfully to suggest to Your Excellency the separation of the now existing Pámban-Rámésvaram Union into two with two Chairmen, one for this town and the other for Pámban, and for the increase of the already insufficient Police force here of four men and one officer, amidst a population of five thousand, by at least half a dozen men.

We beg respectfully to bring to Your Excellency's notice that we have to travel eight miles to Pámban for suitable medical treatment. The raising of the minor dispensary here to a small hospital like the one at Pámban will have the effect of minimising untold physical troubles to both the residents and the large number of pilgrims.

It is with great regret that we beg to lay before Your Excellency that this important town has no English school of any kind and the parents have to send their children to Pámban to receive even elementary education in English. We beg respectfully to request that this great and crying want of this town may receive Your Excellency's very early and

favourable consideration and that a small English school may be established here as a memento of Your Excellency's memorable visit, as Your Excellency is the first Governor of Madras to visit this island.

A road to the "Sethu," the sacred confluence of the two arms of the sea—is a desideratum which, we beg, may be early rectified and we trust it will not be too much, if we beg Your Excellency to order the maintenance of the only road from Pámban to this place. The road is in utter disrepair and with the very heavy wheeled traffic passing on it since the opening of the railway, it has become extremely bad, we pray that, till the opening of the railway to this island, this road may be preserved in perfect condition, in the interests of the pilgrims from all parts of India visiting the island in thousands.

We feel we have detained Your Excellency too long with our address and that we have tired Your Excellency with our requests and, therefore, will now conclude with our assurances of loyalty and devotion to His Majesty the King-Emperor through Your Excellency as our Sovereign's Representative and with loyal and devoted good wishes for the long life and prosperity of Your Excellency and Her Excellency Lady Ampthill, and wishing Your Excellency a safe journey and safe return to the capital of the Presidency.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

His Excellency made the following reply:—

GENTLEMEN,—The pleasure which I naturally feel in visiting a place which is so sacred to all

Hindus, and so interesting in many other ways, as Rámésvaram, is very much enhanced by the kind manner in which you have greeted me. Indeed, you have quite embarrassed me by giving me credit where I myself am not conscious of having done anything meritorious, but I gratefully acknowledge, in this, your desire to show me your personal goodwill as well as to express your loyal devotion to His Majesty the King-Emperor by honouring his Deputy. I do not doubt that my predecessors would have envied me the facilities which I have enjoyed for travelling here and that, if the railway had existed in their time, they would, none of them, have failed to make a pilgrimage to Rámésvaram, and if, as you have said, I am the first Governor to have set foot on this island, I am quite certain that I shall not be the last, and that all my successors will make it a point of visiting Rámésvaram, not only on account of the mythological, historical, and architectural interest of the place, but also in order to show that they are unable to ignore a spot which is of such deep significance to the millions of His Majesty's subjects who embrace the Hindu religion. It is for reasons such as these that I was unwilling to postpone any further my visit to Rámésvaram, of which I was disappointed last October, or to run the risk of not finding another suitable opportunity, and, as you know, another strong reason which has induced me to come here at a season which is certainly balmy is the important project for carrying the railway

across the Straits to Pámban and for making a harbour.

The construction of the railway will, I hope, be commenced very soon, but the harbour scheme is, at present, merely in a stage of investigation, and it is not yet decided whether it will be undertaken or not. It is this fact which made me particularly anxious to see the locality for myself before I am called upon to form an opinion on the merits of the scheme and the advisability of embarking upon it.

The utility of extending the railway to Rámés-varam is unquestionable, and it will be a great boon to the thousands of pilgrims who visit this temple. I have not yet formed any decided opinion as to the merits of the harbour and canal scheme, but I have no hesitation in saying that the striking and ambitious project for connecting India with Ceylon by a railway is one which will not be taken up for some years to come. Still, whatever uncertainties there may be as regards these possible developments of railway extension, it is certain that your town will grow in importance, and that your requirements in the matter of police, sanitation, schools, hospitals, and all that appertains to a well-ordered urban community, will also increase in proportion. You are doing well to look ahead and to consider these things, and I am glad, in your address, you have mentioned your present and prospective needs. I regret I am unable to make any definite reply to your representations. As the text of your address only

reached my hands on the day I left Madras, I have, of course, had no opportunity of studying the questions which you bring to my notice, and making the necessary enquiries. It occurs to me, however, at first sight, that whatever claims you may have on the general tax-payer, you have also very strong claims on the multitudes of pilgrims who benefit by their sojourn here. Many of them, no doubt, are very poor folk, but I should imagine that the majority of them could afford to make some contribution towards the conveniences which are being provided mainly on their account, while there must be a good few wealthy pilgrims among whom one or more might be willing to give proof of their piety and philanthropy, say, by endowing a hospital. Again, is not a road to Sethu entirely for the convenience of the pilgrims, and, if so, would it not be right for the temple authorities to apply a portion of their considerable funds to keeping it in good order? I cannot doubt that the District Board would be willing to take the matter up if the temple authorities were prepared to make a substantial contribution for the convenience of their pilgrims.

Your request for a separation of the Pámban and Rámésvaram Union into two Unions, seems, on the face of it, quite reasonable, seeing that the two places are eight miles apart, but I should like to know whether, if a separation were made, the Taluk Board would not find it more difficult to provide adequate sanitary arrangements for the thousands of pilgrims out of the Union funds, and how far the

temple contributes towards these arrangements, before I could express an opinion.

As regards an English school, I am told by the Collector that there is an English Mission school at Pámban which the Taluk Board considers sufficient for present requirements.

I will talk over all these matters with the Collector and see what can be done, but, meanwhile, I must ask you to be content with my assurance that I should be glad to further your wishes and to do anything for you which is fair and reasonable and within the scope of the duties of Government. I acknowledge with gratification your assurances of loyalty and devotion to His Majesty the King-Empéror, and I note with pleasure that His Majesty's personal acts are observed by, and known to you, for you refer to the Royal visit to the Isle of Man, in order to make it the subject of a graceful but far too flattering comparison with my own visit here. In conclusion let me thank you heartily for the interesting information which you have been at pains to give me regarding this sacred place of pilgrimage. In doing so you have manifested a very justifiable and proper pride in your place of abode, and also most courteously given me information which a traveller desires to have. I have heard just now, and I hope it is true, though you do not mention it in your address, that there is an intention of completing the *gopuram* of this temple. I hope it is really the case that this magnificent temple is not going to be left in its present unfinished condition,

and that you are actually going to raise the *gopuram* to its full height. If I had had time to journey in a more leisurely manner, Lady Amptill would certainly have accompanied me here, and she greatly regretted not being able to do so. On her behalf and my own I thank you gratefully for all your good wishes.

THE VISIT TO THE TEMPLE.

His Excellency next inspected the jewels belonging to the temple and the gold and silver service of the God as well as the different varieties of *Vahanams*. He then went round the temple, which is enclosed in a quadrangle 657 feet broad and 1,000 feet long, the entrance into the quadrangle being by two tall and stately gateways about 100 feet high, one on the west and the other on the east. The temple, with its majestic towers, its vast and gloomy colonnades and its walls encrusted with carved work and statuary, is described by Mr. Ferguson, in his monumental work on Eastern Architecture, as being a grand example of the Dravidian style of architecture, in all its greatest perfection, and at the same time exemplifying all its characteristic defects of design. The best and the most ancient part of the sacred edifice is built of a dark and hard limestone which, however, has not been used in the construction of the portions which are later additions. The construction of the most ancient portion of the building is, according to tradition, attributed to a Kandyan Prince who is said to have cut and polished the hard limestone in Ceylon. The magnificent corridors in the temple were created

by pious members of the Nayak dynasty of Madura and the Setupati house of Ramnad. The extensions to the temple, which were made by the Setupatis, were done out of funds raised from port dues of all coast towns belonging to the Ramnad Zamindari during the time of the construction. The most striking feature of the temple is the massiveness of its workmanship and the four *gopurams* which alone are built wholly of stone from the base to the summit. The central corridor leading from the sanctuary has on one side the portraits of the Setupatis of Ramnad during the seventeenth century and opposite to them the portraits of their principal Secretaries or Councillors.

THE RETURN TO PÁMBAN.

After spending half an hour in inspecting the architectural beauties of the temple, His Excellency and party returned to the pandal in front of the jetty and here they had lunch. At 2-30 P.M. they drove to Pámban, halting on the way at Tangachimadam to inspect the route of the proposed Pámban Ship Canal at that place. Mr. Michell here pointed out to His Excellency the line which was marked out by means of wooden spikes driven into the ground. After a few minutes' stay there, the party drove on to Pámban which was reached before 4 P.M. After tea at the Port Office, His Excellency the Governor and Captain the Hon'ble R. Lygon went out in a canoe fishing in the Bay and reached the camp at nightfall.

Catering for His Excellency the Governor and the party which accompanied him was undertaken by Messrs. Spencer & Co. who had specially deputed Mr. R. Dorman to supervise the arrangements which were in every way satisfactory. Mr. Mansfield, the Agent of the Madura Company, and Captain J. Batty, the Port Officer at Pámban, did their best to make His Excellency's trip to Hare Island and to Rámésvaram and the return to Mandapam as comfortable as possible.

1st April.—After breakfast this morning His Excellency the Governor and party left Mandapam by special train at 10-15 A.M. and reached Madura at 2-35 P.M. Here they had lunch at the Railway Refreshment Room and transhipped to the fast mail train from Tuticorin. Mr. C. G. Todhunter, the Collector of Madura, and Mr. H. Wilkinson, District Superintendent of Police, took leave of His Excellency here. His Excellency had a few words with Mr. H. Moberly, the District Judge of Madura, who met him at the station. At Trichinopoly Junction, which was reached in time for dinner, Mr. R. H. Shipley, the Collector of Trichinopoly, came to meet His Excellency on the station platform. Major A. D. G. Shelley, R.E., who was mainly responsible for all the arrangements connected with this short but interesting tour, took leave of the Governor here; as also did Mr. Michell, Engineer-in-Chief, and Mr. J. T. Lewis, Executive Engineer.

ARRIVAL AT EGMORE.

2nd April.—His Excellency and party arrived at Egmore this morning and was met on the platform by Mr. J. Twigg, the Collector of Madras, Mr. S. D. Pears, the President of the Madras Municipality, and Mr. C. H. Travers, the Commissioner of Police. After a few words with those present, His Excellency drove to Government House, Mount Road.

Mr. F. Fawcett, Superintendent of Railway Police, travelled with the party from Madras to Pámban and back and his staff of Inspectors and constables maintained order at the railway stations.

