No 2464 Wd/ 6 Octr/84

Recorded.

/sd/ J S S.

Govt. of {1884} Madras.

PENSION.

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 15th September 1884, No. 952.

No 2464 Wd/ 6th Octr/84

SEPTEMBER.

Pension.

Granting an invalid — of Rs. 16-2-0 per mensem to A. Ramachendrayya, late Delta Superintendent, Public Works department, Godávari.

With order

Roll of Warrant Officers of the Madras Public Works Department, exclusive of the Barrack Branch.

Date _____ 1884

Rank and Name	Date on which he will attain the age of 55 years.	Date of promotion to				Probable date of promotion in ordinary course to:				Remarks
		Sub-Condr	Condr	D.A.C.	A. Comy	Dy. Comy	Condr	D.A.C.	A.C	Dy. Comy

No. 6586 of 1884.
Public Works Department
Bombay Castle, 8th October 1884.

To,

The Secretary to the Government
of Madras.
Public Works Department.

Sir,

The Government of India having called for an expression of opinion of this Government on certain proposals for improving the state of Warrant promotions of Military Upper Subordinates of the Public Works Department, I am directed to request the favor of being furnished with rolls of all the Warrant officers of the Public Works Department under the Government of Madras, exclusive of the Barrack Branch, showing the dates of promotion to and in each of the Warrant grades, as also the date on which each will attain the age of 55 years, as per accompanying form, in order to enable this Government to work out the details as to the effect of the proposed change upon the Establishment of the subordinates of this Presidency.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant,

Major-General, R.E.
Secretary to Government

P.W.C. No. 8487

(1)

Recd. 11. 10. 84

Ex. 1

Co/ Please make out required statement

[illegible] 18/10/84

O.L.S 55/10

[illegible] 16.10.84 [illegible] 22.10.84

With order

2601W C. No. 8487

(1)

Note

The required Statement is herewith submitted. The columns of dates of probable promotion have been left blank for D.W.s orders.

It would be well if we got a similar Statement from Bengal & Bombay.

[illegible]
13.10

P. W. Deptt.

To
The Secy. to the
Govt of Bombay
P. W. Deptt.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No: 658 E dated 8th October 1884, I am directed to forward a Statement, prepared in the form transmitted, giving as far as possible the required particulars regarding the warrant officers of the P. W. Deptt. serving under the Govt. of Madras.

2. I am to state that it is impossible to give, with any

P. W. Deptt.

To
The Secy: to the
Govt of Bombay
P. W. Deptt.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No: 658 E dated 8th October 1884, I am directed to forward a Statement, prepared in the form transmitted, giving as far as possible the required particulars regarding the warrant officers of the P. W. Deptt. serving under the Govt. of Madras.

2. I am to state that it is impossible to give, with any

O.L.S 55/10

O. 16. 10. 84

O. 16. 10. 84

11/10

degree of accuracy, the "probable date of promotion in "ordinary course" to the various grades; but, if death and retirement casualties be not taken into account, the dates of promotion can ~~only~~ be reckoned by the dates on which the seniors will attain the age of 55 years.

3. I am directed to request that this department may be favoured with a list, prepared in the same form, of Warrant Officers of the Public Works Department serving under the Govt of Bombay.

CS.
15.10.84

WS
18.10.84

24/10

Cu

Government servants, and that by keeping up their service registers satisfactorily they would at any rate be able to be transferred from this office to some other under Government.

5. This, however, turned out not to be the case, and although they are bound by the usual restrictions for Government service here as elsewhere, their service registers are but laughed at, and their applications held inadmissible if they seek Government service after having reached the age of 25 years. They are, in fact, not held to be Government servants at all, and but for the fact of their not seeing anything better in prospect, they might be the employés of any private firm or of a contractor.

6. With regard to those, and they are only a few, who have come to this office from other and regular Government employ, and who have claimed, or are thinking of claiming, their pensions, owing to the peculiar position of these works, there seems to be great difficulty in deciding their rights and claims. One excellent native surveyor and draftsman applied for his pension in April 1881 (leaving work on account of ill-health), and again in February 1882 he renewed his application, begging that if the amount of his pension could not be settled, he might have a gratuity "on account," as he was in great want. His pension was settled in July 1882, and his hard service on these works *was not counted towards pension*. He had died, however, a few weeks before his case was settled. Another question of pension is that of Mr. J. Hart, Storekeeper, which has lately been decided in a similar manner, *i.e.*, Harbour Works service is not to count as service at all. In 1876 it was not understood that this would be the case, but now it is placed in a perfectly clear light.

7. Now there can be no doubt that in India the fact of being in "Government service" has not only a great hold on the minds of all employés, but it has more than that, insomuch as it gives the superior officer of those employés a greater hold upon them, and moreover it lowers the rates of salaries by holding a certain prize in view in the future. This hold and this prize are both wanting on the Madras Harbour Works, and I very respectfully submit that the state of things that I have shown now to exist is not conducive to keeping an efficient and willing staff in hand for the next four or five years of hard work. It therefore appears most desirable to me (whoever may have charge of the work) that, before active operations are resumed, all subordinate members of the staff should see that they have something to look forward to in the event of good and diligent behaviour, and something to miss in the reverse case. They now see (which I submit was not made known at the commencement of the works in 1875-76) that as they pass the age of 25 years, they become ineligible for Government service; that even supposing they work here under Government rules and draw their pay from Government for 12 years, their service is only counted as "temporary" and not as "service" at all, and they understand that all they have to look forward to is just employment for the duration of the works without prospect of increase of salary. This is a state of affairs of which I shall venture to suggest an amendment (*vide* "A" further on).

8. In 1879 a change was made by order of Government in the establishment of these works, and many men whose salaries had for $3\frac{1}{2}$ years been charged to "Works" (in accordance with Mr. Parkes's estimates) were suddenly brought upon the "Establishment." Amongst them were some very excellent workers (time-keepers, &c.) who had not passed the requisite Government test examination (referred to in paragraph 4), and who were nevertheless drawing Rs. 20 a-month. This is, strictly speaking, contrary to the rules of the uncovenanted service as notified in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of 26th April 1861, which compels all those who are borne on an "Establishment" to pass the test before they can draw such a salary. The individuals in question were perfectly well instructed in their work, which an outsider would have taken some time to acquire, and no objection was raised at the time of their transfer from "Works" to "Establishment," although, as I have pointed out, they were not after such transfer strictly by the rules entitled to draw the salaries passed to them. On this I have a suggestion to make further on (*vide* "B" hereafter).

9. When work was going on in all its branches at nearly full speed in 1877-78 there were several English Foremen and mechanics serving under the Superintendent

under agreement, and many more of a similar class without an agreement, all of them high-class workmen in their special lines. These men are in the habit of regarding the Superintendent (or Resident Engineer as it would be in England) as their chief superior on the works, and look to him alone for payment of wages punctually when due.

10. This class of men knows nothing of the high authority of the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, and when their salaries are three days overdue and they apply to the Superintendent for payment, it is not always clear to them that they cannot be paid because "the Examiner has not audited the pay sheets," nor does it tend to promote that respect for the Superintendent which the peculiar position of these works calls for. Such a state of things as the above was avoided for some years while the audit of the Examiner followed the payment of wages, but in 1880 it was ordered that the audit should precede payment, and the result has often been three days' delay. It is only on two occasions that any trouble has arisen, and that was of course easily stopped, but I think that the apparent powerlessness of the Superintendent to pay wages that are due without a sufficient reason is not desirable, and this is the third point (*vide* "C" hereafter) on which I shall venture to suggest an amendment.

11. Before, however, recording what I believe would be simple means for removing these obstacles or difficulties now pointed out, I have to ask for sanction to some additions to the staff as it should be when work is resumed.

12. The members of the store and accounts departments have now at last succeeded in keeping up all the various forms required by the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, and, I trust, with fair satisfaction to that officer. But the amount of repetition and copying into different forms the same items is very great, and, in my own opinion, vexatious without being of much use. It is necessary to take stock of tools and plant every six months (to my mind a superfluous labor which an annual return should satisfy here as in England), and this involves writing out two copies of a list showing every single article of plant on the works and quarries. Indeed, of most "returns" of any sort duplicate copies have to be prepared, one being for the Examiner of Accounts. The amount of actual physical writing that has to be done in order, to keep all these many forms up to date, is immense. At present the staff can just manage to do it without letting work get into arrears, but when the receipt and issues of stores and tools is more than quadrupled, and when there are constant arrivals of all manner of articles from England requiring immediate attention on being landed, it will be perfectly impossible to prevent the copying work from getting into arrears. On this account I shall ask for two additional writers, one for copying work relating to receipt and issue of stores, and one for similar work in connection with the accountant. Their salaries and positions will be mentioned in another place.

13. Again, since the partial destruction of these piers in November 1881, an entirely new element has arisen which is at present giving a great deal of very unsatisfactory trouble. I refer to the acquisition of land to the north of the harbour. There are now upwards of one thousand different items of property handed over to the Superintendent of the Harbour Works by the Collector, and on all of these the Superintendent has to do his best to collect the rents. The tenants refuse to pay, and on being pressed leave their huts and go elsewhere. I have brought legal pressure to bear on one of the better class of tenants, but at present he has been indifferent to that. To collect these rents and to keep a proper list of them for submission to the Examiner is really a very considerable work, and one that requires many miles of travelling for those engaged in the collection. At present it is being done by Mr. Beardmore, with one clerk, assisted by a conicopillay and two or three of survey-boat lascars. This, however, could not be arranged if we were at work again, and I shall therefore ask sanction for a special staff of one clerk, one conicopillay and three peons for this work. It will be well to note that the Collector was awarded two extra clerks at Rs. 20 a-month simply for office work in connection with these transactions. On this subject, however, which is very pressing, I have asked for special orders to suit present urgent circumstances.

G.Os., Nos. 2618 W. and 1009 W., dated 9th Oct. 1882 and 2nd April 1883, respectively.

14. Before entering on the subject of my proposals for the future of the staff there is one more point that I wish to call attention, and that is the subject of "travelling allowances." I believe it was quite clearly understood by the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of these works in 1875 that no allowances would be granted for ordinary travelling to and from their work, nor for any reasonable amount of travelling about the work itself. At the same time it was not then foreseen that so much travelling would have to be undergone, as is now the case with the inspection of sea encroachments and property endangered thereby. It is impossible to pass over the fact that hardly any choice of places of residence is left to an Englishman in Madras. The district of Ráyapuram, in which the Harbour Works office is situated, contains many houses, but they are always occupied by those whose duty lies entirely on the spot, as for instance, missionaries, officers of the regiment stationed near, and medical officers of the district. Mr. Beardmore for convenience lived at Ráyapuram formerly, but the encroachment of the sea has done away with the house he occupied, and three similar houses are threatened. I submit, then, that it is of necessity that a residence be chosen between $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 miles from the Harbour Works office. In full work two visits a day are generally needed, and always so when a survey is being made. In addition to this, the property to the north has to be carefully and persistently inspected for a distance of 3 miles beyond the Harbour office. It thus becomes an easy and common matter to travel 20 miles a day in an ordinary day's work, exclusive of the regular work of inspecting the yards and breakwaters. There is no manner of doubt that this necessitates the keeping of more horses than would be necessary for simply inspecting the Harbour Works and attending to office duty. By the wording of the travelling allowance bills it is perfectly clear that any great amount of travelling from one's "ordinary residence" on service entitles any one in Government employ to some allowance, presumably to compensate for the extra conveyance necessary. In visiting the land to the north of the Harbour (a distance of 8 miles from my residence) I have often sent in to the Examiner an inspection report of these journeys and received a travelling allowance for the day. However, since the passing of G.O., No. 417 W., dated 8th February 1883, I am uncertain whether mileage is to be counted from "one's ordinary residence," as written in the Public Works forms, or from the office, as named in the Government Order. The order at present is a special one for Mr. Beardmore, but probably should apply also to the Superintendent, in which case it will be possible for the Superintendent having arrived at the Harbour Works office to travel $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles up to the coast and $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles back for any number of times, and yet such journeys are to be treated as in the ordinary day's work, in addition to a certain drive of 9 or 10 miles to the office and back. It is hardly necessary to say that these inspections of the coast north and south of the actual site of the works tell rather hardly upon horse and carriage accommodation, and it appears very desirable to know for certain, before work is resumed with full energy, whether any travelling allowance may be claimed from the officer's "ordinary residence," as given in the Public Works forms, or whether the G.O., No. 417 W., dated 8th February 1883, which was passed in Mr. Beardmore's case, is to apply to the present Superintendent, or to any future Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent. The matter is not very important, but it would be better to have it made quite clear.

15. I will now state what I would suggest as remedies for the difficulties mentioned in paragraphs 1 to 12, taking up first the subject "A," paragraph 6.

16. In order that the staff may have something to encourage them to do their best, I propose that an increased rate of pay shall be sanctioned for all appointments over Rs. 18 per mensem, and in the list which accompanies this letter will be found the limit of salary for which I ask sanction. It must be clearly understood that although I apply now for sanction to the highest limit, it does not follow that the limit will ever be reached, and there must be no increase of salary made by larger sums than Rs. 10 at a time, and that three months is to be the very shortest interval between the increments. I ask further that the Superintendent shall have power to make increases of salary up to Rs. 30 on his own responsibility. I must in connection with this request refer to G.O., No. 2016 W., of 31st July 1879, in which the then

Harbour Committee (which I think does not now exist) are empowered to sanction salaries to Rs. 60 per mensem, and the Superintendent himself to make appointments up to Rs. 20. I now ask that the limit may be extended from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30.

17. The effect of obtaining present sanction for prospective increases of salary to those indicated on the list herewith will be to show all the staff that there is some prize to be gained by diligence, some reward to be missed by neglect. It will also serve the purpose for which G.O., No. 2016 W., of 31st July 1879, was passed, namely, to save frequent reference to Government. I should remark that every increase of salary should be formally reported to Government, although it be within the limits of the sanction now asked for.

18. In the list now submitted there are three persons of whom I must speak separately. First, the Honorary Assistant Engineer (formerly Sub-Engineer) Mr. Bhemaya Saenna (No. 1 on list) He proposes shortly to take his pension and retire, and in that case I shall ask for a Sub-Engineer to take his place on a much smaller salary. Mr. Bhemaya Saenna, having come from Kurrachee Harbour Works, has been of the greatest service here, but his services and his salary were special (see G.O., No. 2642, dated 13th September 1875).

19. The second case is that of Mr. Gunther (No. 9 on list), who was appointed by me, with Government sanction, in place of Mr. John Chicken. Mr. Chicken came out on agreement with the Secretary of State in 1876 to serve five years, with free passage out and home. He died in 1878, and Mr. Gunther took his place, under no agreement, in December of that year. The pay of the post in 1876 was Rs. 320 a-month, with Rs. 20 a-month for house-rent, and I propose that Mr. Gunther, who has worked admirably for five years, be paid Rs. 350 a-month, as already suggested by Mr. Beardmore (see G.O., No. 2301 W., of 7th September 1882).

20. The third case is that of Mr. E. deCastre, already referred to in G.O., No. 470 W., of 21st February 1882. I now place the final limit of salary for this post at a higher figure than in February 1882, in order that there may be always a better prospect in advance. I may note that, compared with managing clerks in Government offices, the pay of this post is very small indeed, while the work is fully as hard; indeed, I am not sure that the weekly despatch of letters, plans and reports to London does not make the work more troublesome than in many other offices, as this is an extra piece of work which, owing to the Chief Engineer being in England, cannot be avoided.

21. I believe if sanction is awarded to the schedule herewith submitted, a fresh stimulus will be given to the staff, and there will be something to look forward to as the work progresses. The actual charge to Government for salaries will be less * than when work was going briskly on in 1880, owing to the decrease in the salary of the Sub-Engineer and the abolition of the posts of Inspector of Quarries, two Commanders of steamers, and English Foreman Carpenter.

	Rs.
* Saving by Sub-Engineer	150
Superintendent, Quarries	250
Two Commanders of steamers ...	500
Foreman Carpenter	250
Saving ...	1,150

22. I next come to item "B," paragraph 8. This refers to the Government test examination. I submit that, as practically this office does not reckon as a Government office, the test examination is unnecessary, and of no use; for, since it has been ordered that time-keepers be put on the establishment who were experts at their work and had passed no examination, it becomes inconsistent to insist on others, whom the Superintendent may select for special ability, being made to pass that which perfectly efficient employés have by a lucky accident avoided.

23. Moreover, bearing in mind that practically the staff on the "Establishment" of these works is in no one feature more in actual Government service than are the men employed on the works, it is most inconsistent that the Superintendent has power (as it is absolutely essential he should have) to appoint locomotive engine-drivers and

IV. Audit to follow payment of salary bills, except in cases of deviation from previous month's salary bill.

V. A distinct ruling to be given as to travelling allowances, *i.e.*, whether in the case of the Superintendent, distance travelled is to be reckoned from his residence or office.

2. Under No. I, the Superintendent proposes a prospective increase to the salaries of nearly all the members of the subordinate staff, with the exception of the Sub-Engineer, the pay of which appointment he proposes, on the retirement of the present incumbent, to fix at Rs. 250 per mensem instead of Rs. 400. The net result of the Superintendent's proposals under this head amounts, as shown in the statement submitted by the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, to a possible maximum increase of Rs. 328 per mensem, or Rs. 3,936 per annum.

A modification of the scale of salaries now drawn by the subordinate staff.

3. The Government admit that there are good grounds for the Superintendent's proposals for augmenting the pay of his staff, but they see no reason why the salaries and increments of the clerical establishment should not be regulated by the rules laid down in paragraphs 452, 521, 522, and 533 of the Public Works Code. Sanction is accorded, therefore, to the scale of establishment in the statement appended to this order, but it must be understood that no increased pay can be drawn until sanction has been received to commence the work of reconstruction.

4. The proposed increase to the salary of Mr. Gunther, Foreman Engineer, will be submitted for the sanction of the Secretary of State.

5. The two additional clerks applied for by the Superintendent, for store and account work, have not been included in the scale now sanctioned. Before deciding whether the increase is absolutely necessary, the Government desire that the Superintendent will, with reference to the remarks on the subject by the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, place himself in communication with that officer, and see whether means cannot be devised to simplify and lighten the work referred to. A further report on this subject may be submitted by the Superintendent hereafter.

6. The second of the Superintendent's proposals, dealt with in paragraphs 8, 22, and 23 of his letter, will be remitted for favorable consideration in the Educational Department. The Government in the Public Works Department consider that there is reason in Mr. Thorowgood's arguments in favor of exempting his clerical establishment from the examination rules.

Exemption from the Uncovenanted Civil Service Examination rules of men on the staff classed under clerical establishment.

7. With reference to the third proposal, the Superintendent is requested to report whether there is any reason why the charge of the property acquired by Government to the north of the Harbour should not be handed over to the Revenue authorities. When active operations are resumed, the energies of the whole of the Harbour staff should be devoted to their legitimate and heavy work, and it seems no part of the duty of such staff to be concerned in the charge of land and the collection of rents. The protective works on the foreshore will of course remain in the hands of the Superintendent. On receipt of Mr. Thorowgood's views on this question (which should be submitted in a separate letter), the matter will be further considered in communication, if necessary, with the Revenue Department.

Sanction to a special staff for looking after the property acquired by Government to the north of the Harbour.

8. With regard to the fourth point, the rule in paragraph 498 of the Public Works Code will be relaxed, as a special case, in favor of the Harbour Works staff, but salaries will be disbursed strictly under the conditions prescribed in paragraph 499.

Audit to follow payment of salary bills except in cases of deviation from previous month's salary bill.

9. On the fifth point, the Government have already given a decision in their Order, No. 417 W., dated 8th February 1883, paragraph 2 of which is of course applicable to the permanent Superintendent. The Government regret that it is not possible to meet Mr. Thorowgood's views on the subject.

A distinct ruling to be given as to travelling allowances, *i.e.*, whether in the case of the Superintendent distance travelled is to be reckoned from his residence or his office.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintendent, Madras Harbour Works.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
" Educational Department.
" Revenue do.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of {1883} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated December, 14*th*.

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 14th Dec. 1883, No. 3574 W.

DECEMBER.

Madras Harbour Works

Passing orders on letter from the Superintendent proposing certain changes in the establishment, &c., of the — on the commencement of its reconstruction.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—again Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 14th December 1883, No. 3574 W., Public Works, communicated to the Board of Revenue by Revenue G.O., dated 11th January 1884, Mis. No. 109:—

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on letter from the Superintendent proposing certain changes in the establishment, &c., of the Madras Harbour Works on the commencement of its reconstruction.

READ—the following letter from F. N. THOROWGOOD, Esq., M. INST. C.E., Superintendent, Madras Harbour Works, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 8th January 1884, No. 38 W.:—

In acknowledging the receipt of G.O., No. 3574 W. of 14th December 1883, I have the honor to ask that I may be permitted very respectfully to express my thanks for the very encouraging way in which my proposals and requests have been received by Government. I am confident that the results following the order when in operation will be most satisfactory.

2. In reply to paragraph 7 of the order, I have the honor to remark that I know no reason why the collection of rents from the properties to the north should not be handed over to the Revenue Department, and there is no arrangement which I should hail with greater satisfaction than transferring charge of the lands and houses to that department.

3. I believe it is customary in the Public Works Department for the Engineering staff attached to any works to collect rents of buildings on such works. But I am perfectly certain that no such undertaking as this one under discussion was ever foreseen when that custom was sanctioned.

4. The acquisition of property is now almost completed, only some trifling items remaining to be handed over and some disputed rights of ownership to be settled.

5. My own views are exactly expressed in the words of the paragraph of the order above referred to, namely, that "the energies of the whole of the Harbour staff should be devoted to their legitimate and heavy work," when operations are resumed. Moreover, I feel inclined to believe that the officers of the Revenue Department will prove more successful in collecting rents than my staff has hitherto been. In fact many of the tenants (of whom there are upwards of 1,000) do not think of paying rent without legal proceedings being taken, and the collection is always in arrear in spite of all our efforts. The Revenue Department probably have men at their command who are thoroughly accustomed to such work, and who are possibly armed with an authority such as my people have not.

6. It is perhaps hardly necessary to point out that, as the cost of the property in question was borne by the Harbour Works Funds, the rents collected by the Revenue Department (after deducting expenses) should go to the credit of the Harbour Works as at present.

No. 28 C.

Referred to the Revenue Department.

10th January 1884. (Signed) C. BOWEN, Major, R.E.,
Under-Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Revenue Department.

ORDER—dated 9th February 1884, No. 200, Revenue.

Land Revenue, No. 30.

The Board of Revenue will instruct the Collector of Madras to take charge of all lands acquired by Government north of the Harbour, and to arrange for the punctual collection of the rent due thereon. A statement of outstanding arrears should be obtained from the Superintendent of Harbour Works, and immediate steps taken for their realisation. The rents, &c., collected should be credited to the Harbour Works under instructions which will be issued by the Accountant-General.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Public Works Department.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. J. Henricus.

70 Copies.

9. I was glad to observe that the Mangosteen was prospering, and I learn that it continues so to do. Since that period, too, *Amherstia nobilis* has flowered at Burliar, although, in spite of the kind help of Dr. King of Calcutta, it has failed to grow at Guindy. It would be highly desirable to naturalise in the Presidency so noble a tree, and Mr. Lawson will, if any one can, succeed in doing this.

10. The *Ipecacuanha* I had, in January 1882, to pronounce a failure; but, thanks to Mr. Lawson, who has altered the method of treatment that was being pursued, it is now succeeding much better. He does not believe that with us it will ever be a forest, but only a garden, product; nevertheless, a very considerable work for the good of humanity will be accomplished, if this powerful remedy in some very bad forms of dysentery is made common and cheap, by garden-cultivation amongst us. Its success would be particularly agreeable to me personally, because, I was at the India Office when the first attempts were made to bring it to India, and I took a great interest in them.

11. The Liberian coffee was fruiting freely; but I am told that it is not found of much practical importance in this Presidency.

12. The planters find the pericarp too hard to enable them to pulp it readily. Those kinds of coffee which have only one seed in the berry command a higher price, and the Liberian yields a crop only once in fourteen months. These disadvantages are thought, I am informed, to outweigh its comparative immunity from leaf-disease.

13. From Burliar I pushed on to Ootacamund, where the Municipal Commissioners presented an address in which they expressed a hope that the day was not far distant when Ootacamund would be made the permanent seat of the Madras Government.

14. In my reply I was unable to treat this as a serious claim, but spoke of it as a jest, at the expense "of the exaggerated pretensions of others."

15. For myself, I think that in the existing circumstances of this Presidency the dual arrangement of a summer and winter capital is far the best. No doubt, if it were only possible, an ambulant Government, a camp Government, would be the most desirable for India as a whole, and for every province in it; but that kind of Government is no longer possible. It belongs to the days of personal rule, and is quite incompatible, if it were only from considerations of expense, with our centralised, scientific system of administration with its infinite array of minute rules, precedents, and reports which require a gigantic apparatus of offices and officials.

16. Of course, no one, in his right mind, would ever have selected Madras as the capital of the huge province which is known as the Madras Presidency, and, indeed, no one ever did so. The *congeries* of very poor villages *plus* the moderate sea-port town, the Mount Road shops, the Government establishments, and the numerous small parks or "compounds" which, scattered thinly over twenty-seven square miles, form what is now called the City of Madras, have been grouped around the Fort which formed the centre of the very small and humble affairs of the Company upon the Coromandel Coast. The place has never grown to be a real capital, and can, indeed, never do so, although, if the harbour and other improvements to which I alluded in my speech of June 30th are carried into effect, it will gradually become more important than it is now.* Still I think for historical, sentimental, and other good reasons, it would be the greatest mistake to leave Madras; and I trust that no Government will ever dream of doing so, although, from many points of view, Ootacamund presents advantages which it cannot offer.

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* The following is the passage to which I refer:—

"These being the circumstances with which we have got to deal, what should Madras wish for? It should wish first for the completion of its system of drainage and water-supply—that is, it should wish to take itself out of the list of the semi-barbarous cities and put itself among the civilized cities—the cities which, like London, have a low death-rate; secondly, it should wish to see the Buckingham Canal pushed on as fast as the means at the disposal of its Government will permit; thirdly, it should wish to see the Singareni coal brought to its gates; fourthly, it should wish to see the excellent Municipal constitution which it has got, and which Mr. Arundel has done so much to perfect, worked ever better and better; fifthly, it should wish to see its harbour completed and made thoroughly efficient—so efficient that it may become a link in the communication between England, Bombay, and the further East."

17. The object of a wise administration should be to soothe those little municipal jealousies which are complicated so readily with the self-interest of individuals, who derive pecuniary advantage from the presence of the heads of the State amongst them.

Madras at least has nothing to gain by insisting that the Government shall give the apple either to herself or to her rival, and it is a section of her inhabitants who have of late been insisting on a judgment of Paris.

18. Some of the other requests of the Ootacamund municipality were of a far more serious kind. They observed that the sanitation of the place might fairly claim Imperial help, and they asked for assistance alike for sanitation, drainage, and water-supply.

19. At that time this Government also considered that they had a right to ask for *Imperial* help. Imperial help was, indeed, promised in the days of Lord Napier, and we recalled that fact to the Government of India in the year 1882, but much time had passed, the policy of the Viceroy in Council had changed in the interval, and we found, not unnaturally, that we had to give the assistance wanted out of *Provincial* funds.

Letter No. 287-W., dated 1st February 1882.

20. I trust we have not been niggardly in giving that assistance. Since the date of which I am writing, we have, *inter alia*, paid out of Provincial revenue for draining the bazaar some Rs. 94,000, bought and got rid of, at the expense of Rs. 10,000, the highly insanitary "Lines" near the small public park known as the ABC ground, and improved off the face of creation various other nuisances of the same kind.

21. Speaking in round numbers, since the Municipal Commissioners addressed me, Provincial has spent on the sanitation of Ootacamund not less than Rs. 97,000 through the Public Works Department, and not less than Rs. 27,000 through the Municipal Commissioners.

22. The lake is much less defiled than it used to be, and, when the intercepting sewer has been carried down below the Willow Bund to the outfall, will be all that could be desired; but what a pity that the same foresight, which has saved from pollution the lake of Kodaikánal, did not preside a generation ago over the arrangements made with respect to what is obviously destined to be the most important *sanitarium* in Southern India.

23. As soon as the drainage works, now in progress, are finished, we must turn to the water-supply and give some help to the Ootacamund municipality for its improvement, just as we have done to that of Madras. Already, the most important questions connected with it have been carefully investigated by our officers.

24. I found Government House advancing to completion. The shell was finished, and several portions of the building were habitable, at least in fine weather.

25. I was glad to be able to record that the constructive period had passed before I had anything to do with it, for, of the many things for which I feel myself unfit, there are few for which I feel myself more unfit than being an architect. All questions as to the policy of building, the purchase of property, and the kind of building to be erected had happily been settled by my predecessors. The numerous problems which remained were all in the nature of corollaries to be gradually worked out in the course of years with time, patience, and the concurrence of the proper departments of the Supreme Government.

26. I gave some attention, on this visit, to the Government Gardens as well as to the Cinchona Plantations. Both of these have, within the last two years, come under the management of a man of great scientific eminence,—the late Professor of Botany at Oxford.

27. The laying out of the gardens is being very much improved, all the trees and shrubs are being properly labelled, while great and important changes are taking place in the management of the Cinchona Plantations, more especially in the valley which separates the slopes of Snowdon from those of Dodabetta.

28. From Ootacamund I went on to Naduvatam to join Dr. Bidie, who was engaged in examining our estates there, with reference to the assertions of Mr. Cross, the South American traveller, who had frightened us, not a little, by declaring that our supposed *Succirubra* was not *Succirubra* at all, but the far less valuable *Micrantha*. On this question I had occasion to write in my first Tour Minute, but it has now happily been laid at rest by the highest scientific authority, and I need not repeat what I there said.

29. From Naduvatam I descended the Ouchterlony Valley, where the coffee, stimulated by heavy rains, had burst prematurely into flower and was in great beauty.

30. Here some representations were made to me about the importance of getting seeds of the *Ledgeriana* species of Cinchona, and at a later period I was happily able to do so.

31. From the Ouchterlony Valley we descended to Nadgani, where we became the guests of Mr. O'Donoghue, and found ourselves in the midst of the gold region.

32. At Devála I received an address from the Nílgiri Planting and Mining Association. They called my attention first to the administration of the Nílgiris. Since that date, the administration has been greatly strengthened. It used to cost Rs. 5,540 a-month, but a very few weeks after the period of which I am speaking, the Act abolishing the old Commission came into force. The district is now within the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the Judge of Coimbatore, so that the Collector, who has superseded the Commissioner, has far more time to give to administrative work. The Head Assistant remains as he was. The Joint Magistrate has been abolished. Both the Deputy Tahsildars of Coonoor and Gúdalúr have had their pay increased; there is now an Assistant Collector, a Sub-Judge, a Treasury Deputy Collector, and a Deputy Tahsildar at Ootacamund, while the subordinate establishments have been considerably increased: all this at an expense of some Rs. 1,390 a-month.

33. We have also created a Special Assistant for that important branch of business known as the Wynaad escheats, which should, by rights, have been put out of hand more than two generations ago. When he has done his work, the settlement of the Wynaad portion of the Nílgiri district will be taken up. Twenty five cases in three districts of South Wynaad have been already inquired into and separately reported on by the officer appointed, each one being a case in which the Government asserts rights over land declared to be escheated in consequence of the rebellion of the Pychee Rajah in the first days of this century.

Further proceedings will be taken after the receipt of the necessary orders from the Secretary of State.

34. The deputation next observed:

"It is unfortunately our experience of many years that planters meet with invincible obstacles and unreasonable delay in the disposal of their applications for land, and intending investors have, in some instances, left the country after waiting for years, despairing of ever obtaining land on which to commence planting operations."

35. The Government, knowing that these complaints were not unfounded, took immediate steps to improve the state of affairs which has so much changed that, on sending to Mr. Burrows, the very active Collector of the district, in the middle of August, the following question, I received the following reply:—

"How many land and mining applications from planters and others have been disposed of in the district since the beginning of January 1882, and how many are still waiting to be disposed of?"

"Applications under Gold Mining Rules *disposed of* since January 1882 ..	119	
Applications under Waste Land Rules—		
Europeans and East Indians	96	207
Natives	111	
Applications under Gold Mining Rules *awaiting disposal*	None.	
Applications under Waste Land Rules—		
Advertised for sale	5	7"
Awaiting reports from subordinates	2	

36. The deputation then passed to the Revenue Settlement, and urged that the operations which had been some time before commenced on the Nílgiris should be pushed on as fast as possible.

37. I find that, since the 1st January 1882, a few days before the address was presented, no less than 295,000 acres have been completely settled with the result which was contemplated by the framers of the address, that the revenue has been largely increased, while thousands of land-holders have been furnished with puttahs (leases) showing exactly the position, area, and assessment of the lands held by them. A complete revision of the village establishments of the district has also been carried into effect, and the Village Cess Act has been introduced for the purpose of providing the salaries of the village officers. The gentlemen who came to see me feared that years would elapse before the settlement of the district was completed. It will, so far as the Nílgiris are concerned, be completed or all but completed before the document I am now drawing up is in the hands of the public.

38. The memorialists next asked that a European Head Constable should be located at Devála. This request has not been complied with *in terms;* but the police force of the Wynaad has been strengthened by the entertainment of two Head Constables and seven Constables in addition to the previously existing force.

39. Then they turned to the subject of roads, asked me to notice the fact that I was travelling in the driest season of the year, and assured me that their communications, during the monsoon, were disastrously bad. Since that period the Government have largely assisted the Local Fund Board to improve the whole of the through line from Mettupálaiyam to Gúdalúr, have taken over those parts of it which pass through the municipalities of Coonoor and Ootacamund, and have now determined to do the same by the whole of the road in question. So much for one end of the line of communication so vitally important to South Wynaad. Then, as to the other end of it, as soon as a man, fit for the purpose, was available, we sent Mr. Nordmann to examine, with a view to its improvement, the line from Vayitri to Calicut, and reports from him have been already received. I hear from Colonel Beatty that the estimates are far advanced, but their total amount is undoubtedly startling, and though improvement will be pushed on, as funds become available, till eventually we may hope to see the great through line across the Nílgiris, the Wynaad and Malabar to the Western Coast in really good order, this part of the work (*i.e.*—improvement of the line from Vayitri to Calicut) must, in justice to other portions of the country, be carried into effect gradually. With regard to the middle portion of the road, the President of the Local Fund Board, writing under date the 23rd August 1884, reports that the road from Gúdalúr to Devála is in good order, and the road on from Devála to Mango Tree Bungalow *viâ* Pundalur is also in good order, adding various details as to what has been done since I passed over it in January 1882.

40. Then my attention was called to the gold mining leases. These we have made much more liberal. The limit of each grant was confined to 30 acres. We have now extended it to 150, we have abolished the requirement that five coolies should be entertained per acre, we have allowed the lessee to sublet or assign his lease without the previous sanction of Government, and we have permitted an applicant to obtain more than one mining lease.

41. The gentlemen who came to see me then passed to the subject of railways. I do not think they will complain that this Government has not, since that date, done all that in it lay to help them to a railway up the Nílgiris. Supported by us as by the Government of India, the proposals of its promoters were accepted by the Secretary of State, but the speculation not finding favor with capitalists at home, they again applied to us for other terms, whereupon they were once more supported first by this Government, secondly by that of India. The final decision must depend upon the views entertained at the India Office. As to the railway from Mysore towards the West Coast, that project has been thrown back by the reverses of the gold industry; but for that, we are certainly not responsible.

42. Then they asked that the telegraph should be extended to Vayitri. It has been extended to Vayitri and on from Vayitri to Calicut.

43. They next proceeded to state their general views about the Government Cinchona properties. I have nothing now to add to what I said on the spot, viz.:

"Next we arrive at Cinchona. Well, my first emotion when I saw those magnificent forests of 'Succirubra' which clothe the slope of Naduvatam was an emotion of pride. I

rejoiced that our Indian Government should have created and should possess so fine an estate; but I nevertheless think, as you do, that the time must come when the same wise policy which made it acquire will make it desire to dispossess itself of that estate. The only questions that can well be raised are as to the time when, and the way in which, this ought to be done. The time will arrive when Government can do no more to promote the establishment of the Cinchona industry in India than can be done by private persons, and the way in which it should dispossess itself of the property is of course the one which will be most profitable for the public. These questions will some day have to be decided by some Secretary of State for India. So many controversies are still going on about Cinchona cultivation that I should hardly be inclined to think that it would be advantageous to the industry, as a whole, to dispense with the aid of Government in too great a hurry; but when I am convinced that the time has arrived, you may reckon upon my good wishes, for I belong to that school of politicians, not so popular now, as it once was, which desires to limit rather than to increase the functions of Government, which takes for its motto '*Laisser faire laisser passer.*'"

44. Since these words were spoken the Home Government and that of Madras have taken up, in good earnest, the solution of those problems with regard to Cinchona cultivation which only Governments assisted by the best science of the day can solve. Mr. Lawson's botanical and horticultural knowledge will soon be supplemented by that of a chemical expert, who has been studying recently at Leyden under the auspices of Dr. de Vrij, the greatest living authority upon the chemistry of Cinchona; and it is to be hoped that in the next few years all that is necessary to be known for the production to the best advantage in India of the Cinchona alkaloids will be ascertained and placed at the disposal of every one who desires to engage in Cinchona planting.

45. The last topic on which my visitors touched was their difficulties with respect to labor. That is a very thorny subject on which it is almost impossible to satisfy both the employers and the employed. The present state of the case is that the views of the planters, of the High Court, and of the district officers have been ascertained for the purpose of being communicated to the Government of India.

46. Much misconception would seem to prevail amongst employers as to the existing state of the law, and it has not yet been made clear to me that any change is really wanted in the *substance* of the existing enactments.

47. It was also suggested that an Act should be passed for the registration of all contractors, cooly maistries, and mechanics, but the Government of India considers this to be a matter on which legislation is not advisable, unless under very exceptional circumstances.

48. The next address which I received was at Pandalur, where the people asked for the establishment of a police station. We were not able to comply in terms with this wish, but we have been able to sanction an addition to the Wynaad police force of Devála and of Nadghani, as I have already remarked.

49. They further asked for the appointment of a Village Magistrate, the enforcement of those sections of the Police Act which relate to sanitation and the prevention of nuisances, for improved roads and a home for poor travellers.

50. The supply of the last of these wants is clearly a matter for the Local Fund Board. As to the others, we were not able to appoint a Village Magistrate, but may be able ere long to effect the same object in a somewhat different way. We have enforced those provisions of the Police Act which relate to sanitation and the prevention of nuisances, and I have already explained what we have done about roads.

51. Next came an address from the members of "The Wynaad Planting and Mining Association," which was delivered to me at Vayitri. They, too, called my attention to the Mysore-Malabar Railway and to the various other subjects to which I have already alluded, the two new points being, I think, (1) the addition of a European ward to the hospital, and (2) the creation of Justices of the Peace.

52. The first of these is not within the province of Government but of the Local Fund Board. As to the second, Colonel Henderson was soon afterwards made a Special Honorary Magistrate with special powers.

53. To the same place came the representatives of North Wynaad, who wished that the District Munsif's Court should not sit permanently at Vayitri but should

itinerate. Also they desired that appeals from Vayitri Court should go to Tellicherry and not to Calicut.

54. These requests, for the reasons given below, we could not comply with. It was one of those complaints of which I have received many since, and to which one can only reply, as I did in July at Palmanér, that we have to make the best arrangement we can for all the parties concerned, although, if money were unlimited, we should like to bring justice home to every man's door. As long as time and space continue, geographical inconveniences will continue too.

55. The memorialists then asked that the telegraph should be extended from Vayitri to Manantoddy. That has been done; and they further asked that in improving the communications of the Wynaad either by railway or tramway, the wants of the northern district should be considered. That legitimate request will not be forgotten, and I may, before I leave the country, be able to visit North Wynaad, as they naturally wished me to do.

56. The District Munsif grievance of North Wynaad was further urged in a prodigiously long address from Native communities in that part of the country in which Vayitri was described as "by all means a condemnable place;" and it was truly observed that "a man with whatever powers of locomotion could by no means be comparable to a bird with two wings."

57. The arguments, however, put forward did not alter the conclusion come to, to give the Vayitri arrangement a further trial, as apparently the best.

58. I have recently called for fresh reports from the local authorities, and find that Vayitri is still considered to be, on the whole, the most convenient place. Mr. Logan takes that view, Mr. Galton takes that view, and the High Court takes that view. The weight of argument seems also to be on the side of the weight of authority; for Vayitri is distinctly more convenient for half the Native population, for the coffee interest in general, and for the great bulk of the Europeans.

59. I saw five different gold mines,—those of the Indian Gold Mine Company at Nadghani, those of the Alpha at Devála, those of the South-East Wynaad Company, those of the South Indian Gold Mine Company and the Ripon Company,—the last just out of the Wynaad and in Malabar.

60. Speaking at Vayitri on the 16th January, I said:

"That there is gold in the Wynaad I can now testify from ocular inspection. That gold is present in paying quantities in many localities, I am willing to believe. That much skill and not a few high qualities are enlisted in the development of your mines, I am fully convinced. That you have an excellent set of miners, I hear on all sides. But you have suffered, and will still suffer from the operation of that class of persons who infest the great centres of commerce in the West, and who are to the armies of industry and enterprise as those camp followers, who used to follow other armies, and gain for the legitimate combatant a bad name by robbing the dead and killing the wounded. That we may hear in the future as little of such persons as possible in connection with your industry, is the best wish I can contribute to the prosperity of this beautiful and most interesting district."

I further said in my first Tour Minute:

"There will, I fear, be many terrible disappointments, and good Indian investments will suffer because many people have lost money by bad ones. Some concerns will, I should hope, weather the coming storm, pay reasonable dividends to some share-holders, and add something to the wealth of this part of India."

61. I was delighted with that portion of the Wynaad across which my route lay. Mr. Mitchell's hospitable house at Penorah would strike the traveller as a beautiful spot in any country.

62. Some of the evils of the Wynaad we can hardly cure. During the hot weather of the spring it is, and will, I fear, continue to be, very feverish; nor can we repair the mischief that has been done to it by the golden Will-o'-the-Wisp. The time will, I daresay, come when, metallurgic science having progressed, it will be really possible to work to some profit many of the mines, which are now being abandoned in despair; but meantime there seems nothing which the Government can do but to encourage in every way a return to the slower but, in the end, perhaps more profitable ways of agricultural industry. It is much to be regretted that a heavy fall in the market price of Coffee and of Cinchona should have synchronised with the other troubles of the Wynaad.

63. I do not think it can be justly asserted that we have been remiss in giving such help as a Government can give. We have exempted from assessment, from 1883 to 1887 inclusive, lands planted with such special products as Cinchona and Coffee, whether held under private proprietors or under Government on puttah (lease), provided they are brought into cultivation during that period. This concession extends both to Malabar and the Nílgiris, including of course the Wynaad. Cinchona is, it is believed, the product from which the planters in both these districts hope for most aid in their present depressed state. I am sure there is a great deal still to be done in the direction of introducing new products.

Speaking at Devála, I said:

"I trust that in a few years that trophy in the centre of the room where the various pursuits of the district are so prettily represented may require to be enlarged, for I cannot help thinking that a country so peculiar as this, where the bracken of our northern woods clothes the slopes which lead down to streams whose borders are lined with tree ferns, has still many secrets for the patient and ingenious cultivator."

64. The fact is that the man of science will in all probability perform within the next century far greater services to humanity than he has even already done in mingling the vegetation of distant countries.

Mr. Clements Markham, to whom South India owes her Cinchona, is still far from an old man, and there are hundreds of other such gifts yet to be given to the Madras Presidency.

Kew is constantly sending us parcels of seeds, any one of which might turn out to be of the greatest service.

65. Care must be used, as in everything else, in the introduction of new products.

Even in the parts of the Wynaad which I saw, one of the *Lantanas* has become a terrible enemy, and in the northern part of the country it is said to be the undisputed master of wide regions. Known in our English conservatories as a tender exotic, in Northern Africa as a useful garden shrub, it is here a terrible tyrant to man, in strict alliance with the wild boar and the panther; while from the fact of its fruit being greedily devoured by birds, it is constantly extending its sway.

66. Turning to an allied subject, supposing that Mr. Lawson or Mr. Gamble or Dr. Bidie were one day to learn and be able to tell us as much about the coffee-leaf disease as is already known about the relations between the Barberry and the Smut in wheat—what an important event it would be for the Presidency!

67. From Vayitri, I descended the Támrachéri Ghaut. The view of the wavy plain of Malabar from the top of it in the early morning made one think oneself, for a moment, in Arctic regions, so completely did the mist which filled the hollows mimic fiords covered with ice. Any thoughts of the Arctic regions soon, however, passed away, as we hurried down the mountain side, which looked, for all the world, as the slopes of the Alps over the plains of Lombardy might look, if the contents of the tropical house at Kew were multiplied a millionfold, spilt over them and then left for twenty years to interlace.

68. From the foot of the ghaut I drove on to Calicut through a charming country, by a road which had not been well engineered.

This is the road which, as already stated, we sent Mr. Nordmann to examine.

69. Everywhere I was received as the representative of the Executive should wish to be, and made acquaintance, for the first time, with the remarkable aptitude of the population of Malabar for utilising the plantain, the cocoa palm, and other plants for decorative purposes.

70. At Calicut, I received three addresses. The first of these was from the Merchants and Agents. These gentlemen began by directing my attention to the importance of completing the railway from Beypore to Calicut. Writing in the second week in August with reference to this, I said: "To that subject we have given, since the date of which I am speaking, great attention, and the present position of affairs is, that the Madras Railway has surveyed the extension; the whole subject has been laid before the Member of the Government of India who

is in charge of the Railways by the Members of the Madras Government and their officials at* Guindy, with the result that the Government of India has undertaken to recommend the line to the Secretary of State;" but on the morning of the 15th August our anxieties were set at rest by my receiving a telegram from the Secretary of State to say that the extension of the line by the Madras Railway Company had received his sanction.

* In November 1883.

71. My visitors then turned to the extension of railway communication across North Malabar and the Wynaad to the Mysore frontier. To that subject I have alluded already. It belongs not to the Provincial but to the Supreme Government, and must be dependent on its views.

72. They also stated that the amount of port dues collected at Calicut greatly exceeded the amount spent upon the Port. On this point the Master Attendant was immediately consulted. It turned out that the memorialists were in error, and that the charges had exceeded the receipts.

73. With regard to the complaint that the system of canals in the Malabar district was far from satisfactory, some recent communications between the Public Works Department and the spokesman of the deputation which came to see me leads me to suppose that the extension of the railway to Calicut will effect what the memorialists most wanted in a somewhat different way, but the good ordering of the backwater communication all along the West Coast is, I fully admit, a matter of importance, and Colonel Ross Thompson, who is expected out in October, is to be directed to examine the whole line of waterway alike in Malabar and South Canara.

74. My visitors further desired the establishment of an experimental garden. We have not as yet seen our way to do that, but Mr. T. J. Ferguson, of Calicut, is experimenting both with the Hevea and the Castilloa as well as with the Ipecacuanha in close co-operation with the officers of Government.

75. Dr. Trimen, the distinguished head of the great gardens at Perideniya in Ceylon, who visited the Nílgiri Cinchona plantations in company with Mr. Lawson and Dr. Bidie in the summer of 1883, has been assisting us by sending both Hevea and Castilloa plants.

76. With regard to the Rhea and other fibres to which the deputation also alluded, I have reason to hope that private enterprise has stepped in to develop these most important products. Rhea fibre worked up into a substance of great beauty was shown me by Mr. Pinching some months ago.

77. The deputation further asked for the establishment of a first-grade college teaching up to the B.A. standard. This request has been considered, but it is not thought that there is any present occasion for an institution of the kind. It would, indeed, in my opinion, do more harm than good.

78. The memorialists spoke also of the trade of the port and the state of the pier. To that subject I gave great attention, as it had been previously arranged in Council I should do, examining the pier on the 18th with Colonel Sankey, the Master Attendant, Mr. McWatters, and others including the principal merchants who used it. Several courses were suggested and carefully reviewed. The upshot of many discussions has been that the pier has now been handed over to the merchants of the port on a 99-year lease.

79. Then came to me a large deputation of Jenmis who were followed by the representatives of the other side of the Malabar land question, the Kanamkars.

80. Since the date of which I am writing we have received Mr. Logan's elaborate report; that report has been considered by a Commission, and the views of that Commission are now about to be submitted to the very highest authorities on the questions which are raised by the rival claims of these people whom I do not attempt to describe by any English term; so conflicting are the opinions of the persons, who have most right to speak, as to their exact position in relation to each other.

81. After seeing them I was visited by a deputation of Syrian Christians headed by their Bishop, who bore in his hand a crozier, surmounted by what, I

took, at first, to be the head and neck of a pelican, but found upon examination to be those of a serpent,—a curious fact.

82. My visitors belonged to a section of the Syrian Christians, which is in communion neither with Rome nor with the Patriarch of Babylon. They presented me with an address accompanied by an historical sketch. When they were gone, there came a representative of the section which holds with the Patriarch of Babylon, but has of late years, if I comprehend their position, followed that dignitary into a quarrel with the Holy See. He came to lay before me a grievance, the redress of which was competent to the Collector, whose good offices he was accordingly promised.

83. At Calicut, the Municipal Commissioners also came to see me. They asked, however, for nothing except to be relieved from paying the contribution towards the police force. That request has been granted, so that the funds which used to be diverted to that purpose are now set free, exactly as the Commissioners desired, for the promotion of sanitation and education.

84. Next arrived the representatives of the Basel German Mission, who gave an interesting account of their mercantile and other labours, but did not make any request to the Government, except, by implication, one for full liberty, which of course they have always had and will have.

85. The Syrian Christians likewise had no special request to make, but only came to offer their friendly congratulations. Not so the body known as the Kerala Sabha (Malabar Association), which asked for many things, first, a Malayali Member in the Legislative Council; secondly, a Malayali Judge in the High Court; thirdly, a first-grade college at Calicut; fourthly, more money for female education; fifthly, the extension of the railway to Calicut and Cannanore. The first two of these requests were no doubt creditable to local patriotism. It is right that the love of the parish should come first in all countries; but nothing of the kind could be thought of. Malabar has had, and will have, Members of Council and Judges of the High Court intimately acquainted with its special customs,—men of the stamp of Sir William Robinson or Mr. Holloway; but the highest officials of the Government, executive or judicial, cannot be selected on geographical grounds.

86. The proposed establishment of a first-grade college at Calicut having, as I have already said, been considered quite unnecessary, I pass on to the next request, that more money should be appropriated for female education. This was a suggestion of a far more reasonable kind, and with it we have been able to comply to a considerable extent. At the time the address was delivered about Rs. 1,114 were spent in a year at Calicut on female education, while Rs. 2,700 from Provincial and Municipal in addition to Rs. 3,840 from Endowment Funds have been allotted for this purpose in the official year 1883-84.

87. Then the petitioners asked that the railway should be extended to Calicut and Cannanore. Its extension to Calicut has, as I have elsewhere mentioned, been now sanctioned, but a great many more important lines will have to be made before an extension to Cannanore could be approved, unless indeed it were made by local effort.

88. Next they complained of the unequal incidence of the Local Fund cess and asked for the restoration to the Local Funds of the contribution which the district used to receive from Provincial Funds, but they did *not* state that these grants were simply a rate-in-aid levied on the whole of the Madras Presidency for some time, to supply advantages to Malabar, which each of the other districts supplied to itself.

89. It was in 1877 that a state of things, whose continuance would have been most unfair to the rest of our districts, was amended, and I had to tell the deputation that so far from their land being peculiarly highly taxed, they enjoyed in that respect very great advantages. There would appear to be a tradition in Malabar that assessments are high. This is founded on the fact that they *were* once high, but they have (*see* Proceedings, Legislative Department, 2nd October 1877, No. 77, page 7) been undisturbed whilst prices have advanced enormously. The Government assessment now bears a much smaller proportion to the true rent value of land than in other parts of the country.

90. Local patriotism is apt to forget such things, and it is right for persons, in authority, while granting, so far as they can, all legitimate requests, to refuse, point blank, requests which are clearly illegitimate.

91. Next they asked for one or two things, the granting or withholding of which did not lie within the province of this Government, but the only important prayer,—reduction in the price of salt,—was, as it happened, almost immediately granted,—thanks to the wise financial policy of the Viceroy and Sir Evelyn Baring,—a policy which successful, it is believed, everywhere, has been in this Presidency *brilliantly* successful.

92. When at Calicut, I received and returned the visit of the Zamorin,—one of the not very numerous personages in India whose annals connect far back with the great stream of history. It is curious in a country whose traditions go so far into the past, that there should be so few families to which, even if we forget the practice of adoption, so contrary to all our European ideas of what family continuity means, there is attached anything like the interest of which thousands of houses in the West can boast.

93. From Calicut I went by water to Areacode up the Beypore river and then drove through a lovely country to Nilambúr, where I carefully examined our magnificent teak plantations. It was pleasant to see, while "professional philanthropists" were shrieking about the increasing poverty of India, a noble property maturing in this out-of-the-way corner of the land—one likely ere long to be of enormous value. I saw trees, a hundred feet high, which were seedlings in 1844.

94. At the same place I found the *Ceara* rubber (*Manihot Glaziovii*) doing well. It is evidently going to be a success in many parts of this Presidency. In the last couple of years it has, for example, made great progress near Kullar. The far more valuable *Panama* rubber (*Castilloa elastica*) was also doing well, not so the Pará rubber (*Hevea Brasiliensis*).

95. At Beypore, I went with Colonel Shaw-Stewart and Mr. Saunders to inspect a spot where a rather serious erosion threatened the railway property.

96. This was at that time, and has been since, a matter of some anxiety and no small expense to us; but the extension of the Madras line to Calicut will altogether alter the state of affairs, and lead to the abandonment of the threatened terminus.

97. Thence I passed to inspect the Walliar jungle and returned to Madras after an absence of sixteen days.

98. At Erode, Mr. Nicholson spoke to me on two important subjects, the use of the bark of the Babool (*Acacia Arabica*) for tanning, and the value of the common prickly-pear (*Opuntia Dillenii*) as a protector for young trees. With reference to the first of these, we have obtained, since that date, a very interesting memorandum from Mr. Gamble, and the Director of Agriculture has been ordered to collect information regarding the prospects of a trade in Babool bark and pods in Europe.

There has not been sufficient time to ascertain the results of all the experiments that have been made with reference to the prickly-pear as a forester, but Mr. Wooldridge, a very intelligent forest officer, has reported excellent results from South Arcot, where he has used the Cactus as a protector of seedlings for a long time.

It would be highly satisfactory if we could once for all turn this most unpleasant American invader into a useful servant.

Second Tour of Inspection.

I again left Madras on the evening of 3rd of March 1882, and ran th to Coimbatore.

99. The next day I received an address ...e inhabitants of that pl...

100. Their first request was that a supply o... water from the Vellingiri should be turned into the Noyel River.

101. This project has not yet been fully inquired into by the Public Works Department, nor could it have been without passing by more urgent matters.

102. Another project, however, connected with Coimbatore,—the Bhowani Reservoir,—has been pretty fully inquired into, and favourably reported upon.

It is, however, a very big business, promising indeed great advantages alike direct and indirect, but so costly as to require the most careful scrutiny before it is entered upon.

The Engineers have not yet reported which of two competing sites is the better. The selection of even the smaller of the two involves the creation of what we rather grotesquely describe as a tank, but which in other countries would be called an artificial lake, with a water-spread of 12 square miles.

103. The greatly increased attention now given, as I have already mentioned, to forest conservation in this district ought to have a favorable effect on the water-supply from the Noyel River. I mentioned in my second Minute that Dr. Brandis, having examined the Bolampatti Valley, had arrived at the conclusion that if the denudation of the slopes around the head-waters of the Noyel was not stopped, Coimbatore would suffer very grievously. This important piece of country is accordingly now being settled by the Special Forest Settlement Officer, and it is expected that the reserved forest will be finally constituted by the end of the current official year.

104. The deputation then asked that the supply of water should be increased by extensive improvements in the present tanks, and that none of these should be abandoned.

105. This was the first time that any representations were made to me about the minor irrigation works, of which I have heard so much since. To them, as is I believe generally known, this Government has in the last two years given great and special attention. They formed the subject of very anxious communication with Sir Evelyn Baring on that visit to Madras in November 1882, which has had in many directions such momentous results for this Presidency. The [illegible] have been everywhere increased, and have been put at the disposal [illegible]y of the Public Works Department, but of the Revenue authorities [illegible] are now allowed to entertain special establishments for the super- [illegible] most important works up to a limit of 16 per cent [illegible] of the annual [illegible] necessity for working up to the annual grant [illegible] within the year is [illegible]ore the minds of all Co[illegible] for female educa[illegible] Collectors.

The [illegible]ole irrig[illegible] kind[illegible] which have [illegible]gation system of the Presidency, putting aside the colossal [illegible] At the [illegible] their own system of management, has, since Sir Evelyn [illegible]s visit [illegible]ear at C[illegible] and Munic[illegible]visit, and of course since this first application to me about minor irrigation for this, been begun to be surveyed by special officers deputed for this purpose, [illegible]orking by what are called tank divisions. After being surveyed, the works will be put into thorough order by the ordinary staff of the Public Works Department, and a commencement of the executive work has already been made.

107. Of course, it will take long years before all that is wanted is done, but I have great faith in the German proverb, "A thing begun with a will is half ended," and nothing could be more satisfactory than the plans submitted to me of the Periyakulam Basin, the first completed under the direction of Colonel Montgomerie.

108. When we talked this matter over with Sir Evelyn Baring, it was thought that the Tank Divisions would have to do the whole work, and that it might occupy fifty-five years; but by dividing it between the Tank Divisions and the Executive Staff, it may, I think, be got over in a single generation.

109. After some remarks with regard to the Educational Commission then sitting at Calcutta, the members of the deputation asked me to visit the weavers' houses and encourage them to work at the "unrivalled Indian hand-patterns and delicate textures."

110. I lost no time in going to these houses, but I did not observe anything in the work, of a very distinctive kind. The silk fabrics turned out were respectable, but not such, I thought, as to command a ready sale in Europe. The phrase of the address "the unrivalled Indian hand-patterns and delicate textures" pleased

me better than any silk I saw, and I would reiterate some observations which I made in replying, viz.:

"All through Europe the taste for Indian Art,—real Indian Art,—is rapidly growing. It is growing not only in England, but in Austria, in Germany, and in France. I remember some years ago finding in a shop in the remote department of the Morbihan on the shore of the Breton sea, a shawl which I saw at a glance had been made at Umritsar, in the Punjab; and I have no doubt that many other such surprises will, in the next few years, await any one who, while travelling in Europe, is on the look-out for Indian manufactures. In order, however, that the demand may reach them, your weavers must keep in view three maxims. In the first place, they must hold to purely Indian patterns and avoid all European ones; in the second place, they must flee aniline dyes as they would a pestilence; and in the third place, they must adopt the European practice of small profits and quick returns. If they attempt to stick to the old Indian principle of few transactions and large profits, they may as well go out of business at once; the wheels of life now-a-days move too rapidly for that kind of thing. If, however, they and their brethren throughout the Peninsula will follow these three very simple maxims, I really see no limit to the triumphs that may be achieved by the 'Indian hand-patterns and fine textures.' Instead of talking nonsense about the competition of Manchester, let our people go, so to speak, into partnership with Manchester, co-operate with Manchester, let Manchester do for them what she can do far more cheaply, and let them do for Manchester the hundred and one things which Manchester cannot possibly do."

111. When at Coimbatore I paid a visit to the pretty little temple of Perur, a few miles off. Here I received an address in which my attention was, for the first time, called to the difficulties of pagoda management. I have since received a great many representations on this subject, about which the most various opinions prevail, and it will be enough for the present to say that the whole question which presents difficulties of every sort is now in the hands of a Committee over which my honorable colleague Mr. Sullivan presides.

112. The address then passed to the misunderstanding that was said to exist between the Hindu and Muhammadan communities of Coimbatore; and I was asked to repeal the order of Lord Hobart's Government, passed in 1874, with respect to one sect playing on musical instruments when passing in procession before the religious edifices of the other.

113. That order was afterwards declared by the High Court to be *ultra vires*, so that, without the intervention of Government, the wish of the memorialists, that matters should go on as they used to do before it issued, was fulfilled.

114. Lastly, my visitors asked that certain pieces of land should be restored to the temple. This matter has been carefully inquired into, and the petitioners have thus far wholly failed to prove any claim whatever to the area (between 60 and 70 acres) for which they asked.

115. A few miles from Coimbatore I examined several of the so-called Pandava pits with their curious interments, and had, for the first time, brought home to me how little we know, as yet, about the distant past of South India.

116. From Coimbatore I went up the ghaut to Ootacamund, where the special officer, who had been appointed to look after the sanitation, was able to report to me that the friction which had existed between himself and the municipality, and which had given us some trouble, had come to an end.

117. On this occasion, too, I made my first visit to Sim's Park at Coonoor along with Dr. Brandis, and it was then that he made to me the suggestion about the Committee on the Forest Bill, which afterwards produced such good results. I was much pleased with what I saw at Sim's Park, and the Government has steadily supported Mr. Lawson in developing it. Since the date of which I am speaking, the roads, the fencing, the arbours have all been improved, most of the trees and shrubs have been labelled, and the ground has been extended by throwing into it the shola (wood) which adjoined its lower end.

118. From Coonoor I descended upon Salem, where I received a long address.

119. The first request of the people was to have the right of choosing the Vice-President of the Municipality.

Section 14 of the Act of this year runs as follows:—

"Unless the Governor in Council appoints one of the Municipal Councillors to be the Chairman of the Municipal Council, the Municipal Councillors shall appoint their Chairman by

election from among their own number, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, and in accordance with such rules and conditions as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Governor in Council."

120. The next object touched on was the Imperial License Tax, which is a matter belonging to the Government of India, and the arguments for and against which, are well known.

121. The third subject was the contribution made by the municipality to the police force. The wish of the people with regard to that has, as I have mentioned above, been complied with.

122. The fourth request was that Sanscrit should be taught in the college. It turned out on inquiry that the number of boys who wished to study Sanscrit was altogether trifling, and that those who wished to do so belonged merely to a single caste.

The Director of Public Instruction went as far as he properly could in compliance with the wishes of the petitioners, when he informed them that he was prepared to allow a Pundit to teach in the college if a class or classes could be formed to be remunerated solely by fees paid by the parents of the pupils to him through the head master of the college.

123. The address then passed on to speak of the industrial development of the country.

"We are glad," it was observed, "to see Government doing so much for the general education of the people, to see our university giving us more and more graduates and undergraduates year by year. But the State has, as yet, done comparatively little or nothing towards the development of the Indian Arts, whether polite or industrial. Confining ourselves to the last, it is time, we venture to submit, that the Government opens Industrial schools in large towns. We believe it is not asking too much if we request the Government to establish in Salem a school or two for teaching one or more branches of industry."

124. These were very sensible observations, and the Government if it has not been able to grant the precise request made, has been doing a great deal and hopes to do a great deal more in the direction indicated.

125. Amongst other things we have, since March 1882, put the School of Arts at Madras under new management, and are placing it on an improved footing with the object of teaching the natives of India rather to imitate or, better still, to emulate the best works of their own countrymen, than to seek for models in Europe.

126. This Government has lent all the assistance in its power to the schemes of the Art Committee, which sat in Calcutta last December. It has promised to aid to the uttermost the endeavours which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is now making as head of the Royal Commission to stimulate the arts and industries of India by means of an exhibition to be held in London in 1886, and it has laid before the Secretary of State certain proposals, which were warmly supported by the Government of India, have just been sanctioned, and will ere long be carried into effect. A Committee, under the very able guidance of Colonel Hawkes, is now engaged in taking measures to retain for the use of the Presidency some permanent record of the collection of Indian art in the Calcutta Exhibition and of the best specimens of the art-ware of Burmah and South India.

127. We have told the Director of Public Instruction to examine the Report of the Royal Commissioners on Technical Instruction published this year in London, and to inform Government in how far the recommendations made by the gentlemen who conducted that elaborate inquiry can be applied to this country.

With reference, however, to technical instruction, it must be carefully kept in mind in India and everywhere else that the soil out of which good technical instruction must grow is good primary and secondary education, primary and secondary education disembarrassed as much as possible of every study which cannot effectively "restate the reasons of its existence."

128. The deputation then complained of the competition of jail manufactures with local industry.

Great changes in this dire work a e been, as is well known, made all throughout India within the last tw manufactures which compete directly or indirectly with local manuf going to the been to a great extent abandoned.

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Lastly, the petitioners protested againt Southern India being placed under a Lieutenant-Governor, to which I replied:

"So far as I am aware, that idea has never passed in the mind of any statesman beyond the stage of mere speculation. It has presented itself as a suggestion to be considered amongst a hundred conflicting suggestions for the improvement of Indian administration. Of late, as far as I know, opinion at home has been moving quite another way, and very much in unison with your own views on the subject. Heaven knows that the affairs of a huge country like this Presidency want the very best intelligence, experience, and devotion that can be brought to bear upon them from whatever quarter these good things can be obtained."

129. While at Salem I had much conversation with the then Collector, about the bad feeling between the Hindus and the Muhammadans. He thought at that time that it was diminishing, but as we all know a recrudescence of it some months later led to very deplorable results. So true is it that in India our steps ever lie—

———per ignes
Suppositos cineri doloso.

130. Mr. Stokes directed my attention to various matters of importance. I find the following noted in my second Tour Minute:—

(i) The question whether it might not be expedient to give greater power to district officers, in dealing with subordinates of whose efficiency or character they have a thoroughly bad opinion, but against whom they are unable to prove distinct and specific charges.

In the current year Collectors have received greater powers, being now invested with authority to order transfers of Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars, &c., involving loss of salary (but not degradation of rank) and suspensions not exceeding six months, subject to appeal in every case.

(ii) The importance of giving every assistance to minor irrigation works.

A greater amount of assistance, as I have already said, has been given, and without the imposition of the special cess to which the Collector thought the people would be ready to submit.

(iii) The inconvenience caused by so much Local Fund money being locked up while the famine demands against the funds remained unsettled.

This matter has received attention in all districts, and of Rs. 5,67,000 outstanding when the Collector spoke, only Rs. 50,000 now remain, while provision is made for the adjustment of this amount in the estimates of the current year.

(iv) The urgent need of pushing on as quickly as possible the Taluk Cutcherry (office) at Dharmapuri.

This building was duly completed, and has been in use since the end of last year.

131. I observed in the same Minute:

"The cholera which was lately so bad at Salem has now ceased; but, considering that the population still uses the terribly-polluted river for many purposes, although excellent wells have been sunk, it is hardly possible that this large place should long continue exempt from some epidemic or other."

132. I also called attention to this important matter in a speech.

133. In 1883, the cholera returned to Salem and committed great ravages. I am afraid it will continue to do so until the water-supply is amended. I was glad accordingly to observe that in the municipal budget for 1884-85 it is proposed to raise a loan of Rs. 20,000 in the open market for the construction of a sewer to intercept the drainage of the town flowing into the river, and that detailed plans and estimates are promised.

134. It was in the neighbourhood of Salem that I was first led to reflect on the great importance of avenues in this "land of the sun" and in no part of the Presidency have I seen finer ones than those which that district owes I believe to a Mr. Orr. His delightfully simple methods are no longer suited to our manners and customs, but none the less should every Madras Collector try to leave a memorial of himself in the trees along the roads of his district. This is just one of the small things which does a great deal more for human happiness than many pretentious and magnificent schemes.

135. On the morning of the 16th March I returned to Madras.

Third Tour of Inspection.

136. My next journey began at Ootacamund and was to have taken me first to the Palanis, but a telegram, from the Viceroy, warning me that we might have to send troops to Egypt, made it necessary for me to remain nearer railway and telegraph lines.

137. On the evening of the 3rd July I found myself at Erode, whence I visited the anicut which governs the Kalingaroyen channel, and the town of Bhávani, where I heard some complaint of the transfer of the Munsif's Court to Erode, but I am afraid there cannot be the slightest doubt that that place is far more convenient, to the majority of persons interested, than its rival.

138. From Erode we proceeded to Karúr, where the Rev. Mr. Little complained to me of the difficulty of obtaining fibres.

139. We have given in the last couple of years much attention to that subject, and some of the results may be mentioned.

140. *Inter alia* Mr. Little himself has been regularly supplied with all papers on the subject, a lease of land near the Bhávani has been granted for experiments, and it is believed that that lease will enable the beneficiaries to grow and work up *Sanseviera zeylanica* to good profit. Funds have been provided to meet the cost of fibre experiments on behalf of Government in various places, and steps are being taken to ascertain the commercial value of the fibre of *Helicteres isora*, a shrub which occurs very abundantly in many of our districts.

141. From Karúr I passed to Trichinopoly, where, on the evening of my arrival, I inspected the bath in which Bishop Heber was drowned, then in a deplorable condition. It has now been properly railed in, while the event which has given it a melancholy celebrity has been commemorated by an inscription.

142. On the 5th I went to the anicut on the Coleroon and also inspected the large plantations near the landing place just below the weir of the Cauvery.

143. That done, there followed a number of visits to schools—Anglican, Catholic, and Hindu. In the evening the people presented to me an address. First, they spoke to me about the minor irrigation works. On that subject I need say no more. Secondly, they addressed me about the Vengur channel project, which, proposed some years ago by certain proprietors in the neighbourhood, was at first favorably entertained.

144. It turned out, however, that the Vengur channel could not be made, and the Rs. 5,000, which were subscribed for it, are being now given back to the subscribers with the accumulated interest. The good results which were expected to accrue to the neighbouring lands from the Vengur project will, it is now believed, accrue, in more abundant measure, from the improvement of the Wyacondan channel.

145. The next topic was the Imperial License Tax of which I have already spoken, and the next the pagoda endowment question. In replying to what the deputation said on the latter subject, I made a remark, which I think requires to be kept before the mind of those who are interested in them, viz.:

"Then you speak of your devastanums. I regret that you are constrained to report so disparagingly of their present management, not only because their mismanagement is an evil in itself, but because the direction of these endowments is an important part of local self-government. You pay us a great compliment in saying, or seeming to say, that we could manage your religious institutions better than yourselves. I don't think many of our co-religionists would pay us the same compliment. What more 'motive and spring of action' can you desire than to order well matters connected with your own faith?"

146. Lastly, they asked that Government should not disconnect itself from the higher education. I need not say that Government is not going to disconnect itself from the higher education.

147. On the following day I addressed the 30th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry, then under orders for Egypt. Their Colonel called my attention to the shifts to which the men were being put for want of accommodation.

148. The improved accommodation is now being provided, and will, it is believed, be completed on or before the 1st October next, at a cost of something like Rs. 26,000.

149. From Trichinopoly I went to Dindigul, where the inhabitants addressed me upon only one subject, but that a very important one to them,—their water-supply.

150. When I was in Madura, in July last I learned from its active and able Collector that trial wells had been dug whence water has been pumped, and that he had every hope that the water would turn out good. It was to be sent down to Madras for chemical examination. The particular scheme which the people suggested to me in 1882 would have severely taxed their resources, even if it had been possible, which is doubtful. The present one would appear to be much more hopeful.

151. In replying, I took an opportunity of calling attention to the lecture which had been lately delivered by Dr. Furnell, the Sanitary Commissioner, on a subject than which there is absolutely none more important in Southern India.

152. If only the people would conform in their practice to the excellent maxims with reference to water which are to be found in their sacred books, half the worst diseases of the Peninsula would vanish away.

153. On this visit to Dindigul I was favorably impressed with the medical establishments of Dr. Chester, and I heard an equally good account of them as I passed, the other day. He is spreading good medicines and some elementary ideas of hygiene all over the district.

154. Then I visited Mr. Heimpel's cigar factory, with which I was much pleased. Governments cannot interfere in such matters, but, in my private capacity, I have done all I could to make his very good wares known at home.

155. An ingenious locksmith at this place brought me some of his work to see. It seemed to me that something might be saved, and the policy of the Government of India furthered, if this manufacture could be encouraged. The locks were accordingly tried with fair but not brilliant results, as were those of another Madura locksmith. Orders have issued for a further trial of locks made in factories in the Madura District.

156. From Dindigul I passed to Tanjore, where I received a very cordial welcome, but where the people made no special requests. While there, however, I heard incidentally a bad account of the date and mahogany trees, about which the present Chief Secretary had, when Collector of the district, taken much trouble. I had this looked into, for the * introduction of valuable plants into a country like this is a matter, in my opinion, of the very highest importance, and severe notice should be taken of any wilful carelessness in allowing experiments once well begun to be neglected.

The later accounts are much better, and dates grown in the Tanjore District have quite recently been eaten in Ootacamund.

157. The conditions under which the mahogany grows in its native country are very different from any which prevail at least in the eastern parts of this presidency, but there must be climates in Madras where the date palm, so nearly allied to the widely-spread *Phœnix sylvestris*, *Phœnix farinifera*, &c., ought to flourish. Our French friends do not mean to be caught napping in such matters. I have already been addressed officially about our mahogany experiments, with a view to the benefit of Tonquin.

158. I observed that a crack in the wall of the little Fort Church menaced the monument of Swartz by Flaxman, and noted that, although it was not one of his most successful efforts, it should not be allowed to go to ruin. The repairs were completed in August 1883.

* Sir J. Mackintosh when at Bombay noted in his diary:—
"Maria d'Escobar, a Spanish lady, first brought a few grains of wheat into the City of Lima. For three years she distributed their produce among the colonists, giving twenty or thirty grains to each farmer. This is a fact, which might be a good text for a sermon to F——. Maria d'Escobar brought into existence more human beings by this supply of food than Napoleon has destroyed. If she had come from Egypt to Attica in the earlier ages of Grecian history, she would have been a goddess. Malcolm has introduced potatoes into Persia. That benefit may be remembered long after all that is now spoken of in our ridiculous Persian missions has fallen into deserved oblivion."

159. From Tanjore a long journey took me to Vellore, where on the 10th July the people met me with an address.

160. The first request made was that the temple in the fort should be handed back to the Hindus.

To that I replied that the admiration expressed for the temple was natural and creditable, but added:

"I am afraid that to restore the Vellore temple to one sect, however numerous and however deserving of respect, would hardly be in accordance with that perfect religious neutrality which is characteristic of British rule. It was not we who took the temple from the Hindus or who devoted it to secular uses, and I think we shall best fulfil our trust by keeping it as a national monument for the general delight of all who admire its elaborate style of architecture, to whatever section of religious opinion they may happen to belong."

161. The second was a similar request with regard to a certain Muhammadan mosque.

To that I replied:

"The case, however, with regard to the little Muhammadan mosque is somewhat different. It was, I suppose, a mosque when we took Vellore, and it was by our Government that it was turned to secular uses, but to restore it to religious uses would involve some expense, which would have to be met out of the general taxation of the community, mainly of the Hindus. I have not, as you know, seen the mosque, and am speaking under the impression that it is not of sufficient architectural or historical importance to be kept up for the general advantage as a national monument, but, as to that, I shall be able to form a better opinion after visiting the fort."

162. I may say that, after making the speech just quoted, I examined the mosque and saw no occasion to modify the views I had expressed. Probably neither request would have been made but for the emulation of the two sects, as to which I said:

"Finally, I come to your request that the upper fourth class in the Government Muhammadan school may be continued. Well, that is a question for yourselves, as it will be continued in the ordinary course of things if the number of students keeps up. No one can be more anxious that it should keep up than I, for it is infinitely desirable that the heart-burnings which have too often divided the Hindu and Muhammadan communities in this town and neighbourhood should be replaced by keen and healthy emulation in the field of letters."

163. The third request was for an improved water-supply, which the people wished to obtain by means of pipes from a certain large tank in the neighbourhood. This project was examined, but the Sanitary Commissioner condemned the tank, as a source of supply, on account of the surface drainage which it receives. The sinking of large wells at a suitable distance is now contemplated, and sketches and estimates are being prepared for that purpose. I am glad to observe that in a report with reference to cholera, dated April 1st, 1884, the Acting Civil Surgeon says that the Municipality has recently done much to improve the sanitation of the town.

164. The fourth request was for improved railway communication, and especially for a branch railway passing through the town and leading to Pólúr and Trinomalai in South Arcot.

This matter has received much consideration from Government, since the date of which I am writing. For the moment it will be enough to say that the survey of the line from Vellore railway station through Vellore town, Arcot, and Arni, together with the extension south from Arni through Pólúr, Trinomalai, and Tirukoilúr to Villupuram on the South Indian Railway has been completed, and its early construction is under consideration.

165. The fifth request related to a small matter which belonged to the Collector Mr. Stuart, and could not be left in better hands.

166. My answer to the sixth I have mentioned above. The seventh was that the town should not be abolished as a military station, and that a regiment should be sent to garrison it as soon as possible.

There is no intention of abolishing Vellore as a military station, and a regiment was sent to garrison it as soon as possible.

167. A journey of 22 miles over superb roads—roads are the glory of North Arcot, as avenues are that of Salem,—took me to Chittoor, where also I received an address.

168. The first request was for railway communication between Chittoor and the Madras Line of Railway.

The more important line from Vellore southward having been, as I have mentioned, already surveyed, it is in contemplation to take up ere long the survey of this line and of its extension northward.

169. The second request was that the town should be connected with Vellore by telegraph line. This was done in May 1883.

170. The third request was that we should find a way to give practical effect to the principles enunciated by the Viceroy with reference to local self-government.

The necessary Acts are now passed, and the details therewith connected are being worked out.

171. The fourth request related to the maladministration of temple funds. I have already explained what has been done with reference to that subject.

172. The fifth request was that a Munsif's Court should be located at Chittoor.

This has been done with the result, by the way, that the Palmanér people think that they have now just the same grievance which the Chittoor people had two years ago, but of these geographical controversies a solution perfectly satisfactory to all concerned is, under existing conditions of time and space, impossible.

173. The sixth request was for certain alterations in the arrangements of the Madras Railway.

One of these was not thought expedient after full consideration by the proper authorities; as regards the other, the wishes of the people have been recently met, to a great extent, and as far as was considered possible.

174. While at Chittoor I received and returned the visits of the Zemindars of Kálahasti and Kárvetnagar as well as that of the Mahant of Tirupati, whom I took an opportunity of congratulating on the sorely-needed sanitary improvements which he was introducing, and to which I shall refer again when I come to review my seventh tour.

175. Amongst other things while in this neighbourhood I opened a bridge over the Payani, inspected the jail where there had been a good deal of illness which had then ceased, visited Ranipet and the Payani anicut, saw Arcot and discussed with the Collector the state of the ruins of the Fort which Clive has made historical and in which destruction should not be allowed to go further. I also saw Wálajápet and the great Pálár Anicut.

176. Passing by Arkónam, I then transferred myself to Bellary, where I received an address from the Municipal Commissioners.

177. Their first request was that they should obtain compensation for the loss sustained by the withdrawal of all taxes payable on Government property in military cantonments.

This is a matter which belongs to the Imperial Government, but has formed the subject of much correspondence between it and this Government. It having finally resolved that municipal taxation is not to be levied on Government buildings in cantonments, the proposal of the Municipal Commissioners to re-introduce the arts tax, of which it pays a portion for the exemption of military officers, has been sanctioned.

178. Next the Commissioners proceeded to express their thanks to the Government of India and to this Government for the steps taken in view to the introduction of an enlarged measure of self-government.

In my reply I observed:

"You allude to the local self-government which the Viceroy so much wishes to encourage. It is, I think, highly desirable to encourage it for many reasons, and, amongst others, because, under existing arrangements, it seems quite impossible to provide sufficient government for the country at all. Take this district and the one that adjoins it—Anantapur. Till the other day, these two districts were united in one Collectorate, and when united they formed, astounding to relate, a country smaller by only about twenty-three square miles than the Kingdom of Belgium. They have, as you know, recently been separated for administrative purposes, and their administrative establishments have been slightly increased, but even now what do these establishments amount to? You have one European Collector here, Mr. Huntly Gordon. You have another European Collector at Anantapur, on a smaller scale of pay and younger in the service,

Mr. Roupell; there is a much younger European Head Assistant at Penukonda, while you have a European Head Assistant at Hospet, forty miles off, who, for the moment, however, is on short leave in Europe, and you have, in each of the two districts, a few native gentlemen acting under those whom I have named. There are, of course, judicial and other establishments, but that is the whole administrative establishment of a country which is, as I said a few minutes ago, hardly perceptibly smaller than a European Kingdom. I defy contradiction when I say that, to the infinite credit of the population of the Madras Presidency, there is no part of the world where an equal amount of well-being is secured at so trifling an outlay upon administration. It would be wholly impossible to secure it, at anything like the money, if the population were not good and law-abiding in a very high degree, but, if it were only feasible, I should like to see local self-government largely increased, and at the same time the trained and scientific superintendence doubled all round. The last is a mere dream I fear. We have not got, and cannot get, the money; but the first is possible, and, if there were no other argument in its favor, I would say good speed to local self-government."

179. The second request related to the Tungabhudra channel and the Alipore tank.

The investigation of these projects has not yet been taken up, but under date of 28th August, this year, the Public Works Department reports that a special officer has now been made available and will soon proceed to examine them.

180. The third request was for the introduction of trial by jury. Trial by jury has now been introduced.

181. Speaking on another subject, I said and am glad here to repeat:

"The Bellary-Hubli State Railway, part of which I hope to traverse to-morrow, has my best wishes, and I believe that your spinning mills, now that the poison-tree of protection, which blights every industry that grows up under its shade, is removed, will, if judiciously managed, have a good future. You are to be congratulated on the presence among you of an energetic citizen, who is doing something to introduce into this neighbourhood really efficient ploughs. I hope much for India from the extension of her manufactures and the growth of more varied industries. I should like to see this presidency thoroughly surveyed by eyes at once scientific, and trained to look out for openings for the practical application of science, with a view to such extension. After all, however, it is to her soil, her sun, her rainfall, and their interaction upon her products that India must mainly look for prosperity."

182. Then came an address on the subject of cotton, in which the memorialists asked me to give my attention to "the desirability of an enactment to repress frauds in connection therewith." My honorable colleagues and I did so and came to the conclusion that any further legislation on the subject would not be advisable.

183. I may remark, in passing, that (1) the remedy lies in the hands of the buyer, who should remember the maxim *caveat emptor*; (2) a legitimate trade in mixed cotton exists in this presidency; (3) a bad habit of giving advances to men of straw ties the hands of the buyer, frequently obliges him to take adulterated cotton, and should be abandoned; (4) the cost of Inspectors would naturally form a burden on the trade; (5) fraudulent adulteration is already punishable under the Penal Code.

184. From Bellary I visited the ruins of Vijianagar, making use of the unfinished Bellary-Hubli line, the authorities of which were extremely courteous and helpful.

185. At the Railway Station of Hospet I received a very well written address, the most important part of which was the fourth paragraph, which was as follows:—

"These monuments of ancient architectural skill, sublime even in their ruins, have been visited and admired by your Excellency's predecessors, but no effective measures have been adopted towards their restoration or repair. We, however, trust your Excellency's Government will take such measures for the restoration or repair of some of the old decaying temples as would fitly commemorate your Excellency's visit and associate your Excellency's name with those of the ancient founders of these temples. Verily the work of restoring decaying institutions is as great and meritorious as that of founding new ones."

186. The strong interest which the people here took in their historical neighbourhood pleased me much, and in replying I said:

"Happy, however, are those countries where
is time. There are countries in which,
uggle for years against apathy an
that seems to interfere, even for
ty, which is the most dangerous
tion is proud of its past. In a
ndia in which the first idea of th
the only enemy to be fought by the Archæ-
before he can begin his campaign against time,
d ignorance, to say nothing of that panic-fear
his own good, with a man's right to abuse his
ly of socialism. Happy, too, are those countries
recent report, I think by Mr. Carlleyle, I read
e population, when they saw that the Archæ-

ologists cared about a monument, was to make haste to destroy it. That district has just passed, I believe, under the rule of one of the most accomplished men of letters and investigators into human history who now is, or ever was in India—Sir Alfred Lyall; but even he will have much to do, I should think, to bring it up to the level of intelligence which I am rejoiced to find here."

187. In my third tour minute I wrote as follows:—

"No time should be lost in arresting the further progress of mischief. Arboreal vegetation should be ruthlessly destroyed. There are here none of the associations, which made the sweeping away of plants from the Colosseum and the Baths of Caracalla so doubtful a proceeding. The centre of the most important of all the temples wants immediate attention. If it can be saved at all, it can only be saved by being looked into speedily. It may, however, be impossible to save it; but there are numbers of other buildings which, with a little care now, will stand for long years. I read on the spot Captain Cole's report and generally agree with his conclusions; but I would confine our action for the present to keeping things absolutely in *statu quo*, doing nothing in the way of excavation, however proper that may be at a later stage of our proceedings."

188. Since that period the Vittalaswami temple above alluded to has been entirely cleared of rubbish, the roof and pavement have been repaired, the ruinous ashlar walls pulled down and rebuilt, some large stones weighing from three to six tons removed from dangerous positions, the stone car repaired, besides a variety of other works set forth in Mr. Black's report received by us on the 8th August.

189. From Kamalápuram, where we had encamped with a view to visit Vijianagar, I traversed the Sandúr Valley for the purpose of seeing the very valuable forest (with regard to which I had much conversation with Mr. Brandis) and of exchanging visits with the Rajah.

190. The convention necessary for enabling us to deal with this forest has now been concluded, the survey has been completed, and an important piece of forest is very carefully looked after, to the great advantage alike of the small native state concerned, and of this Government.

191. On the night of the 20th I returned to Bellary, where Colonel Clarke, who was in command of the artillery, told me that his horses were cruelly in want of stabling. Three blocks of stabling are now in course of erection.

192. In my tour minute occurs the following paragraph, describing the impression I received of military matters at Bellary:—

"An excellent spirit seems to have been infused into all branches of the service by General Prendergast, who commands in the Ceded Districts. It was quite impossible, even for a Civilian, not to see that all the officers, he came across, were quite unusually interested in their work. The troops were paraded for my inspection on the morning of the 17th—7th Fusiliers, the 25th and 27th Madras Native Infantry, the 2nd Madras Cavalry, and the Field Battery—all, to my non-professional eye, looking very well. I likewise went up the Fort with General Prendergast, and am very decidedly of opinion that the small amount of money required to make it efficient as a place of refuge for non-combatants, in troubled times, should be spent forthwith. General Prendergast has thoroughly entered into the spirit of the extremely important circulars lately issued by Government, under the advice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. If all officers in high command throughout the territories garrisoned by the Madras Army do the same, these halcyon times will have been turned to the best advantage."

193. As regards the alterations required to make the Fort efficient as a place of refuge, a grant of Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 7,000 has since been made for the purpose.

194. Mr. Wace, the Chaplain, made to me various representations about the churches in this station.

195. The views of himself and others have been carefully considered. We did not see our way to substitute for the two existing ones a single church, but the necessary repairs to the Garrison Church were completed in May 1883, and the Fort Church was put in order in May 1884.

196. Just before leaving Bellary I received, late at night, an address from the native officials.

197. They asked first for the repair and maintenance of the ruins of Vijianagar. I have already stated what has been done in relation to that.

198. Their second request was for irrigation works. The same remark applies to this.

199. Their third request was for the construction of a
onnect the
southern taluks of Bellary with the Mysore State Railw
vey of an

Engineers to be impracticable before I was addressed on the subject, the great depth at which rock is reached, at the spot where the dam was to be constructed, being found to prohibit the construction of a reservoir. As the locality seems at first sight an extremely suitable one, it is not surprising that the people should have been loth to part with the hope that the reservoir they wished for could be made.

223. Then the memorialists asked for a permanent settlement. As is well known, the present views of the supreme authorities, although highly favorable to letting the people "sit easy," as we say in Scotland, and to great *continuity* of assessments are quite adverse to what is properly called a *permanent* settlement.

224. This request, however, was based upon mistakes in fact. The petitioners thought that before the recent settlement dry lands had not been assessed above one rupee an acre, but this was not so. The old rates, far from not going above one rupee, sometimes went as high as nearly eleven rupees and as low as four pies, say one halfpenny. Now they vary only from five rupees to four annas, or say sixpence, four annas being the lowest assessment now anywhere permitted in the districts under the new settlement, on the ground that land which cannot bear an assessment of sixpence an acre is not really arable land.

225. Further they stated that formerly no extra tax was charged, if the owner had in any way improved the land, and they implied that a tax was now charged on the ryots' improvements. That however is not the case; no change of this sort has been made, and it would be most impolitic to make it.

226. The deputation then went on to complain that hundreds of acres of land were lying waste, and asked that we should devise some rules to encourage the cultivation of waste land.

227. A perfect official literature has grown up about the abandonment of lands in the Cuddapah district, it having been imagined that the high rates imposed by the revised settlement might have caused this.

228. It has turned out, however, that the cause of the abandonment of a quantity of land over 80,000 acres in the district, which was cultivated or nominally cultivated, was, first, the famine and, secondly, the fact that a vast quantity of land was assessed at only an anna an acre. Such a low assessment allowed the ryot to hold a great deal of land of which he made no use, and this land, when he has to pay for it sixpence an acre, instead of three halfpence or in some cases only one halfpenny an acre, he has abandoned, with the result of concentrating his attention upon land that will really grow human food.

229. The Muhammadan inhabitants also presented to me a very intelligent address, in which they made the agreeable announcement that they had no grievances.

230. From Cuddapah I went to Conjeeveram, where I also received an address.

231. There was no request made to me in it, but I was told that the Commissioners were about to submit a certain scheme to Government with reference to improving their water-supply. This was not done because, as I understand, they found it would be too costly, but they have submitted a proposal of a far less costly kind, which has been sanctioned.

Fourth Tour of Inspection.

232. On the morning of August 28th I again left our summer capital for the plains.

233. It had been raining for several months, and the tanks were most satisfactorily full. At Coimbatore and at Shoranore I was mainly occupied with obtaining information with regard to the recent outbreak of cholera in the jail at the former place, which has happily not recurred, but the causes of which have never been fully explained; the state of things at Salem; and Mr. Logan's inquiries about Malabar Land Tenures, the results of which had just been put into shape.

234. From the southern end of the bridge at Shoranore to Trichore the road lies through the territories of the Rajah of Cochin.

235. I have never passed through a more beautiful piece of non-mountainous scenery in my life. The foliage, under the influence of the recent heavy rains, was magnificent, the rice fields were one sheet of green, the wild flowers of exceptional beauty and interest, the population singularly well grown and stalwart.

236. At Trichore I had time to see the principal buildings, and at night the large and singularly picturesque Pagoda—so unlike anything which one sees on the Eastern Coast—was very tastefully lighted up.

237. Embarking about 9, upon that wonderful system of lagunes which we know as the backwaters, I found myself in the early morning of the 30th at the Residency on the Island of Balghatty. A frightful morning it was, worthy of Ootacamund in the height of summer, and all day the rain descended with persistent fury. At 12 o'clock the Rajah came to visit me and was followed half an hour later by his brother, the Eliya Rajah. They were immediately succeeded by a deputation from the white Jews, and that again by a deputation from the black Jews, both asking me to visit their respective Synagogues. I returned the visits of the Princes at the Palace in Ernacolum, where a durbar was held, and thence went to fulfil my promises to the Jews.

238. At both Synagogues they read—according, I believe, to the usual custom on such occasions—the prayer for the Queen and other authorities, while, at that of the white Jews, I saw the famous deed which Mr. Logan has carefully translated.

239. There seems no doubt that it is not as old as it is sometimes called, but it must be as old as the Morgengabe preserved in the Monastery of the Trinitá at La Cava, which is quite the oldest deed I ever saw in Europe.

240. In the evening the Rajah gave a dinner at the Residency, at which, being still infirm, he was represented by the Eliya Rajah, who proposed the health of the Queen, Empress of India,—I proposing that of the Rajah.

241. The 31st dawned brightly, and I crossed the lagune very early to British Cochin. The Municipal Commissioners received me at the landing place and delivered an address.

242. These gentlemen made no request except that the Madras Government would bestow its attention on the subjects of special interest to them, which might from time to time be submitted for its consideration, a request with reference to which it was easy to promise compliance and to keep the promise when made. They have, for example, recently asked us to allow them to purchase twenty-five additional iron tanks from municipal funds for the purpose of storing water, and this request was granted. They also took the opportunity of explaining very clearly some of the improvements which they had made and some of the difficulties which they had to encounter.

243. They were followed by the Chamber of Commerce, who asked first for a railway and secondly for a harbour.

244. With reference to these requests, I said at the time:

"About the Railway from Shoranore, I think I need say nothing. You are aware of the position of the question and of the line which has been taken by the Madras Government. By that line, subject to the decisions of the higher authorities, we firmly and *ex animo* abide. I am delighted to find that you have a hope of being able to lay before us a scheme for a harbour, which will cost far less than the one which was last under consideration, for I confess that my heart sank within me when I read Mr. Parkes' calculation about 81 lakhs of rupees. I am sure that the professional advisers of the Government and the Government itself will listen with great attention to any propositions submitted to them which have the support of this Chamber; but I need not remind you that questions of this kind have to be finally decided not hard by in Ootacamund, nor even in Madras."

245. Both of these were, of course, matters appertaining to the Supreme Government. Much correspondence took place with respect to the first, and this Government advised the construction of the railway on a joint guarantee for a term of fifteen years by the British Government and by the Native States of Travancore and Cochin, the liabilities of each being regulated by the extent to which it was interested in the construction of the line.

246. The Government of India did not see its way to accept the proposals made, and the matter is still in abeyance.

247. Great attention has been given to the question of a harbour at Cochin, but up to this time it has not been made clear to me that a really good harbour could be made there, even if the Government of India had the purse of Fortunatus.

248. A harbour, different from that suggested by Mr. Parkes, was talked of when I was at Cochin, but plans and estimates for it have not been yet placed before us.

249. Then I was taken to see the old church, where much was wanted. We have since given a grant for the repair of this curious structure and the assistance of the Public Works Department.

250. From British Cochin I returned to the Residency, where, in the course of the morning, I received a visit from the Archbishop of Verapoly, the head of the Carmelite Mission in South-Western India.

251. Later came a large number of Syrian Christians of many shades of opinion, who presented a short, but very noticeable, address, in which, amongst other things, they said that my visit was "the occasion which for the first time, after ages of separation, witnessed the spectacle of all the different sects of their community, following divergent articles of faith, sinking for once religious and party differences and joined together to do honor to their common friend."

252. In the early afternoon I received a deputation of rate-payers from British Cochin, who presented a prodigiously long, but not very numerously signed, address. They first complained of the mismanagement of their municipal affairs. To that part of the address I replied as follows:—

"I have listened with much interest to your address, and I perceive that you are anxious that the powers-that-be should largely diminish taxation, while largely increasing those services to the public which are paid for out of taxation.

"That, gentlemen, is the first thought of many excellent people in all countries. When, however, they have succeeded in getting behind the scenes, more especially if they attain to the closely-watched servitude which is mocked with the name of power, and learn the difficulties of their predecessors, they are apt to find that to increase expenditure and to diminish revenue is to burn the candle at both ends. A lady in England, who has said many good things, replied to a friend who blamed her, when a girl, for burning the candle at both ends, that that was surely the best way to make the ends meet; but I do not think that any financier, Imperial or Municipal, has ever, after trying the experiment, been inclined to agree with her.

"So much by way of a *primâ facie* objection to your general scheme. When, however, I come to its details, I must confess myself unable to criticise them. As you know I only came here the night before last, and the frightful weather which we had yesterday prevented my seeing as much of the neighbourhood as I could wish. I have no doubt that there is a vast deal of truth in your representations, but what can be done with such a pittance as that of which the Municipality disposes—under Rs. 19,000 per annum—even with your present taxation. Take away the money that used to be collected for the Police, and it seems to me you would be unable even to improve the conservancy, which, as you say, greatly wants improving, and which, as I am informed, the Municipality proposes to improve with the money set free by the remission on the part of the Government of the Police contribution.

"To do all you want would require very large funds, but where are they to come from? You ask for local self-government, and I can promise you that your wish will be fairly considered; but although local self-government is an excellent thing, it won't enable you to get blood out of a stone, or to put a very poor community in a position to enjoy those comforts and luxuries which a wealthy community can easily provide for itself.

"As to those matters which belong to the province of the Government, I will see that what you have advanced is examined in a friendly spirit; but it would, as I am sure you will perceive, be impossible for me to give an off-hand answer about them upon this occasion."

253. Since this address was presented very large changes have been introduced, as is well known, in the position of Municipalities, and it will be interesting to see how far, when the new system is fairly under way, the people of Cochin will support the policy heretofore pursued by their Municipality, or that which found favor with the representatives of the local opposition who addressed me. Already last year we introduced the elective system, but so little enthusiasm did this extension of self-government, which was earnestly pressed on me, create, when it was once given, that for want of candidates we were obliged to nominate three Commissioners.

254. One of the grievances of the petitioners against their Municipality, the condition of the Calvety Canal, has been, I observe from the latest Municipal report, attended to.

255. The public garden which gave no satisfaction to the petitioners, and which they said served the purpose of a Nekropolis for dogs, has, it appears, been abandoned after much local discussion.

256. To the water-supply, which was another grievance, I have already alluded.

257. Another grievance was about a certain jetty. This was inquired into and the opinion of the Advocate-General was taken, but the Government entirely agreed that the Municipal Commissioners were acting fully within their rights. As their President put it, they said to persons who wanted to land goods: "There is the jetty; if you find it a convenience to you, pay us so much; if you don't care to pay, then land goods through the mud as you used to do. We are not preventing you."

258. The memorialists further complained about certain of their medical arrangements. Some of these were purely municipal matters, and I have reason to believe that the Municipality look very well after them. Others related to the Government, and appear to amount to a request that it should retain the services of medical men for the purpose of attending the inhabitants at large without fee or reward, a proposition which was, of course, wholly inadmissible.

259. Turning now to matters which belong more directly to the Government, I was told by the petitioners that the Police force assigned to Cochin was inadequate. The strength of the Police, however, would appear to be unusually large in proportion to the population. The peculiar circumstances of Cochin to which the petitioners alluded are already carefully recognised in the distribution of the Police Force. In the large towns of Malabar which are surrounded on all sides by British territory, such as Calicut and Pálghat, the proportion of police to population is far smaller.

260. Then came a grievance about Port conservancy, with regard to which the Marine authorities were consulted, but did not see their way to support the petition.

261. The last complaint was with reference to the encroachments of the sea, which was said to be carrying off valuable cocoanut trees and other property. This grievance was of the same character as that of the persons who build houses under Vesuvius. When the head of the Marine Department visited the spot, after six months' interval, he reported:

"I find the coast restored; there are 300 feet of sand between the coast boundary pillar and the sea line, while many huts and trees still remain where they never ought to have been placed, viz., between the pillar and the sea, showing that the injury never really reached the normal line. Although the injury and loss were so recent, the lesson is of so little use that new trees are here and there being planted, and new huts are preparing now. In the complaint referred to, the inhabitants are treated of as ryots, but they are really fishermen, to whom the close proximity of the sea is a great object, and whose experience and tradition should be sufficient warning to them."

262. Later in the day I visited another Synagogue of the black Jews at Ernacolum, where most of those who had formed the deputation met me, which they were unable to do at their principal Synagogue, having grounded, as they returned, on a sand-bank in the middle of the lagune—a common incident, it would appear, of Cochin life.

263. This done, I went to a Syrian church, whence I drove to the large school which Mr. Sealy, the very intelligent Director of Public Instruction, has created almost out of nothing, for he began with thirty boys in a shed. I gathered from him that his pupils took on the whole more kindly to mathematics than to any other study. The younger boys were learning to write or engrave upon the palm-leaf—a strange sight to an English eye. Since the date of my visit we have acknowledged Mr. Sealy's merits by making him a Fellow of the Madras University.

264. I started after nightfall—the lagune being everywhere beautifully illuminated till we passed out of Cochin waters—and arrived on the morning of the 1st September at Karmady. The route lay now through channels narrow as rivers, now narrower still—little more than canals, and again expanding into chains of

with a view to adjust the Government demand to the circumstances of particular places as nearly as it can, but it is perfectly idle to suppose that any arrangements can be wholly satisfactory. The circumstances of different districts and parts of districts are too varied to admit of absolute adaptation to individual requirements. Infinite care is, however, taken to meet local wants as far as possible.

284. Next, the petitioners asked for the extension of local self-government. Local self-government has been extended.

285. Lastly, they complained of the union of revenue and magisterial functions.

286. That is a question not for us, but for the supreme authorities, and resolves itself, like many other Indian questions, into one of finance. There can be no doubt, as I told the petitioners in reply, that it would be more in accordance with the most scientific principles of legislation to have revenue and magisterial functions separated, and the stream of tendency flows in that direction.

287. I heard dismal accounts, along my road, of the failure of coffee cultivation in the part of Travancore which I was crossing, but in British Territory things were better. I visited one estate in the hills above the Courtallum waterfalls, where they had had the sense to preserve many of the trees of the primæval forests, which repaid this generosity by shade very useful to the cultivation.

288. At Courtallum we left rain and also coolness behind us, and the low water-parting, which separates the lands irrigated by the Chittar from those which depend upon the main stream of the Támraparni, was as dry and desolate as possible. Here and there Mr. Pennington pointed out small hills which Dr. Brandis, as it seems to me most judiciously, proposes to reserve. At present they grow nothing but a dreary *Euphorbia*, I suppose the *nivulia*, which has not even the merit of defending more valuable seedlings, as is done by the prickly-pear.

289. Immediately on my arrival at Tinnevelly, the Municipality presented an address to which I replied.

290. The inhabitants of Tinnevelly observed:

"We have, we are thankful to say, nothing specially to ask of your Excellency's Government in the matter of local wants, as they have been well attended to by the various officials who have served amongst us, and will, we have no doubt, be carefully attended to in future as occasion offers, as our present Collector has been long in the district, knows it intimately, and does not spare himself in the cause of the public.

"We look forward with much eagerness to the extension of the South Indian Railway to Trivandrum from this town. The land trade between the two places is not inconsiderable, and the two provinces are, for various reasons, intimately connected one with the other, and we trust that the resources of the country will further be developed by this improvement in internal communication."

With regard to the latter, I may say that, however the railway runs into Travancore, whether by the northern or the southern route, it will be certain to benefit it and Tinnevelly.

291. In replying to their address I made some observations which I am not sorry to repeat, viz.:

"It only remains to thank you for all the good wishes which you have expressed with regard to my administration. I trust that to the eye of the distant observer, which is attracted only by sudden changes and startling efforts, it may appear utterly dull and uneventful; but I shall be disappointed if, when it is over, those who are brought into immediate contact with it are not able to say, amongst other things, that during its course, the Presidency of Madras obtained the right of using for her own urgent needs a larger proportion of the taxation levied within her borders; that those of our departments which were not in a satisfactory condition —such as the Forest Department—had been put on better footing; that the best men throughout our various services had, very early in the day, come to know that their work was watched with sympathetic interest at headquarters; and that they were not reduced to hopelessness by seeing all the most influential positions bestowed, as a matter of course, upon meritless seniority.

"These are not very sensational ambitions, and the record of their fulfilment would, no doubt, read, even when recorded by the ablest pen, as if it were traced with opium upon sheets of lead, a phrase which was, by the by, originally used about the philosopher who wrote the life of the Statesman with whose spirit a wise ruler of this part of India would most, I think, desire to be filled—the life of Turgot.

"Of such good dulness, however, is woven the happiness of nations. I do not think one could anywhere find a district which more naturally raises such thoughts than this of Tinnevelly, for Bishop Caldwell, who has so well told its history, finds it necessary to fill pages upon pages with the events which occurred during the terrible period which preceded its passing under British rule, while he finds a paragraph or two quite enough to describe the unbroken progress and prosperity of the last eighty years. And why? because those eighty years have been years of profound peace, whereas before they began, Tinnevelly had never from the beginning of time known, as the Bishop very truly observes, eighty consecutive months, perhaps not even eighty consecutive weeks, of peace."

292. The phrase "that during its course the Presidency of Madras obtained the right of using for her own urgent needs a larger proportion of the taxation levied within her borders" referred to the expected visit of Sir Evelyn Baring and its financial consequences, which, at the time I spoke, were only a hope, but before the end of the year became a reality.

293. On September 14th I received the principal people—European and Native—as I had done at Courtallum, and the afternoon was chiefly given to the schools of various Christian sects. I spoke at four of these, but at none of them were any definite requests made, except that no disfavor should be shown to Native Christians, a request which I need not say I was able to meet with the assurance that they should have the most perfect equality of treatment.

294. Here also I received a long address on behalf of the cotton interest. This was officially considered, and the petitioners were informed that, for reasons substantially the same as those mentioned above in the review of my third tour, we were not prepared to legislate in the direction they desired.

Early on the morning of the 15th I drove out with Colonel Hasted, who had met me by appointment at Tinnevelly, to the Srívaikuntham Anicut which I saw and in the neighbourhood of which I had carefully explained to me the various questions connected therewith. I remarked at the time, "a proposal will presently be made for constructing a bridge upon the piers long since built with that view, which ran out from the side of the anicut looking down stream, and there can be no doubt that such a work is much wanted."

295. Such a proposal has subsequently been transmitted by the Local Fund Board, but has been referred back to them with reference to certain constructive details.

296. On the morning of the 16th I visited the great Shiva Temple and, after examining that really noble structure, received an address from an association representing, as I gathered, the party opposed to the Municipality as at present constituted.

297. They began by thanking me for sanctioning the introduction of the elective system into the Tinnevelly Municipality.

298. Next came a request about the position of dancing girls, which had reference to the general legislation of India, not that of Madras.

299. Then followed a petition that the Sub-Judge's Court should not be removed to Palamcottah. There was a good deal of difference of opinion about this subject, and I examined the Sub-Judge's Court on the 15th September. It was ultimately decided that the Court should not be removed.

300. The third subject was the establishment of temple committees. This is part of the pagoda question already alluded to.

301. The last request was with reference to a dispute about a road, which belonged entirely to the sphere of local self-government.

302. The whole of the country immediately around Tinnevelly and Palamcottah was at this period of the year one vast sea of rice just ready for the harvest, but the line, which took me towards Madura, leads through a region which in September a desert, relieved only by the long blue line of the ghauts. At Sátúr I was met by the young nephew of the Zamorin, whom we lately made a Deputy Collector, and at Virudupati, a rising cotton mart beginning to rival

Tuticorin, the party was joined by Mr. Crole, the Acting Collector, and Mr. Robinson, the Assistant Collector, of Madura.

303. At the Madura station the Municipal Commissioners met me with an address, in which they first thanked me for the extension of local self-government and then asked for its further encouragement.

304. There is, I apprehend, no town in the Presidency where, during the last two years, the efforts of the people towards managing their own local affairs have met with more encouragement from the representative of the Government on the spot.

305. I should also remark that the Madura Municipality, which is fortunate in the activity and ability alike of its President and Vice-President, has been doing much to improve the water-supply and general condition of the town. It has accordingly been very agreeable to the Government to be able to assist it by a considerable grant from Provincial Funds towards the building of the Vaigai bridge.

306. On the 18th there was a reception of the European residents and the chief of the Native community in the great hall of Tirumal Naik's Palace, which is admirably adapted for ceremonials of this kind. The work of partial restoration seems to be going on satisfactorily; the large room which is now used as a court will require various alterations before it quite suits its purpose, the great difficulty being—the very common one—its bad acoustic properties; these, however, will doubtless be overcome, and the parts of the building which it is proposed to use as minor courts and public offices will subserve these respective purposes sufficiently well although some inconvenience may arise from there being too great an amount of noise. Here I received an address from the general community.

307. The first request of the Madura inhabitants was that I would support the Periyar project. With that request I have most fully complied.

308. The second referred to the minor irrigation works. Of that I have said enough.

309. The third was with reference to the construction of a steam tramway between Madura and Pámban, and they asked that more reliable statistics should be taken before Government decided on starting it. It goes without saying that the request of the people will be complied with.

310. The next request was with reference to the cost of litigation, to which I replied as follows:—

"As to expense of litigation, that is matter rather for the Secretary of State than for the Government of Madras. Of course we all know the objections to taxes upon litigation; but where a considerable revenue has to be raised from the people for the service of the people, we must be content with imposing the least bad taxes, all taxation being of course more or less bad. I have often considered the subject when I was officially concerned with the *general* finance and politics of India; but I am obliged to admit that I never heard an alternative to these taxes suggested which seemed to me likely to be less inconvenient and unpleasant than they."

311. The last request referred to a proposal which was then being discussed, about separating Dindigul from Madura. Up to this time, however, the change, which we then thought of, has not been made, so that the request of the people has thus far been complied with. Personally I still think that, if Madura could be divided on the same principles as Bellary and Anantapur were divided, it would be an advantage to the population, but this local question is inextricably connected with various large imperial questions which can only be settled by the Viceroy and Secretary of State. Official strength in Madura is not perhaps at present as well distributed as it might be, and advantage will be taken of the changes in *personnel* which will be caused by impending retirements on proportionate pensions, to see if some change for the better cannot be made.

312. In the evening of the 18th, the great tank was admirably illuminated, and the arrangements made on this occasion, as well as an exhibition of articles of

local manufacture, in one of the greatest corridors of the Pagoda, on the morning of the 19th, gave me a very favorable impression of the taste and activity of the native artisans. The Pagoda itself is—as is well known—quite the finest thing of its kind in India, and does not give the impression, which many other similar buildings do, of having been left stranded by the progress of events. It excites obviously a very living interest in some classes of the population, and large sums are annually expended upon its decoration or repair. I observed a master workman carving stone with very considerable skill, whose wages were little more than a rupee a-day. His subordinates received only eight annas.

313. From Madura I travelled to Erode and returned on the 20th September to Ootacamund.*

M. E. GRANT DUFF.

[* It is intended that the continuation of this Minute shall be published early in November.]

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

OOTACAMUND,
August 3rd to September 16th, 1884.

In the month of October last, I completed, by a visit to South Canara, my general survey of the twenty-two districts of this Presidency, and, as some nine months have now passed, it may be time to review that survey, with the object of seeing what desirable changes have been made in consequence of it, what remain to be made, and, above all, how far it has been possible to meet the requests of the people preferred to the head of the Government in person.

2. The machine of administration, in all civilised countries, is now so complicated that it is necessary for those who preside over it perpetually to revise and re-revise, if important things are not to be allowed to slip out of sight. The impossibility of doing this amidst the conditions under which a statesman's life is now passed in Western Europe is a grave misfortune. In a country governed as this is and must long continue to be, it is highly desirable that the European rulers of every degree should come as much as possible into contact with the ruled.

Thanks to the improvement of communications, the absence of famine and other causes, it has been my good fortune to see more of the Presidency than any of my predecessors have done in an equally short time.

In nearly a hundred addresses, which have been collected into a volume, I have secured a perfect photograph of what the most articulate portion of the people were asking from the chiefs of the administration in 1882 and 1883.

In my replies, while recognizing the good sense of a very large proportion of the requests made, I took the greatest possible care not to commit my colleagues or myself to almost anything, and I am particularly glad to be able to show by this paper, to the persons who came to see me, with what scrupulous care every one of their wishes has been examined, and how very largely performance has surpassed promise.

3. When I left England in the autumn of 1881 the subject connected with Madras, which was most talked of at home, was the gold industry of the Wynaad. A few days before I started, a deputation interested in the Nílgiri Railway came to visit me, and questions of considerable moment, with reference to the sanitation of Ootacamund, came before me ere I had been many weeks in this country.

4. I determined accordingly that my first tour of inspection should be directed towards the West, and on the 4th January 1882 I left Madras.

5. Travelling through the night, I reached Pothanur on the morning of the 5th. There I was met by, amongst others, Mr. Stuart, the Collector of Coimbatore, whose valuable services we are now so soon to lose. He was, at that time, very much occupied with the wants of his district in the matter of wood, and sketched to me a project which had commended itself to his mind for afforestation on a considerable scale.

6. The new Forest Act was then only a *hope*, but it has since become a *reality*, and the position of Coimbatore, so far as the woodland and its connected benefits are concerned, has much improved.

7. The senior Conservator of Forests, writing under date of the 5th August 1884, reports to me that very good progress has been made in the constitution of its reserved forests, in demarcation, in survey, and in fire protection. Attention has been given to the formation of fuel and fodder reserves, though the Collector's final recommendations have not yet been received, and the forest revenue of th district is steadily increasing.

8. On my way up the Coonoor Ghaut I stopped at Burliar and examined the Government Garden there.

9. I was glad to observe that the Mangosteen was prospering, and I learn that it continues so to do. Since that period, too, *Amherstia nobilis* has flowered at Burliar, although, in spite of the kind help of Dr. King of Calcutta, it has failed to grow at Guindy. It would be highly desirable to naturalise in the Presidency so noble a tree, and Mr. Lawson will, if any one can, succeed in doing this.

10. The *Ipecacuanha* I had, in January 1882, to pronounce a failure; but, thanks to Mr. Lawson, who has altered the method of treatment that was being pursued, it is now succeeding much better. He does not believe that with us it will ever be a forest, but only a garden, product; nevertheless, a very considerable work for the good of humanity will be accomplished, if this powerful remedy in some very bad forms of dysentery is made common and cheap, by garden-cultivation amongst us. Its success would be particularly agreeable to me personally, because, I was at the India Office when the first attempts were made to bring it to India, and I took a great interest in them.

11. The Liberian coffee was fruiting freely; but I am told that it is not found of much practical importance in this Presidency.

12. The planters find the pericarp too hard to enable them to pulp it readily. Those kinds of coffee which have only one seed in the berry command a higher price, and the Liberian yields a crop only once in fourteen months. These disadvantages are thought, I am informed, to outweigh its comparative immunity from leaf-disease.

13. From Burliar I pushed on to Ootacamund, where the Municipal Commissioners presented an address in which they expressed a hope that the day was not far distant when Ootacamund would be made the permanent seat of the Madras Government.

14. In my reply I was unable to treat this as a serious claim, but spoke of it as a jest, at the expense "of the exaggerated pretensions of others."

15. For myself, I think that in the existing circumstances of this Presidency the dual arrangement of a summer and winter capital is far the best. No doubt, if it were only possible, an ambulant Government, a camp Government, would be the most desirable for India as a whole, and for every province in it; but that kind of Government is no longer possible. It belongs to the days of personal rule, and is quite incompatible, if it were only from considerations of expense, with our centralised, scientific system of administration with its infinite array of minute rules, precedents, and reports which require a gigantic apparatus of offices and officials.

16. Of course, no one, in his right mind, would ever have selected Madras as the capital of the huge province which is known as the Madras Presidency, and, indeed, no one ever did so. The *congeries* of very poor villages *plus* the moderate sea-port town, the Mount Road shops, the Government establishments, and the numerous small parks or "compounds" which, scattered thinly over twenty-seven square miles, form what is now called the City of Madras, have been grouped around the Fort which formed the centre of the very small and humble affairs of the Company upon the Coromandel Coast. The place has never grown to be a real capital, and can, indeed, never do so, although, if the harbour and other improvements to which I alluded in my speech of June 30th are carried into effect, it will gradually become more important than it is now.* Still I think for historical, sentimental, and other good reasons, it would be the greatest mistake to leave Madras; and I trust that no Government will ever dream of doing so, although, from many points of view, Ootacamund presents advantages which it cannot offer.

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* The following is the passage to which I refer:—

"These being the circumstances with which we have got to deal, what should Madras wish for? It should wish first for the completion of its system of drainage and water-supply—that is, it should wish to take itself out of the list of the semi-barbarous cities and put itself among the civilized cities—the cities which, like London, have a low death-rate; secondly, it should wish to see the Buckingham Canal pushed on as fast as the means at the disposal of its Government will permit; thirdly, it should wish to see the Singareni coal brought to its gates; fourthly, it should wish to see the excellent Municipal constitution which it has got, and which Mr. Arundel has done so much to perfect, worked ever better and better; fifthly, it should wish to see its harbour completed and made thoroughly efficient—so efficient that it may become a link in the communication between England, Bombay, and the further East."

17. The object of a wise administration should be to soothe those little municipal jealousies which are complicated so readily with the self-interest of individuals, who derive pecuniary advantage from the presence of the heads of the State amongst them.

Madras at least has nothing to gain by insisting that the Government shall give the apple either to herself or to her rival, and it is a section of her inhabitants who have of late been insisting on a judgment of Paris.

18. Some of the other requests of the Ootacamund municipality were of a far more serious kind. They observed that the sanitation of the place might fairly claim Imperial help, and they asked for assistance alike for sanitation, drainage, and water-supply.

19. At that time this Government also considered that they had a right to ask for *Imperial* help. Imperial help was, indeed, promised in the days of Lord Napier, and we recalled that fact to the Government of India in the year 1882, but much time had passed, the policy of the Viceroy in Council had changed in the interval, and we found, not unnaturally, that we had to give the assistance wanted out of *Provincial* funds.

Letter No. 287-W., dated 1st February 1882.

20. I trust we have not been niggardly in giving that assistance. Since the e of which I am writing, we have, *inter alia*, paid out of Provincial revenue for ing the baz.ar some Rs. 94,000, bought and got rid of, at the expense of ,000, the highly insanitary "Lines" near the small public park known as the round, and improved off the face of creation various other nuisances of the sa ind.

Speaking in round numbers, since the Municipal Commissioners addressed me, Provincial has spent on the sanitation of Ootacamund not less than Rs. 97,000 through the Public Works Department, and not less than Rs. 27,000 through the Municipal Commissioners.

22. The lake is much less defiled than it used to be, and, when the intercepting sewer has been carried down below the Willow Bund to the outfall, will be all that could be desired; but what a pity that the same foresight, which has saved from pollution the lake of Kodaikánal, did not preside a generation ago over the arrangements made with respect to what is obviously destined to be the most important *sanitarium* in Southern India.

23. As soon as the drainage works, now in progress, are finished, we must turn to the water-supply and give some help to the Ootacamund municipality for its improvement, just as we have done to that of Madras. Already, the most important questions connected with it have been carefully investigated by our officers.

24. I found Government House advancing to completion. The shell was finished, and several portions of the building were habitable, at least in fine weather.

25. I was glad to be able to record that the constructive period had passed before I had anything to do with it, for, of the many things for which I feel myself unfit, there are few for which I feel myself more unfit than being an architect. All questions as to the policy of building, the purchase of property, and the kind of building to be erected had happily been settled by my predecessors. The numerous problems which remained were all in the nature of corollaries to be gradually worked out in the course of years with time, patience, and the concurrence of the proper departments of the Supreme Government.

26. I gave some attention, on this visit, to the Government Gardens as well as to the Cinchona Plantations. Both of these have, within the last two years, come under the management of a man of great scientific eminence,—the late Professor of Botany at Oxford.

27. The laying out of the gardens is being very much improved, all the trees and shrubs are being properly labelled, while great and important changes are taking place in the management of the Cinchona Plantations, more especially in the valley which separates the slopes of Snowdon from tho of Dodabetta.

28. From Ootacamund I went on to Naduvatam to join Dr. Bidie, who was engaged in examining our estates there, with reference to the assertions of Mr. Cross, the South American traveller, who had frightened us, not a little, by declaring that our supposed *Succirubra* was not *Succirubra* at all, but the far less valuable *Micrantha*. On this question I had occasion to write in my first Tour Minute, but it has now happily been laid at rest by the highest scientific authority, and I need not repeat what I there said.

29. From Naduvatam I descended the Ouchterlony Valley, where the coffee, stimulated by heavy rains, had burst prematurely into flower and was in great beauty.

30. Here some representations were made to me about the importance of getting seeds of the *Ledgeriana* species of Cinchona, and at a later period I was happily able to do so.

31. From the Ouchterlony Valley we descended to Nadgani, where we became the guests of Mr. O'Donoghue, and found ourselves in the midst of the gold region.

32. At Devála I received an address from the Nílgiri Planting and Mining Association. They called my attention first to the administration of the Nílgiris. Since that date, the administration has been greatly strengthened. It used to cost Rs. 5,540 a-month, but a very few weeks after the period of which I am speaking, the Act abolishing the old Commission came into force. The district is now within the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the Judge of Coimbatore, so that the Collector, who has superseded the Commissioner, has far more time to give to administrative work. The Head Assistant remains as he was. The Joint Magistrate has been abolished. Both the Deputy Tahsildars of Coonoor and Gúdalúr have had their pay increased; there is now an Assistant Collector, a Sub-Judge, a Treasury Deputy Collector, and a Deputy Tahsildar at Ootacamund, while the subordinate establishments have been considerably increased: all this at an expense of some Rs. 1,390 a-month.

33. We have also created a Special Assistant for that important branch of business known as the Wynaad escheats, which should, by rights, have been put out of hand more than two generations ago. When he has done his work, the settlement of the Wynaad portion of the Nílgiri district will be taken up. Twenty five cases in three districts of South Wynaad have been already inquired into and separately reported on by the officer appointed, each one being a case in which the Government asserts rights over land declared to be escheated in consequence of the rebellion of the Pychee Rajah in the first days of this century.

Further proceedings will be taken after the receipt of the necessary orders from the Secretary of State.

34. The deputation next observed:

"It is unfortunately our experience of many years that planters meet with invincible obstacles and unreasonable delay in the disposal of their applications for land, and intending investors have, in some instances, left the country after waiting for years, despairing of ever obtaining land on which to commence planting operations."

35. The Government, knowing that these complaints were not unfounded, took immediate steps to improve the state of affairs which has so much changed that, on sending to Mr. Burrows, the very active Collector of the district, in the middle of August, the following question, I received the following reply:—

"How many land and mining applications from planters and others have been disposed of in the district since the beginning of January 1882, and how many are still waiting to be disposed of?"

"Applications under Gold Mining Rules *disposed of* since January 1882 ..	119	
Applications under Waste Land Rules—		
Europeans and East Indians	96	207
Natives	111	
Applications under Gold Mining Rules *awaiting disposal*	None.	
Applications under Waste Land Rules—		
Advertised for sale	5	7"
Awaiting reports from subordinates	2	

36. The deputation then passed to the Revenue Settlement, and urged that the operations which had been some time before commenced on the Nílgiris should be pushed on as fast as possible.

37. I find that, since the 1st January 1882, a few days before the address was presented, no less than 295,000 acres have been completely settled with the result which was contemplated by the framers of the address, that the revenue has been largely increased, while thousands of land-holders have been furnished with puttahs (leases) showing exactly the position, area, and assessment of the lands held by them. A complete revision of the village establishments of the district has also been carried into effect, and the Village Cess Act has been introduced for the purpose of providing the salaries of the village officers. The gentlemen who came to see me feared that years would elapse before the settlement of the district was completed. It will, so far as the Nílgiris are concerned, be completed or all but completed before the document I am now drawing up is in the hands of the public.

38. The memorialists next asked that a European Head Constable should be located at Devála. This request has not been complied with *in terms;* but the police force of the Wynaad has been strengthened by the entertainment of two Head Constables and seven Constables in addition to the previously existing force.

39. Then they turned to the subject of roads, asked me to notice the fact hat I was travelling in the driest season of the year, and assured me that their mmunications, during the monsoon, were disastrously bad. Since that period e Government have largely assisted the Local Fund Board to improve the whole the through line from Mettupálaiyam to Gúdalúr, have taken over those parts it which pass through the municipalities of Coonoor and Ootacamund, and have determined to do the same by the whole of the road in question. So much one end of the line of communication so vitally important to South Wynaad. en, as to the other end of it, as soon as a man, fit for the purpose, was available, sent Mr. Nordmann to examine, with a view to its improvement, the line from yitri to Calicut, and reports from him have been already received. I hear n Colonel Beatty that the estimates are far advanced, but their total amount ndoubtedly startling, and though improvement will be pushed on, as funds ome available, till eventually we may hope to see the great through line across t, Nílgiris, the Wynaad and Malabar to the Western Coast in really good order, th part of the work (*i.e.*—improvement of the line from Vayitri to Calicut) must, in justice to other portions of the country, be carried into effect gradually. With regard to the middle portion of the road, the President of the Local Fund Board, writing under date the 23rd August 1884, reports that the road from Gúdalúr to Devála is in good order, and the road on from Devála to Mango Tree Bungalow *viâ* Pundalur is also in good order, adding various details as to what has been done since I passed over it in January 1882.

40. Then my attention was called to the gold mining leases. These we have made much more liberal. The limit of each grant was confined to 30 acres. We have now extended it to 150, we have abolished the requirement that five coolies should be entertained per acre, we have allowed the lessee to sublet or assign his lease without the previous sanction of Government, and we have permitted an applicant to obtain more than one mining lease.

41. The gentlemen who came to see me then passed to the subject of railways. I do not think they will complain that this Government has not, since that date, done all that in it lay to help them to a railway up the Nílgiris. Supported by us as by the Government of India, the proposals of its promoters were accepted by the Secretary of State, but the speculation not finding favor with capitalists at home, they again applied to us for other terms, whereupon they were once more supported first by this Government, secondly by that of India. The final de ision must depend upon the views entertained at the India Office. As to the railway from Mysore towards the West Coast, that project has been thrown back by the reverses of the gold industry; but for that, we are certainly not responsible.

42. Then they asked that the telegraph should be extended to Vayitri. It has been extended to Vayitri and on from Vayitri to Calicut.

43. They next proceeded to state their general views about the Government Cinchona properties. I have nothing now to add to what I said on the spot, viz.:

"Next we arrive at Cinchona. Well, my first emotion when I saw those magnificent forests of 'Succirubra' which clothe the slope of Naduvatam was an emotion of pride. I

rejoiced that our Indian Government should have created and should possess so fine an estate; but I nevertheless think, as you do, that the time must come when the same wise policy which made it acquire will make it desire to dispossess itself of that estate. The only questions that can well be raised are as to the time when, and the way in which, this ought to be done. The time will arrive when Government can do no more to promote the establishment of the Cinchona industry in India than can be done by private persons, and the way in which it should dispossess itself of the property is of course the one which will be most profitable for the public. These questions will some day have to be decided by some Secretary of State for India. So many controversies are still going on about Cinchona cultivation that I should hardly be inclined to think that it would be advantageous to the industry, as a whole, to dispense with the aid of Government in too great a hurry; but when I am convinced that the time has arrived, you may reckon upon my good wishes, for I belong to that school of politicians, not so popular now, as it once was, which desires to limit rather than to increase the functions of Government, which takes for its motto '*Laisser faire laisser passer.*'"

44. Since these words were spoken the Home Government and that of Madras have taken up, in good earnest, the solution of those problems with regard to Cinchona cultivation which only Governments assisted by the best science of the day can solve. Mr. Lawson's botanical and horticultural knowledge will soon be supplemented by that of a chemical expert, who has been studying recently at Leyden under the auspices of Dr. de Vrij, the greatest living authority upon the chemistry of Cinchona; and it is to be hoped that in the next few years all that is necessary to be known for the production to the best advantage in India of the Cinchona alkaloids will be ascertained and placed at the disposal of every one who desires to engage in Cinchona planting.

45. The last topic on which my visitors touched was their difficulties with respect to labor. That is a very thorny subject on which it is almost impossible to satisfy both the employers and the employed. The present state of the case is that the views of the planters, of the High Court, and of the district officers have been ascertained for the purpose of being communicated to the Government of India.

46. Much misconception would seem to prevail amongst employers as to the existing state of the law, and it has not yet been made clear to me that any change is really wanted in the *substance* of the existing enactments.

47. It was also suggested that an Act should be passed for the registration of all contractors, cooly maistries, and mechanics, but the Government of India considers this to be a matter on which legislation is not advisable, unless under very exceptional circumstances.

48. The next address which I received was at Pandalur, where the people asked for the establishment of a police station. We were not able to comply in terms with this wish, but we have been able to sanction an addition to the Wynaad police force of Devála and of Nadghani, as I have already remarked.

49. They further asked for the appointment of a Village Magistrate, the enforcement of those sections of the Police Act which relate to sanitation and the prevention of nuisances, for improved roads and a home for poor travellers.

50. The supply of the last of these wants is clearly a matter for the Local Fund Board. As to the others, we were not able to appoint a Village Magistrate, but may be able ere long to effect the same object in a somewhat different way. We have enforced those provisions of the Police Act which relate to sanitation and the prevention of nuisances, and I have already explained what we have done about roads.

51. Next came an address from the members of "The Wynaad Planting and Mining Association," which was delivered to me at Vayitri. They, too, called my attention to the Mysore-Malabar Railway and to the various other subjects to which I have already alluded, the two new points being, I think, (1) the addition of a European ward to the hospital, and (2) the creation of Justices of the Peace.

52. The first of these is not within the province of Government but of the Local Fund Board. As to the second, Colonel Henderson was soon afterwards made a Special Honorary Magistrate with special powers.

53. To the same place came the representatives of North Wynaad, who wished that the District Munsif's Court should not sit permanently at Vayitri but should

itinerate. Also they desired that appeals from Vayitri Court should go to Tellicherry and not to Calicut.

54. These requests, for the reasons given below, we could not comply with. It was one of those complaints of which I have received many since, and to which one can only reply, as I did in July at Palmanér, that we have to make the best arrangement we can for all the parties concerned, although, if money were unlimited, we should like to bring justice home to every man's door. As long as time and space continue, geographical inconveniences will continue too.

55. The memorialists then asked that the telegraph should be extended from Vayitri to Manantoddy. That has been done; and they further asked that in improving the communications of the Wynaad either by railway or tramway, the wants of the northern district should be considered. That legitimate request will not be forgotten, and I may, before I leave the country, be able to visit North Wynaad, as they naturally wished me to do.

56. The District Munsif grievance of North Wynaad was further urged in a prodigiously long address from Native communities in that part of the country in which Vayitri was described as "by all means a condemnable place;" and it was truly observed that "a man with whatever powers of locomotion could by no means be comparable to a bird with two wings."

57. The arguments, however, put forward did not alter the conclusion come to, to give the Vayitri arrangement a further trial, as apparently the best.

58. I have recently called for fresh reports from the local authorities, and find that Vayitri is still considered to be, on the whole, the most convenient place. Mr. Logan takes that view, Mr. Galton takes that view, and the High Court takes that view. The weight of argument seems also to be on the side of the weight of authority; for Vayitri is distinctly more convenient for half the Native population, for the coffee interest in general, and for the great bulk of the Europeans.

59. I saw five different gold mines,—those of the Indian Gold Mine Company at Nadghani, those of the Alpha at Devála, those of the South-East Wynaad Company, those of the South Indian Gold Mine Company and the Ripon Company,—the last just out of the Wynaad and in Malabar.

60. Speaking at Vayitri on the 16th January, I said:

"That there is gold in the Wynaad I can now testify from ocular inspection. That gold is present in paying quantities in many localities, I am willing to believe. That much skill and not a few high qualities are enlisted in the development of your mines, I am fully convinced. That you have an excellent set of miners, I hear on all sides. But you have suffered, and will still suffer from the operation of that class of persons who infest the great centres of commerce in the West, and who are to the armies of industry and enterprise as those camp followers, who used to follow other armies, and gain for the legitimate combatant a bad name by robbing the dead and killing the wounded. That we may hear in the future as little of such persons as possible in connection with your industry, is the best wish I can contribute to the prosperity of this beautiful and most interesting district."

I further said in my first Tour Minute:

"There will, I fear, be many terrible disappointments, and good Indian investments will suffer because many people have lost money by bad ones. Some concerns will, I should hope, weather the coming storm, pay reasonable dividends to some share-holders, and add something to the wealth of this part of India."

61. I was delighted with that portion of the Wynaad across which my route lay. Mr. Mitchell's hospitable house at Penorah would strike the traveller as a beautiful spot in any country.

62. Some of the evils of the Wynaad we can hardly cure. During the hot weather of the spring it is, and will, I fear, continue to be, very feverish; nor can we repair the mischief that has been done to it by the golden Will-o'-the-Wisp. The time will, I daresay, come when, metallurgic science having progressed, it will be really possible to work to some profit many of the mines, which are now being abandoned in despair; but meantime there seems nothing which the Government can do but to encourage in every way a return to the slower but, in the end, perhaps more profitable ways of agricultural industry. It is much to be regretted that a heavy fall in the market price of Coffee and of Cinchona should have synchronised with the other troubles of the Wynaad.

took, at first, to be the head and neck of a pelican, but found upon examination to be those of a serpent,—a curious fact.

82. My visitors belonged to a section of the Syrian Christians, which is in communion neither with Rome nor with the Patriarch of Babylon. They presented me with an address accompanied by an historical sketch. When they were gone, there came a representative of the section which holds with the Patriarch of Babylon, but has of late years, if I comprehend their position, followed that dignitary into a quarrel with the Holy See. He came to lay before me a grievance, the redress of which was competent to the Collector, whose good offices he was accordingly promised.

83. At Calicut, the Municipal Commissioners also came to see me. They asked, however, for nothing except to be relieved from paying the contribution towards the police force. That request has been granted, so that the funds which used to be diverted to that purpose are now set free, exactly as the Commissioners desired, for the promotion of sanitation and education.

84. Next arrived the representatives of the Basel German Mission, who gave an interesting account of their mercantile and other labours, but did not make any request to the Government, except, by implication, one for full liberty, which of course they have always had and will have.

85. The Syrian Christians likewise had no special request to make, but only came to offer their friendly congratulations. Not so the body known as the Kerala Sabha (Malabar Association), which asked for many things, first, a Malayali Member in the Legislative Council; secondly, a Malayali Judge in the High Court; thirdly, a first-grade college at Calicut; fourthly, more money for female education; fifthly, the extension of the railway to Calicut and Cannanore. The first two of these requests were no doubt creditable to local patriotism. It is right that the love of the parish should come first in all countries; but nothing of the kind could be thought of. Malabar has had, and will have, Members of Council and Judges of the High Court intimately acquainted with its special customs,—men of the stamp of Sir William Robinson or Mr. Holloway; but the highest officials of the Government, executive or judicial, cannot be selected on geographical grounds.

86. The proposed establishment of a first-grade college at Calicut having, as I have already said, been considered quite unnecessary, I pass on to the next request, that more money should be appropriated for female education. This was a suggestion of a far more reasonable kind, and with it we have been able to comply to a considerable extent. At the time the address was delivered about Rs. 1,114 were spent in a year at Calicut on female education, while Rs. 2,700 from Provincial and Municipal in addition to Rs. 3,840 from Endowment Funds have been allotted for this purpose in the official year 1883-84.

87. Then the petitioners asked that the railway should be extended to Calicut and Cannanore. Its extension to Calicut has, as I have elsewhere mentioned, been now sanctioned, but a great many more important lines will have to be made before an extension to Cannanore could be approved, unless indeed it were made by local effort.

88. Next they complained of the unequal incidence of the Local Fund cess and asked for the restoration to the Local Funds of the contribution which the district used to receive from Provincial Funds, but they did *not* state that these grants were simply a rate-in-aid levied on the whole of the Madras Presidency for some time, to supply advantages to Malabar, which each of the other districts supplied to itself.

89. It was in 1877 that a state of things, whose continuance would have been most unfair to the rest of our districts, was amended, and I had to tell the deputation that so far from their land being peculiarly highly taxed, they enjoyed in that respect very great advantages. There would appear to be a tradition in Malabar that assessments are high. This is founded on the fact that they *were* once high, but they have (*see* Proceedings, Legislative Department, 2nd October 1877, No. 77, page 7) been undisturbed whilst prices have advanced enormously. The Government assessment now bears a much smaller proportion to the true rent value of land than in other parts of the country.

90. Local patriotism is apt to forget such things, and it is right for persons, in authority, while granting, so far as they can, all legitimate requests, to refuse, point blank, requests which are clearly illegitimate.

91. Next they asked for one or two things, the granting or withholding of which did not lie within the province of this Government, but the only important prayer,—reduction in the price of salt,—was, as it happened, almost immediately granted,—thanks to the wise financial policy of the Viceroy and Sir Evelyn Baring,—a policy which successful, it is believed, everywhere, has been in this Presidency *brilliantly* successful.

92. When at Calicut, I received and returned the visit of the Zamorin,—one of the not very numerous personages in India whose annals connect far back with the great stream of history. It is curious in a country whose traditions go so far into the past, that there should be so few families to which, even if we forget the practice of adoption, so contrary to all our European ideas of what family continuity means, there is attached anything like the interest of which thousands of houses in the West can boast.

93. From Calicut I went by water to Areacode up the Beypore river and then drove through a lovely country to Nilambúr, where I carefully examined our magnificent teak plantations. It was pleasant to see, while "professional philanthropists" were shrieking about the increasing poverty of India, a noble property maturing in this out-of-the-way corner of the land—one likely ere long to be of enormous value. I saw trees, a hundred feet high, which were seedlings in 1844.

94. At the same place I found the *Ceara* rubber (*Manihot Glaziovii*) doing well. It is evidently going to be a success in many parts of this Presidency. In the last couple of years it has, for example, made great progress near Kullar. The far more valuable *Panama* rubber (*Castilloa elastica*) was also doing well, not so the Pará rubber (*Hevea Brasiliensis*).

95. At Beypore, I went with Colonel Shaw-Stewart and Mr. Saunders to inspect a spot where a rather serious erosion threatened the railway property.

96. This was at that time, and has been since, a matter of some anxiety and no small expense to us; but the extension of the Madras line to Calicut will altogether alter the state of affairs, and lead to the abandonment of the threatened terminus.

97. Thence I passed to inspect the Walliar jungle and returned to Madras after an absence of sixteen days.

98. At Erode, Mr. Nicholson spoke to me on two important subjects, the use of the bark of the Babool (*Acacia Arabica*) for tanning, and the value of the common prickly-pear (*Opuntia Dillenii*) as a protector for young trees. With reference to the first of these, we have obtained, since that date, a very interesting memorandum from Mr. Gamble, and the Director of Agriculture has been ordered to collect information regarding the prospects of a trade in Babool bark and pods in Europe.

There has not been sufficient time to ascertain the results of all the experiments that have been made with reference to the prickly-pear as a forester, but Mr. Wooldridge, a very intelligent forest officer, has reported excellent results from South Arcot, where he has used the Cactus as a protector of seedlings for a long time.

It would be highly satisfactory if we could once for all turn this most unpleasant American invader into a useful servant.

Second Tour of Inspection.

I again left Madras on the evening of the 3rd of March 1882, and ran through to Coimbatore.

99. The next day I received an address from the inhabitants of that place.

100. Their first request was that a supply of water from the Vellingiri Hills should be turned into the Noyel River.

101. This project has not yet been fully inquired into by the Public Works Department, nor could it have been without passing by more urgent matters.

102. Another project, however, connected with Coimbatore,—the Bhowani Reservoir,—has been pretty fully inquired into, and favourably reported upon.

It is, however, a very big business, promising indeed great advantages alike direct and indirect, but so costly as to require the most careful scrutiny before it is entered upon.

The Engineers have not yet reported which of two competing sites is the better. The selection of even the smaller of the two involves the creation of what we rather grotesquely describe as a tank, but which in other countries would be called an artificial lake, with a water-spread of 12 square miles.

103. The greatly increased attention now given, as I have already mentioned, to forest conservation in this district ought to have a favorable effect on the water-supply from the Noyel River. I mentioned in my second Minute that Dr. Brandis, having examined the Bolampatti Valley, had arrived at the conclusion that if the denudation of the slopes around the head-waters of the Noyel was not stopped, Coimbatore would suffer very grievously. This important piece of country is accordingly now being settled by the Special Forest Settlement Officer, and it is expected that the reserved forest will be finally constituted by the end of the current official year.

104. The deputation then asked that the supply of water should be increased by extensive improvements in the present tanks, and that none of these should be abandoned.

105. This was the first time that any representations were made to me about the minor irrigation works, of which I have heard so much since. To them, as is I believe generally known, this Government has in the last two years given great and special attention. They formed the subject of very anxious communication with Sir Evelyn Baring on that visit to Madras in November 1882, which has had in many directions such momentous results for this Presidency. The grants for them have been everywhere increased, and have been put at the disposal not, as formerly of the Public Works Department, but of the Revenue authorities on the spot, who are now allowed to entertain special establishments for the supervision of these most important works up to a limit of 16 per cent. of the annual grant, while the necessity for working up to the annual grant within the year is steadily kept before the minds of all Collectors.

106. The whole irrigation system of the Presidency, putting aside the colossal works which have their own system of management, has, since Sir Evelyn Baring's visit, and of course since this first application to me about minor irrigation works, been begun to be surveyed by special officers deputed for this purpose, working by what are called tank divisions. After being surveyed, the works will be put into thorough order by the ordinary staff of the Public Works Department, and a commencement of the executive work has already been made.

107. Of course, it will take long years before all that is wanted is done, but I have great faith in the German proverb, "A thing begun with a will is half ended," and nothing could be more satisfactory than the plans submitted to me of the Periyakulam Basin, the first completed under the direction of Colonel Montgomerie.

108. When we talked this matter over with Sir Evelyn Baring, it was thought that the Tank Divisions would have to do the whole work, and that it might occupy fifty-five years; but by dividing it between the Tank Divisions and the Executive Staff, it may, I think, be got over in a single generation.

109. After some remarks with regard to the Educational Commission then sitting at Calcutta, the members of the deputation asked me to visit the weavers' houses and encourage them to work at the "unrivalled Indian hand-patterns and delicate textures."

110. I lost no time in going to these houses, but I did not observe anything in the work, of a very distinctive kind. The silk fabrics turned out were respectable, but not such, I thought, as to command a ready sale in Europe. The phrase of the address "the unrivalled Indian hand-patterns and delicate textures" pleased

me better than any silk I saw, and I would reiterate some observations which I made in replying, viz.:

"All through Europe the taste for Indian Art,—real Indian Art,—is rapidly growing. It is growing not only in England, but in Austria, in Germany, and in France. I remember some years ago finding in a shop in the remote department of the Morbihan on the shore of the Breton sea, a shawl which I saw at a glance had been made at Umritsar, in the Punjab; and I have no doubt that many other such surprises will, in the next few years, await any one who, while travelling in Europe, is on the look-out for Indian manufactures. In order, however, that the demand may reach them, your weavers must keep in view three maxims. In the first place, they must hold to purely Indian patterns and avoid all European ones; in the second place, they must flee aniline dyes as they would a pestilence; and in the third place, they must adopt the European practice of small profits and quick returns. If they attempt to stick to the old Indian principle of few transactions and large profits, they may as well go out of business at once; the wheels of life now-a-days move too rapidly for that kind of thing. If, however, they and their brethren throughout the Peninsula will follow these three very simple maxims, I really see no limit to the triumphs that may be achieved by the 'Indian hand-patterns and fine textures.' Instead of talking nonsense about the competition of Manchester, let our people go, so to speak, into partnership with Manchester, co-operate with Manchester, let Manchester do for them what she can do far more cheaply, and let them do for Manchester the hundred and one things which Manchester cannot possibly do."

111. When at Coimbatore I paid a visit to the pretty little temple of Perur, a few miles off. Here I received an address in which my attention was, for the first time, called to the difficulties of pagoda management. I have since received a great many representations on this subject, about which the most various opinions prevail, and it will be enough for the present to say that the whole question which presents difficulties of every sort is now in the hands of a Committee over which my honorable colleague Mr. Sullivan presides.

112. The address then passed to the misunderstanding that was said to exist between the Hindu and Muhammadan communities of Coimbatore; and I was asked to repeal the order of Lord Hobart's Government, passed in 1874, with respect to one sect playing on musical instruments when passing in procession before the religious edifices of the other.

113. That order was afterwards declared by the High Court to be *ultra vires*, so that, without the intervention of Government, the wish of the memorialists, that matters should go on as they used to do before it issued, was fulfilled.

114. Lastly, my visitors asked that certain pieces of land should be restored to the temple. This matter has been carefully inquired into, and the petitioners have thus far wholly failed to prove any claim whatever to the area (between 60 and 70 acres) for which they asked.

115. A few miles from Coimbatore I examined several of the so-called Pandava pits with their curious interments, and had, for the first time, brought home to me how little we know, as yet, about the distant past of South India.

116. From Coimbatore I went up the ghaut to Ootacamund, where the special officer, who had been appointed to look after the sanitation, was able to report to me that the friction which had existed between himself and the municipality, and which had given us some trouble, had come to an end.

117. On this occasion, too, I made my first visit to Sim's Park at Coonoor along with Dr. Brandis, and it was then that he made to me the suggestion about the Committee on the Forest Bill, which afterwards produced such good results. I was much pleased with what I saw at Sim's Park, and the Government has steadily supported Mr. Lawson in developing it. Since the date of which I am speaking, the roads, the fencing, the arbours have all been improved, most of the trees and shrubs have been labelled, and the ground has been extended by throwing into it the shola (wood) which adjoined its lower end.

118. From Coonoor I descended upon Salem, where I received a long address.

119. The first request of the people was to have the right of choosing the Vice-President of the Municipality.

Section 14 of the Act of this year runs as follows:—

"Unless the Governor in Council appoints one of the Municipal Councillors to be the Chairman of the Municipal Council, the Municipal Councillors shall appoint their Chairman by

election from among their own number, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, and in accordance with such rules and conditions as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Governor in Council."

120. The next object touched on was the Imperial License Tax, which is a matter belonging to the Government of India, and the arguments for and against which, are well known.

121. The third subject was the contribution made by the municipality to the police force. The wish of the people with regard to that has, as I have mentioned above, been complied with.

122. The fourth request was that Sanscrit should be taught in the college. It turned out on inquiry that the number of boys who wished to study Sanscrit was altogether trifling, and that those who wished to do so belonged merely to a single caste.

The Director of Public Instruction went as far as he properly could in compliance with the wishes of the petitioners, when he informed them that he was prepared to allow a Pundit to teach in the college if a class or classes could be formed to be remunerated solely by fees paid by the parents of the pupils to him through the head master of the college.

123. The address then passed on to speak of the industrial development of the country.

"We are glad," it was observed, "to see Government doing so much for the general education of the people, to see our university giving us more and more graduates and undergraduates year by year. But the State has, as yet, done comparatively little or nothing towards the development of the Indian Arts, whether polite or industrial. Confining ourselves to the last, it is time, we venture to submit, that the Government opens Industrial schools in large towns. We believe it is not asking too much if we request the Government to establish in Salem a school or two for teaching one or more branches of industry."

124. These were very sensible observations, and the Government if it has not been able to grant the precise request made, has been doing a great deal and hopes to do a great deal more in the direction indicated.

125. Amongst other things we have, since March 1882, put the School of Arts at Madras under new management, and are placing it on an improved footing with the object of teaching the natives of India rather to imitate or, better still, to emulate the best works of their own countrymen, than to seek for models in Europe.

126. This Government has lent all the assistance in its power to the schemes of the Art Committee, which sat in Calcutta last December. It has promised to aid to the uttermost the endeavours which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is now making as head of the Royal Commission to stimulate the arts and industries of India by means of an exhibition to be held in London in 1886, and it has laid before the Secretary of State certain proposals, which were warmly supported by the Government of India, have just been sanctioned, and will ere long be carried into effect. A Committee, under the very able guidance of Colonel Hawkes, is now engaged in taking measures to retain for the use of the Presidency some permanent record of the collection of Indian art in the Calcutta Exhibition and of the best specimens of the art-ware of Burmah and South India.

127. We have told the Director of Public Instruction to examine the Report of the Royal Commissioners on Technical Instruction published this year in London, and to inform Government in how far the recommendations made by the gentlemen who conducted that elaborate inquiry can be applied to this country.

With reference, however, to technical instruction, it must be carefully kept in mind in India and everywhere else that the soil out of which good technical instruction must grow is good primary and secondary education, primary and secondary education disembarrassed as much as possible of every study which cannot effectively "restate the reasons of its existence."

128. The deputation then complained of the competition of jail manufactures with local industry.

Great changes in this direction have been, as is well known, made all throughout India within the last two years, jail manufactures which compete directly or indirectly with local manufactures having been to a great extent abandoned.

Lastly, the petitioners protested againt Southern India being placed under a Lieutenant-Governor, to which I replied:

"So far as I am aware, that idea has never passed in the mind of any statesman beyond the stage of mere speculation. It has presented itself as a suggestion to be considered amongst a hundred conflicting suggestions for the improvement of Indian administration. Of late, as far as I know, opinion at home has been moving quite another way, and very much in unison with your own views on the subject. Heaven knows that the affairs of a huge country like this Presidency want the very best intelligence, experience, and devotion that can be brought to bear upon them from whatever quarter these good things can be obtained."

129. While at Salem I had much conversation with the then Collector, about the bad feeling between the Hindus and the Muhammadans. He thought at that time that it was diminishing, but as we all know a recrudescence of it some months later led to very deplorable results. So true is it that in India our steps ever lie—

———per ignes
Suppositos cineri doloso.

130. Mr. Stokes directed my attention to various matters of importance. I find the following noted in my second Tour Minute:—

(i) The question whether it might not be expedient to give greater power to district officers, in dealing with subordinates of whose efficiency or character they have a thoroughly bad opinion, but against whom they are unable to prove distinct and specific charges.

In the current year Collectors have received greater powers, being now invested with authority to order transfers of Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars, &c., involving loss of salary (but not degradation of rank) and suspensions not exceeding six months, subject to appeal in every case.

(ii) The importance of giving every assistance to minor irrigation works.

A greater amount of assistance, as I have already said, has been given, and without the imposition of the special cess to which the Collector thought the people would be ready to submit.

(iii) The inconvenience caused by so much Local Fund money being locked up while the famine demands against the funds remained unsettled.

This matter has received attention in all districts, and of Rs. 5,67,000 outstanding when the Collector spoke, only Rs. 50,000 now remain, while provision is made for the adjustment of this amount in the estimates of the current year.

(iv) The urgent need of pushing on as quickly as possible the Taluk Cutcherry (office) at Dharmapuri.

This building was duly completed, and has been in use since the end of last year.

131. I observed in the same Minute:

"The cholera which was lately so bad at Salem has now ceased; but, considering that the population still uses the terribly-polluted river for many purposes, although excellent wells have been sunk, it is hardly possible that this large place should long continue exempt from some epidemic or other."

132. I also called attention to this important matter in a speech.

133. In 1883, the cholera returned to Salem and committed great ravages. I am afraid it will continue to do so until the water-supply is amended. I was glad accordingly to observe that in the municipal budget for 1884-85 it is proposed to raise a loan of Rs. 20,000 in the open market for the construction of a sewer to intercept the drainage of the town flowing into the river, and that detailed plans and estimates are promised.

134. It was in the neighbourhood of Salem that I was first led to reflect on the great importance of avenues in this "land of the sun" and in no part of the Presidency have I seen finer ones than those which that district owes I believe to a Mr. Orr. His delightfully simple methods are no longer suited to our manners and customs, but none the less should every Madras Collector try to leave a memorial of himself in the trees along the roads of his district. This is just one of the small things which does a great deal more for human happiness than many pretentious and magnificent schemes.

135. On the morning of the 16th March I returned to Madras.

Third Tour of Inspection.

136. My next journey began at Ootacamund and was to have taken me first to the Palanis, but a telegram, from the Viceroy, warning me that we might have to send troops to Egypt, made it necessary for me to remain nearer railway and telegraph lines.

137. On the evening of the 3rd July I found myself at Erode, whence I visited the anicut which governs the Kalingaroyen channel, and the town of Bhávani, where I heard some complaint of the transfer of the Munsif's Court to Erode, but I am afraid there cannot be the slightest doubt that that place is far more convenient, to the majority of persons interested, than its rival.

138. From Erode we proceeded to Karúr, where the Rev. Mr. Little complained to me of the difficulty of obtaining fibres.

139. We have given in the last couple of years much attention to that subject, and some of the results may be mentioned.

140. *Inter alia* Mr. Little himself has been regularly supplied with all papers on the subject, a lease of land near the Bhávani has been granted for experiments, and it is believed that that lease will enable the beneficiaries to grow and work up *Sanseviera zeylanica* to good profit. Funds have been provided to meet the cost of fibre experiments on behalf of Government in various places, and steps are being taken to ascertain the commercial value of the fibre of *Helicteres isora*, a shrub which occurs very abundantly in many of our districts.

141. From Karúr I passed to Trichinopoly, where, on the evening of my arrival, I inspected the bath in which Bishop Heber was drowned, then in a deplorable condition. It has now been properly railed in, while the event which has given it a melancholy celebrity has been commemorated by an inscription.

142. On the 5th I went to the anicut on the Coleroon and also inspected the large plantations near the landing place just below the weir of the Cauvery.

143. That done, there followed a number of visits to schools—Anglican, Catholic, and Hindu. In the evening the people presented to me an address. First, they spoke to me about the minor irrigation works. On that subject I need say no more. Secondly, they addressed me about the Vengur channel project, which, proposed some years ago by certain proprietors in the neighbourhood, was at first favorably entertained.

144. It turned out, however, that the Vengur channel could not be made, and the Rs. 5,000, which were subscribed for it, are being now given back to the subscribers with the accumulated interest. The good results which were expected to accrue to the neighbouring lands from the Vengur project will, it is now believed, accrue, in more abundant measure, from the improvement of the Wyacondan channel.

145. The next topic was the Imperial License Tax of which I have already spoken, and the next the pagoda endowment question. In replying to what the deputation said on the latter subject, I made a remark, which I think requires to be kept before the mind of those who are interested in them, viz. :

"Then you speak of your devastanums. I regret that you are constrained to report so disparagingly of their present management, not only because their mismanagement is an evil in itself, but because the direction of these endowments is an important part of local self-government. You pay us a great compliment in saying, or seeming to say, that we could manage your religious institutions better than yourselves. I don't think many of our co-religionists would pay us the same compliment. What more 'motive and spring of action' can you desire than to order well matters connected with your own faith?"

146. Lastly, they asked that Government should not disconnect itself from the higher education. I need not say that Government is not going to disconnect itself from the higher education.

147. On the following day I addressed the 30th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry, then under orders for Egypt. Their Colonel called my attention to the shifts to which the men were being put for want of accommodation.

148. The improved accommodation is now being provided, and will, it is believed, be completed on or before the 1st October next, at a cost of something like Rs. 26,000.

149. From Trichinopoly I went to Dindigul, where the inhabitants addressed me upon only one subject, but that a very important one to them,—their water-supply.

150. When I was in Madura, in July last I learned from its active and able Collector that trial wells had been dug whence water has been pumped, and that he had every hope that the water would turn out good. It was to be sent down to Madras for chemical examination. The particular scheme which the people suggested to me in 1882 would have severely taxed their resources, even if it had been possible, which is doubtful. The present one would appear to be much more hopeful.

151. In replying, I took an opportunity of calling attention to the lecture which had been lately delivered by Dr. Furnell, the Sanitary Commissioner, on a subject than which there is absolutely none more important in Southern India.

152. If only the people would conform in their practice to the excellent maxims with reference to water which are to be found in their sacred books, half the worst diseases of the Peninsula would vanish away.

153. On this visit to Dindigul I was favorably impressed with the medical establishments of Dr. Chester, and I heard an equally good account of them as I passed, the other day. He is spreading good medicines and some elementary ideas of hygiene all over the district.

154. Then I visited Mr. Heimpel's cigar factory, with which I was much pleased. Governments cannot interfere in such matters, but, in my private capacity, I have done all I could to make his very good wares known at home.

155. An ingenious locksmith at this place brought me some of his work to see. It seemed to me that something might be saved, and the policy of the Government of India furthered, if this manufacture could be encouraged. The locks were accordingly tried with fair but not brilliant results, as were those of another Madura locksmith. Orders have issued for a further trial of locks made in factories in the Madura District.

156. From Dindigul I passed to Tanjore, where I received a very cordial welcome, but where the people made no special requests. While there, however, I heard incidentally a bad account of the date and mahogany trees, about which the present Chief Secretary had, when Collector of the district, taken much trouble. I had this looked into, for the* introduction of valuable plants into a country like this is a matter, in my opinion, of the very highest importance, and severe notice should be taken of any wilful carelessness in allowing experiments once well begun to be neglected.

The later accounts are much better, and dates grown in the Tanj[illegible] District have quite recently been eaten in Ootacamund.

157. The conditions under which the mahogany grows in its [illegible] country are very different from any which prevail at least in the easte[illegible]arts of this presidency, but there must be climates in Madras where the date [illegible]alm, so nearly allied to the widely-spread *Phœnix sylvestris*, *Phœnix farinifera*, &c., ought to flourish. Our French friends do not mean to be caught napping in such matters. I have already been addressed officially about our mahogany experiments, with a view to the benefit of Tonquin.

158. I observed that a crack in the wall of the little Fort Church menaced the monument of Swartz by Flaxman, and noted that, although it was not one of his most successful efforts, it should not be allowed to go to ruin. The repairs were completed in August 1883.

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* Sir J. Mackintosh when at Bombay noted in his diary :—
"Maria d'Escobar, a Spanish lady, first brought a few grains of wheat into the City of Lima. For three years she distributed their produce among the colonists, giving twenty or thirty grains to each farmer. This is a fact, which might be a good text for a sermon to F——. Maria d'Escobar brought into existence more human beings by this supply of [illegible] than Napol[illegible] has destroyed. If she had come from Egypt to Attica in the earlier ages of Grecian history, she wou[illegible]s. Malcolm has introduced potatoes into Persia. That benefit may be remembered long after all that [illegible] n our ridiculous Persian missions has fallen into deserved oblivion."

159. From Tanjore a long journey took me to Vellore, where on the 10th July the people met me with an address.

160. The first request made was that the temple in the fort should be handed back to the Hindus.

To that I replied that the admiration expressed for the temple was natural and creditable, but added:

"I am afraid that to restore the Vellore temple to one sect, however numerous and however deserving of respect, would hardly be in accordance with that perfect religious neutrality which is characteristic of British rule. It was not we who took the temple from the Hindus or who devoted it to secular uses, and I think we shall best fulfil our trust by keeping it as a national monument for the general delight of all who admire its elaborate style of architecture, to whatever section of religious opinion they may happen to belong."

161. The second was a similar request with regard to a certain Muhammadan mosque.

To that I replied:

"The case, however, with regard to the little Muhammadan mosque is somewhat different. It was, I suppose, a mosque when we took Vellore, and it was by our Government that it was turned to secular uses, but to restore it to religious uses would involve some expense, which would have to be met out of the general taxation of the community, mainly of the Hindus. I have not, as you know, seen the mosque, and am speaking under the impression that it is not of sufficient architectural or historical importance to be kept up for the general advantage as a national monument, but, as to that, I shall be able to form a better opinion after visiting the fort."

162. I may say that, after making the speech just quoted, I examined the mosque and saw no occasion to modify the views I had expressed. Probably neither request would have been made but for the emulation of the two sects, as to which I said:

"Finally, I come to your request that the upper fourth class in the Government Muhammadan school may be continued. Well, that is a question for yourselves, as it will be continued in the ordinary course of things if the number of students keeps up. No one can be more anxious that it should keep up than I, for it is infinitely desirable that the heart-burnings which have too often divided the Hindu and Muhammadan communities in this town and neighbourhood should be replaced by keen and healthy emulation in the field of letters."

163. The third request was for an improved water-supply, which the people wished to obtain by means of pipes from a certain large tank in the neighbourhood. This project was examined, but the Sanitary Commissioner condemned the tank, as a source of supply, on account of the surface drainage which it receives. The sinking of large wells at a suitable distance is now contemplated, and sketches and estimates are being prepared for that purpose. I am glad to observe that in a report with reference to cholera, dated April 1st, 1884, the Acting Civil Surgeon says that the Municipality has recently done much to improve the sanitation of the town.

164. The fourth request was for improved railway communication, and especially for a branch railway passing through the town and leading to Pólúr and Trinomalai in South Arcot.

This matter has received much consideration from Government, since the date of which I am writing. For the moment it will be enough to say that the survey of the line from Vellore railway station through Vellore town, Arcot, and Arni, together with the extension south from Arni through Pólúr, Trinomalai, and Tirukoilúr to Villupuram on the South Indian Railway has been completed, and its early construction is under consideration.

165. The fifth request related to a small matter which belonged to the Collector Mr. Stuart, and could not be left in better hands.

166. My answer to the sixth I have mentioned above. The seventh was that the town should not be abolished as a military station, and that a regiment should be sent to garrison it as soon as possible.

There is no intention of abolishing Vellore as a military station, and a regiment was sent to garrison it as soon as possible.

167. A journey of 22 miles over superb roads—roads are the glory of North Arcot, as avenues are that of Salem,—took me to Chittoor, where also I received an address.

168. The first request was for railway communication between Chittoor and the Madras Line of Railway.

The more important line from Vellore southward having been, as I have mentioned, already surveyed, it is in contemplation to take up ere long the survey of this line and of its extension northward.

169. The second request was that the town should be connected with Vellore by telegraph line. This was done in May 1883.

170. The third request was that we should find a way to give practical effect to the principles enunciated by the Viceroy with reference to local self-government.

The necessary Acts are now passed, and the details therewith connected are being worked out.

171. The fourth request related to the maladministration of temple funds. I have already explained what has been done with reference to that subject.

172. The fifth request was that a Munsif's Court should be located at Chittoor.

This has been done with the result, by the way, that the Palmanér people think that they have now just the same grievance which the Chittoor people had two years ago, but of these geographical controversies a solution perfectly satisfactory to all concerned is, under existing conditions of time and space, impossible.

173. The sixth request was for certain alterations in the arrangements of the Madras Railway.

One of these was not thought expedient after full consideration by the proper authorities; as regards the other, the wishes of the people have been recently met, to a great extent, and as far as was considered possible.

174. While at Chittoor I received and returned the visits of the Zemindars of Kálahasti and Kárvetnagar as well as that of the Mahant of Tirupati, whom I took an opportunity of congratulating on the sorely-needed sanitary improvements which he was introducing, and to which I shall refer again when I come to review my seventh tour.

175. Amongst other things while in this neighbourhood I opened a bridge over the Payani, inspected the jail where there had been a good deal of illness which had then ceased, visited Ranipet and the Payani anicut, saw Arcot and discussed with the Collector the state of the ruins of the Fort which Clive has made historical and in which destruction should not be allowed to go further. I also saw Wálajápet and the great Pálár Anicut.

176. Passing by Arkónam, I then transferred myself to Bellary, where I received an address from the Municipal Commissioners.

177. Their first request was that they should obtain compensation for the loss sustained by the withdrawal of all taxes payable on Government property in military cantonments.

This is a matter which belongs to the Imperial Government, but has formed the subject of much correspondence between it and this Government. It having finally resolved that municipal taxation is not to be levied on Government buildings in cantonments, the proposal of the Municipal Commissioners to re-introduce the arts tax, of which it pays a portion for the exemption of military officers, has been sanctioned.

178. Next the Commissioners proceeded to express their thanks to the Government of India and to this Government for the steps taken in view to the introduction of an enlarged measure of self-government.

In my reply I observed:

"You allude to the local self-government which the Viceroy so much wishes to encourage. It is, I think, highly desirable to encourage it for many reasons, and, amongst others, because, under existing arrangements, it seems quite impossible to provide sufficient government for the country at all. Take this district and the one that adjoins it—Anantapur. Till the other day, these two districts were united in one Collectorate, and when united they formed, astounding to relate, a country smaller by only about twenty-three square miles than the Kingdom of Belgium. They have, as you know, recently been separated for administrative purposes, and their administrative establishments have been slightly increased, but even now what do these establishments amount to? You have one European Collector here, Mr. Huntly Gordon. You have another European Collector at Anantapur, on a smaller scale of pay and younger in the service,

Mr. Roupell; there is a much younger European Head Assistant at Penukonda, while you have a European Head Assistant at Hospet, forty miles off, who, for the moment, however, is on short leave in Europe, and you have, in each of the two districts, a few native gentlemen acting under those whom I have named. There are, of course, judicial and other establishments, but that is the whole administrative establishment of a country which is, as I said a few minutes ago, hardly perceptibly smaller than a European Kingdom. I defy contradiction when I say that, to the infinite credit of the population of the Madras Presidency, there is no part of the world where an equal amount of well-being is secured at so trifling an outlay upon administration. It would be wholly impossible to secure it, at anything like the money, if the population were not good and law-abiding in a very high degree, but, if it were only feasible, I should like to see local self-government largely increased, and at the same time the trained and scientific superintendence doubled all round. The last is a mere dream I fear. We have not got, and cannot get, the money; but the first is possible, and, if there were no other argument in its favor, I would say good speed to local self-government."

179. The second request related to the Tungabhudra channel and the Alipore tank.

The investigation of these projects has not yet been taken up, but under date of 28th August, this year, the Public Works Department reports that a special officer has now been made available and will soon proceed to examine them.

180. The third request was for the introduction of trial by jury. Trial by jury has now been introduced.

181. Speaking on another subject, I said and am glad here to repeat:

"The Bellary-Hubli State Railway, part of which I hope to traverse to-morrow, has my best wishes, and I believe that your spinning mills, now that the poison-tree of protection, which blights every industry that grows up under its shade, is removed, will, if judiciously managed, have a good future. You are to be congratulated on the presence among you of an energetic citizen, who is doing something to introduce into this neighbourhood really efficient ploughs. I hope much for India from the extension of her manufactures and the growth of more varied industries. I should like to see this presidency thoroughly surveyed by eyes at once scientific, and trained to look out for openings for the practical application of science, with a view to such extension. After all, however, it is to her soil, her sun, her rainfall, and their interaction upon her products that India must mainly look for prosperity."

182. Then came an address on the subject of cotton, in which the memorialists asked me to give my attention to "the desirability of an enactment to repress frauds in connection therewith." My honorable colleagues and I did so and came to the conclusion that any further legislation on the subject would not be advisable.

183. I may remark, in passing, that (1) the remedy lies in the hands of the buyer, who should remember the maxim *caveat emptor*; (2) a legitimate trade in mixed cotton exists in this presidency; (3) a bad habit of giving advances to men of straw ties the hands of the buyer, frequently obliges him to take adulterated cotton, and should be abandoned; (4) the cost of Inspectors would naturally form a burden on the trade; (5) fraudulent adulteration is already punishable under the Penal Code.

184. From Bellary I visited the ruins of Vijianagar, making use of the unfinished Bellary-Hubli line, the authorities of which were extremely courteous and helpful.

185. At the Railway Station of Hospet I received a very well written address, the most important part of which was the fourth paragraph, which was as follows:—

"These monuments of ancient architectural skill, sublime even in their ruins, have been visited and admired by your Excellency's predecessors, but no effective measures have been adopted towards their restoration or repair. We, however, trust your Excellency's Government will take such measures for the restoration or repair of some of the old decaying temples as would fitly commemorate your Excellency's visit and associate your Excellency's name with those of the ancient founders of these temples. Verily the work of restoring decaying institutions is as great and meritorious as that of founding new ones."

186. The strong interest which the people here took in their historical neighbourhood pleased me much, and in replying I said:

"Happy, however, are those countries where the only enemy to be fought by the Archæologist is time. There are countries in which, before he can begin his campaign against time, he has to struggle for years against apathy and ignorance, to say nothing of that panic-fear about anything that seems to interfere, even for his own good, with a man's right to abuse his rights over property, which is the most dangerous ally of socialism. Happy, too, are those countries where the population is proud of its past. In a recent report, I think by Mr. Carlleyle, I read of a district in India in which the first idea of the population, when they saw that the Archæologists cared about a monument, was to make haste to destroy it. That district has just passed, I believe, under the rule of one of the most accomplished men of letters and investigators into human history who now is, or ever was in India—Sir Alfred Lyall; but even he will have much to do, I should think, to bring it up to the level of intelligence which I am rejoiced to find here."

187. In my third tour minute I wrote as follows:—

"No time should be lost in arresting the further progress of mischief. Arboreal vegetation should be ruthlessly destroyed. There are here none of the associations, which made the sweeping away of plants from the Colosseum and the Baths of Caracalla so doubtful a proceeding. The centre of the most important of all the temples wants immediate attention. If it can be saved at all, it can only be saved by being looked into speedily. It may, however, be impossible to save it; but there are numbers of other buildings which, with a little care now, will stand for long years. I read on the spot Captain Cole's report and generally agree with his conclusions; but I would confine our action for the present to keeping things absolutely in *statu quo*, doing nothing in the way of excavation, however proper that may be at a later stage of our proceedings."

188. Since that period the Vittalaswami temple above alluded to has been entirely cleared of rubbish, the roof and pavement have been repaired, the ruinous ashlar walls pulled down and rebuilt, some large stones weighing from three to six tons removed from dangerous positions, the stone car repaired, besides a variety of other works set forth in Mr. Black's report received by us on the 8th August.

189. From Kamalápuram, where we had encamped with a view to visit Vijianagar, I traversed the Sandúr Valley for the purpose of seeing the very valuable forest (with regard to which I had much conversation with Mr. Brandis) and of exchanging visits with the Rajah.

190. The convention necessary for enabling us to deal with this forest has now been concluded, the survey has been completed, and an important piece of forest is very carefully looked after, to the great advantage alike of the small native state concerned, and of this Government.

191. On the night of the 20th I returned to Bellary, where Colonel Clarke, who was in command of the artillery, told me that his horses were cruelly in want of stabling. Three blocks of stabling are now in course of erection.

192. In my tour minute occurs the following paragraph, describing the impression I received of military matters at Bellary:—

"An excellent spirit seems to have been infused into all branches of the service by General Prendergast, who commands in the Ceded Districts. It was quite impossible, even for a Civilian, not to see that all the officers, he came across, were quite unusually interested in their work. The troops were paraded for my inspection on the morning of the 17th—7th Fusiliers, the 25th and 27th Madras Native Infantry, the 2nd Madras Cavalry, and the Field Battery—all, to my non-professional eye, looking very well. I likewise went up the Fort with General Prendergast, and am very decidedly of opinion that the small amount of money required to make it efficient as a place of refuge for non-combatants, in troubled times, should be spent forthwith. General Prendergast has thoroughly entered into the spirit of the extremely important circulars lately issued by Government, under the advice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. If all officers in high command throughout the territories garrisoned by the Madras Army do the same, these halcyon times will have been turned to the best advantage."

193. As regards the alterations required to make the Fort efficient as a place of refuge, a grant of Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 7,000 has since been made for the purpose.

194. Mr. Wace, the Chaplain, made to me various representations about the churches in this station.

195. The views of himself and others have been carefully considered. We did not see our way to substitute for the two existing ones a single church, but the necessary repairs to the Garrison Church were completed in May 1883, and the Fort Church was put in order in May 1884.

196. Just before leaving Bellary I received, late at night, an address from the native officials.

197. They asked first for the repair and maintenance of the ruins of Vijianagar. I have already stated what has been done in relation to that.

198. Their second request was for irrigation works. The same remark applies to this.

199. Their third request was for the construction of a line to connect the southern taluks of Bellary with the Mysore State Railway. A survey of an

extension to Hindupur of the line, already sanctioned from the Kistna Delta to Guntakal, is now in progress.

200. The last request was that some measures should be adopted for raising the status, emoluments, and prospects of the petitioners. Proposals for the improvement of the position of Uncovenanted Officers of the grade of Deputy Collector were sanctioned in the early half of 1883, and have been carried into effect from 1st July in that year.

Very considerable changes with reference to Revenue Inspectors, to Taluk Establishments, and to our subordinate officials generally, involving a very large increase of expenditure from Provincial Funds, have been accepted by this Government and will immediately be submitted to the Government of India.

201. From Bellary I ran along the line to Gooty, where I visited the cenotaph of Sir Thomas Munro, and admired the really noble fortress. Thence a journey of thirty-four miles, across what ought at this season to be a plain covered with young crops, but which was a wilderness of black dust, red dust and sand swept by an unintermitting hurricane, took me to Anantapur, where the great tank was as dry as the Sahara.

202. Here I received an address from the inhabitants, who, first of all called my attention to the want of accommodation for the people of the town, and asked for the allotment of new sites for buildings. Shortly after this we received and sanctioned the necessary plans, and all the preliminaries required for the extension of the town have now, we are informed, been duly carried into effect.

203. I also noted in my third tour minute that accommodation for our officials was sadly wanted at Anantapur, and that we ought to do what we could, in reason, to diminish the existing inconvenience.

All the buildings that were most wanted in July 1882 are now in progress.

204. The second request was for the introduction of artesian wells. To that I replied:

"I trust that it may be possible to open artesian wells in the neighbourhood, but unluckily one has not an artesian well by wishing or even by boring for it. I should like to know, before expressing any opinion on this subject, what the geologist and the engineer have got to say for it."

205. Subsequent inquiries made have, in the opinion of Mr. Bruce-Foote, established the fact that the district is quite unsuited to the sinking of artesian wells.

206. The third request was for a light railway between Tadpatri, Anantapur, and Bangalore.

The object of the memorialists will be met as well as the conformation of the country and other circumstances will permit by the line now under survey from Guntakal to Anantapur and Hindupur.

207. In replying to the Anantapur address, I said:

"I would remark in conclusion that, as I passed through the country in the neighbourhood of Guntakal and Gooty to-day, the thought crossed my mind more than once whether it is really quite certain that the diamonds, which once made the loosely-applied name of Golconda so famous, are really exhausted. I confess I shall be disappointed, if the period of my government of this presidency comes to an end, without a serious attempt being made to answer the question whether it is impossible to revive, in these regions, so ancient and interesting an industry. I know, that, in doing so, I shall be supported not only by the good wishes, but also by the good hopes, of at least one of the greatest European authorities upon gems."

Ere long we shall, I hope, have the assistance of a mineralogist to take up the investigation of a variety of questions connected with this science where the admirable labours of the geological survey had, in the nature of things, to leave them, but I should have thought that with regard to diamonds there was already enough information to induce more searching for them than I hear of.

208. At one time our rules were far too strict and not sufficiently favorable to the miner. Perhaps it is not as widely known, as it should be, how much we have relaxed them in the last two years.

209. We have lately asked the Colonial Office for any papers they may be able to supply us with reference to the diamond industry.

210. The fourth request was that a Middle School should be started. A Middle School has been started.

211. The fifth request was that Government should not, in the present state of the country, leave the higher education entirely to native and missionary agencies. Government does not propose so to do.

212. From Anantapur a journey of 32 miles carried me to Tadpatri. On the way I saw the great Singanamulla Tank which covers some eight square miles, but was quite empty; and crossed the Muchukotta Hills, which were covered with a fair growth of *Hardwickia binata*. These Hills, as I observed in my third Tour Minute, the new Forest Act will soon enable us to turn into a valuable property. They have since been surveyed. The woodland is found to contain about five square miles, and the accounts, with regard to it, continue favorable.

213. I heard something of dacoity (brigandage) in this neighbourhood, and communicated with the Inspector-General of Police with the result that all seems now going well.

214. The first request of the Tadpatri address referred to the paucity of irrigation works in that district. I have already mentioned what has been done with regard to this throughout the presidency.

215. Secondly, the memorialists asked me to give the conservation of forests the attention which it deserved. This has been done. Thirdly, they asked for a reduction of the railway tariff with a view to improving the cotton trade.

This is a matter in which there are many interests to be consulted, and the Traffic Manager of the Madras Railway, who reconsidered this question, at the suggestion of our Consulting Engineer, reports that the charge for loose cotton consigned to Tadpatri was reduced in August 1882 from 26 to 18 pies per ton per mile.

216. At Tadpatri there are two temples—the Vishnavite and the Sivite—of very considerable architectural merit. The latter, which is the best of the two, is in considerable danger from the floods of the Pennér, for it stands on the banks of that typical Madras river, which is for months a waste of sand and then for hours a raging torrent sweeping all the works of man before it. From information obtained on the spot, I am led to believe that there are ample funds to prevent any harm coming to these interesting edifices, in the hands of their managers, if they will only use them.

217. From Tadpatri I went to Cuddapah, where I received a long address.

218. The first request was that we might view with favor a scheme for improving the water-supply of the town. I went to see the springs alluded to, and made the following remarks in my third Tour Minute:—

"Even now, in the depths of a quite exceptionally dry season—for Cuddapah, like Anantapur and South-Eastern Bellary, is suffering sadly from want of rain—they were very full and strong. Their supply did not fail, we were told, even in the famine, and Mr. Burrows seems to have no doubt that they would yield a sufficient supply for the town. Between them and it there is a peculiarly fine sheet of cultivation, indigo and turmeric, two of the great staples of Cuddapah, being largely grown. The question whether any, and if so what, compensation would be due to some of the cultivators will have to be considered when the proposals of the Municipality with respect to a loan are before us."

219. Since the date on which I wrote, the Booga springs scheme and another have been investigated, with the result that the latter has, on the advice of the Executive Engineer, been abandoned, while further experiments are to be made to gauge the Booga water-supply, for the conduct of which the President of the Municipality has advertised for the services of an Engineer, the Public Works Department being unable to spare the services of one of their officers. To meet the cost of these experiments Government have sanctioned the levy of tolls at full rates in the current year.

220. The second request was for the privilege of electing representatives to the Municipal Board. This request has been granted some time ago.

221. The fourth request was that certain irrigation works should be considered and if possible carried into effect.

222. Of these, one—the Sagiler—is now being investigated; the other, known as the Chitravati Papanapalle project, had been investigated and found by the

Engineers to be impracticable before I was addressed on the subject, the great depth at which rock is reached, at the spot where the dam was to be constructed, being found to prohibit the construction of a reservoir. As the locality seems at first sight an extremely suitable one, it is not surprising that the people should have been loth to part with the hope that the reservoir they wished for could be made.

223. Then the memorialists asked for a permanent settlement. As is well known, the present views of the supreme authorities, although highly favorable to letting the people "sit easy," as we say in Scotland, and to great *continuity* of assessments are quite adverse to what is properly called a *permanent* settlement.

224. This request, however, was based upon mistakes in fact. The petitioners thought that before the recent settlement dry lands had not been assessed above one rupee an acre, but this was not so. The old rates, far from not going above one rupee, sometimes went as high as nearly eleven rupees and as low as four pies, say one halfpenny. Now they vary only from five rupees to four annas, or say sixpence, four annas being the lowest assessment now anywhere permitted in the districts under the new settlement, on the ground that land which cannot bear an assessment of sixpence an acre is not really arable land.

225. Further they stated that formerly no extra tax was charged, if the owner had in any way improved the land, and they implied that a tax was now charged on the ryots' improvements. That however is not the case; no change of this sort has been made, and it would be most impolitic to make it.

226. The deputation then went on to complain that hundreds of acres of land were lying waste, and asked that we should devise some rules to encourage the cultivation of waste land.

227. A perfect official literature has grown up about the abandonment of lands in the Cuddapah district, it having been imagined that the high rates imposed by the revised settlement might have caused this.

228. It has turned out, however, that the cause of the abandonment of a quantity of land over 80,000 acres in the district, which was cultivated or nominally cultivated, was, first, the famine and, secondly, the fact that a vast quantity of land was assessed at only an anna an acre. Such a low assessment allowed the ryot to hold a great deal of land of which he made no use, and this land, when he has to pay for it sixpence an acre, instead of three halfpence or in some cases only one halfpenny an acre, he has abandoned, with the result of concentrating his attention upon land that will really grow human food.

229. The Muhammadan inhabitants also presented to me a very intelligent address, in which they made the agreeable announcement that they had no grievances.

230. From Cuddapah I went to Conjeeveram, where I also received an address.

231. There was no request made to me in it, but I was told that the Commissioners were about to submit a certain scheme to Government with reference to improving their water-supply. This was not done because, as I understand, they found it would be too costly, but they have submitted a proposal of a far less costly kind, which has been sanctioned.

Fourth Tour of Inspection.

232. On the morning of August 28th I again left our summer capital for the plains.

233. It had been raining for several months, and the tanks were most satisfactorily full. At Coimbatore and at Shoranore I was mainly occupied with obtaining information with regard to the recent outbreak of cholera in the jail at the former place, which has happily not recurred, but the causes of which have never been fully explained; the state of things at Salem; and Mr. Logan's inquiries about Malabar Land Tenures, the results of which had just been put into shape.

234. From the southern end of the bridge at Shoranore to Trichore the road lies through the territories of the Rajah of Cochin.

235. I have never passed through a more beautiful piece of non-mountainous scenery in my life. The foliage, under the influence of the recent heavy rains, was magnificent, the rice fields were one sheet of green, the wild flowers of exceptional beauty and interest, the population singularly well grown and stalwart.

236. At Trichore I had time to see the principal buildings, and at night the large and singularly picturesque Pagoda—so unlike anything which one sees on the Eastern Coast—was very tastefully lighted up.

237. Embarking about 9, upon that wonderful system of lagunes which we know as the backwaters, I found myself in the early morning of the 30th at the Residency on the Island of Balghatty. A frightful morning it was, worthy of Ootacamund in the height of summer, and all day the rain descended with persistent fury. At 12 o'clock the Rajah came to visit me and was followed half an hour later by his brother, the Eliya Rajah. They were immediately succeeded by a deputation from the white Jews, and that again by a deputation from the black Jews, both asking me to visit their respective Synagogues. I returned the visits of the Princes at the Palace in Ernacolum, where a durbar was held, and thence went to fulfil my promises to the Jews.

238. At both Synagogues they read—according, I believe, to the usual custom on such occasions—the prayer for the Queen and other authorities, while, at that of the white Jews, I saw the famous deed which Mr. Logan has carefully translated.

239. There seems no doubt that it is not as old as it is sometimes called, but it must be as old as the Morgengabe preserved in the Monastery of the Trinitá at La Cava, which is quite the oldest deed I ever saw in Europe.

240. In the evening the Rajah gave a dinner at the Residency, at which, being still infirm, he was represented by the Eliya Rajah, who proposed the health of the Queen, Empress of India,—I proposing that of the Rajah.

241. The 31st dawned brightly, and I crossed the lagune very early to British Cochin. The Municipal Commissioners received me at the landing place and delivered an address.

242. These gentlemen made no request except that the Madras Government would bestow its attention on the subjects of special interest to them, which might from time to time be submitted for its consideration, a request with reference to which it was easy to promise compliance and to keep the promise when made. They have, for example, recently asked us to allow them to purchase twenty-five additional iron tanks from municipal funds for the purpose of storing water, and this request was granted. They also took the opportunity of explaining very clearly some of the improvements which they had made and some of the difficulties which they had to encounter.

243. They were followed by the Chamber of Commerce, who asked first for a railway and secondly for a harbour.

244. With reference to these requests, I said at the time:

"About the Railway from Shoranore, I think I need say nothing. You are aware of the position of the question and of the line which has been taken by the Madras Government. By that line, subject to the decisions of the higher authorities, we firmly and *ex animo* abide. I am delighted to find that you have a hope of being able to lay before us a scheme for a harbour, which will cost far less than the one which was last under consideration, for I confess that my heart sank within me when I read Mr. Parkes' calculation about 81 lakhs of rupees. I am sure that the professional advisers of the Government and the Government itself will listen with great attention to any propositions submitted to them which have the support of this Chamber; but I need not remind you that questions of this kind have to be finally decided not hard by in Ootacamund, nor even in Madras."

245. Both of these were, of course, matters appertaining to the Supreme Government. Much correspondence took place with respect to the first, and this Government advised the construction of the railway on a joint guarantee for a term of fifteen years by the British Government and by the Native States of Travancore and Cochin, the liabilities of each being regulated by the extent to which it was interested in the construction of the line.

246. The Government of India did not see its way to accept the proposals made, and the matter is still in abeyance.

247. Great attention has been given to the question of a harbour at Cochin, but up to this time it has not been made clear to me that a really good harbour could be made there, even if the Government of India had the purse of Fortunatus.

248. A harbour, different from that suggested by Mr. Parkes, was talked of when I was at Cochin, but plans and estimates for it have not been yet placed before us.

249. Then I was taken to see the old church, where much was wanted. We have since given a grant for the repair of this curious structure and the assistance of the Public Works Department.

250. From British Cochin I returned to the Residency, where, in the course of the morning, I received a visit from the Archbishop of Verapoly, the head of the Carmelite Mission in South-Western India.

251. Later came a large number of Syrian Christians of many shades of opinion, who presented a short, but very noticeable, address, in which, amongst other things, they said that my visit was "the occasion which for the first time, after ages of separation, witnessed the spectacle of all the different sects of their community, following divergent articles of faith, sinking for once religious and party differences and joined together to do honor to their common friend."

252. In the early afternoon I received a deputation of rate-payers from British Cochin, who presented a prodigiously long, but not very numerously signed, address. They first complained of the mismanagement of their municipal affairs. To that part of the address I replied as follows:—

"I have listened with much interest to your address, and I perceive that you are anxious that the powers-that-be should largely diminish taxation, while largely increasing those services to the public which are paid for out of taxation.

"That, gentlemen, is the first thought of many excellent people in all countries. When, however, they have succeeded in getting behind the scenes, more especially if they attain to the closely-watched servitude which is mocked with the name of power, and learn the difficulties of their predecessors, they are apt to find that to increase expenditure and to diminish revenue is to burn the candle at both ends. A lady in England, who has said many good things, replied to a friend who blamed her, when a girl, for burning the candle at both ends, that that was surely the best way to make the ends meet; but I do not think that any financier, Imperial or Municipal, has ever, after trying the experiment, been inclined to agree with her.

"So much by way of a *primâ facie* objection to your general scheme. When, however, I come to its details, I must confess myself unable to criticise them. As you know I only came here the night before last, and the frightful weather which we had yesterday prevented my seeing as much of the neighbourhood as I could wish. I have no doubt that there is a vast deal of truth in your representations, but what can be done with such a pittance as that of which the Municipality disposes—under Rs. 19,000 per annum—even with your present taxation. Take away the money that used to be collected for the Police, and it seems to me you would be unable even to improve the conservancy, which, as you say, greatly wants improving, and which, as I am informed, the Municipality proposes to improve with the money set free by the remission on the part of the Government of the Police contribution.

"To do all you want would require very large funds, but where are they to come from? You ask for local self-government, and I can promise you that your wish will be fairly considered; but although local self-government is an excellent thing, it won't enable you to get blood out of a stone, or to put a very poor community in a position to enjoy those comforts and luxuries which a wealthy community can easily provide for itself.

"As to those matters which belong to the province of the Government, I will see that what you have advanced is examined in a friendly spirit; but it would, as I am sure you will perceive, be impossible for me to give an off-hand answer about them upon this occasion."

253. Since this address was presented very large changes have been introduced, as is well known, in the position of Municipalities, and it will be interesting to see how far, when the new system is fairly under way, the people of Cochin will support the policy heretofore pursued by their Municipality, or that which found favor with the representatives of the local opposition who addressed me. Already last year we introduced the elective system, but so little enthusiasm did this extension of self-government, which was earnestly pressed on me, create, when it was once given, that for want of candidates we were obliged to nominate three Commissioners.

254. One of the grievances of the petitioners against their Municipality, the condition of the Calvety Canal, has been, I observe from the latest Municipal report, attended to.

255. The public garden which gave no satisfaction to the petitioners, and which they said served the purpose of a Nekropolis for dogs, has, it appears, been abandoned after much local discussion.

256. To the water-supply, which was another grievance, I have already alluded.

257. Another grievance was about a certain jetty. This was inquired into and the opinion of the Advocate-General was taken, but the Government entirely agreed that the Municipal Commissioners were acting fully within their rights. As their President put it, they said to persons who wanted to land goods: "There is the jetty; if you find it a convenience to you, pay us so much; if you don't care to pay, then land goods through the mud as you used to do. We are not preventing you."

258. The memorialists further complained about certain of their medical arrangements. Some of these were purely municipal matters, and I have reason to believe that the Municipality look very well after them. Others related to the Government, and appear to amount to a request that it should retain the services of medical men for the purpose of attending the inhabitants at large without fee or reward, a proposition which was, of course, wholly inadmissible.

259. Turning now to matters which belong more directly to the Government, I was told by the petitioners that the Police force assigned to Cochin was inadequate. The strength of the Police, however, would appear to be unusually large in proportion to the population. The peculiar circumstances of Cochin to which the petitioners alluded are already carefully recognised in the distribution of the Police Force. In the large towns of Malabar which are surrounded on all sides by British territory, such as Calicut and Pálghat, the proportion of police to population is far smaller.

260. Then came a grievance about Port conservancy, with regard to which the Marine authorities were consulted, but did not see their way to support the petition.

261. The last complaint was with reference to the encroachments of the sea, which was said to be carrying off valuable cocoanut trees and other property. This grievance was of the same character as that of the persons who build houses under Vesuvius. When the head of the Marine Department visited the spot, after six months' interval, he reported:

"I find the coast restored; there are 300 feet of sand between the coast boundary pillar and the sea line, while many huts and trees still remain where they never ought to have been placed, viz., between the pillar and the sea, showing that the injury never really reached the normal line. Although the injury and loss were so recent, the lesson is of so little use that new trees are here and there being planted, and new huts are preparing now. In the complaint referred to, the inhabitants are treated of as ryots, but they are really fishermen, to whom the close proximity of the sea is a great object, and whose experience and tradition should be sufficient warning to them."

262. Later in the day I visited another Synagogue of the black Jews at Ernacolum, where most of those who had formed the deputation met me, which they were unable to do at their principal Synagogue, having grounded, as they returned, on a sand-bank in the middle of the lagune—a common incident, it would appear, of Cochin life.

263. This done, I went to a Syrian church, whence I drove to the large school which Mr. Sealy, the very intelligent Director of Public Instruction, has created almost out of nothing, for he began with thirty boys in a shed. I gathered from him that his pupils took on the whole more kindly to mathematics than to any other study. The younger boys were learning to write or engrave upon the palm-leaf—a strange sight to an English eye. Since the date of my visit we have acknowledged Mr. Sealy's merits by making him a Fellow of the Madras University.

264. I started after nightfall—the lagune being everywhere beautifully illuminated till we passed out of Cochin waters—and arrived on the morning of the 1st September at Karmady. The route la now through channels narrow as rivers, now narrower still—little more tha... ...ls, and again expanding into chains of

wide but perfectly placid lakes. Everywhere the water was bordered by thick groves of the cocoanut palm, under which there was a dense vegetation, in which the curious holly-like shrub, *Dilivaria ilicifolia*, was the most conspicuous feature. All along the course by day and by night the people thronged every coign of vantage and received the party with every demonstration of friendliness usual in these climes—some of them, it must be admitted, not productive of happiness to those who are not sound sleepers. At length, long before nightfall, the eighty-eight miles between Cochin and Quilon were left behind, and the Residency at the latter place was reached.

265. On the early morning of the 2nd I crossed the lagune and visited the small patch of British territory known as Tangachéri, containing, as I was told by Mr. Laporte, the Magistrate there, 1,166 souls, and valuable as forming one side of what will be, if Mr. Parkes' designs are carried into effect, the very large and important harbour of Quilon, the site of which was shown and carefully explained to me by Mr. Hannyngton and others.

266. Complaints were here made to me about the smuggling which is said to be carried on alike from this place and from British Cochin.

This matter was looked into, and the abuse has been checked, an Inspector having been appointed for the express purpose of preventing such malpractices.

Negotiations, which are far advanced, will probably put an end once for all to this evil.

267. At Quilon a letter was received by the Resident formally announcing the death of His Highness the Mootha Tumburan, the brother of the reigning prince, which I had heard of yesterday unofficially, and which of course required my plans to be modified in many particulars.

268. In the course of the day I received various visitors including Colonel Boone and other officers of the 6th Native Infantry, the Chief Judge, Bishop Ildefonso, &c.

269. On the 4th I passed on to Trivandrum, partly through lagunes like those we had traversed, partly through long canals bordered by lines of trees and shrubs, amongst which the *Cerbera odollam* and the *Allamanda cathartica* of our Madras gardens were, with the ubiquitous *Pandanus odoratissimus* and various ferns, so abundant as to overpower less vigorous plants, stopping by the way to see Anjengo, one of the most desolate little nooks, I suppose, over which the British flag flies in Asia. The priest of that place handed me an address, setting forth various local inconveniences to which I called the attention of the Resident. The Warkully tunnels are really very noble works, and the fact of their having been excavated by a Native Government should stimulate us to do whatever of the kind remains undone within our own borders.

270. It was arranged that, under the circumstances, my visit to Trivandrum should be, as far as possible, divested of any public character; that my wife and I should visit the Maharaja, his wife, and the Senior and Junior Ranees as private friends, but that there should be no return visits, as they were unable, during the first stage of the mourning, to leave the Palace.

271. I saw, however, in a quiet way, a great variety of persons, amongst others the Dewan, who talked to me about an exchange of territory connected with the great Irrigation Project known as the Periyar, from which it is hoped that great advantages will accrue to the Madura District.

272. The husbands of the Senior and the Second Ranees, being, according to the customs of Travancore, outside the circle affected by the mourning, both visited me; on the other hand, neither the Eliya Rajah nor the First Prince could do so. I offered to visit the Eliya Rajah as well as the Maharaja, but he, being even more bound by the trammels of custom than the reigning Prince, as being deputed to be chief mourner, was unable to receive me.

273. Amongst other institutions which I saw at Trivandrum was the Maharaja's College, over which I went with Dr. Ross, the Director of Public Instruction, at whose request I addressed a few words to the senior students. The same compliment which has been paid to Mr. Sealy was at the same time extended to Dr. Ross, who is believed to have done excellent work for the Travancore State.

274. At Trivandrum I was visited by Mar Athanasius, as I had been at Cochin by Mar Dionysius, the head of the section of the Syrian Church, which is at open war with his.

275. From Trivandrum we struck to the eastward, passing, at first, through an open and undulating country, but entering, ere long, the great forests which stretch along the banks of the stream that finds its way to the sea near Quilon and up to the crests of the ghauts. It would be impossible to speak too strongly of the beauty of the scenery or the wild luxuriance of the vegetation. Unluckily, however, the weather, both during our journey and after we had reached Courtallum, was about as bad as it well could be.

276. At that place I remained several days with Mr. Hannyngton at the Residency, but the charge of the party was taken by Mr. Pennington. I replied to the addresses delivered respectively at the temples of Courtallum and at Tenkási, the so-called Southern Benares.

277. The first request which the Courtallum inhabitants made to me was that, if the proposed railway to Travancore was not to take the northern route, they might have a tramway connecting the chief towns on the Tinnevelly side of the frontier.

278. It has not, however, been at all decided how the much-talked-of railway into Travancore is to run. A great deal is to be said on both sides, and we, having obtained full information for their benefit, have now placed the whole question before those who are chiefly interested—the Travancore authorities.

279. The next representation was about the minor irrigation works. With regard to that subject, I have already said enough, as I have also with regard to the third representation, which had reference to the pagoda funds.

280. Fourthly and lastly, they expressed a hope that the Educational Commission would not improve elementary education at a too great sacrifice of the higher education. As to this, I did my best to re-assure them.

281. The first request of the Tenkási ryots referred to the minor irrigation works; the second involved a complaint about the levy of the village service cess.

I need not return to the former subject. As to the other, the remarks of the ryots were founded on a misconception. In former days they paid for the services of the village servants by fees of various kinds, some legal, some illegal. These fees have been abolished, and in lieu thereof the cess complained of is now levied.

282. The third complaint was about forest conservancy and ran as follows:—

"We therefore pray that suitable provision may be made in the Bill about to be passed for securing to us a reasonable enjoyment of our privileges consistent with the universal good it aims at, and that legislation in this respect may not drift in the direction of depressing the condition of the ryots and crushing the growth of their independence."

I need hardly say that the greatest possible care is taken by the Conservators of Forests to work the new Act, which had just passed at the time I received this address, so as not in any way to interfere with any privileges which do not hopelessly sacrifice the interests of the future to those of the moment.

The more intelligent of the peasantry are, it is believed, rapidly getting to understand the broad outlines of our forest policy. I had occasion lately to send a complimentary message to a Village Munsif in the Anantapur District, who had been giving his people extremely wise advice on this subject.

283. The fourth request related to the *kistbandi*, that is to say, to the instalments of the Government demand for land revenue.

This is a question which is never ending, still beginning.

The people of different districts hold the most diverse views about it. For example, while the people of Tenkási want the number of their instalments increased from five to seven, the people of Nellore are extremely anxious to have theirs reduced to two. The Board of Revenue is now once more examining the subject

with a view to adjust the Government demand to the circumstances of particular places as nearly as it can, but it is perfectly idle to suppose that any arrangements can be wholly satisfactory. The circumstances of different districts and parts of districts are too varied to admit of absolute adaptation to individual requirements. Infinite care is, however, taken to meet local wants as far as possible.

284. Next, the petitioners asked for the extension of local self-government. Local self-government has been extended.

285. Lastly, they complained of the union of revenue and magisterial functions.

286. That is a question not for us, but for the supreme authorities, and resolves itself, like many other Indian questions, into one of finance. There can be no doubt, as I told the petitioners in reply, that it would be more in accordance with the most scientific principles of legislation to have revenue and magisterial functions separated, and the stream of tendency flows in that direction.

287. I heard dismal accounts, along my road, of the failure of coffee cultivation in the part of Travancore which I was crossing, but in British Territory things were better. I visited one estate in the hills above the Courtallum waterfalls, where they had had the sense to preserve many of the trees of the primæval forests, which repaid this generosity by shade very useful to the cultivation.

288. At Courtallum we left rain and also coolness behind us, and the low water-parting, which separates the lands irrigated by the Chittar from those which depend upon the main stream of the Támraparni, was as dry and desolate as possible. Here and there Mr. Pennington pointed out small hills which Dr. Brandis, as it seems to me most judiciously, proposes to reserve. At present they grow nothing but a dreary *Euphorbia*, I suppose the *nivulia*, which has not even the merit of defending more valuable seedlings, as is done by the prickly-pear.

289. Immediately on my arrival at Tinnevelly, the Municipality presented an address to which I replied.

290. The inhabitants of Tinnevelly observed:

"We have, we are thankful to say, nothing specially to ask of your Excellency's Government in the matter of local wants, as they have been well attended to by the various officials who have served amongst us, and will, we have no doubt, be carefully attended to in future as occasion offers, as our present Collector has been long in the district, knows it intimately, and does not spare himself in the cause of the public.

"We look forward with much eagerness to the extension of the South Indian Railway to Trivandrum from this town. The land trade between the two places is not inconsiderable, and the two provinces are, for various reasons, intimately connected one with the other, and we trust that the resources of the country will further be developed by this improvement in internal communication."

With regard to the latter, I may say that, however the railway runs into Travancore, whether by the northern or the southern route, it will be certain to benefit it and Tinnevelly.

291. In replying to their address I made some observations which I am not sorry to repeat, viz.:

"It only remains to thank you for all the good wishes which you have expressed with regard to my administration. I trust that to the eye of the distant observer, which is attracted only by sudden changes and startling efforts, it may appear utterly dull and uneventful; but I shall be disappointed if, when it is over, those who are brought into immediate contact with it are not able to say, amongst other things, that during its course, the Presidency of Madras obtained the right of using for her own urgent needs a larger proportion of the taxation levied within her borders; that those of our departments which were not in a satisfactory condition —such as the Forest Department—had been put on better footing; that the best men throughout our various services had, very early in the day, come to know that their work was watched with sympathetic interest at headquarters; and that they were not reduced to hopelessness by seeing all the most influential positions bestowed, as a matter of course, upon meritless seniority.

"These are not very sensational ambitions, and the record of their fulfilment would, no doubt, read, even when recorded by the ablest pen, as if it were traced with opium upon sheets of lead, a phrase which was, by the by, originally used about the philosopher who wrote the life of the Statesman with whose spirit a wise ruler of this part of India would most, I think, desire to be filled—the life of Turgot.

"Of such good dulness, however, is woven the happiness of nations. I do not think one could anywhere find a district which more naturally raises such thoughts than this of Tinnevelly, for Bishop Caldwell, who has so well told its history, finds it necessary to fill pages upon pages with the events which occurred during the terrible period which preceded its passing under British rule, while he finds a paragraph or two quite enough to describe the unbroken progress and prosperity of the last eighty years. And why? because those eighty years have been years of profound peace, whereas before they began, Tinnevelly had never from the beginning of time known, as the Bishop very truly observes, eighty consecutive months, perhaps not even eighty consecutive weeks, of peace."

292. The phrase "that during its course the Presidency of Madras obtained the right of using for her own urgent needs a larger proportion of the taxation levied within her borders" referred to the expected visit of Sir Evelyn Baring and its financial consequences, which, at the time I spoke, were only a hope, but before the end of the year became a reality.

293. On September 14th I received the principal people—European and Native—as I had done at Courtallum, and the afternoon was chiefly given to the schools of various Christian sects. I spoke at four of these, but at none of them were any definite requests made, except that no disfavor should be shown to Native Christians, a request which I need not say I was able to meet with the assurance that they should have the most perfect equality of treatment.

294. Here also I received a long address on behalf of the cotton interest. This was officially considered, and the petitioners were informed that, for reasons substantially the same as those mentioned above in the review of my third tour, we were not prepared to legislate in the direction they desired.

Early on the morning of the 15th I drove out with Colonel Hasted, who had met me by appointment at Tinnevelly, to the Srívaikuntham Anicut which I saw and in the neighbourhood of which I had carefully explained to me the various questions connected therewith. I remarked at the time, "a proposal will presently be made for constructing a bridge upon the piers long since built with that view, which ran out from the side of the anicut looking down stream, and there can be no doubt that such a work is much wanted."

295. Such a proposal has subsequently been transmitted by the Local Fund Board, but has been referred back to them with reference to certain constructive details.

296. On the morning of the 16th I visited the great Shiva Temple and, after examining that really noble structure, received an address from an association representing, as I gathered, the party opposed to the Municipality as at present constituted.

297. They began by thanking me for sanctioning the introduction of the elective system into the Tinnevelly Municipality.

298. Next came a request about the position of dancing girls, which had reference to the general legislation of India, not that of Madras.

299. Then followed a petition that the Sub-Judge's Court should not be removed to Palamcottah. There was a good deal of difference of opinion about this subject, and I examined the Sub-Judge's Court on the 15th September. It was ultimately decided that the Court should not be removed.

300. The third subject was the establishment of temple committees. This is part of the pagoda question already alluded to.

301. The last request was with reference to a dispute about a road, which belonged entirely to the sphere of local self-government.

302. The whole of the country immediately around Tinnevelly and Palamcottah was at this period of the year one vast sea of rice just ready for the harvest, but the line, which took me towards Madura, leads through a region which is in September a desert, relieved only by the long blue line of the ghauts. At Sátúr I was met by the young nephew of the Zamorin, whom we lately made a Deputy Collector, and at Virudupati, a rising cotton mart beginning to rival

Tuticorin, the party was joined by Mr. Crole, the Acting Collector, and Mr. Robinson, the Assistant Collector, of Madura.

303. At the Madura station the Municipal Commissioners met me with an address, in which they first thanked me for the extension of local self-government and then asked for its further encouragement.

304. There is, I apprehend, no town in the Presidency where, during the last two years, the efforts of the people towards managing their own local affairs have met with more encouragement from the representative of the Government on the spot.

305. I should also remark that the Madura Municipality, which is fortunate in the activity and ability alike of its President and Vice-President, has been doing much to improve the water-supply and general condition of the town. It has accordingly been very agreeable to the Government to be able to assist it by a considerable grant from Provincial Funds towards the building of the Vaigai bridge.

306. On the 18th there was a reception of the European residents and the chief of the Native community in the great hall of Tirumal Naik's Palace, which is admirably adapted for ceremonials of this kind. The work of partial restoration seems to be going on satisfactorily; the large room which is now used as a court will require various alterations before it quite suits its purpose, the great difficulty being—the very common one—its bad acoustic properties; these, however, will doubtless be overcome, and the parts of the building which it is proposed to use as minor courts and public offices will subserve these respective purposes sufficiently well although some inconvenience may arise from there being too great an amount of noise. Here I received an address from the general community.

307. The first request of the Madura inhabitants was that I would support the Periyar project. With that request I have most fully complied.

308. The second referred to the minor irrigation works. Of that I have said enough.

309. The third was with reference to the construction of a steam tramway between Madura and Pámban, and they asked that more reliable statistics should be taken before Government decided on starting it. It goes without saying that the request of the people will be complied with.

310. The next request was with reference to the cost of litigation, to which I replied as follows:—

"As to expense of litigation, that is matter rather for the Secretary of State than for the Government of Madras. Of course we all know the objections to taxes upon litigation; but where a considerable revenue has to be raised from the people for the service of the people, we must be content with imposing the least bad taxes, all taxation being of course more or less bad. I have often considered the subject when I was officially concerned with the *general* finance and politics of India; but I am obliged to admit that I never heard an alternative to these taxes suggested which seemed to me likely to be less inconvenient and unpleasant than they."

311. The last request referred to a proposal which was then being discussed, about separating Dindigul from Madura. Up to this time, however, the change, which we then thought of, has not been made, so that the request of the people has thus far been complied with. Personally I still think that, if Madura could be divided on the same principles as Bellary and Anantapur were divided, it would be an advantage to the population, but this local question is inextricably connected with various large imperial questions which can only be settled by the Viceroy and Secretary of State. Official strength in Madura is not perhaps at present as well distributed as it might be, and advantage will be taken of the changes in *personnel* which will be caused by impending retirements on proportionate pensions, to see if some change for the better cannot be made.

312. In the evening of the 18th, the great tank was admirably illuminated, and the arrangements made on this occasion, as well as an exhibition of articles of

local manufacture, in one of the greatest corridors of the Pagoda, on the morning of the 19th, gave me a very favorable impression of the taste and activity of the native artisans. The Pagoda itself is—as is well known—quite the finest thing of its kind in India, and does not give the impression, which many other similar buildings do, of having been left stranded by the progress of events. It excites obviously a very living interest in some classes of the population, and large sums are annually expended upon its decoration or repair. I observed a master workman carving stone with very considerable skill, whose wages were little more than a rupee a-day. His subordinates received only eight annas.

313. From Madura I travelled to Erode and returned on the 20th September to Ootacamund.*

M. E. GRANT DUFF.

* It is intended that the continuation of this Minute shall be published early in November.]

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

OOTACAMUND,
August 3rd to September 16th, 1884.

In the month of October last, I completed, by a visit to South Canara, my general survey of the twenty-two districts of this Presidency, and, as some nine months have now passed, it may be time to review that survey, with the object of seeing what desirable changes have been made in consequence of it, what remain to be made, and, above all, how far it has been possible to meet the requests of the people preferred to the head of the Government in person.

2. The machine of administration, in all civilised countries, is now so complicated that it is necessary for those who preside over it perpetually to revise and re-revise, if important things are not to be allowed to slip out of sight. The impossibility of doing this amidst the conditions under which a statesman's life is now passed in Western Europe is a grave misfortune. In a country governed as this is and must long continue to be, it is highly desirable that the European rulers of every degree should come as much as possible into contact with the ruled.

Thanks to the improvement of communications, the absence of famine and other causes, it has been my good fortune to see more of the Presidency than any of my predecessors have done in an equally short time.

In nearly a hundred addresses, which have been collected into a volume, I have secured a perfect photograph of what the most articulate portion of the people were asking from the chiefs of the administration in 1882 and 1883.

In my replies, while recognizing the good sense of a very large proportion of the requests made, I took the greatest possible care not to commit my colleagues or myself to almost anything, and I am particularly glad to be able to show by this paper, to the persons who came to see me, with what scrupulous care every one of their wishes has been examined, and how very largely performance has surpassed promise.

3. When I left England in the autumn of 1881 the subject connected with Madras, which was most talked of at home, was the gold industry of the Wynaad. A few days before I started, a deputation interested in the Nilgiri Railway came to visit me, and questions of considerable moment, with reference to the sanitation of Ootacamund, came before me ere I had been many weeks in this country.

4. I determined accordingly that my first tour of inspection should be directed towards the West, and on the 4th January 1882 I left Madras.

5. Travelling through the night, I reached Pothanur on the morning of the 5th. There I was met by, amongst others, Mr. Stuart, the Collector of Coimbatore, whose valuable services we are now so soon to lose. He was, at that time, very much occupied with the wants of his district in the matter of wood, and sketched to me a project which had commended itself to his mind for afforestation on a considerable scale.

6. The new Forest Act was then only a *hope*, but it has since become a *reality*, and the position of Coimbatore, so far as the woodland and its connected benefits are concerned, has much improved.

7. The senior Conservator of Forests, writing under date of the 5th August 1884, reports to me that very good progress has been made in the constitution of its reserved forests, in demarcation, in survey, and in fire protection. Attention has been given to the formation of fuel and fodder reserves, though the Collector's final recommendations have not yet been received, and the forest revenue of the district is steadily increasing.

8. On my way up the Coonoor Ghaut I stopped at Burliar and examined the Government Garden there.

9. I was glad to observe that the Mangosteen was prospering, and I learn that it continues so to do. Since that period, too, *Amherstia nobilis* has flowered at Burliar, although, in spite of the kind help of Dr. King of Calcutta, it has failed to grow at Guindy. It would be highly desirable to naturalise in the Presidency so noble a tree, and Mr. Lawson will, if any one can, succeed in doing this.

10. The *Ipecacuanha* I had, in January 1882, to pronounce a failure; but, thanks to Mr. Lawson, who has altered the method of treatment that was being pursued, it is now succeeding much better. He does not believe that with us it will ever be a forest, but only a garden, product; nevertheless, a very considerable work for the good of humanity will be accomplished, if this powerful remedy in some very bad forms of dysentery is made common and cheap, by garden-cultivation amongst us. Its success would be particularly agreeable to me personally, because, I was at the India Office when the first attempts were made to bring it to India, and I took a great interest in them.

11. The Liberian coffee was fruiting freely; but I am told that it is not found of much practical importance in this Presidency.

12. The planters find the pericarp too hard to enable them to pulp it readily. Those kinds of coffee which have only one seed in the berry command a higher price, and the Liberian yields a crop only once in fourteen months. These disadvantages are thought, I am informed, to outweigh its comparative immunity from leaf-disease.

13. From Burliar I pushed on to Ootacamund, where the Municipal Commissioners presented an address in which they expressed a hope that the day was not far distant when Ootacamund would be made the permanent seat of the Madras Government.

14. In my reply I was unable to treat this as a serious claim, but spoke of it as a jest, at the expense "of the exaggerated pretensions of others."

15. For myself, I think that in the existing circumstances of this Presidency the dual arrangement of a summer and winter capital is far the best. No doubt, if it were only possible, an ambulant Government, a camp Government, would be the most desirable for India as a whole, and for every province in it; but that kind of Government is no longer possible. It belongs to the days of personal rule, and is quite incompatible, if it were only from considerations of expense, with our centralised, scientific system of administration with its infinite array of minute rules, precedents, and reports which require a gigantic apparatus of offices and officials.

16. Of course, no one, in his right mind, would ever have selected Madras as the capital of the huge province which is known as the Madras Presidency, and, indeed, no one ever did so. The *congeries* of very poor villages *plus* the moderate sea-port town, the Mount Road shops, the Government establishments, and the numerous small parks or "compounds" which, scattered thinly over twenty-seven square miles, form what is now called the City of Madras, have been grouped around the Fort which formed the centre of the very small and humble affairs of the Company upon the Coromandel Coast. The place has never grown to be a real capital, and can, indeed, never do so, although, if the harbour and other improvements to which I alluded in my speech of June 30th are carried into effect, it will gradually become more important than it is now.* Still I think for historical, sentimental, and other good reasons, it would be the greatest mistake to leave Madras; and I trust that no Government will ever dream of doing so, although, from many points of view, Ootacamund presents advantages which it cannot offer.

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* The following is the passage to which I refer:—

"These being the circumstances with which we have got to deal, what should Madras wish for? It should wish first for the completion of its system of drainage and water-supply—that is, it should wish to take itself out of the list of the semi-barbarous cities and put itself among the civilized cities—the cities which, like London, have a low death-rate; secondly, it should wish to see the Buckingham Canal pushed on as fast as the means at the disposal of its Government will permit; thirdly, it should wish to see the Singareni coal brought to its gates; fourthly, it should wish to see the excellent Municipal constitution which it has got, and which Mr. Arundel has done so much to perfect, worked ever better and better; fifthly, it should wish to see its harbour completed and made thoroughly efficient—so efficient that it may become a link in the communication between England, Bombay, and the further East."

17. The object of a wise administration should be to soothe those little municipal jealousies which are complicated so readily with the self-interest of individuals, who derive pecuniary advantage from the presence of the heads of the State amongst them.

Madras at least has nothing to gain by insisting that the Government shall give the apple either to herself or to her rival, and it is a section of her inhabitants who have of late been insisting on a judgment of Paris.

18. Some of the other requests of the Ootacamund municipality were of a far more serious kind. They observed that the sanitation of the place might fairly claim Imperial help, and they asked for assistance alike for sanitation, drainage, and water-supply.

19. At that time this Government also considered that they had a right to ask for *Imperial* help. Imperial help was, indeed, promised in the days of Lord Napier, and we recalled that fact to the Government of India in the year 1882, but much time had passed, the policy of the Viceroy in Council had changed in the interval, and we found, not unnaturally, that we had to give the assistance wanted out of *Provincial* funds.

Letter No. 287-W., dated 1st February 1882.

20. I trust we have not been niggardly in giving that assistance. Since the date of which I am writing, we have, *inter alia*, paid out of Provincial revenue for draining the bazaar some Rs. 94,000, bought and got rid of, at the expense of Rs. 10,000, the highly insanitary "Lines" near the small public park known as the ABC ground, and improved off the face of creation various other nuisances of the same kind.

21. Speaking in round numbers, since the Municipal Commissioners addressed me, Provincial has spent on the sanitation of Ootacamund not less than Rs. 97,000 through the Public Works Department, and not less than Rs. 27,000 through the Municipal Commissioners.

22. The lake is much less defiled than it used to be, and, when the intercepting sewer has been carried down below the Willow Bund to the outfall, will be all that could be desired; but what a pity that the same foresight, which has saved from pollution the lake of Kodaikánal, did not preside a generation ago over the arrangements made with respect to what is obviously destined to be the most important *sanitarium* in Southern India.

23. As soon as the drainage works, now in progress, are finished, we must turn to the water-supply and give some help to the Ootacamund municipality for its improvement, just as we have done to that of Madras. Already, the most important questions connected with it have been carefully investigated by our officers.

24. I found Government House advancing to completion. The shell was finished, and several portions of the building were habitable, at least in fine weather.

25. I was glad to be able to record that the constructive period had passed before I had anything to do with it, for, of the many things for which I feel myself unfit, there are few for which I feel myself more unfit than being an architect. All questions as to the policy of building, the purchase of property, and the kind of building to be erected had happily been settled by my predecessors. The numerous problems which remained were all in the nature of corollaries to be gradually worked out in the course of years with time, patience, and the concurrence of the proper departments of the Supreme Government.

26. I gave some attention, on this visit, to the Government Gardens as well as to the Cinchona Plantations. Both of these have, within the last two years, come under the management of a man of great scientific eminence,—the late Professor of Botany at Oxford.

27. The laying out of the gardens is being very much improved, all the trees and shrubs are being properly labelled, while great and important changes are taking place in the management of the Cinchona Plantations, more especially in the valley which separates the slopes of Snowdon from those of Dodabetta.

28. From Ootacamund I went on to Naduvatam to join Dr. Bidie, who was engaged in examining our estates there, with reference to the assertions of Mr. Cross, the South American traveller, who had frightened us, not a little, by declaring that our supposed *Succirubra* was not *Succirubra* at all, but the far less valuable *Micrantha*. On this question I had occasion to write in my first Tour Minute, but it has now happily been laid at rest by the highest scientific authority, and I need not repeat what I there said.

29. From Naduvatam I descended the Ouchterlony Valley, where the coffee, stimulated by heavy rains, had burst prematurely into flower and was in great beauty.

30. Here some representations were made to me about the importance of getting seeds of the *Ledgeriana* species of Cinchona, and at a later period I was happily able to do so.

31. From the Ouchterlony Valley we descended to Nadgani, where we became the guests of Mr. O'Donoghue, and found ourselves in the midst of the gold region.

32. At Devála I received an address from the Nílgiri Planting and Mining Association. They called my attention first to the administration of the Nílgiris. Since that date, the administration has been greatly strengthened. It used to cost Rs. 5,540 a-month, but a very few weeks after the period of which I am speaking, the Act abolishing the old Commission came into force. The district is now within the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the Judge of Coimbatore, so that the Collector, who has superseded the Commissioner, has far more time to give to administrative work. The Head Assistant remains as he was. The Joint Magistrate has been abolished. Both the Deputy Tahsildars of Coonoor and Gúdalúr have had their pay increased; there is now an Assistant Collector, a Sub-Judge, a Treasury Deputy Collector, and a Deputy Tahsildar at Ootacamund, while the subordinate establishments have been considerably increased: all this at an expense of some Rs. 1,390 a-month.

33. We have also created a Special Assistant for that important branch of business known as the Wynaad escheats, which should, by rights, have been put out of hand more than two generations ago. When he has done his work, the settlement of the Wynaad portion of the Nílgiri district will be taken up. Twenty five cases in three districts of South Wynaad have been already inquired into and separately reported on by the officer appointed, each one being a case in which the Government asserts rights over land declared to be escheated in consequence of the rebellion of the Pychee Rajah in the first days of this century.

Further proceedings will be taken after the receipt of the necessary orders from the Secretary of State.

34. The deputation next observed:

"It is unfortunately our experience of many years that planters meet with invincible obstacles and unreasonable delay in the disposal of their applications for land, and intending investors have, in some instances, left the country after waiting for years, despairing of ever obtaining land on which to commence planting operations."

35. The Government, knowing that these complaints were not unfounded, took immediate steps to improve the state of affairs which has so much changed that, on sending to Mr. Burrows, the very active Collector of the district, in the middle of August, the following question, I received the following reply:—

"How many land and mining applications from planters and others have been disposed of in the district since the beginning of January 1882, and how many are still waiting to be disposed of?"

"Applications under Gold Mining Rules *disposed of* since January 1882 ..	119	
Applications under Waste Land Rules—		
Europeans and East Indians	96	207
Natives	111	
Applications under Gold Mining Rules *awaiting disposal*	None.	
Applications under Waste Land Rules—		
Advertised for sale	5	7"
Awaiting reports from subordinates	2	

36. The deputation then passed to the Revenue Settlement, and urged that the operations which had been some time before commenced on the Nílgiris should be pushed on as fast as possible.

37. I find that, since the 1st January 1882, a few days before the address was presented, no less than 295,000 acres have been completely settled with the result which was contemplated by the framers of the address, that the revenue has been largely increased, while thousands of land-holders have been furnished with puttahs (leases) showing exactly the position, area, and assessment of the lands held by them. A complete revision of the village establishments of the district has also been carried into effect, and the Village Cess Act has been introduced for the purpose of providing the salaries of the village officers. The gentlemen who came to see me feared that years would elapse before the settlement of the district was completed. It will, so far as the Nílgiris are concerned, be completed or all but completed before the document I am now drawing up is in the hands of the public.

38. The memorialists next asked that a European Head Constable should be located at Devála. This request has not been complied with *in terms;* but the police force of the Wynaad has been strengthened by the entertainment of two Head Constables and seven Constables in addition to the previously existing force.

39. Then they turned to the subject of roads, asked me to notice the fact that I was travelling in the driest season of the year, and assured me that their communications, during the monsoon, were disastrously bad. Since that period the Government have largely assisted the Local Fund Board to improve the whole of the through line from Mettupálaiyam to Gúdalúr, have taken over those parts of it which pass through the municipalities of Coonoor and Ootacamund, and have now determined to do the same by the whole of the road in question. So much for one end of the line of communication so vitally important to South Wynaad. Then, as to the other end of it, as soon as a man, fit for the purpose, was available, we sent Mr. Nordmann to examine, with a view to its improvement, the line from Vayitri to Calicut, and reports from him have been already received. I hear from Colonel Beatty that the estimates are far advanced, but their total amount is undoubtedly startling, and though improvement will be pushed on, as funds become available, till eventually we may hope to see the great through line across the Nílgiris, the Wynaad and Malabar to the Western Coast in really good order, this part of the work (*i.e.*—improvement of the line from Vayitri to Calicut) must, in justice to other portions of the country, be carried into effect gradually. With regard to the middle portion of the road, the President of the Local Fund Board, writing under date the 23rd August 1884, reports that the road from Gúdalúr to Devála is in good order, and the road on from Devála to Mango Tree Bungalow *viâ* Pundalur is also in good order, adding various details as to what has been done since I passed over it in January 1882.

40. Then my attention was called to the gold mining leases. These we have made much more liberal. The limit of each grant was confined to 30 acres. We have now extended it to 150, we have abolished the requirement that five coolies should be entertained per acre, we have allowed the lessee to sublet or assign his lease without the previous sanction of Government, and we have permitted an applicant to obtain more than one mining lease.

41. The gentlemen who came to see me then passed to the subject of railways. I do not think they will complain that this Government has not, since that date, done all that in it lay to help them to a railway up the Nílgiris. Supported by us as by the Government of India, the proposals of its promoters were accepted by the Secretary of State, but the speculation not finding favor with capitalists at home, they again applied to us for other terms, whereupon they were once more supported first by this Government, secondly by that of India. The final decision must depend upon the views entertained at the India Office. As to the railway from Mysore towards the West Coast, that project has been thrown back by the reverses of the gold industry; but for that, we are certainly not responsible.

42. Then they asked that the telegraph should be extended to Vayitri. It has been extended to Vayitri and on from Vayitri to Calicut.

43. They next proceeded to state their general views about the Government Cinchona properties. I have nothing now to add to what I said on the spot, viz.:

"Next we arrive at Cinchona. Well, my first emotion when I saw those magnificent forests of 'Succirubra' which clothe the slope of Naduvatam was an emotion of pride. I

rejoiced that our Indian Government should have created and should possess so fine an estate; but I nevertheless think, as you do, that the time must come when the same wise policy which made it acquire will make it desire to dispossess itself of that estate. The only questions that can well be raised are as to the time when, and the way in which, this ought to be done. The time will arrive when Government can do no more to promote the establishment of the Cinchona industry in India than can be done by private persons, and the way in which it should dispossess itself of the property is of course the one which will be most profitable for the public. These questions will some day have to be decided by some Secretary of State for India. So many controversies are still going on about Cinchona cultivation that I should hardly be inclined to think that it would be advantageous to the industry, as a whole, to dispense with the aid of Government in too great a hurry; but when I am convinced that the time has arrived, you may reckon upon my good wishes, for I belong to that school of politicians, not so popular now, as it once was, which desires to limit rather than to increase the functions of Government, which takes for its motto '*Laisser faire laisser passer.*'"

44. Since these words were spoken the Home Government and that of Madras have taken up, in good earnest, the solution of those problems with regard to Cinchona cultivation which only Governments assisted by the best science of the day can solve. Mr. Lawson's botanical and horticultural knowledge will soon be supplemented by that of a chemical expert, who has been studying recently at Leyden under the auspices of Dr. de Vrij, the greatest living authority upon the chemistry of Cinchona; and it is to be hoped that in the next few years all that is necessary to be known for the production to the best advantage in India of the Cinchona alkaloids will be ascertained and placed at the disposal of every one who desires to engage in Cinchona planting.

45. The last topic on which my visitors touched was their difficulties with respect to labor. That is a very thorny subject on which it is almost impossible to satisfy both the employers and the employed. The present state of the case is that the views of the planters, of the High Court, and of the district officers have been ascertained for the purpose of being communicated to the Government of India.

46. Much misconception would seem to prevail amongst employers as to the existing state of the law, and it has not yet been made clear to me that any change is really wanted in the *substance* of the existing enactments.

47. It was also suggested that an Act should be passed for the registration of all contractors, cooly maistries, and mechanics, but the Government of India considers this to be a matter on which legislation is not advisable, unless under very exceptional circumstances.

48. The next address which I received was at Pandalur, where the people asked for the establishment of a police station. We were not able to comply in terms with this wish, but we have been able to sanction an addition to the Wynaad police force of Devála and of Nadghani, as I have already remarked.

49. They further asked for the appointment of a Village Magistrate, the enforcement of those sections of the Police Act which relate to sanitation and the prevention of nuisances, for improved roads and a home for poor travellers.

50. The supply of the last of these wants is clearly a matter for the Local Fund Board. As to the others, we were not able to appoint a Village Magistrate, but may be able ere long to effect the same object in a somewhat different way. We have enforced those provisions of the Police Act which relate to sanitation and the prevention of nuisances, and I have already explained what we have done about roads.

51. Next came an address from the members of "The Wynaad Planting and Mining Association," which was delivered to me at Vayitri. They, too, called my attention to the Mysore-Malabar Railway and to the various other subjects to which I have already alluded, the two new points being, I think, (1) the addition of a European ward to the hospital, and (2) the creation of Justices of the Peace.

52. The first of these is not within the province of Government but of the Local Fund Board. As to the second, Colonel Henderson was soon afterwards made a Special Honorary Magistrate with special powers.

53. To the same place came the representatives of North Wynaad, who wished that the District Munsif's Court should not sit permanently at Vayitri but should

itinerate. Also they desired that appeals from Vayitri Court should go to Tellicherry and not to Calicut.

54. These requests, for the reasons given below, we could not comply with. It was one of those complaints of which I have received many since, and to which one can only reply, as I did in July at Palmanér, that we have to make the best arrangement we can for all the parties concerned, although, if money were unlimited, we should like to bring justice home to every man's door. As long as time and space continue, geographical inconveniences will continue too.

55. The memorialists then asked that the telegraph should be extended from Vayitri to Manantoddy. That has been done; and they further asked that in improving the communications of the Wynaad either by railway or tramway, the wants of the northern district should be considered. That legitimate request will not be forgotten, and I may, before I leave the country, be able to visit North Wynaad, as they naturally wished me to do.

56. The District Munsif grievance of North Wynaad was further urged in a prodigiously long address from Native communities in that part of the country in which Vayitri was described as "by all means a condemnable place;" and it was truly observed that "a man with whatever powers of locomotion could by no means be comparable to a bird with two wings."

57. The arguments, however, put forward did not alter the conclusion come to, to give the Vayitri arrangement a further trial, as apparently the best.

58. I have recently called for fresh reports from the local authorities, and find that Vayitri is still considered to be, on the whole, the most convenient place. Mr. Logan takes that view, Mr. Galton takes that view, and the High Court takes that view. The weight of argument seems also to be on the side of the weight of authority; for Vayitri is distinctly more convenient for half the Native population, for the coffee interest in general, and for the great bulk of the Europeans.

59. I saw five different gold mines,—those of the Indian Gold Mine Company at Nadghani, those of the Alpha at Devála, those of the South-East Wynaad Company, those of the South Indian Gold Mine Company and the Ripon Company,—the last just out of the Wynaad and in Malabar.

60. Speaking at Vayitri on the 16th January, I said:

"That there is gold in the Wynaad I can now testify from ocular inspection. That gold is present in paying quantities in many localities, I am willing to believe. That much skill and not a few high qualities are enlisted in the development of your mines, I am fully convinced. That you have an excellent set of miners, I hear on all sides. But you have suffered, and will still suffer from the operation of that class of persons who infest the great centres of commerce in the West, and who are to the armies of industry and enterprise as those camp followers, who used to follow other armies, and gain for the legitimate combatant a bad name by robbing the dead and killing the wounded. That we may hear in the future as little of such persons as possible in connection with your industry, is the best wish I can contribute to the prosperity of this beautiful and most interesting district."

I further said in my first Tour Minute:

"There will, I fear, be many terrible disappointments, and good Indian investments will suffer because many people have lost money by bad ones. Some concerns will, I should hope, weather the coming storm, pay reasonable dividends to some share-holders, and add something to the wealth of this part of India."

61. I was delighted with that portion of the Wynaad across which my route lay. Mr. Mitchell's hospitable house at Penorah would strike the traveller as a beautiful spot in any co[illegible]y.

62. Some o[illegible]vils of the Wynaad we can hardly cure. During the hot weather of the [illegible] it is, and will, I fear, continue to be, very feverish; nor can we repair the [illegible]chief that has been done to it by the golden Will-o'-the-Wisp. The time will, I daresay, come when, metallurgic science having progressed, it will be really possible to work to some profit many of the mines, which are now being abandoned in despair; but meantime there seems nothing which the Government can do but to encourage in every way a return to the slower but, in the end, perhaps more profitable ways of agricultural industry. It is much to be regretted that a heavy fall in the market price of Coffee and of Cinchona should have synchronised with the other troubles of the Wynaad.

63. I do not think it can be justly asserted that we have been remiss in giving such help as a Government can give. We have exempted from assessment, from 1883 to 1887 inclusive, lands planted with such special products as Cinchona and Coffee, whether held under private proprietors or under Government on puttah (lease), provided they are brought into cultivation during that period. This concession extends both to Malabar and the Nílgiris, including of course the Wynaad. Cinchona is, it is believed, the product from which the planters in both these districts hope for most aid in their present depressed state. I am sure there is a great deal still to be done in the direction of introducing new products.

Speaking at Devála, I said:

"I trust that in a few years that trophy in the centre of the room where the various pursuits of the district are so prettily represented may require to be enlarged, for I cannot help thinking that a country so peculiar as this, where the bracken of our northern woods clothes the slopes which lead down to streams whose borders are lined with tree ferns, has still many secrets for the patient and ingenious cultivator."

64. The fact is that the man of science will in all probability perform within the next century far greater services to humanity than he has even already done in mingling the vegetation of distant countries.

Mr. Clements Markham, to whom South India owes her Cinchona, is still far from an old man, and there are hundreds of other such gifts yet to be given to the Madras Presidency.

Kew is constantly sending us parcels of seeds, any one of which might turn out to be of the greatest service.

65. Care must be used, as in everything else, in the introduction of new products.

Even in the parts of the Wynaad which I saw, one of the *Lantanas* has become a terrible enemy, and in the northern part of the country it is said to be the undisputed master of wide regions. Known in our English conservatories as a tender exotic, in Northern Africa as a useful garden shrub, it is here a terrible tyrant to man, in strict alliance with the wild boar and the panther; while from the fact of its fruit being greedily devoured by birds, it is constantly extending its sway.

66. Turning to an allied subject, supposing that Mr. Lawson or Mr. Gamble or Dr. Bidie were one day to learn and be able to tell us as much about the coffee-leaf disease as is already known about the relations between the Barberry and the Smut in wheat—what an important event it would be for the Presidency!

67. From Vayitri, I descended the Támrachéri Ghaut. The view of the wavy plain of Malabar from the top of it in the early morning made one think oneself, for a moment, in Arctic regions, so completely did the mist which filled the hollows mimic fiords covered with ice. Any thoughts of the Arctic regions soon, however, passed away, as we hurried down the mountain side, which looked, for all the world, as the slopes of the Alps over the plains of Lombardy might look, if the contents of the tropical house at Kew were multiplied a millionfold, spilt over them and then left for twenty years to interlace.

68. From the foot of the ghaut I drove on to Calicut through a charming country, by a road which had not been well engineered.

This is the road which, as already stated, we sent Mr. Nordmann to examine.

69. Everywhere I was received as the representative of the Executive should wish to be, and made acquaintance, for the first time, with the remarkable aptitude of the population of Malabar for utilising the plantain, the cocoa palm, and other plants for decorative purposes.

70. At Calicut, I received three addresses. The first of these was from the Merchants and Agents. These gentlemen began by directing my attention to the importance of completing the railway from Beypore to Calicut. Writing in the second week in August with reference to this, I said: "To that subject we have given, since the date of which I am speaking, great attention, and the present position of affairs is, that the Madras Railway has surveyed the extension; the whole subject has been laid before the Member of the Government of India who

is in charge of the Railways by the Members of the Madras Government and their officials at* Guindy, with the result that the Government of India has undertaken to recommend the line to the Secretary of State;" but on the morning of the 15th August our anxieties were set at rest by my receiving a telegram from the Secretary of State to say that the extension of the line by the Madras Railway Company had received his sanction.

* In November 1883.

71. My visitors then turned to the extension of railway communication across North Malabar and the Wynaad to the Mysore frontier. To that subject I have alluded already. It belongs not to the Provincial but to the Supreme Government, and must be dependent on its views.

72. They also stated that the amount of port dues collected at Calicut greatly exceeded the amount spent upon the Port. On this point the Master Attendant was immediately consulted. It turned out that the memorialists were in error, and that the charges had exceeded the receipts.

73. With regard to the complaint that the system of canals in the Malabar district was far from satisfactory, some recent communications between the Public Works Department and the spokesman of the deputation which came to see me leads me to suppose that the extension of the railway to Calicut will effect what the memorialists most wanted in a somewhat different way, but the good ordering of the backwater communication all along the West Coast is, I fully admit, a matter of importance, and Colonel Ross Thompson, who is expected out in October, is to be directed to examine the whole line of waterway alike in Malabar and South Canara.

74. My visitors further desired the establishment of an experimental garden. We have not as yet seen our way to do that, but Mr. T. J. Ferguson, of Calicut, is experimenting both with the Hevea and the Castilloa as well as with the Ipecacuanha in close co-operation with the officers of Government.

75. Dr. Trimen, the distinguished head of the great gardens at Perideniya in Ceylon, who visited the Nílgiri Cinchona plantations in company with Mr. Lawson and Dr. Bidie in the summer of 1883, has been assisting us by sending both Hevea and Castilloa plants.

76. With regard to the Rhea and other fibres to which the deputation also alluded, I have reason to hope that private enterprise has stepped in to develop these most important products. Rhea fibre worked up into a substance of great beauty was shown me by Mr. Pinching some months ago.

77. The deputation further asked for the establishment of a first-grade college teaching up to the B.A. standard. This request has been considered, but it is not thought that there is any present occasion for an institution of the kind. It would, indeed, in my opinion, do more harm than good.

78. The memorialists spoke also of the trade of the port and the state of the pier. To that subject I gave great attention, as it had been previously arranged in Council I should do, examining the pier on the 18th with Colonel Sankey, the Master Attendant, Mr. McWatters, and others including the principal merchants who used it. Several courses were suggested and carefully reviewed. The upshot of many discussions has been that the pier has now been handed over to the merchants of the port on a 99-year lease.

79. Then came to me a large deputation of Jenmis who were followed by the representatives of the other side of the Malabar land question, the Kanamkars.

80. Since the date of which I am writing we have received Mr. Logan's elaborate report; that report has been considered by a Commission, and the views of that Commission are now about to be submitted to the very highest authorities on the questions which are raised by the rival claims of these people whom I do not attempt to describe by any English term; so conflicting are the opinions of the persons, who have most right to speak, as to their exact position in relation to each other.

81. After seeing them I was visited by a deputation of Syrian Christians headed by their Bishop, who bore in his hand a crozier, surmounted by what, I

took, at first, to be the head and neck of a pelican, but found upon examination to be those of a serpent,—a curious fact.

82. My visitors belonged to a section of the Syrian Christians, which is in communion neither with Rome nor with the Patriarch of Babylon. They presented me with an address accompanied by an historical sketch. When they were gone, there came a representative of the section which holds with the Patriarch of Babylon, but has of late years, if I comprehend their position, followed that dignitary into a quarrel with the Holy See. He came to lay before me a grievance, the redress of which was competent to the Collector, whose good offices he was accordingly promised.

83. At Calicut, the Municipal Commissioners also came to see me. They asked, however, for nothing except to be relieved from paying the contribution towards the police force. That request has been granted, so that the funds which used to be diverted to that purpose are now set free, exactly as the Commissioners desired, for the promotion of sanitation and education.

84. Next arrived the representatives of the Basel German Mission, who gave an interesting account of their mercantile and other labours, but did not make any request to the Government, except, by implication, one for full liberty, which of course they have always had and will have.

85. The Syrian Christians likewise had no special request to make, but only came to offer their friendly congratulations. Not so the body known as the Kerala Sabha (Malabar Association), which asked for many things, first, a Malayali Member in the Legislative Council; secondly, a Malayali Judge in the High Court; thirdly, a first-grade college at Calicut; fourthly, more money for female education; fifthly, the extension of the railway to Calicut and Cannanore. The first two of these requests were no doubt creditable to local patriotism. It is right that the love of the parish should come first in all countries; but nothing of the kind could be thought of. Malabar has had, and will have, Members of Council and Judges of the High Court intimately acquainted with its special customs,—men of the stamp of Sir William Robinson or Mr. Holloway; but the highest officials of the Government, executive or judicial, cannot be selected on geographical grounds.

86. The proposed establishment of a first-grade college at Calicut having, as I have already said, been considered quite unnecessary, I pass on to the next request, that more money should be appropriated for female education. This was a suggestion of a far more reasonable kind, and with it we have been able to comply to a considerable extent. At the time the address was delivered about Rs. 1,114 were spent in a year at Calicut on female education, while Rs. 2,700 from Provincial and Municipal in addition to Rs. 3,840 from Endowment Funds have been allotted for this purpose in the official year 1883-84.

87. Then the petitioners asked that the railway should be extended to Calicut and Cannanore. Its extension to Calicut has, as I have elsewhere mentioned, been now sanctioned, but a great many more important lines will have to be made before an extension to Cannanore could be approved, unless indeed it were made by local effort.

88. Next they complained of the unequal incidence of the Local Fund cess and asked for the restoration to the Local Funds of the contribution which the district used to receive from Provincial Funds, but they did *not* state that these grants were simply a rate-in-aid levied on the whole of the Madras Presidency for some time, to supply advantages to Malabar, which each of the other districts supplied to itself.

89. It was in 1877 that a state of things, whose continuance would have been most unfair to the rest of our districts, was amended, and I had to tell the deputation that so far from their land being peculiarly highly taxed, they enjoyed in that respect very great advantages. There would appear to be a tradition in Malabar that assessments are high. This is founded on the fact that they *were* once high, but they have (*see* Proceedings, Legislative Department, 2nd October 1877, No. 77, page 7) been undisturbed whilst prices have advanced enormously. The Government assessment now bears a much smaller proportion to the true rent value of land than in other parts of the country.

90. Local patriotism is apt to forget such things, and it is right for persons, in authority, while granting, so far as they can, all legitimate requests, to refuse, point blank, requests which are clearly illegitimate.

91. Next they asked for one or two things, the granting or withholding of which did not lie within the province of this Government, but the only important prayer,—reduction in the price of salt,—was, as it happened, almost immediately granted,—thanks to the wise financial policy of the Viceroy and Sir Evelyn Baring,—a policy which successful, it is believed, everywhere, has been in this Presidency *brilliantly* successful.

92. When at Calicut, I received and returned the visit of the Zamorin,—one of the not very numerous personages in India whose annals connect far back with the great stream of history. It is curious in a country whose traditions go so far into the past, that there should be so few families to which, even if we forget the practice of adoption, so contrary to all our European ideas of what family continuity means, there is attached anything like the interest of which thousands of houses in the West can boast.

93. From Calicut I went by water to Areacode up the Beypore river and then drove through a lovely country to Nilambúr, where I carefully examined our magnificent teak plantations. It was pleasant to see, while "professional philanthropists" were shrieking about the increasing poverty of India, a noble property maturing in this out-of-the-way corner of the land—one likely ere long to be of enormous value. I saw trees, a hundred feet high, which were seedlings in 1844.

94. At the same place I found the *Ceara* rubber (*Manihot Glaziovii*) doing well. It is evidently going to be a success in many parts of this Presidency. In the last couple of years it has, for example, made great progress near Kullar. The far more valuable *Panama* rubber (*Castilloa elastica*) was also doing well, not so the Pará rubber (*Hevea Brasiliensis*).

95. At Beypore, I went with Colonel Shaw-Stewart and Mr. Saunders to inspect a spot where a rather serious erosion threatened the railway property.

96. This was at that time, and has been since, a matter of some anxiety and no small expense to us; but the extension of the Madras line to Calicut will altogether alter the state of affairs, and lead to the abandonment of the threatened terminus.

97. Thence I passed to inspect the Walliar jungle and returned to Madras after an absence of sixteen days.

98. At Erode, Mr. Nicholson spoke to me on two important subjects, the use of the bark of the Babool (*Acacia Arabica*) for tanning, and the value of the common prickly-pear (*Opuntia Dillenii*) as a protector for young trees. With reference to the first of these, we have obtained, since that date, a very interesting memorandum from Mr. Gamble, and the Director of Agriculture has been ordered to collect information regarding the prospects of a trade in Babool bark and pods in Europe.

There has not been sufficient time to ascertain the results of all the experiments that have been made with reference to the prickly-pear as a forester, but Mr. Wooldridge, a very intelligent forest officer, has reported excellent results from South Arcot, where he has used the Cactus as a protector of seedlings for a long time.

It would be highly satisfactory if we could once for all turn this most unpleasant American invader into a useful servant.

Second Tour of Inspection.

I again left Madras on the evening of the 3rd of March 1882, and ran through to Coimbatore.

99. The next day I received an address from the inhabitants of that place.

100. Their first request was that a supply of water from the Vellingiri Hills should be turned into the Noyel River.

101. This project has not yet been fully inquired into by the Public Works Department, nor could it have been without passing by more urgent matters.

102. Another project, however, connected with Coimbatore,—the Bhowani Reservoir,—has been pretty fully inquired into, and favourably reported upon.

It is, however, a very big business, promising indeed great advantages alike direct and indirect, but so costly as to require the most careful scrutiny before it is entered upon.

The Engineers have not yet reported which of two competing sites is the better. The selection of even the smaller of the two involves the creation of what we rather grotesquely describe as a tank, but which in other countries would be called an artificial lake, with a water-spread of 12 square miles.

103. The greatly increased attention now given, as I have already mentioned, to forest conservation in this district ought to have a favorable effect on the water-supply from the Noyel River. I mentioned in my second Minute that Dr. Brandis, having examined the Bolampatti Valley, had arrived at the conclusion that if the denudation of the slopes around the head-waters of the Noyel was not stopped, Coimbatore would suffer very grievously. This important piece of country is accordingly now being settled by the Special Forest Settlement Officer, and it is expected that the reserved forest will be finally constituted by the end of the current official year.

104. The deputation then asked that the supply of water should be increased by extensive improvements in the present tanks, and that none of these should be abandoned.

105. This was the first time that any representations were made to me about the minor irrigation works, of which I have heard so much since. To them, as is I believe generally known, this Government has in the last two years given great and special attention. They formed the subject of very anxious communication with Sir Evelyn Baring on that visit to Madras in November 1882, which has had in many directions such momentous results for this Presidency. The grants for them have been everywhere increased, and have been put at the disposal not, as formerly of the Public Works Department, but of the Revenue authorities on the spot, who are now allowed to entertain special establishments for the supervision of these most important works up to a limit of 16 per cent. of the annual grant, while the necessity for working up to the annual grant within the year is steadily kept before the minds of all Collectors.

106. The whole irrigation system of the Presidency, putting aside the colossal works which have their own system of management, has, since Sir Evelyn Baring's visit, and of course since this first application to me about minor irrigation works, been begun to be surveyed by special officers deputed for this purpose, working by what are called tank divisions. After being surveyed, the works will be put into thorough order by the ordinary staff of the Public Works Department, and a commencement of the executive work has already been made.

107. Of course, it will take long years before all that is wanted is done, but I have great faith in the German proverb, "A thing begun with a will is half ended," and nothing could be more satisfactory than the plans submitted to me of the Periyakulam Basin, the first completed under the direction of Colonel Montgomerie.

108. When we talked this matter over with Sir Evelyn Baring, it was thought that the Tank Divisions would have to do the whole work, and that it might occupy fifty-five years; but by dividing it between the Tank Divisions and the Executive Staff, it may, I think, be got over in a single generation.

109. After some remarks with regard to the Educational Commission then sitting at Calcutta, the members of the deputation asked me to visit the weavers' houses and encourage them to work at the "unrivalled Indian hand-patterns and delicate textures."

110. I lost no time in going to these houses, but I did not observe anything in the work, of a very distinctive kind. The silk fabrics turned out were respectable, but not such, I thought, as to command a ready sale in Europe. The phrase of the address "the unrivalled Indian hand-patterns and delicate textures" pleased

me better than any silk I saw, and I would reiterate some observations which I made in replying, viz.:

"All through Europe the taste for Indian Art,—real Indian Art,—is rapidly growing. It is growing not only in England, but in Austria, in Germany, and in France. I remember some years ago finding in a shop in the remote department of the Morbihan on the shore of the Breton sea, a shawl which I saw at a glance had been made at Umritsar, in the Punjab; and I have no doubt that many other such surprises will, in the next few years, await any one who, while travelling in Europe, is on the look-out for Indian manufactures. In order, however, that the demand may reach them, your weavers must keep in view three maxims. In the first place, they must hold to purely Indian patterns and avoid all European ones; in the second place, they must flee aniline dyes as they would a pestilence; and in the third place, they must adopt the European practice of small profits and quick returns. If they attempt to stick to the old Indian principle of few transactions and large profits, they may as well go out of business at once; the wheels of life now-a-days move too rapidly for that kind of thing. If, however, they and their brethren throughout the Peninsula will follow these three very simple maxims, I really see no limit to the triumphs that may be achieved by the 'Indian hand-patterns and fine textures.' Instead of talking nonsense about the competition of Manchester, let our people go, so to speak, into partnership with Manchester, co-operate with Manchester, let Manchester do for them what she can do far more cheaply, and let them do for Manchester the hundred and one things which Manchester cannot possibly do."

111. When at Coimbatore I paid a visit to the pretty little temple of Perur, a few miles off. Here I received an address in which my attention was, for the first time, called to the difficulties of pagoda management. I have since received a great many representations on this subject, about which the most various opinions prevail, and it will be enough for the present to say that the whole question which presents difficulties of every sort is now in the hands of a Committee over which my honorable colleague Mr. Sullivan presides.

112. The address then passed to the misunderstanding that was said to exist between the Hindu and Muhammadan communities of Coimbatore; and I was asked to repeal the order of Lord Hobart's Government, passed in 1874, with respect to one sect playing on musical instruments when passing in procession before the religious edifices of the other.

113. That order was afterwards declared by the High Court to be *ultra vires*, so that, without the intervention of Government, the wish of the memorialists, that matters should go on as they used to do before it issued, was fulfilled.

114. Lastly, my visitors asked that certain pieces of land should be restored to the temple. This matter has been carefully inquired into, and the petitioners have thus far wholly failed to prove any claim whatever to the area (between 60 and 70 acres) for which they asked.

115. A few miles from Coimbatore I examined several of the so-called Pandava pits with their curious interments, and had, for the first time, brought home to me how little we know, as yet, about the distant past of South India.

116. From Coimbatore I went up the ghaut to Ootacamund, where the special officer, who had been appointed to look after the sanitation, was able to report to me that the friction which had existed between himself and the municipality, and which had given us some trouble, had come to an end.

117. On this occasion, too, I made my first visit to Sim's Park at Coonoor along with Dr. Brandis, and it was then that he made to me the suggestion about the Committee on the Forest Bill, which afterwards produced such good results. I was much pleased with what I saw at Sim's Park, and the Government has steadily supported Mr. Lawson in developing it. Since the date of which I am speaking, the roads, the fencing, the arbours have all been improved, most of the trees and shrubs have been labelled, and the ground has been extended by throwing into it the shola (wood) which adjoined its lower end.

118. From Coonoor I descended upon Salem, where I received a long address.

119. The first request of the people was to have the right of choosing the Vice-President of the Municipality.

Section 14 of the Act of this year runs as follows:—

"Unless the Governor in Council appoints one of the Municipal Councillors to be the Chairman of the Municipal Council, the Municipal Councillors shall appoint their Chairman by

Third Tour of Inspection.

136. My next journey began at Ootacamund and was to have taken me first to the Palanis, but a telegram, from the Viceroy, warning me that we might have to send troops to Egypt, made it necessary for me to remain nearer railway and telegraph lines.

137. On the evening of the 3rd July I found myself at Erode, whence I visited the anicut which governs the Kalingaroyen channel, and the town of Bhávani, where I heard some complaint of the transfer of the Munsif's Court to Erode, but I am afraid there cannot be the slightest doubt that that place is far more convenient, to the majority of persons interested, than its rival.

138. From Erode we proceeded to Karúr, where the Rev. Mr. Little complained to me of the difficulty of obtaining fibres.

139. We have given in the last couple of years much attention to that subject, and some of the results may be mentioned.

140. *Inter alia* Mr. Little himself has been regularly supplied with all papers on the subject, a lease of land near the Bhávani has been granted for experiments, and it is believed that that lease will enable the beneficiaries to grow and work up *Sanseviera zeylanica* to good profit. Funds have been provided to meet the cost of fibre experiments on behalf of Government in various places, and steps are being taken to ascertain the commercial value of the fibre of *Helicteres isora*, a shrub which occurs very abundantly in many of our districts.

141. From Karúr I passed to Trichinopoly, where, on the evening of my arrival, I inspected the bath in which Bishop Heber was drowned, then in a deplorable condition. It has now been properly railed in, while the event which has given it a melancholy celebrity has been commemorated by an inscription.

142. On the 5th I went to the anicut on the Coleroon and also inspected the large plantations near the landing place just below the weir of the Cauvery.

143. That done, there followed a number of visits to schools—Anglican, Catholic, and Hindu. In the evening the people presented to me an address. First, they spoke to me about the minor irrigation works. On that subject I need say no more. Secondly, they addressed me about the Vengur channel project, which, proposed some years ago by certain proprietors in the neighbourhood, was at first favorably entertained.

144. It turned out, however, that the Vengur channel could not be made, and the Rs. 5,000, which were subscribed for it, are being now given back to the subscribers with the accumulated interest. The good results which were expected to accrue to the neighbouring lands from the Vengur project will, it is now believed, accrue, in more abundant measure, from the improvement of the Wyacondan channel.

145. The next topic was the Imperial License Tax of which I have already spoken, and the next the pagoda endowment question. In replying to what the deputation said on the latter subject, I made a remark, which I think requires to be kept before the mind of those who are interested in them, viz.:

"Then you speak of your devastanums. I regret that you are constrained to report so disparagingly of their present management, not only because their mismanagement is an evil in itself, but because the direction of these endowments is an important part of local self-government. You pay us a great compliment in saying, or seeming to say, that we could manage your religious institutions better than yourselves. I don't think many of our co-religionists would pay us the same compliment. What more 'motive and spring of action' can you desire than to order well matters connected with your own faith?"

146. Lastly, they asked that Government should not disconnect itself from the higher education. I need not say that Government is not going to disconnect itself from the higher education.

147. On the following day I addressed the 30th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry, then under orders for Egypt. Their Colonel called my attention to the shifts to which the men were being put for want of accommodation.

148. The improved accommodation is now being provided, and will, it is believed, be completed on or before the 1st October next, at a cost of something like Rs. 26,000.

149. From Trichinopoly I went to Dindigul, where the inhabitants addressed me upon only one subject, but that a very important one to them,—their water-supply.

150. When I was in Madura, in July last I learned from its active and able Collector that trial wells had been dug whence water has been pumped, and that he had every hope that the water would turn out good. It was to be sent down to Madras for chemical examination. The particular scheme which the people suggested to me in 1882 would have severely taxed their resources, even if it had been possible, which is doubtful. The present one would appear to be much more hopeful.

151. In replying, I took an opportunity of calling attention to the lecture which had been lately delivered by Dr. Furnell, the Sanitary Commissioner, on a subject than which there is absolutely none more important in Southern India.

152. If only the people would conform in their practice to the excellent maxims with reference to water which are to be found in their sacred books, half the worst diseases of the Peninsula would vanish away.

153. On this visit to Dindigul I was favorably impressed with the medical establishments of Dr. Chester, and I heard an equally good account of them as I passed, the other day. He is spreading good medicines and some elementary ideas of hygiene all over the district.

154. Then I visited Mr. Heimpel's cigar factory, with which I was much pleased. Governments cannot interfere in such matters, but, in my private capacity, I have done all I could to make his very good wares known at home.

155. An ingenious locksmith at this place brought me some of his work to see. It seemed to me that something might be saved, and the policy of the Government of India furthered, if this manufacture could be encouraged. The locks were accordingly tried with fair but not brilliant results, as were those of another Madura locksmith. Orders have issued for a further trial of locks made in factories in the Madura District.

156. From Dindigul I passed to Tanjore, where I received a very cordial welcome, but where the people made no special requests. While there, however, I heard incidentally a bad account of the date and mahogany trees, about which the present Chief Secretary had, when Collector of the district, taken much trouble. I had this looked into, for the * introduction of valuable plants into a country like this is a matter, in my opinion, of the very highest importance, and severe notice should be taken of any wilful carelessness in allowing experiments once well begun to be neglected.

The later accounts are much better, and dates grown in the Tanjore District have quite recently been eaten in Ootacamund.

157. The conditions under which the mahogany grows in its native country are very different from any which prevail at least in the eastern parts of this presidency, but there must be climates in Madras where the date palm, so nearly allied to the widely-spread *Phœnix sylvestris*, *Phœnix farinifera*, &c., ought to flourish. Our French friends do not mean to be caught napping in such matters. I have already been addressed officially about our mahogany experiments, with a view to the benefit of Tonquin.

158. I observed that a crack in the wall of the little Fort Church menaced the monument of Swartz by Flaxman, and noted that, although it was not one of his most successful efforts, it should not be allowed to go to ruin. The repairs were completed in August 1883.

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"Maria d'Escobar, a Spanish lady, first brought a few grains of wheat into the City of Lima. For three years she distributed their produce among the colonists, giving twenty or thirty grains to each farmer. This is a fact, which might be a good text for a sermon to F——. Maria d'Escobar brought into existence more human beings by this supply of food than Napoleon has destroyed. If she had come from Egypt to Attica in the earlier ages of Grecian history, she would have been a goddess. Malcolm has introduced potatoes into Persia. That benefit may be remembered long after all that is now spoken of in our ridiculous Persian missions has fallen into deserved oblivion."

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159. From Tanjore a long journey took me to Vellore, where on the 10th July the people met me with an address.

160. The first request made was that the temple in the fort should be handed back to the Hindus.

To that I replied that the admiration expressed for the temple was natural and creditable, but added:

"I am afraid that to restore the Vellore temple to one sect, however numerous and however deserving of respect, would hardly be in accordance with that perfect religious neutrality which is characteristic of British rule. It was not we who took the temple from the Hindus or who devoted it to secular uses, and I think we shall best fulfil our trust by keeping it as a national monument for the general delight of all who admire its elaborate style of architecture, to whatever section of religious opinion they may happen to belong."

161. The second was a similar request with regard to a certain Muhammadan mosque.

To that I replied:

"The case, however, with regard to the little Muhammadan mosque is somewhat different. It was, I suppose, a mosque when we took Vellore, and it was by our Government that it was turned to secular uses, but to restore it to religious uses would involve some expense, which would have to be met out of the general taxation of the community, mainly of the Hindus. I have not, as you know, seen the mosque, and am speaking under the impression that it is not of sufficient architectural or historical importance to be kept up for the general advantage as a national monument, but, as to that, I shall be able to form a better opinion after visiting the fort."

162. I may say that, after making the speech just quoted, I examined the mosque and saw no occasion to modify the views I had expressed. Probably neither request would have been made but for the emulation of the two sects, as to which I said:

"Finally, I come to your request that the upper fourth class in the Government Muhammadan school may be continued. Well, that is a question for yourselves, as it will be continued in the ordinary course of things if the number of students keeps up. No one can be more anxious that it should keep up than I, for it is infinitely desirable that the heart-burnings which have too often divided the Hindu and Muhammadan communities in this town and neighbourhood should be replaced by keen and healthy emulation in the field of letters."

163. The third request was for an improved water-supply, which the people wished to obtain by means of pipes from a certain large tank in the neighbourhood. This project was examined, but the Sanitary Commissioner condemned the tank, as a source of supply, on account of the surface drainage which it receives. The sinking of large wells at a suitable distance is now contemplated, and sketches and estimates are being prepared for that purpose. I am glad to observe that in a report with reference to cholera, dated April 1st, 1884, the Acting Civil Surgeon says that the Municipality has recently done much to improve the sanitation of the town.

164. The fourth request was for improved railway communication, and especially for a branch railway passing through the town and leading to Pólúr and Trinomalai in South Arcot.

This matter has received much consideration from Government, since the date of which I am writing. For the moment it will be enough to say that the survey of the line from Vellore railway station through Vellore town, Arcot, and Arni, together with the extension south from Arni through Pólúr, Trinomalai, and Tirukoilúr to Villupuram on the South Indian Railway has been completed, and its early construction is under consideration.

165. The fifth request related to a small matter which belonged to the Collector Mr. Stuart, and could not be left in better hands.

166. My answer to the sixth I have mentioned above. The seventh was that the town should not be abolished as a military station, and that a regiment should be sent to garrison it as soon as possible.

There is no intention of abolishing Vellore as a military station, and a regiment was sent to garrison it as soon as possible.

167. A journey of 22 miles over superb roads—roads are the glory of North Arcot, as avenues are that of Salem,—took me to Chittoor, where also I received an address.

168. The first request was for railway communication between Chittoor and the Madras Line of Railway.

The more important line from Vellore southward having been, as I have mentioned, already surveyed, it is in contemplation to take up ere long the survey of this line and of its extension northward.

169. The second request was that the town should be connected with Vellore by telegraph line. This was done in May 1883.

170. The third request was that we should find a way to give practical effect to the principles enunciated by the Viceroy with reference to local self-government.

The necessary Acts are now passed, and the details therewith connected are being worked out.

171. The fourth request related to the maladministration of temple funds. I have already explained what has been done with reference to that subject.

172. The fifth request was that a Munsif's Court should be located at Chittoor.

This has been done with the result, by the way, that the Palmanér people think that they have now just the same grievance which the Chittoor people had two years ago, but of these geographical controversies a solution perfectly satisfactory to all concerned is, under existing conditions of time and space, impossible.

173. The sixth request was for certain alterations in the arrangements of the Madras Railway.

One of these was not thought expedient after full consideration by the proper authorities; as regards the other, the wishes of the people have been recently met, to a great extent, and as far as was considered possible.

174. While at Chittoor I received and returned the visits of the Zemindars of Kálahasti and Kárvetnagar as well as that of the Mahant of Tirupati, whom I took an opportunity of congratulating on the sorely-needed sanitary improvements which he was introducing, and to which I shall refer again when I come to review my seventh tour.

175. Amongst other things while in this neighbourhood I opened a bridge over the Payani, inspected the jail where there had been a good deal of illness which had then ceased, visited Ranipet and the Payani anicut, saw Arcot and discussed with the Collector the state of the ruins of the Fort which Clive has made historical and in which destruction should not be allowed to go further. I also saw Wálajápet and the great Pálár Anicut.

176. Passing by Arkónam, I then transferred myself to Bellary, where I received an address from the Municipal Commissioners.

177. Their first request was that they should obtain compensation for the loss sustained by the withdrawal of all taxes payable on Government property in military cantonments.

This is a matter which belongs to the Imperial Government, but has formed the subject of much correspondence between it and this Government. It having finally resolved that municipal taxation is not to be levied on Government buildings in cantonments, the proposal of the Municipal Commissioners to re-introduce the arts tax, of which it pays a portion for the exemption of military officers, has been sanctioned.

178. Next the Commissioners proceeded to express their thanks to the Government of India and to this Government for the steps taken in view to the introduction of an enlarged measure of self-government.

In my reply I observed:

"You allude to the local self-government which the Viceroy so much wishes to encourage. It is, I think, highly desirable to encourage it for many reasons, and, amongst others, because, under existing arrangements, it seems quite impossible to provide sufficient government for the country at all. Take this district and the one that adjoins it—Anantapur. Till the other day, these two districts were united in one Collectorate, and when united they formed, astounding to relate, a country smaller by only about twenty-three square miles than the Kingdom of Belgium. They have, as you know, recently been separated for administrative purposes, and their administrative establishments have been slightly increased, but even now what do these establishments amount to? You have one European Collector here, Mr. Huntly Gordon. You have another European Collector at Anantapur, on a smaller scale of pay and younger in the service,

Mr. Roupell; there is a much younger European Head Assistant at Penukonda, while you have a European Head Assistant at Hospet, forty miles off, who, for the moment, however, is on short leave in Europe, and you have, in each of the two districts, a few native gentlemen acting under those whom I have named. There are, of course, judicial and other establishments, but that is the whole administrative establishment of a country which is, as I said a few minutes ago, hardly perceptibly smaller than a European Kingdom. I defy contradiction when I say that, to the infinite credit of the population of the Madras Presidency, there is no part of the world where an equal amount of well-being is secured at so trifling an outlay upon administration. It would be wholly impossible to secure it, at anything like the money, if the population were not good and law-abiding in a very high degree, but, if it were only feasible, I should like to see local self-government largely increased, and at the same time the trained and scientific superintendence doubled all round. The last is a mere dream I fear. We have not got, and cannot get, the money; but the first is possible, and, if there were no other argument in its favor, I would say good speed to local self-government."

179. The second request related to the Tungabhudra channel and the Alipore tank.

The investigation of these projects has not yet been taken up, but under date of 28th August, this year, the Public Works Department reports that a special officer has now been made available and will soon proceed to examine them.

180. The third request was for the introduction of trial by jury. Trial by jury has now been introduced.

181. Speaking on another subject, I said and am glad here to repeat:

"The Bellary-Hubli State Railway, part of which I hope to traverse to-morrow, has my best wishes, and I believe that your spinning mills, now that the poison-tree of protection, which blights every industry that grows up under its shade, is removed, will, if judiciously managed, have a good future. You are to be congratulated on the presence among you of an energetic citizen, who is doing something to introduce into this neighbourhood really efficient ploughs. I hope much for India from the extension of her manufactures and the growth of more varied industries. I should like to see this presidency thoroughly surveyed by eyes at once scientific, and trained to look out for openings for the practical application of science, with a view to such extension. After all, however, it is to her soil, her sun, her rainfall, and their interaction upon her products that India must mainly look for prosperity."

182. Then came an address on the subject of cotton, in which the memorialists asked me to give my attention to "the desirability of an enactment to repress frauds in connection therewith." My honorable colleagues and I did so and came to the conclusion that any further legislation on the subject would not be advisable.

183. I may remark, in passing, that (1) the remedy lies in the hands of the buyer, who should remember the maxim *caveat emptor;* (2) a legitimate trade in mixed cotton exists in this presidency; (3) a bad habit of giving advances to men of straw ties the hands of the buyer, frequently obliges him to take adulterated cotton, and should be abandoned; (4) the cost of Inspectors would naturally form a burden on the trade; (5) fraudulent adulteration is already punishable under the Penal Code.

184. From Bellary I visited the ruins of Vijianagar, making use of the unfinished Bellary-Hubli line, the authorities of which were extremely courteous and helpful.

185. At the Railway Station of Hospet I received a very well written address, the most important part of which was the fourth paragraph, which was as follows:—

"These monuments of ancient architectural skill, sublime even in their ruins, have been visited and admired by your Excellency's predecessors, but no effective measures have been adopted towards their restoration or repair. We, however, trust your Excellency's Government will take such measures for the restoration or repair of some of the old decaying temples as would fitly commemorate your Excellency's visit and associate your Excellency's name with those of the ancient founders of these temples. Verily the work of restoring decaying institutions is as great and meritorious as that of founding new ones."

186. The strong interest which the people here took in their historical neighbourhood pleased me much, and in replying I said:

"Happy, however, are those countries where the only enemy to be fought by the Archæologist is time. There are countries in which, before he can begin his campaign against time, he has to struggle for years against apathy and ignorance, to say nothing of that panic-fear about anything that seems to interfere, even for his own good, with a man's right to abuse his rights over property, which is the most dangerous ally of socialism. Happy, too, are those countries where the population is proud of its past. In a recent report, I think by Mr. Carlleyle, I read of a district in India in which the first idea of the population, when they saw that the Archæologists cared about a monument, was to make haste to destroy it. That district has just passed, I believe, under the rule of one of the most accomplished men of letters and investigators into human history who now is, or ever was in India—Sir Alfred Lyall; but even he will have much to do, I should think, to bring it up to the level of intelligence which I am rejoiced to find here."

187. In my third tour minute I wrote as follows:—

"No time should be lost in arresting the further progress of mischief. Arboreal vegetation should be ruthlessly destroyed. There are here none of the associations, which made the sweeping away of plants from the Colosseum and the Baths of Caracalla so doubtful a proceeding. The centre of the most important of all the temples wants immediate attention. If it can be saved at all, it can only be saved by being looked into speedily. It may, however, be impossible to save it; but there are numbers of other buildings which, with a little care now, will stand for long years. I read on the spot Captain Cole's report and generally agree with his conclusions; but I would confine our action for the present to keeping things absolutely in *statu quo*, doing nothing in the way of excavation, however proper that may be at a later stage of our proceedings."

188. Since that period the Vittalaswami temple above alluded to has been entirely cleared of rubbish, the roof and pavement have been repaired, the ruinous ashlar walls pulled down and rebuilt, some large stones weighing from three to six tons removed from dangerous positions, the stone car repaired, besides a variety of other works set forth in Mr. Black's report received by us on the 8th August.

189. From Kamalápuram, where we had encamped with a view to visit Vijianagar, I traversed the Sandúr Valley for the purpose of seeing the very valuable forest (with regard to which I had much conversation with Mr. Brandis) and of exchanging visits with the Rajah.

190. The convention necessary for enabling us to deal with this forest has now been concluded, the survey has been completed, and an important piece of forest is very carefully looked after, to the great advantage alike of the small native state concerned, and of this Government.

191. On the night of the 20th I returned to Bellary, where Colonel Clarke, who was in command of the artillery, told me that his horses were cruelly in want of stabling. Three blocks of stabling are now in course of erection.

192. In my tour minute occurs the following paragraph, describing the impression I received of military matters at Bellary:—

"An excellent spirit seems to have been infused into all branches of the service by General Prendergast, who commands in the Ceded Districts. It was quite impossible, even for a Civilian, not to see that all the officers, he came across, were quite unusually interested in their work. The troops were paraded for my inspection on the morning of the 17th—7th Fusiliers, the 25th and 27th Madras Native Infantry, the 2nd Madras Cavalry, and the Field Battery—all, to my non-professional eye, looking very well. I likewise went up the Fort with General Prendergast, and am very decidedly of opinion that the small amount of money required to make it efficient as a place of refuge for non-combatants, in troubled times, should be spent forthwith. General Prendergast has thoroughly entered into the spirit of the extremely important circulars lately issued by Government, under the advice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. If all officers in high command throughout the territories garrisoned by the Madras Army do the same, these halcyon times will have been turned to the best advantage."

193. As regards the alterations required to make the Fort efficient as a place of refuge, a grant of Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 7,000 has since been made for the purpose.

194. Mr. Wace, the Chaplain, made to me various representations about the churches in this station.

195. The views of himself and others have been carefully considered. We did not see our way to substitute for the two existing ones a single church, but the necessary repairs to the Garrison Church were completed in May 1883, and the Fort Church was put in order in May 1884.

196. Just before leaving Bellary I received, late at night, an address from the native officials.

197. They asked first for the repair and maintenance of the ruins of Vijianagar. I have already stated what has been done in relation to that.

198. Their second request was for irrigation works. The same remark applies to this.

199. Their third request was for the construction of a line to connect the southern taluks of Bellary with the Mysore State Railway. A survey of an

extension to Hindupur of the line, already sanctioned from the Kistna Delta to Guntakal, is now in progress.

200. The last request was that some measures should be adopted for raising the status, emoluments, and prospects of the petitioners. Proposals for the improvement of the position of Uncovenanted Officers of the grade of Deputy Collector were sanctioned in the early half of 1883, and have been carried into effect from 1st July in that year.

Very considerable changes with reference to Revenue Inspectors, to Taluk Establishments, and to our subordinate officials generally, involving a very large increase of expenditure from Provincial Funds, have been accepted by this Government and will immediately be submitted to the Government of India.

201. From Bellary I ran along the line to Gooty, where I visited the cenotaph of Sir Thomas Munro, and admired the really noble fortress. Thence a journey of thirty-four miles, across what ought at this season to be a plain covered with young crops, but which was a wilderness of black dust, red dust and sand swept by an unintermitting hurricane, took me to Anantapur, where the great tank was as dry as the Sahara.

202. Here I received an address from the inhabitants, who, first of all called my attention to the want of accommodation for the people of the town, and asked for the allotment of new sites for buildings. Shortly after this we received and sanctioned the necessary plans, and all the preliminaries required for the extension of the town have now, we are informed, been duly carried into effect.

203. I also noted in my third tour minute that accommodation for our officials was sadly wanted at Anantapur, and that we ought to do what we could, in reason, to diminish the existing inconvenience.

All the buildings that were most wanted in July 1882 are now in progress.

204. The second request was for the introduction of artesian wells. To that I replied:

"I trust that it may be possible to open artesian wells in the neighbourhood, but unluckily one has not an artesian well by wishing or even by boring for it. I should like to know, before expressing any opinion on this subject, what the geologist and the engineer have got to say for it."

205. Subsequent inquiries made have, in the opinion of Mr. Bruce-Foote, established the fact that the district is quite unsuited to the sinking of artesian wells.

206. The third request was for a light railway between Tadpatri, Anantapur, and Bangalore.

The object of the memorialists will be met as well as the conformation of the country and other circumstances will permit by the line now under survey from Guntakal to Anantapur and Hindupur.

207. In replying to the Anantapur address, I said:

"I would remark in conclusion that, as I passed through the country in the neighbourhood of Guntakal and Gooty to-day, the thought crossed my mind more than once whether it is really quite certain that the diamonds, which once made the loosely-applied name of Golconda so famous, are really exhausted. I confess I shall be disappointed, if the period of my government of this presidency comes to an end, without a serious attempt being made to answer the question whether it is impossible to revive, in these regions, so ancient and interesting an industry. I know, that, in doing so, I shall be supported not only by the good wishes, but also by the good hopes, of at least one of the greatest European authorities upon gems."

Ere long we shall, I hope, have the assistance of a mineralogist to take up the investigation of a variety of questions connected with this science where the admirable labours of the geological survey had, in the nature of things, to leave them, but I should have thought that with regard to diamonds there was already enough information to induce more searching for them than I hear of.

208. At one time our rules were far too strict and not sufficiently favorable to the miner. Perhaps it is not as widely known, as it should be, how much we have relaxed them in the last two years.

209. We have lately asked the Colonial Office for any papers they may be able to supply us with reference to the diamond industry.

210. The fourth request was that a Middle School should be started. A Middle School has been started.

211. The fifth request was that Government should not, in the present state of the country, leave the higher education entirely to native and missionary agencies. Government does not propose so to do.

212. From Anantapur a journey of 32 miles carried me to Tadpatri. On the way I saw the great Singanamulla Tank which covers some eight square miles, but was quite empty; and crossed the Muchukotta Hills, which were covered with a fair growth of *Hardwickia binata*. These Hills, as I observed in my third Tour Minute, the new Forest Act will soon enable us to turn into a valuable property. They have since been surveyed. The woodland is found to contain about five square miles, and the accounts, with regard to it, continue favorable.

213. I heard something of dacoity (brigandage) in this neighbourhood, and communicated with the Inspector-General of Police with the result that all seems now going well.

214. The first request of the Tadpatri address referred to the paucity of irrigation works in that district. I have already mentioned what has been done with regard to this throughout the presidency.

215. Secondly, the memorialists asked me to give the conservation of forests the attention which it deserved. This has been done. Thirdly, they asked for a reduction of the railway tariff with a view to improving the cotton trade.

This is a matter in which there are many interests to be consulted, and the Traffic Manager of the Madras Railway, who reconsidered this question, at the suggestion of our Consulting Engineer, reports that the charge for loose cotton consigned to Tadpatri was reduced in August 1882 from 26 to 18 pies per ton per mile.

216. At Tadpatri there are two temples—the Vishnavite and the Sivite—of very considerable architectural merit. The latter, which is the best of the two, is in considerable danger from the floods of the Pennér, for it stands on the banks of that typical Madras river, which is for months a waste of sand and then for hours a raging torrent sweeping all the works of man before it. From information obtained on the spot, I am led to believe that there are ample funds to prevent any harm coming to these interesting edifices, in the hands of their managers, if they will only use them.

217. From Tadpatri I went to Cuddapah, where I received a long address.

218. The first request was that we might view with favor a scheme for improving the water-supply of the town. I went to see the springs alluded to, and made the following remarks in my third Tour Minute:—

"Even now, in the depths of a quite exceptionally dry season—for Cuddapah, like Anantapur and South-Eastern Bellary, is suffering sadly from want of rain—they were very full and strong. Their supply did not fail, we were told, even in the famine, and Mr. Burrows seems to have no doubt that they would yield a sufficient supply for the town. Between them and it there is a peculiarly fine sheet of cultivation, indigo and turmeric, two of the great staples of Cuddapah, being largely grown. The question whether any, and if so what, compensation would be due to some of the cultivators will have to be considered when the proposals of the Municipality with respect to a loan are before us."

219. Since the date on which I wrote, the Booga springs scheme and another have been investigated, with the result that the latter has, on the advice of the Executive Engineer, been abandoned, while further experiments are to be made to gauge the Booga water-supply, for the conduct of which the President of the Municipality has advertised for the services of an Engineer, the Public Works Department being unable to spare the services of one of their officers. To meet the cost of these experiments Government have sanctioned the levy of tolls at full rates in the current year.

220. The second request was for the privilege of electing representatives to the Municipal Board. This request has been granted some time ago.

221. The fourth request was that certain irrigation works should be considered and if possible carried into effect.

222. Of these, one—the Sagiler—is now being investigated; the other, known as the Chitravati Papanapalle project, had been investigated and found by the

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Engineers to be impracticable before I was addressed on the subject, the great depth at which rock is reached, at the spot where the dam was to be constructed, being found to prohibit the construction of a reservoir. As the locality seems at first sight an extremely suitable one, it is not surprising that the people should have been loth to part with the hope that the reservoir they wished for could be made.

223. Then the memorialists asked for a permanent settlement. As is well known, the present views of the supreme authorities, although highly favorable to letting the people "sit easy," as we say in Scotland, and to great *continuity* of assessments are quite adverse to what is properly called a *permanent* settlement.

224. This request, however, was based upon mistakes in fact. The petitioners thought that before the recent settlement dry lands had not been assessed above one rupee an acre, but this was not so. The old rates, far from not going above one rupee, sometimes went as high as nearly eleven rupees and as low as four pies, say one halfpenny. Now they vary only from five rupees to four annas, or say sixpence, four annas being the lowest assessment now anywhere permitted in the districts under the new settlement, on the ground that land which cannot bear an assessment of sixpence an acre is not really arable land.

225. Further they stated that formerly no extra tax was charged, if the owner had in any way improved the land, and they implied that a tax was now charged on the ryots' improvements. That however is not the case; no change of this sort has been made, and it would be most impolitic to make it.

226. The deputation then went on to complain that hundreds of acres of land were lying waste, and asked that we should devise some rules to encourage the cultivation of waste land.

227. A perfect official literature has grown up about the abandonment of lands in the Cuddapah district, it having been imagined that the high rates imposed by the revised settlement might have caused this.

228. It has turned out, however, that the cause of the abandonment of a quantity of land over 80,000 acres in the district, which was cultivated or nominally cultivated, was, first, the famine and, secondly, the fact that a vast quantity of land was assessed at only an anna an acre. Such a low assessment allowed the ryot to hold a great deal of land of which he made no use, and this land, when he has to pay for it sixpence an acre, instead of three halfpence or in some cases only one halfpenny an acre, he has abandoned, with the result of concentrating his attention upon land that will really grow human food.

229. The Muhammadan inhabitants also presented to me a very intelligent address, in which they made the agreeable announcement that they had no grievances.

230. From Cuddapah I went to Conjeeveram, where I also received an address.

231. There was no request made to me in it, but I was told that the Commissioners were about to submit a certain scheme to Government with reference to improving their water-supply. This was not done because, as I understand, they found it would be too costly, but they have submitted a proposal of a far less costly kind, which has been sanctioned.

Fourth Tour of Inspection.

232. On the morning of August 28th I again left our summer capital for the plains.

233. It had been raining for several months, and the tanks were most satisfactorily full. At Coimbatore and at Shoranore I was mainly occupied with obtaining information with regard to the recent outbreak of cholera in the jail at the former place, which has happily not recurred, but the causes of which have never been fully explained; the state of things at Salem; and Mr. Logan's inquiries about Malabar Land Tenures, the results of which had just been put into shape.

234. From the southern end of the bridge at Shoranore to Trichore the road lies through the territories of the Rajah of Cochin.

235. I have never passed through a more beautiful piece of non-mountainous scenery in my life. The foliage, under the influence of the recent heavy rains, was magnificent, the rice fields were one sheet of green, the wild flowers of exceptional beauty and interest, the population singularly well grown and stalwart.

236. At Trichore I had time to see the principal buildings, and at night the large and singularly picturesque Pagoda—so unlike anything which one sees on the Eastern Coast—was very tastefully lighted up.

237. Embarking about 9, upon that wonderful system of lagunes which we know as the backwaters, I found myself in the early morning of the 30th at the Residency on the Island of Balghatty. A frightful morning it was, worthy of Ootacamund in the height of summer, and all day the rain descended with persistent fury. At 12 o'clock the Rajah came to visit me and was followed half an hour later by his brother, the Eliya Rajah. They were immediately succeeded by a deputation from the white Jews, and that again by a deputation from the black Jews, both asking me to visit their respective Synagogues. I returned the visits of the Princes at the Palace in Ernacolum, where a durbar was held, and thence went to fulfil my promises to the Jews.

238. At both Synagogues they read—according, I believe, to the usual custom on such occasions—the prayer for the Queen and other authorities, while, at that of the white Jews, I saw the famous deed which Mr. Logan has carefully translated.

239. There seems no doubt that it is not as old as it is sometimes called, but it must be as old as the Morgengabe preserved in the Monastery of the Trinitá at La Cava, which is quite the oldest deed I ever saw in Europe.

240. In the evening the Rajah gave a dinner at the Residency, at which, being still infirm, he was represented by the Eliya Rajah, who proposed the health of the Queen, Empress of India,—I proposing that of the Rajah.

241. The 31st dawned brightly, and I crossed the lagune very early to British Cochin. The Municipal Commissioners received me at the landing place and delivered an address.

242. These gentlemen made no request except that the Madras Government would bestow its attention on the subjects of special interest to them, which might from time to time be submitted for its consideration, a request with reference to which it was easy to promise compliance and to keep the promise when made. They have, for example, recently asked us to allow them to purchase twenty-five additional iron tanks from municipal funds for the purpose of storing water, and this request was granted. They also took the opportunity of explaining very clearly some of the improvements which they had made and some of the difficulties which they had to encounter.

243. They were followed by the Chamber of Commerce, who asked first for a railway and secondly for a harbour.

244. With reference to these requests, I said at the time:

"About the Railway from Shoranore, I think I need say nothing. You are aware of the position of the question and of the line which has been taken by the Madras Government. By that line, subject to the decisions of the higher authorities, we firmly and *ex animo* abide. I am delighted to find that you have a hope of being able to lay before us a scheme for a harbour, which will cost far less than the one which was last under consideration, for I confess that my heart sank within me when I read Mr. Parkes' calculation about 81 lakhs of rupees. I am sure that the professional advisers of the Government and the Government itself will listen with great attention to any propositions submitted to them which have the support of this Chamber; but I need not remind you that questions of this kind have to be finally decided not hard by in Ootacamund, nor even in Madras."

245. Both of these were, of course, matters appertaining to the Supreme Government. Much correspondence took place with respect to the first, and this Government advised the construction of the railway on a joint guarantee for a term of fifteen years by the British Government and by the Native States of Travancore and Cochin, the liabilities of each being regulated by the extent to which it was interested in the construction of the line.

246. The Government of India did not see its way to accept the proposals made, and the matter is still in abeyance.

247. Great attention has been given to the question of a harbour at Cochin, but up to this time it has not been made clear to me that a really good harbour could be made there, even if the Government of India had the purse of Fortunatus.

248. A harbour, different from that suggested by Mr. Parkes, was talked of when I was at Cochin, but plans and estimates for it have not been yet placed before us.

249. Then I was taken to see the old church, where much was wanted. We have since given a grant for the repair of this curious structure and the assistance of the Public Works Department.

250. From British Cochin I returned to the Residency, where, in the course of the morning, I received a visit from the Archbishop of Verapoly, the head of the Carmelite Mission in South-Western India.

251. Later came a large number of Syrian Christians of many shades of opinion, who presented a short, but very noticeable, address, in which, amongst other things, they said that my visit was "the occasion which for the first time, after ages of separation, witnessed the spectacle of all the different sects of their community, following divergent articles of faith, sinking for once religious and party differences and joined together to do honor to their common friend."

252. In the early afternoon I received a deputation of rate-payers from British Cochin, who presented a prodigiously long, but not very numerously signed, address. They first complained of the mismanagement of their municipal affairs. To that part of the address I replied as follows:—

"I have listened with much interest to your address, and I perceive that you are anxious that the powers-that-be should largely diminish taxation, while largely increasing those services to the public which are paid for out of taxation.

"That, gentlemen, is the first thought of many excellent people in all countries. When, however, they have succeeded in getting behind the scenes, more especially if they attain to the closely-watched servitude which is mocked with the name of power, and learn the difficulties of their predecessors, they are apt to find that to increase expenditure and to diminish revenue is to burn the candle at both ends. A lady in England, who has said many good things, replied to a friend who blamed her, when a girl, for burning the candle at both ends, that that was surely the best way to make the ends meet; but I do not think that any financier, Imperial or Municipal, has ever, after trying the experiment, been inclined to agree with her.

"So much by way of a *primâ facie* objection to your general scheme. When, however, I come to its details, I must confess myself unable to criticise them. As you know I only came here the night before last, and the frightful weather which we had yesterday prevented my seeing as much of the neighbourhood as I could wish. I have no doubt that there is a vast deal of truth in your representations, but what can be done with such a pittance as that of which the Municipality disposes—under Rs. 19,000 per annum—even with your present taxation. Take away the money that used to be collected for the Police, and it seems to me you would be unable even to improve the conservancy, which, as you say, greatly wants improving, and which, as I am informed, the Municipality proposes to improve with the money set free by the remission on the part of the Government of the Police contribution.

"To do all you want would require very large funds, but where are they to come from? You ask for local self-government, and I can promise you that your wish will be fairly considered; but although local self-government is an excellent thing, it won't enable you to get blood out of a stone, or to put a very poor community in a position to enjoy those comforts and luxuries which a wealthy community can easily provide for itself.

"As to those matters which belong to the province of the Government, I will see that what you have advanced is examined in a friendly spirit; but it would, as I am sure you will perceive, be impossible for me to give an off-hand answer about them upon this occasion."

253. Since this address was presented very large changes have been introduced, as is well known, in the position of Municipalities, and it will be interesting to see how far, when the new system is fairly under way, the people of Cochin will support the policy heretofore pursued by their Municipality, or that which found favor with the representatives of the local opposition who addressed me. Already last year we introduced the elective system, but so little enthusiasm did this extension of self-government, which was earnestly pressed on me, create, when it was once given, that for want of candidates we were obliged to nominate three Commissioners.

254. One of the grievances of the petitioners against their Municipality, the condition of the Calvety Canal, has been, I observe from the latest Municipal report, attended to.

255. The public garden which gave no satisfaction to the petitioners, and which they said served the purpose of a Nekropolis for dogs, has, it appears, been abandoned after much local discussion.

256. To the water-supply, which was another grievance, I have already alluded.

257. Another grievance was about a certain jetty. This was inquired into and the opinion of the Advocate-General was taken, but the Government entirely agreed that the Municipal Commissioners were acting fully within their rights. As their President put it, they said to persons who wanted to land goods: "There is the jetty; if you find it a convenience to you, pay us so much; if you don't care to pay, then land goods through the mud as you used to do. We are not preventing you."

258. The memorialists further complained about certain of their medical arrangements. Some of these were purely municipal matters, and I have reason to believe that the Municipality look very well after them. Others related to the Government, and appear to amount to a request that it should retain the services of medical men for the purpose of attending the inhabitants at large without fee or reward, a proposition which was, of course, wholly inadmissible.

259. Turning now to matters which belong more directly to the Government, I was told by the petitioners that the Police force assigned to Cochin was inadequate. The strength of the Police, however, would appear to be unusually large in proportion to the population. The peculiar circumstances of Cochin to which the petitioners alluded are already carefully recognised in the distribution of the Police Force. In the large towns of Malabar which are surrounded on all sides by British territory, such as Calicut and Pálghat, the proportion of police to population is far smaller.

260. Then came a grievance about Port conservancy, with regard to which the Marine authorities were consulted, but did not see their way to support the petition.

261. The last complaint was with reference to the encroachments of the sea, which was said to be carrying off valuable cocoanut trees and other property. This grievance was of the same character as that of the persons who build houses under Vesuvius. When the head of the Marine Department visited the spot, after six months' interval, he reported:

"I find the coast restored; there are 300 feet of sand between the coast boundary pillar and the sea line, while many huts and trees still remain where they never ought to have been placed, viz., between the pillar and the sea, showing that the injury never really reached the normal line. Although the injury and loss were so recent, the lesson is of so little use that new trees are here and there being planted, and new huts are preparing now. In the complaint referred to, the inhabitants are treated of as ryots, but they are really fishermen, to whom the close proximity of the sea is a great object, and whose experience and tradition should be sufficient warning to them."

262. Later in the day I visited another Synagogue of the black Jews at Ernacolum, where most of those who had formed the deputation met me, which they were unable to do at their principal Synagogue, having grounded, as they returned, on a sand-bank in the middle of the lagune—a common incident, it would appear, of Cochin life.

263. This done, I went to a Syrian church, whence I drove to the large school which Mr. Sealy, the very intelligent Director of Public Instruction, has created almost out of nothing, for he began with thirty boys in a shed. I gathered from him that his pupils took on the whole more kindly to mathematics than to any other study. The younger boys were learning to write or engrave upon the palm-leaf—a strange sight to an English eye. Since the date of my visit we have acknowledged Mr. Sealy's merits by making him a Fellow of the Madras University.

264. I started after nightfall—the lagune being everywhere beautifully illuminated till we passed out of Cochin waters—and arrived on the morning of the 1st September at Karmady. The route lay now through channels narrow as rivers, now narrower still—little more than canals, and again expanding into chains of

wide but perfectly placid lakes. Everywhere the water was bordered by thick groves of the cocoanut palm, under which there was a dense vegetation, in which the curious holly-like shrub, *Dilivaria ilicifolia*, was the most conspicuous feature. All along the course by day and by night the people thronged every coign of vantage and received the party with every demonstration of friendliness usual in these climes—some of them, it must be admitted, not productive of happiness to those who are not sound sleepers. At length, long before nightfall, the eighty-eight miles between Cochin and Quilon were left behind, and the Residency at the latter place was reached.

265. On the early morning of the 2nd I crossed the lagune and visited the small patch of British territory known as Tangachéri, containing, as I was told by Mr. Laporte, the Magistrate there, 1,166 souls, and valuable as forming one side of what will be, if Mr. Parkes' designs are carried into effect, the very large and important harbour of Quilon, the site of which was shown and carefully explained to me by Mr. Hannyngton and others.

266. Complaints were here made to me about the smuggling which is said to be carried on alike from this place and from British Cochin.

This matter was looked into, and the abuse has been checked, an Inspector having been appointed for the express purpose of preventing such malpractices.

Negotiations, which are far advanced, will probably put an end once for all to this evil.

267. At Quilon a letter was received by the Resident formally announcing the death of His Highness the Mootha Tumburan, the brother of the reigning prince, which I had heard of yesterday unofficially, and which of course required my plans to be modified in many particulars.

268. In the course of the day I received various visitors including Colonel Boone and other officers of the 6th Native Infantry, the Chief Judge, Bishop Ildefonso, &c.

269. On the 4th I passed on to Trivandrum, partly through lagunes like those we had traversed, partly through long canals bordered by lines of trees and shrubs, amongst which the *Cerbera odollam* and the *Allamanda cathartica* of our Madras gardens were, with the ubiquitous *Pandanus odoratissimus* and various ferns, so abundant as to overpower less vigorous plants, stopping by the way to see Anjengo, one of the most desolate little nooks, I suppose, over which the British flag flies in Asia. The priest of that place handed me an address, setting forth various local inconveniences to which I called the attention of the Resident. The Warkully tunnels are really very noble works, and the fact of their having been excavated by a Native Government should stimulate us to do whatever of the kind remains undone within our own borders.

270. It was arranged that, under the circumstances, my visit to Trivandrum should be, as far as possible, divested of any public character; that my wife and I should visit the Maharaja, his wife, and the Senior and Junior Ranees as private friends, but that there should be no return visits, as they were unable, during the first stage of the mourning, to leave the Palace.

271. I saw, however, in a quiet way, a great variety of persons, amongst others the Dewan, who talked to me about an exchange of territory connected with the great Irrigation Project known as the Periyar, from which it is hoped that great advantages will accrue to the Madura District.

272. The husbands of the Senior and the Second Ranees, being, according to the customs of Travancore, outside the circle affected by the mourning, both visited me; on the other hand, neither the Eliya Rajah nor the First Prince could do so. I offered to visit the Eliya Rajah as well as the Maharaja, but he, being even more bound by the trammels of custom than the reigning Prince, as being deputed to be chief mourner, was unable to receive me.

273. Amongst other institutions which I saw at Trivandrum was the Maharaja's College, over which I went with Dr. Ross, the Director of Public Instruction, at whose request I addressed a few words to the senior students. The same compliment which has been paid to Mr. Sealy was at the same time extended to Dr. Ross, who is believed to have done excellent work for the Travancore State.

274. At Trivandrum I was visited by Mar Athanasius, as I had been at Cochin by Mar Dionysius, the head of the section of the Syrian Church, which is at open war with his.

275. From Trivandrum we struck to the eastward, passing, at first, through an open and undulating country, but entering, ere long, the great forests which stretch along the banks of the stream that finds its way to the sea near Quilon and up to the crests of the ghauts. It would be impossible to speak too strongly of the beauty of the scenery or the wild luxuriance of the vegetation. Unluckily, however, the weather, both during our journey and after we had reached Courtallum, was about as bad as it well could be.

276. At that place I remained several days with Mr. Hannyngton at the Residency, but the charge of the party was taken by Mr. Pennington. I replied to the addresses delivered respectively at the temples of Courtallum and at Tenkási, the so-called Southern Benares.

277. The first request which the Courtallum inhabitants made to me was that, if the proposed railway to Travancore was not to take the northern route, they might have a tramway connecting the chief towns on the Tinnevelly side of the frontier.

278. It has not, however, been at all decided how the much-talked-of railway into Travancore is to run. A great deal is to be said on both sides, and we, having obtained full information for their benefit, have now placed the whole question before those who are chiefly interested—the Travancore authorities.

279. The next representation was about the minor irrigation works. With regard to that subject, I have already said enough, as I have also with regard to the third representation, which had reference to the pagoda funds.

280. Fourthly and lastly, they expressed a hope that the Educational Commission would not improve elementary education at a too great sacrifice of the higher education. As to this, I did my best to re-assure them.

281. The first request of the Tenkási ryots referred to the minor irrigation works; the second involved a complaint about the levy of the village service cess.

I need not return to the former subject. As to the other, the remarks of the ryots were founded on a misconception. In former days they paid for the services of the village servants by fees of various kinds, some legal, some illegal. These fees have been abolished, and in lieu thereof the cess complained of is now levied.

282. The third complaint was about forest conservancy and ran as follows:—

"We therefore pray that suitable provision may be made in the Bill about to be passed for securing to us a reasonable enjoyment of our privileges consistent with the universal good it aims at, and that legislation in this respect may not drift in the direction of depressing the condition of the ryots and crushing the growth of their independence."

I need hardly say that the greatest possible care is taken by the Conservators of Forests to work the new Act, which had just passed at the time I received this address, so as not in any way to interfere with any privileges which do not hopelessly sacrifice the interests of the future to those of the moment.

The more intelligent of the peasantry are, it is believed, rapidly getting to understand the broad outlines of our forest policy. I had occasion lately to send a complimentary message to a Village Munsif in the Anantapur District, who had been giving his people extremely wise advice on this subject.

..urth request related to the *kistbandi*, that is to say, to the instalments of the Government demand for land revenue.

This is a question which is never ending, still beginning.

The people of different districts hold the most diverse views about it. For example, while the people of Tenkási want the number of their instalments increased from five to seven, the people of Nellore are extremely anxious to have theirs reduced to two. The Board of Revenue is now once more examining the subject

with a view to adjust the Government demand to the circumstances of particular places as nearly as it can, but it is perfectly idle to suppose that any arrangements can be wholly satisfactory. The circumstances of different districts and parts of districts are too varied to admit of absolute adaptation to individual requirements. Infinite care is, however, taken to meet local wants as far as possible.

284. Next, the petitioners asked for the extension of local self-government. Local self-government has been extended.

285. Lastly, they complained of the union of revenue and magisterial functions.

286. That is a question not for us, but for the supreme authorities, and resolves itself, like many other Indian questions, into one of finance. There can be no doubt, as I told the petitioners in reply, that it would be more in accordance with the most scientific principles of legislation to have revenue and magisterial functions separated, and the stream of tendency flows in that direction.

287. I heard dismal accounts, along my road, of the failure of coffee cultivation in the part of Travancore which I was crossing, but in British Territory things were better. I visited one estate in the hills above the Courtallum waterfalls, where they had had the sense to preserve many of the trees of the primæval forests, which repaid this generosity by shade very useful to the cultivation.

288. At Courtallum we left rain and also coolness behind us, and the low water-parting, which separates the lands irrigated by the Chittar from those which depend upon the main stream of the Támraparni, was as dry and desolate as possible. Here and there Mr. Pennington pointed out small hills which Dr. Brandis, as it seems to me most judiciously, proposes to reserve. At present they grow nothing but a dreary *Euphorbia*, I suppose the *nivulia*, which has not even the merit of defending more valuable seedlings, as is done by the prickly-pear.

289. Immediately on my arrival at Tinnevelly, the Municipality presented an address to which I replied.

290. The inhabitants of Tinnevelly observed:

"We have, we are thankful to say, nothing specially to ask of your Excellency's Government in the matter of local wants, as they have been well attended to by the various officials who have served amongst us, and will, we have no doubt, be carefully attended to in future as occasion offers, as our present Collector has been long in the district, knows it intimately, and does not spare himself in the cause of the public.

"We look forward with much eagerness to the extension of the South Indian Railway to Trivandrum from this town. The land trade between the two places is not inconsiderable, and the two provinces are, for various reasons, intimately connected one with the other, and we trust that the resources of the country will further be developed by this improvement in internal communication."

With regard to the latter, I may say that, however the railway runs into Travancore, whether by the northern or the southern route, it will be certain to benefit it and Tinnevelly.

291. In replying to their address I made some observations which I am not sorry to repeat, viz.:

"It only remains to thank you for all the good wishes which you have expressed with regard to my administration. I trust that to the eye of the distant observer, which is attracted only by sudden changes and startling efforts, it may appear utterly dull and uneventful; but I shall be disappointed if, when it is over, those who are brought into immediate contact with it are not able to say, amongst other things, that during its course, the Presidency of Madras obtained the right of using for her own urgent needs a larger proportion of the taxation levied within her borders; that those of our departments which were not in a satisfactory condition —such as the Forest Department—had been put on better footing; that the best men throughout our various services had, very early in the day, come to know that their work was watched with sympathetic interest at headquarters; and that they were not reduced to hopelessness by seeing all the most influential positions bestowed, as a matter of course, upon meritless seniority.

"These are not very sensational ambitions, and the record of their fulfilment would, no doubt, read, even when recorded by the ablest pen, as if it were traced with opium upon sheets of lead, a phrase which was, by the by, originally used about the philosopher who wrote the life of the Statesman with whose spirit a wise ruler of this part of India would most, I think, desire to be filled—the life of Turgot.

"Of such good dulness, however, is woven the happiness of nations. I do not think one could anywhere find a district which more naturally raises such thoughts than this of Tinnevelly, for Bishop Caldwell, who has so well told its history, finds it necessary to fill pages upon pages with the events which occurred during the terrible period which preceded its passing under British rule, while he finds a paragraph or two quite enough to describe the unbroken progress and prosperity of the last eighty years. And why? because those eighty years have been years of profound peace, whereas before they began, Tinnevelly had never from the beginning of time known, as the Bishop very truly observes, eighty consecutive months, perhaps not even eighty consecutive weeks, of peace."

292. The phrase "that during its course the Presidency of Madras obtained the right of using for her own urgent needs a larger proportion of the taxation levied within her borders" referred to the expected visit of Sir Evelyn Baring and its financial consequences, which, at the time I spoke, were only a hope, but before the end of the year became a reality.

293. On September 14th I received the principal people—European and Native—as I had done at Courtallum, and the afternoon was chiefly given to the schools of various Christian sects. I spoke at four of these, but at none of them were any definite requests made, except that no disfavor should be shown to Native Christians, a request which I need not say I was able to meet with the assurance that they should have the most perfect equality of treatment.

294. Here also I received a long address on behalf of the cotton interest. This was officially considered, and the petitioners were informed that, for reasons substantially the same as those mentioned above in the review of my third tour, we were not prepared to legislate in the direction they desired.

Early on the morning of the 15th I drove out with Colonel Hasted, who had met me by appointment at Tinnevelly, to the Srívaikuntham Anicut which I saw and in the neighbourhood of which I had carefully explained to me the various questions connected therewith. I remarked at the time, "a proposal will presently be made for constructing a bridge upon the piers long since built with that view, which ran out from the side of the anicut looking down stream, and there can be no doubt that such a work is much wanted."

295. Such a proposal has subsequently been transmitted by the Local Fund Board, but has been referred back to them with reference to certain constructive details.

296. On the morning of the 16th I visited the great Shiva Temple and, after examining that really noble structure, received an address from an association representing, as I gathered, the party opposed to the Municipality as at present constituted.

297. They began by thanking me for sanctioning the introduction of the elective system into the Tinnevelly Municipality.

298. Next came a request about the position of dancing girls, which had reference to the general legislation of India, not that of Madras.

299. Then followed a petition that the Sub-Judge's Court should not be removed to Palamcottah. There was a good deal of difference of opinion about this subject, and I examined the Sub-Judge's Court on the 15th September. It was ultimately decided that the Court should not be removed.

300. The third subject was the establishment of temple committees. This is part of the pagoda question already alluded to.

301. The last request was with reference to a dispute about a road, which belonged entirely to the sphere of local self-government.

302. The whole of the country immediately around Tinnevelly and Palamcottah was at this period of the year one vast sea of rice just ready for the harvest, but the line, which took me towards Madura, leads through a region which is in September a desert, relieved only by the long blue line of the ghauts. At Sátúr I was met by the young nephew of the Zamorin, whom we lately made a Deputy Collector, and at Virudupati, a rising cotton mart beginning to rival

Tuticorin, the party was joined by Mr. Crole, the Acting Collector, and Mr. Robinson, the Assistant Collector, of Madura.

303. At the Madura station the Municipal Commissioners met me with an address, in which they first thanked me for the extension of local self-government and then asked for its further encouragement.

304. There is, I apprehend, no town in the Presidency where, during the last two years, the efforts of the people towards managing their own local affairs have met with more encouragement from the representative of the Government on the spot.

305. I should also remark that the Madura Municipality, which is fortunate in the activity and ability alike of its President and Vice-President, has been doing much to improve the water-supply and general condition of the town. It has accordingly been very agreeable to the Government to be able to assist it by a considerable grant from Provincial Funds towards the building of the Vaigai bridge.

306. On the 18th there was a reception of the European residents and the chief of the Native community in the great hall of Tirumal Naik's Palace, which is admirably adapted for ceremonials of this kind. The work of partial restoration seems to be going on satisfactorily; the large room which is now used as a court will require various alterations before it quite suits its purpose, the great difficulty being—the very common one—its bad acoustic properties; these, however, will doubtless be overcome, and the parts of the building which it is proposed to use as minor courts and public offices will subserve these respective purposes sufficiently well although some inconvenience may arise from there being too great an amount of noise. Here I received an address from the general community.

307. The first request of the Madura inhabitants was that I would support the Periyar project. With that request I have most fully complied.

308. The second referred to the minor irrigation works. Of that I have said enough.

309. The third was with reference to the construction of a steam tramway between Madura and Pámban, and they asked that more reliable statistics should be taken before Government decided on starting it. It goes without saying that the request of the people will be complied with.

310. The next request was with reference to the cost of litigation, to which I replied as follows:—

"As to expense of litigation, that is matter rather for the Secretary of State than for the Government of Madras. Of course we all know the objections to taxes upon litigation; but where a considerable revenue has to be raised from the people for the service of the people, we must be content with imposing the least bad taxes, all taxation being of course more or less bad. I have often considered the subject when I was officially concerned with the *general* finance and politics of India; but I am obliged to admit that I never heard an alternative to these taxes suggested which seemed to me likely to be less inconvenient and unpleasant than they."

311. The last request referred to a proposal which was then being discussed, about separating Dindigul from Madura. Up to this time, however, the change, which we then thought of, has not been made, so that the request of the people has thus far been complied with. Personally I still think that, if Madura could be divided on the same principles as Bellary and Anantapur were divided, it would be an advantage to the population, but this local question is inextricably connected with various large imperial questions which can only be settled by the Viceroy and Secretary of State. Official strength in Madura is not perhaps at present as well distributed as it might be, and advantage will be taken of the changes in *personnel* which will be caused by impending retirements on proportionate pensions, to see if some change for the better cannot be made.

312. In the evening of the 18th, the great tank was admirably illuminated, and the arrangements made on this occasion, as well as an exhibition of articles of

local manufacture, in one of the greatest corridors of the Pagoda, on the morning of the 19th, gave me a very favorable impression of the taste and activity of the native artisans. The Pagoda itself is—as is well known—quite the finest thing of its kind in India, and does not give the impression, which many other similar buildings do, of having been left stranded by the progress of events. It excites obviously a very living interest in some classes of the population, and large sums are annually expended upon its decoration or repair. I observed a master workman carving stone with very considerable skill, whose wages were little more than a rupee a-day. His subordinates received only eight annas.

313. From Madura I travelled to Erode and returned on the 20th September to Ootacamund.*

M. E. GRANT DUFF.

[* It is intended that the continuation of this Minute shall be published early in November.]

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

OOTACAMUND,
August 3rd to September 16th, 1884.

In the month of October last, I completed, by a visit to South Canara, my general survey of the twenty-two districts of this Presidency, and, as some nine months have now passed, it may be time to review that survey, with the object of seeing what desirable changes have been made in consequence of it, what remain to be made, and, above all, how far it has been possible to meet the requests of the people preferred to the head of the Government in person.

2. The machine of administration, in all civilised countries, is now so complicated that it is necessary for those who preside over it perpetually to revise and re-revise, if important things are not to be allowed to slip out of sight. The impossibility of doing this amidst the conditions under which a statesman's life is now passed in Western Europe is a grave misfortune. In a country governed as this is and must long continue to be, it is highly desirable that the European rulers of every degree should come as much as possible into contact with the ruled.

Thanks to the improvement of communications, the absence of famine and other causes, it has been my good fortune to see more of the Presidency than any of my predecessors have done in an equally short time.

In nearly a hundred addresses, which have been collected into a volume, I have secured a perfect photograph of what the most articulate portion of the people were asking from the chiefs of the administration in 1882 and 1883.

In my replies, while recognizing the good sense of a very large proportion of the requests made, I took the greatest possible care not to commit my colleagues or myself to almost anything, and I am particularly glad to be able to show by this paper, to the persons who came to see me, with what scrupulous care every one of their wishes has been examined, and how very largely performance has surpassed promise.

3. When I left England in the autumn of 1881 the subject connected with Madras, which was most talked of at home, was the gold industry of the Wynaad. A few days before I started, a deputation interested in the Nílgiri Railway came to visit me, and questions of considerable moment, with reference to the sanitation of Ootacamund, came before me ere I had been many weeks in this country.

4. I determined accordingly that my first tour of inspection should be directed towards the West, and on the 4th January 1882 I left Madras.

5. Travelling through the night, I reached Pothanur on the morning of the 5th. There I was met by, amongst others, Mr. Stuart, the Collector of Coimbatore, whose valuable services we are now so soon to lose. He was, at that time, very much occupied with the wants of his district in the matter of wood, and sketched to me a project which had commended itself to his mind for afforestation on a considerable scale.

6. The new Forest Act was then only a *hope*, but it has since become a *reality*, and the position of Coimbatore, so far as the woodland and its connected benefits are concerned, has much improved.

7. The senior Conservator of Forests, writing under date of the 5th August 1884, reports to me that very good progress has been made in the constitution of its reserved forests, in demarcation, in survey, and in fire protection. Attention has been given to the formation of fuel and fodder reserves, though the Collector's final recommendations have not yet been received, and the forest revenue of the district is steadily increasing.

8. On my way up the Coonoor Ghaut I stopped at Burliar and examined the Government Garden there.

9. I was glad to observe that the Mangosteen was prospering, and I learn that it continues so to do. Since that period, too, *Amherstia nobilis* has flowered at Burliar, although, in spite of the kind help of Dr. King of Calcutta, it has failed to grow at Guindy. It would be highly desirable to naturalise in the Presidency so noble a tree, and Mr. Lawson will, if any one can, succeed in doing this.

10. The *Ipecacuanha* I had, in January 1882, to pronounce a failure; but, thanks to Mr. Lawson, who has altered the method of treatment that was being pursued, it is now succeeding much better. He does not believe that with us it will ever be a forest, but only a garden, product; nevertheless, a very considerable work for the good of humanity will be accomplished, if this powerful remedy in some very bad forms of dysentery is made common and cheap, by garden-cultivation amongst us. Its success would be particularly agreeable to me personally, because, I was at the India Office when the first attempts were made to bring it to India, and I took a great interest in them.

11. The Liberian coffee was fruiting freely; but I am told that it is not found of much practical importance in this Presidency.

12. The planters find the pericarp too hard to enable them to pulp it readily. Those kinds of coffee which have only one seed in the berry command a higher price, and the Liberian yields a crop only once in fourteen months. These disadvantages are thought, I am informed, to outweigh its comparative immunity from leaf-disease.

13. From Burliar I pushed on to Ootacamund, where the Municipal Commissioners presented an address in which they expressed a hope that the day was not far distant when Ootacamund would be made the permanent seat of the Madras Government.

14. In my reply I was unable to treat this as a serious claim, but spoke of it as a jest, at the expense "of the exaggerated pretensions of others."

15. For myself, I think that in the existing circumstances of this Presidency the dual arrangement of a summer and winter capital is far the best. No doubt, if it were only possible, an ambulant Government, a camp Government, would be the most desirable for India as a whole, and for every province in it; but that kind of Government is no longer possible. It belongs to the days of personal rule, and is quite incompatible, if it were only from considerations of expense, with our centralised, scientific system of administration with its infinite array of minute rules, precedents, and reports which require a gigantic apparatus of offices and officials.

16. Of course, no one, in his right mind, would ever have selected Madras as the capital of the huge province which is known as the Madras Presidency, and, indeed, no one ever did so. The *congeries* of very poor villages *plus* the moderate sea-port town, the Mount Road shops, the Government establishments, and the numerous small parks or "compounds" which, scattered thinly over twenty-seven square miles, form what is now called the City of Madras, have been grouped around the Fort which formed the centre of the very small and humble affairs of the Company upon the Coromandel Coast. The place has never grown to be a real capital, and can, indeed, never do so, although, if the harbour and other improvements to which I alluded in my speech of June 30th are carried into effect, it will gradually become more important than it is now.* Still I think for historical, sentimental, and other good reasons, it would be the greatest mistake to leave Madras; and I trust that no Government will ever dream of doing so, although, from many points of view, Ootacamund presents advantages which it cannot offer.

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* The following is the passage to which I refer:—

"These being the circumstances with which we have got to deal, what should Madras wish for? It should wish first for the completion of its system of drainage and water-supply—that is, it should wish to take itself out of the list of the semi-barbarous cities and put itself among the civilized cities—the cities which, like London, have a low death-rate; secondly, it should wish to see the Buckingham Canal pushed on as fast as the means at the disposal of its Government will permit; thirdly, it should wish to see the Singareni coal brought to its gates; fourthly, it should wish to see the excellent Municipal constitution which it has got, and which Mr. Arundel has done so much to perfect, worked ever better and better; fifthly, it should wish to see its harbour completed and made thoroughly efficient—so efficient that it may become a link in the communication between England, Bombay, and the further East."

17. The object of a wise administration should be to soothe those little municipal jealousies which are complicated so readily with the self-interest of individuals, who derive pecuniary advantage from the presence of the heads of the State amongst them.

Madras at least has nothing to gain by insisting that the Government shall give the apple either to herself or to her rival, and it is a section of her inhabitants who have of late been insisting on a judgment of Paris.

18. Some of the other requests of the Ootacamund municipality were of a far more serious kind. They observed that the sanitation of the place might fairly claim Imperial help, and they asked for assistance alike for sanitation, drainage, and water-supply.

19. At that time this Government also considered that they had a right to ask for *Imperial* help. Imperial help was, indeed, promised in the days of Lord Napier, and we recalled that fact to the Government of India in the year 1882, but much time had passed, the policy of the Viceroy in Council had changed in the interval, and we found, not unnaturally, that we had to give the assistance wanted out of *Provincial* funds.

Letter No. 287-W., dated 1st February 1882.

20. I trust we have not been niggardly in giving that assistance. Since the date of which I am writing, we have, *inter alia*, paid out of Provincial revenue for draining the bazaar some Rs. 94,000, bought and got rid of, at the expense of Rs. 10,000, the highly insanitary "Lines" near the small public park known as the ABC ground, and improved off the face of creation various other nuisances of the same kind.

21. Speaking in round numbers, since the Municipal Commissioners addressed me, Provincial has spent on the sanitation of Ootacamund not less than Rs. 97,000 through the Public Works Department, and not less than Rs. 27,000 through the Municipal Commissioners.

22. The lake is much less defiled than it used to be, and, when the intercepting sewer has been carried down below the Willow Bund to the outfall, will be all that could be desired; but what a pity that the same foresight, which has saved from pollution the lake of Kodaikánal, did not preside a generation ago over the arrangements made with respect to what is obviously destined to be the most important *sanitarium* in Southern India.

23. As soon as the drainage works, now in progress, are finished, we must turn to the water-supply and give some help to the Ootacamund municipality for its improvement, just as we have done to that of Madras. Already, the most important questions connected with it have been carefully investigated by our officers.

24. I found Government House advancing to completion. The shell was finished, and several portions of the building were habitable, at least in fine weather.

25. I was glad to be able to record that the constructive period had passed before I had anything to do with it, for, of the many things for which I feel myself unfit, there are few for which I feel myself more unfit than being an architect. All questions as to the policy of building, the purchase of property, and the kind of building to be erected had happily been settled by my predecessors. The numerous problems which remained were all in the nature of corollaries to be gradually worked out in the course of years with time, patience, and the concurrence of the proper departments of the Supreme Government.

26. I gave some attention, on this visit, to the Government Gardens as well as to the Cinchona Plantations. Both of these have, within the last two years, come under the management of a man of great scientific eminence,—the late Professor of Botany at Oxford.

27. The laying out of the gardens is being very much improved, all the trees and shrubs are being properly labelled, while great and important changes are taking place in the management of the Cinchona Plantations, more especially in the valley which separates the slopes of Snowdon from those of Dodabetta.

28. From Ootacamund I went on to Naduvatam to join Dr. Bidie, who was engaged in examining our estates there, with reference to the assertions of Mr. Cross, the South American traveller, who had frightened us, not a little, by declaring that our supposed *Succirubra* was not *Succirubra* at all, but the far less valuable *Micrantha*. On this question I had occasion to write in my first Tour Minute, but it has now happily been laid at rest by the highest scientific authority, and I need not repeat what I there said.

29. From Naduvatam I descended the Ouchterlony Valley, where the coffee, stimulated by heavy rains, had burst prematurely into flower and was in great beauty.

30. Here some representations were made to me about the importance of getting seeds of the *Ledgeriana* species of Cinchona, and at a later period I was happily able to do so.

31. From the Ouchterlony Valley we descended to Nadgani, where we became the guests of Mr. O'Donoghue, and found ourselves in the midst of the gold region.

32. At Devála I received an address from the Nílgiri Planting and Mining Association. They called my attention first to the administration of the Nílgiris. Since that date, the administration has been greatly strengthened. It used to cost Rs. 5,540 a-month, but a very few weeks after the period of which I am speaking, the Act abolishing the old Commission came into force. The district is now within the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the Judge of Coimbatore, so that the Collector, who has superseded the Commissioner, has far more time to give to administrative work. The Head Assistant remains as he was. The Joint Magistrate has been abolished. Both the Deputy Tahsildars of Coonoor and Gúdalúr have had their pay increased; there is now an Assistant Collector, a Sub-Judge, a Treasury Deputy Collector, and a Deputy Tahsildar at Ootacamund, while the subordinate establishments have been considerably increased; all this at an expense of some Rs. 1,390 a-month.

33. We have also created a Special Assistant for that important branch of business known as the Wynaad escheats, which should, by rights, have been put out of hand more than two generations ago. When he has done his work, the settlement of the Wynaad portion of the Nílgiri district will be taken up. Twenty five cases in three districts of South Wynaad have been already inquired into and separately reported on by the officer appointed, each one being a case in which the Government asserts rights over land declared to be escheated in consequence of the rebellion of the Pychee Rajah in the first days of this century.

Further proceedings will be taken after the receipt of the necessary orders from the Secretary of State.

34. The deputation next observed:

"It is unfortunately our experience of many years that planters meet with invincible obstacles and unreasonable delay in the disposal of their applications for land, and intending investors have, in some instances, left the country after waiting for years, despairing of ever obtaining land on which to commence planting operations."

35. The Government, knowing that these complaints were not unfounded, took immediate steps to improve the state of affairs which has so much changed that, on sending to Mr. Burrows, the very active Collector of the district, in the middle of August, the following question, I received the following reply:—

"How many land and mining applications from planters and others have been disposed of in the district since the beginning of January 1882, and how many are still waiting to be disposed of?"

"Applications under Gold Mining Rules *disposed of* since January 1882 ..	119	
Applications under Waste Land Rules—		
Europeans and East Indians	96	207
Natives	111	
Applications under Gold Mining Rules *awaiting disposal*	None.	
Applications under Waste Land Rules—		
Advertised for sale	5	7"
Awaiting reports from subordinates	2	

36. The deputation then passed to the Revenue Settlement, and urged that the operations which had been some time before commenced on the Nílgiris should be pushed on as fast as possible.

37. I find that, since the 1st January 1882, a few days before the address was presented, no less than 295,000 acres have been completely settled with the result which was contemplated by the framers of the address, that the revenue has been largely increased, while thousands of land-holders have been furnished with puttahs (leases) showing exactly the position, area, and assessment of the lands held by them. A complete revision of the village establishments of the district has also been carried into effect, and the Village Cess Act has been introduced for the purpose of providing the salaries of the village officers. The gentlemen who came to see me feared that years would elapse before the settlement of the district was completed. It will, so far as the Nílgiris are concerned, be completed or all but completed before the document I am now drawing up is in the hands of the public.

38. The memorialists next asked that a European Head Constable should be located at Devála. This request has not been complied with *in terms;* but the police force of the Wynaad has been strengthened by the entertainment of two Head Constables and seven Constables in addition to the previously existing force.

39. Then they turned to the subject of roads, asked me to notice the fact that I was travelling in the driest season of the year, and assured me that their communications, during the monsoon, were disastrously bad. Since that period the Government have largely assisted the Local Fund Board to improve the whole of the through line from Mettupálaiyam to Gúdalúr, have taken over those parts of it which pass through the municipalities of Coonoor and Ootacamund, and have now determined to do the same by the whole of the road in question. So much for one end of the line of communication so vitally important to South Wynaad. Then, as to the other end of it, as soon as a man, fit for the purpose, was available, we sent Mr. Nordmann to examine, with a view to its improvement, the line from Vayitri to Calicut, and reports from him have been already received. I hear from Colonel Beatty that the estimates are far advanced, but their total amount is undoubtedly startling, and though improvement will be pushed on, as funds become available, till eventually we may hope to see the great through line across the Nílgiris, the Wynaad and Malabar to the Western Coast in really good order, this part of the work (*i.e.*—improvement of the line from Vayitri to Calicut) must, in justice to other portions of the country, be carried into effect gradually. With regard to the middle portion of the road, the President of the Local Fund Board, writing under date the 23rd August 1884, reports that the road from Gúdalúr to Devála is in good order, and the road on from Devála to Mango Tree Bungalow *viâ* Pundalur is also in good order, adding various details as to what has been done since I passed over it in January 1882.

40. Then my attention was called to the gold mining leases. These we have made much more liberal. The limit of each grant was confined to 30 acres. We have now extended it to 150, we have abolished the requirement that five coolies should be entertained per acre, we have allowed the lessee to sublet or assign his lease without the previous sanction of Government, and we have permitted an applicant to obtain more than one mining lease.

41. The gentlemen who came to see me then passed to the subject of railways. I do not think they will complain that this Government has not, since that date, done all that in it lay to help them to a railway up the Nílgiris. Supported by us as by the Government of India, the proposals of its promoters were accepted by the Secretary of State, but the speculation not finding favor with capitalists at home, they again applied to us for other terms, whereupon they were once more supported first by this Government, secondly by that of India. The final decision must depend upon the views entertained at the India Office. As to the railway from Mysore towards the West Coast, that project has been thrown back by the reverses of the gold industry; but for that, we are certainly not responsible.

42. Then they asked that the telegraph should be extended to Vayitri. It has been extended to Vayitri and on from Vayitri to Calicut.

43. They next proceeded to state their general views about the Government Cinchona properties. I have nothing now to add to what I said on the spot, viz.:

"Next we arrive at Cinchona. Well, my first emotion when I saw those magnificent forests of 'Succirubra' which clothe the slope of Naduvatam was an emotion of pride. I

63. I do not think it can be justly asserted that we have been remiss in giving such help as a Government can give. We have exempted from assessment, from 1883 to 1887 inclusive, lands planted with such special products as Cinchona and Coffee, whether held under private proprietors or under Government on puttah (lease), provided they are brought into cultivation during that period. This concession extends both to Malabar and the Nflgiris, including of course the Wynaad. Cinchona is, it is believed, the product from which the planters in both these districts hope for most aid in their present depressed state. I am sure there is a great deal still to be done in the direction of introducing new products.

Speaking at Devála, I said:

"I trust that in a few years that trophy in the centre of the room where the various pursuits of the district are so prettily represented may require to be enlarged, for I cannot help thinking that a country so peculiar as this, where the bracken of our northern woods clothes the slopes which lead down to streams whose borders are lined with tree ferns, has still many secrets for the patient and ingenious cultivator."

64. The fact is that the man of science will in all probability perform within the next century far greater services to humanity than he has even already done in mingling the vegetation of distant countries.

Mr. Clements Markham, to whom South India owes her Cinchona, is still far from an old man, and there are hundreds of other such gifts yet to be given to the Madras Presidency.

Kew is constantly sending us parcels of seeds, any one of which might turn out to be of the greatest service.

65. Care must be used, as in everything else, in the introduction of new products.

Even in the parts of the Wynaad which I saw, one of the *Lantanas* has become a terrible enemy, and in the northern part of the country it is said to be the undisputed master of wide regions. Known in our English conservatories as a tender exotic, in Northern Africa as a useful garden shrub, it is here a terrible tyrant to man, in strict alliance with the wild boar and the panther; while from the fact of its fruit being greedily devoured by birds, it is constantly extending its sway.

66. Turning to an allied subject, supposing that Mr. Lawson or Mr. Gamble or Dr. Bidie were one day to learn and be able to tell us as much about the coffee-leaf disease as is already known about the relations between the Barberry and the Smut in wheat—what an important event it would be for the Presidency!

67. From Vayitri, I descended the Támrachéri Ghaut. The view of the wavy plain of Malabar from the top of it in the early morning made one think oneself, for a moment, in Arctic regions, so completely did the mist which filled the hollows mimic fiords covered with ice. Any thoughts of the Arctic regions soon, however, passed away, as we hurried down the mountain side, which looked, for all the world, as the slopes of the Alps over the plains of Lombardy might look, if the contents of the tropical house at Kew were multiplied a millionfold, spilt over them and then left for twenty years to interlace.

68. From the foot of the ghaut I drove on to Calicut through a charming country, by a road which had not been well engineered.

This is the road which, as already stated, we sent Mr. Nordmann to examine.

69. Everywhere I was received as the representative of the Executive should wish to be, and made acquaintance, for the first time, with the remarkable aptitude of the population of Malabar for utilising the plantain, the cocoa palm, and other plants for decorative purposes.

70. At Calicut, I received three addresses. The first of these was from the Merchants and Agents. These gentlemen began by directing my attention to the importance of completing the railway from Beypore to Calicut. Writing in the second week in August with reference to this, I said: "To that subject we have given, since the date of which I am speaking, great attention, and the present position of affairs is, that the Madras Railway has surveyed the extension; the whole subject has been laid before the Member of the Government of India who

is in charge of the Railways by the Members of the Madras Government and their officials at* Guindy, with the result that the Government of India has undertaken to recommend the line to the Secretary of State;" but on the morning of the 15th August our anxieties were set at rest by my receiving a telegram from the Secretary of State to say that the extension of the line by the Madras Railway Company had received his sanction.

* In November 1883.

71. My visitors then turned to the extension of railway communication across North Malabar and the Wynaad to the Mysore frontier. To that subject I have alluded already. It belongs not to the Provincial but to the Supreme Government, and must be dependent on its views.

72. They also stated that the amount of port dues collected at Calicut greatly exceeded the amount spent upon the Port. On this point the Master Attendant was immediately consulted. It turned out that the memorialists were in error, and that the charges had exceeded the receipts.

73. With regard to the complaint that the system of canals in the Malabar district was far from satisfactory, some recent communications between the Public Works Department and the spokesman of the deputation which came to see me leads me to suppose that the extension of the railway to Calicut will effect what the memorialists most wanted in a somewhat different way, but the good ordering of the backwater communication all along the West Coast is, I fully admit, a matter of importance, and Colonel Ross Thompson, who is expected out in October, is to be directed to examine the whole line of waterway alike in Malabar and South Canara.

74. My visitors further desired the establishment of an experimental garden. We have not as yet seen our way to do that, but Mr. T. J. Ferguson, of Calicut, is experimenting both with the Hevea and the Castilloa as well as with the Ipecacuanha in close co-operation with the officers of Government.

75. Dr. Trimen, the distinguished head of the great gardens at Perideniya in Ceylon, who visited the Nflgiri Cinchona plantations in company with Mr. Lawson and Dr. Bidie in the summer of 1883, has been assisting us by sending both Hevea and Castilloa plants.

76. With regard to the Rhea and other fibres to which the deputation also alluded, I have reason to hope that private enterprise has stepped in to develop these most important products. Rhea fibre worked up into a substance of great beauty was shown me by Mr. Pinching some months ago.

77. The deputation further asked for the establishment of a first-grade college teaching up to the B.A. standard. This request has been considered, but it is not thought that there is any present occasion for an institution of the kind. It would, indeed, in my opinion, do more harm than good.

78. The memorialists spoke also of the trade of the port and the state of the pier. To that subject I gave great attention, as it had been previously arranged in Council I should do, examining the pier on the 18th with Colonel Sankey, the Master Attendant, Mr. McWatters, and others including the principal merchants who used it. Several courses were suggested and carefully reviewed. The upshot of many discussions has been that the pier has now been handed over to the merchants of the port on a 99-year lease.

79. Then came to me a large deputation of Jenmis who were followed by the representatives of the other side of the Malabar land question, the Kanamkars.

80. Since the date of which I am writing we have received Mr. Logan's elaborate report; that report has b en considered by a Commission, and the views of that Commission are now abou to be submitted to the very highest authorities on the questions which are raise y the rival claims of these people whom I do not attempt to de e by any En ish term; so conflicting are the opinions of the persons, who have right to speak, as to their exact position in relation to each other.

81. After seeing them I was visited by a deputation of Syrian Christians headed by their Bishop, who bore in his hand a crozier, surmounted by what, I

took, at first, to be the head and neck of a pelican, but found upon examination to be those of a serpent,—a curious fact.

82. My visitors belonged to a section of the Syrian Christians, which is in communion neither with Rome nor with the Patriarch of Babylon. They presented me with an address accompanied by an historical sketch. When they were gone, there came a representative of the section which holds with the Patriarch of Babylon, but has of late years, if I comprehend their position, followed that dignitary into a quarrel with the Holy See. He came to lay before me a grievance, the redress of which was competent to the Collector, whose good offices he was accordingly promised.

83. At Calicut, the Municipal Commissioners also came to see me. They asked, however, for nothing except to be relieved from paying the contribution towards the police force. That request has been granted, so that the funds which used to be diverted to that purpose are now set free, exactly as the Commissioners desired, for the promotion of sanitation and education.

84. Next arrived the representatives of the Basel German Mission, who gave an interesting account of their mercantile and other labours, but did not make any request to the Government, except, by implication, one for full liberty, which of course they have always had and will have.

85. The Syrian Christians likewise had no special request to make, but only came to offer their friendly congratulations. Not so the body known as the Kerala Sabha (Malabar Association), which asked for many things, first, a Malayali Member in the Legislative Council; secondly, a Malayali Judge in the High Court; thirdly, a first-grade college at Calicut; fourthly, more money for female education; fifthly, the extension of the railway to Calicut and Cannanore. The first two of these requests were no doubt creditable to local patriotism. It is right that the love of the parish should come first in all countries; but nothing of the kind could be thought of. Malabar has had, and will have, Members of Council and Judges of the High Court intimately acquainted with its special customs,—men of the stamp of Sir William Robinson or Mr. Holloway; but the highest officials of the Government, executive or judicial, cannot be selected on geographical grounds.

86. The proposed establishment of a first-grade college at Calicut having, as I have already said, been considered quite unnecessary, I pass on to the next request, that more money should be appropriated for female education. This was a suggestion of a far more reasonable kind, and with it we have been able to comply to a considerable extent. At the time the address was delivered about Rs. 1,114 were spent in a year at Calicut on female education, while Rs. 2,700 from Provincial and Municipal in addition to Rs. 3,840 from Endowment Funds have been allotted for this purpose in the official year 1883-84.

87. Then the petitioners asked that the railway should be extended to Calicut and Cannanore. Its extension to Calicut has, as I have elsewhere mentioned, been now sanctioned, but a great many more important lines will have to be made before an extension to Cannanore could be approved, unless indeed it were made by local effort.

88. Next they complained of the unequal incidence of the Local Fund cess and asked for the restoration to the Local Funds of the contribution which the district used to receive from Provincial Funds, but they did *not* state that these grants were simply a rate-in-aid levied on the whole of the Madras Presidency for some time, to supply advantages to Malabar, which each of the other districts supplied to itself.

89. It was in 1877 that a state of things, whose continuance would have been most unfair to the rest of our districts, was amended, and I had to tell the deputation that so far from their land being peculiarly highly taxed, they enjoyed in that respect very great advantages. There would appear to be a tradition in Malabar that assessments are high. This is founded on the fact that they *were* once high, but they have (*see* Proceedings, Legislative Department, 2nd October 1877, No. 77, page 7) been undisturbed whilst prices have advanced enormously. The Government assessment now bears a much smaller proportion to the true rent value of land than in other parts of the country.

90. Local patriotism is apt to forget such things, and it is right for persons, in authority, while granting, so far as they can, all legitimate requests, to refuse, point blank, requests which are clearly illegitimate.

91. Next they asked for one or two things, the granting or withholding of which did not lie within the province of this Government, but the only important prayer,—reduction in the price of salt,—was, as it happened, almost immediately granted,—thanks to the wise financial policy of the Viceroy and Sir Evelyn Baring, —a policy which successful, it is believed, everywhere, has been in this Presidency *brilliantly* successful.

92. When at Calicut, I received and returned the visit of the Zamorin,—one of the not very numerous personages in India whose annals connect far back with the great stream of history. It is curious in a country whose traditions go so far into the past, that there should be so few families to which, even if we forget the practice of adoption, so contrary to all our European ideas of what family continuity means, there is attached anything like the interest of which thousands of houses in the West can boast.

93. From Calicut I went by water to Areacode up the Beypore river and then drove through a lovely country to Nilambúr, where I carefully examined our magnificent teak plantations. It was pleasant to see, while "professional philanthropists" were shrieking about the increasing poverty of India, a noble property maturing in this out-of-the-way corner of the land—one likely ere long to be of enormous value. I saw trees, a hundred feet high, which were seedlings in 1844.

94. At the same place I found the *Ceara* rubber (*Manihot Glaziovii*) doing well. It is evidently going to be a success in many parts of this Presidency. In the last couple of years it has, for example, made great progress near Kullar. The far more valuable *Panama* rubber (*Castilloa elastica*) was also doing well, not so the Pará rubber (*Hevea Brasiliensis*).

95. At Beypore, I went with Colonel Shaw-Stewart and Mr. Saunders to inspect a spot where a rather serious erosion threatened the railway property.

96. This was at that time, and has been since, a matter of some anxiety and no small expense to us; but the extension of the Madras line to Calicut will altogether alter the state of affairs, and lead to the abandonment of the threatened terminus.

97. Thence I passed to inspect the Walliar jungle and returned to Madras after an absence of sixteen days.

98. At Erode, Mr. Nicholson spoke to me on two important subjects, the use of the bark of the Babool (*Acacia Arabica*) for tanning, and the value of the common prickly-pear (*Opuntia Dillenii*) as a protector for young trees. With reference to the first of these, we have obtained, since that date, a very interesting memorandum from Mr. Gamble, and the Director of Agriculture has been ordered to collect information regarding the prospects of a trade in Babool bark and pods in Europe.

There has not been sufficient time to ascertain the results of all the experiments that have been made with reference to the prickly-pear as a forester, but Mr. [illegible]dge, a very intelligent forest officer, has reported excellent results from South Arcot, where he has used the Cactus as a protector of seedlings for a long time.

It would be highly satisfactory if we could once for all turn this most unpleasant American invader into a useful servant.

Second Tour of Inspection.

I again left Madras on the evening of the 3rd of March 1882, and ran through to Coimbatore.

99. The next day I received an address from the inhabitants of that place.

100. Their first request was that a supply of water from the Vellingiri Hills should be turned into the Noyel River.

101. This project has not yet been fully inquired into by the Public Works Department, nor could it have been without passing by more urgent matters. [illegible] to be the [illegible] their Chairman [illegible]

102. Another project, however, connected with Coimbatore,—the Bhowani Reservoir,—has been pretty fully inquired into, and favourably reported upon.

It is, however, a very big business, promising indeed great advantages alike direct and indirect, but so costly as to require the most careful scrutiny before it is entered upon.

The Engineers have not yet reported which of two competing sites is the better. The selection of even the smaller of the two involves the creation of what we rather grotesquely describe as a tank, but which in other countries would be called an artificial lake, with a water-spread of 12 square miles.

103. The greatly increased attention now given, as I have already mentioned, to forest conservation in this district ought to have a favorable effect on the water-supply from the Noyel River. I mentioned in my second Minute that Dr. Brandis, having examined the Bolampatti Valley, had arrived at the conclusion that if the denudation of the slopes around the head-waters of the Noyel was not stopped, Coimbatore would suffer very grievously. This important piece of country is accordingly now being settled by the Special Forest Settlement Officer, and it is expected that the reserved forest will be finally constituted by the end of the current official year.

104. The deputation then asked that the supply of water should be increased by extensive improvements in the present tanks, and that none of these should be abandoned.

105. This was the first time that any representations were made to me about the minor irrigation works, of which I have heard so much since. To them, as is I believe generally known, this Government has in the last two years given great and special attention. They formed the subject of very anxious communication with Sir Evelyn Baring on that visit to Madras in November 1882, which has had in many directions such momentous results for this Presidency. The grants for them have been everywhere increased, and have been put at the disposal not, as formerly of the Public Works Department, but of the Revenue authorities on the spot, who are now allowed to entertain special establishments for the supervision of these most important works up to a limit of 16 per cent. of the annual grant, while the necessity for working up to the annual grant within the year is steadily kept before the minds of all Collectors.

106. The whole irrigation system of the Presidency, putting aside the colossal works which have their own system of management, has, since Sir Evelyn Baring's visit, and of course since this first application to me about minor irrigation works, been begun to be surveyed by special officers deputed for this purpose, working by what are called tank divisions. After being surveyed, the works will be put into thorough order by the ordinary staff of the Public Works Department, and a commencement of the executive work has already been made.

107. Of course, it will take long years before all that is wanted is done, but I have great faith in the German proverb, "A thing begun with a will is half ended," and nothing could be more satisfactory than the plans submitted to me of the Periyakulam Basin, the first completed under the direction of Colonel Montgomerie.

108. When we talked this matter over with Sir Evelyn Baring, it was thought that the Tank Divisions would have to do the whole work, and that it might occupy fifty-five years; but by dividing it between the Tank Divisions and the Executive Staff, it may, I think, be got over in a single generation.

109. After some remarks with regard to the Educational Commission then sitting at Calcutta, the members of the deputation asked me to visit the weavers' houses and encourage them to work at the "unrivalled Indian hand-patterns and delicate textures."

110. I lost no time in going to these houses, but I did not observe anything in the work, of a very distinctive kind. The silk fabrics turned out were respectable, but not such, I thought, as to command a ready sale in Europe. The phrase of the [illegible] "the unrivalled Indian hand-patterns and delicate textures" pleased

me better than any silk I saw, and I would reiterate some observations which I made in replying, viz.:

"All through Europe the taste for Indian Art,—real Indian Art,—is rapidly growing. It is growing not only in England, but in Austria, in Germany, and in France. I remember some years ago finding in a shop in the remote department of the Morbihan on the shore of the Breton sea, a shawl which I saw at a glance had been made at Umritsar, in the Punjab; and I have no doubt that many other such surprises will, in the next few years, await any one who, while travelling in Europe, is on the look-out for Indian manufactures. In order, however, that the demand may reach them, your weavers must keep in view three maxims. In the first place, they must hold to purely Indian patterns and avoid all European ones; in the second place, they must flee aniline dyes as they would a pestilence; and in the third place, they must adopt the European practice of small profits and quick returns. If they attempt to stick to the old Indian principle of few transactions and large profits, they may as well go out of business at once; the wheels of life now-a-days move too rapidly for that kind of thing. If, however, they and their brethren throughout the Peninsula will follow these three very simple maxims, I really see no limit to the triumphs that may be achieved by the 'Indian hand-patterns and fine textures.' Instead of talking nonsense about the competition of Manchester, let our people go, so to speak, into partnership with Manchester, co-operate with Manchester, let Manchester do for them what she can do far more cheaply, and let them do for Manchester the hundred and one things which Manchester cannot possibly do."

111. When at Coimbatore I paid a visit to the pretty little temple of Perur, a few miles off. Here I received an address in which my attention was, for the first time, called to the difficulties of pagoda management. I have since received a great many representations on this subject, about which the most various opinions prevail, and it will be enough for the present to say that the whole question which presents difficulties of every sort is now in the hands of a Committee over which my honorable colleague Mr. Sullivan presides.

112. The address then passed to the misunderstanding that was said to exist between the Hindu and Muhammadan communities of Coimbatore; and I was asked to repeal the order of Lord Hobart's Government, passed in 1874, with respect to one sect playing on musical instruments when passing in procession before the religious edifices of the other.

113. That order was afterwards declared by the High Court to be *ultra vires*, so that, without the intervention of Government, the wish of the memorialists, that matters should go on as they used to do before it issued, was fulfilled.

114. Lastly, my visitors asked that certain pieces of land should be restored to the temple. This matter has been carefully inquired into, and the petitioners have thus far wholly failed to prove any claim whatever to the area (between 60 and 70 acres) for which they asked.

115. A few miles from Coimbatore I examined several of the so-called Pandava pits with their curious interments, and had, for the first time, brought home to me how little we know, as yet, about the distant past of South India.

116. From Coimbatore I went up the ghaut to Ootacamund, where the special officer, who had been appointed to look after the sanitation, was able to report to me that the friction which had existed between himself and the municipality, and which had given us some trouble, had come to an end.

117. On this occasion, too, I made my first visit to Sim's Park at Coonoor along with Dr. Brandis, and it was then that he made to me the suggestion about the Committee on the Forest Bill, which afterwards produced such good results. I was much pleased with what I saw at Sim's Park, and the Government has steadily supported Mr. Lawson in developing it. Since the date of which I am speaking, the roads, the fencing, the arbours have all been improved, most of the trees and shrubs have been labelled, and the ground has been extended by throwing into it the shola (wood) which adjoined its lower end.

118. From Coonoor I descended upon Salem, where I received a long address.

119. The first request of the people was to have the right of choosing the Vice-President of the Municipality.

Section 14 of the Act of this year runs as follows:—

"Unless the Governor in Council appoints one [illegible]e Municipal Councillors to be the Chairman of the Municipal Council, the Municipal C[illegible]lors shall appoint their Chairman by

election from among their own number, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, and in accordance with such rules and conditions as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Governor in Council."

120. The next object touched on was the Imperial License Tax, which is a matter belonging to the Government of India, and the arguments for and against which, are well known.

121. The third subject was the contribution made by the municipality to the police force. The wish of the people with regard to that has, as I have mentioned above, been complied with.

122. The fourth request was that Sanscrit should be taught in the college. It turned out on inquiry that the number of boys who wished to study Sanscrit was altogether trifling, and that those who wished to do so belonged merely to a single caste.

The Director of Public Instruction went as far as he properly could in compliance with the wishes of the petitioners, when he informed them that he was prepared to allow a Pundit to teach in the college if a class or classes could be formed to be remunerated solely by fees paid by the parents of the pupils to him through the head master of the college.

123. The address then passed on to speak of the industrial development of the country.

"We are glad," it was observed, "to see Government doing so much for the general education of the people, to see our university giving us more and more graduates and undergraduates year by year. But the State has, as yet, done comparatively little or nothing towards the development of the Indian Arts, whether polite or industrial. Confining ourselves to the last, it is time, we venture to submit, that the Government opens Industrial schools in large towns. We believe it is not asking too much if we request the Government to establish in Salem a school or two for teaching one or more branches of industry."

124. These were very sensible observations, and the Government if it has not been able to grant the precise request made, has been doing a great deal and hopes to do a great deal more in the direction indicated.

125. Amongst other things we have, since March 1882, put the School of Arts at Madras under new management, and are placing it on an improved footing with the object of teaching the natives of India rather to imitate or, better still, to emulate the best works of their own countrymen, than to seek for models in Europe.

126. This Government has lent all the assistance in its power to the schemes of the Art Committee, which sat in Calcutta last December. It has promised to aid to the uttermost the endeavours which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is now making as head of the Royal Commission to stimulate the arts and industries of India by means of an exhibition to be held in London in 1886, and it has laid before the Secretary of State certain proposals, which were warmly supported by the Government of India, have just been sanctioned, and will ere long be carried into effect. A Committee, under the very able guidance of Colonel Hawkes, is now engaged in taking measures to retain for the use of the Presidency some permanent record of the collection of Indian art in the Calcutta Exhibition and of the best specimens of the art-ware of Burmah and South India.

127. We have told the Director of Public Instruction to examine the Report of the Royal Commissioners on Technical Instruction published this year in London, and to inform Government in how far the recommendations made by the gentlemen who conducted that elaborate inquiry can be applied to this country.

With reference, however, to technical instruction, it must be carefully kept in mind in India and everywhere else that the soil out of which good technical instruction must grow is good primary and secondary education, primary and secondary education disembarrassed as much as possible of every study which cannot effectively "restate the reasons of its existence."

128. The deputation then complained of the competition of jail manufactures
[illegible]ocal industry.

110. [illegible]at changes in this direction have been, as is well known, made all through-
in the work, within the last two years, jail manufactures which compete directly or
[illegible]able, but not with local manufactures having been to a great extent abandoned.
of the [illegible] in o[illegible]

Lastly, the petitioners protested againt Southern India being placed under a Lieutenant-Governor, to which I replied:

"So far as I am aware, that idea has never passed in the mind of any statesman beyond the stage of mere speculation. It has presented itself as a suggestion to be considered amongst a hundred conflicting suggestions for the improvement of Indian administration. Of late, as far as I know, opinion at home has been moving quite another way, and very much in unison with your own views on the subject. Heaven knows that the affairs of a huge country like this Presidency want the very best intelligence, experience, and devotion that can be brought to bear upon them from whatever quarter these good things can be obtained."

129. While at Salem I had much conversation with the then Collector, about the bad feeling between the Hindus and the Muhammadans. He thought at that time that it was diminishing, but as we all know a recrudescence of it some months later led to very deplorable results. So true is it that in India our steps ever lie—

————per ignes
Suppositos cineri doloso.

130. Mr. Stokes directed my attention to various matters of importance. I find the following noted in my second Tour Minute:—

(i) The question whether it might not be expedient to give greater power to district officers, in dealing with subordinates of whose efficiency or character they have a thoroughly bad opinion, but against whom they are unable to prove distinct and specific charges.

In the current year Collectors have received greater powers, being now invested with authority to order transfers of Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars, &c., involving loss of salary (but not degradation of rank) and suspensions not exceeding six months, subject to appeal in every case.

(ii) The importance of giving every assistance to minor irrigation works.

A greater amount of assistance, as I have already said, has been given, and without the imposition of the special cess to which the Collector thought the people would be ready to submit.

(iii) The inconvenience caused by so much Local Fund money being locked up while the famine demands against the funds remained unsettled.

This matter has received attention in all districts, and of Rs. 5,67,000 outstanding when the Collector spoke, only Rs. 50,000 now remain, while provision is made for the adjustment of this amount in the estimates of the current year.

(iv) The urgent need of pushing on as quickly as possible the Taluk Cutcherry (office) at Dharmapuri.

This building was duly completed, and has been in use since the end of last year.

131. I observed in the same Minute:

"The cholera which was lately so bad at Salem has now ceased; but, considering that the population still uses the terribly-polluted river for many purposes, although excellent wells have been sunk, it is hardly possible that this large place should long continue exempt from some epidemic or other."

132. I also called attention to this important matter in a speech.

133. In 1883, the cholera returned to Salem and committed great ravages. I am afraid it will continue to do so until the water-supply is amended. I was glad accordingly to observe that in the municipal budget for 1884-85 it is proposed to raise a loan of Rs. 20,000 in the open market for the construction of a sewer to intercept the drainage of the town flowing into the river, and that detailed plans and estimates are promised.

134. It was in the neighbour[illegible] many one a
the great importance of avenues i[illegible] on
Presidency have I seen finer ones tha[illegible] he
a Mr. Orr. His delightfully simple metho[illegible] rs
and customs, but none the less should ever[illegible] e
memorial of himself in the trees along the roads of his d[illegible] ts years
of the small things which does a great deal more for human[illegible] ct, which
pretentious and magnificent schemes. [illegible] his supply
[illegible] n histo[illegible] she
[illegible] bered long [illegible]

135. On the morning of the 16th March I re[illegible] dras.

Third Tour of Inspection.

136. My next journey began at Ootacamund and was to have taken me first to the Palanis, but a telegram, from the Viceroy, warning me that we might have to send troops to Egypt, made it necessary for me to remain nearer railway and telegraph lines.

137. On the evening of the 3rd July I found myself at Erode, whence I visited the anicut which governs the Kalingaroyen channel, and the town of Bhávani, where I heard some complaint of the transfer of the Munsif's Court to Erode, but I am afraid there cannot be the slightest doubt that that place is far more convenient, to the majority of persons interested, than its rival.

138. From Erode we proceeded to Karúr, where the Rev. Mr. Little complained to me of the difficulty of obtaining fibres.

139. We have given in the last couple of years much attention to that subject, and some of the results may be mentioned.

140. *Inter alia* Mr. Little himself has been regularly supplied with all papers on the subject, a lease of land near the Bhávani has been granted for experiments, and it is believed that that lease will enable the beneficiaries to open a work up *Sanseviera zeylanica* to good profit. Funds have been provided to meet the cost of fibre experiments on behalf of Government in various places, and steps are being taken to ascertain the commercial value of the fibre of *Helicteres isora*, a shrub which occurs very abundantly in many of our districts.

141. From Karúr I passed to Trichinopoly, where, on the evening of my arrival, I inspected the bath in which Bishop Heber was drowned, then in a deplorable condition. It has now been properly railed in, while the event which has given it a melancholy celebrity has been commemorated by an inscription.

142. On the 5th I went to the anicut on the Coleroon and also inspected the large plantations near the landing place just below the weir of the Cauvery.

143. That done, there followed a number of visits to schools—Anglican, Catholic, and Hindu. In the evening the people presented to me an address. First, they spoke to me about the minor irrigation works. On that subject I need say no more. Secondly, they addressed me about the Vengur channel project, which, proposed some years ago by certain proprietors in the neighbourhood, was at first favorably entertained.

144. It turned out, however, that the Vengur channel could not be made, and the Rs. 5,000, which were subscribed for it, are being now given back to the subscribers with the accumulated interest. The good results which were expected to accrue to the neighbouring lands from the Vengur project will, it is now believed, accrue, in more abundant measure, from the improvement of the Wyacondan channel.

145. The next topic was the Imperial License Tax of which I have already spoken, and the next the pagoda endowment question. In replying to what the deputation said on the latter subject, I made a remark, which I think requires to be kept before the mind of those who are interested in them, viz.:

"Then you speak of your devastanams. I regret that you are constrained to report so disparagingly of their present management, not only because their mismanagement is an evil in itself, but because the direction of these endowments is an important part of local self-government. You pay us a great compliment in saying, or seeming to say, that we could manage your religious institutions better than yourselves. I don't think many of our co-religionists would pay us the same compliment. What more 'motive and spring of action' can you desire than to order well matters connected with your own faith?"

146. Lastly they asked that Government should not disconnect itself from the higher industry.

147. To changes in this direction I am only too ready to assent. Their Colonel called my attention to the fact that in the work within the last two years, the 30th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry has increased from 600 to 1,000 strong, but with local manufactures having to be abandoned for want of accommodation.

148. The improved accommodation is now being provided, and will, it is believed, be completed on or before the 1st October next, at a cost of something like Rs. 26,000.

149. From Trichinopoly I went to Dindigul, where the inhabitants addressed me upon only one subject, but that a very important one to them,—their water-supply.

150. When I was in Madura, in July last I learned from its active and able Collector that trial wells had been dug whence water has been pumped, and that he had every hope that the water would turn out good. It was to be sent down to Madras for chemical examination. The particular scheme which the people suggested to me in 1882 would have severely taxed their resources, even if it had been possible, which is doubtful. The present one would appear to be much more hopeful.

151. In replying, I took an opportunity of calling attention to the lecture which had been lately delivered by Dr. Furnell, the Sanitary Commissioner, on a subject than which there is absolutely none more important in Southern India.

152. If only the people would conform in their practice to the excellent maxims with reference to water which are to be found in their sacred books, half the worst diseases of the Peninsula would vanish away.

153. On this visit to Dindigul I was favorably impressed with the medical establishments of Dr. Chester, and I heard an equally good account of them as I passed, the other day. He is spreading good medicines and some elementary ideas of hygiene all over the district.

154. Then I visited Mr. Heimpel's cigar factory, with which I was much pleased. Governments cannot interfere in such matters, but, in my private capacity, I have done all I could to make his very good wares known at home.

155. An ingenious locksmith at this place brought me some of his work to see. It seemed to me that something might be saved, and the policy of the Government of India furthered, if this manufacture could be encouraged. The locks were accordingly tried with fair but not brilliant results, as were those of another Madura locksmith. Orders have issued for a further trial of locks made in factories in the Madura District.

156. From Dindigul I passed to Tanjore, where I received a very cordial welcome, but where the people made no special requests. While there, however, I heard incidentally a bad account of the date and mahogany trees, about which the present Chief Secretary had, when Collector of the district, taken much trouble. I had this looked into, for the * introduction of valuable plants into a country like this is a matter, in my opinion, of the very highest importance, and severe notice should be taken of any wilful carelessness in allowing experiments once well begun to be neglected.

The later accounts are much better, and dates grown in the Tanjore District have quite recently been eaten in Ootacamund.

157. The conditions under which the mahogany grows in its native country are very different from any which prevail at least in the eastern parts of this presidency, but there must be climates in Madras where the date palm, so nearly allied to the widely-spread *Phœnix sylvestris*, *Phœnix farinifera*, &c., ought to flourish. Our French friends do not mean to be caught napping in such matters. I have already been addressed officially about our mahogany experiments, with a view to the benefit of Tonquin.

158. I observed that a crack in the wall of the little Fort Church menaced the monument of Swartzman, and noted that, although it was not one of his most successful efforts, it should not be allowed to go to ruin. The repairs were completed in Au

* Sir J. M[illegible] education. I need not say [illegible] from the higher education.

On the following day I addr[illegible] then under orders for Egypt [illegible] which the men were being put

[illegible]ary:—
[illegible] a few grains of wheat into the City of Lima. For three years [illegible]ng twenty or thirty grains to each farmer. This is a fact, which [illegible]Escobar brought into existence more human beings by this supply [illegible]e from Egypt to Attica in the earlier ages of Grecian history, she [illegible] potatoes into Persia. That benefit may be remembered long after [illegible]ions has fallen into deserved oblivion."

Mr. Roupell; there is a much younger European Head Assistant at Penukonda, while you have a European Head Assistant at Hospet, forty miles off, who, for the moment, however, is on short leave in Europe, and you have, in each of the two districts, a few native gentlemen acting under those whom I have named. There are, of course, judicial and other establishments, but that is the whole administrative establishment of a country which is, as I said a few minutes ago, hardly perceptibly smaller than a European Kingdom. I defy contradiction when I say that, to the infinite credit of the population of the Madras Presidency, there is no part of the world where an equal amount of well-being is secured at so trifling an outlay upon administration. It would be wholly impossible to secure it, at anything like the money, if the population were not good and law-abiding in a very high degree, but, if it were only feasible, I should like to see local self-government largely increased, and at the same time the trained and scientific superintendence doubled all round. The last is a mere dream I fear. We have not got, and cannot get, the money; but the first is possible, and, if there were no other argument in its favor, I would say good speed to local self-government."

179. The second request related to the Tungabhudra channel and the Alipore tank.

The investigation of these projects has not yet been taken up, but under date of 28th August, this year, the Public Works Department reports that a special officer has now been made available and will soon proceed to examine them.

180. The third request was for the introduction of trial by jury. Trial by jury has now been introduced.

181. Speaking on another subject, I said and am glad here to repeat:

"The Bellary-Hubli State Railway, part of which I hope to traverse to-morrow, has my best wishes, and I believe that your spinning mills, now that the poison-tree of protection, which blights every industry that grows up under its shade, is removed, will, if judiciously managed, have a good future. You are to be congratulated on the presence among you of an energetic citizen, who is doing something to introduce into this neighbourhood really efficient ploughs. I hope much for India from the extension of her manufactures and the growth of more varied industries. I should like to see this presidency thoroughly surveyed by eyes at once scientific, and trained to look out for openings for the practical application of science, with a view to such extension. After all, however, it is to her soil, her sun, her rainfall, and their interaction upon her products that India must mainly look for prosperity."

182. Then came an address on the subject of cotton, in which the memorialists asked me to give my attention to "the desirability of an enactment to repress frauds in connection therewith." My honorable colleagues and I did so and came to the conclusion that any further legislation on the subject would not be advisable.

183. I may remark, in passing, that (1) the remedy lies in the hands of the buyer, who should remember the maxim *caveat emptor;* (2) a legitimate trade in mixed cotton exists in this presidency; (3) a bad habit of giving advances to men of straw ties the hands of the buyer, frequently obliges him to take adulterated cotton, and should be abandoned; (4) the cost of Inspectors would naturally form a burden on the trade; (5) fraudulent adulteration is already punishable under the Penal Code.

184. From Bellary I visited the ruins of Vijianagar, making use of the unfinished Bellary-Hubli line, the authorities of which were extremely courteous and helpful.

185. At the Railway Station of Hospet I received a very well written address, the most important part of which was the fourth paragraph, which was as follows:—

"These monuments of ancient architectural skill, sublime even in their ruins, have been visited and admired by your Excellency's predecessors, but no effective measures have been adopted towards their restoration or repair. We, however, trust your Excellency's Government will take such measures for the restoration or repair of some of the old decaying temples as would fitly commemorate your Excellency's visit and associate your Excellency's name with those of the ancient founders of these temples. Verily the work of restoring decaying institutions is as great and meritorious as that of founding new ones."

186. The strong interest which the people here took in their historical neighbourhood pleased me much, and in replying I said:

"Happy, however, are those countries where the only enemy to be fought by the Archæologist is time. There are countries in which, before he can begin his campaign against time, he has to struggle for years against apathy and ignorance, to say nothing of that panic-fear about anything that seems to interfere, even for his own good, with a man's right to abuse his rights over property, which is the most dangerous ally of socialism. Happy, too, are those countries where the population is proud of its past. In a recent report, I think by Mr. Carlleyle, I read of a district in India in which the first idea of the population, when they saw that the Archæologists cared about a monument, was to make haste to destroy it. That district has just passed, I believe, under the rule of one of the most accomplished men of letters and investigators into human history who now is, or ever was in India—Sir Alfred Lyall; but even he will have much to do, I should think, to bring it up to the level of intelligence which I am rejoiced to find here."

187. In my third tour minute I wrote as follows:—

"No time should be lost in arresting the further progress of mischief. Arboreal vegetation should be ruthlessly destroyed. There are here none of the associations, which made the sweeping away of plants from the Colosseum and the Baths of Caracalla so doubtful a proceeding. The centre of the most important of all the temples wants immediate attention. If it can be saved at all, it can only be saved by being looked into speedily. It may, however, be impossible to save it; but there are numbers of other buildings which, with a little care now, will stand for long years. I read on the spot Captain Cole's report and generally agree with his conclusions; but I would confine our action for the present to keeping things absolutely in *statu quo*, doing nothing in the way of excavation, however proper that may be at a later stage of our proceedings."

188. Since that period the Vittalaswami temple above alluded to has been entirely cleared of rubbish, the roof and pavement have been repaired, the ruinous ashlar walls pulled down and rebuilt, some large stones weighing from three to six tons removed from dangerous positions, the stone car repaired, besides a variety of other works set forth in Mr. Black's report received by us on the 8th August.

189. From Kamalápuram, where we had encamped with a view to visit Vijianagar, I traversed the Sandúr Valley for the purpose of seeing the very valuable forest (with regard to which I had much conversation with Mr. Brandis) and of exchanging visits with the Rajah.

190. The convention necessary for enabling us to deal with this forest has now been concluded, the survey has been completed, and an important piece of forest is very carefully looked after, to the great advantage alike of the small native state concerned, and of this Government.

191. On the night of the 20th I returned to Bellary, where Colonel Clarke, who was in command of the artillery, told me that his horses were cruelly in want of stabling. Three blocks of stabling are now in course of erection.

192. In my tour minute occurs the following paragraph, describing the impression I received of military matters at Bellary:—

"An excellent spirit seems to have been infused into all branches of the service by General Prendergast, who commands in the Ceded Districts. It was quite impossible, even for a Civilian, not to see that all the officers, he came across, were quite unusually interested in their work. The troops were paraded for my inspection on the morning of the 17th—7th Fusiliers, the 25th and 27th Madras Native Infantry, the 2nd Madras Cavalry, and the Field Battery—all, to my non-professional eye, looking very well. I likewise went up the Fort with General Prendergast, and am very decidedly of opinion that the small amount of money required to make it efficient as a place of refuge for non-combatants, in troubled times, should be spent forthwith. General Prendergast has thoroughly entered into the spirit of the extremely important circulars lately issued by Government, under the advice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. If all officers in high command throughout the territories garrisoned by the Madras Army do the same, these halcyon times will have been turned to the best advantage."

193. As regards the alterations required to make the Fort efficient as a place of refuge, a grant of Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 7,000 has since been made for the purpose.

194. Mr. Wace, the Chaplain, made to me various representations about the churches in this station.

195. The views of himself and others have been carefully considered. We did not see our way to substitute for the two existing ones a single church, but the necessary repairs to the Garrison Church were completed in May 1883, and the Fort Church was put in order in May 1884.

196. Just before leaving Bellary I received, late at night, an address from the native officials.

197. They asked first for the repair and maintenance of the ruins of Vijianagar. I have already stated what has been done in relation to that.

198. Their second request was for irrigation works. The same remark applies to this.

199. Their third request was for the construction of a line to connect the southern taluks of Bellary with the Mysore State Railway. A survey of an

Engineers to be impracticable before I was addressed on the subject, the great depth at which rock is reached, at the spot where the dam was to be constructed, being found to prohibit the construction of a reservoir. As the locality seems at first sight an extremely suitable one, it is not surprising that the people should have been loth to part with the hope that the reservoir they wished for could be made.

223. Then the memorialists asked for a permanent settlement. As is well known, the present views of the supreme authorities, although highly favorable to letting the people "sit easy," as we say in Scotland, and to great *continuity* of assessments are quite adverse to what is properly called a *permanent* settlement.

224. This request, however, was based upon mistakes in fact. The petitioners thought that before the recent settlement dry lands had not been assessed above one rupee an acre, but this was not so. The old rates, far from not going above one rupee, sometimes went as high as nearly eleven rupees and as low as four pies, say one halfpenny. Now they vary only from five rupees to four annas, or say sixpence, four annas being the lowest assessment now anywhere permitted in the districts under the new settlement, on the ground that land which cannot bear an assessment of sixpence an acre is not really arable land.

225. Further they stated that formerly no extra tax was charged, if the owner had in any way improved the land, and they implied that a tax was now charged on the ryots' improvements. That however is not the case; no change of this sort has been made, and it would be most impolitic to make it.

226. The deputation then went on to complain that hundreds of acres of land were lying waste, and asked that we should devise some rules to encourage the cultivation of waste land.

227. A perfect official literature has grown up about the abandonment of lands in the Cuddapah district, it having been imagined that the high rates imposed by the revised settlement might have caused this.

228. It has turned out, however, that the cause of the abandonment of a quantity of land over 80,000 acres in the district, which was cultivated or nominally cultivated, was, first, the famine and, secondly, the fact that a vast quantity of land was assessed at only an anna an acre. Such a low assessment allowed the ryot to hold a great deal of land of which he made no use, and this land, when he has to pay for it sixpence an acre, instead of three halfpence or in some cases only one halfpenny an acre, he has abandoned, with the result of concentrating his attention upon land that will really grow human food.

229. The Muhammadan inhabitants also presented to me a very intelligent address, in which they made the agreeable announcement that they had no grievances.

230. From Cuddapah I went to Conjeeveram, where I also received an address.

231. There was no request made to me in it, but I was told that the Commissioners were about to submit a certain scheme to Government with reference to improving their water-supply. This was not done because, as I understand, they found it would be too costly, but they have submitted a proposal of a far less costly kind, which has been sanctioned.

Fourth Tour of Inspection.

232. On the morning of August 28th I again left our summer capital for the plains.

233. It had been raining for several months, and the tanks were most satisfactorily full. At Coimbatore and at Shoranore I was mainly occupied with obtaining information with regard to the recent outbreak of cholera in the jail at the former place, which has happily not recurred, but the causes of which have never been fully explained; the state of things at Salem; and Mr. Logan's inquiries about Malabar Land Tenures, the results of which had just been put into shape.

234. From the southern end of the bridge at Shoranore to Trichore the road lies through the territories of the Rajah of Cochin.

235. I have never passed through a more beautiful piece of non-mountainous scenery in my life. The foliage, under the influence of the recent heavy rains, was magnificent, the rice fields were one sheet of green, the wild flowers of exceptional beauty and interest, the population singularly well grown and stalwart.

236. At Trichore I had time to see the principal buildings, and at night the large and singularly picturesque Pagoda—so unlike anything which one sees on the Eastern Coast—was very tastefully lighted up.

237. Embarking about 9, upon that wonderful system of lagunes which we know as the backwaters, I found myself in the early morning of the 30th at the Residency on the Island of Balghatty. A frightful morning it was, worthy of Ootacamund in the height of summer, and all day the rain descended with persistent fury. At 12 o'clock the Rajah came to visit me and was followed half an hour later by his brother, the Eliya Rajah. They were immediately succeeded by a deputation from the white Jews, and that again by a deputation from the black Jews, both asking me to visit their respective Synagogues. I returned the visits of the Princes at the Palace in Ernacolum, where a durbar was held, and thence went to fulfil my promises to the Jews.

238. At both Synagogues they read—according, I believe, to the usual custom on such occasions—the prayer for the Queen and other authorities, while, at that of the white Jews, I saw the famous deed which Mr. Logan has carefully translated.

239. There seems no doubt that it is not as old as it is sometimes called, but [illegible] must be as old as the Morgengabe preserved in the Monastery of the Trinitá at [illegible] petitioners [illegible] which is quite the oldest deed I ever saw in Europe.
La Cava, w[illegible]as Coning the Rajah gave a dinner at the Residency, at which, being

240. In the eve[illegible]nted by the Eliya Rajah, who proposed the health of still infirm, he was repres[illegible]proposing that of the Rajah.
the Queen, Empress of India,—[illegible]

241. The 31st dawned brightly, and I crossed the lagune very early to British Cochin. The Municipal Comm[illegible]ssioners received me at the landing place and delivered an address.

242. These gentlemen made no r[illegible]uest except that the Madras Government would bestow its attention on the subjec[illegible] of special interest to them, which might from time to time be submitted for its[illegible]nsideration, a request with reference to which it was easy to promise compliance and to keep the promise when made. They have, for example, recently asked [illegible] to allow them to purchase twenty-five additional iron tanks from municipal funds [illegible] the purpose of storing water, and this request was granted. They also took t[illegible] opportunity of explaining very clearly some of the improvements which they h[illegible]ade and some of the difficulties which they had to encounter.

243. They were followed by the Chamber of [illegible]merce, who asked first for a railway and secondly for a harbour.

244. With reference to these requests, I said at the[illegible]:

"About the Railway from Shoranore, I think I need say no[illegible]. You are aware of the position of the question and of the line which has been taken by the[illegible]dras Government. By that line, subject to the decisions of the higher authorities, we firmly *ex animo* abide. I am delighted to find that you have a hope of being able to lay before [illegible]cheme for a harbour, which will cost far less than the one which was last under consideration, for I confess that my heart sank within me when I read Mr. Parkes' calculation about 81 lak[illegible] rupees. I am sure that the professional advisers of the Government and the Government itself will listen with great attention to any propositions submitted to them which have the suppo[illegible]his Chamber; but I need not remind you that questions of this kind have to be finally de[illegible]ot hard by in Ootacamund, nor even in Madras."

245. Both of these were, of course, matters appertaining to [illegible]preme Government. Much correspondence took place with respect to the fir[illegible] this Government advised the construction of the railway on a joint guarantee [illegible] of fifteen years by the British Government and by the Native States of T[illegible] and Cochin, the liabilities of each being regulated by the extent to whic[illegible] interested in the construction of the line.

[illegible]nd by

246. The Government of India did not see its way to accept the proposals made, and the matter is still in abeyance.

247. Great attention has been given to the question of a harbour at Cochin, but up to this time it has not been made clear to me that a really good harbour could be made there, even if the Government of India had the purse of Fortunatus.

248. A harbour, different from that suggested by Mr. Parkes, was talked of when I was at Cochin, but plans and estimates for it have not been yet placed before us.

249. Then I was taken to see the old church, where much was wanted. We have since given a grant for the repair of this curious structure and the assistance of the Public Works Department.

250. From British Cochin I returned to the Residency, where, in the course of the morning, I received a visit from the Archbishop of Verapoly, the head of the Carmelite Mission in South-Western India.

251. Later came a large number of Syrian Christians of many shades of opinion, who presented a short, but very noticeable, address, in which, amongst other things, they said that my visit was "the occasion which for the first time, after ages of separation, witnessed the spectacle of all the different sects of their community, following divergent articles of faith, sinking for once religious and party differences and joined together to do honor to their common friend."

252. In the early afternoon I received a deputation of rate-payers from British Cochin, who presented a prodigiously long, but not very numerously signed, address. They first complained of the mismanagement of their municipal affairs. To that part of the address I replied as follows:—

"I have listened with much interest to your address, and I perceive that you are anxious that the powers-that-be should largely diminish taxation, while largely increasing those services to the public which are paid for out of taxation.

"That, gentlemen, is the first thought of many excellent people in all countries. When, however, they have succeeded in getting behind the scenes, more especially if they attain to the closely-watched servitude which is mocked with the name of power, and learn the difficulties of their predecessors, they are apt to find that to increase expenditure and to diminish revenue is to burn the candle at both ends. A lady in England, who has said many good things, replied to a friend who blamed her, when a girl, for burning the candle at both ends, that that was surely the best way to make the ends meet; but I do not think that any financier, Imperial or Municipal, has ever, after trying the experiment, been inclined to agree with her.

"So much by way of a *primâ facie* objection to your general scheme. When, however, I come to its details, I must confess myself unable to criticise them. As you know I only came here the night before last, and the frightful weather which we had yesterday prevented my seeing as much of the neighbourhood as I could wish. I have no doubt that there is a vast deal of truth in your representations, but what can be done with such a pittance as that of which the Municipality disposes—under Rs. 19,000 per annum—even with your present taxation. Take away the money that used to be collected for the Police, and it seems to me you would be unable even to improve the conservancy, which, as you say, greatly wants improving, and which, as I am informed, the Municipality proposes to improve with the money set free by the remission on the part of the Government of the Police contribution.

"To do all you want would require very large funds, but where are they to come from? You ask for local self-government, and I can promise you that your wish will be fairly considered; but although local self-government is an excellent thing, it won't enable you to get blood out of a stone, or to put a very poor community in a position to enjoy those comforts and luxuries which a wealthy community can easily provide for itself.

"As to those matters which belong to the province of the Government, I will see that what you have advanced is examined in a friendly spirit; but it would, as I am sure you will perceive, be impossible for me to give an off-hand answer about them upon this occasion."

253. Since this address was presented very large changes have been introduced, as is well known, in the position of Municipalities, and it will be interesting to see how far, when the new system is fairly under way, the people of Cochin will support the policy heretofore pursued by their Municipality, or that which found favor with the representatives of the local opposition who addressed me. Already last year we introduced the elective system, but so little enthusiasm did this extension of self-government beget, which was earnestly pressed on me, create, when it was once given, that about Mala want of candidates we were obliged to nominate three Commissioners.

234. Fr
lies [illegible] th

254. One of the grievances of the petitioners against their Municipality, the condition of the Calvety Canal, has been, I observe from the latest Municipal report, attended to.

255. The public garden which gave no satisfaction to the petitioners, and which they said served the purpose of a Nekropolis for dogs, has, it appears, been abandoned after much local discussion.

256. To the water-supply, which was another grievance, I have already alluded.

257. Another grievance was about a certain jetty. This was inquired into and the opinion of the Advocate-General was taken, but the Government entirely agreed that the Municipal Commissioners were acting fully within their rights. As their President put it, they said to persons who wanted to land goods: "There is the jetty; if you find it a convenience to you, pay us so much; if you don't care to pay, then land goods through the mud as you used to do. We are not preventing you."

258. The memorialists further complained about certain of their medical arrangements. Some of these were purely municipal matters, and I have reason to believe that the Municipality look very well after them. Others related to the Government, and appear to amount to a request that it should retain the services of medical men for the purpose of attending the inhabitants at large without fee or reward, a proposition which was, of course, wholly inadmissible.

259. Turning now to matters which belong more directly to the Government, I was told by the petitioners that the Police force assigned to Cochin was inadequate. The strength of the Police, however, would appear to be unusually large in proportion to the population. The peculiar circumstances of Cochin to which the petitioners alluded are already carefully recognised in the distribution of the Police Force. In the large towns of Malabar which are surrounded on all sides by British territory, such as Calicut and Pálghat, the proportion of police to population is far smaller.

260. Then came a grievance about Port conservancy, with regard to which the Marine authorities were consulted, but did not see their way to support the petition.

261. The last complaint was with reference to the encroachments of the sea, which was said to be carrying off valuable cocoanut trees and other property. This grievance was of the same character as that of the persons who build houses under

28[illegible]. When the head of the Marine Department visited the spot, after six months' interval, he repo[illegible] of the cess complained of is not are here works; the second invected:

"I find the coast restored; there are 300 feet of sand between the coast boundary pillar and the sea line, while many huts and trees still remain where they [illegible]ancy and ran as follows:—

I need not return to the former subject. In former never ought to have been placed, viz., between the pillar and the sea, showing that the injury never really reached the normal line. Although the injury and loss were so recent, the lesson is of so little use that new trees passed for ryots were founded on a misconception. servants by fees of various kinds, some legal, some and there being planted, and new huts are preparing now. In the complaint referred to, the inhabitants are treated of as ryots, but they are really fishermen, to whom the close proximity of the sea is a great object, and whose experience and tradition should be sufficient warning to them."

262. Later in the day I visited another Synagogue of the black Jews at Ernacolum, where most of those who had formed the deputation met me, which they were unable to do at their principal Synagogue, having grounded, as they returned, on a sand-bank in the middle of the lagune—a common incident, it would appear, of Cochin life.

263. This done, I went to a Syrian church, whence I drove to the large school which Mr. Sealy, the very intelligent Director of Public Instruction, has created almost out of nothing, for he began with thirty boys in a shed. I gathered from him that his pupils took on the whole more kindly to mathematics than to any other study. The younger boys were learning to write or engrave upon the palm-leaf—a strange sight to an English eye. Since the date of my visit we have acknowledged Mr. Sealy's merits by making him a Fellow of the Madras University.

264. I started after nightfall—the lagune being everywhere beautifully illuminated till we passed out of Cochin waters—and arrived on the morning of the 1st September at Karmady. The route lay now through channels narrow as rivers, now narrower still—little more than canals, and again expanding into chains of

wide but perfectly placid lakes. Everywhere the water was bordered by
groves of the cocoanut palm, under which

with a view to adjust the Government demand to the circumstances of particular places as nearly as it can, but it is perfectly idle to suppose that any arrangements can be wholly satisfactory. The circumstances of different districts and parts of districts are too varied to admit of absolute adaptation to individual requirements. Infinite care is, however, taken to meet local wants as far as possible.

284. Next, the petitioners asked for the extension of local self-government. Local self-government has been extended.

285. Lastly, they complained of the union of revenue and magisterial functions.

286. That is a question not for us, but for the supreme authorities, and resolves itself, like many other Indian questions, into one of finance. There can be no doubt, as I told the petitioners in reply, that it would be more in accordance with the most scientific principles of legislation to have revenue and magisterial functions separated, and the stream of tendency flows in that direction.

287. I heard dismal accounts, along my road, of the failure of coffee cultivation in the part of Travancore which I was crossing, but in British Territory things were better. I visited one estate in the hills above the Courtallum waterfalls, where they had had the sense to preserve many of the trees of the primæval forests, which repaid this generosity by shade very useful to the cultivation.

288. At Courtallum we left rain and also coolness behind us, and the low water-parting, which separates the lands irrigated by the Chittar from those which depend upon the main stream of the Támraparni, was as dry and desolate as possible. Here and there Mr. Pennington pointed out small hills which Dr. Brandis, as it seems to me most judiciously, proposes to reserve. At present they grow nothing but a dreary *Euphorbia*, I suppose the *nivulia*, which has not even the merit of defending more valuable seedlings, as is done by the prickly-pear.

289. Immediately on my arrival at Tinnevelly, the Municipality presented an address to which I replied.

290. The inhabitants of Tinnevelly observed:

"We have, we are thankful to say, nothing specially to ask of your Excellency's Government in the matter of local wants, as they have been well attended to by the various officials who have served amongst us, and will, we have no doubt, be carefully attended to in future as occasion offers, as our present Collector has been long in the district, knows it intimately, and does not spare himself in the cause of the public.

"We look forward with much eagerness to the extension of the South Indian Railway to Trivandrum from this town. The land trade between the two places is not inconsiderable, and the two provinces are, for various reasons, intimately connected one with the other, and we trust that the resources of the country will further be developed by this improvement in internal communication."

With regard to the latter, I may say that, however the railway runs into Travancore, whether by the northern or the southern route, it will be certain to benefit it and Tinnevelly.

291. In replying to their address I made some observations which I am not sorry to repeat, viz.:

"It only remains to thank you for all the good wishes which you have expressed with regard to my administration. I trust that to the eye of the distant observer, which is attracted only by sudden changes and startling efforts, it may appear utterly dull and uneventful; but I shall be disappointed if, when it is over, those who are brought into immediate contact with it are not able to say, amongst other things, that during its course, the Presidency of Madras obtained the right of using for her own urgent needs a larger proportion of the taxation levied within her borders; that those of our departments which were not in a satisfactory condition —such as the Forest Department—had been put on better footing; that the best men throughout our various services had, very early in the day, come to know that their work was watched with sympathetic interest at headquarters; and that they were not reduced to hopelessness by being all the most influential positions bestowed, as a matter of course, upon meritless seniority.

"These are not very sensational ambitions, and the record of their fulfilment would, no doubt, even when recorded by the ablest pen, as if it were traced with opium upon sheets of phrase which was, by the by, originally used about the philosopher who wrote the life tatesman with whose spirit a wise ruler of this part of India would most, I think, desire —the life of Turgot.

"Of such good dulness, however, is woven the happiness of nations. I do not think one could anywhere find a district which more naturally raises such thoughts than this of Tinnevelly, for Bishop Caldwell, who has so well told its history, finds it necessary to fill pages upon pages with the events which occurred during the terrible period which preceded its passing under British rule, while he finds a paragraph or two quite enough to describe the unbroken progress and prosperity of the last eighty years. And why? because those eighty years have been years of profound peace, whereas before they began, Tinnevelly had never from the beginning of time known, as the Bishop very truly observes, eighty consecutive months, perhaps not even eighty consecutive weeks, of peace."

292. The phrase "that during its course the Presidency of Madras obtained the right of using for her own urgent needs a larger proportion of the taxation levied within her borders" referred to the expected visit of Sir Evelyn Baring and its financial consequences, which, at the time I spoke, were only a hope, but before the end of the year became a reality.

293. On September 14th I received the principal people—European and Native—as I had done at Courtallum, and the afternoon was chiefly given to the schools of various Christian sects. I spoke at four of these, but at none of them were any definite requests made, except that no disfavor should be shown to Native Christians, a request which I need not say I was able to meet with the assurance that they should have the most perfect equality of treatment.

294. Here also I received a long address on behalf of the cotton interest. This was officially considered, and the petitioners were informed that, for reasons substantially the same as those mentioned above in the review of my third tour, we were not prepared to legislate in the direction they desired.

Early on the morning of the 15th I drove out with Colonel Hasted, who had met me by appointment at Tinnevelly, to the Srívaikuntham Anicut which I saw and in the neighbourhood of which I had carefully explained to me the various questions connected therewith. I remarked at the time, "a proposal will presently be made for constructing a bridge upon the piers long since built with that view, which ran out from the side of the anicut looking down stream, and there can be no doubt that such a work is much wanted."

295. Such a proposal has subsequently been transmitted by the Local Fund Board, but has been referred back to them with reference to certain constructive details.

296. On the morning of the 16th I visited the great Shiva Temple and, after examining that really noble structure, received an address from an association representing, as I gathered, the party opposed to the Municipality as at present constituted.

297. They began by thanking me for sanctioning the introduction of the elective system into the Tinnevelly Municipality.

298. Next came a request about the position of dancing girls, which had reference to the general legislation of India, not that of Madras.

299. Then followed a petition that the Sub-Judge's Court should not be removed to Palamcottah. There was a good deal of difference of opinion about this subject, and I examined the Sub-Judge's Court on the 15th September. It was ultimately decided that the Court should not be removed.

300. The third subject was the establishment of temple committees. This is part of the pagoda question already alluded to.

301. The last request was with reference to a dispute about a road, which belonged entirely to the sphere of local self-government.

302. The whole of the country immediately around Tinnevelly and Palamcottah was at this period of the year one vast sea of rice just ready for the harvest, but the line, which took me towards Madura, leads through a region which is in September a desert, relieved only by the long blue line of the ghauts. Sátúr I was met by the young nephew of the Zamorin, whom we lately me Deputy Collector, and at Virudupati, a rising cotton mart beginning t ne

Tuticorin, the party was joined by Mr. Crole, the Acting Collector, and Mr. Robinson, the Assistant Collector, of Madura.

303. At the Madura station the Municipal Commissioners met me with an address, in which they first thanked me for the extension of local self-government and then asked for its further encouragement.

304. There is, I apprehend, no town in the Presidency where, during the last two years, the efforts of the people towards managing their own local affairs have met with more encouragement from the representative of the Government on the spot.

305. I should also remark that the Madura Municipality, which is fortunate in the activity and ability alike of its President and Vice-President, has been doing much to improve the water-supply and general condition of the town. It has accordingly been very agreeable to the Government to be able to assist it by a considerable grant from Provincial Funds towards the building of the Vaigai bridge.

306. On the 18th there was a reception of the European residents and the chief of the Native community in the great hall of Tirumal Naik's Palace, which is admirably adapted for ceremonials of this kind. The work of partial restoration seems to be going on satisfactorily; the large room which is now used as a court will require various alterations before it quite suits its purpose, the great difficulty being—the very common one—its bad acoustic properties; these, however, will doubtless be overcome, and the parts of the building which it is proposed to use as minor courts and public offices will subserve these respective purposes sufficiently well although some inconvenience may arise from there being too great an amount of noise. Here I received an address from the general community.

307. The first request of the Madura inhabitants was that I would support the Periyar project. With that request I have most fully complied.

308. The second referred to the minor irrigation works. Of that I have said enough.

309. The third was with reference to the construction of a steam tramway between Madura and Pámban, and they asked that more reliable statistics should be taken before Government decided on starting it. It goes without saying that the request of the people will be complied with.

310. The next request was with reference to the cost of litigation, to which I replied as follows:—

"As to expense of litigation, that is matter rather for the Secretary of State than for the Government of Madras. Of course we all know the objections to taxes upon litigation; but where a considerable revenue has to be raised from the people for the service of the people, we must be content with imposing the least bad taxes, all taxation being of course more or less bad. I have often considered the subject when I was officially concerned with the *general* finance and politics of India; but I am obliged to admit that I never heard an alternative to these taxes suggested which seemed to me likely to be less inconvenient and unpleasant than they."

311. The last request referred to a proposal which was then being discussed, about separating Dindigul from Madura. Up to this time, however, the change, which we then thought of, has not been made, so that the request of the people has thus far been complied with. Personally I still think that, if Madura could be divided on the same principles as Bellary and Anantapur were divided, it would be an advantage to the population, but this local question is inextricably connected with various large imperial questions which can only be settled by the Viceroy and Secretary of State. Official strength in Madura is not perhaps at present as well distributed as it might be, and advantage will be taken of the changes in *personnel* which will be caused by impending retirements on proportionate pensions, to see if some change for the better cannot be made.

312. In the evening of the 18th, the great tank was admirably illuminated, with arrangements made on this occasion, as well as an exhibition of articles of

local manufacture, in one of the greatest corridors of the Pagoda, on the morning of the 19th, gave me a very favorable impression of the taste and activity of the native artisans. The Pagoda itself is—as is well known—quite the finest thing of its kind in India, and does not give the impression, which many other similar buildings do, of having been left stranded by the progress of events. It excites obviously a very living interest in some classes of the population, and large sums are annually expended upon its decoration or repair. I observed a master workman carving stone with very considerable skill, whose wages were little more than a rupee a-day. His subordinates received only eight annas.

313. From Madura I travelled to Erode and returned on the 20th September to Ootacamund.*

M. E. GRANT DUFF.

[* It is intended that the continuation of this Minute shall be published early in November.]

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

OOTACAMUND,
August 3rd to September 16th, 1884.

In the month of October last, I completed, by a visit to South Canara, my general survey of the twenty-two districts of this Presidency, and, as some nine months have now passed, it may be time to review that survey, with the object of seeing what desirable changes have been made in consequence of it, what remain to be made, and, above all, how far it has been possible to meet the requests of the people preferred to the head of the Government in person.

2. The machine of administration, in all civilised countries, is now so complicated that it is necessary for those who preside over it perpetually to revise and re-revise, if important things are not to be allowed to slip out of sight. The impossibility of doing this amidst the conditions under which a statesman's life is now passed in Western Europe is a grave misfortune. In a country governed as this is and must long continue to be, it is highly desirable that the European rulers of every degree should come as much as possible into contact with the ruled.

Thanks to the improvement of communications, the absence of famine and other causes, it has been my [illegible] to see more of the Presidency than any of my predecessors [illegible] good fortune [illegible]ly short time.

In nearly [illegible] have done in an equa[illegible]ich have been collected into a volume, I have secured a hundred addresses, wh[illegible]t the most articulate portion of the people were asking from the chiefs of the admin[illegible]istration in 1882 and 1883.

In my replies, while recognizing the [illegible] good sense of a very large proportion of the requests made, I took the greatest [illegible]possible care not to commit my colleagues or myself to almost anything, and I am [illegible]particularly glad to be able to show by this paper, to the persons who came to see [illegible]me, with what scrupulous care every one of their wishes has been examined, and ho[illegible]w very largely performance has surpassed promise.

3. When I left England in the autu[illegible]mn of 1881 the subject connected with Madras, which was most talked of at hom[illegible]e, was the gold industry of the Wynaad. A few days before I started, a deputation [illegible]nterested in the Nilgiri Railway came to visit me, and questions of considerable n[illegible]oment, with reference to the sanitation of Ootacamund, came before me ere I had [illegible]been many weeks in this country.

4. I determined accordingly that my [illegible]first tour of inspection should be directed towards the West, and on the 4th January [illegible]1882 I left Madras.

5. Travelling through the night, I r[illegible]eached Pothanur on the morning of the 5th. There I was met by, amongst oth[illegible]ers, Mr. Stuart, the Collector of Coimbatore, whose valuable services we are now [illegible]so soon to lose. He was, at that time, very much occupied with the wants of [illegible]is district in the matter of wood, and sketched to me a project which had comm[illegible]nded itself to his mind for afforestation on a considerable scale.

6. The new Forest Act was then only a *hope*, but it has since become a *reality*, and the position of Coimbatore, so far as t[illegible]he woodland and its connected benefits are concerned, has much improved.

7. The senior Conservator of Forest[illegible] writing under date of the 5th August 1884, reports to me that very good progre[illegible]s has been made in the constitution of its reserved forests, in demarcation, in su[illegible]rvey, and in fire protection. Attention has been given to the formation of fuel [illegible]nd fodder reserves, though the Collector's final recommendations have not yet [illegible]been received, and the forest revenue of the district is steadily increasing.

8. On my way up the Coonoor Ghaut I stopped at Burliar and examined the Government Garden there.

28. From Ootacamund I went on to Naduvatam to join Dr. Bidie, who was engaged in examining our estates t here, with reference to the assertions of Mr. Cross, the South American travell er, who had frightened us, not a little, by declaring that our supposed *Succirubra* was not *Succirubra* at all, but the far less valuable *Micrantha*. On this question I had occasion to write in my first Tour Minute, but it has now happily been la id at rest by the highest scientific authority, and I need not repeat what I there said.

29. From Naduvatam I descended the Ouchterlony Valley, where the coffee, stimulated by heavy rains, had burst prematurely into flower and was in great beauty.

30. Here some representations w ere made to me about the importance of getting seeds of the *Ledgeriana* specie s of Cinchona, and at a later period I was happily able to do so.

31. From the Ouchterlony Valley we descended to Nadgani, where we became the guests of Mr. O'Donoghue, and fou nd ourselves in the midst of the gold region.

32. At Devála I received an ad dress from the Nílgiri Planting and Mining Association. They called my attenti on first to the administration of the Nílgiris. Since that date, the administration h as been greatly strengthened. It used to cost Rs. 5,540 a-month, but a very f ew weeks after the period of which I am speaking, the Act abolishing the old C ommission came into force. The district is now within the civil and criminal juri sdiction of the Judge of Coimbatore, so that the Collector, who has superseded the Commissioner, has far more time to give to administrative work. The Head Ass istant remains as he was. The Joint Magis- trate has been abolished. Both the Deputy Tahsildars of Coonoor and Gúdalúr have had their pay increased; there is now an Assistant Collector, a Sub-Judge, a Treasury Deputy Collector, and a Deputy Tahsildar at Ootacamund, while the subordinate establishments have been considerably increased: all this at an expense of some Rs. 1,390 a-month.

33. We have also created a Spe cial Assistant for that important branch of business known as the Wynaad esch eats, which should, by rights, have been put out of hand more than two generati ons ago. When he has done his work, the settlement of the Wynaad portion of t he Nílgiri district will be taken up. Twenty five cases in three districts of South V Wynaad have been already inquired into and separately reported on by the officer a ppointed, each one being a case in which the Government asserts rights over land d declared to be escheated in consequence of the rebellion of the Pychee Rajah in t he first days of this century.

Further proceedings will be tak en after the receipt of the necessary orders from the Secretary of State.

34. The deputation next observe d:

"It is unfortunately our experience of many years that planters meet with invincible obsta- cles and unreasonable delay in the disposal of their applications for land, and intending investors have, in some instances, left the country aft er waiting for years, despairing of ever obtaining land on which to commence planting operations."

35. The Government, knowing that these complaints were not unfounded, took immediate steps to improve th e state of affairs which has so much changed that, on sending to Mr. Burrows, th e very active Collector of the district in the middle of August, the following quest ion, I received the following reply:—

"How many land and mining applica tions from planters and others have been disposed of in the district since the beginning of Ja nuary 1882, and how many are still waiting to be disposed of?"

"Applications under Gold Mining R	ules *disposed of* since January 1882 ..	119
Applications under Waste Land R	ules—	
Europeans and East Indians	.. ..	96 } 207
Natives	.. ..	111 }
Applications under Gold Mining	Rules *awaiting disposal*	None.
Applications under Waste Land R	ules—	
Advertised for sale	.. ..	5 } 7"
Awaiting reports from subordi	nates	2 }

36. The deputation then passed to the Revenue Settlement, and urged that the operations which had been some tim e before commenced on the Nílgiris should be pushed on as fast as possible.

37. I find that, since the 1st January l a few days before the address was presented, no less than 295,000 acres have completely settled with the result which was contemplated by the framers of ldress, that the revenue has been largely increased, while thousands of land-h have been furnished with puttahs (leases) showing exactly the position, area assessment of the lands held by them. A complete revision of the village lishments of the district has also been carried into effect, and the Village Act has been introduced for the purpose of providing the salaries of the villa icers. The gentlemen who came to see me feared that years would elapse be the settlement of the district was completed. It will, so far as the Nílgiris c cerned, be completed or all but completed before the document I am now di g up is in the hands of the public.

38. The memorialists next asked that a ropean Head Constable should be located at Devála. This request has not complied with *in terms;* but the police force of the Wynaad has been stre ned by the entertainment of two Head Constables and seven Constables in ad n to the previously existing force.

39. Then they turned to the subject pads, asked me to notice the fact that I was travelling in the driest season of year, and assured me that their communications, during the monsoon, were astrously bad. Since that period the Government have largely assisted the L Fund Board to improve the whole of the through line from Mettupálaiyam to dalúr have taken over those parts of it which pass through the municipalities oonoor and Ootacamund, and have now determined to do the same by the wh of the road in question. So much for one end of the line of communication so tally important to South Wynaad. Then, as to the other end of it, as soon as a , fit for the purpose, was available, we sent Mr. Nordmann to examine, with a w to its improvement, the line from Vayitri to Calicut, and reports from him e been already received. I hear from Colonel Beatty that the estimates are r advanced, but their total amount is undoubtedly startling, and though impr ment will be pushed on, as funds become available, till eventually we may ho to see the great through line across the Nílgiris, the Wynaad and Malabar to the Western Coast in really good order, this part of the work (*i.e.*—improvement of line from Vayitri to Calicut) must, in justice to other portions of the countr be carried into effect gradually. With regard to the middle portion of the r the President of the Local Fund Board, writing under date the 23rd Augus 1884, reports that the road from Gúdalúr to Devála is in good order, and the ad on from Devála to Mango Tree Bungalow *viâ* Pundalur is also in good ord adding various details as to what has been done since I passed over it in Janua 1882.

40. Then my attention was called to the old mining leases. These we have made much more liberal. The limit of each grant was confined to 30 acres. We have now extended it to 150, we have abol ed the requirement that five coolies should be entertained per acre, we have allow d the lessee to sublet or assign his lease without the previous sanction of Gov rnment, and we have permitted an applicant to obtain more than one mining lea .

41. The gentlemen who came to see me then passed to the subject of railways. I do not think they will complain that thi Government has not, since that date, done all that in it lay to help them to a railw y up the Nílgiri Supported by us as by the Government of India, the proposals of its promoters w ccepted by the Secretary of State, but the speculation not fi ding favor with lists at home, they again applied to us for other terms, wher upon they were re supported first by this Government, secondly by that of India. The cision must depend upon the view entertained at the ndia Office. As ailway from Mysore towards the W t Coast, that project has been thrown the reverses of the gold industry; ainly not respon

42. Then they that the telegraph s been extended to V. hould be extende tri. It has and on from Vayitri to Calicut.

43. They next ded to state their general views al overnment Cinchona properties ve nothing now to add to what I sai spot, viz.:

"Next we arriv nchona. Well, my first emotion when I se magnificent forests of 'Succirubra ch clothe the slope of N Naduvatam was an n of pride. I

rejoiced that our Indian Government should
but I nevertheless think, as you do, that the
made it acquire will make it desire to dispo
can well be raised are as to the time when, an
time will arrive when Government can do no n
industry in India than can be done by privat
itself of the property is of course the one w
questions will some day have to be decided
controversies are still going on about Cinch
think that it would be advantageous to the
Government in too great a hurry; but when
reckon upon my good wishes, for I belong t
once was, which desires to limit rather than t
for its motto '*Laisser faire laisser passer*.'"

44. Since these words were spoken
have taken up, in good earnest, the
Cinchona cultivation which only Gov
day can solve. Mr. Lawson's botanic
supplemented by that of a chemical
Leyden under the auspices of Dr. de
chemistry of Cinchona; and it is to be
necessary to be known for the produ
Cinchona alkaloids will be ascertained
desires to engage in Cinchona planting,

45. The last topic on which my
respect to labor. That is a very thorn
satisfy both the employers and the e
that the views of the planters, of the
been ascertained for the purpose of
India.

46. Much misconception would se
existing state of the law, and it has
change is really wanted in the *substan*

47. It was also suggested that an
all contractors, cooly maistries, and
considers this to be a matter on whi
very exceptional circumstances.

48. The next address which I rec
for the establishment of a police stat
with this wish, but we have been able
force of Devála and of Nadghani, as I

49. They further asked for the
enforcement of those sections of the
prevention of nuisances, for improved

50. The supply of the last of t
Fund Board. As to the others, we w
but may be able ere long to effect t
We have enforced those provisions of
the prevention of nuisances, and I h
about roads.

51. Next came an address from
Mining Association," which was deli
my attention to the Mysore-Malabar
which I have already alluded, the tw
of a European ward to the hospital, a

52. The first of these is not withi
Fund Board. As to the second, Col
Special Honorary Magistrate with spe

53. To the same place came the
that the District Munsif's Court sho

Naduvatam to join Dr. Bidie, who was
e, with reference to the assertions of
who had frightened us, not a little, by
as not *Succirubra* at all, but the far less
had occasion to write in my first Tour
at rest by the highest scientific authority,

he Ouchterlony Valley, where the coffee,
rematurely into flower and was in great

re made to me about the importance of
of Cinchona, and at a later period I was

ve descended to Nadgani, where we became
d ourselves in the midst of the gold region.
ress from the Nílgiri Planting and Mining
n first to the administration of the Nílgiris.
as been greatly strengthened. It used to
w weeks after the period of which I am
mmission came into force. The district is
diction of the Judge of Coimbatore, so that
Commissioner, has far more time to give to
stant remains as he was. The Joint Magis-
Deputy Tahsildars of Coonoor and Gúdalúr
is now an Assistant Collector, a Sub-Judge,
Deputy Tahsildar at Ootacamund, while the
considerably increased: all this at an expense

cial Assistant for that important branch of
eats, which should, by rights, have been put
ons ago. When he has done his work, the
he Nílgiri district will be taken up. Twenty
Vynaad have been already inquired into and
appointed, each one being a case in which the
declared to be escheated in consequence of
he first days of this century.
en after the receipt of the necessary orders

d:

many years that planters meet with invincible obsta-
of their applications for land, and intending investors
er waiting for years, despairing of ever obtaining land
"

that these complaints were not unfounded,
e s of affairs which has so much changed
e y active Collector of the district in the
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nuary 1882, and how many are still waiting to be

Rules *disposed of* since January 1882 .. 119

Rules—
.. .. 96 } 207
.. .. 111 }
.. .. None.

Rules *awaiting disposal* .. .. .. None.

Rules—
.. .. 5 } 7"
nates .. .. 2 }

to the Revenue Settlement, and urged that the
se before commenced on the Nílgiris should be

37. I find that, since the 1st January
presented, no less than 295,000 acres have
which was contemplated by the framers of
largely increased, while thousands of land-h
(leases) showing exactly the position, area
them. A complete revision of the village
been carried into effect, and the Village
purpose of providing the salaries of the vill
to see me feared that years would elapse bet
completed. It will, so far as the Nílgiris
completed before the document I am now d

38. The memorialists next asked that
located at Devála. This request has not
police force of the Wynaad has been stre
Head Constables and seven Constables in ad

39. Then they turned to the subject
that I was travelling in the driest season o
communications, during the monsoon, were
the Government have largely assisted the L
of the through line from Mettupálaiyam to
of it which pass through the municipalities
now determined to do the same by the wh
for one end of the line of communicati
Then, as to the other end of it, as soon as
we sent Mr. Nordmann to examine, with a
Vayitri to Calicut, and reports from him
from Colonel Beatty that the estimates are
is undoubtedly startling, and though impr
become available, till eventually we may ho
the Nílgiris, the Wynaad and Malabar to th
this part of the work (*i.e.*—improvement of
in justice to other portions of the
With regard to the middle portion
Board, writing under date the 23r
Gúdalúr to Devála is in good order
Bungalow *viâ* Pundalur is also in
has been done since I passed over it in Janu

40. Then my attention was called to th
made much more liberal. The limit of each
have now extended it to 150, we have aboli
should be entertained per acre, we have allow
lease without the previous sanction of Go
applicant to obtain more than one mining lea

41. The gentlemen who came to see me
I do not think they will complain that thi
done all that in it lay to help them to a railw
as by the Government of India, the proposals
Secretary of State, but the speculation not fi
they again applied to us for other terms, wher
first by this Government, secondly by that
depend upon the views entertained at the
Mysore towards the West Coast, that project
of the gold industry; but for that, we are cert

42. Then they asked that the telegraph s
been extended to Vayitri and on from Vayitri

43. They next proceeded to state their
Cinchona properties. I have nothing now to

"Next we arrive at Cinchona. Well, my firs
forests of 'Succirubra' which clothe the slope of N

from Vayitri Court should go to Telli-
given below, we could not comply with.
I have received many since, and to which
Palmanér, that we have to make the best
s concerned, although, if money were
home to every man's door. As long as
onveniences will continue too.
the telegraph should be extended from
done; and they further asked that in
Wynaad either by railway or tramway,
e considered. That legitimate request
I leave the country, be able to visit
e to do.
North Wynaad was further urged in a
ommunities in that part of the country
all means a condemnable place;" and it
hatever powers of locomotion could by
wings."
vard did not alter the conclusion come to,
trial, as apparently the best.
ports from the local authorities, and find
the whole, the most convenient place.
ces that view, and the High Court takes
s also to be on the side of the weight of
onvenient for half the Native population,
e great bulk of the Europeans.
those of the Indian Gold Mine Company
, those of the South-East Wynaad Com-
Company and the Ripon Company,—
abar.
anuary, I said:
w testify from ocular inspection. That gold
I am willing to believe. That much skill and
nent of your mines, I am fully convinced. That
sides. But you have suffered, and will still
who infest the great centres of commerce in
nd enterprise as those camp followers, who
itimate combatant a bad name by robbing the
ar in the future as little of such persons as
est wish I can contribute to the prosperity of

ointments, and good Indian investments will
d ones. Some concerns will, I should hope,
to some share-holders, and add something to
of the Wynaad across which my route
enorah would strike the traveller as a
we can hardly cure. During the hot
continue to be, very feverish; nor can
to it by the golden Will-o'-the-Wisp.
etallurgic science having progressed,
profit many of the mines, which are
ntime there seems nothing which the
ery way a return to the slower but, in
agricultural industry. It is much to
rice of Coffee and of Cinchona should
the Wynaad.

63. I do not think it can be justly a
such help as a Government can give.
1883 to 1887 inclusive, lands planted wit
Coffee, whether held under private pro
(lease), provided they are brought into cul
sion extends both to Malabar and the
Cinchona is, it is believed, the produc
districts hope for most aid in their pres
great deal still to be done in the directio
Speaking at Devála, I said:

"I trust that in a few years that trophy
suits of the district are so prettily represented
thinking that a country so peculiar as this, w
slopes which lead down to streams whose borde
for the patient and ingenious cultivator."

64. The fact is that the man of sci
the next century far greater services to l
mingling the vegetation of distant counti
Mr. Clements Markham, to whom
from an old man, and there are hundr
the Madras Presidency.
Kew is constantly sending us par
out to be of the greatest service.

65. Care must be used, as in eve
products.
Even in the parts of the Wynaad w
a terrible enemy, and in the northern p
puted master of wide regions. Known
exotic, in Northern Africa as a useful g
man, in strict alliance with the wild bo
its fruit being greedily devoured by bir

66. Turning to an allied subject,
or Dr. Bidie were one day to learn and
leaf disease as is already known about
Smut in wheat—what an important eve

67. From Vayitri, I descended the
plain of Malabar from the top of it in
for a moment, in Arctic regions, so com
mimic fiords covered with ice. Any t
passed away, as we hurried down th
world, as the slopes of the Alps over
contents of the tropical house at Kew w
and then left for twenty years to interl

68. From the foot of the ghaut
country, by a road which had not been
This is the road which, as already

69. Everywhere I was received a
wish to be, and made acquaintance, f
tude of the population of Malabar fo
other plants for decorative purposes.

70. At Calicut, I received three a
Merchants and Agents. These gentle
importance of completing the railway
second week in August with referenc
given, since the date of which I am
position of affairs is, that the Madra
whole subject has been laid before t

ave created and should possess so fine an estate;
time must come when the same wise policy which
ess itself of that estate. The only questions that
the way in which, this ought to be done. The
re to promote the establishment of the Cinchona
persons, and the way in which it should dispossess
ich will be most profitable for the public. These
by some Secretary of State for India. So many
na cultivation that I should hardly be inclined to
industry, as a whole, to dispense with the aid of
am convinced that the time has arrived, you may
that school of politicians, not so popular now, as it
increase the functions of Government, which takes

the Home Government and that of Madras
solution of those problems with regard to
rnments assisted by the best science of the
al and horticultural knowledge will soon be
xpert, who has been studying recently at
Vrij, the greatest living authority upon the
hoped that in the next few years all that is
ction to the best advantage in India of the
and placed at the disposal of every one who

visitors touched was their difficulties with
y subject on which it is almost impossible to
mployed. The present state of the case is
High Court, and of the district officers have
being communicated to the Government of

em to prevail amongst employers as to the
not yet been made clear to me that any
e of the existing enactments.
Act should be passed for the registration of
mechanics, but the Government of India
ch legislation is not advisable, unless under

ived was at Pandalur, where the people asked
ion. We were not able to comply in terms
to sanction an addition to the Wynaad police
have already remarked.
appointment of a Village Magistrate, the
Police Act which relate to sanitation and the
roads and a home for poor travellers.
ese wants is clearly a matter for the Local
ere not able to appoint a Village Magistrate,
he same object in a somewhat different way.
the Police Act which relate to sanitation and
ave already explained what we have done

the members of "The Wynaad Planting and
vered to me at Vayitri. They, too, called
Railway and to the various other subjects to
new points being, I think, (1) the addition
d (2) the creation of Justices of the Peace.
the province of Government but of the Local
onel Henderson was soon afterwards made a
cial powers.
representatives of North Wynaad, who wished
uld not sit permanently at Vayitri but should

itinerate. Also they desired that appeals
cherry and not to Calicut.

54. These requests, for the reasons
It was one of those complaints of which
one can only reply, as I did in July at
arrangement we can for all the partic
unlimited, we should like to bring justice
time and space continue, geographical inc

55. The memorialists then asked tha
Vayitri to Manantoddy. That has been
improving the communications of the
the wants of the northern district should
will not be forgotten, and I may, befor
North Wynaad, as they naturally wished

56. The District Munsif grievance of
prodigiously long address from Native c
in which Vayitri was described as "by
was truly observed that "a man with w
no means be comparable to a bird with tw

57. The arguments, however, put for
to give the Vayitri arrangement a further

58. I have recently called for fresh re
that Vayitri is still considered to be, on
Mr. Logan takes that view, Mr. Galton tal
that view. The weight of argument seem
authority; for Vayitri is distinctly more co
for the coffee interest in general, and for th

59. I saw five different gold mines,—
at Nadghani, those of the Alpha at Devála
pany, those of the South Indian Gold Min
the last just out of the Wynaad and in Mal

60. Speaking at Vayitri on the 16th J
"That there is gold in the Wynaad I can no
is present in paying quantities in many localities,
not a few high qualities are enlisted in the develop
you have an excellent set of miners, I hear on al
suffer from the operation of that class of persons
the West, and who are to the armies of industry
used to follow other armies, and gain for the leg
dead and killing the wounded. That we may he
possible in connection with your industry, is the b
this beautiful and most interesting district."

I further said in my first Tour Minute:

"There will, I fear, be many terrible disapp
suffer because many people have lost money by ba
weather the coming storm, pay reasonable dividends
the wealth of this part of India."

61. I was delighted with that portion
lay. Mr. Mitchell's hospitable house at P
beautiful spot in any country.

62. Some of the evils of the Wynaad
weather of the spring it is, and will, I fear,
we repair the mischief that has been done
The time will, I daresay, come when, n
it will be really possible to work to some
now being abandoned in des
Government can do but t
the end, perhaps more
be regretted that a heav
have synchronised with

ers of the Madras Government and their
officials at* Guindy, with the result that
the Government of India has undertaken
State;" but on the morning of the 15th
receiving a telegram from the Secretary
e by the Madras Railway Company had

ension of railway communication across
ysore frontier. To that subject I have
incial but to the Supreme Government,

port dues collected at Calicut greatly
On this point the Master Attendant
hat the memorialists were in error, and

the system of canals in the Malabar
t communications between the Public
he deputation which came to see me
e railway to Calicut will effect what
different way, but the good ordering
West Coast is, I fully admit, a matter
who is expected out in October, is to
aterway alike in Malabar and South

ishment of an experimental garden.
but Mr. T. J. Ferguson, of Calicut,
the Castilloa as well as with the
ers of Government.

f the great gardens at Perideniya in
ations in company with Mr. Lawson
assisting us by sending both Hevea

ibres to which the deputation also
nterprise has stepped in to develop
rked up into a substance of great
nths ago.

tablishment of a first-grade college
has been considered, but it is not
institution of the kind. It would,

e of the port and the state of the
had been previously arranged in
18th with Colonel Sankey, the
ding the principal merchants who
efully reviewed. The upshot of
en handed over to the merchants

enmis who were followed by the
d question, the Kanamkars.

we have received Mr. Logan's
by a Commission, and the views
to the very highest authorities
ims of these people whom I do
nflicting are the opinions of the
xact position in relation to each

putation of Syrian Christians
ozier, surmounted by what, I

took, at first, to be the head and neck of a pelican, but found upon examination to be those of a serpent,—a curious fact.

82. My visitors belonged to a section of the Syrian Christians, which is in communion neither with Rome nor with the Patriarch of Babylon. They presented me with an address accompanied by an historical sketch. When they were gone, there came a representative of the section which holds with the Patriarch of Babylon, but has of late years, if I comprehend their position, followed that dignitary into a quarrel with the Holy See. He came to lay before me a grievance, the redress of which was competent to the Collector, whose good offices he was accordingly promised.

83. At Calicut, the Municipal Commissioners also came to see me. They asked, however, for nothing except to be relieved from paying the contribution towards the police force. That request has been granted, so that the funds which used to be diverted to that purpose are now set free, exactly as the Commissioners desired, for the promotion of sanitation and education.

84. Next arrived the representatives of the Basel German Mission, who gave an interesting account of their mercantile and other labours, but did not make any request to the Government, except, by implication, one for full liberty, which of course they have always had and will have.

85. The Syrian Christians likewise had no special request to make, but only came to offer their friendly congratulations. Not so the body known as the Kerala Sabha (Malabar Association), which asked for many things, first, a Malayali Member in the Legislative Council; secondly, a Malayali Judge in the High Court; thirdly, a first-grade college at Calicut; fourthly, more money for female education; fifthly, the extension of the railway to Calicut and Cannanore. The first two of these requests were no doubt creditable to local patriotism. It is right that the love of the parish should come first in all countries; but nothing of the kind could be thought of. Malabar has had, and will have, Members of Council and Judges of the High Court intimately acquainted with its special customs,—men of the stamp of Sir William Robinson or Mr. Holloway; but the highest officials of the Government, executive or judicial, cannot be selected on geographical grounds.

86. The proposed establishment of a first-grade college at Calicut having, as I have already said, been considered quite unnecessary, I pass on to the next request, that more money should be appropriated for female education. This was a suggestion of a far more reasonable kind, and with it we have been able to comply to a considerable extent. At the time the address was delivered about Rs. 1,114 were spent in a year at Calicut on female education, while Rs. 2,700 from Provincial and Municipal in addition to Rs. 3,840 from Endowment Funds have been allotted for this purpose in the official year 1883-84.

87. Then the petitioners asked that the railway should be extended to Calicut and Cannanore. Its extension to Calicut has, as I have elsewhere mentioned, been now sanctioned, but a great many more important lines will have to be made before an extension to Cannanore could be approved, unless indeed it were made by local effort.

88. Next they complained of the unequal incidence of the Local Fund cess and asked for the restoration to the Local Funds of the contribution which the district used to receive from Provincial Funds, but they did *not* state that these grants were simply a rate-in-aid levied on the whole of the Madras Presidency for some time, to supply advantages to Malabar, which each of the other districts supplied to itself.

89. It was in 1877 that a state of things, whose continuance would have been most unfair to the rest of our districts, was amended, and I had to tell the deputation that so far from their land being peculiarly highly taxed, they enjoyed in that respect very great advantages. There would appear to be a tradition in Malabar that assessments are high. This is founded on the fact that they *were* once high, but they have (*see* Proceedings, Legislative Department, 2nd October 1877, No. 77, page 7) been undisturbed whilst prices have advanced enormously. The Government assessment now bears a much smaller proportion to the true rent value of land than in other parts of the country.

90. Local patriotism is apt to forget such things, and it is right for persons, in authority, while granting, so far as they can, all legitimate requests, to refuse, point blank, requests which are clearly illegitimate.

91. Next they asked for one or two things, the granting or withholding of which did not lie within the province of this Government, but the only important prayer,—reduction in the price of salt,—was, as it happened, almost immediately granted,—thanks to the wise financial policy of the Viceroy and Sir Evelyn Baring, —a policy which successful, it is believed, everywhere, has been in this Presidency *brilliantly* successful.

92. When at Calicut, I received and returned the visit of the Zamorin,—one of the not very numerous personages in India whose annals connect far back with the great stream of history. It is curious in a country whose traditions go so far into the past, that there should be so few families to which, even if we forget the practice of adoption, so contrary to all our European ideas of what family continuity means, there is attached anything like the interest of which thousands of houses in the West can boast.

93. From Calicut I went by water to Areacode up the Beypore river and then drove through a lovely country to Nilambúr, where I carefully examined our magnificent teak plantations. It was pleasant to see, while "professional philanthropists" were shrieking about the increasing poverty of India, a noble property maturing in this out-of-the-way corner of the land—one likely ere long to be of enormous value. I saw trees, a hundred feet high, which were seedlings in 1844.

94. At the same place I found the *Ceara* rubber (*Manihot Glaziovii*) doing well. It is evidently going to be a success in many parts of this Presidency. In the last couple of years it has, for example, made great progress near Kullar. The far more valuable *Panama* rubber (*Castilloa elastica*) was also doing well, not so the Pará rubber (*Hevea Brasiliensis*).

95. At Beypore, I went with Colonel Shaw-Stewart and Mr. Saunders to inspect a spot where a rather serious erosion threatened the railway property.

96. This was at that time, and has been since, a matter of some anxiety and no small expense to us; but the extension of the Madras line to Calicut will altogether alter the state of affairs, and lead to the abandonment of the threatened terminus.

97. Thence I passed to inspect the Walliar jungle and returned to Madras after an absence of sixteen days.

98. At Erode, Mr. Nicholson spoke to me on two important subjects, the use of the bark of the Babool (*Acacia Arabica*) for tanning, and the value of the common prickly-pear (*Opuntia Dillenii*) as a protector for young trees. With reference to the first of these, we have obtained, since that date, a very interesting memorandum from Mr. Gamble, and the Director of Agriculture has been ordered to collect information regarding the prospects of a trade in Babool bark and pods in Europe.

There has not been sufficient time to ascertain the results of all the experiments that have been made with reference to the prickly-pear as a forester, but Mr. Wooldridge, a very intelligent forest officer, has reported excellent results from South Arcot, where he has used the Cactus as a protector of seedlings for a long time.

It would be highly satisfactory if we could once for all turn this most unpleasant American invader into a useful servant.

Second Tour of Inspection.

I again left Madras on the evening of the 3rd of March 1882, and ran through to Coimbatore.

99. The next day I received an address from the inhabitants of that place.

100. Their first request was that a supply of water from the Vellingiri Hills should be turned into the Noyel River.

101. This project has not yet been fully inquired into by the Public Works Department, nor could it have been without passing by more urgent matters.

102. Another project, however, connected with Coimbatore,—the Bhowani Reservoir,—has been pretty fully inquired into, and favourably reported upon.

It is, however, a very big business, promising indeed great advantages alike direct and indirect, but so costly as to require the most careful scrutiny before it is entered upon.

The Engineers have not yet reported which of two competing sites is the better. The selection of even the smaller of the two involves the creation of what we rather grotesquely describe as a tank, but which in other countries would be called an artificial lake, with a water-spread of 12 square miles.

103. The greatly increased attention now given, as I have already mentioned, to forest conservation in this district ought to have a favorable effect on the water-supply from the Noyel River. I mentioned in my second Minute that Dr. Brandis, having examined the Bolampatti Valley, had arrived at the conclusion that if the denudation of the slopes around the head-waters of the Noyel was not stopped, Coimbatore would suffer very grievously. This important piece of country is accordingly now being settled by the Special Forest Settlement Officer, and it is expected that the reserved forest will be finally constituted by the end of the current official year.

104. The deputation then asked that the supply of water should be increased by extensive improvements in the present tanks, and that none of these should be abandoned.

105. This was the first time that any representations were made to me about the minor irrigation works, of which I have heard so much since. To them, as is I believe generally known, this Government has in the last two years given great and special attention. They formed the subject of very anxious communication with Sir Evelyn Baring on that visit to Madras in November 1882, which has had in many directions such momentous results for this Presidency. The grants for them have been everywhere increased, and have been put at the disposal not, as formerly of the Public Works Department, but of the Revenue authorities on the spot, who are now allowed to entertain special establishments for the supervision of these most important works up to a limit of 16 per cent. of the annual grant, while the necessity for working up to the annual grant within the year is steadily kept before the minds of all Collectors.

106. The whole irrigation system of the Presidency, putting aside the colossal works which have their own system of management, has, since Sir Evelyn Baring's visit, and of course since this first application to me about minor irrigation works, been begun to be surveyed by special officers deputed for this purpose, working by what are called tank divisions. After being surveyed, the works will be put into thorough order by the ordinary staff of the Public Works Department, and a commencement of the executive work has already been made.

107. Of course, it will take long years before all that is wanted is done, but I have great faith in the German proverb, "A thing begun with a will is half ended," and nothing could be more satisfactory than the plans submitted to me of the Periyakulam Basin, the first completed under the direction of Colonel Montgomerie.

108. When we talked this matter over with Sir Evelyn Baring, it was thought that the Tank Divisions would have to do the whole work, and that it might occupy fifty-five years; but by dividing it between the Tank Divisions and the Executive Staff, it may, I think, be got over in a single generation.

109. After some remarks with regard to the Educational Commission then sitting at Calcutta, the members of the deputation asked me to visit the weavers' houses and encourage them to work at the "unrivalled Indian hand-patterns and delicate textures."

110. I lost no time in going to these houses, but I did not observe anything in the work, of a very distinctive kind. The silk fabrics turned out were respectable, but not such, I thought, as to command a ready sale in Europe. The phrase of the address "the unrivalled Indian hand-patterns and delicate textures" pleased

me better than any silk I saw, and I would reiterate some observations which I made in replying, viz.:

"All through Europe the taste for Indian Art,—real Indian Art,—is rapidly growing. It is growing not only in England, but in Austria, in Germany, and in France. I remember some years ago finding in a shop in the remote department of the Morbihan on the shore of the Breton sea, a shawl which I saw at a glance had been made at Umritsar, in the Punjab; and I have no doubt that many other such surprises will, in the next few years, await any one who, while travelling in Europe, is on the look-out for Indian manufactures. In order, however, that the demand may reach them, your weavers must keep in view three maxims. In the first place, they must hold to purely Indian patterns and avoid all European ones; in the second place, they must flee aniline dyes as they would a pestilence; and in the third place, they must adopt the European practice of small profits and quick returns. If they attempt to stick to the old Indian principle of few transactions and large profits, they may as well go out of business at once; the wheels of life now-a-days move too rapidly for that kind of thing. If, however, they and their brethren throughout the Peninsula will follow these three very simple maxims, I really see no limit to the triumphs that may be achieved by the 'Indian hand-patterns and fine textures.' Instead of talking nonsense about the competition of Manchester, let our people go, so to speak, into partnership with Manchester, co-operate with Manchester, let Manchester do for them what she can do far more cheaply, and let them do for Manchester the hundred and one things which Manchester cannot possibly do."

111. When at Coimbatore I paid a visit to the pretty little temple of Perur, a few miles off. Here I received an address in which my attention was, for the first time, called to the difficulties of pagoda management. I have since received a great many representations on this subject, about which the most various opinions prevail, and it will be enough for the present to say that the whole question which presents difficulties of every sort is now in the hands of a Committee over which my honorable colleague Mr. Sullivan presides.

112. The address then passed to the misunderstanding that was said to exist between the Hindu and Muhammadan communities of Coimbatore; and I was asked to repeal the order of Lord Hobart's Government, passed in 1874, with respect to one sect playing on musical instruments when passing in procession before the religious edifices of the other.

113. That order was afterwards declared by the High Court to be *ultra vires*, so that, without the intervention of Government, the wish of the memorialists, that matters should go on as they used to do before it issued, was fulfilled.

114. Lastly, my visitors asked that certain pieces of land should be restored to the temple. This matter has been carefully inquired into, and the petitioners have thus far wholly failed to prove any claim whatever to the area (between 60 and 70 acres) for which they asked.

115. A few miles from Coimbatore I examined several of the so-called Pandava pits with their curious interments, and had, for the first time, brought home to me how little we know, as yet, about the distant past of South India.

116. From Coimbatore I went up the ghaut to Ootacamund, where the special officer, who had been appointed to look after the sanitation, was able to report to me that the friction which had existed between himself and the municipality, and which had given us some trouble, had come to an end.

117. On this occasion, too, I made my first visit to Sim's Park at Coonoor along with Dr. Brandis, and it was then that he made to me the suggestion about the Committee on the Forest Bill, which afterwards produced such good results. I was much pleased with what I saw at Sim's Park, and the Government has steadily supported Mr. Lawson in developing it. Since the date of which I am speaking, the roads, the fencing, the arbours have all been improved, most of the trees and shrubs have been labelled, and the ground has been extended by throwing into it the shola (wood) which adjoined its lower end.

118. From Coonoor I descended upon Salem, where I received a long address.

119. The first request of the people was to have the right of choosing the Vice-President of the Municipality.

Section 14 of the Act of this year runs as follows:—

"Unless the Governor in Council appoints one of the Municipal Councillors to be the Chairman of the Municipal Council, the Municipal Councillors shall appoint their Chairman by

election from among their own number, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, and in accordance with such rules and conditions as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Governor in Council."

120. The next object touched on was the Imperial License Tax, which is a matter belonging to the Government of India, and the arguments for and against which, are well known.

121. The third subject was the contribution made by the municipality to the police force. The wish of the people with regard to that has, as I have mentioned above, been complied with.

122. The fourth request was that Sanscrit should be taught in the college. It turned out on inquiry that the number of boys who wished to study Sanscrit was altogether trifling, and that those who wished to do so belonged merely to a single caste.

The Director of Public Instruction went as far as he properly could in compliance with the wishes of the petitioners, when he informed them that he was prepared to allow a Pundit to teach in the college if a class or classes could be formed to be remunerated solely by fees paid by the parents of the pupils to him through the head master of the college.

123. The address then passed on to speak of the industrial development of the country.

"We are glad," it was observed, "to see Government doing so much for the general education of the people, to see our university giving us more and more graduates and undergraduates year by year. But the State has, as yet, done comparatively little or nothing towards the development of the Indian Arts, whether polite or industrial. Confining ourselves to the last, it is time, we venture to submit, that the Government opens Industrial schools in large towns. We believe it is not asking too much if we request the Government to establish in Salem a school or two for teaching one or more branches of industry."

124. These were very sensible observations, and the Government if it has not been able to grant the precise request made, has been doing a great deal and hopes to do a great deal more in the direction indicated.

125. Amongst other things we have, since March 1882, put the School of Arts at Madras under new management, and are placing it on an improved footing with the object of teaching the natives of India rather to imitate or, better still, to emulate the best works of their own countrymen, than to seek for models in Europe.

126. This Government has lent all the assistance in its power to the schemes of the Art Committee, which sat in Calcutta last December. It has promised to aid to the uttermost the endeavours which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is now making as head of the Royal Commission to stimulate the arts and industries of India by means of an exhibition to be held in London in 1886, and it has laid before the Secretary of State certain proposals, which were warmly supported by the Government of India, have just been sanctioned, and will ere long be carried into effect. A Committee, under the very able guidance of Colonel Hawkes, is now engaged in taking measures to retain for the use of the Presidency some permanent record of the collection of Indian art in the Calcutta Exhibition and of the best specimens of the art-ware of Burmah and South India.

127. We have told the Director of Public Instruction to examine the Report of the Royal Commissioners on Technical Instruction published this year in London, and to inform Government in how far the recommendations made by the gentlemen who conducted that elaborate inquiry can be applied to this country.

With reference, however, to technical instruction, it must be carefully kept in mind in India and everywhere else that the soil out of which good technical instruction must grow is good primary and secondary education, primary and secondary education disembarrassed as much as possible of every study which cannot effectively "restate the reasons of its existence."

128. The deputation then complained of the competition of jail manufactures with local industry.

Great changes in this direction have been, as is well known, made all throughout India within the last two years, jail manufactures which compete directly or indirectly with local manufactures having been to a great extent abandoned.

Lastly, the petitioners protested againt Southern India being placed under a Lieutenant-Governor, to which I replied:

"So far as I am aware, that idea has never passed in the mind of any statesman beyond the stage of mere speculation. It has presented itself as a suggestion to be considered amongst a hundred conflicting suggestions for the improvement of Indian administration. Of late, as far as I know, opinion at home has been moving quite another way, and very much in unison with your own views on the subject. Heaven knows that the affairs of a huge country like this Presidency want the very best intelligence, experience, and devotion that can be brought to bear upon them from whatever quarter these good things can be obtained."

129. While at Salem I had much conversation with the then Collector, about the bad feeling between the Hindus and the Muhammadans. He thought at that time that it was diminishing, but as we all know a recrudescence of it some months later led to very deplorable results. So true is it that in India our steps ever lie—

————per ignes
Suppositos cineri doloso.

130. Mr. Stokes directed my attention to various matters of importance. I find the following noted in my second Tour Minute:—

(i) The question whether it might not be expedient to give greater power to district officers, in dealing with subordinates of whose efficiency or character they have a thoroughly bad opinion, but against whom they are unable to prove distinct and specific charges.

In the current year Collectors have received greater powers, being now invested with authority to order transfers of Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars, &c., involving loss of salary (but not degradation of rank) and suspensions not exceeding six months, subject to appeal in every case.

(ii) The importance of giving every assistance to minor irrigation works.

A greater amount of assistance, as I have already said, has been given, and without the imposition of the special cess to which the Collector thought the people would be ready to submit.

(iii) The inconvenience caused by so much Local Fund money being locked up while the famine demands against the funds remained unsettled.

This matter has received attention in all districts, and of Rs. 5,67,000 outstanding when the Collector spoke, only Rs. 50,000 now remain, while provision is made for the adjustment of this amount in the estimates of the current year.

(iv) The urgent need of pushing on as quickly as possible the Taluk Cutcherry (office) at Dharmapuri.

This building was duly completed, and has been in use since the end of last year.

131. I observed in the same Minute:

"The cholera which was lately so bad at Salem has now ceased; but, considering that the population still uses the terribly-polluted river for many purposes, although excellent wells have been sunk, it is hardly possible that this large place should long continue exempt from some epidemic or other."

132. I also called attention to this important matter in a speech.

133. In 1883, the cholera returned to Salem and committed great ravages. I am afraid it will continue to do so until the water-supply is amended. I was glad accordingly to observe that in the municipal budget for 1884-85 it is proposed to raise a loan of Rs. 20,000 in the open market for the construction of a sewer to intercept the drainage of the town flowing into the river, and that detailed plans and estimates are promised.

134. It was in the neighbourhood of Salem that I was first led to reflect on the great importance of avenues in this "land of the sun" and in no part of the Presidency have I seen finer ones than those which that district owes I believe to a Mr. Orr. His delightfully simple methods are no longer suited to our manners and customs, but none the less should every Madras Collector try to leave a memorial of himself in the trees along the roads of his district. This is just one of the small things which does a great deal more for human happiness than many pretentious and magnificent schemes.

135. On the morning of the 16th March I returned to Madras.

Mr. Roupell; there is a much younger European Head Assistant at Penukonda, while you have a European Head Assistant at Hospet, forty miles off, who, for the moment, however, is on short leave in Europe, and you have, in each of the two districts, a few native gentlemen acting under those whom I have named. There are, of course, judicial and other establishments, but that is the whole administrative establishment of a country which is, as I said a few minutes ago, hardly perceptibly smaller than a European Kingdom. I defy contradiction when I say that, to the infinite credit of the population of the Madras Presidency, there is no part of the world where an equal amount of well-being is secured at so trifling an outlay upon administration. It would be wholly impossible to secure it, at anything like the money, if the population were not good and law-abiding in a very high degree, but, if it were only feasible, I should like to see local self-government largely increased, and at the same time the trained and scientific superintendence doubled all round. The last is a mere dream I fear. We have not got, and cannot get, the money; but the first is possible, and, if there were no other argument in its favor, I would say good speed to local self-government."

179. The second request related to the Tungabhudra channel and the Alipore tank.

The investigation of these projects has not yet been taken up, but under date of 28th August, this year, the Public Works Department reports that a special officer has now been made available and will soon proceed to examine them.

180. The third request was for the introduction of trial by jury. Trial by jury has now been introduced.

181. Speaking on another subject, I said and am glad here to repeat:

"The Bellary-Hubli State Railway, part of which I hope to traverse to-morrow, has my best wishes, and I believe that your spinning mills, now that the poison-tree of protection, which blights every industry that grows up under its shade, is removed, will, if judiciously managed, have a good future. You are to be congratulated on the presence among you of an energetic citizen, who is doing something to introduce into this neighbourhood really efficient ploughs. I hope much for India from the extension of her manufactures and the growth of more varied industries. I should like to see this presidency thoroughly surveyed by eyes at once scientific, and trained to look out for openings for the practical application of science, with a view to such extension. After all, however, it is to her soil, her sun, her rainfall, and their interaction upon her products that India must mainly look for prosperity."

182. Then came an address on the subject of cotton, in which the memorialists asked me to give my attention to "the desirability of an enactment to repress frauds in connection therewith." My honorable colleagues and I did so and came to the conclusion that any further legislation on the subject would not be advisable.

183. I may remark, in passing, that (1) the remedy lies in the hands of the buyer, who should remember the maxim *caveat emptor;* (2) a legitimate trade in mixed cotton exists in this presidency; (3) a bad habit of giving advances to men of straw ties the hands of the buyer, frequently obliges him to take adulterated cotton, and should be abandoned; (4) the cost of Inspectors would naturally form a burden on the trade; (5) fraudulent adulteration is already punishable under the Penal Code.

184. From Bellary I visited the ruins of Vijianagar, making use of the unfinished Bellary-Hubli line, the authorities of which were extremely courteous and helpful.

185. At the Railway Station of Hospet I received a very well written address, the most important part of which was the fourth paragraph, which was as follows:—

"These monuments of ancient architectural skill, sublime even in their ruins, have been visited and admired by your Excellency's predecessors, but no effective measures have been adopted towards their restoration or repair. We, however, trust your Excellency's Government will take such measures for the restoration or repair of some of the old decaying temples as would fitly commemorate your Excellency's visit and associate your Excellency's name with those of the ancient founders of these temples. Verily the work of restoring decaying institutions is as great and meritorious as that of founding new ones."

186. The strong interest which the people here took in their historical neighbourhood pleased me much, and in replying I said:

"Happy, however, are those countries where the only enemy to be fought by the Archæologist is time. There are countries in which, before he can begin his campaign against time, he has to struggle for years against apathy and ignorance, to say nothing of that panic-fear about anything that seems to interfere, even for his own good, with a man's right to abuse his rights over property, which is the most dangerous ally of socialism. Happy, too, are those countries where the population is proud of its past. In a recent report, I think by Mr. Carlleyle, I read of a district in India in which the first idea of the population, when they saw that the Archæologists cared about a monument, was to make haste to destroy it. That district has just passed, I believe, under the rule of one of the most accomplished men of letters and investigators into human history who now is, or ever was in India—Sir Alfred Lyall; but even he will have much to do, I should think, to bring it up to the level of intelligence which I am rejoiced to find here."

187. In my third tour minute I wrote as follows:—

"No time should be lost in arresting the further progress of mischief. Arboreal vegetation should be ruthlessly destroyed. There are here none of the associations, which made the sweeping away of plants from the Colosseum and the Baths of Caracalla so doubtful a proceeding. The centre of the most important of all the temples wants immediate attention. If it can be saved at all, it can only be saved by being looked into speedily. It may, however, be impossible to save it; but there are numbers of other buildings which, with a little care now, will stand for long years. I read on the spot Captain Cole's report and generally agree with his conclusions; but I would confine our action for the present to keeping things absolutely in *statu quo*, doing nothing in the way of excavation, however proper that may be at a later stage of our proceedings."

188. Since that period the Vittalaswami temple above alluded to has been entirely cleared of rubbish, the roof and pavement have been repaired, the ruinous ashlar walls pulled down and rebuilt, some large stones weighing from three to six tons removed from dangerous positions, the stone car repaired, besides a variety of other works set forth in Mr. Black's report received by us on the 8th August.

189. From Kamalápuram, where we had encamped with a view to visit Vijianagar, I traversed the Sandúr Valley for the purpose of seeing the very valuable forest (with regard to which I had much conversation with Mr. Brandis) and of exchanging visits with the Rajah.

190. The convention necessary for enabling us to deal with this forest has now been concluded, the survey has been completed, and an important piece of forest is very carefully looked after, to the great advantage alike of the small native state concerned, and of this Government.

191. On the night of the 20th I returned to Bellary, where Colonel Clarke, who was in command of the artillery, told me that his horses were cruelly in want of stabling. Three blocks of stabling are now in course of erection.

192. In my tour minute occurs the following paragraph, describing the impression I received of military matters at Bellary:—

"An excellent spirit seems to have been infused into all branches of the service by General Prendergast, who commands in the Ceded Districts. It was quite impossible, even for a Civilian, not to see that all the officers, he came across, were quite unusually interested in their work. The troops were paraded for my inspection on the morning of the 17th—7th Fusiliers, the 25th and 27th Madras Native Infantry, the 2nd Madras Cavalry, and the Field Battery—all, to my non-professional eye, looking very well. I likewise went up the Fort with General Prendergast, and am very decidedly of opinion that the small amount of money required to make it efficient as a place of refuge for non-combatants, in troubled times, should be spent forthwith. General Prendergast has thoroughly entered into the spirit of the extremely important circulars lately issued by Government, under the advice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. If all officers in high command throughout the territories garrisoned by the Madras Army do the same, these halcyon times will have been turned to the best advantage."

193. As regards the alterations required to make the Fort efficient as a place of refuge, a grant of Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 7,000 has since been made for the purpose.

194. Mr. Wace, the Chaplain, made to me various representations about the churches in this station.

195. The views of himself and others have been carefully considered. We did not see our way to substitute for the two existing ones a single church, but the necessary repairs to the Garrison Church were completed in May 1883, and the Fort Church was put in order in May 1884.

196. Just before leaving Bellary I receive[illegible]te at night, an address from the native officials.

197. They asked first for the repair and [illegible]enance of the ruins of Vijianagar. I have already stated what has been [illegible]n relation to that.

198. Their second request was for irriga[illegible]orks. The same remark applies to this.

199. Their third request was for the [illegible]struction of a line to connect the southern taluks of Bellary with the Mys[illegible] State Railway. A survey of an

extension to Hindupur of the line, already sanctioned from the Kistna Delta to Guntakal, is now in progress.

200. The last request was that some measures should be adopted for raising the status, emoluments, and prospects of the petitioners. Proposals for the improvement of the position of Uncovenanted Officers of the grade of Deputy Collector were sanctioned in the early half of 1883, and have been carried into effect from 1st July in that year.

Very considerable changes with reference to Revenue Inspectors, to Taluk Establishments, and to our subordinate officials generally, involving a very large increase of expenditure from Provincial Funds, have been accepted by this Government and will immediately be submitted to the Government of India.

201. From Bellary I ran along the line to Gooty, where I visited the cenotaph of Sir Thomas Munro, and admired the really noble fortress. Thence a journey of thirty-four miles, across what ought at this season to be a plain covered with young crops, but which was a wilderness of black dust, red dust and sand swept by an unintermitting hurricane, took me to Anantapur, where the great tank was as dry as the Sahara.

202. Here I received an address from the inhabitants, who, first of all called my attention to the want of accommodation for the people of the town, and asked for the allotment of new sites for buildings. Shortly after this we received and sanctioned the necessary plans, and all the preliminaries required for the extension of the town have now, we are informed, been duly carried into effect.

203. I also noted in my third tour minute that accommodation for our officials was sadly wanted at Anantapur, and that we ought to do what we could, in reason, to diminish the existing inconvenience.

All the buildings that were most wanted in July 1882 are now in progress.

204. The second request was for the introduction of artesian wells. To that I replied:

"I trust that it may be possible to open artesian wells in the neighbourhood, but unluckily one has not an artesian well by wishing or even by boring for it. I should like to know, before expressing any opinion on this subject, what the geologist and the engineer have got to say for it."

205. Subsequent inquiries made have, in the opinion of Mr. Bruce-Foote, established the fact that the district is quite unsuited to the sinking of artesian wells.

206. The third request was for a light railway between Tadpatri, Anantapur, and Bangalore.

The object of the memorialists will be met as well as the conformation of the country and other circumstances will permit by the line now under survey from Guntakal to Anantapur and Hindupur.

207. In replying to the Anantapur address, I said:

"I would remark in conclusion that, as I passed through the country in the neighbourhood of Guntakal and Gooty to-day, the thought crossed my mind more than once whether it is really quite certain that the diamonds, which once made the loosely-applied name of Golconda so famous, are really exhausted. I confess I shall be disappointed, if the period of my government of this presidency comes to an end, without a serious attempt being made to answer the question whether it is impossible to revive, in these regions, so ancient and interesting an industry. I know, that, in doing so, I shall be supported not only by the good wishes, but also by the good hopes, of at least one of the greatest European authorities upon gems."

Ere long we shall, I hope, have the assistance of a mineralogist to take up the investigation of a variety of questions connected with this science where the admirable labours of the geological survey had, in the nature of things, to leave them, but I should have thought that with regard to diamonds there was already enough information to induce more searching for them than I hear of.

208. At one time our rules were far too strict and not sufficiently favorable to the miner. Perhaps it is not as widely known, as it should be, how much we have relaxed them in the last two years.

209. We have lately asked the Colonial Office for any papers they may be able to supply us with reference to the diamond industry.

210. The fourth request was that a Middle School should be started. A Middle School has been started.

211. The fifth request was that Government should not, in the present state of the country, leave the higher education entirely to native and missionary agencies. Government does not propose so to do.

212. From Anantapur a journey of 32 miles carried me to Tadpatri. On the way I saw the great Singanamulla Tank which covers some eight square miles, but was quite empty; and crossed the Muchukotta Hills, which were covered with a fair growth of *Hardwickia binata*. These Hills, as I observed in my third Tour Minute, the new Forest Act will soon enable us to turn into a valuable property. They have since been surveyed. The woodland is found to contain about five square miles, and the accounts, with regard to it, continue favorable.

213. I heard something of dacoity (brigandage) in this neighbourhood, and communicated with the Inspector-General of Police with the result that all seems now going well.

214. The first request of the Tadpatri address referred to the paucity of irrigation works in that district. I have already mentioned what has been done with regard to this throughout the presidency.

215. Secondly, the memorialists asked me to give the conservation of forests the attention which it deserved. This has been done. Thirdly, they asked for a reduction of the railway tariff with a view to improving the cotton trade.

This is a matter in which there are many interests to be consulted, and the Traffic Manager of the Madras Railway, who reconsidered this question, at the suggestion of our Consulting Engineer, reports that the charge for loose cotton consigned to Tadpatri was reduced in August 1882 from 26 to 18 pies per ton per mile.

216. At Tadpatri there are two temples—the Vishnavite and the Sivite—of very considerable architectural merit. The latter, which is the best of the two, is in considerable danger from the floods of the Pennér, for it stands on the banks of that typical Madras river, which is for months a waste of sand and then for hours a raging torrent sweeping all the works of man before it. From information obtained on the spot, I am led to believe that there are ample funds to prevent any harm coming to these interesting edifices, in the hands of their managers, if they will only use them.

217. From Tadpatri I went to Cuddapah, where I received a long address.

218. The first request was that we might view with favor a scheme for improving the water-supply of the town. I went to see the springs alluded to, and made the following remarks in my third Tour Minute:—

"Even now, in the depths of a quite exceptionally dry season—for Cuddapah, like Anantapur and South-Eastern Bellary, is suffering sadly from want of rain—they were very full and strong. Their supply did not fail, we were told, even in the famine, and Mr. Burrows seems to have no doubt that they would yield a sufficient supply for the town. Between them and it there is a peculiarly fine sheet of cultivation, indigo and turmeric, two of the great staples of Cuddapah, being largely grown. The question whether any, and if so what, compensation would be due to some of the cultivators will have to be considered when the proposals of the Municipality with respect to a loan are before us."

219. Since the date on which I wrote, the Booga springs scheme and another have been investigated, with the result that the latter has, on the advice of the Executive Engineer, been abandoned, while further experiments are to be made to gauge the Booga water-supply, for the conduct of which the President of the Municipality has advertised for the services of an Engineer, the Public Works Department being unable to spare the services of one of their officers. To meet the cost of these experiments Government have sanctioned the levy of tolls at full rates in the current year.

220. The second request was for the privilege of electing representatives to the Municipal Board. This request has been granted some time ago.

221. The fourth request was that certain irrigation works should be considered and if possible carried into effect.

222. Of these, one—the Sagiler—is now being investigated; the other, known as the Chitravati Papanapalle project, had been investigated and found by the

Engineers to be impracticable before I was addressed on the subject, the great depth at which rock is reached, at the spot where the dam was to be constructed, being found to prohibit the construction of a reservoir. As the locality seems at first sight an extremely suitable one, it is not surprising that the people should have been loth to part with the hope that the reservoir they wished for could be made.

223. Then the memorialists asked for a permanent settlement. As is well known, the present views of the supreme authorities, although highly favorable to letting the people "sit easy," as we say in Scotland, and to great *continuity* of assessments are quite adverse to what is properly called a *permanent* settlement.

224. This request, however, was based upon mistakes in fact. The petitioners thought that before the recent settlement dry lands had not been assessed above one rupee an acre, but this was not so. The old rates, far from not going above one rupee, sometimes went as high as nearly eleven rupees and as low as four pies, say one halfpenny. Now they vary only from five rupees to four annas, or say sixpence, four annas being the lowest assessment now anywhere permitted in the districts under the new settlement, on the ground that land which cannot bear an assessment of sixpence an acre is not really arable land.

225. Further they stated that formerly no extra tax was charged, if the owner had in any way improved the land, and they implied that a tax was now charged on the ryots' improvements. That however is not the case; no change of this sort has been made, and it would be most impolitic to make it.

226. The deputation then went on to complain that hundreds of acres of land were lying waste, and asked that we should devise some rules to encourage the cultivation of waste land.

227. A perfect official literature has grown up about the abandonment of lands in the Cuddapah district, it having been imagined that the high rates imposed by the revised settlement might have caused this.

228. It has turned out, however, that the cause of the abandonment of a quantity of land over 80,000 acres in the district, which was cultivated or nominally cultivated, was, first, the famine and, secondly, the fact that a vast quantity of land was assessed at only an anna an acre. Such a low assessment allowed the ryot to hold a great deal of land of which he made no use, and this land, when he has to pay for it sixpence an acre, instead of three halfpence or in some cases only one halfpenny an acre, he has abandoned, with the result of concentrating his attention upon land that will really grow human food.

229. The Muhammadan inhabitants also presented to me a very intelligent address, in which they made the agreeable announcement that they had no grievances.

230. From Cuddapah I went to Conjeeveram, where I also received an address.

231. There was no request made to me in it, but I was told that the Commissioners were about to submit a certain scheme to Government with reference to improving their water-supply. This was not done because, as I understand, they found it would be too costly, but they have submitted a proposal of a far less costly kind, which has been sanctioned.

Fourth Tour of Inspection.

232. On the morning of August 28th I again left ou[illegible] of my go[illegible] to answer the [illegible] I [illegible] d hopes, [illegible] of [illegible] summer capital for the plains.

233. It had been raining for several months [illegible] factorily full. At Coimbatore and at Shoranor, and the tanks were most satisobtaining information with regard to the recen[illegible]e I was mainly occupied with at the former place, which has happily not recu[illegible] outbreak of cholera in the jail never been fully explained; the state of thing[illegible]rred, but the causes of which have about Malabar Land Tenures, the results of [illegible] at Salem; and Mr. Logan's inquiries

234. From the southern end of the bri[illegible]hich had just been put into shape. [illegible]ge at Shoranore to Trichore the road lies through the territories of the Rajah of Cochin.

235. I have never passed through a more beautiful piece of non-mountainous scenery in my life. The foliage, under the influence of the recent heavy rains, was magnificent, the rice fields were one sheet of green, the wild flowers of exceptional beauty and interest, the population singularly well grown and stalwart.

236. At Trichore I had time to see the principal buildings, and at night the large and singularly picturesque Pagoda—so unlike anything which one sees on the Eastern Coast—was very tastefully lighted up.

237. Embarking about 9, upon that wonderful system of lagunes which we know as the backwaters, I found myself in the early morning of the 30th at the Residency on the Island of Balghatty. A frightful morning it was, worthy of Ootacamund in the height of summer, and all day the rain descended with persistent fury. At 12 o'clock the Rajah came to visit me and was followed half an hour later by his brother, the Eliya Rajah. They were immediately succeeded by a deputation from the white Jews, and that again by a deputation from the black Jews, both asking me to visit their respective Synagogues. I returned the visits of the Princes at the Palace in Ernacolum, where a durbar was held, and thence went to fulfil my promises to the Jews.

238. At both Synagogues they read—according, I believe, to the usual custom on such occasions—the prayer for the Queen and other authorities, while, at that of the white Jews, I saw the famous deed which Mr. Logan has carefully translated.

239. There seems no doubt that it is not as old as it is sometimes called, but it must be as old as the Morgengabe preserved in the Monastery of the Trinitá at La Cava, which is quite the oldest deed I ever saw in Europe.

240. In the evening the Rajah gave a dinner at the Residency, at which, being still infirm, he was represented by the Eliya Rajah, who proposed the health of the Queen, Empress of India,—I proposing that of the Rajah.

241. The 31st dawned brightly, and I crossed the lagune very early to British Cochin. The Municipal Commissioners received me at the landing place and delivered an address.

242. These gentlemen made no request except that the Madras Government would bestow its attention on the subjects of special interest to them, which might from time to time be submitted for its consideration, a request with reference to which it was easy to promise compliance and to keep the promise when made. They have, for example, recently asked us to allow them to purchase twenty-five additional iron tanks from municipal funds for the purpose of storing water, and this request was granted. They also took the opportunity of explaining very clearly some of the improvements which they had made and some of the difficulties which they had to encounter.

243. They were followed by the Chamber of Commerce, who asked first for a railway and secondly for a harbour.

244. With reference to these requests, I said at the time:

"About the Railway from Shoranore, I think I need say nothing. You are aware of the position of the question and of the line which has been taken by the Madras Government. By that line, subject to the decisions of the higher authorities, we firmly and *ex animo* abide. I am delighted to find that you have a hope of being able to lay before us a scheme for a harbour, which will cost far less than the one which was last under consideration, for I confess that my heart sank within me when I read Mr. Parkes' calculation about 81 lakhs of rupees. I am sure that the professional advisers of the Government and the Government itself will listen with great attention to any propositions submitted to them which have the support of this Chamber; but I need not remind you that questions of this kind have to be finally decided not hard by in Ootacamund, nor even in Madras."

245. Both of these were, of course, matters appertaining to the Supreme Government. Much correspondence took place with respect to the first, and this Government advised the construction of the railway on a joint guarantee for a term of fifteen years by the British Government and by the Native States of Travancore and Cochin, the liabilities of each being regulated by the extent to which it was interested in the construction of the line.

wide but perfectly placid lakes. Everywhere the water was bordered by thick groves of the cocoanut palm, under which there was a dense vegetation, in which the curious holly-like shrub, *Dilivaria ilicifolia*, was the most conspicuous feature. All along the course by day and by night the people thronged every coign of vantage and received the party with every demonstration of friendliness usual in these climes—some of them, it must be admitted, not productive of happiness to those who are not sound sleepers. At length, long before nightfall, the eighty-eight miles between Cochin and Quilon were left behind, and the Residency at the latter place was reached.

265. On the early morning of the 2nd I crossed the lagune and visited the small patch of British territory known as Tangachéri, containing, as I was told by Mr. Laporte, the Magistrate there, 1,166 souls, and valuable as forming one side of what will be, if Mr. Parkes' designs are carried into effect, the very large and important harbour of Quilon, the site of which was shown and carefully explained to me by Mr. Hannyngton and others.

266. Complaints were here made to me about the smuggling which is said to be carried on alike from this place and from British Cochin.

This matter was looked into, and the abuse has been checked, an Inspector having been appointed for the express purpose of preventing such malpractices.

Negotiations, which are far advanced, will probably put an end once for all to this evil.

267. At Quilon a letter was received by the Resident formally announcing the death of His Highness the Mootha Tumburan, the brother of the reigning prince, which I had heard of yesterday unofficially, and which of course required my plans to be modified in many particulars.

268. In the course of the day I received various visitors including Colonel Boone and other officers of the 6th Native Infantry, the Chief Judge, Bishop Ildefonso, &c.

269. On the 4th I passed on to Trivandrum, partly through lagunes like those we had traversed, partly through long canals bordered by lines of trees and shrubs, amongst which the *Cerbera odollam* and the *Allamanda cathartica* of our Madras gardens were, with the ubiquitous *Pandanus odoratissimus* and various ferns, so abundant as to overpower less vigorous plants, stopping by the way to see Anjengo, one of the most desolate little nooks, I suppose, over which the British flag flies in Asia. The priest of that place handed me an address, setting forth various local inconveniences to which I called the attention of the Resident. The Warkully tunnels are really very noble works, and the fact of their having been excavated by a Native Government should stimulate us to do whatever of the kind remains undone within our own borders.

270. It was arranged that, under the circumstances, my visit to Trivandrum should be, as far as possible, divested of any public character; that my wife and I should visit the Maharaja, his wife, and the Senior and Junior Ranees as private friends, but that there should be no return visits, as they were unable, during the first stage of the mourning, to leave the Palace.

271. I saw, however, in a quiet way, a great variety of persons, amongst others the Dewan, who talked to me about an exchange of territory connected with the great Irrigation Project known as the Periyar, from which it is hoped that great advantages will accrue to the Madura District.

272. The husbands of the Senior and the Second Ranees, being, according to the customs of Travancore, outside the circle affected by the mourning, both visited me; on the other hand, neither the Eliya Rajah nor the First Prince could do so. I offered to visit the Eliya Rajah as well as the Maharaja, but he, being even more bound by the trammels of custom than the reigning Prince, as being deputed to be chief mourner, was unable to receive me.

273. Amongst other institutions which I saw at Trivandrum was the Maharaja's College, over which I went with Dr. Ross, the Director of Public Instruction, at whose request I addressed a few words to the senior students. The same compliment which has been paid to Mr. Sealy was at the same time extended to Dr. Ross, who is believed to have done excellent work for the Travancore State.

274. At Trivandrum I was visited by Mar Athanasius, as I had been at Cochin by Mar Dionysius, the head of the section of the Syrian Church, which is at open war with his.

275. From Trivandrum we struck to the eastward, passing, at first, through an open and undulating country, but entering, ere long, the great forests which stretch along the banks of the stream that finds its way to the sea near Quilon and up to the crests of the ghauts. It would be impossible to speak too strongly of the beauty of the scenery or the wild luxuriance of the vegetation. Unluckily, however, the weather, both during our journey and after we had reached Courtallum, was about as bad as it well could be.

276. At that place I remained several days with Mr. Hannyngton at the Residency, but the charge of the party was taken by Mr. Pennington. I replied to the addresses delivered respectively at the temples of Courtallum and at Tenkási, the so-called Southern Benares.

277. The first request which the Courtallum inhabitants made to me was that, if the proposed railway to Travancore was not to take the northern route, they might have a tramway connecting the chief towns on the Tinnevelly side of the frontier.

278. It has not, however, been at all decided how the much-talked-of railway into Travancore is to run. A great deal is to be said on both sides, and we, having obtained full information for their benefit, have now placed the whole question before those who are chiefly interested—the Travancore authorities.

279. The next representation was about the minor irrigation works. With regard to that subject, I have already said enough, as I have also with regard to the third representation, which had reference to the pagoda funds.

280. Fourthly and lastly, they expressed a hope that the Educational Commission would not improve elementary education at a too great sacrifice of the higher education. As to this, I did my best to re-assure them.

281. The first request of the Tenkási ryots referred to the minor irrigation works; the second involved a complaint about the levy of the village service cess.

I need not return to the former subject. As to the other, the remarks of the ryots were founded on a misconception. In former days they paid for the services of the village servants by fees of various kinds, some legal, some illegal. These fees have been abolished, and in lieu thereof the cess complained of is now levied.

282. The third complaint was about forest conservancy and ran as follows:—

"We therefore pray that suitable provision may be made in the Bill about to be passed for securing to us a reasonable enjoyment of our privileges consistent with the universal good it aims at, and that legislation in this respect may not drift in the direction of depressing the condition of the ryots and crushing the growth of their independence."

I need hardly say that the greatest possible care is taken by the Conservators of Forests to work the new Act, which had just passed at the time I received this address, so as not in any way to interfere with any privileges which do not hopelessly sacrifice the interests of the future to those of the moment.

The more intelligent of the peasantry are, it is believed, rapidly getting to understand the broad outlines of our forest policy. I had occasion lately to send a complimentary message to a Village Munsif in the Anantapur District, who had been giving his people extremely wise advice on this subject.

283. The fourth request related to the *kistbandi*, that is to say, to the instalments of the Government demand for land revenue.

This is a question which is never ending, still beginning.

The people of different districts hold the most diverse views about it. For example, while the people of Tenkási want the number of their instalments increased from five to seven, the people of Nellore are extremely anxious to have theirs reduced to two. The Board of Revenue is now once more examining the subject

with a view to adjust the Government demand to the circumstances of particular places as nearly as it can, but it is perfectly idle to suppose that any arrangements can be wholly satisfactory. The circumstances of different districts and parts of districts are too varied to admit of absolute adaptation to individual requirements. Infinite care is, however, taken to meet local wants as far as possible.

284. Next, the petitioners asked for the extension of local self-government. Local self-government has been extended.

285. Lastly, they complained of the union of revenue and magisterial functions.

286. That is a question not for us, but for the supreme authorities, and resolves itself, like many other Indian questions, into one of finance. There can be no doubt, as I told the petitioners in reply, that it would be more in accordance with the most scientific principles of legislation to have revenue and magisterial functions separated, and the stream of tendency flows in that direction.

287. I heard dismal accounts, along my road, of the failure of coffee cultivation in the part of Travancore which I was crossing, but in British Territory things were better. I visited one estate in the hills above the Courtallum waterfalls, where they had had the sense to preserve many of the trees of the primæval forests, which repaid this generosity by shade very useful to the cultivation.

288. At Courtallum we left rain and also coolness behind us, and the low water-parting, which separates the lands irrigated by the Chittar from those which depend upon the main stream of the Támraparni, was as dry and desolate as possible. Here and there Mr. Pennington pointed out small hills which Dr. Brandis, as it seems to me most judiciously, proposes to reserve. At present they grow nothing but a dreary *Euphorbia*, I suppose the *nivulia*, which has not even the merit of defending more valuable seedlings, as is done by the prickly-pear.

289. Immediately on my arrival at Tinnevelly, the Municipality presented an address to which I replied.

290. The inhabitants of Tinnevelly observed:

"We have, we are thankful to say, nothing specially to ask of your Excellency's Government in the matter of local wants, as they have been well attended to by the various officials who have served amongst us, and will, we have no doubt, be carefully attended to in future as occasion offers, as our present Collector has been long in the district, knows it intimately, and does not spare himself in the cause of the public.

"We look forward with much eagerness to the extension of the South Indian Railway to Trivandrum from this town. The land trade between the two places is not inconsiderable, and the two provinces are, for various reasons, intimately connected one with the other, and we trust that the resources of the country will further be developed by this improvement in internal communication."

With regard to the latter, I may say that, however the railway runs into Travancore, whether by the northern or the southern route, it will be certain to benefit it and Tinnevelly.

291. In replying to their address I made some observations which I am not sorry to repeat, viz.:

"It only remains to thank you for all the good wishes which you have expressed with regard to my administration. I trust that to the eye of the distant observer, which is attracted only by sudden changes and startling efforts, it may appear utterly dull and uneventful; but I shall be disappointed if, when it is over, those who are brought into immediate contact with it are not able to say, amongst other things, that during its course, the Presidency of Madras obtained the right of using for her own urgent needs a larger proportion of the taxation levied within her borders; that those of our departments which were not in a satisfactory condition —such as the Forest Department—had been put on better footing; that the best men throughout our various services had, very early in the day, come to know that their work was watched with sympathetic interest at headquarters; and that they were not reduced to hopelessness by seeing all the most influential positions bestowed, as a matter of course, upon meritless seniority.

"These are not very sensational ambitions, and the record of their fulfilment would, no doubt, read, even when recorded by the ablest pen, as if it were traced with opium upon sheets of lead, a phrase which was, by the by, originally used about the philosopher who wrote the life of the Statesman with whose spirit a wise ruler of this part of India would most, I think, desire to be filled—the life of Turgot. [illegible] senior stud

"Of such good dulness, however, is woven the happiness of nations. I do not think one could anywhere find a district which more naturally raises such thoughts than this of Tinnevelly, for Bishop Caldwell, who has so well told its history, finds it necessary to fill pages upon pages with the events which occurred during the terrible period which preceded its passing under British rule, while he finds a paragraph or two quite enough to describe the unbroken progress and prosperity of the last eighty years. And why? because those eighty years have been years of profound peace, whereas before they began, Tinnevelly had never from the beginning of time known, as the Bishop very truly observes, eighty consecutive months, perhaps not even eighty consecutive weeks, of peace."

292. The phrase "that during its course the Presidency of Madras obtained the right of using for her own urgent needs a larger proportion of the taxation levied within her borders" referred to the expected visit of Sir Evelyn Baring and its financial consequences, which, at the time I spoke, were only a hope, but before the end of the year became a reality.

293. On September 14th I received the principal people—European and Native—as I had done at Courtallum, and the afternoon was chiefly given to the schools of various Christian sects. I spoke at four of these, but at none of them were any definite requests made, except that no disfavor should be shown to Native Christians, a request which I need not say I was able to meet with the assurance that they should have the most perfect equality of treatment.

294 Here also I received a long address on behalf of the cotton interest. T[illegible]s officially considered, and the petitioners were informed that, for reasons s[illegible]lly the same as those mentioned above in the review of my third tour, we were not prepared to legislate in the direction they desired.

Early on the morning of the 15th I drove out with Colonel Hasted, who had met me by appointment at Tinnevelly, to the Srívaikuntham Anicut which I saw and in the neighbourhood of which I had carefully explained to me the various questions connected therewith. I remarked at the time, "a proposal will presently be made for constructing a bridge upon the piers long since built with that view, which ran out from the side of the anicut looking down stream, and there can be no doubt that such a work is much wanted."

295. Such a proposal has subsequently been transmitted by the Local Fund Board, but has been referred back to them with reference to certain constructive details.

296. On the morning of the 16th I visited the great Shiva Temple and, after examining that really noble structure, received an address from an association representing, as I gathered, the party opposed to the Municipality as at present constituted.

297. They began by thanking me for sanctioning the introduction of the elective system into the Tinnevelly Municipality.

298. Next came a request about the position of dancing girls, which had reference to the general legislation of India, not that of Madras.

299. Then followed a petition that the Sub-Judge's Court should not be removed to Palamcottah. There was a good deal of difference of opinion about this subject, and I examined the Sub-Judge's Court on the 15th September. It was ultimately decided that the Court should not be removed.

300. The third subject was the establishment of temple committees. This is part of the pagoda question already alluded to.

301. The last request was with reference to a dispute about a road, which belonged entirely to the sphere of local self-government.

302. The whole of the country immediately around Tinnevelly and Palamcottah was at this period of the year one vast sea of rice just ready for the harvest, but the line, which took me towards Madura, leads through a region which is in September a desert, relieved only by the long blue line of the ghauts. At Sátúr I was met by the young nephew of the Zamorin, whom we lately made a Deputy Collector, and at Virudupati, a rising cotton mart beginning to rival

Tuticorin, the party was joined by Mr. Crole, the Acting Collector, and Mr. Robinson, the Assistant Collector, of Madura.

303. At the Madura station the Municipal Commissioners met me with an address, in which they first thanked me for the extension of local self-government and then asked for its further encouragement.

304. There is, I apprehend, no town in the Presidency where, during the last two years, the efforts of the people towards managing their own local affairs have met with more encouragement from the representative of the Government on the spot.

305. I should also remark that the Madura Municipality, which is fortunate in the activity and ability alike of its President and Vice-President, has been doing much to improve the water-supply and general condition of the town. It has accordingly been very agreeable to the Government to be able to assist it by a considerable grant from Provincial Funds towards the building of the Vaigai bridge.

306. On the 18th there was a reception of the European residents and the chief of the Native community in the great hall of Tirumal Naik's Palace, which is admirably adapted for ceremonials of this kind. The work of partial restoration seems to be going on satisfactorily; the large room which is now used as a court will require various alterations before it quite suits its purpose, the great difficulty being—the very common one—its bad acoustic properties; these, however, will doubtless be overcome, and the parts of the building which it is proposed to use as minor courts and public offices will subserve these respective purposes sufficiently well although some inconvenience may arise from there being too great an amount of noise. Here I received an address from the general community.

307. The first request of the Madura inhabitants was that I would support the Periyar project. With that request I have most fully complied.

308. The second referred to the minor irrigation works. Of that I have said enough.

309. The third was with reference to the construction of a steam tramway between Madura and Pámban, and they asked that more reliable statistics should be taken before Government decided on starting it. It goes without saying that the request of the people will be complied with.

310. The next request was with reference to the cost of litigation, to which I replied as follows:—

"As to expense of litigation, that is matter rather for the Secretary of State than for the Government of Madras. Of course we all know the objections to taxes upon litigation; but where a considerable revenue has to be raised from the people for the service of the people, we must be content with imposing the least bad taxes, all taxation being of course more or less bad. I have often considered the subject when I was officially concerned with the *general* finance and politics of India; but I am obliged to admit that I never heard an alternative to these taxes suggested which seemed to me likely to be less inconvenient and unpleasant than they."

311. The last request referred to a proposal which was then being discussed, about separating Dindigul from Madura. Up to this time, however, the change, which we then thought of, has not been made, so that the request of the people has thus far been complied with. Personally I still think that, if Madura could be divided on the same principles as Bellary and Anantapur were divided, it would be an advantage to the population, but this local question is inextricably connected with various large imperial questions which can only be settled by the Viceroy and Secretary of State. Official strength in Madura is not perhaps at present as well distributed as it might be, and advantage will be taken of the changes in *personnel* which will be caused by impending retirements on proportionate pensions, to see if some change for the better cannot be made.

312. In the evening of the 18th, the great tank was admirably illuminated, and the arrangements made on this occasion, as well as an exhibition of articles of

local manufacture, in one of the greatest corridors of the Pagoda, on the morning of the 19th, gave me a very favorable impression of the taste and activity of the native artisans. The Pagoda itself is—as is well known—quite the finest thing of its kind in India, and does not give the impression, which many other similar buildings do, of having been left stranded by the progress of events. It excites obviously a very living interest in some classes of the population, and large sums are annually expended upon its decoration or repair. I observed a master workman carving stone with very considerable skill, whose wages were little more than a rupee a-day. His subordinates received only eight annas.

313. From Madura I travelled to Erode and returned on the 20th September to Ootacamund.*

M. E. GRANT DUFF.

[* It is intended that the continuation of this Minute shall be published early in November.]

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

and the .

OOTACAMUND,
August 3rd to September 16th, 1884.

In the month of October last, I completed, by a visit to South Canara, my general survey of the twenty-two districts of this Presidency, and, as some nine months have now passed, it may be time to review that survey, with the object of seeing what desirable changes have been made in consequence of it, what remain to be made, and, above all, how far it has been possible to meet the requests of the people preferred to the head of the Government in person.

2. The machine of administration, in all civilised countries, is now so complicated that it is necessary for those who preside over it perpetually to revise and re-revise, if important things are not to be allowed to slip out of sight. The impossibility of doing this amidst the conditions under which a statesman's life is now passed in Western Europe is a grave misfortune. In a country governed as this is and must long continue to be, it is highly desirable that the European rulers of every degree should come as much as possible into contact with the ruled.

Thanks to the improvement of communications, the absence of famine and other causes, it has been my good fortune to see more of the Presidency than any of my predecessors have done in an equally short time.

In nearly a hundred addresses, which have been collected into a volume, I have secured a perfect photograph of what the most articulate portion of the people were asking from the chiefs of the administration in 1882 and 1883.

In my replies, while recognizing the good sense of a very large proportion of the requests made, I took the greatest possible care not to commit my colleagues or myself to almost anything, and I am particularly glad to be able to show by this paper, to the persons who came to see me, with what scrupulous care every one of their wishes has been examined, and how very largely performance has surpassed promise.

3. When I left England in the autumn of 1881 the subject connected with Madras, which was most talked of at home, was the gold industry of the Wynaad. A few days before I started, a deputation interested in the Nílgiri Railway came to visit me, and questions of considerable moment, with reference to the sanitation of Ootacamund, came before me ere I had been many weeks in this country.

4. I determined accordingly that my first tour of inspection should be directed towards the West, and on the 4th January 1882 I left Madras.

5. Travelling through the night, I reached Pothanur on the morning of the 5th. There I was met by, amongst others, Mr. Stuart, the Collector of Coimbatore, whose valuable services we are now so soon to lose. He was, at that time, very much occupied with the wants of his district in the matter of wood, and sketched to me a project which had commended itself to his mind for afforestation on a considerable scale.

6. The new Forest Act was then only a *hope*, but it has since become a *reality*, and the position of Coimbatore, so far as the woodland and its connected benefits are concerned, has much improved.

7. The senior Conservator of Forests, writing under date of the 5th August 1884, reports to me that very good progress has been made in the constitution of its reserved forests, in demarcation, in survey, and in fire protection. Attention has been given to the formation of fuel and fodder reserves, though the Collector's final recommendations have not yet been received, and the forest revenue of the district is steadily increasing.

8. On my way up the Coonoor Ghaut I stopped at Burliar and examined the Government Garden there.

9. I was glad to observe that the Mangosteen was prospering, and I learn that it continues so to do. Since that period, too, *Amherstia nobilis* has flowered at Burliar, although, in spite of the kind help of Dr. King of Calcutta, it has failed to grow at Guindy. It would be highly desirable to naturalise in the Presidency so noble a tree, and Mr. Lawson will, if any one can, succeed in doing this.

10. The *Ipecacuanha* I had, in January 1882, to pronounce a failure; but, thanks to Mr. Lawson, who has altered the method of treatment that was being pursued, it is now succeeding much better. He does not believe that with us it will ever be a forest, but only a garden, product; nevertheless, a very considerable work for the good of humanity will be accomplished, if this powerful remedy in some very bad forms of dysentery is made common and cheap, by garden-cultivation amongst us. Its success would be particularly agreeable to me personally, because, I was at the India Office when the first attempts were made to bring it to India, and I took a great interest in them.

11. The Liberian coffee was fruiting freely; but I am told that it is not found of much practical importance in this Presidency.

12. The planters find the pericarp too hard to enable them to pulp it readily. Those kinds of coffee which have only one seed in the berry command a higher price, and the Liberian yields a crop only once in fourteen months. These disadvantages are thought, I am informed, to outweigh its comparative immunity from leaf-disease.

13. From Burliar I pushed on to Ootacamund, where the Municipal Commissioners presented an address in which they expressed a hope that the day was not far distant when Ootacamund would be made the permanent seat of the Madras Government.

14. In my reply I was unable to treat this as a serious claim, but spoke of it as a jest, at the expense "of the exaggerated pretensions of others."

15. For myself, I think that in the existing circumstances of this Presidency the dual arrangement of a summer and winter capital is far the best. No doubt, if it were only possible, an ambulant Government, a camp Government, would be the most desirable for India as a whole, and for every province in it; but that kind of Government is no longer possible. It belongs to the days of personal rule, and is quite incompatible, if it were only from considerations of expense, with our centralised, scientific system of administration with its infinite array of minute rules, precedents, and reports which require a gigantic apparatus of offices and officials.

16. Of course, no one, in his right mind, would ever have selected Madras as the capital of the huge province which is known as the Madras Presidency, and, indeed, no one ever did so. The *congeries* of very poor villages *plus* the moderate sea-port town, the Mount Road shops, the Government establishments, and the numerous small parks or "compounds" which, scattered thinly over twenty-seven square miles, form what is now called the City of Madras, have been grouped around the Fort which formed the centre of the very small and humble affairs of the Company upon the Coromandel Coast. The place has never grown to be a real capital, and can, indeed, never do so, although, if the harbour and other improvements to which I alluded in my speech of June 30th are carried into effect, it will gradually become more important than it is now.* Still I think for historical, sentimental, and other good reasons, it would be the greatest mistake to leave Madras; and I trust that no Government will ever dream of doing so, although, from many points of view, Ootacamund presents advantages which it cannot offer.

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*The following is the passage to which I refer:—

"These being the circumstances with which we have got to deal, what should Madras wish for? It should wish first for the completion of its system of drainage and water-supply—that is, it should wish to take itself out of the list of the semi-barbarous cities and put itself among the civilized cities—the cities which, like London, have a low death-rate; secondly, it should wish to see the Buckingham Canal pushed on as fast as the means at the disposal of its Government will permit; thirdly, it should wish to see the Singareni coal brought to its gates; fourthly, it should wish to see the excellent Municipal constitution which it has got, and which Mr. Arundel has done so much to perfect, worked ever better and better; fifthly, it should wish to see its harbour completed and made thoroughly efficient—so efficient that it may become a link in the communication between England, Bombay, and the further East."

17. The object of a wise administration should be to soothe those little municipal jealousies which are complicated so readily with the self-interest of individuals, who derive pecuniary advantage from the presence of the heads of the State amongst them.

Madras at least has nothing to gain by insisting that the Government shall give the apple either to herself or to her rival, and it is a section of her inhabitants who have of late been insisting on a judgment of Paris.

18. Some of the other requests of the Ootacamund municipality were of a far more serious kind. They observed that the sanitation of the place might fairly claim Imperial help, and they asked for assistance alike for sanitation, drainage, and water-supply.

19. At that time this Government also considered that they had a right to ask for *Imperial* help. Imperial help was, indeed, promised in the days of Lord Napier, and we recalled that fact to the Government of India in the year 1882, but much time had passed, the policy of the Viceroy in Council had changed in the interval, and we found, not unnaturally, that we had to give the assistance wanted out of *Provincial* funds.

Letter No. 287-W., dated 1st February 1882.

20. I trust we have not been niggardly in giving that assistance. Since the date of which I am writing, we have, *inter alia*, paid out of Provincial revenue for draining the bazaar some Rs. 94,000, bought and got rid of, at the expense of Rs. 10,000, the highly insanitary "Lines" near the small public park known as the ABC ground, and improved off the face of creation various other nuisances of the same kind.

21. Speaking in round numbers, since the Municipal Commissioners addressed me, Provincial has spent on the sanitation of Ootacamund not less than Rs. 97,000 through the Public Works Department, and not less than Rs. 27,000 through the Municipal Commissioners.

22. The lake is much less defiled than it used to be, and, when the intercepting sewer has been carried down below the Willow Bund to the outfall, will be all that could be desired; but what a pity that the same foresight, which has saved from pollution the lake of Kodaikánal, did not preside a generation ago over the arrangements made with respect to what is obviously destined to be the most important *sanitarium* in Southern India.

23. As soon as the drainage works, now in progress, are finished, we must turn to the water-supply and give some help to the Ootacamund municipality for its improvement, just as we have done to that of Madras. Already, the most important questions connected with it have been carefully investigated by our officers.

24. I found Government House advancing to completion. The shell was finished, and several portions of the building were habitable, at least in fine weather.

25. I was glad to be able to record that the constructive period had passed before I had anything to do with it, for, of the many things for which I feel myself unfit, there are few for which I feel myself more unfit than being an architect. All questions as to the policy of building, the purchase of property, and the kind of building to be erected had happily been settled by my predecessors. The numerous problems which remained were all in the nature of corollaries to be gradually worked out in the course of years with time, patience, and the concurrence of the proper departments of the Supreme Government.

26. I gave some attention, on this visit, to the Government Gardens as well as to the Cinchona Plantations. Both of these have, within the last two years, come under the management of a man of great scientific eminence,—the late Professor of Botany at Oxford.

27. The laying out of the gardens is being very much improved, all the trees and shrubs are being properly labelled, while great and important changes are taking place in the management of the Cinchona Plantations, more especially in the valley which separates the slopes of Snowdon from those of Dodabetta.

28. From Ootacamund I went on to Naduvatam to join Dr. Bidie, who was engaged in examining our estates there, with reference to the assertions of Mr. Cross, the South American traveller, who had frightened us, not a little, by declaring that our supposed *Succirubra* was not *Succirubra* at all, but the far less valuable *Micrantha*. On this question I had occasion to write in my first Tour Minute, but it has now happily been laid at rest by the highest scientific authority, and I need not repeat what I there said.

29. From Naduvatam I descended the Ouchterlony Valley, where the coffee, stimulated by heavy rains, had burst prematurely into flower and was in great beauty.

30. Here some representations were made to me about the importance of getting seeds of the *Ledgeriana* species of Cinchona, and at a later period I was happily able to do so.

31. From the Ouchterlony Valley we descended to Nadgani, where we became the guests of Mr. O'Donoghue, and found ourselves in the midst of the gold region.

32. At Devála I received an address from the Nílgiri Planting and Mining Association. They called my attention first to the administration of the Nílgiris. Since that date, the administration has been greatly strengthened. It used to cost Rs. 5,540 a-month, but a very few weeks after the period of which I am speaking, the Act abolishing the old Commission came into force. The district is now within the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the Judge of Coimbatore, so that the Collector, who has superseded the Commissioner, has far more time to give to administrative work. The Head Assistant remains as he was. The Joint Magistrate has been abolished. Both the Deputy Tahsildars of Coonoor and Gúdalúr have had their pay increased; there is now an Assistant Collector, a Sub-Judge, a Treasury Deputy Collector, and a Deputy Tahsildar at Ootacamund, while the subordinate establishments have been considerably increased: all this at an expense of some Rs. 1,390 a-month.

33. We have also created a Special Assistant for that important branch of business known as the Wynaad escheats, which should, by rights, have been put out of hand more than two generations ago. When he has done his work, the settlement of the Wynaad portion of the Nílgiri district will be taken up. Twenty five cases in three districts of South Wynaad have been already inquired into and separately reported on by the officer appointed, each one being a case in which the Government asserts rights over land declared to be escheated in consequence of the rebellion of the Pychee Rajah in the first days of this century.

Further proceedings will be taken after the receipt of the necessary orders from the Secretary of State.

34. The deputation next observed:

"It is unfortunately our experience of many years that planters meet with invincible obstacles and unreasonable delay in the disposal of their applications for land, and intending investors have, in some instances, left the country after waiting for years, despairing of ever obtaining land on which to commence planting operations."

35. The Government, knowing that these complaints were not unfounded, took immediate steps to improve the state of affairs which has so much changed that, on sending to Mr. Burrows, the very active Collector of the district, in the middle of August, the following question, I received the following reply:—

"How many land and mining applications from planters and others have been disposed of in the district since the beginning of January 1882, and how many are still waiting to be disposed of?"

"Applications under Gold Mining Rules *disposed of* since January 1882 ..	119	
Applications under Waste Land Rules—		
Europeans and East Indians	96	207
Natives	111	
Applications under Gold Mining Rules *awaiting disposal*	None.	
Applications under Waste Land Rules—		
Advertised for sale	5	7"
Awaiting reports from subordinates	2	

36. The deputation then passed to the Revenue Settlement, and urged that the operations which had been some time before commenced on the Nílgiris should be pushed on as fast as possible.

37. I find that, since the 1st January 1882, a few days before the address was presented, no less than 295,000 acres have been completely settled with the result which was contemplated by the framers of the address, that the revenue has been largely increased, while thousands of land-holders have been furnished with puttahs (leases) showing exactly the position, area, and assessment of the lands held by them. A complete revision of the village establishments of the district has also been carried into effect, and the Village Cess Act has been introduced for the purpose of providing the salaries of the village officers. The gentlemen who came to see me feared that years would elapse before the settlement of the district was completed. It will, so far as the Nílgiris are concerned, be completed or all but completed before the document I am now drawing up is in the hands of the public.

38. The memorialists next asked that a European Head Constable should be located at Devála. This request has not been complied with *in terms;* but the police force of the Wynaad has been strengthened by the entertainment of two Head Constables and seven Constables in addition to the previously existing force.

39. Then they turned to the subject of roads, asked me to notice the fact that I was travelling in the driest season of the year, and assured me that their communications, during the monsoon, were disastrously bad. Since that period the Government have largely assisted the Local Fund Board to improve the whole of the through line from Mettupálaiyam to Gúdalúr, have taken over those parts of it which pass through the municipalities of Coonoor and Ootacamund, and have now determined to do the same by the whole of the road in question. So much for one end of the line of communication so vitally important to South Wynaad. Then, as to the other end of it, as soon as a man, fit for the purpose, was available, we sent Mr. Nordmann to examine, with a view to its improvement, the line from Vayitri to Calicut, and reports from him have been already received. I hear from Colonel Beatty that the estimates are far advanced, but their total amount is undoubtedly startling, and though improvement will be pushed on, as funds become available, till eventually we may hope to see the great through line across the Nílgiris, the Wynaad and Malabar to the Western Coast in really good order, this part of the work (*i.e.*—improvement of the line from Vayitri to Calicut) must, in justice to other portions of the country, be carried into effect gradually. With regard to the middle portion of the road, the President of the Local Fund Board, writing under date the 23rd August 1884, reports that the road from Gúdalúr to Devála is in good order, and the road on from Devála to Mango Tree Bungalow *viâ* Pundalur is also in good order, adding various details as to what has been done since I passed over it in January 1882.

40. Then my attention was called to the gold mining leases. These we have made much more liberal. The limit of each grant was confined to 30 acres. We have now extended it to 150, we have abolished the requirement that five coolies should be entertained per acre, we have allowed the lessee to sublet or assign his lease without the previous sanction of Government, and we have permitted an applicant to obtain more than one mining lease.

41. The gentlemen who came to see me then passed to the subject of railways. I do not think they will complain that this Government has not, since that date, done all that in it lay to help them to a railway up the Nílgiris. Supported by us as by the Government of India, the proposals of its promoters were accepted by the Secretary of State, but the speculation not finding favor with capitalists at home, they again applied to us for other terms, whereupon they were once more supported first by this Government, secondly by that of India. The final decision must depend upon the views entertained at the India Office. As to the railway from Mysore towards the West Coast, that project has been thrown back by the reverses of the gold industry; but for that, we are certainly not responsible.

42. Then they asked that the telegraph should be extended to Vayitri. It has been extended to Vayitri and on from Vayitri to Calicut.

43. They next proceeded to state their general views about the Government Cinchona properties. I have nothing now to add to what I said on the spot, viz.:

"Next we arrive at Cinchona. Well, my first emotion when I saw those magnificent forests of 'Succirubra' which clothe the slope of Naduvatam was an emotion of pride. I

rejoiced that our Indian Government should have created and should possess so fine an estate; but I nevertheless think, as you do, that the time must come when the same wise policy which made it acquire will make it desire to dispossess itself of that estate. The only questions that can well be raised are as to the time when, and the way in which, this ought to be done. The time will arrive when Government can do no more to promote the establishment of the Cinchona industry in India than can be done by private persons, and the way in which it should dispossess itself of the property is of course the one which will be most profitable for the public. These questions will some day have to be decided by some Secretary of State for India. So many controversies are still going on about Cinchona cultivation that I should hardly be inclined to think that it would be advantageous to the industry, as a whole, to dispense with the aid of Government in too great a hurry; but when I am convinced that the time has arrived, you may reckon upon my good wishes, for I belong to that school of politicians, not so popular now, as it once was, which desires to limit rather than to increase the functions of Government, which takes for its motto '*Laisser faire laisser passer.*'"

44. Since these words were spoken the Home Government and that of Madras have taken up, in good earnest, the solution of those problems with regard to Cinchona cultivation which only Governments assisted by the best science of the day can solve. Mr. Lawson's botanical and horticultural knowledge will soon be supplemented by that of a chemical expert, who has been studying recently at Leyden under the auspices of Dr. de Vrij, the greatest living authority upon the chemistry of Cinchona; and it is to be hoped that in the next few years all that is necessary to be known for the production to the best advantage in India of the Cinchona alkaloids will be ascertained and placed at the disposal of every one who desires to engage in Cinchona planting.

45. The last topic on which my visitors touched was their difficulties with respect to labor. That is a very thorny subject on which it is almost impossible to satisfy both the employers and the employed. The present state of the case is that the views of the planters, of the High Court, and of the district officers have been ascertained for the purpose of being communicated to the Government of India.

46. Much misconception would seem to prevail amongst employers as to the existing state of the law, and it has not yet been made clear to me that any change is really wanted in the *substance* of the existing enactments.

47. It was also suggested that an Act should be passed for the registration of all contractors, cooly maistries, and mechanics, but the Government of India considers this to be a matter on which legislation is not advisable, unless under very exceptional circumstances.

48. The next address which I received was at Pandalur, where the people asked for the establishment of a police station. We were not able to comply in terms with this wish, but we have been able to sanction an addition to the Wynaad police force of Devála and of Nadghani, as I have already remarked.

49. They further asked for the appointment of a Village Magistrate, the enforcement of those sections of the Police Act which relate to sanitation and the prevention of nuisances, for improved roads and a home for poor travellers.

50. The supply of the last of these wants is clearly a matter for the Local Fund Board. As to the others, we were not able to appoint a Village Magistrate, but may be able ere long to effect the same object in a somewhat different way. We have enforced those provisions of the Police Act which relate to sanitation and the prevention of nuisances, and I have already explained what we have done about roads.

51. Next came an address from the members of "The Wynaad Planting and Mining Association," which was delivered to me at Vayitri. They, too, called my attention to the Mysore-Malabar Railway and to the various other subjects to which I have already alluded, the two new points being, I think, (1) the addition of a European ward to the hospital, and (2) the creation of Justices of the Peace.

52. The first of these is not within the province of Government but of the Local Fund Board. As to the second, Colonel Henderson was soon afterwards made a Special Honorary Magistrate with special powers.

53. To the same place came the representatives of North Wynaad, who wished that the District Munsif's Court should not sit permanently at Vayitri but should

itinerate. Also they desired that appeals from Vayitri Court should go to Tellicherry and not to Calicut.

54. These requests, for the reasons given below, we could not comply with. It was one of those complaints of which I have received many since, and to which one can only reply, as I did in July at Palmanér, that we have to make the best arrangement we can for all the parties concerned, although, if money were unlimited, we should like to bring justice home to every man's door. As long as time and space continue, geographical inconveniences will continue too.

55. The memorialists then asked that the telegraph should be extended from Vayitri to Manantoddy. That has been done; and they further asked that in improving the communications of the Wynaad either by railway or tramway, the wants of the northern district should be considered. That legitimate request will not be forgotten, and I may, before I leave the country, be able to visit North Wynaad, as they naturally wished me to do.

56. The District Munsif grievance of North Wynaad was further urged in a prodigiously long address from Native communities in that part of the country in which Vayitri was described as "by all means a condemnable place;" and it was truly observed that "a man with whatever powers of locomotion could by no means be comparable to a bird with two wings."

57. The arguments, however, put forward did not alter the conclusion come to, to give the Vayitri arrangement a further trial, as apparently the best.

58. I have recently called for fresh reports from the local authorities, and find that Vayitri is still considered to be, on the whole, the most convenient place. Mr. Logan takes that view, Mr. Galton takes that view, and the High Court takes that view. The weight of argument seems also to be on the side of the weight of authority; for Vayitri is distinctly more convenient for half the Native population, for the coffee interest in general, and for the great bulk of the Europeans.

59. I saw five different gold mines,—those of the Indian Gold Mine Company at Nadghani, those of the Alpha at Devála, those of the South-East Wynaad Company, those of the South Indian Gold Mine Company and the Ripon Company,—the last just out of the Wynaad and in Malabar.

60. Speaking at Vayitri on the 16th January, I said:

"That there is gold in the Wynaad I can now testify from ocular inspection. That gold is present in paying quantities in many localities, I am willing to believe. That much skill and not a few high qualities are enlisted in the development of your mines, I am fully convinced. That you have an excellent set of miners, I hear on all sides. But you have suffered, and will still suffer from the operation of that class of persons who infest the great centres of commerce in the West, and who are to the armies of industry and enterprise as those camp followers, who used to follow other armies, and gain for the legitimate combatant a bad name by robbing the dead and killing the wounded. That we may hear in the future as little of such persons as possible in connection with your industry, is the best wish I can contribute to the prosperity of this beautiful and most interesting district."

I further said in my first Tour Minute:

"There will, I fear, be many terrible disappointments, and good Indian investments will suffer because many people have lost money by bad ones. Some concerns will, I should hope, weather the coming storm, pay reasonable dividends to some share-holders, and add something to the wealth of this part of India."

61. I was delighted with that portion of the Wynaad across which my route lay. Mr. Mitchell's hospitable house at Penorah would strike the traveller as a beautiful spot in any country.

62. Some of the evils of the Wynaad we can hardly cure. During the hot weather of the spring it is, and will, I fear, continue to be, very feverish; nor can we repair the mischief that has been done to it by the golden Will-o'-the-Wisp. The time will, I daresay, come when, metallurgic science having progressed, it will be really possible to work to some profit many of the mines, which are now being abandoned in despair; but meantime there seems nothing which the Government can do but to encourage in every way a return to the slower but, in the end, perhaps more profitable ways of agricultural industry. It is much to be regretted that a heavy fall in the market price of Coffee and of Cinchona should have synchronised with the other troubles of the Wynaad

63. I do not think it can be justly asserted that we have been remiss in giving such help as a Government can give. We have exempted from assessment, from 1883 to 1887 inclusive, lands planted with such special products as Cinchona and Coffee, whether held under private proprietors or under Government on puttah (lease), provided they are brought into cultivation during that period. This concession extends both to Malabar and the Nílgiris, including of course the Wynaad. Cinchona is, it is believed, the product from which the planters in both these districts hope for most aid in their present depressed state. I am sure there is a great deal still to be done in the direction of introducing new products.

Speaking at Devála, I said:

"I trust that in a few years that trophy in the centre of the room where the various pursuits of the district are so prettily represented may require to be enlarged, for I cannot help thinking that a country so peculiar as this, where the bracken of our northern woods clothes the slopes which lead down to streams whose borders are lined with tree ferns, has still many secrets for the patient and ingenious cultivator."

64. The fact is that the man of science will in all probability perform within the next century far greater services to humanity than he has even already done in mingling the vegetation of distant countries.

Mr. Clements Markham, to whom South India owes her Cinchona, is still far from an old man, and there are hundreds of other such gifts yet to be given to the Madras Presidency.

Kew is constantly sending us parcels of seeds, any one of which might turn out to be of the greatest service.

65. Care must be used, as in everything else, in the introduction of new products.

Even in the parts of the Wynaad which I saw, one of the *Lantanas* has become a terrible enemy, and in the northern part of the country it is said to be the undisputed master of wide regions. Known in our English conservatories as a tender exotic, in Northern Africa as a useful garden shrub, it is here a terrible tyrant to man, in strict alliance with the wild boar and the panther; while from the fact of its fruit being greedily devoured by birds, it is constantly extending its sway.

66. Turning to an allied subject, supposing that Mr. Lawson or Mr. Gamble or Dr. Bidie were one day to learn and be able to tell us as much about the coffee-leaf disease as is already known about the relations between the Barberry and the Smut in wheat—what an important event it would be for the Presidency!

67. From Vayitri, I descended the Támrachéri Ghaut. The view of the wavy plain of Malabar from the top of it in the early morning made one think oneself, for a moment, in Arctic regions, so completely did the mist which filled the hollows mimic fiords covered with ice. Any thoughts of the Arctic regions soon, however, passed away, as we hurried down the mountain side, which looked, for all the world, as the slopes of the Alps over the plains of Lombardy might look, if the contents of the tropical house at Kew were multiplied a millionfold, spilt over them and then left for twenty years to interlace.

68. From the foot of the ghaut I drove on to Calicut through a charming country, by a road which had not been well engineered.

This is the road which, as already stated, we sent Mr. Nordmann to examine.

69. Everywhere I was received as the representative of the Executive should wish to be, and made acquaintance, for the first time, with the remarkable aptitude of the population of Malabar for utilising the plantain, the cocoa palm, and other plants for decorative purposes.

70. At Calicut, I received three addresses. The first of these was from the Merchants and Agents. These gentlemen began by directing my attention to the importance of completing the railway from Beypore to Calicut. Writing in the second week in August with reference to this, I said: "To that subject we have given, since the date of which I am speaking, great attention, and the present position of affairs is, that the Madras Railway has surveyed the extension; the whole subject has been laid before the Member of the Government of India who

is in charge of the Railways by the Members of the Madras Government and their officials at* Guindy, with the result that the Government of India has undertaken to recommend the line to the Secretary of State;" but on the morning of the 15th August our anxieties were set at rest by my receiving a telegram from the Secretary of State to say that the extension of the line by the Madras Railway Company had received his sanction.

* In November 1883.

71. My visitors then turned to the extension of railway communication across North Malabar and the Wynaad to the Mysore frontier. To that subject I have alluded already. It belongs not to the Provincial but to the Supreme Government, and must be dependent on its views.

72. They also stated that the amount of port dues collected at Calicut greatly exceeded the amount spent upon the Port. On this point the Master Attendant was immediately consulted. It turned out that the memorialists were in error, and that the charges had exceeded the receipts.

73. With regard to the complaint that the system of canals in the Malabar district was far from satisfactory, some recent communications between the Public Works Department and the spokesman of the deputation which came to see me leads me to suppose that the extension of the railway to Calicut will effect what the memorialists most wanted in a somewhat different way, but the good ordering of the backwater communication all along the West Coast is, I fully admit, a matter of importance, and Colonel Ross Thompson, who is expected out in October, is to be directed to examine the whole line of waterway alike in Malabar and South Canara.

74. My visitors further desired the establishment of an experimental garden. We have not as yet seen our way to do that, but Mr. T. J. Ferguson, of Calicut, is experimenting both with the Hevea and the Castilloa as well as with the Ipecacuanha in close co-operation with the officers of Government.

75. Dr. Trimen, the distinguished head of the great gardens at Perideniya in Ceylon, who visited the Nílgiri Cinchona plantations in company with Mr. Lawson and Dr. Bidie in the summer of 1883, has been assisting us by sending both Hevea and Castilloa plants.

76. With regard to the Rhea and other fibres to which the deputation also alluded, I have reason to hope that private enterprise has stepped in to develop these most important products. Rhea fibre worked up into a substance of great beauty was shown me by Mr. Pinching some months ago.

77. The deputation further asked for the establishment of a first-grade college teaching up to the B.A. standard. This request has been considered, but it is not thought that there is any present occasion for an institution of the kind. It would, indeed, in my opinion, do more harm than good.

78. The memorialists spoke also of the trade of the port and the state of the pier. To that subject I gave great attention, as it had been previously arranged in Council I should do, examining the pier on the 18th with Colonel Sankey, the Master Attendant, Mr. McWatters, and others including the principal merchants who used it. Several courses were suggested and carefully reviewed. The upshot of many discussions has been that the pier has now been handed over to the merchants of the port on a 99-year lease.

79. Then came to me a large deputation of Jenmis who were followed by the representatives of the other side of the Malabar land question, the K[illegible]nkars.

80. Since the date of which I am writing we have rece[illegible]ir. Logan's elaborate report; that report has been considered by a Commis[illegible]d the views of that Commission are now about to be submitted to the very [illegible]est authorities on the questions which are raised by the rival claims of these pe[illegible]ple whom I do not attempt to describe by any English term; so conflicting are the opinions of the persons, who have most right to speak, as to their exa[illegible] position in relation to each other.

81. After seeing them I was visited by a deputation of Syrian Christians headed by their Bishop, who bore in his hand a crozier, surmounted by what, I

took, at first, to be the head and neck of a pelican, but found upon examination to be those of a serpent,—a curious fact.

82. My visitors belonged to a section of the Syrian Christians, which is in communion neither with Rome nor with the Patriarch of Babylon. They presented me with an address accompanied by an historical sketch. When they were gone, there came a representative of the section which holds with the Patriarch of Babylon, but has of late years, if I comprehend their position, followed that dignitary into a quarrel with the Holy See. He came to lay before me a grievance, the redress of which was competent to the Collector, whose good offices he was accordingly promised.

83. At Calicut, the Municipal Commissioners also came to see me. They asked, however, for nothing except to be relieved from paying the contribution towards the police force. That request has been granted, so that the funds which used to be diverted to that purpose are now set free, exactly as the Commissioners desired, for the promotion of sanitation and education.

84. Next arrived the representatives of the Basel German Mission, who gave an interesting account of their mercantile and other labours, but did not make any request to the Government, except, by implication, one for full liberty, which of course they have always had and will have.

85. The Syrian Christians likewise had no special request to make, but only came to offer their friendly congratulations. Not so the body known as the Kerala Sabha (Malabar Association), which asked for many things, first, a Malayali Member in the Legislative Council; secondly, a Malayali Judge in the High Court; thirdly, a first-grade college at Calicut; fourthly, more money for female education; fifthly, the extension of the railway to Calicut and Cannanore. The first two of these requests were no doubt creditable to local patriotism. It is right that the love of the parish should come first in all countries; but nothing of the kind could be thought of. Malabar has had, and will have, Members of Council and Judges of the High Court intimately acquainted with its special customs,—men of the stamp of Sir William Robinson or Mr. Holloway; but the highest officials of the Government, executive or judicial, cannot be selected on geographical grounds.

86. The proposed establishment of a first-grade college at Calicut having, as I have already said, been considered quite unnecessary, I pass on to the next request, that more money should be appropriated for female education. This was a suggestion of a far more reasonable kind, and with it we have been able to comply to a considerable extent. At the time the address was delivered about Rs. 1,114 were spent in a year at Calicut on female education, while Rs. 2,700 from Provincial and Municipal in addition to Rs. 3,840 from Endowment Funds have been allotted for this purpose in the official year 1883-84.

87. Then the petitioners asked that the railway should be extended to Calicut and Cannanore. Its extension to Calicut has, as I have elsewhere mentioned, been now sanctioned, but a great many more important lines will have to be made before an extension to Cannanore could be approved, unless indeed it were made by local effort.

88. Next they complained of the unequal incidence of the Local Fund cess and asked for the restoration to the Local Funds of the contribution which the district used to receive from Provincial Funds, but they did *not* state that these grants were simply a rate-in-aid levied on the whole of the Madras Presidency for some time, to supply advantages to Malabar, which each of the other districts supplied to itself.

89. It was in 1877 that a state of things, whose continuance would have been most unfair to the rest of our districts, was amended, and I had to tell the deputation that so far from their land being peculiarly highly taxed, they enjoyed in that respect very great advantages. There would appear to be a tradition in Malabar that assessments are high. This is founded on the fact that they *were* once high, but they have (*see* Proceedings, Legislative Department, 2nd October 1877, No. 77, page 7) been undisturbed whilst prices have advanced enormously. The Government assessment now bears a much smaller proportion to the true rent value of land than in other parts of the country.

90. Local patriotism is apt to forget such things, and it is right for persons, in authority, while granting, so far as they can, all legitimate requests, to refuse, point blank, requests which are clearly illegitimate.

91. Next they asked for one or two things, the granting or withholding of which did not lie within the province of this Government, but the only important prayer,—reduction in the price of salt,—was, as it happened, almost immediately granted,—thanks to the wise financial policy of the Viceroy and Sir Evelyn Baring,—a policy which successful, it is believed, everywhere, has been in this Presidency *brilliantly* successful.

92. When at Calicut, I received and returned the visit of the Zamorin,—one of the not very numerous personages in India whose annals connect far back with the great stream of history. It is curious in a country whose traditions go so far into the past, that there should be so few families to which, even if we forget the practice of adoption, so contrary to all our European ideas of what family continuity means, there is attached anything like the interest of which thousands of houses in the West can boast.

93. From Calicut I went by water to Areacode up the Beypore river and then drove through a lovely country to Nilambúr, where I carefully examined our magnificent teak plantations. It was pleasant to see, while "professional philanthropists" were shrieking about the increasing poverty of India, a noble property maturing in this out-of-the-way corner of the land—one likely ere long to be of enormous value. I saw trees, a hundred feet high, which were seedlings in 1844.

94. At the same place I found the *Ceara* rubber (*Manihot Glaziovii*) doing well. It is evidently going to be a success in many parts of this Presidency. In the last couple of years it has, for example, made great progress near Kullar. The far more valuable *Panama* rubber (*Castilloa elastica*) was also doing well, not so the Pará rubber (*Hevea Brasiliensis*).

95. At Beypore, I went with Colonel Shaw-Stewart and Mr. Saunders to inspect a spot where a rather serious erosion threatened the railway property.

96. This was at that time, and has been since, a matter of some anxiety and no small expense to us; but the extension of the Madras line to Calicut will altogether alter the state of affairs, and lead to the abandonment of the threatened terminus.

97. Thence I passed to inspect the Walliar jungle and returned to Madras after an absence of sixteen days.

98. At Erode, Mr. Nicholson spoke to me on two important subjects, the use of the bark of the Babool (*Acacia Arabica*) for tanning, and the value of the common prickly-pear (*Opuntia Dillenii*) as a protector for young trees. With reference to the first of these, we have obtained, since that date, a very interesting memorandum from Mr. Gamble, and the Director of Agriculture has been ordered to collect information regarding the prospects of a trade in Babool bark and pods in Europe.

There has not been sufficient time to ascertain the results of all the experiments that have been made with reference to the prickly-pear as a forester, but Mr. Wooldridge, a very intelligent forest officer, has reported excellent results from South Arcot, where he has used the Cactus as a protector of seedlings for a long time.

It would be highly satisfactory if we could once for all turn this most unpleasant American invader into a useful servant.

Second Tour of Inspection.

I again left Madras on the evening of the 3rd of March 1882, and ran through to Coimbatore.

99. The next day I received an address from the inhabitants of that place.

100. Their first request was that a supply of water from the Vellingiri Hills should be turned into the Noyel River.

101. This project has not yet been fully inquired into by the Public Works Department, nor could it have been without passing by more urgent matters.

102. Another project, however, connected with Coimbatore,—the Bhowani Reservoir,—has been pretty fully inquired into, and favourably reported upon.

It is, however, a very big business, promising indeed great advantages alike direct and indirect, but so costly as to require the most careful scrutiny before it is entered upon.

The Engineers have not yet reported which of two competing sites is the better. The selection of even the smaller of the two involves the creation of what we rather grotesquely describe as a tank, but which in other countries would be called an artificial lake, with a water-spread of 12 square miles.

103. The greatly increased attention now given, as I have already mentioned, to forest conservation in this district ought to have a favorable effect on the water-supply from the Noyel River. I mentioned in my second Minute that Dr. Brandis, having examined the Bolampatti Valley, had arrived at the conclusion that if the denudation of the slopes around the head-waters of the Noyel was not stopped, Coimbatore would suffer very grievously. This important piece of country is accordingly now being settled by the Special Forest Settlement Officer, and it is expected that the reserved forest will be finally constituted by the end of the current official year.

104. The deputation then asked that the supply of water should be increased by extensive improvements in the present tanks, and that none of these should be abandoned.

105. This was the first time that any representations were made to me about the minor irrigation works, of which I have heard so much since. To them, as is I believe generally known, this Government has in the last two years given great and special attention. They formed the subject of very anxious communication with Sir Evelyn Baring on that visit to Madras in November 1882, which has had in many directions such momentous results for this Presidency. The grants for them have been everywhere increased, and have been put at the disposal not, as formerly of the Public Works Department, but of the Revenue authorities on the spot, who are now allowed to entertain special establishments for the supervision of these most important works up to a limit of 16 per cent. of the annual grant, while the necessity for working up to the annual grant within the year is steadily kept before the minds of all Collectors.

106. The whole irrigation system of the Presidency, putting aside the colossal works which have their own system of management, has, since Sir Evelyn Baring's visit, and of course since this first application to me about minor irrigation works, been begun to be surveyed by special officers deputed for this purpose, working by what are called tank divisions. After being surveyed, the works will be put into thorough order by the ordinary staff of the Public Works Department, and a commencement of the executive work has already been made.

107. Of course, it will take long years before all that is wanted is done, but I have great faith in the German proverb, "A thing begun with a will is half ended," and nothing could be more satisfactory than the plans submitted to me of the Periyakulam Basin, the first completed under the direction of Colonel Montgomerie.

108. When we talked this matter over with Sir Evelyn Baring, it was thought that the Tank Divisions would have to do the whole work, and that it might occupy fifty-five years; but by dividing it between the Tank Divisions and the Executive Staff, it may, I think, be got over in a single generation.

109. After some remarks with regard to the Educational Commission then sitting at Calcutta, the members of the deputation asked me to visit the weavers' houses and encourage them to work at the "unrivalled Indian hand-patterns and delicate textures."

110. I lost no time in going to these houses, but I did not observe anything in the work, of a very distinctive kind. The silk fabrics turned out were respectable, but not such, I thought, as to command a ready sale in Europe. The phrase of the address "the unrivalled Indian hand-patterns and delicate textures" pleased

me better than any silk I saw, and I would reiterate some observations which I made in replying, viz.:

"All through Europe the taste for Indian Art,—real Indian Art,—is rapidly growing. It is growing not only in England, but in Austria, in Germany, and in France. I remember some years ago finding in a shop in the remote department of the Morbihan on the shore of the Breton sea, a shawl which I saw at a glance had been made at Umritsar, in the Punjab; and I have no doubt that many other such surprises will, in the next few years, await any one who, while travelling in Europe, is on the look-out for Indian manufactures. In order, however, that the demand may reach them, your weavers must keep in view three maxims. In the first place, they must hold to purely Indian patterns and avoid all European ones; in the second place, they must flee aniline dyes as they would a pestilence; and in the third place, they must adopt the European practice of small profits and quick returns. If they attempt to stick to the old Indian principle of few transactions and large profits, they may as well go out of business at once; the wheels of life now-a-days move too rapidly for that kind of thing. If, however, they and their brethren throughout the Peninsula will follow these three very simple maxims, I really see no limit to the triumphs that may be achieved by the 'Indian hand-patterns and fine textures.' Instead of talking nonsense about the competition of Manchester, let our people go, so to speak, into partnership with Manchester, co-operate with Manchester, let Manchester do for them what she can do far more cheaply, and let them do for Manchester the hundred and one things which Manchester cannot possibly do."

111. When at Coimbatore I paid a visit to the pretty little temple of Perur, a few miles off. Here I received an address in which my attention was, for the first time, called to the difficulties of pagoda management. I have since received a great many representations on this subject, about which the most various opinions prevail, and it will be enough for the present to say that the whole question which presents difficulties of every sort is now in the hands of a Committee over which my honorable colleague Mr. Sullivan presides.

112. The address then passed to the misunderstanding that was said to exist between the Hindu and Muhammadan communities of Coimbatore; and I was asked to repeal the order of Lord Hobart's Government, passed in 1874, with respect to one sect playing on musical instruments when passing in procession before the religious edifices of the other.

113. That order was afterwards declared by the High Court to be *ultra vires*, so that, without the intervention of Government, the wish of the memorialists, that matters should go on as they used to do before it issued, was fulfilled.

114. Lastly, my visitors asked that certain pieces of land should be restored to the temple. This matter has been carefully inquired into, and the petitioners have thus far wholly failed to prove any claim whatever to the area (between 60 and 70 acres) for which they asked.

115. A few miles from Coimbatore I examined several of the so-called Pandava pits with their curious interments, and had, for the first time, brought home to me how little we know, as yet, about the distant past of South India.

116. From Coimbatore I went up the ghaut to Ootacamund, where the special officer, who had been appointed to look after the sanitation, was able to report to me that the friction which had existed between himself and the municipality, and which had given us some trouble, had come to an end.

117. On this occasion, too, I made my first visit to Sim's Park at Coonoor along with Dr. Brandis, and it was then that he made to me the suggestion about the Committee on the Forest Bill, which afterwards produced such good results. I was much pleased with what I saw at Sim's Park, and the Government has steadily supported Mr. Lawson in developing it. Since the date of which I am speaking, the roads, the fencing, the arbours have all been improved, most of the trees and shrubs have been labelled, and the ground has been extended by throwing into it the shola (wood) which adjoined its lower end.

118. From Coonoor I descended upon Salem, where I received a long address.

119. The first request of the people was to have the right of choosing the Vice-President of the Municipality.

Section 14 of the Act of this year runs as follows:—

"Unless the Governor in Council appoints one of the Municipal Councillors to be the Chairman of the Municipal Council, the Municipal Councillors shall appoint their Chairman by

election from among their own number, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, and in accordance with such rules and conditions as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Governor in Council."

120. The next object touched on was the Imperial License Tax, which is a matter belonging to the Government of India, and the arguments for and against which, are well known.

121. The third subject was the contribution made by the municipality to the police force. The wish of the people with regard to that has, as I have mentioned above, been complied with.

122. The fourth request was that Sanscrit should be taught in the college. It turned out on inquiry that the number of boys who wished to study Sanscrit was altogether trifling, and that those who wished to do so belonged merely to a single caste.

The Director of Public Instruction went as far as he properly could in compliance with the wishes of the petitioners, when he informed them that he was prepared to allow a Pundit to teach in the college if a class or classes could be formed to be remunerated solely by fees paid by the parents of the pupils to him through the head master of the college.

123. The address then passed on to speak of the industrial development of the country.

"We are glad," it was observed, "to see Government doing so much for the general education of the people, to see our university giving us more and more graduates and under-graduates year by year. But the State has, as yet, done comparatively little or nothing towards the development of the Indian Arts, whether polite or industrial. Confining ourselves to the last, it is time, we venture to submit, that the Government opens Industrial schools in large towns. We believe it is not asking too much if we request the Government to establish in Salem a school or two for teaching one or more branches of industry."

124. These were very sensible observations, and the Government if it has not been able to grant the precise request made, has been doing a great deal and hopes to do a great deal more in the direction indicated.

125. Amongst other things we have, since March 1882, put the School of Arts at Madras under new management, and are placing it on an improved footing with the object of teaching the natives of India rather to imitate or, better still, to emulate the best works of their own countrymen, than to seek for models in Europe.

126. This Government has lent all the assistance in its power to the schemes of the Art Committee, which sat in Calcutta last December. It has promised to aid to the uttermost the endeavours which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is now making as head of the Royal Commission to stimulate the arts and industries of India by means of an exhibition to be held in London in 1886, and it has laid before the Secretary of State certain proposals, which were warmly supported by the Government of India, have just been sanctioned, and will ere long be carried into effect. A Committee, under the very able guidance of Colonel Hawkes, is now engaged in taking measures to retain for the use of the Presidency some permanent record of the collection of Indian art in the Calcutta Exhibition and of the best specimens of the art-ware of Burmah and South India.

127. We have told the Director of Public Instruction to examine the Report of the Royal Commissioners on Technical Instruction published this year in London, and to inform Government in how far the recommendations made by the gentlemen who conducted that elaborate inquiry can be applied to this country.

With reference, however, to technical instruction, it must be carefully kept in mind in India and everywhere else that the soil out of which good technical instruction must grow is good primary and secondary education, primary and secondary education disembarrassed as much as possible of every study which cannot effectively "restate the reasons of its existence."

128. The deputation then complained of the competition of jail manufactures with local industry.

Great changes in this direction have been, as is well known, made all throughout India within the last two years, jail manufactures which compete directly or indirectly with local manufactures having been to a great extent abandoned.

Lastly, the petitioners protested againt Southern India being placed under a Lieutenant-Governor, to which I replied:

"So far as I am aware, that idea has never passed in the mind of any statesman beyond the stage of mere speculation. It has presented itself as a suggestion to be considered amongst a hundred conflicting suggestions for the improvement of Indian administration. Of late, as far as I know, opinion at home has been moving quite another way, and very much in unison with your own views on the subject. Heaven knows that the affairs of a huge country like this Presidency want the very best intelligence, experience, and devotion that can be brought to bear upon them from whatever quarter these good things can be obtained."

129. While at Salem I had much conversation with the then Collector, about the bad feeling between the Hindus and the Muhammadans. He thought at that time that it was diminishing, but as we all know a recrudescence of it some months later led to very deplorable results. So true is it that in India our steps ever lie—

————per ignes
Suppositos cineri doloso.

130. Mr. Stokes directed my attention to various matters of importance. I find the following noted in my second Tour Minute:—

(i) The question whether it might not be expedient to give greater power to district officers, in dealing with subordinates of whose efficiency or character they have a thoroughly bad opinion, but against whom they are unable to prove distinct and specific charges.

In the current year Collectors have received greater powers, being now invested with authority to order transfers of Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars, &c., involving loss of salary (but not degradation of rank) and suspensions not exceeding six months, subject to appeal in every case.

(ii) The importance of giving every assistance to minor irrigation works.

A greater amount of assistance, as I have already said, has been given, and without the imposition of the special cess to which the Collector thought the people would be ready to submit.

(iii) The inconvenience caused by so much Local Fund money being locked up while the famine demands against the funds remained unsettled.

This matter has received attention in all districts, and of Rs. 5,67,000 outstanding when the Collector spoke, only Rs. 50,000 now remain, while provision is made for the adjustment of this amount in the estimates of the current year.

(iv) The urgent need of pushing on as quickly as possible the Taluk Cutcherry (office) at Dharmapuri.

This building was duly completed, and has been in use since the end of last year.

131. I observed in the same Minute:

"The cholera which was lately so bad at Salem has now ceased; but, considering that the population still uses the terribly-polluted river for many purposes, although excellent wells have been sunk, it is hardly possible that this large place should long continue exempt from some epidemic or other."

132. I also called attention to this important matter in a speech.

133. In 1883, the cholera returned to Salem and committed great ravages. I am afraid it will continue to do so until the water-supply is amended. I was glad accordingly to observe that in the municipal budget for 1884-85 it is proposed to raise a loan of Rs. 20,000 in the open market for the construction of a sewer to intercept the drainage of the town flowing into the river, and that detailed plans and estimates are promised.

134. It was in the neighbourhood of Salem that I was first led to reflect on the great importance of avenues in this "land of the sun" and in no part of the Presidency have I seen finer ones than those which that district owes I believe to a Mr. Orr. His delightfully simple methods are no longer suited to our manners and customs, but none the less should every Madras Collector try to leave a memorial of himself in the trees along the roads of his district. This is just one of the small things which does a great deal more for human happiness than many pretentious and magnificent schemes.

135. On the morning of the 16th March I returned to Madras.

Third Tour of Inspection.

136. My next journey began at Ootacamund and was to have taken me first to the Palanis, but a telegram, from the Viceroy, warning me that we might have to send troops to Egypt, made it necessary for me to remain nearer railway and telegraph lines.

137. On the evening of the 3rd July I found myself at Erode, whence I visited the anicut which governs the Kalingaroyen channel, and the town of Bhávani, where I heard some complaint of the transfer of the Munsif's Court to Erode, but I am afraid there cannot be the slightest doubt that that place is far more convenient, to the majority of persons interested, than its rival.

138. From Erode we proceeded to Karúr, where the Rev. Mr. Little complained to me of the difficulty of obtaining fibres.

139. We have given in the last couple of years much attention to that subject, and some of the results may be mentioned.

140. *Inter alia* Mr. Little himself has been regularly supplied with all papers on the subject, a lease of land near the Bhávani has been granted for experiments, and it is believed that that lease will enable the beneficiaries to grow and work up *Sanseviera zeylanica* to good profit. Funds have been provided to meet the cost of fibre experiments on behalf of Government in various places, and steps are being taken to ascertain the commercial value of the fibre of *Helicteres isora*, a shrub which occurs very abundantly in many of our districts.

141. From Karúr I passed to Trichinopoly, where, on the evening of my arrival, I inspected the bath in which Bishop Heber was drowned, then in a deplorable condition. It has now been properly railed in, while the event which has given it a melancholy celebrity has been commemorated by an inscription.

142. On the 5th I went to the anicut on the Coleroon and also inspected the large plantations near the landing place just below the weir of the Cauvery.

143. That done, there followed a number of visits to schools—Anglican, Catholic, and Hindu. In the evening the people presented to me an address. First, they spoke to me about the minor irrigation works. On that subject I need say no more. Secondly, they addressed me about the Vengur channel project, which, proposed some years ago by certain proprietors in the neighbourhood, was at first favorably entertained.

144. It turned out, however, that the Vengur channel could not be made, and the Rs. 5,000, which were subscribed for it, are being now given back to the subscribers with the accumulated interest. The good results which were expected to accrue to the neighbouring lands from the Vengur project will, it is now believed, accrue, in more abundant measure, from the improvement of the Wyacondan channel.

145. The next topic was the Imperial License Tax of which I have already spoken, and the next the pagoda endowment question. In replying to what the deputation said on the latter subject, I made a remark, which I think requires to be kept before the mind of those who are interested in them, viz.:

"Then you speak of your devastanums. I regret that you are constrained to report so disparagingly of their present management, not only because their mismanagement is an evil in itself, but because the direction of these endowments is an important part of local self-government. You pay us a great compliment in saying, or seeming to say, that we could manage your religious institutions better than yourselves. I don't think many of our co-religionists would pay us the same compliment. What more 'motive and spring of action' can you desire than to order well matters connected with your own faith?"

146. Lastly, they asked that Government should not disconnect itself from the higher education. I need not say that Government is not going to disconnect itself from the higher education.

147. On the following day I addressed the 30th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry, then under orders for Egypt. Their Colonel called my attention to the shifts to which the men were being put for want of accommodation.

148. The improved accommodation is now being provided, and will, it is believed, be completed on or before the 1st October next, at a cost of something like Rs. 26,000.

149. From Trichinopoly I went to Dindigul, where the inhabitants addressed me upon only one subject, but that a very important one to them,—their water-supply.

150. When I was in Madura, in July last I learned from its active and able Collector that trial wells had been dug whence water has been pumped, and that he had every hope that the water would turn out good. It was to be sent down to Madras for chemical examination. The particular scheme which the people suggested to me in 1882 would have severely taxed their resources, even if it had been possible, which is doubtful. The present one would appear to be much more hopeful.

151. In replying, I took an opportunity of calling attention to the lecture which had been lately delivered by Dr. Furnell, the Sanitary Commissioner, on a subject than which there is absolutely none more important in Southern India.

152. If only the people would conform in their practice to the excellent maxims with reference to water which are to be found in their sacred books, half the worst diseases of the Peninsula would vanish away.

153. On this visit to Dindigul I was favorably impressed with the medical establishments of Dr. Chester, and I heard an equally good account of them as I passed, the other day. He is spreading good medicines and some elementary ideas of hygiene all over the district.

154. Then I visited Mr. [illegible]pel's cigar factory, with which I was much pleased. Governments cannot interfere in such matters, but, in my private capacity, I have done all I could to make his very good wares known at home.

155. An ingenious locksmith at this place brought me some of his work to see. It seemed to me that something might be saved, and the policy of the Government of India furthered, if this manufacture could be encouraged. The locks were accordingly tried with fair but not brilliant results, as were those of another Madura locksmith. Orders have issued for a further trial of locks made in factories in the Madura District.

156. From Dindigul I passed to Tanjore, where I received a very cordial welcome, but where the people made no special requests. While there, however, I heard incidentally a bad account of the date and mahogany trees, about which the present Chief Secretary had, when Collector of the district, taken much trouble. I had this looked into, for the * introduction of valuable plants into a country like this is a matter, in my opinion, of the very highest importance, and severe notice should be taken of any wilful carelessness in allowing experiments once well begun to be neglected.

The later accounts are much better, and dates grown in the Tanjore District have quite recently been eaten in Ootacamund.

157. The conditions under which the mahogany grows in its native country are very different from any which prevail at least in the eastern parts of this presidency, but there must be climates in Madras where the date palm, so nearly allied to the widely-spread *Phœnix sylvestris*, *Phœnix farinifera*, &c., ought to flourish. Our French friends do not mean to be caught napping in such matters. I have already been addressed officially about our mahogany experiments, with a view to the benefit of Tonquin.

158. I observed that a crack in the wall of the little Fort Church menaced the monument of Swartz by Flaxman, and noted that, although it was not one of his most successful efforts, it should not be allowed to go to ruin. The repairs [illegible] executed in August 1883.

[illegible]ckintosh when at Bombay noted in his diary:—
[illegible] Escobar, a Spanish lady, first brought a few grains of wheat into the City of Lima. For three years [illegible]d their produce among the colonists, giving twenty or thirty grains to each farmer. This is a fact, which [illegible] a good text for a sermon to F——. Maria d'Escobar brought into existence more human beings by this supply [illegible]od than Napoleon has destroyed. If she had come from Egypt to Attica in the earlier ages of Grecian history, she would have been a goddess. Malcolm has introduced potatoes into Persia. That benefit may be remembered long after all that is now spoken of in our ridiculous Persian missions has fallen into deserved oblivion."

159. From Tanjore a long journey took me to Vellore, where on the 10th July the people met me with an address.

160. The first request made was that the temple in the fort should be handed back to the Hindus.

To that I replied that the admiration expressed for the temple was natural and creditable, but added:

"I am afraid that to restore the Vellore temple to one sect, however numerous and however deserving of respect, would hardly be in accordance with that perfect religious neutrality which is characteristic of British rule. It was not we who took the temple from the Hindus or who devoted it to secular uses, and I think we shall best fulfil our trust by keeping it as a national monument for the general delight of all who admire its elaborate style of architecture, to whatever section of religious opinion they may happen to belong."

161. The second was a similar request with regard to a certain Muhammadan mosque.

To that I replied:

"The case, however, with regard to the little Muhammadan mosque is somewhat different. It was, I suppose, a mosque when we took Vellore, and it was by our Government that it was turned to secular uses, but to restore it to religious uses would involve some expense, which would have to be met out of the general taxation of the community, mainly of the Hindus. I have not, as you know, seen the mosque, and am speaking under the impression that it is not of sufficient architectural or historical importance to be kept up for the general advantage as a national monument, but, as to that, I shall be able to form a better opinion after visiting the fort."

162. I may say that, after making the speech just quoted, I examined the mosque and saw no occasion to modify the views I had expressed. Probably neither request would have been made but for the emulation of the two sects, as to which I said:

"Finally, I come to your request that the upper fourth class in the Government Muhammadan school may be continued. Well, that is a question for yourselves, as it will be continued in the ordinary course of things if the number of students keeps up. No one can be more anxious that it should keep up than I, for it is infinitely desirable that the heart-burnings which have too often divided the Hindu and Muhammadan communities in this town and neighbourhood should be replaced by keen and healthy emulation in the field of letters."

163. The third request was for an improved water-supply, which the people wished to obtain by means of pipes from a certain large tank in the neighbourhood. This project was examined, but the Sanitary Commissioner condemned the tank, as a source of supply, on account of the surface drainage which it receives. The sinking of large wells at a suitable distance is now contemplated, and sketches and estimates are being prepared for that purpose. I am glad to observe that in a report with reference to cholera, dated April 1st, 1884, the Acting Civil Surgeon says that the Municipality has recently done much to improve the sanitation of the town.

164. The fourth request was for improved railway communication, and especially for a branch railway passing through the town and leading to Pólúr and Trinomalai in South Arcot.

This matter has received much consideration from Government, since the date of which I am writing. For the moment it will be enough to say that the survey of the line from Vellore railway station through Vellore town, Arcot, and Arni, together with the extension south from Arni through Pólúr, Trinomalai, and Tirukoilúr to Villupuram on the South Indian Railway has been completed, and its early construction is under consideration.

165. The fifth request related to a small matter which belonged to the Collector Mr. Stuart, and could not be left in better hands.

166. My answer to the sixth I have mentioned above. The seventh was that the town should not be abolished as a military station, and that a regiment should be sent to garrison it as soon as possible.

There is no intention of abolishing Vellore as a military station, and a regiment was sent to garrison it as soon as possible.

167. A journey of 22 miles over superb roads—roads are the glory of North Arcot, as avenues are that of Salem,—took me to Chittoor, where also I received an address.

168. The first request was for railway communication between Chittoor and the Madras Line of Railway.

The more important line from Vellore southward having been, as I have mentioned, already surveyed, it is in contemplation to take up ere long the survey of this line and of its extension northward.

169. The second request was that the town should be connected with Vellore by telegraph line. This was done in May 1883.

170. The third request was that we should find a way to give practical effect to the principles enunciated by the Viceroy with reference to local self-government.

The necessary Acts are now passed, and the details therewith connected are being worked out.

171. The fourth request related to the maladministration of temple funds. I have already explained what has been done with reference to that subject.

172. The fifth request was that a Munsif's Court should be located at Chittoor.

This has been done with the result, by the way, that the Palmanér people think that they have now just the same grievance which the Chittoor people had two years ago, but of these geographical controversies a solution perfectly satisfactory to all concerned is, under existing conditions of time and space, impossible.

173. The sixth request was for certain alterations in the arrangements of the Madras Railway.

One of these was not thought expedient after full consideration by the proper authorities; as regards the other, the wishes of the people have been recently met, to a great extent, and as far as was considered possible.

174. While at Chittoor I received and returned the visits of the Zemindars of Kálahasti and Kárvetnagar as well as that of the Mahant of Tirupati, whom I took an opportunity of congratulating on the sorely-needed sanitary improvements which he was introducing, and to which I shall refer again when I come to review my seventh tour.

175. Amongst other things while in this neighbourhood I opened a bridge over the Payani, inspected the jail where there had been a good deal of illness which had then ceased, visited Ranipet and the Payani anicut, saw Arcot and discussed with the Collector the state of the ruins of the Fort which Clive has made historical and in which destruction should not be allowed to go further. I also saw Wálajápet and the great Pálár Anicut.

176. Passing by Arkónam, I then transferred myself to Bellary, where I received an address from the Municipal Commissioners.

177. Their first request was that they should obtain compensation for the loss sustained by the withdrawal of all taxes payable on Government property in military cantonments.

This is a matter which belongs to the Imperial Government, but has formed the subject of much correspondence between it and this Government. It having finally resolved that municipal taxation is not to be levied on Government buildings in cantonments, the proposal of the Municipal Commissioners to re-introduce the arts tax, of which it pays a portion for the exemption of military officers, has been sanctioned.

178. Next the Commissioners proceeded to express their thanks to the Government of India and to this Government for the steps taken in view to the introduction of an enlarged measure of self-government.

In my reply I observed:

"You allude to the local self-government which the Viceroy so much wishes to encourage. It is, I think, highly desirable to encourage it for many reasons, and, amongst others, because, under existing arrangements, it seems quite impossible to provide sufficient government for the country at all. Take this district and the one that adjoins it—Anantapur. Till the other day, these two districts were united in one Collectorate, and when united they formed, astounding to relate, a country smaller by only about twenty-three square miles than the Kingdom of Belgium. They have, as you know, recently been separated for administrative purposes, and their administrative establishments have been slightly increased, but even now what do these establishments amount to? You have one European Collector here, Mr. Huntly Gordon. You have another European Collector at Anantapur, on a smaller scale of pay and younger in the service,

Mr. Roupell; there is a much younger European Head Assistant at Penukonda, while you have a European Head Assistant at Hospet, forty miles off, who, for the moment, however, is on short leave in Europe, and you have, in each of the two districts, a few native gentlemen acting under those whom I have named. There are, of course, judicial and other establishments, but that is the whole administrative establishment of a country which is, as I said a few minutes ago, hardly perceptibly smaller than a European Kingdom. I defy contradiction when I say that, to the infinite credit of the population of the Madras Presidency, there is no part of the world where an equal amount of well-being is secured at so trifling an outlay upon administration. It would be wholly impossible to secure it, at anything like the money, if the population were not good and law-abiding in a very high degree, but, if it were only feasible, I should like to see local self-government largely increased, and at the same time the trained and scientific superintendence doubled all round. The last is a mere dream I fear. We have not got, and cannot get, the money; but the first is possible, and, if there were no other argument in its favor, I would say good speed to local self-government."

179. The second request related to the Tungabhudra channel and the Alipore tank.

The investigation of these projects has not yet been taken up, but under date of 28th August, this year, the Public Works Department reports that a special officer has now been made available and will soon proceed to examine them.

180. The third request was for the introduction of trial by jury. Trial by jury has now been introduced.

181. Speaking on another subject, I said and am glad here to repeat:

"The Bellary-Hubli State Railway, part of which I hope to traverse to-morrow, has my best wishes, and I believe that your spinning mills, now that the poison-tree of protection, which blights every industry that grows up under its shade, is removed, will, if judiciously managed, have a good future. You are to be congratulated on the presence among you of an energetic citizen, who is doing something to introduce into this neighbourhood really efficient ploughs. I hope much for India from the extension of her manufactures and the growth of more varied industries. I should like to see this presidency thoroughly surveyed by eyes at once scientific, and trained to look out for openings for the practical application of science, with a view to such extension. After all, however, it is to her soil, her sun, her rainfall, and their interaction upon her products that India must mainly look for prosperity."

182. Then came an address on the subject of cotton, in which the memorialists asked me to give my attention to "the desirability of an enactment to repress frauds in connection therewith." My honorable colleagues and I did so and came to the conclusion that any further legislation on the subject would not be advisable.

183. I may remark, in passing, that (1) the remedy lies in the hands of the buyer, who should remember the maxim *caveat emptor;* (2) a legitimate trade in mixed cotton exists in this presidency; (3) a bad habit of giving advances to men of straw ties the hands of the buyer, frequently obliges him to take adulterated cotton, and should be abandoned; (4) the cost of Inspectors would naturally form a burden on the trade; (5) fraudulent adulteration is already punishable under the Penal Code.

184. From Bellary I visited the ruins of Vijianagar, making use of the unfinished Bellary-Hubli line, the authorities of which were extremely courteous and helpful.

185. At the Railway Station of Hospet I received a very well written address, the most important part of which was the fourth paragraph, which was as follows:—

"These monuments of ancient architectural skill, sublime even in their ruins, have been visited and admired by your Excellency's predecessors, but no effective measures have been adopted towards their restoration or repair. We, however, trust your Excellency's Government will take such measures for the restoration or repair of some of the old decaying temples as would fitly commemorate your Excellency's visit and associate your Excellency's name with those of the ancient founders of these temples. Verily the work of restoring decaying institutions is as great and meritorious as that of founding new ones."

186. The strong interest which the people here took in their historical neighbourhood pleased me much, and in replying I said:

"Happy, however, are those countries where the only enemy to be fought by the Archæologist is time. There are countries in which, before he can begin his campaign against time, he has to struggle for years against apathy and ignorance, to say nothing of that panic-fear about anything that seems to interfere, even for his own good, with a man's right to abuse his rights over property, which is the most dangerous ally of socialism. Happy, too, are those countries where the population is proud of its past. In a recent report, I think by Mr. Carlleyle, I read of a district in India in which the first idea of the population, when they saw that the Archæologists cared about a monument, was to make haste to destroy it. That district has just passed, I believe, under the rule of one of the most accomplished men of letters and investigators into human history who now is, or ever was in India—Sir Alfred Lyall; but even he will have much to do, I should think, to bring it up to the level of intelligence which I am rejoiced to find here."

187. In my third tour minute I wrote as follows:—

"No time should be lost in arresting the further progress of mischief. Arboreal vegetation should be ruthlessly destroyed. There are here none of the associations, which made the sweeping away of plants from the Colosseum and the Baths of Caracalla so doubtful a proceeding. The centre of the most important of all the temples wants immediate attention. If it can be saved at all, it can only be saved by being looked into speedily. It may, however, be impossible to save it; but there are numbers of other buildings which, with a little care now, will stand for long years. I read on the spot Captain Cole's report and generally agree with his conclusions; but I would confine our action for the present to keeping things absolutely in *statu quo*, doing nothing in the way of excavation, however proper that may be at a later stage of our proceedings."

188. Since that period the Vittalaswami temple above alluded to has been entirely cleared of rubbish, the roof and pavement have been repaired, the ruinous ashlar walls pulled down and rebuilt, some large stones weighing from three to six tons removed from dangerous positions, the stone car repaired, besides a variety of other works set forth in Mr. Black's report received by us on the 8th August.

189. From Kamalápuram, where we had encamped with a view to visit Vijianagar, I traversed the Sandúr Valley for the purpose of seeing the very valuable forest (with regard to which I had much conversation with Mr. Brandis) and of exchanging visits with the Rajah.

190. The convention necessary for enabling us to deal with this forest has now been concluded, the survey has been completed, and an important piece of forest is very carefully looked after, to the great advantage alike of the small native state concerned, and of this Government.

191. On the night of the 20th I returned to Bellary, where Colonel Clarke, who was in command of the artillery, told me that his horses were cruelly in want of stabling. Three blocks of stabling are now in course of erection.

192. In my tour minute occurs the following paragraph, describing the impression I received of military matters at Bellary:—

"An excellent spirit seems to have been infused into all branches of the service by General Prendergast, who commands in the Ceded Districts. It was quite impossible, even for a Civilian, not to see that all the officers, he came across, were quite unusually interested in their work. The troops were paraded for my inspection on the morning of the 17th—7th Fusiliers, the 25th and 27th Madras Native Infantry, the 2nd Madras Cavalry, and the Field Battery—all, to my non-professional eye, looking very well. I likewise went up the Fort with General Prendergast, and am very decidedly of opinion that the small amount of money required to make it efficient as a place of refuge for non-combatants, in troubled times, should be spent forthwith. General Prendergast has thoroughly entered into the spirit of the extremely important circulars lately issued by Government, under the advice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. If all officers in high command throughout the territories garrisoned by the Madras Army do the same, these halcyon times will have been turned to the best advantage."

193. As regards the alterations required to make the Fort efficient as a place of refuge, a grant of Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 7,000 has since been made for the purpose.

194. Mr. Wace, the Chaplain, made to me various representations about the churches in this station.

195. The views of himself and others have been carefully considered. We did not see our way to substitute for the two existing ones a single church, but the necessary repairs to the Garrison Church were completed in May 1883, and the Fort Church was put in order in May 1884.

196. Just before leaving Bellary I received, late at night, an address from the native officials.

197. They asked first for the repair and maintenance of the ruins of Vijianagar. I have already stated what has been done in relation to that.

198. Their second request was for irrigation works. The same remark applies to this.

199. Their third request was for the construction of a line to connect the southern taluks of Bellary with the Mysore State Railway. A survey of an

extension to Hindupur of the line, already sanctioned from the Kistna Delta to Guntakal, is now in progress.

200. The last request was that some measures should be adopted for raising the status, emoluments, and prospects of the petitioners. Proposals for the improvement of the position of Uncovenanted Officers of the grade of Deputy Collector were sanctioned in the early half of 1883, and have been carried into effect from 1st July in that year.

Very considerable changes with reference to Revenue Inspectors, to Taluk Establishments, and to our subordinate officials generally, involving a very large increase of expenditure from Provincial Funds, have been accepted by this Government and will immediately be submitted to the Government of India.

201. From Bellary I ran along the line to Gooty, where I visited the cenotaph of Sir Thomas Munro, and admired the really noble fortress. Thence a journey of thirty-four miles, across what ought at this season to be a plain covered with young crops, but which was a wilderness of black dust, red dust and sand swept by an unintermitting hurricane, took me to Anantapur, where the great tank was as dry as the Sahara.

202. Here I received an address from the inhabitants, who, first of all called my attention to the want of accommodation for the people of the town, and asked for the allotment of new sites for buildings. Shortly after this we received and sanctioned the necessary plans, and all the preliminaries required for the extension of the town have now, we are informed, been duly carried into effect.

203. I also noted in my third tour minute that accommodation for our officials was sadly wanted at Anantapur, and that we ought to do what we could, in reason, to diminish the existing inconvenience.

All the buildings that were most wanted in July 1882 are now in progress.

204. The second request was for the introduction of artesian wells. To that I replied:

"I trust that it may be possible to open artesian wells in the neighbourhood, but unluckily one has not an artesian well by wishing or even by boring for it. I should like to know, before expressing any opinion on this subject, what the geologist and the engineer have got to say for it."

205. Subsequent inquiries made have, in the opinion of Mr. Bruce-Foote, established the fact that the district is quite unsuited to the sinking of artesian wells.

206. The third request was for a light railway between Tadpatri, Anantapur, and Bangalore.

The object of the memorialists will be met as well as the conformation of the country and other circumstances will permit by the line now under survey from Guntakal to Anantapur and Hindupur.

207. In replying to the Anantapur address, I said:

"I would remark in conclusion that, as I passed through the country in the neighbourhood of Guntakal and Gooty to-day, the thought crossed my mind more than once whether it is really quite certain that the diamonds, which once made the loosely-applied name of Golconda so famous, are really exhausted. I confess I shall be disappointed, if the period of my government of this presidency comes to an end, without a serious attempt being made to answer the question whether it is impossible to revive, in these regions, so ancient and interesting an industry. I know, that, in doing so, I shall be supported not only by the good wishes, but also by the good hopes, of at least one of the greatest European authorities upon gems."

Ere long we shall, I hope, have the assistance of a mineralogist to take up the investigation of a variety of questions connected with this science where the admirable labours of the geological survey had, in the nature of things, to leave them, but I should have thought that with regard to diamonds there was already enough information to induce more searching for them than I hear of.

208. At one time our rules were far too strict and not sufficiently favorable to the miner. Perhaps it is not as widely known, as it should be, how much we have relaxed them in the last two years.

209. We have lately asked the Colonial Office for any papers they may be able to supply us with reference to the diamond industry.

210. The fourth request was that a Middle School should be started. A Middle School has been started.

211. The fifth request was that Government should not, in the present state of the country, leave the higher education entirely to native and missionary agencies. Government does not propose so to do.

212. From Anantapur a journey of 32 miles carried me to Tadpatri. On the way I saw the great Singanamulla Tank which covers some eight square miles, but was quite empty; and crossed the Muchukotta Hills, which were covered with a fair growth of *Hardwickia binata*. These Hills, as I observed in my third Tour Minute, the new Forest Act will soon enable us to turn into a valuable property. They have since been surveyed. The woodland is found to contain about five square miles, and the accounts, with regard to it, continue favorable.

213. I heard something of dacoity (brigandage) in this neighbourhood, and communicated with the Inspector-General of Police with the result that all seems now going well.

214. The first request of the Tadpatri address referred to the paucity of irrigation works in that district. I have already mentioned what has been done with regard to this throughout the presidency.

215. Secondly, the memorialists asked me to give the conservation of forests the attention which it deserved. This has been done. Thirdly, they asked for a reduction of the railway tariff with a view to improving the cotton trade.

This is a matter in which there are many interests to be consulted, and the Traffic Manager of the Madras Railway, who reconsidered this question, at the suggestion of our Consulting Engineer, reports that the charge for loose cotton consigned to Tadpatri was reduced in August 1882 from 26 to 18 pies per ton per mile.

216. At Tadpatri there are two temples—the Vishnavite and the Sivite—of very considerable architectural merit. The latter, which is the best of the two, is in considerable danger from the floods of the Pennér, for it stands on the banks of that typical Madras river, which is for months a waste of sand and then for hours a raging torrent sweeping all the works of man before it. From information obtained on the spot, I am led to believe that there are ample funds to prevent any harm coming to these interesting edifices, in the hands of their managers, if they will only use them.

217. From Tadpatri I went to Cuddapah, where I received a long address.

218. The first request was that we might view with favor a scheme for improving the water-supply of the town. I went to see the springs alluded to, and made the following remarks in my third Tour Minute:—

"Even now, in the depths of a quite exceptionally dry season—for Cuddapah, like Anantapur and South-Eastern Bellary, is suffering sadly from want of rain—they were very full and strong. Their supply did not fail, we were told, even in the famine, and Mr. Burrows seems to have no doubt that they would yield a sufficient supply for the town. Between them and it there is a peculiarly fine sheet of cultivation, indigo and turmeric, two of the great staples of Cuddapah, being largely grown. The question whether any, and if so what, compensation would be due to some of the cultivators will have to be considered when the proposals of the Municipality with respect to a loan are before us."

219. Since the date on which I wrote, the Booga springs scheme and another have been investigated, with the result that the latter has, on the advice of the Executive Engineer, been abandoned, while further experiments are to be made to gauge the Booga water-supply, for the conduct of which the President of the Municipality has advertised for the services of an Engineer, the Public Works Department being unable to spare the services of one of their officers. To meet the cost of these experiments Government have sanctioned the levy of tolls at full rates in the current year.

220. The second request was for the privilege of electing representatives to the Municipal Board. This request has been granted some time ago.

221. The fourth request was that certain irrigation works should be considered and if possible carried into effect.

222. Of these, one—the Sagiler—is now being investigated; the other, known as the Chitravati Papanapalle project, had been investigated and found by the

Engineers to be impracticable before I was addressed on the subject, the great depth at which rock is reached, at the spot where the dam was to be constructed, being found to prohibit the construction of a reservoir. As the locality seems at first sight an extremely suitable one, it is not surprising that the people should have been loth to part with the hope that the reservoir they wished for could be made.

223. Then the memorialists asked for a permanent settlement. As is well known, the present views of the supreme authorities, although highly favorable to letting the people "sit easy," as we say in Scotland, and to great *continuity* of assessments are quite adverse to what is properly called a *permanent* settlement.

224. This request, however, was based upon mistakes in fact. The petitioners thought that before the recent settlement dry lands had not been assessed above one rupee an acre, but this was not so. The old rates, far from not going above one rupee, sometimes went as high as nearly eleven rupees and as low as four pies, say one halfpenny. Now they vary only from five rupees to four annas, or say sixpence, four annas being the lowest assessment now anywhere permitted in the districts under the new settlement, on the ground that land which cannot bear an assessment of sixpence an acre is not really arable land.

225. Further they stated that formerly no extra tax was charged, if the owner had in any way improved the land, and they implied that a tax was now charged on the ryots' improvements. That however is not the case; no change of this sort has been made, and it would be most impolitic to make it.

226. The deputation then went on to complain that hundreds of acres of land were lying waste, and asked that we should devise some rules to encourage the cultivation of waste land.

227. A perfect official literature has grown up about the abandonment of lands in the Cuddapah district, it having been imagined that the high rates imposed by the revised settlement might have caused this.

228. It has turned out, however, that the cause of the abandonment of a quantity of land over 80,000 acres in the district, which was cultivated or nominally cultivated, was, first, the famine and, secondly, the fact that a vast quantity of land was assessed at only an anna an acre. Such a low assessment allowed the ryot to hold a great deal of land of which he made no use, and this land, when he has to pay for it sixpence an acre, instead of three halfpence or in some cases only one halfpenny an acre, he has abandoned, with the result of concentrating his attention upon land that will really grow human food.

229. The Muhammadan inhabitants also presented to me a very intelligent address, in which they made the agreeable announcement that they had no grievances.

230. From Cuddapah I went to Conjeeveram, where I also received an address.

231. There was no request made to me in it, but I was told that the Commissioners were about to submit a certain scheme to Government with reference to improving their water-supply. This was not done because, as I understand, they found it would be too costly, but they have submitted a proposal of a far less costly kind, which has been sanctioned.

Fourth Tour of Inspection.

232. On the morning of August 28th I again left our summer capital for the plains.

233. It had been raining for several months, and the tanks were most satisfactorily full. At Coimbatore and at Shoranore I was mainly occupied with obtaining information with regard to the recent outbreak of cholera in the jail at the former place, which has happily not recurred, but the causes of which have never been fully explained; the state of things at Salem; and Mr. Logan's inquiries about Malabar Land Tenures, the results of which had just been put into shape.

234. From the southern end of the bridge at Shoranore to Trichore the road lies through the territories of the Rajah of Cochin.

235. I have never passed through a more beautiful piece of non-mountainous scenery in my life. The foliage, under the influence of the recent heavy rains, was magnificent, the rice fields were one sheet of green, the wild flowers of exceptional beauty and interest, the population singularly well grown and stalwart.

236. At Trichore I had time to see the principal buildings, and at night the large and singularly picturesque Pagoda—so unlike anything which one sees on the Eastern Coast—was very tastefully lighted up.

237. Embarking about 9, upon that wonderful system of lagunes which we know as the backwaters, I found myself in the early morning of the 30th at the Residency on the Island of Balghatty. A frightful morning it was, worthy of Ootacamund in the height of summer, and all day the rain descended with persistent fury. At 12 o'clock the Rajah came to visit me and was followed half an hour later by his brother, the Eliya Rajah. They were immediately succeeded by a deputation from the white Jews, and that again by a deputation from the black Jews, both asking me to visit their respective Synagogues. I returned the visits of the Princes at the Palace in Ernacolum, where a durbar was held, and thence went to fulfil my promises to the Jews.

238. At both Synagogues they read—according, I believe, to the usual custom on such occasions—the prayer for the Queen and other authorities, while, at that of the white Jews, I saw the famous deed which Mr. Logan has carefully translated.

239. There seems no doubt that it is not as old as it is sometimes called, but it must be as old as the Morgengabe preserved in the Monastery of the Trinitá at La Cava, which is quite the oldest deed I ever saw in Europe.

240. In the evening the Rajah gave a dinner at the Residency, at which, being still infirm, he was represented by the Eliya Rajah, who proposed the health of the Queen, Empress of India,—I proposing that of the Rajah.

241. The 31st dawned brightly, and I crossed the lagune very early to British Cochin. The Municipal Commissioners received me at the landing place and delivered an address.

242. These gentlemen made no request except that the Madras Government would bestow its attention on the subjects of special interest to them, which might from time to time be submitted for its consideration, a request with reference to which it was easy to promise compliance and to keep the promise when made. They have, for example, recently asked us to allow them to purchase twenty-five additional iron tanks from municipal funds for the purpose of storing water, and this request was granted. They also took the opportunity of explaining very clearly some of the improvements which they had made and some of the difficulties which they had to encounter.

243. They were followed by the Chamber of Commerce, who asked first for a railway and secondly for a harbour.

244. With reference to these requests, I said at the time:

"About the Railway from Shoranore, I think I need say nothing. You are aware of the position of the question and of the line which has been taken by the Madras Government. By that line, subject to the decisions of the higher authorities, we firmly and *ex animo* abide. I am delighted to find that you have a hope of being able to lay before us a scheme for a harbour, which will cost far less than the one which was last under consideration, for I confess that my heart sank within me when I read Mr. Parkes' calculation about 81 lakhs of rupees. I am sure that the professional advisers of the Government and the Government itself will listen with great attention to any propositions submitted to them which have the support of this Chamber; but I need not remind you that questions of this kind have to be finally decided not hard by in Ootacamund, nor even in Madras."

245. Both of these were, of course, matters appertaining to the Supreme Government. Much correspondence took place with respect to the first, and this Government advised the construction of the railway on a joint guarantee for a term of fifteen years by the British Government and by the Native States of Travancore and Cochin, the liabilities of each being regulated by the extent to which it was interested in the construction of the line.

246. The Government of India did not see its way to accept the proposals made, and the matter is still in abeyance.

247. Great attention has been given to the question of a harbour at Cochin, but up to this time it has not been made clear to me that a really good harbour could be made there, even if the Government of India had the purse of Fortunatus.

248. A harbour, different from that suggested by Mr. Parkes, was talked of when I was at Cochin, but plans and estimates for it have not been yet placed before us.

249. Then I was taken to see the old church, where much was wanted. We have since given a grant for the repair of this curious structure and the assistance of the Public Works Department.

250. From British Cochin I returned to the Residency, where, in the course of the morning, I received a visit from the Archbishop of Verapoly, the head of the Carmelite Mission in South-Western India.

251. Later came a large number of Syrian Christians of many shades of opinion, who presented a short, but very noticeable, address, in which, amongst other things, they said that my visit was "the occasion which for the first time, after ages of separation, witnessed the spectacle of all the different sects of their community, following divergent articles of faith, sinking for once religious and party differences and joined together to do honor to their common friend."

252. In the early afternoon I received a deputation of rate-payers from British Cochin, who presented a prodigiously long, but not very numerously signed, address. They first complained of the mismanagement of their municipal affairs. To that part of the address I replied as follows:—

"I have listened with much interest to your address, and I perceive that you are anxious that the powers-that-be should largely diminish taxation, while largely increasing those services to the public which are paid for out of taxation.

"That, gentlemen, is the first thought of many excellent people in all countries. When, however, they have succeeded in getting behind the scenes, more especially if they attain to the closely-watched servitude which is mocked with the name of power, and learn the difficulties of their predecessors, they are apt to find that to increase expenditure and to diminish revenue is to burn the candle at both ends. A lady in England, who has said many good things, replied to a friend who blamed her, when a girl, for burning the candle at both ends, that that was surely the best way to make the ends meet; but I do not think that any financier, Imperial or Municipal, has ever, after trying the experiment, been inclined to agree with her.

"So much by way of a *primâ facie* objection to your general scheme. When, however, I come to its details, I must confess myself unable to criticise them. As you know I only came here the night before last, and the frightful weather which we had yesterday prevented my seeing as much of the neighbourhood as I could wish. I have no doubt that there is a vast deal of truth in your representations, but what can be done with such a pittance as that of which the Municipality disposes—under Rs. 19,000 per annum—even with your present taxation. Take away the money that used to be collected for the Police, and it seems to me you would be unable even to improve the conservancy, which [illegible] it s[illegible] which, as I am informed, the Municipality pron[illegible], as you say, greatly wants improving, and Government o[illegible]ses to improve with the money set free by the remission on the part of the

"To [illegible] the Police contribution.

to[illegible] You [illegible] do all you want would require very large funds, but whe[illegible]re are they to come from? costly [illegible]u ask for local self-government, and I can promise you that your wi[illegible]sh will be fairly considered; but although local self-government is an excellent thing, it won't ena[illegible]ble you to get blood out of a stone, or to put a very poor community in a position to enjoy those c[illegible]omforts and luxuries which a wealthy community can easily provide for itself.

"As to those matters which belong to the province of the Governm[illegible]ent, I will see that what you have advanced is examined in a friendly spirit; but it would, as I [illegible]am sure you will perceive, be impossible for me to give an off-hand answer about them upon this o[illegible]ccasion."

253. Since this address was presented very large changes [illegible] have been introduced, as is well known, in the position of Municipalities, and it will be interesting to see how far, when the new system is fairly under way, the people of Cochin will support the policy heretofore pursued by their Municipality, or that which found favor with the representatives of the local opposition who addressed me. Already last year we introduced the elective system, but so little enthusiasm did this extension of self-government, which was earnestly pressed on me, create, when it was once given, that for want of candidates we were obliged to nominate three Commissioners.

254. One of the grievances of the petitioners against their Municipality, the condition of the Calvety Canal, has been, I observe from the latest Municipal report, attended to.

255. The public garden which gave no satisfaction to the petitioners, and which they said served the purpose of a Nekropolis for dogs, has, it appears, been abandoned after much local discussion.

256. To the water-supply, which was another grievance, I have already alluded.

257. Another grievance was about a certain jetty. This was inquired into and the opinion of the Advocate-General was taken, but the Government entirely agreed that the Municipal Commissioners were acting fully within their rights. As their President put it, they said to persons who wanted to land goods: "There is the jetty; if you find it a convenience to you, pay us so much; if you don't care to pay, then land goods through the mud as you used to do. We are not preventing you."

258. The memorialists further complained about certain of their medical arrangements. Some of these were purely municipal matters, and I have reason to believe that the Municipality look very well after them. Others related to the Government, and appear to amount to a request that it should retain the services of medical men for the purpose of attending the inhabitants at large without fee or reward, a proposition which was, of course, wholly inadmissible.

259. Turning now to matters which belong more directly to the Government, I was told by the petitioners that the Police force assigned to Cochin was inadequate. The strength of the Police, however, would appear to be unusually large in proportion to the population. The peculiar circumstances of Cochin to which the petitioners alluded are already carefully recognised in the distribution of the Police Force. In the large towns of Malabar which are surrounded on all sides by British territory, such as Calicut and Pálghat, the proportion of police to population is far smaller.

260. Then came a grievance about Port conservancy, with regard to which the Marine authorities were consulted, but did not see their way to support the petition.

261. The last complaint was with reference to the encroachments of the sea, which was said to be carrying off valuable cocoanut trees and other property. This grievance was of the same character as that of the persons who build houses under Vesuvius. When the head of the Marine Department visited the spot, after six months' interval, he reported:

"I find the coast restored; there are 300 feet of sand between the coast boundary pillar and the sea line, while many huts and trees still remain where they never ought to have been placed, viz., between the pillar and the sea, showing that the injury never really reached the normal line. Although the injury and loss were so recent, the lesson is of so little use that new trees are here and there being planted, and new huts are preparing now. In the complaint referred to, the inhabitants are treated of as ryots, but they are really fishermen, to whom the close proximity of the sea is a great object, and whose experience and tradition should be sufficient warning to them."

262. Later in the day I visited another Synagogue of the black Jews at Ernacolum, where most of those who had formed the deputation met me, which they were unable to do at their principal Synagogue, having grounded, as they returned, on a sand-bank in the middle of the lagune—a common incident, it would appear, of Cochin life.

263. This done, I went to a Syrian church, whence I drove to the large school w[illegible]ch Mr. Sealy, the very intelligent Director of Public Instruction, has created almost out of nothing, for he began with thirty boys in a shed. I gathered from him that his pupils took on the whole more kindly to mathematics than to any other study. The younger boys were learning to write or engrave upon the palm-leaf—a strange sight to an English eye. Since the date of my visit we have acknowledged Mr. Sealy's merits by making him a Fellow of the Madras University.

264. I started after nightfall—the lagune being everywhere beautifully illuminated till we passed out of Cochin waters—and arrived on the morning of the 1st September at Karmady. The route lay now through channels narrow as rivers, now narrower still—little more than [illegible] and again expanding into chains of

wide but perfectly placid lakes. Everywhere the water was bordered by thick groves of the cocoanut palm, under which there was a dense vegetation, in which the curious holly-like shrub, *Dilivaria ilicifolia*, was the most conspicuous feature. All along the course by day and by night the people thronged every coign of vantage and received the party with every demonstration of friendliness usual in these climes—some of them, it must be admitted, not productive of happiness to those who are not sound sleepers. At length, long before nightfall, the eighty-eight miles between Cochin and Quilon were left behind, and the Residency at the latter place was reached.

265. On the early morning of the 2nd I crossed the lagune and visited the small patch of British territory known as Tangachéri, containing, as I was told by Mr. Laporte, the Magistrate there, 1,166 souls, and valuable as forming one side of what will be, if Mr. Parkes' designs are carried into effect, the very large and important harbour of Quilon, the site of which was shown and carefully explained to me by Mr. Hannyngton and others.

266. Complaints were here made to me about the smuggling which is said to be carried on alike from this place and from British Cochin.

This matter was looked into, and the abuse has been checked, an Inspector having been appointed for the express purpose of preventing such malpractices.

Negotiations, which are far advanced, will probably put an end once for all to this evil.

267. At Quilon a letter was received by the Resident formally announcing the death of His Highness the Mootha Tumburan, the brother of the reigning prince, which I had heard of yesterday unofficially, and which of course required my plans to be modified in many particulars.

268. In the course of the day I received various visitors including Colonel Boone and other officers of the 6th Native Infantry, the Chief Judge, Bishop Ildefonso, &c.

269. On the 4th I passed on to Trivandrum, partly through lagunes like those we had traversed, partly through long canals bordered by lines of trees and shrubs, amongst which the *Cerbera odollam* and the *Allamanda cathartica* of our Madras gardens were, with the ubiquitous *Pandanus odoratissimus* and various ferns, so abundant as to overpower less vigorous plants, stopping by the way to see Anjengo, one of the most desolate little nooks, I suppose, over which the British flag flies in Asia. The priest of that place handed me an [illegible] address, setting forth various local inconveniences to which I called the attention of the Resident. The Warkully tunnels are really very noble works, and the fact of their having been excavated by a Native Government should stimulate us to do whatever of the kind remains undone within our own borders.

270. It was arranged that, under the circumstances, my visit to Trivandrum should be, as far as possible, divested of any public character; that my wife and I should visit the Maharaja, his wife, and the Senior and Junior Ranees as private friends, but that there should be no return visits, as they were unable, during the first stage of the mourning, to leave the Palace.

271. I saw, however, in a quiet way, a great variety of persons, amongst others the Dewan, who talked to me about an exchange of territory connected with the great Irrigation Project known as the Periyar, from which it is hoped that great advantages will accrue to the Madura District.

272. The husbands of the Senior and the Second Ranees, being, according to the customs of Travancore, outside the circle affected by the mourning, both visited me; on the other hand, neither the Eliya Rajah nor the First Prince could do so. I offered to visit the Eliya Rajah as well as the Maharaja, but he, being even more bound by the trammels of custom than the reigning Prince, as being deputed to be chief mourner, was unable to receive me.

273. Amongst other institutions which I saw at Trivandrum was the Maharaja's College, over which I went with Dr. Ross, the Director of Public Instruction, at whose request I addressed a few words to the senior students. The same compliment which has been paid to Mr. Sealy was at the same time extended to Dr. Ross, who is believed to have done excellent work for the Travancore State.

274. At Trivandrum I was visited by Mar Athanasius, as I had been at Cochin by Mar Dionysius, the head of the section of the Syrian Church, which is at open war with his.

275. From Trivandrum we struck to the eastward, passing, at first, through an open and undulating country, but entering, ere long, the great forests which stretch along the banks of the stream that finds its way to the sea near Quilon and up to the crests of the ghauts. It would be impossible to speak too strongly of the beauty of the scenery or the wild luxuriance of the vegetation. Unluckily, however, the weather, both during our journey and after we had reached Courtallum, was about as bad as it well could be.

276. At that place I remained several days with Mr. Hannyngton at the Residency, but the charge of the party was taken by Mr. Pennington. I replied to the addresses delivered respectively at the temples of Courtallum and at Tenkási, the so-called Southern Benares.

277. The first request which the Courtallum inhabitants made to me was that, if the proposed railway to Travancore was not to take the northern route, they might have a tramway connecting the chief towns on the Tinnevelly side of the frontier.

278. It has not, however, been at all decided how the much-talked-of railway into Travancore is to run. A great deal is to be said on both sides, and we, having obtained full information for their benefit, have now placed the whole question before those who are chiefly interested—the Travancore authorities.

279. The next representation was about the minor irrigation works. With regard to that subject, I have already said enough, as I have also with regard to the third representation, which had reference to the pagoda funds.

280. Fourthly and lastly, they expressed a hope that the Educational Commission would not improve elementary education at a too great sacrifice of the higher education. As to this, I did my best to re-assure them.

281. The first request of the Tenkási ryots referred to the minor irrigation works; the second involved a complaint about the levy of the village service cess.

I need not return to the former subject. As to the other, the remarks of the ryots were founded on a misconception. In former days they paid for the services of the village servants by fees of various kinds, some legal, some illegal. These fees have been abolished, and in lieu thereof the cess complained of is now levied.

282. The third complaint was about forest conservancy and ran as follows:—

"We therefore pray that suitable provision may be made in the Bill about to be passed for securing to us a reasonable enjoyment of our privileges consistent with the universal good it aims at, and that legislation in this respect may not drift in the direction of depressing the condition of the ryots and crushing the growth of their independence."

I need hardly say that the greatest possible care is taken by the Conservators of Forests to work the new Act, which had just passed at the time I received this address, so as not in any way to interfere with any privileges which do not hopelessly sacrifice the interests of the future to those of the moment.

The more intelligent of the peasantry are, it is believed, rapidly getting to understand the broad outlines of our forest policy. I had occasion lately to send a complimentary message to a Village Munsif in the Anantapur District, who had been giving his people extremely wise advice on this subject.

283. The fourth request related to the *kistbandi*, that is to say, to the instalments of the Government demand for land revenue.

This is a question which is never ending, still beginning.

The people of different districts hold the most diverse views about it. For example, while the people of Tenkási want the number of their instalments increased from five to seven, the people of Nellore are extremely anxious to have theirs reduced to two. The Board of Revenue is now once more examining the subject