GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Read—Minute by His Excellency the Governor of Madras, dated 5th November 1884, Part II.

Order—dated 5th November 1884, No. 2372, Public.

Communicated to all departments and heads of departments for free circulation.

2. Those portions of the Minute which relate to individual districts should be republished in District Gazettes.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the departments of the Secretariat,
„ all heads of departments, including Collectors and Judges,
The Editors' table,
} with Minute.

Exd. J. Wright.

200 Dept separately

MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HON'BLE THE GOVERNOR,

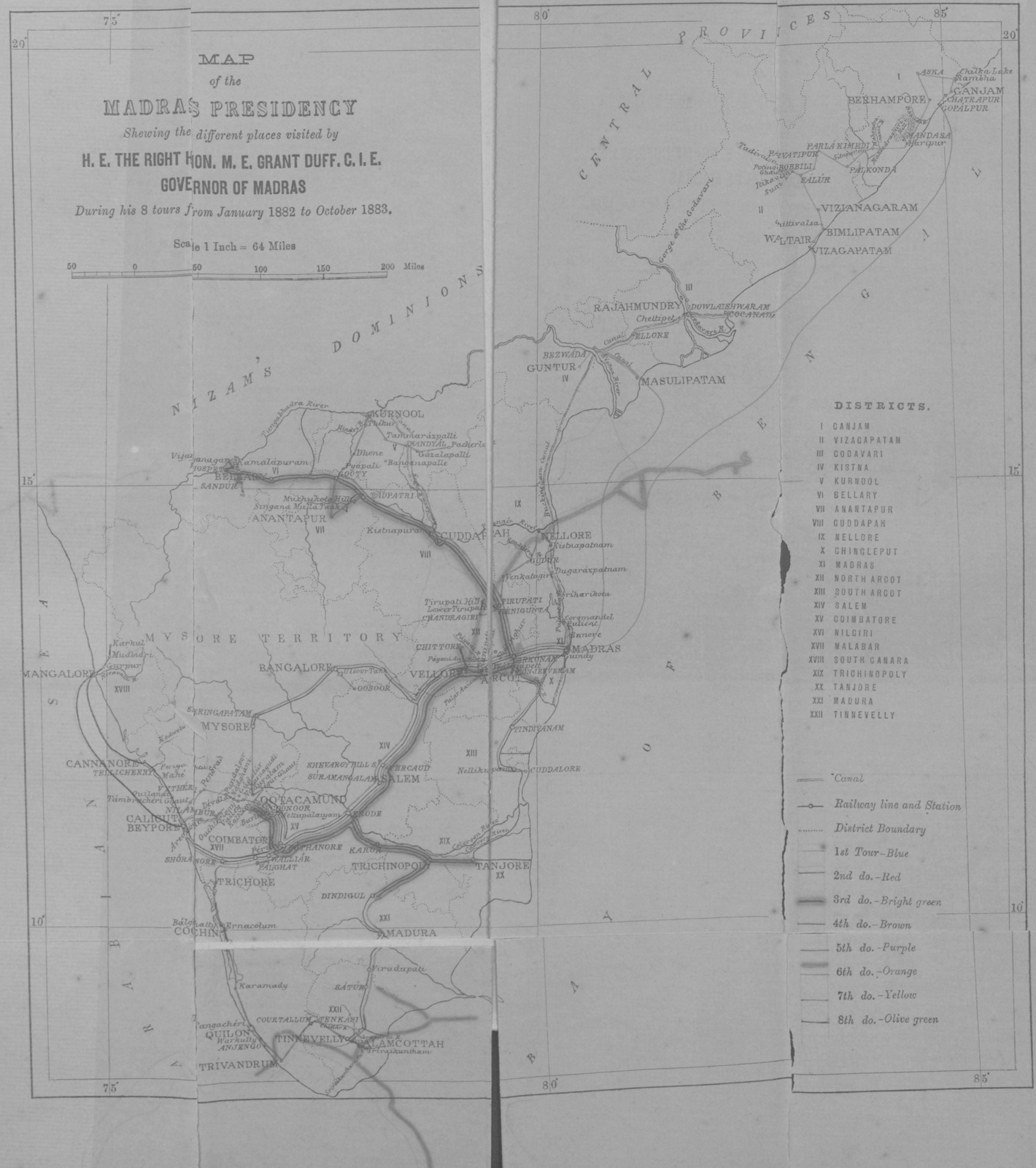
5TH NOVEMBER 1884.

PART II.

MAP
of the
MADRAS PRESIDENCY
Shewing the different places visited by
H. E. THE RIGHT HON. M. E. GRANT DUFF. C. I. E.
GOVERNOR OF MADRAS
During his 8 tours from January 1882 to October 1883.

Scale 1 Inch = 64 Miles

50 0 50 100 150 200 Miles



DISTRICTS.

I	CANJAM
II	VIZAGAPATAM
III	GODAVARI
IV	KISTNA
V	KURNOOL
VI	BELLARY
VII	ANANTAPUR
VIII	CUDDAPAH
IX	NELLORE
X	CHINGLEPUT
XI	MADRAS
XII	NORTH ARCOT
XIII	SOUTH ARCOT
XIV	SALEM
XV	COIMBATORE
XVI	NILGIRI
XVII	MALABAR
XVIII	SOUTH CANARA
XIX	TRICHINOPOLY
XX	TANJORE
XXI	MADURA
XXII	TINNEVELLY

Canal

Railway line and Station

District Boundary

1st Tour – Blue

2nd do. – Red

3rd do. – Bright green

4th do. – Brown

5th do. – Purple

6th do. – Orange

7th do. – Yellow

8th do. – Olive green

3rd

4th do.–Brown

PART II.

I may begin this continuation of my Minute of August 3rd to September 16th by pointing out that I was in error in saying that the telegraph line had been extended to Manantoddy. We have, however, since my error was discovered, addressed the Director-General of Telegraphs on that subject.

I may also mention, in passing, that since my paragraph 219 in the above Minute was written, the Public Works Department has been able to put the services of an officer at the disposal of the Cuddapah Municipality, for the investigation of their water-supply project.

Fifth Tour of Inspection.

1. My fifth journey began on the 27th October 1882 and took me from Ootacamund down the Sígúr Ghât to the Mysore frontier. Near the village of Masnagudi the road passes through large woods of poorly-grown teak (*Tectona grandis*), very unhealthy, and full of wild animals—tiger, bison, and elephant.

2. The road on our side of the frontier was not so good as on the other. I called attention to this fact, and the officers of the Local Fund Board were told that they were at liberty to consult our Public Works Department about its improvement. This was done, and the Government officials acquiesced in the view that attention should be chiefly given to the road into Mysore *viâ* Gúdalúr, as most of the traffic goes that way. This is no doubt quite right, but the old line of communication *viâ* the Sígúr Ghât should not be too much neglected. The object kept in view must be rather to prevent deterioration than to effect improvement, for it is hopeless to make the Sígúr Ghât a really good road even for carts. In 1883-84 the Local Fund Board seem to have spent about Rs. 3,500 upon it—a larger sum than in previous years.

3. The Mysore officials met us at their own border, and we advanced much more rapidly over the fifty-two miles which separated us from Mysore.

4. Arrived there, I was received at the Residency by Major Wyllie, Colonel Hay, and others, exchanged visits with the Maharaja, and had a long conversation with Mr. Rungacharlu, the then Dewan, since dead.

5. From Mysore I visited Seringapatam. The Deriya Dawlat there, which was the residence of the Duke of Wellington, and for the preservation of which Lord Dalhousie manifested great anxiety, was in a very critical state. With that interesting building this Government has had nothing to do directly or indirectly. The cemetery was in a somewhat different position, and complaints having been made to me that it was not properly looked after, I called to it the attention of our Ecclesiastical authorities. A sum of money was appropriated to its improvement in the spring of 1883, and it is now exclusively in charge of the Mysore Government.

6. Everything was done by the Maharaja and his officials to make my visit to his capital as agreeable as possible, and on the 30th I ran along the metre-gauge railway to Bangalore, where I was received by Mr. Sandford, who was then acting for Sir James Gordon, and by General Payn, who was commanding our Mysore Division.

7. The parade on the morning of the 31st was all that could be desired. There were on the ground—(1) The Horse Artillery, the Maiwand Battery with the two guns which were lost and retaken, (2) the 12th Lancers, (3) the 1st Madras Cavalry, (4) two Field Batteries, (5) the Oxfordshire Regiment, (6) two companies of Madras Sappers, (7) the 4th Madras Native Infantry just returned from Aden and the 15th, both amongst our best regiments, while the extreme left of the line was formed by the Bangalore Volunteers. Men, horses, and guns looked e[illegible]ally well, and all the movements were executed with admirable prec[illegible]sion.

8. We were then expecting Professor Lawson's arrival in the Presidency, and I remarked in a Minute under date of November 6th:

"The Lal Bagh is much superior to any garden we possess, and will I trust excite our envy and emulation, until, under Professor Lawson's auspices, we can boast a better one and take our fair share in the botanical enterprise of the Empire."

9. At Bangalore I received and replied to an address from the local branch of the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association.

10. In reply to this, I remarked:

"It has been with a kind of pleased surprise that I have found so many things in Southern India not only equal, but superior, to things in the northern part of the country. One of these things is the state of the Eurasian population. It is most gratifying to me to observe that, although that state is relatively good, you are alive to the extreme importance of making it better. That is precisely, gentlemen, the line of conduct which I am myself pursuing in the Presidency which has been entrusted to my care. I find many things *relatively* good, and I am very anxious that, in justice to the past, their relative goodness should be recognized; but at the same time I see a great many things which could be made better, and, with the help of my honorable colleagues and others, I trust that something in the direction of reform has been already achieved and more put in the way of improvement. Not least am I struck by the slowness with which the wheels of business not unfrequently move, and I am getting rather sceptical as to the efficacy of some of our elaborate sifting machinery. I will not, however, further dwell upon this subject, but, while it is in my mind, I would advise you, in organizing a new institution, not to make it too complicated, nor to provide too many checks and balances. Prevention is better than cure, they say, and so it often is. But, if you must buy security by allowing matters which might be settled tolerably enough in a week, to 'exhaust time and encroach upon eternity,' the cure of occasional mistakes will often be found the less evil of the two."

11. I was thinking, when I spoke thus, *inter alia* of our Board of Revenue, and shortly afterwards the Government took some initiatory steps for the purpose of improving that institution and adapting it to modern requirements.

12. The chief of these was the passing Act II of 1883, which introduced the portfolio system and enabled the Board, with the previous sanction of the Government, to distribute its business among its members, reserving a few subjects only for joint consideration which are known as full-Board subjects.

13. We shall soon, in compliance with the long-cherished wishes of the higher authorities (for whose forbearance in not forcing on this Government more sudden and sweeping changes, with regard to this matter, I feel very grateful), and in accordance with what we believe to be a wise policy, carry these and other connected reforms much further.

14. My attention was drawn while at Bangalore to the state of our arsenal, which I did not consider at all satisfactory. In my minute thereon I observed:

"There may be good reasons, financial or other, for the existing state of affairs; but, as at present advised, I doubt whether we are not leaving too much to the 'hazard of the unforeseen'—to which, as has been truly said, everything may be left in part—'everything except the fate of nations.' The perfect security of out military position, in every part of India, is the one thing about which there should be no perhapses."

15. After some correspondence and consultation, the views that commended themselves to this Government were carried into effect, and in July of this year I had the pleasure of visiting, under the guidance of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the new fortified post at Agram, which was far advanced, and of which I was able to say in another minute dated last July:

"There is every reason to hope that it may be completed within the present year."

16. I also visited the Ulsoor tank and remarked:

"Papers connected with it are, I understand, soon about to be submitted to us, and, until I have read them, it would be premature to express a decided opinion as to the quality of the water which it supplies. Great pains, however, are obviously taken to minimize any danger to health, and, as an alternative to the present arrangements does not suggest itself, it looks, in fact, one of those cases where 'the hazards of the unforeseen' may reasonably be faced, but, as I have said, the papers which His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will presently lay before us may greatly alter the *primâ facie* aspects of the question."

17. Some months after this the Ulsoor Tank was carefully examined by the then Acting Sanitary Commissioner, Dr. Bidie, who made a very interesting report upon it. Still later, further representations were made by the Commander-in-Chief, and eventually, after a great deal of professional and other interlocutory discussion as to the best means of supplying the troops at Bangalore with water, the most important incident in which was the presentation of a long and able report by Colonel Mullins, we came to the conclusion that the Ulsoor Tank could not with propriety be used as a permanent source of supply for drinking and cooking purposes.

18. A qualified officer has now been appointed to elaborate a scheme on the lines of Colonel Mullins's report.

19. From Bangalore I passed to Hosúr, our Remount station, which looks like a little bit of Berkshire, stuck on the corner of the Mysore plateau, with its avenues of fine trees, its paddocks enclosed by hedges, its fields of oats and lucerne, its happy horses, and hay-making which recalled in November an English June. Here I had much talk with Colonel Stewart, the then Remount Agent, about some of the changes that had recently been made in the Remount Department.

20. Amongst other things that were suggested was that Mr. Robertson of Saidápet should run up and examine the farm in connection with the Remount Depôt.

21. This he did; a report was received from him, and some of his suggestions were adopted. The present financial condition of the farm appears satisfactory.

22. In the town of Hosúr, which appeared to me to be a model of cleanliness, I received a very intelligent address.

23. After some historical matter of much interest had been referred to, the memorialists spoke of the forest legislation, from which they trusted would arise great advantage to a district where so much depends upon the rainfall. With reference to that, I said:

"You would be unworthy of enjoying the comparative prosperity which you do enjoy, and British rule would be very imperfectly fulfilling its objects, if you were not inspired by a desire for further improvement. I welcome accordingly all you say as to new developments. With you I believe that the Forest Act, which will come into operation very soon, will confer vast benefits upon this part of India—benefits which the reorganization of the Forest Administration, now in progress, will make at once more speedy and more extensive."

24. The memorialists then called my attention to three irrigation projects—the Barur, the Marandahully, and the Vanniar, and expressed their belief that their prosperity would be materially increased if these were proceeded with.

25. The first of these—the Barur—was sanctioned by the Secretary of State in October 1883 and is now proceeding. The whole area to be commanded by this project is estimated at $17\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, and it is expected that nearly 7,000 acres will be eventually irrigated by it, whereas only 1,457 acres are served by the existing tanks.

26. There is every reason to believe that this work will be highly profitable to the revenue as well as advantageous to the cultivator.

27. The second has been reported on by Captain Romilly, and the estimates are now being examined by the Chief Engineer. It is a project for an anicut and channel at a place about 28 miles south-east of Hosúr on the Sanatkumáru river to cost some five lakhs or thereby and to irrigate some 4,000 acres. The estimated return would, however, not be more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and there are a great many projects promising far more advantage, direct and indirect, to the country, which must be completed before it can be seriously considered.

28. The third is a project for an immense tank under the Shevaroy Hills. Estimates have been prepared, but the prospective advantages are of so moderate a kind that the remark I have just made must apply equally to this project.

29. The memorialists then turned to the minor irrigation works, about which enough has been said in the Minute of which this forms the second part.

30. Next they passed to education and expressed a wish that more of the local funds should be set apart for educational purposes. The recent amalgamation of their Board with that of Salem and the greater facilities given, by the new Act,

for managing their own affairs, will enable them to settle this question, in consultation with their neighbours, as they please.

31. Next they asked that the standard of the local Government school should be raised to the middle class. This request was complied with in April 1883. Further they asked that Hosúr might be connected with our railway system. This may be done in time, but certainly not soon.

32. Lastly, they thanked the Government for their proceedings, then just passed, with reference to Local Self-government, in reply to which I said:

"Finally, let me express the satisfaction with which I have heard that you approve of the resolution in favour of Local Self-government recently published by the Government of Madras. I trust and believe that we shall constantly move forward in the extension of local liberties, cautious not to lose advantages already won, but confident in a people which has shown in all periods of history more aptitude for Local Self-government than for government on a larger scale. It is curious to observe how deluge after deluge of despotism, the records of which form only too much of the History of India, up to the days which you recall at the commencement of your address, has flowed over the land without by any means altogether destroying ancient local institutions. The same spirit which preserved the local institutions fitted for a primitive society, will, I am sure, enable you and your sons to work, always more wisely, local institutions adapted to changed and happier times, when, under a Government which can and will stamp out every attempt at disorder, even the weakest of you is far more secure of keeping the fruits of his honest industry than was the proudest and strongest of those destroyers whom you have mentioned, of keeping the wealth he plundered from your ancestors."

Sixth Tour of Inspection.

33. My sixth journey began on the evening of the 3rd of February 1883, when I embarked at Madras in rather wild weather, which, however, moderated as we ran towards the north.

34. At Gopálpur, on the morning of the 6th, I was received by Mr. Goodrich, the Collector of Ganjam and Governor's Agent for the wild region which stretches far into the interior till it meets the Central Provinces. He was accompanied by several of his officials and by Mr. Minchin, an enterprising merchant, land-owner, and capitalist of those parts, who immediately conducted my companions and myself to his warehouses, from the terrace of which he was able to show us the whole port of Gopálpur and to explain its wants. These appeared to be—

(1) A light-house.

(2) Some means of transmitting passengers and goods across the surf, which in April, October, and several other months is frequently wholly impassable. Mr. Minchin believed that this could be effected by mooring a lighter of large size on the seaward side of the surf, which should be connected by wire-rope tramways with the terrace mentioned above, or a stronger building erected for the purpose.

35. Against a light-house at Gopálpur, however, the Master Attendant, to whom the suggestion was referred, reported very strongly. His views were communicated to the persons concerned, and, the suggestion not having been renewed, I presume that the existing flagstaff light is now considered to be fairly adequate.

36. The second suggestion led to a great deal of correspondence, and the Master Attendant utterly condemned the project of mooring a lighter on the seaward side of the surf, but looked with far more favor on the idea of a pier, and eventually Messrs. Massey and Co.'s tender, amounting to two lakhs, for the construction of a pier after the Pondicherry model, measuring 900 feet by 20 feet, having been received, they were requested to submit, in communication with the Superintending Engineer, First Circle, a detailed estimate for formal sanction and appropriation of funds. A small preliminary expenditure for trial borings has been sanctioned by Government, and the estimates are now under examination.

37. Mr. Minchin then took us to his warehouses, where there was a collection of Ganjam produce set out to view. I note more especially as characteristic the sugar, the myrabolans (*Terminalia chebula*), the seeds of the *Strychnos nux vomica*, some remarkably pretty men and women's cloths of muslin embroidered with gold from Chicacole, together with even handsomer silk fabrics from Berhampore.

Here, too, for the first time, to the best of my recollection, in this Presidency, I came across wheat as an article of export and saw the wood of the Sâl (*Shorea robusta*) in common use. That last fact would, by itself, be enough to remind me that I largely increased my distance from the equator between leaving Madras and reaching Gopálpur, which lies in latitude 19° 13′, for the tree is unknown in our southern districts.

38. I am inclined to think that a good deal more might be done in the way of increasing our wheat cultivation and some very important papers bearing upon this subject were circulated under G.O., 24th September 1883, No. 1167, to all Collectors, whose attention I again invite to it. A still later communication was received from the Secretary of State, and picked samples of wheat suitable to the English market were distributed through the Agricultural Department to various authorities, from whom reports are awaited.

39. Since my visit to Ganjam, Mr. Gamble has traversed that district and has given me most cheering accounts of our Sâl forests, which are much more valuable than I, or I think any one else, was aware of in March 1883.

40. After leaving Gopálpur we proceeded generally in a northerly direction, but making a considerable circuit to Chatrapur, the headquarter station, where we were the guests of Mr. Goodrich. The way lay, for the most part, through fields which, at the proper season, are green with rice—rice cultivated principally not under tanks, but at the mercy of the rains, which, however, in two or perhaps in three years out of five give a fair crop. I learnt with surprise that it is the southwest monsoon on which this district mainly depends, an average of not less than twenty-four inches being annually expected from it, while the north-east monsoon is only expected to give a minimum of twelve. This fact and the potency of the "long shore wind" was emphasized, as we drove along, by the way in which the trees leant away from the south.

41. The chief crop on the ground appeared to be the castor-oil (*Ricinus communis*) and the green-gram (*Phaseolus mungo*). The *Pandanus odoratissimus* is largely used for hedges, and the only avenue tree I observed was the *Ficus Bengalensis*. A small plain, which we traversed, presented a spectacle quite new to me. It had been covered with trees, but these had disappeared, and round the stump of each had risen a tall white-ant's nest—now, in its turn, abandoned to the natural heir of these creatures, the cobra. Stretching far away, on either side of the road, in regular array, they reminded me of the stones of Carnac—"the petrified army on the heath of Morbihan."

42. In the evening I saw the Government buildings, all in fair repair. The casuarinas, planted round them to commemorate the visit of Lord Napier and Ettrick, had already grown into tall trees.

43. On the morning of the 7th we drove along the great road which runs towards Calcutta—now nearer us by several hundred miles than Madras—as far as Ganjam, once the capital of, and still giving its name to, the district. This place, which contained an estimated population of twenty or, as the local manual says, thirty thousand people in 1815, was reduced by a terrible epidemic of fever to six thousand three years after, and now the European quarter is a mere wilderness, believed by the Natives to be haunted. In the Fort, where the roofs of the Magazines appeared quite intact, and where the Mess-house was a building of considerable pretensions, we found no inhabitant save a fox. There was nothing to indicate malaria, the soil being perfectly dry and there being little vegetation, except the fruit and ornamental trees planted by the old inhabitants. The Superintendent of Sea Customs, who lives hard by, told me that he had enjoyed perfectly good health for many years.

44. Later in the day the Kalikote Zemindar, who owns an immense estate a little to the northward, came to see me. I found, what I had not before grasped, that this large district of 8,313 square miles, that is more than a fourth of Scotland, is unequally divided amongst ordinary ryotwari land, vast zemindari properties, and wild hills inhabited by barbarous races, who pay little or nothing directly to Government. The second of these is the largest of the three, covering, in round numbers, some 4,000 square miles.

45. In the evening the community of Chatrapur presented me with an address. The memorialists first asked that the projects of the Rushikulya, Eastern Canal, and Mallada Tampara might be matured and completed during my administration.

46. To this very sensible request we have given the most careful consideration. The Rushikulya project is designed, when fully completed, to command an area of 120,000 acres and to cost, before it is completed, something like 35 lakhs of rupees. Since the presentation of the address to which I am referring, it has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and is now in course of construction.

47. Considerable care has also been bestowed upon the Eastern Canal and the Mallada Tampara project. After much investigation a project, which is known officially as the Ganjam-Gopálpur Canal, for the southern section, was forwarded by us to the Government of India and is still the subject of correspondence. The northern section—that between the Chilka Lake and Ganjam—was excavated some years since and is now being deepened and improved.

48. The Mallada Tampara project has been examined and estimated for, but nothing more is likely to be done about it until the Rushikulya project and the Eastern or Ganjam-Gopálpur Canal have been completed, or at least very much advanced. Even then, if it is to be successful, it will require the cordial co-operation of some large proprietors.

49. The second request was for a modification of jail rules in the case of under-trial prisoners. This request was attended to in the preparation of the new Jail Code.

50. The third request was for increased facility for embarking and landing at the dangerous port of Gopálpur.

51. I have explained above what has been done in regard to this.

52. The fourth request was for an extension to inferior servants of the rules governing the retiring allowances of officers in the Uncovenanted Civil Service. It is enough to say that this request and another relating to Government officials serving under Zemindars, &c., were examined by the Government, but they belong to the Government of India, which is not likely to reconsider its general policy on such matters. I pointed out to the petitioners at the time that the inconvenience of service in the Maliahs (hill districts) was compensated by special allowances.

53. Fifthly, the memorialists referred to the bad management of the Temple Committees. I have explained in the first part of this minute what has been done about that.

54. From Chatrapur I proceeded to Rambha on the shores of the Chilka lake, some seventeen miles off, whence I visited, not officially, but privately, the Zemindar of Kalikote, as Lord Napier did in 1866. Like all, or nearly all, the Zemindars in the Ganjam District, he is an Uriya, speaking therefore an Aryan language allied to Bengali. His possessions are as large as a small English county. About half of these have been held by his family for some five centuries, having been granted to it originally for good work done in keeping open the great trade route which runs to the northward along the coast, and which presents passes admirably suited for brigandage.

55. A drive of some forty miles carried us, along roads which wind round the bases of hills, to Aska. A good deal of the country was covered by scrub-jungle, but a much larger portion was laid out in rice-fields, which at the proper season must be one hardly broken sheet of green. When I passed, however, there was nothing in the rice-fields except scanty stubble, which afforded a very indifferent subsistence to the large herds of small, weak cattle. As in many parts of India, nothing in the nature of fodder crops seemed to be grown.

56. As we approached Aska, there were great fields of sugar-cane and the sunn-hemp (*Crotalaria juncea*), whose large yellow broom-like flowers make it a most beautiful crop, was abundant.

57. After we had arrived at Aska, where we were the guests of Mr. Minchin, he went at great length into a variety of questions bearing on the relations between his firm and the local authorities.

58. The most important of these related to the fuel which was used for the Aska sugar works and had given rise to a good deal of friction. This friction has, however, come quite to an end since Mr. Gamble examined the forests and ascertained what could, and what could not, be done without injury to them.

59. At Aska I had a long conversation with Mr. Meredith, of the Police, who had charge of some 3,000 square miles in the hills. He reported that the Khonds were then perfectly quiet, at peace amongst themselves, and living on good terms with the Uriyas, who are settled among them. The little disturbance, of which we heard in January 1883, and which was simply a quarrel between the clansmen of two neighbouring chiefs, led to nothing very serious, but might easily have extended; for old passions are not extinguished amongst this primitive race, which, within the last two years before my visit, had petitioned for permission to resume the time-honoured practice of human sacrifice! The sacrifice of the buffalo was, they urged, *not a sufficient propitiation for the goddess of the earth.*

60. The twenty-four miles from Aska to Berhampore presented little of special interest; the road was fairly good, but the avenue trees not equal to those of which I have spoken, there being too much of the *Acacia Arabica*, which gives a poor shade. I saw some tobacco, but it does not do well in these regions.

61. At Berhampore I received an address from the Municipality. The first request of the Commissioners was that the Government should take up, under the Land Acquisition Act, a tank which they considered absolutely necessary for the water-supply of the town. This tank has now been transferred—very liberal and exceptional arrangements having been made by Government for the advantage of the persons whose interests were affected by the change.

62. Then the Commissioners asked that they might be allowed to elect their own Vice-President. This permission has been given.

63. They also spoke of applying for leave to raise a loan. This, however, they have not as yet done.

64. At Berhampore I likewise received an address from the ryots and inhabitants of the Vythinathapuram Agraharam, which was curious and noticeable as showing that Municipal and other forms of Local Self-government are by no means universally popular with the persons who are affected by them.

65. It is to be hoped that the more forward sections of the native community will, in availing themselves of their new privileges, endeavour, as far as possible, to take with them the less advanced portion of their brethren. The complainants in this case had evidently forgotten that, if they suffered some inconveniences from the Municipal control of Berhampore, they derived advantages from the neighbourhood of so good a market, and that it was only right they should help the small traders of the town, who were so useful to them.

66. The next address which I received dealt with the educational wants of the Uriya population of Ganjam.

67. With regard to these, I remarked at the time:

> "There can be no doubt that the Uriya petitioners suffer some inconvenience, but it will be observed from their last paragraph that they do not know themselves what mode of redress to suggest. I understand from Mr. Goodrich, in whom these people, like most of the other inhabitants of the district, seem to have great confidence, that he is trying to improve the staff of translators, now weak, and that care is taken not to appoint men ignorant of Uriya to Uriya taluks. The Uriya schoolmasters are themselves, however, terribly backward, and I am afraid it is one of those cases in which time must co-operate with good-will before a remedy can be worked. In this connection it may be worth noting that I am assured that the Kalikote Raja has all the accounts of his great possessions kept in Telugu, although he does not speak or understand a word of that language. This would hardly be the case if there were any facility for getting Uriyas qualified for work requiring even a modicum of education. In short it is a case of *damnum absque injuria*, but by no means to be left out of sight on that account."

68. The employment of Uriyas has been slightly increased since, but the number of persons who can possibly be employed out of so backward a population is not great. The number of them under instruction almost doubled, however, in the year ending March 31st, 1883,—a fact of good promise.

69. The Director of Public Instruction informs me that he proposes to make provision for the entertainment of an Uriya pundit in the College at Berhampore when he submits, as he proposes to do ere long, a scheme connected with the Colleges and High Schools.

70. Then there came an address from the members of the legal profession residing at Aska. They called attention to the loose management of the religious endowments. In the first half of this minute I have explained the course that has been taken with respect to this thorny subject.

71. Next they objected to a ruling of the High Court on the construction of the Registration Act. Then they had some not very well considered suggestions to make with regard to the endorsing of stamps, and others with regard to replacing the gates under their Local Fund Board by some system of licenses.

72. Further they urged the amendment of the Rent Recovery Act, a subject which is now under consideration by the Board of Revenue and other authorities.

73. Turning to matters as to which their views were of a more representative character, they asked for the extension of the East Coast Canal to meet the Godávari system, but, before we talk of extending the Eastern Canal beyond Gopálpur, we must first get it to Gopálpur. A similar remark may be made about the construction of a tramway, for which they asked, from the not yet existing railway line across the Vizagapatam District.

74. They also proposed another irrigation work on the Vamsadhara river, but there is the greatest difficulty in getting enough labour to go on with the important irrigation works already sanctioned for Ganjam, and it would be out of the question, for the present, to start any more.

75. Lastly, they asked for a middle school, but since that time their Local Fund Board has closed two schools which it could not support, and they have now two results schools teaching up to the sixth standard, both of them poorly attended. Till this state of things is entirely altered, there is no case for the establishment of a middle school.

76. Part of the morning of the 13th February went in a visit to an encampment of the Goomsur Paiks, who had come down to the number of about thirteen hundred, armed mainly with the matchlock and the dagger, with which they have done suit and service to us for nearly fifty years (since the Goomsur war), and with which, or other weapons, they have done the same to other rulers for long ages. They made themselves very useful when we found it necessary to push up police into Kalahandi, relieving the jail guards, and doing their work faithfully and well. I have suggested that some of them might be employed as Forest guards.

77. The Khonds performed their war-dance, armed with their bows and arrows as with that strange battle-axe, which looks as if it had been suggested by the teeths (of some terrible beast, long vanished from the land) and protected from the assault of a foeman behind, by the screens lined with scarlet and furnished at each angle with sheaves of peacock's feathers, which they wear upon their backs.

78. In the afternoon all the Zemindars within reach came to see me.

79. I also received the Patro of Ramgiri, and invested the Tát Raja of Gadapur with a (Sadi) dress of honor. He is a nice-looking little boy and, so far as position goes, the most important Uriya amongst the Khond Hills. Many of the Uriya Zemindars were resplendent in kincob and gold, some very plainly dressed. There was the same difference in the features, several being as Aryan in appearance as the tongue they speak, whilst others had not a trace of the Aryan type.

80. After the chiefs had gone, I received a long address from a body called the "Berhampore Mutual Improvement Society."

81. Their first request was for the coast canal and for the tramway already mentioned. I need not say more on those subjects.

82. Then they asked for a short railway from Gopálpur to a line which is intended to connect Ranigunge on the East Indian Railway with the shrine of

Juggernaut. That railway might possibly be made in the future, but there are a great many works much more likely to be useful to our Northern Provinces which must be first considered.

83. Thirdly, they asked for the Rushikulya project. The Rushikulya project is being carried into effect.

84. Fourthly, they asked for the extension of the elective system to the Municipalities of Chicacole and Berhampore. Since that date the new Acts have been passed. I have already mentioned that under the old Act the privilege of electing their Vice-President was, soon after my visit, conceded to Berhampore.

85. Fifthly, they asked for the acquisition of the Bijipur tank. It has since been made over to the Municipality.

86. Sixthly, they complained of the action of the military authorities about a well.

87. There has been a great deal of quarelling about this same well—almost as much as about "Bologna's bucket."

88. Various questions that related to it having been settled, the main question stands over, to be finally settled, it is hoped, when the Brigadier-General Commanding the Division visits Berhampore.

89. The seventh request related to their telegraph office. It has been complied with, and the office raised to one of the second class, as recently reported by the Chief Superintendent of Telegraphs, Ganjam Division.

90. The eighth complaint was about school-fees. It was referred to the Educational Department and turned out to have been founded on a misconception.

91. The ninth request of the memorialists, referred to the jails, and was similar to that made by the people of Chatrapur.

92. Tenthly, they asked that various persons should be allowed to visit local jails. All the persons most likely to be of use as jail visitors have been permitted to visit jails under the Subsidiary Jail Rules of 18th June 1883. Municipal Commissioners and the like have a different class of work to do.

93. Their eleventh point was a complaint that a sufficient number of natives were not employed in the Salt Department.

94. To that I replied:

"You are quite right in saying that it is the policy of the Imperial Government to employ natives as much as possible in places of trust, and, with regard to the Salt Department, the Madras Government has made every effort to get as many natives into it as possible. The Salt Commissioner, who is perfectly aware of our views, has, I fully believe, done his best in that behalf, and will continue to do so provided always fitting candidates come forward. The work, however, of the Salt Department is severe, and we do not always find amongst those natives who are intellectually qualified for the service that aptitude for physical hard work and exposure which its duties require. Your society might, with some advantage, turn its attention to this matter. Perhaps when the Uriyas have somewhat more education, their strength and activity may make them very useful."

95. Twelfthly, they asked that Graduates might be more employed in the higher grades of the public service.

96. Graduates have been recently more employed in the service of Government, and it is our policy to extend their employment.

97. *Inter alia*, the period (three years) of probationary service in minor appointments prescribed for the post of Tahsildar has been reduced to two years for First Arts men and one year for Graduates, and orders have been issued that at and after the examination of 1885 no person will be allowed to appear for the Higher Grade Revenue Special Test who is not an F.A. or a Graduate, excepting only persons now in the service of Government, who will be allowed to appear up to 1889.

98. It must be remembered, however, that there is far too great a disposition in our Graduates to look to Government service instead of turning to other pursuits. This is a very great and real evil. Few things do so much to keep back Southern India.

99. On the 14th I had a series of conversations with the district officers about a variety of subjects, amongst them about the forests.

100. The amount of Government wood-land in the Goomsur and Suradá taluks is considerable. There is well on to an area of 400 square miles good and bad in the former, and a great deal in the latter.

101. Since the date of my visit to Ganjam Mr. Gamble has, as I have mentioned above, gone through these forests and given a most encouraging account of their future, if they be well managed, but at the same time a very dismal account of the state of management which he found.

102. Additions are being made to the staff, from which we expect considerable and speedy profits.

103. The insufficiency of the accommodation for the District Munsif at Berhampore was brought before me by Mr. Daniel.

104. The Consulting Architect is now framing a design for the Munsifs' Courts on the lines laid down by the High Court, and the wants of the Court at Berhampore will be considered in due time like those of others.

105. The road from Berhampore to Haripur in the Mandasa Zemindari, where we encamped on the evening of the 15th, runs through a country very similar to that which I have described, but it is crossed by two considerable rivers—the Bahuda and the Northern Mahendratunia—which are largely used for irrigation and along the course of which there were great breadths of green. Here and there we saw sheep—long-legged and reddish-brown animals of small merit. The goats were numerous and better, taking kindly to the shrubs in the low jungle, of which we traversed a good deal.

106. On the morning of the 16th we visited the Mandasa Zemindar,* whose little town, with its wide, scrupulously clean streets, nestles picturesquely at the foot of the out-works of Mahendragiri, a noble outlier of the Eastern Ghâts, about 5,000 feet high, and sure one day to be used as a sanitarium.

107. In the afternoon the Mandasa Zemindar came over, escorted by many followers, amongst others by a large number of Sauras, as wild if not as interesting as the Khonds, and whose language, if I am correctly informed, has only been partially written down.

108. From Haripur a drive of thirty-five miles, first along the great road which we had followed from Berhampore and then by an excellent cross-road, carried us over a low pass into the great Parlákimedi Estate, which covers some 735 square miles,—is, that is to say, about as large as Surrey or, without the hills, as large as Monmouthshire.

109. Here I saw the Zemindar, who is infirm, his sons, the manager, the heir of Chinna Kimedi, and others. Mr. MacCartie also gave me full information about the state of the property.

110. A nobler estate I have rarely beheld. The town, which the Zemindar inhabits, lies on a great plain of deep alluvial soil, watered by the Southern Mahendratunia and covered even then, at the commencement of the hot weather, with most beautiful crops. Around it on all sides stand up mountains of the most graceful outline. The rains have hardly ever been known to fail, and the dews are most abundant.

111. With respect to the palace of the family which has lately been constructed, I noted at the time:

"Not knowing what imperative exigencies may have governed its design and construction, I can pronounce no opinion upon it, but it would be well if it were once for all put out of hand. To one who knows nothing of the difficulties which may beset an architect, it is natural to ask whether India has no examples of domestic architecture to offer, which might be followed when we have to build a great house for a Native Magnate. I recollect seeing things, both in the old palace of Ambér in Rajputana and at Pattiala, which appeared to me perfectly exquisite. Again, if we are to take our designs from Europe, might not the Alhambra or the

* The eldest son of this gentleman—one of the most attractive and promising boys I ever saw—died, to the sorrow of all who knew him, shortly before my visit to Ganjam.

Generalife in Spain, or even the work of the Norman Kings at Palermo, give some useful hints? The great plain of Parlákimedi has a look of the Conca d' oro, and naturally carries one's mind to the Zisa."

112. Amongst miscellaneous matters connected with the Ganjam District, which were brought before me, when there, was the state of two edicts of Asoka between Berhampore and Aska. Dr. Burgess was consulted about this. It is believed that the injury, from which they suffer, is of ancient date, and that they are sufficiently out of the way not to be in much danger from passers-by.

113. Various complaints were also made to me about some of the rules of the Financial Department of the Government of India, with regard to which I communicated with Sir Evelyn Baring and made known the result to the persons concerned.

114. The Government of India said under date 10th August 1883:

"It is hoped that the new arrangements, which will be introduced at once, will remove the inconveniences now complained of."

115. A palanquin journey on the night of the 19th, which, though admirably arranged, did not make us regret ancient India, took us through the hills to Sitapetta, in the Vizagapatam District, where we were met by the Acting Collector, Mr. H. G. Turner, and others. Thence a fair-weather road, just opened across the jungles, carried us down a fine pass, in which, as in some parts of Ganjam, the valuable tamarind trees were a noticeable feature, to Pálkonda, where I passed the day, received an address, and made the acquaintance of the Gadabas, another of the numerous pre-Aryan tribes which inhabit the north-eastern districts.

116. The people of Pálkonda, after setting forth at great length and, like most bodies who have addressed me, with much intelligence, the advantages which they have derived under the rule of Englishmen, "in view," as they said, "to the regeneration of our race from the tyranny and oppression of the despots of by-gone ages," proceeded to set forth some of their wants.

117. In the first place they deprecated being made into a Municipality. They have not been made into a Municipality.

118. Secondly, they asked that the tolls from wheeled traffic passing through their town should be applied exclusively to the objects of the town. That, however, would have been unfair to their neighbours, and I was obliged to say in reply:

"As to your remarks with regard to the application of the income from the tolls to the wants of the town, and of the town only, I am afraid that would be neither just nor expedient; the town roads must take their share with the other roads supported by the Local Fund Board, which institution does, as you know, many other things, for the community, besides supporting roads. Of two things, one—you must either appropriate the tolls and re-establish a Municipality, or you must take your share with the country round and have no Municipality. You cannot have it both ways and be at one and the same time urban and rural."

119. Thirdly, they asked for special reduced rates for their school. This request was referred to the Director of Public Instruction, but he agreed with Mr. Monro, who was in charge of the education of the district, that the people of Pálkonda had no case for exceptional treatment in this matter.

120. Fourthly, they asked for two more hospitals. The establishment of these new institutions depended, of course, not on the Government, but on the Local Fund Board. Our district officials thought well of the proposal, but I learn that up to this time the Local Fund Board, which has, like others, much to do with its money, has not seen its way to create these two institutions.

121. Then they asked that the Nagavalli river should be bridged at Sankili.

122. To that I replied:

"Bridging the Nagavalli river would be, I fear, beyond the means of the Local Fund Board or would necessitate an addition to your taxation, which would be hardly agreeable. I am told, however, that the question how best to facilitate the crossing of the wide sandy-bedded rivers in this district is being at present considered. If this can be done either by causeway, by the laying down of iron plates, or in any other, not too costly, manner that experts may determine upon, the Nagavalli river will not be forgotten."

123. The attention of Mr. Turner, who has been absent in England for a considerable time since my visit to Vizagapatam, has been recently recalled to this subject.

124. On the morning of the 21st we drove twenty-eight miles, first across the fine Pálkonda Taluk rented by Messrs. Arbuthnot. Here, as in Parlákimedi, it was said that a survey would show that the ryots tilled much more land than that for which they paid assessment. The fact, of which I was assured by the Acting Collector, that wet land here, subject to assessment, changes hands at the rate of £40 an acre, would fall like a bomb-shell amongt those persons who figure to themselves the Government of India as a rack-renting land-lord.

125. A survey of the Pálkonda Taluk was shortly afterwards ordered and will, it is expected, be completed in the course of the present financial year.

126. A gentleman in the employment of Messrs. Simson of Cocanada called on me and told me that the myrabolans, an important article of commerce in this district, were obtained in the most wasteful manner, the people who gather them finding it much easier to tear down the branches and pick them on the ground than to procure them in a more reasonable way. Indeed, the forest and all that is connected therewith seems in this vast district—bigger than some of the smaller European kingdoms—pretty much to manage itself, which is usually an euphemism for being on the road to ruin.

127. Mr. Gamble proposes to visit this portion of his huge charge early in 1885, and will, I doubt not, succeed, as he has already done in many other districts, in infusing quite a new spirit into our forest management.

128. The myrabolan of commerce is the fruit of the *Terminalia chebula*, but I am informed that the fruit of the *Terminalia bellerica* also bears a very high price in the London market, and take this opportunity of calling attention to a fact which is perhaps not sufficiently known.

129. The trade in wheat and other articles, now passing through Párvatipur to the coast, is heavily weighted. First the man who grows it in the Central Provinces must get his profit; then the Brinjarees, who bring it down, must have theirs; then the middle-man, who deals with them in Párvatipur, must have his; then the dubash may be reasonably suspected of having his—all this before it passes into the hands of the European trader, who sends it to the coast for shipment to Europe.

130. From Párvatipur we passed to Bobbili, being met, on the banks of a fine river, by the Zemindar. On this estate the mango, which is seen in considerable numbers on the way from Pálkonda to Párvatipur, becomes a very prominent feature of the landscape. Unhappily till lately little trouble has been taken about the quality of the fruit, but even the inferior kind seems to be used largely by the people, who, on the plains, extract its juice and make it into a paste, while on the Ganjam hills they appear to crush and eat the kernel.

131. On the morning of the 22nd we drove round the clean well-kept town of Bobbili, furnished with all the appliances of Anglo-Indian civilization—schools, hospitals, and what not—all within a walk of the remains of the old fort, where one hundred and twenty-six years ago was enacted one of the most ghastly stories which even Indian History has to record.

132. From Bobbili I passed to Sálúr, where I received an address, in which, after recounting various works in progress, the memorialists observed:

"When these works are completed, we shall have little to desire. In fact, we have nothing to ask your Excellency, as we are happy and contented. Our wants are well attended to by all the officials who serve amongst us. We regret to hear that we are soon to lose the services of our present Collector. He knows the district so thoroughly both above the ghâts and in the plains, and he takes such interest in its improvement, that we feel a great loss in his departure, but we sincerely hope that he may return to us at the expiration of his furlough."

133. Mr. Turner did return to them on the expiration of his furlough.

134. The memorialists also expressed a hope to see through-communication opened from Sálúr to Naupada salt-pans in Ganjam *viâ* Ramabhadrapuram and Rajam.

135. This hope is in a fair way to be fulfilled. There is at present a road from Sálúr to Ramabhadrapuram, and in the current year's budget of the Vizagapatam Local Fund Circle Rs. 8,000 (out of an estimate of Rs. 80,000) have been provided for the construction of a road from Ramabhadrapuram to Rajam, which, when completed, will probably be extended to Naupada.

136. The next morning I started early and went up the Potinghy ghât to the place which gives it its name, halting during the heat of the day at Sunki. From three to four thousand men were then employed on the works. I was surprised at the length of the pass. From Itikavalasa to Potinghy is just under 23 miles. The first part reminded me of the Coonoor Ghât, but the height to be attained is far less, and the necessary winding of the road up, down, around, and over the hills is far greater.

137. The completion of the line to Potinghy was recently announced, and a most important step towards the improvement of our largest district has thereby been taken.

138. At Potinghy we were met by Mr. Weir and Mr. Egan. Mr. Weir's ordinary station at Koraput is one hundred and twenty miles from his Collector's headquarters, while he can go a hundred miles on the other side without getting out of his jurisdiction.

139. It was to this gigantic Jeypore Estate that I referred in my Queen's Birth-day speech of 1883 when I said:

"I do not know if it has ever struck any of you how small is this Egypt which has been of late so much occupying our thoughts. I have traversed it from end to end, but I confess it came upon me with something like a shock of surprise the other day when I observed that the whole cultivated land, from the Mediterranean Coast right up to the first cataract, is smaller by a great deal than the estate of one single Zemindar in the Madras Presidency—an estate which, by the way, pays to the Government the modest and reasonable sum of fifteen hundred a year. You know, gentlemen, that in the opinion of some wise persons we are a very grasping and exacting people!"

140. Large numbers of the wild tribes (Khonds, Purjas, Gadabas, Muryas, and the like) were gathered in Potinghy, received presents and danced strange dances, while the Paiks, some of them from distant parts of the Jeypore Estate, clad or unclad in every variety of costume or the want of it, exhibited feats of sword-play by the light of bamboo torches.

141. Wild animals were at the time of my visit very destructive. I saw one of the Raja's officials, whose son had quite recently been carried off by a tiger, and another of these animals was engaged in devouring the inhabitants of his own particular strip of country at the moderate rate of two a week. The Government did not do unwisely to insist recently upon the larger reward of a hundred rupees being paid in this part of the Presidency for each tiger killed.

142. Since the date of my visit further action has been taken with reference to the ravages of these animals, but the state of things still remains far from satisfactory, and the local authorities should keep their eyes on the matter. In the course of this year we received very bad accounts of the ravages of tigers in another part of the Vizagapatam District and authorized the Collector and Agent to take special measures for their destruction. The destruction of wild animals at the expense of the State is not quite so simple a matter as it appears at first sight. In a southern district it was recently discovered that old skins were being furbished up and brought in by persons who declared that they had slain the monsters to which they had belonged and were entitled to the usual rewards!

143. From Potinghy, where the thermometer sunk at night to 59°, I descended by another and much steeper ghât to Tadivalasa. The road lay, like that of the previous day, through woods which were fine from the point of view of a passing traveller, but left almost everything to be desired from that of the forester. Their possession is disputed by the Jeypore and the Panchipenta Zemindaris, the latter being a very large as well as very unproductive and sadly involved property, and their preservation should be carefully looked to. I passed many grand specimens of the hill mango—a much better fruit than the wild mango of the plains. It

was pleasant to hear that there was every hope of a fine mango year, the period of heavy dews having passed without much damage. The older ghât, which I descended, will probably long remain the best for the Brinjarees, whose pack-bullocks can even now surmount it with no difficulty, and will do so with facility when some improvements now going on are completed. It has recently been professionally reported to be unsuited for adaptation to cart-traffic.

144. From Sálúr I proceeded to Vizianagrum, where the Municipality presented me with an address, in which they said:

"This is the second occasion upon which this ancient town has had the honor of a visit from a representative of our Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress, and we most humbly trust that so important an event will be perpetuated in the minds of our townsmen by the liberal carrying out of the Local Self-government scheme, with regard to which the friendly and encouraging attitude of your Excellency has made your name so very dear to us. That your Excellency should personally observe the whole country to understand the actual wants and condition of the people everywhere within the Presidency is an idea that has been by itself sufficient to make us feel boundless gratitude to you."

145. To this I replied:

"I thank you for your cordial welcome to this ancient town—a welcome in which so large a portion of the population joined. The number of tiled houses I see replacing those roofed with thatch, which so easily catches fire, and the condition of your streets, make me hope and believe that, when you speak of Local Self-government, you are thinking, not only of the agreeable ideas which are associated with that phrase, but also of the patient attention to details, the unwearied vigilance, and, I would add, the indifference to cheaply-bought popularity, which are the first requisites of a good Municipal Commissioner. I am glad, gentlemen, that these should be your thoughts, for the more I see of this huge district, a kingdom in itself, the more does it come home to me that, if a Collector had the eyes of Argus and the arms of Briareus—mythological individualities of the west, to whom you can no doubt find more-eyed and more-armed parallels in the east,—he could not possibly see with his own eyes or initiate with his own arms the hundredth part of what has to be accomplished in Vizagapatam. Local Self-government here has, therefore, my very best wishes, but remember that as sure as water finds its level, so power passes into the hands of those who actually do the work. Writing, such as we sometimes see, about Local Self-government, comes to very little. The observing eye inquiring on the spot what *ought* to be done, the determined will watching on the spot that it *is* done—that is Local Self-government.

"I have to thank you, too, for what you say about my wish to see personally the whole country and try to understand the actual wants and condition of the people. Well, one cannot see the *whole* country; that is impossible, but up to the hour when I leave it for ever, I trust I shall always be increasing my personal knowledge of it."

146. At Vizianagrum I also attended a gathering in the Maharaja's College, the new building for which, by his desire, I formally opened, and at which I heard an excellent report of that institution, listened to some most judicious remarks from the Maharaja, and was delighted to accede to his request that I should allow my name to be given to the class for the training of teachers about to be set on foot under the guidance of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

147. Speaking of the Maharaja at a later hour the same day, I observed:

"I will not dwell on his merits in his presence, but will only say that, if he goes on as he has begun, he will set a bright example, not only to his peers on the Golden Book of India, but to all of them who are scattered over the mighty empire of which even this glorious India of ours, a continent in itself, forms, in point of size, a very small fraction. There are many indications that we are entering on a period which I will call the period of great citizens, a period in which men of vast possessions will find an outlet for their energies and an easy path to everlasting remembrance by conferring in their life-time great benefits upon their fellow-citizens. I like to call it the Herodes Atticus period, from the name of a man in the early days of the Roman Empire whose fame has been kept green, through all the ages, by his having adopted precisely the course of which I am speaking. I know no one better fitted from his high station, or more likely from his admirable personal qualities, to inaugurate such a period, in this part of India, than he under whose roof we are assembled."

148. I further noted in a confidential minute on my tour through the Northern Circars:

"I am sure my honorable colleagues will not think that I went a step beyond the strict limits of truth when I spoke as I did about the Maharaja either at the dinner which he gave us in the Fort or at his College."

149. From Vizianagrum I proceeded to Bimlipatam, inspecting by the way Messrs. Arbuthnot's Jute Factory at Chittivalsa, in and around which there were many proofs of the advantages which capitalists who are anxious to do what is right can bring to a neighbourhood. I particularly observed the operatives—well-grown, cheerful-looking people.

150. At Bimlipatam the European community invited me to breakfast at the Club, where I received and replied to an address from the Municipality, as I did later to one from a Hindu Debating Society, which was said to be well supported by the most respectable inhabitants of the town.

151. The people of Bimlipatam were occupied chiefly with the question of the alignment of the railway then projected through the district of Vizagapatam to the Central Provinces. The survey was only just beginning, and I could not, in the nature of things, give them much information about it.

152. The line has now been surveyed by Mr. Cregeen from Vizagapatam up to a point in the Central Provinces some 230 miles distant from that place, passing through Párvatipur and leaving Madras territory at a point 171 miles from Vizagapatam.

153. The Government of India, which has had recently thrown upon it an enormous amount of railway work all over the country, does not now encourage us to hope for anything being done towards making this line from Imperial funds in a time to which we can at present look forward.

154. We regret this, and are more sanguine than it is about the eventual commercial results, but the responsibility of spending three millions of money is no light one, and extreme caution is a duty. The Government of India is indeed now doing so much for our railways that it would be very ungrateful to complain.

155. It has been suggested that the portion from Vizagapatam to Párvatipur, 83½ miles, might be made as a provincial work, but we could not do this at present without neglecting far more promising and urgent undertakings in other parts of the Presidency.

156. The Bimlipatam Municipal Commissioners objected to some provisions of the Marine Police Act. The people of Vizagapatam later made the same complaint, and the Government shortly afterwards withdrew those ports from the operation of the Act.

157. In another address the Bimlipatam Debating Society asked that Local Self-government might be introduced into their town. This request will, under the new Act, be complied with, and even under the old Act the Municipality was, subsequently to the date of this address, authorized to elect its own Vice-President.

158. From Bimlipatam I drove to Waltair through a tangle of hills and defiles which made it clear enough to me why it would be necessary to allow a railway from Vizagapatam to the northward to take a very considerable sweep inland.

159. At Waltair I inspected the jail and the hospital, seeing also the entrance to the harbour and having explained to me the various plans connected therewith.

160. Here, too, on the 28th I was visited by the Maharaja of Jeypore, whose attention I called, at the suggestion of the Collector, to the importance of his not alienating any portion of his fine Sâl forests without full communication with the district authorities—a suggestion to which he promised to attend.

161. This huge property pays a mere trifle to Government, which spends so much on its justice and police. It is, therefore, only equitable that far greater exertions should be made, than have been made, in the establishment of schools, making of roads, and so forth. If the estate were only well managed for two generations, the Maharaja of Jeypore would be among the wealthiest landed proprietors in Asia.

162. In the afternoon of February 28th I received the principal European and Native inhabitants. Later I had the last information about the survey of the Raipur Railway from Mr. Taylor, Second in Command to Mr. Cregeen, and visited the well-appointed Observatory of Mr. A. V. Narasinga Rao, who is in correspondence with many prominent English Astronomers.

163. The admirable example set by this gentleman will, I hope, have many imitators, but it is piteous to think how very little our system of higher education has yet done to excite an interest either in science or any form of knowledge, for its own sake, amongst the youths who are supposed to have taken advantage of it.

164. After dinner we drove into the town, where I received and replied to the address of the inhabitants. All the arrangements made by the Police, which, from the hour and other causes, involved a rather unusual amount of management, struck me as very creditable to Major Harris and the authorities generally.

165. The inhabitants of Vizagapatam first expressed their satisfaction at the proposed construction of the Vizagapatam-Raipur Railway. Reasons connected with the general development of Indian Railways, and quite beyond the control of this Government, have, as I have mentioned, adjourned that project.

166. Secondly, they asked that the elective system might be introduced into the town. A few months afterwards they were informed that this privilege had been conferred on them, and it has since been exercised.

167. Thirdly, they touched on the important subject of their harbour. Of course it would be a most desirable thing to have a good harbour at Vizagapatam, and the people, when they addressed me, were under the impression that its improvement would be feasible at a comparatively moderate cost.

168. To the eye of a stranger, as to the eyes of the inhabitants, it seems at first sight that it would be very easy to make it a good secondary port. Unfortunately, however, that is very far from being the case. The harbour would not require dredging, but excavating, and when done would not allow a steamer of moderate size to turn round. It is really a hopeless place for a harbour suitable to modern requirements. The kind of vessels which formerly used it are vanishing or vanished. If the trade of the port would but take a start, a pier might be run out which would be of very considerable advantage to shippers. This would, it is believed, be better than improving the mouth of the back-water so as to use larger cargo boats, but like the Cochin lagoons, like the Chilka lake, and other places on the Madras sea-board, Vizagapatam is, I am afraid, a fair deceiver, presenting apparent facilities for harbour operations which turn out on examination to be mere impossibilities.

169. The next request was that the Vizagapatam College might be raised to the B.A. standard. This we were not able to do *in terms*, but we have opened a B.A. class in the Maharaja's College at Vizianagrum, which ought to supply for the present the wants of higher education for the whole district.

170. The last request related to the Marine Police force, and has, as I have remarked above, been complied with.

171. On the morning of the 1st March I visited, in company with Mr. Monro and others, the Male and Female Orphanages supported by Bishop Tissot, gave away prizes at Mr. G. L. Narasinga Rao's Girls' School, which is managed by the Sisters of St. Joseph, seeing also the London Mission School and a Hindu School taught by a Graduate of the University of London. I likewise returned the visit of the Maharaja of Jeypore.

172. In the evening we sailed for the southward, and at day-break on March 2nd the *Kerbela* let go her anchor in the roads of Cocanada some eighty miles from our port of embarkation. The coast showed only as a dim line, and yet we had something less than five fathoms water. Ere long we were joined by Mr. Happell the Acting Collector, Colonel Hasted, Mr. Walch the Superintending Engineer of the north-eastern districts, and others. Colonel Porteous had accompanied us. The sea was quite smooth, but the tide was out and we grounded in crossing the bar. Changing, however, into another boat, we soon reached the landing place, where we were met by the Raja of Pittapur and many other personages of the locality.

173. In the afternoon I received and replied to the address of the Municipality.

174. This was chiefly occupied with thanks and congratulations, but the Commissioners asked for a railway connecting Vizagapatam with Guntúr *viâ* Cocanada and Bezváda.

175. A line from Bezváda *viâ* Guntúr and Vinukonda to Guntakal on the Madras Railway, that is, right into the heart of the peninsula, has since been sanctioned and is now being constructed. As the communication between Cocanada and Vizagapatam by sea is tolerable and the communication between Cocanada and Bezváda by canal excellent, that railway will be, I trust, of much more importance to Cocanada than the line suggested, while it will be unquestionably of far greater value to the presidency at large.

176. Later I made a further inspection of the proposed and much-needed changes in the harbour.

177. Next morning I visited the hospital, where the Surgeon in charge (Dr. Beech) called my attention to the fact that the noise of the hammering, in a dry dock close by, was a serious evil to the patients; that this had made one part of the building absolutely untenantable; and that the dock could be removed to a more convenient spot for a trifling sum. The Acting Collector seemed to share in his views.

178. Shortly after my visit we took this subject into consideration, and, after some correspondence, the Municipal Commissioners of Cocanada said that they were willing to fill in the old dock and revet the face of the river near it, but added that they could not pay the cost of the acquisition of the new site. Thereupon we ordered that the cost of acquiring a new site should be charged to Port Funds, in the first instance, and that it should be afterwards considered whether the whole or any part of the cost should be otherwise debited.

179. I then visited a girls' school supported by the Raja of Pittapur and examined the cutcherry buildings, which had long wanted enlargement.

180. Shortly after my visit an estimate, amounting to nearly Rs. 32,000, was sanctioned, and extensive additions to the old building are now in the course of construction.

181. Then I received an address from the Chamber of Commerce, who, after some remarks with reference to their harbour, advocated the construction of a line of railway between Cocanada and Hyderabad—Cocanada, in spite of its extensive trade, being, as they said, "at present completely cut off from other parts of India as regards practical communication by land."

182. The connection of the British frontier with Hyderabad by railway is not a matter in which this Government can take direct action, but we should see it with the greatest pleasure, and we understand the survey of a line from Singareni through Warungal to Hyderabad has been recently undertaken by His Highness the Nizam's Guaranteed State Railway Company.

183. I shall have occasion to speak later of the line from Bezváda to Singareni.

184. The Chamber next asked that the District and Sessions Court should be transferred from Rajahmundry to Cocanada.

185. That proposal has been carefully examined and, as I led them to suppose at the time would be the case, has been rejected, the High Court having reported very strongly against the suggested change.

186. The next address I received was from the Committee of the Cocanada Hindu High School, who expressed a wish that their institution should be made into a Second-grade College. Their request has been complied with.

187. The next address came from the Members of the Cocanada Literary Association. They also expressed a wish for a railway to Guntúr and advocated the interests of "Literary Associations." If the Director of Public Instruction brings that subject before the Government, as they expected him to do, his proposals will, of course, receive the careful attention for which they pleaded.

188. Later the European community of Cocanada entertained me at dinner. In replying to the toast of my health, I said amongst other things:

"I trust that all good fortune may attend the community of this place, and that the hope which your Collector expressed to me this morning may be realized—that, namely, ere this day a

hundred years, your town may, thanks to your better anchorage, your richer neighbourhood, and the vast country at its back, be as populous as, and I trust less scattered than, Madras is now."

189. We have been doing all we could to facilitate the shipping operations of the port. The groynes are being very greatly extended, and an Act was passed last year making provision for the levying of shipping and landing fees within the port.

190. I proceeded from the Coast to Rajahmundry by the great canal which runs through the Eastern Delta from Dowlaishweram, throwing off below that place a branch which reaches Cocanada by Samalkót, and one which flows down to the sea past the French settlement of Yanam.

191. The rice was all off the ground, so that this beautiful expanse of splendidly fertile land was seen at its worst. The landscape presented few features of interest. Great fields of sugar-cane, for the crushing of which the natives were just beginning to use the portable Behreea machines; patches of Sunn-hemp, grown oddly enough as fodder, not a fibre crop; a village in which fire had been raging, the origin of which the uncharitable might possibly connect with the bamboo-rafts moored hard by, ready to be used in repairing the mischief; "the fire always happens" says the simple villager "just when the bamboo-rafts come down;" another village in which vast flocks of water-birds roosted in perfect security, amongst them even a pelican—were amongst the most notable things we passed. The traffic in these canals generally moves at night, but we saw enough to convince us that the form of the boats used is, like most things in this favoured region, gradually improving.

192. At Dowlaishweram I inspected the anicut, a mighty and monumental work, nearly four miles in length, of which I could see only one section—that between Dowlaishweram and the nearest island. Colonel Hasted and Mr. Walch acted as my guides and explained to me various matters relating to the position of the little Public Works Capital.

193. From Dowlaishweram we ran on to Rajahmundry, where, on the morning of the 4th, I visited the jail at which they were rapidly accommodating their arrangements to the views shortly before expressed by the Government of India, and in the neighbourhood of which there was no lack of extramural work. This hardly seemed to be the case at Vizagapatam.

194. The bazaar at Rajahmundry is very narrow and compares badly with the broad and handsome quarter which bears the name of Mr. Justice Innes, but to widen it would involve, I fear, very great outlay.

195. Here we came again upon the fine Banyan avenues, of which I had seen so much in Ganjam. In this neighbourhood tradition connects them with Sir Thomas Munro's visit to the Northern Circars.

196. In the afternoon I received the principal inhabitants, and the Municipality presented an address.

197. Here, and I think here only, during my journeys have I heard the question of widow-remarriage referred to, the following passage having occurred in the address:

"Our town is at present a centre of great intellectual and social activity, five Brahman widow-marriages having recently taken place under the auspices of the local Widow-marriage Association, and it promises in a few years to rival, if not excel, most towns in the South."

198. The Commissioners called my attention first to the importance of connecting Vizagapatam with Raipur by rail and wished that the line might be extended to Rajahmundry. That, of course, belongs to the future.

199. Secondly, they asked that the river bank should be strengthened, and they suggested that the accumulations of the ferry fund might be devoted to this purpose. That would have been illegal, but the attention of the Public Works Department has been drawn to their remarks, and that department has been taking measures to prevent the mischief complained of.

200. Thirdly, they expressed their opinions in respect to the District and Sessions Court, which were, of course, diametrically opposed to those of the Cocanada people.

201. Their view was, as I have stated above, accepted by Government, and the District Court was not transferred to a new station.

202. Fourthly, they asked for the elective privilege, which will, under the new Act probably be conceded to them, if they renew their application.

203. Fifthly, they asked the support of Government to a proposal, then lately made by them, to the Director of Public Instruction about middle-class education in the town. After much correspondence Mr. Grigg himself visited Rajahmundry and has recently reported that the educational affairs of the town are in a more satisfactory state than they were when I was there, and that he expects that, when the new Mofussil Municipal Act is in full operation, they will gradually be placed on a good footing.

204. Sixthly, the memorialists asked for encouragement to Graduates. I have already explained that it is the policy of Government to give increased employment to Graduates.

205. Seventhly, they asked that an industrial school might be started at the Dowlaishweram Government Workshop and that night-schools might be opened. I replied at the time:

"I am informed that the Government Workshop at Dowlaishweram already trains a good many youths in the best possible way; and, as to night-schools, why I have heard more about night-schools since I came over the bar of the Godávari than I have done in the whole of the rest of the Presidency."

See also remarks made in the first half of this minute in the review of my second tour. *

206. Lastly, the Commissioners complained of the inconveniences caused by the frequent change of District Judges, with regard to which I observed:

"I am sure the frequent change of Judges and Collectors is as great a nuisance to the Government as it possibly can be to you, but such cases as the one you have mentioned, and the extreme inconvenience of which I fully admit, will continue to occur now and then, while questions of privilege leave, furlough, seniority, and I know not how many others have to be taken into consideration. It is an evil of which most districts have had experience, but you, I apprehend, fully less than others, if it be true, as I have been informed, that the tenure of office of three Judges in Rajahmundry, two of whom are still in the service, covered a period of thirty years."

207. The next day we steamed up the river to a point some forty-three miles from Rajahmundry, just above the gorge by which it traverses the Eastern Ghâts and just below the frontier of the Nizam's dominions. The scenery, when once the hills are reached, is fine, even at this season, when the approach of the hottest period of the year has somewhat the same effect as the later autumn has at home in stripping the trees of their leaves and discolouring every green thing, or, to be more exact, every green thing that does not lie below the highest flood-mark.

208. A former Governor of Madras has compared the landscape to that between Bingen and Coblentz, but it carried my thoughts rather to—

"The wood and water side,
Imperial Danube's wide domain,"

of which Campbell wrote, or to the ravines lower down the same river between Belgrade and Orsova, especially that along the southern side of which ran Trajan's road. To give, however, any fair chance to the Indian stream when compared with European ones, three-fourths of whose charm is in their associations, the Godávari should be seen in the rains, when the hills, rising 2,500 feet above it, are masses of varied green separated by a foaming and very dangerous torrent, in many places much more than a hundred feet deep.

209. Far above the point which we reached, are the once famous works by which it was intended so to facilitate navigation as to bring down the cotton of the central regions to Cocanada. Some other age may take up these gigantic schemes, which had to be left unfinished by our own; but the question will always arise whether in India, as elsewhere, it is not to the westward that the "course of empire takes its way," and whether we have any ports, on our Madras sea-board, which can hold their own, as places of export, against Bombay and Goa.

* Part I, paragraphs 123 to 127.

210. I had much conversation with the Acting Collector about the state of our forests in the neighbourhood, which is truly deplorable.

211. Mr. Gamble, having now finished still more urgent matters nearer Madras, proposes in the end of this year, or the beginning of the next, to visit the Godávari district, to which, it will be remembered, Mr. Brandis was, during the brief period we had him with us, unable to penetrate.

212. I make no doubt that the measures necessary for the improvement and utilization of the very valuable forests in the Rékapalle and Bhadráchalam taluks will be advanced by his action as much as is possible, having regard to our still too small forest staff and other difficulties.

213. Mr. Happell had likewise much that was important to say about the state of Rampa and its neighbourhood; but none of the district officers seemed to have seen my late honorable colleague's (Mr. Carmichael's) report, which ought, I suggested, to have been supplied to them confidentially, and which has since been so supplied.

214. Dropping down from the gorge, far enough to be out of the feverish hills, we anchored for the night of the 6th March, and, steaming past Rajahmundry on the 7th, visited the head works of the Central Delta, at present closed for repairs and alterations. Thence we passed to the head works of the Western Delta and ran down the noble stream, say two hundred feet broad, flowing from it to the new Public Works bungalow of Chettipet, which stands just above the point where that stream branches into the canal which goes to Narsápur and that which leads towards the Kistna. Between the bungalow and the point of bifurcation lay fine fields of the so-called "Lunka Tobacco," which is largely produced on the alluvial grounds and islands all through these regions.

215. On the 8th I followed the western branch of the canal to Ellore, where I made but a short halt, and, taking leave of the officers of the Godávari District, was transferred into the canals of the Kistna, which meet those of the Godávari at that point.

216. A night and a day of most pacific canal travelling, at the rate of a little over two miles an hour, during which I passed out of the Godávari into the Kistna District, and was joined by Mr. Horsfall, its then Collector, brought me to Bezváda, where I was received as usual by a very large portion of the population and found my quarters in a house situated on the top of one of the detached hills which overlook the river. At my feet lay the great anicut, which, though trifling in length compared to that of the Godávari, is unlike it easily visible at a glance, extending as it does between the two rocky hills which say, for a moment, even in flood-time, to that impetuous and wayward, albeit very sacred, stream, "Thus far shalt thou go and no further"—no light thing to say when we remember that it is asserted that the Kistna, in the rains, carries more water past Bezváda in an hour than the Clyde carries past Glasgow in a year.

217. From this point I made an excursion to Guntúr, which passes for one of the hottest places in India, but where I fortunately came in for cloudy skies and a strong breeze. This town is a great centre of the cotton trade, producing a species of that staple which takes red dyes with peculiar ease. Large crops of indigo and castor-oil are also grown not far off. Indeed, the growth of indigo is so rapidly increasing here that one Tahsildar actually suggested to the Collector that it ought to be prohibited, lest no food should be left for the population of his taluk!

218. The inhabitants of Guntúr, after mentioning that no Governor of Madras had been there since Sir Thomas Munro passed through it in December 1822, observed:

"We would fain hope that our deprivation, for sixty years, of the honor of the Governor's presence has arisen, not from any lack of loyalty on our part, but only from the remote and secluded situation of our native town; and we trust that your Excellency's personal investigation of the circumstances of Guntúr will result in our being favoured with greater facilities of intercourse with the outer world."

They then went on to quote certain statistics showing the importance of their town and neighbourhood.

219. That importance we fully recognize, and, as mentioned above, Guntúr will soon be connected with the Madras Railway.

220. Next the memorialists complained about some difficulties thrown in the way of their commerce by the non-construction of a quay-wall, and they asked me to get this matter put right. Their grievance was referred to the Public Works Department, which has reported that the quay-wall is completed.

221. Thirdly, they asked that the head quarters of the Collector and the Judge of the Kistna should be transferred from Masulipatam to Guntúr.

222. That would be profoundly disagreeable to Masulipatam and would not be justified by the present circumstances of the district.

223. Fourthly, they advocated the claims of their own town as against those of Ongole in case it were intended to create a new Collectorate in that part of the Presidency.

224. There is no present intention of doing that, but their claims will no doubt be considered, should the question arise.

225. Fifthly, they complained that the post office at Guntúr had been reduced to a sub post-office.

226. This grievance we referred to the Postmaster-General, who is an Imperial officer and defended his arrangements on the ground that the postal work at Guntúr was very small.

227. Sixthly, they complained of having to pay the Imperial License-tax over and above their Municipal taxation, but that is not a matter for this Government.

228. Seventhly, they complained of the raising of fees in their High School.

229. This was referred to the Director of Public Instruction, who reported that, in spite of the raising of the fees, the attendance had increased, and that for those who did not like to pay the higher fee there was a private school to which they could send their children.

230. Eighthly, the people asked for a Sanskrit Pundit in their High School.

231. With respect to this complaint, Mr. Grigg reported as follows:

"I am fully alive to the desirability of encouraging the study of this language in Government schools, but am decidedly of opinion that it should not be begun as a regular class-subject until a pupil has passed the Middle School Examination. Up to that time it is far better, in my judgment, to limit his language studies to English and his own vernacular; otherwise the vernacular will assuredly be neglected to the serious injury of the student, not only in regard thereto, but also in regard to the study of English. As funds become available, I hope to provide Sanskrit teachers in all High Schools. It would, however, be of little use making such provision in the Guntúr High School at present, as the Inspector states that none of the pupils in the high department are willing to study Sanskrit."

232. Ninthly, they asked for the privilege of electing their Municipal Commissioners. Their case will be considered with reference to the new Act.

233. Tenthly, they complained of the state of the irrigation works in the uplands of the district. I have already explained what has been done throughout the Presidency in regard to this matter.

234. Lastly, the official part of the community suggested the establishment of a Family Provision Fund under the auspices of Government.

235. Their scheme was fully considered and referred to the Board of Revenue as well as to the officers noted in the margin for report. The majority held that there were insuperable objections to its adoption. The reports received were communicated to the authors of the address presented to me.

Messrs. Mackenzie, H. E. Stokes, A. J. Stuart, Sturrock, and Clogstoun.

236. The next address which I received was from the Muhammadans of Guntúr and consisted chiefly of a strong and, under their circumstances, not unnatural protest against Local Self-government.

237. To this I replied:

"Your sentiments of loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen, Empress of India, do credit to your good sense and show that British authority takes in your eyes the shape which it is hoped it may ever take in the eyes of all who are subject to it—that of a shield, not of a sword. The difficulty in the way of elective Local Self-government to which you allude is quite a real one in this country, where the clefts separating various sections of the community, alike transverse and parallel, are so wide and so deep. We shall take care to guard against the obvious danger of which you warn us."

238. We have since taken powers under the new Local and Municipal Acts to make rules for the special representation of any classes of the community for which it may be thought necessary.

239. Then the memorialists asked that a Persian class might be opened for their children in the Guntúr High School.

240. This request, like that of their Hindu brethren above alluded to, was referred to the Director of Public Instruction, who wrote as follows:

"I cannot recommend that the request of the Muhammadans of Murtazanagar Circar to have Persian taught in the Guntúr High School should be complied with, as there are only five Muhammadans in the school. The cost of providing such instruction is, therefore, out of proportion to the number likely to benefit by it."

241. From Guntúr I returned to Bezváda, where the inhabitants presented another address, which they began by saying:

"Perhaps no place in British India more exemplifies the benefits of British rule than the picturesque spot you are now honoring with a visit."

242. They dwelt at much length upon this subject and made use, amongst others, of the following expressions:

"In place of dashing madly on to be lost in the sea, the Kistna now spreads fertility and beauty on all sides, and, had your Excellency come at a later period of the year, the extensive tracts of flat country between this and the coast would have presented you with a sight worth seeing. No longer struggling for a bare existence or held in the grasp of sowcars, the people rejoice among their smiling crops, and the money-lenders have become almost extinct. Even in famine years the Kistna never fails to do its duty, and the dire poverty that existed during the childhood of middle-aged men is almost forgotten in the general prosperity, and it is meet that we should express gratitude to the good Government that has done these great things for us."

243. Next they proceeded to make a variety of suggestions, and first they asked for a new anicut higher up the river.

244. To that I replied:

"The question whether such an anicut as you propose could be made with advantage must be left to the Engineers of the future since, for the present, our hands are full and more than full. Two hundred and sixty thousand acres are, I understand, now watered by our irrigation works in this district, but we have just, thanks to the labors of Colonel Hasted and others, received sanction for the completion of these works. This will bring two hundred and forty thousand acres more under irrigation, and I need hardly say that the process of doing so will task all our officers, and absorb all the money we can spare for work of this kind here, for some time to come."

245. Secondly, they asked that the Gudiváda Irrigation project should be urged on. The Gudiváda project is being urged on. In connection with this they asked whether inquiry might be made as to its being feasible to reclaim land from the Colair lake. Inquiry is hardly necessary, for the time will certainly come when it will be possible to reclaim land from the Colair lake.

246. It would be premature to do so at present. The lake is silting up of itself, and, after we have irrigated all the land in its neighbourhood which can be commanded by our works, we shall probably irrigate some of the land reclaimed. That, however, belongs to next century.

247. They then asked for a Bench of Honorary Magistrates, and wished, like the inhabitants of Guntúr, that the District Court should be transferred from Masulipatam to their town.

248. Their wish for increased judicial strength may perhaps be met, ere long, in a somewhat different, but more effective way. The second wish was not reasonable.

249. Next they asked that the land between the Bunder and Ellore canals might be added to the town site. The proposals of the Government, for bringing this about, have now been accepted by the Local Fund Board.

250. Sixthly, they asked for a steam ferry over the Kistna or a timber bridge over the anicut.

251. We have sanctioned a wharf for the ferry on the Bezváda side from Canal and Ferry Funds, and the Public Works Department is to construct it.

252. The alternative scheme of a bridge over the anicut is not thought feasible by the experts who, with good reason, believe that the vibration would prove fatal to the work. The attempt to make a bridge when the anicut was first constructed was not encouraging.

253. Evidently a steam ferry is what is wanted, and the people of Rajahmundry are setting their friends on the Kistna a good example in this respect.

254. Seventhly, they asked for a lock whereby communication could be effected between the river above and below the anicut, but this, as was explained to me on the spot, is hardly feasible and not necessary.

255. Eighthly, they asked that Bezváda might be connected with the Indian Railway system.

256. It is now in process of being connected with the Indian Railway system.

257. Ninthly, they asked for the construction of a railway from Bezváda to Hyderabad.

258. I have already explained the state of that question, except with reference to the link between Bezváda and Singareni.

259. There can be no doubt that a railway from Bezváda to Singareni, which would bring, through our system of canals, the product of that important coal-field to Madras, would be of great importance to that city and to many interests in the Presidency. We issued orders last March to our officers to give every possible assistance to the party deputed by His Highness the Nizam's Guaranteed Railway Company to survey the part of the proposed line which passes through British territory.

260. Since the address to which I am referring was presented, Dr. King has delivered a very interesting lecture about the Singareni coal-field and Mr. Foote has carefully re-examined it. There is no doubt that it could supply all the demands likely to be made from South India upon it for a very long time.

261. Tenthly, the memorialists asked for the improvement of the Buckingham Canal.

262. The Public Works Department reports that, since the date of the address I am referring to, the following works have been executed in connection with the canal, viz.:—

A lock at the end of the junction canal with the Adyar.
A lock from the Adyar into the south canal.
The diversion of the canal in the Pulicat Lake.
Training banks to several rivers
Deepening shallow portions, keeping open passages across rivers, construction of flood-gates, embankments, &c.

263. Finally, the inhabitants of Bezváda expressed their pleasure at seeing a native appointed for the first time to the high position of Head Assistant Collector and their thanks to the Viceroy for the Local Self-government scheme.

264. With reference to the first of these points, I observed:

"I share the pleasure you feel in having amongst you a Native Head Assistant Collector I have the pleasure of knowing that gentleman personally, and have made many inquiries about him. All I have seen and all I have heard make me expect that he will be a most useful member of our Civil Service, taking a position in it worthy of his family, which, as everybody knows, is one of the most distinguished in India. I do trust that the example set in encouraging education amongst his own connections by a person of so historical a name as the Zamorin may be more generally followed. We have in these north-eastern districts men who, like the Maharaja of Vizianagrum, the Zemindars of Mandasa and Bobbili, and the Raja of Pittapur, are doing much in

various ways for the enlightenment of those around them; but the great proprietors of our coast provinces have not yet risen to a full conception either of their duties or their interests as Indian nobles, fellow-workers with Government for the good of their countrymen."

265. Before leaving Bezváda I visited various schools, the workshops connected with the canals, and the Undavelli Cave Temples. From the hill-side in which they are situated the eye ranges over the wide level, which is bounded by the Kondapilli range. Over this great alluvial plain the Kistna in the summer of 1882 spread for miles and miles, and it was out of some of the trees visible from the temples that Mr. Grant of the Public Works Department succeeded in rescuing so many people. The panic in the animal creation was universal. Mr. Horsfall, sailing straight over the country from Masulipatam, not only rescued a hare from the roof of a temple, but passed numerous trees covered with snakes which craned towards him, trying to reach the comparative safety of the boat—a sufficiently Dantesque experience. He thought that, if he had not been otherwise occupied, he could have shot a thousand in the course of the day. This was told me as I was crossing the plain which intervenes between the river and the Undavelli Caves amidst good crops of castor-oil and cholum (*Holcus sorghum*). "These are the very fields," said my companion, "as to which the ryots complained a few months ago that they were hopelessly ruined." Jupiter Pluvius in India has two aspects.

266. I left Bezváda on the early afternoon of the 13th and, gliding slowly along the broad canal which connects with the sea, reached my destination in some twenty hours. Till night fell I passed between fine avenues of trees, coeval with the canal itself, but as I approached the coast, trees became rarer, and I entered on the huge mirage-haunted flat which spreads around Masulipatam. Perhaps from the presence of the mirage, it made me think of the Crau which one traverses between Avignon and Marseilles. Unhappily, however, for the inhabitants of Masulipatam, the Father of gods and men never here, as there, showered down stones to help anybody, as Æschylus tells us that he did to help Hercules in his contest with the Ligurians upon the Western plain. It is one vast pebbleless expanse, and the making of a very ordinary road through it, has cost as much as 12,000 rupees a mile. I saw at Bezváda masses of the commonest road-metal waiting to be transported forty-six miles.

267. Arrived at the landing place, I was met by the Nawáb of Masulipatam and many others—the general community presenting an address, to which I replied.

268. The first request of the people was that records—Judicial and Revenue—should never, under any circumstances, be destroyed.

269. To that I replied:

"The question what records should be kept and what destroyed is one of extraordinary difficulty. It torments, I suppose, every Government as it certainly torments every man of business. One of the most eminent of English statesmen is reported to have said to a younger politician, 'Don't you know that no one in public life who cares for his character ever destroys a paper?' I am afraid that, if all public men took that view of the subject, it would not be easy for them to find executors, and a government which constituted itself a depositary, to all eternity, of all documents that happened once to have found their way into its hands would, I imagine, as the ages went on, have a bad time of it. The rules issued under the authority of the High Court seem very rational, and you have in the registration system the means of perpetuating documents, which it is worth your while to perpetuate in return for a small fee."

270. It is believed that we err in keeping rather too much than too little, but the whole subject was carefully reconsidered, only a few months ago, and a fresh set of rules framed by the Board of Revenue.

271. Secondly, the inhabitants asked that restrictions as to age should be done away with in nominating members of the Bar to appointments on the Bench, and that in all other cases the limit should be raised from twenty-five to twenty-eight years.

272. The Government of India have been asked to relax the twenty-five years' rule in favor of Graduates to enable them to qualify in the special tests after taking their degree. The former request was based on some misconception. We have already the power to over-ride the ordinary rules in special cases falling within this category.

273. Thirdly, the memorialists called attention to the mismanagement of the Temple funds and suggested that they should be managed by Municipal and Local Fund Boards.

274. In the first part of this Minute I have already spoken of this matter.

275. Fourthly, they said that they felt it to be an injustice to employ the revenues of the country for the support of an alien religion.

276. This was the only address presented to me, so far as I remember, in which this subject was mentioned.

277. Doubtless many persons see that to raise it would open a great many questions about religious endowments of various kinds, which had much better not be opened. *Sinere res vadere ut vadunt* is not, in such matters, a bad rule in a country like this. The following even of the best Oxford or Dublin precedents, in the East, is not always practicable.

278. Next the people asked that Bezváda should be connected with Hyderabad by rail. Of that I have already spoken.

279. Then they asked that steam boats should ply on the canal to Bezváda, supposing that this could be done if only the locks could be enlarged.

280. To this I replied at the time:

"It is not the narrowness of the locks which prevents steam navigation. It is the frightful wear and tear of the banks which steam navigation would cause. Even in America, the most go-ahead of countries, they are, I am assured, going back to tracking, upon many canals on which they have hitherto used steam."

281. The memorialists then asked for a short canal from Manginapudi. I told them that the request would be carefully considered if the Salt Department, the best authority on the subject, asked for its construction. The Salt Commissioner, however, has not done so.

282. Then they made certain suggestions for the improvement of their communications with the sea, but these and other proposals for the supposed advantage of Masulipatam have, after careful examination, been pronounced impracticable by our experts.

283. The joint operations of the Kistna and of the sea in this neighbourhood are conducted on so gigantic a scale that human intelligence can do little to second human will in contending with them.

284. Next the people made a request, which has since been complied with, for the appointment of a Town Sub-Magistrate.

285. Lastly, they desired to keep their then Collector, an excellent officer, whom we would willingly have left with them if he had not been even more urgently wanted elsewhere.

286. From the basin I proceeded to the Collector's house, where in the afternoon I received many people and then visited the town, seeing, *inter alia*, the little morsel of French territory, some four hundred yards square, of which we hear so much.

287. If the aspect of Masulipatam itself is sufficiently dreary, that of the fort and port, which I visited on the morning of the 15th, is even worse. They have never recovered from the cyclone of November 1864, when the storm-wave swept fourteen miles inland and destroyed some thirty thousand people. In the presence of such tremendous natural agencies as are, or may at any moment be, at work here, no protecting works can be contemplated. We can only hope for the best and adopt, from time to time, any palliatives that do not commit us too deeply.

288. The only monument of the slightest interest, connected with the catastrophe of 1864, is the Catholic Church of St. Catherine, standing near a tasteless and ill-conceived erection, which, though put up by a private individual, was taken over by Government, and is supposed to commemorate the calamitous inundation. But some help, I remarked, might be usefully given to repair the forlorn edifice close by—the congregation, which is miserably poor, being quite unable to prevent its falling into a heap of ruins.

289. This help has now been given.

290. On my return to the town I visited two schools under the charge, respectively, of the Church Mission and the Hindu community. Both seemed fairly well conducted, but presented no features of special interest.

291. On the 15th I received the Municipality.

292. First the Commissioners complained of lack of funds.

293. To that I replied:

"I deeply sympathize with you. In my whole life I have never known a public body, and only once or twice have I known a private individual, who did not suffer from the lack of funds. In fact, searching the recesses of my memory, I cannot be quite certain that I ever but once was in company with a gentleman who did not suffer from lack of funds. It was in a Committee of the House of Commons and a witness was being examined: 'Why did you not do this or that?' —I forget what—asked a member of the Committee. 'Oh!' replied the witness, 'I am a very rich man.' 'What a pigeon!' whispered to me the Chairman, as he saw the greedy eyes of twenty lawyers fasten on this victim, who had thus crowned himself for the sacrifice."

294. Next the Commissioners complained that their fire-wood boats coming from the jungles along the sea coast were not allowed to enter the canal, from the salt water creek, and land their cargoes at the basin, as they formerly did without payment of fees.

295. This matter has now been arranged to their satisfaction.

296. Thirdly, they pressed for the connection of the Kistna with the projected railway running towards Kurnool. That railway was then merely a project. It is now being called into existence, and the Kistna is being connected with it.

297. I started betimes on the 16th and, circumstances being favorable, reached the *Chinsura*, which was lying in four-and-a-half fathoms water, after poling, rowing, and sailing for *only* three hours. It sometimes takes a whole day. The floods of July 1882 have altered the position of the bar and greatly shortened the distance which has to be traversed before the open sea is reached. Now, in all likelihood, the Kistna will again begin to spread its silt, under the influence of the set of the sea from the south, and the bar will move further and further north till the next great flood comes.

298. A run of about one hundred and ninety miles occupied, thanks to a strong adverse current, some six-and-twenty hours, but by three o'clock on the 17th I was once more in the Harbour of Madras after an absence of just six weeks.

299. On my return to Guindy it was natural to turn to the Minute of my great predecessor, Sir Thomas Munro, dated 7th January 1823, on his tour in the Northern Circars, which is printed in the first volume of Sir Alexander Arbuthnot's Selections from his Minutes. It would be difficult to bring the changes that have taken place even in this backward part of the Presidency, in which there is not a single mile of railway, more clearly in view than by placing these two documents side by side.

300. Sir Thomas begins by saying that his object was—

"to ascertain the general condition of the people, the political state of the country, the main causes which led to the frequent disturbances of its tranquillity, and the means most likely to remedy the disorder."

301. Now happily there is no disorder, and, although we must look forward, from time to time, to some little troubles in the hill tracts, they can only be very trifling in comparison with those which, long after the time of Sir Thomas Munro, threw into confusion many large and fine portions of these countries.

302. He then proceeds to say:

"The Zemindars have long had, and still have, such extensive power and influence as to claim the first place in every inquiry concerning the state of the country;"

and nearly the whole of the rest of his Minute is occupied with them and their affairs. In this Minute of mine the Zemindars are frequently mentioned, but they have passed into a new position. The people, as represented by their Municipalities and other organizations, have slipped into the position once occupied by these potentates.

303. Then, again, life has become infinitely more complicated. A hundred new interests force themselves on the attention of a Governor as he travels; nor

have I the slightest doubt that, unless some quite unforeseen catastrophe occurs, more progress will be made in the Northern Circars, during the next thirty years, than has been made during the last sixty.

304. Heaven forbid that I should re-open the old and weary discussion on the respective merits of the Zemindari and Ryotwari systems; but the Zemindars of the Northern Circars have made less progress since 1823 than could be wished. We have, of course, in the Maharaja of Vizianagrum a splendid exception, and he is not quite alone, but, as a whole, the Zemindars by no means discharge the functions which one would wish them to discharge, not only for the sake of the country, but for their own. Every officer employed in districts, where they are to be found, should keep up a steady pressure upon them to educate their children. If they do not do this, there are assuredly forces at work in native society which will make their continued existence an impossibility. It is not in Europe alone that the saying of the poet holds true—

"O rois, soyez grands, car le peuple grandit!"

305. For the rest what these provinces chiefly want are—

(1) improved means of communication with the outer world;
(2) more careful management of the forests;
(3) the cautious and gradual, but systematic, opening up to civilization of the hill tracts.

306. What we have done from March 1883 to November 1884 with respect to improving the means of communication of these provinces with the outer world and the more careful management of the forests has been sufficiently explained.

307. With regard to the third head, we are steadily keeping it in view, but from the nature of the case no great change can be reported in so brief a period.

308. Writing on the 29th May last, Mr. Atkinson, the Special Assistant Agent in the Godávari District, said:

"My attempt to get Koyis and Reddis into official employment ended in the absolute desertion of one of the Mission Schools in the Rékapalle range because the parents of the boys thought their children, if instructed, would be put into Government employment and sent to Rajahmundry."

309. Similarly Mr. H. A. Stuart, Special Assistant Agent in Vizagapatam, reported last June:

"No children of Paraga or other Ooriya caste ryots attend any of the schools. These ryots have a strong prejudice against education which they consider only fit for Pariahs. '*Ghasi Pat, Paraga Nat*—learning for the Ghasi, for the Paraga the nautch (dance)'—is a proverb amongst them. At Padwa, I was assured that, if a Paraga boy were taught to read, his eyes would drop out, and his head burst into a thousand pieces, and this was pointed by the sad fate of a neighbouring Naik, who had the presumption to learn to read with the result that he became blind, his heart broke, and he died. I have suggested to several that a school for Paragas only might meet their wishes, but they one and all answered in the negative. Their prejudices are as yet too strong for reasoning and must be left to time."

310. These wild countries have enjoyed unbroken peace since the period of which I am writing. Even Rumpa, so troublesome to our immediate predecessors, has given us no trouble. The extension of communications, the gradual introduction of a humble kind of education, the discouragement of wasteful and barbarous systems of cultivating the soil, these are the ends which we must chiefly pursue. In no part of the country is the maxim *festina lente* more applicable, but we should insist upon successive officers giving anxious and personal consideration to the condition of the hill tribes and on no account allow the maxim I have just quoted, to degenerate into a plea for inaction.

311. The touring of officers in these districts should be carefully watched, and excuses for the non-performance of tours most severely scanned. I have lately seen some such excuses which I could not approve. These hill tracts will become ever more and more important, as I observed in my Minute of March 1883:

"In regions of this kind we have, so to speak, great reservoirs for the overflow of an increasing population, and if people in England, who alarm themselves too much about the pressure of numbers upon the food-supply in India, could only bring home to their minds how very numerous such regions are, they would be less uneasy."

Seventh Tour of Inspection.

312. My seventh journey began at Ootacamund on the 4th August 1883, and took me *viâ* Coimbatore and Suramangalum to Yercaud in the Shevaroy Hills, which I reached on the 6th.

313. On my way up my attention was called to several new vegetable forms, more especially to *Erythroxylon Monogynum*, the old *Sethia Indica*, which is said to have on the human frame the same curiously staying power as the *Coca* of Peru, to which it is nearly allied. This property would appear to have been long known to the peasantry, and Colonel Cox, who showed me the tree, told me that it was very largely used by the people of North Arcot, to mix with their food, in the last famine.

314. At Yercaud we remained forty-eight hours. The house in which I stayed was only about 4,800 feet above the sea, and the Shevaroyen, which we climbed, only 80 feet lower than the highest point of these hills, rises but to 5,300. The vegetation, both natural and introduced, is accordingly very different from that of Ootacamund, more resembling what we find round Coonoor, though by no means identical with it. The prevalence of the orange tribe and of the Loquat (*Eriobotrya Japonica*) takes one's mind to Southern Europe.

315. At Yercaud I received two addresses. The first of these was from the Planters.

316. They began by asking for a road fit for wheeled traffic to connect Yercaud and Salem.

317. To this request, for which I think a great deal was to be said, we gave much care. So far as can be ascertained no accurate estimate of the cost of the proposed road has ever been made. It has been approximately estimated at sums varying from Rs. 64,000 to Rs. 1,00,000, and it appears probable that the cost of a good cart-road would reach the last-named sum.

318. The Local Fund Board conditionally promised a contribution of about one-third of that amount, say Rs. 34,000, and the Government, by an order of March 31st this year, said "that if the planters and residents would undertake to contribute an equal sum, the Government would depute an officer to make an estimate of the cost in detail." With that estimate before them they would be in a position to state how much could be contributed from Provincial funds.

319. Unfortunately the planters and residents, although the former spoke in their address of giving a substantial contribution, have not yet offered a sum at all in proportion to that which is offered by the Local Fund Board. The matter must therefore, I fear, stand over till better times come to them.

320. Next the memorialists asked that a branch treasury with currency note transactions might be opened on the Shevaroy Hills.

321. We communicated this request to the Board, the Accountant-General, and other authorities, and the sub-treasury at Yercaud is now allowed to retain a minimum cash balance of Rs. 10,000 to facilitate the encashment of currency notes for the convenience of the planters.

322. Their third request was for an officer with the powers of a District Munsif to settle their civil disputes.

323. I pointed out at the time that, in order to comply with this request, it would be necessary to find an officer who had passed no less than three examinations of a rather high order, that the number of officers who had done this was limited, and that the difficulty was increased by the fact that service on the Shevaroys is not generally agreeable to natives.

324. The residents made a similar request to that made by the planters about the road and about increasing the powers of the Deputy Tahsildar. Further they asked that the status of the Yercaud post office should be raised and that the very backward hill-people should receive some education.

325. We referred the post office grievance to the Postmaster-General, who reported that the total number of European and Native permanent residents was only ninety-five, that the average daily receipts on account of money orders was only Rs. 45, and that there was no case for changing the status of the office.

326. With regard to the educational grievance, the Government has now sanctioned the opening of a Local Fund School at Karadiyur for the special benefit of the hill-people.

327. I was much struck with the beauty of the Shevaroy Hills and said:

"It is very surprising to me that only one Governor of Fort St. George should have come to this beautiful place,—this Sorrento without the sea, as I have already described it, this morning, to more than one English correspondent; but I should have been still more surprised if the charms of so attractive a portion of this Presidency had not caught the keen eye of Lord Napier and Ettrick.

"I am heartily glad that I made this the first stage on my way to Kurnool, not only because it is so agreeable a spot, but because four-and-twenty hours ago I had really not the least idea how considerable were the interests already connected with these Hills, nor had the thought come to me, which has now taken possession of my mind, that, in the fulness of time, these interests will be far greater than they are now. It is inexpedient, even when it is possible, to force the development of a country; but if the great British peace continues to brood over India, it would be idle to doubt that sooner or later Salem will be a centre of the iron industry,—the 'black country' of the southern part of the Peninsula. What a blessing it will then be for the persons who direct that industry to escape, from time to time, to these lovely hills, without going more than an hour or two from their work."

328. Yercaud is the headquarters of the members of the Geological Survey employed in Madras, and I had an opportunity there of receiving much information from Mr. Bruce Foote, as also of seeing his collection of pre-historic implements from various parts of the Presidency, and of fossil plants from the neighbourhood of Ongole. There, too, our party was joined by Dr. King of the Geological Survey, who accompanied us during the rest of this tour and did much to make it instructive.

329. We descended by a ghât longer and still more beautiful than that by which we had ascended, coming down through heavy forest, now reserved, and very feverish jungles, to the Shevaroy Hills station, whence we travelled through the night to Madras, where I transacted business with a variety of persons and pushed on again through the night to Gooty, where we were met by Mr. Roupell, but soon passed under the care of Mr. Glenny and into the district of Kurnool.

330. Along the road were some very curious perched blocks, which, if occurring in Switzerland or Cornwall, would be unhesitatingly attributed to the action of ice, but which are here, it seems, simply the result of the weathering away of the softer parts of gneiss rock—the same action which has strewn the hill of Bellary and so many others in this neighbourhood with what strike an English eye, at first sight, as gigantic and probably far-travelled boulders.

331. Mr. Alexander Agassiz, who paid us a visit, alas too brief, in the cold weather of 1883-84, told me that he had seen precisely the same effect produced upon huge granite pillars by the joint action of fire and water in the great conflagration which desolated Boston a few years ago.

332. At Pyapali, about eleven miles from Gooty, where we stopped during the heat of the day, I was visited by the Nawáb of Banganapalle, who introduced various matters of business, which I laid confidentially before my honorable colleagues.

The Nawáb's brother-in-law was also presented to me. He was followed by various officials and by the notables of the neighbourhood, amongst others by two old Poligars who had seen Sir Thomas Munro just before he died.

333. In the afternoon we continued our route and encamped in the neighbourhood of a village called Dhone, where we met a portion of Mr. Lambert's survey party.

334. Thence, on the early morning of the 11th, we advanced twenty-four miles to Thekur, passing near the spot where Dr. King believes the Koh-i-noor to have been found. There is still some searching for diamonds in this neighbourhood, but the searchers meet with scant success. The world-famous gem was probably found

in the alluvium which borders the long level ranges of the Cuddapah quartzites and was doubtless washed out of the Kurnool rocks immediately above them.

335. In the afternoon we again pushed forward, encountering violent rain-storms, along a road which traversed the black-cotton soil that spreads around Kurnool, and is believed by Dr. King to be not, as some say, the product of decomposed trap, but a lacustrine formation analogous to that which may often be found at the bottom of disused tanks.

336. Arrived at Kurnool, we were established at the house of the Collector, where, on the morning of the 12th, I received the members of the family of the late Nawáb, then a very large number of Native officials, next a solitary permanent English resident in the town, lastly a large gathering of Natives not connected with the Administration. The European officials, very few in number, also came to see me.

337. Two addresses were here presented.

338. The first was that of the Municipal Commissioners and Members of the Local Fund Board. It was full of gratitude for the action of the Government during the famine, and many other things.

339. Then followed various requests. First they asked for a protective railway to connect the district with the grain-producing district of Kistna.

To that I replied:

"In this matter I am enthusiastically with you. I attach, and here I venture to speak not only for myself, but for my colleagues, the greatest possible importance to that railway, and I think I may say that the enlightened and able man who now presides over the Department of Public Works in the Government of India looks at the matter much as we do."

Since I made the speech from which this extract is taken, the railway has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State and is now in course of construction.

340. Then the memorialists asked for a loan on the security of their municipal taxes in order to improve their water-supply.

A good deal of correspondence took place about this, but the Municipality has not yet made any definite proposals, there being apparently a difference of opinion in the place as to the importance of a change in the present arrangements.

341. The third request which they made for the remission of the water-rate which they pay for the use of the canal water was, on the face of it, inadmissible.

342. Fourthly, they deprecated the abolition of the District Court of Kurnool.

There was at the time this address was delivered a question of abolishing the Court at Kurnool on account of the lightness of the work there, but it was eventually thought that the inconvenience of such a course outweighed its advantages.

343. Fifthly, the Members of the Local Fund Board protested against sanitary legislation on the lines of what they described as a Government Order of the 12th March 1883, but this complaint arose from a misapprehension, the people having mistaken for an order the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue communicating to Collectors and Presidents of Local Fund Boards a Government Order regarding the complete utilization of funds placed at their disposal for sanitation.

344. The Government Order called for opinions as to the expediency of the suggested legislation, to which the memorialists objected, and the result was that no special legislation was resorted to, but that the necessary provisions for rural sanitation were introduced into the Local Fund Boards Bill which has recently become law.

345. Lastly, they complained that they had not enough salt for their cattle.

To that I replied:

"I will take care that your representations about salt are laid before Mr. Bliss; but there can be no doubt of the extreme importance of an adequate supply of salt to cattle, and the recent reduction in the price of that article has, combined with other measures, had such excellent results in this Presidency that I sincerely hope such complaints as those which you urge will soon be things of the past, though we cannot return to the manufacture of earth-salt."

346. Next came a long address from the merchants, who laid before me a great many statistics bearing upon the position of their town, not, I am afraid, of a kind on which one could base administrative action.

347. They naturally deprecated the line from the Kistna District into the centre of the Peninsula being taken to the south of Kurnool rather than through that town.

348. The conformation of the country and other circumstances made, however, compliance with their wishes quite impossible.

349. Next they declared that the Kurnool Canal was almost useless for purposes of traffic.

350. To this I replied:

"You evidently think very badly of the Kurnool Canal. You know, of course, that the Madras Government is in no way responsible for that work; it has always repudiated any kind of relationship to it, and, now that it has been handed over to us at what it cost, we are anxious that all the world should mark, learn, and inwardly digest the fact that it is no child of ours, that it has neither part nor lot amongst those Madras irrigation works of which my friend Colonel Hasted and his department are so justly proud, and which have no parallel upon this planet.

"Still it is far too early days to abuse the poor Kurnool Canal as you abuse it. I hope and believe that, under new management, you will find it far more serviceable than you at present imagine. I think it is very likely that we shall be able to keep it open eight or nine months in the year and carry goods much cheaper than the railway."

351. The traffic on the Kurnool Canal has, since these words were spoken, been a good deal impeded by accidents caused by floods, but, when Colonel Hasted inspected it a few weeks ago, he found almost all the boats employed on the lower part of the canal bringing railway material to Nandyál and taking cotton southward from that place.

352. A great deal has also been done in the last few months towards improving the canal. The locks have been repaired and their working improved, and arrangements have been made whereby the water is held up at the shallowest part below Nandyál so that there may be no hindrance to navigation. A lock has been built at Kurnool so that boats can go up to Sunkesala, the inlets and outlets in the lower portion of the canal have been for the most part bridged so that boats can tow on both sides, and the tow-paths have been improved. Every effort is made to make navigation easy, but in dry seasons it is almost impossible to get down sufficient water for both irrigation and navigation.

353. Next the memorialists deprecated the abolition of the District Court at Kurnool.

354. As already observed it has not been abolished.

355. Then they asked that Kurnool might be made a military station.

356. Bellary is, however, a far better point for a military station, and, even if there were any question of sending the troops who guard this frontier elsewhere, it would not be Kurnool that would gain by the change.

357. Lastly, they asked for relaxations in certain Forest rules.

358. To that I was obliged to reply that the rules referred to would never have had to be made if the power to grant free passes had not been so abominably abused by those who had a right to grant them. The present arrangements at once prevent any real grievance and save for the inhabitants and their cattle that adequate clothing of trees, supply of fire-wood, and reserve of pasturage which are a matter of life and death to the people of the Ceded Districts.

359. Here, too, I received a petition from some Muhammadans, asking that they should once more be governed by their Nawábs; this being their not unnatural interpretation of the much misunderstood phrase Local Self-government. After all, the misconception of my friends was not greater than that of the Russian soldiery, who took part in the Decabrist disturbances of 1825, and who are said to have shouted for a constitution under the impression that they were shouting for the wife of the Grand Duke Constantine!

360. In the evening we drove, amidst torrents of rain, through the town, but saw it to more advantage on the morning of the 13th, when we rode all about it. Within the town itself there were, after the famine, no less than eleven hundred ruined houses, while a large suburb became well nigh depopulated.

361. We reached the Tungabhadra, which is here joined by the Hindri, a short, but in the rains a large, river. The Tungabhadra was coming down full from bank to bank, showing thereby that the then recent very heavy rain had been general, and promising much good to the country.

362. The numbers of Hindus and Mussalmans in Kurnool almost exactly balance each other—ten thousand or so of each. They live intermixed and get on very quietly together. The good behaviour of the Hindus, on some recent occasions, was particularly praised by the Collector.

363. We left Kurnool in a furious rain-storm, and encamped for the night eight miles from the town, proceeding next morning, in better weather, through a country which, like all that we had traversed since leaving Gooty, was then bare of cultivation, but afforded numerous good sections of the rocks upon which it lies, all of them carefully explained to us by Dr. King. Very peculiar, indeed utterly unlike anything I have seen elsewhere, are the so-called "pinnacle quartzites," between long lines of which our route lay for a considerable distance. At one place we passed near a warm mineral spring, which may one day be of economic importance. It is by no means the only one of its kind in this district. At length, after a slight ascent, we reached a declivity and gained, by a very rapid and tortuous descent, the pretty valley of Tammarazpalle, where we encamped for the day in a spot shaded by singularly fine specimens of the Jamoon (*Syzygium jambolanum*).

364. An evening walk in an interval free from rain took me up the side of the valley to the cultivated plateau above, showing us on the way the Banganapalle beds amongst which the diamonds of this region occur. From a point on the slope we had a far-reaching view over a country full of valleys which had been cut out by the action of streams at a time when the rainfall was much greater than now, though comparatively quite recent—quite recent, I say, for there were in sight the Cuddapah rocks, marine deposits, themselves some 15,000 feet in thickness, while on the top of these we had, immediately under our feet, a portion of the Banganapalle series, itself representing a long period of time.

365. From Tammarazpalle we continued our journey to Nandyál, where we were received by Mr. Sim, one of the two Civilians lately appointed to act in the Forest Department and who have been doing such good work.

366. Everywhere the people looked well-to-do, and the Collector was able to give most satisfactory accounts of the ease and willingness with which the ryots paid their assessments.

367. Kurnool really wants nothing except insurance against deficiency of rain. In normal years it is very prosperous, but a great deficiency in rain for two or more seasons means at present, in a country like this, certain death to many people. Hence the paramount importance of the railway projected from the Kistna District.

368. The best time to see Kurnool would evidently be December, when the cholum (*Holcus sorghum*) covers the huge shallow valley around Nandyál for miles and miles.

369. According to some, these fine-looking Telugu people, so superior in appearance to the Tamil population round Madras, owe much of their good looks to their more nutritious food, but round Nandyál there is a good deal of rice cultivation under the beautiful sheet of water which is styled a tank, although, with the fine range of the Nallamalais in the back-ground (in the midst of which a rainbow had, when we reached it, taken its stand), it might well insist on a more dignified name.

370. At Nandyál I received an address obviously composed by men who believed that the stars in their courses were fighting for them and the community which they represented.

371. It was largely occupied with urging the claims of their town to be the capital of the district as against Kurnool. That must be a question for future Governments. I can merely repeat what I said at Kurnool, viz.:

"As to the change in the status of Kurnool, I can only say that no Government likes to make the sort of change you deprecate. It is very expensive and troublesome so to do, but there is one thing stronger than the strongest Government, and that is the drift of events,—the stream of tendency. Turn that stream if you can, gentlemen, while it is yet time, make Kurnool daily increase, make its rival Nandyál daily decrease, but do not ask administrators, who, with the best will in the world, can perform no miracles, to make water run uphill."

372. The first definite request which the inhabitants of Nandyál made to me was that the telegraph along the banks of the Kurnool canal should be completed.

It is now in working order and the Canal signallers are authorized to receive messages on payment of usual rates.

373. Secondly, they asked for more police. Questions with reference to the police in that neighbourhood, which borders on the Hyderabad frontier, are now before the Inspector-General.

374. Next came a perfect jungle of small wants which could only be supplied under local government.

375. The District authorities hope that, when the town becomes, as it soon will be, a station on the line of rail, it may progress enough, willingly to accept the duties and responsibilities of municipal life. When that comes about, much that is now impossible will become easy. To assist from Provincial funds a rapidly rising town which will not assist itself would be *pessimi exempli*.

376. The town, which, like Kurnool itself, is built of a kind of shale that lends itself very readily to construction, is singularly ill-placed, and will have to extend in a southerly direction if it becomes (as in all probability it eventually will do) the capital of the district.

377. From Nandyál we proceeded towards the Nallamalais and encamped in a tamarind grove at Gazalapalle. I was glad to see that the avenues along the road, which had been sadly neglected, were being replanted. Round the villages too were trees which would have done honour to any English park.

378. From Gazalapalle we proceeded eastward through a country in which the jungle gradually gave way to the forest clothing in this part the Nallamalai or "black hill" range, up which I advanced sufficiently far to see where it is proposed to run the tunnel on the new line from the Kistna. The rock is hard, but a tunnel of about 600 yards will save six miles of railway work on either side of the pass. Colonel Shaw-Stewart, who accompanied me, was much satisfied with all he saw.

379. I have rarely traversed such beautiful woodland scenery. It was a kind of compromise between an entangled tropical forest and the opener woods of Central Europe. A walk from our camping ground at Pacherla enabled me to see a portion, though not the best portions of our reserves here, in company with Mr. Sim and Mr. Homfray. Among new forms to my eye were *Terminalia bellerica* (happily considered an unlucky wood by the Natives and allowed to grow to a considerable size) and *Diospyros melanoxylon*, one of the ebonies of commerce.

380. All this region is full of tigers, who are however in too easy circumstances to interfere with human beings.

381. Writing in March 1883 of the great forest reserve recently constituted in the Nallamalais under the new Forest Act, Mr. Gamble said:

"It will be one of the most valuable forest properties of Government in India, especially as it is even now capable of being considerably worked, containing as it does a fair supply of large-sized mature timber and immense resources in bamboo."

382. From Pacherla we retraced our steps to near Nandyál, where we took leave of Mr. Glenny, whose arrangements had been all that could be desired, and, having been joined by Colonel Hasted, who had left us at Kurnool to inspect what used to be called the Irrigation Company's Canal, from the point where it leaves the Tungabhadra downwards to our meeting place, we followed it, through the Kondaru Valley, the range of the "Red Hills" or Yerramalais standing up far on the right, the Nallamalais on the left.

383. It took us about forty-eight hours to get down to Kistnapuram, so numerous are the locks; but in the patient East the loss of time which these must always occasion is not so important as in the lands of stress and exigency. It was

sad to see so splendid "a water privilege" so little used either for navigation or irrigation, but Colonel Hasted is sanguine as to the gradual, though slow, development of both.

384. The crossing of the Pennér just above the anicut was easy enough, for there were only a few inches of water going over it; but with a foot of water it would become dangerous, and, in high floods, is quite out of the question. It will be time enough, however, to determine what should be done here, when the navigation has assumed tolerable proportions. Even with the use of steam, crossing an Indian river above an anicut during flood-time is no joke. As we were approaching the Pennér, we received the encouraging intelligence that the *Charles Orr*, in which we sailed last March, had gone bodily over the great anicut of the Kistna.

385. At Kistnapuram, the terminus of the canal, three miles from Cuddapah Town, we were met by Mr. Higgens, who reported favourably of forest matters in the district, and I saw a variety of other officers.

386. From Kistnapuram station we passed, through the night, to Renigunta, where, in the early morning, we were received by Mr. Stuart and drove across a country, in which the rain had been very heavy, to Tirupati, where I received and replied to an address.

387. After dwelling for some time on the sacred character of the neighbourhood, which is one of the great Vishnuvite centres of South India, the people proceeded to state their wants.

388. The first of these was the strengthening of the Ramachendra Tank-bund, which, standing on a high level to the west of the town, is apt to give way in heavy monsoons.

389. In replying to an address I encouraged them to hope that this request would be complied with. Some time afterwards the Collector reported that the necessary estimate had been prepared and that the Board of Revenue had been asked to sanction an allotment of funds. Ere long this allotment was made, and the Sub-Collector in charge of the district has now informed Government that the work has been completed.

390. Secondly, they asked for the construction of choultries, or public resting places.

Much consultation has taken place with regard to this subject between the Collector, the Sanitary Commissioner, and the spiritual authorities of the sacred hill, on whom, as I pointed out at the time, lay the chief burden of providing accommodation for the pilgrims, from whose affluence to Tirupati they derived so much advantage, and the Collector recently reported that another sum of Rs. 25,000 had been promised from pagoda funds for the provision of choultry accommodation.

391. The third request was for the opening of a Sanskrit class in the Government School at Tirupati. This, considering the sacred nature of the place, was most reasonable, and the Mahant has since established such a class.

392. The fourth request was that the porters, coolies, beggars, and other hangers-on of the shrine should be kept in better order.

My visitors suggested a special enactment, but the appropriate remedy was obviously increased supervision, and by arrangement between the Collector and the spiritual authorities increased supervision was immediately provided.

393. In November 1883 Mr. Stuart, the Collector, reported that the new arrangements had been working well for a couple of months, that the Sub-Magistrate had orders to watch their effect and to report from time to time, adding:

"I think the nuisance is practically suppressed. No further complaints have been made If made, they will be promptly attended to."

394. Nothing is more gratifying to the traveller in India than the almost complete immunity he enjoys from the persecution of mendicants, volunteer guides, and miscellaneous vagabonds, from which he suffers so much in Southern Europe and elsewhere.

395. After I had replied to the address, I was taken to see the tank already alluded to.

396. We then pursued our way to the westward, and, after a drive of about fourteen miles from the railway, reached the fortress palace of Chandragiri, where we passed the rest of the day.

397. The Zemindar of Kálahasti came to pay his respects, and I returned his visit. He told me that he was gradually repairing the numerous tanks on his estates, which breached in the heavy north-east monsoon of 1882 and obliged him to ask the Government for some postponement of his payments.

398. The palace, so closely connected with our history in South India, is a fine thing. It should be carefully kept in the state of ruinous, but not unsightly, repair in which it now is.

399. Starting very early from Chandragiri, we drove to the foot of the hills of Tirupati and were then carried through the beautiful fold in their sides, which leads through the steep ascent by which the plateau is reached.

400. Near the top there was some sandal-wood (*Santalum album*), and I saw for the first time the valuable *Pterocarpus santalinus* or "Red Sanders" in seed, as I had seen for the first time, on the Shevaroys, its near, and to our Forest Department very important, relative, *Pterocarpus marsupium*, in full flower.

401. Arrived at the summit, an arch inscribed with the words "Blessed be the Garden" admitted us to the prettily arranged temporary building which had been erected for our reception.

402. Here I received and returned the Mahant's visit, and (Mr. Rama Rao, Member of the Legislative Council, acting as interpreter) spoke to him on certain matters of business, as, for instance, on the vexations of pilgrims alluded to in the address which I received at Lower Tirupati and on the water-supply of Upper Tirupati.

403. He received all that I had to say in the most friendly spirit, and Mr. Stuart reported to me that he had every reason to be satisfied with his disposition to do what is right and reasonable in matters of business.

404. Tirupati has been only too famous in the sanitary history of the Presidency, and the Sanitary Commissioner was directed in December of last year to visit the sacred hill in company with Mr. Stuart. This he did and reported to us in January, making various proposals which, if carried into effect, would in his opinion make Upper Tirupati a cleanly and well-constructed town.

405. In April of this year, after much preliminary arrangement, the Government authorized Mr. Loane, a mechanical engineer, to ascend the hill as often as might be necessary to supervise the work connected with improving the water-supply—the permission accorded being used with due regard to the religious feelings of the people, as requested by the Mahant, whose cordial co-operation with Government in view to the improvement in the sanitation of Tirupati is, we said, duly appreciated. The road leading over and down the edge of the plateau is very beautiful; the flora more like that of the Shevaroys than any other I have seen; and I made, during our descent, the acquaintance of another important forest tree—*Chloroxylon swietenia*, the so-called satin-wood.

406. The high craggy mass which forms the summit of the Tirupati Hills belongs to the Cuddapah quartzites. The steep slope which leads up to them is of gneiss.

407. The fact that till recently no European foot ever trod the sacred precincts of Upper Tirupati gives to that place a peculiar interest, which the fine rock forms, prolific vegetation, and delicious climate much enhance. It wants nothing but the charm of association to be remembered with Santa Scholastica or Monte Casino or the Grande Chartreuse.

408. Lower Tirupati, upon which we descended, was full of light, and the housetops thronged by great multitudes as we passed through it on our return to the Railway Station at Renigunta, near which we encamped.

409. From Renigunta our route next morning lay to the eastward. Far on the right we could see the gopuram of a pagoda in the capital of the Kálahasti

Zemindari; but we hugged the lower slopes of the hills, which connect those we climbed yesterday with the line of the Eastern Ghâts.

410. After a journey of over twenty miles we were met by the Raja (accompanied by the ex-Raja) of Venkatagiri, and proceeded with them on elephants across the town, to which, as usual, the peasantry had flocked from far and near, to the garden house, which had been prepared for our reception. Here, as in North Arcot, I was struck by the very large number of women among the spectators. It is curious how districts vary in this respect. Their presence is always a great gain, relieving the too uniform white of a male Madras multitude.

411. At Venkatagiri I received and replied to an address at the Indra Mahal (a handsome durbar hall lately built), laid the foundation stone of a new edifice to be used by a Literary and Scientific Society, receiving and replying to another address there, which done, I proceeded with the Raja round the town, and finished the afternoon by opening a charitable institution, which had just been founded, on lines curiously suggestive of the European middle age, by the ex-Raja.

412. To the various addresses which I received, which left nothing to be desired in their kindness and cordiality, I replied fully at the time, and need not now return to them except to notice the one specific request which was made, which was that the railway from Tirupati to Nellore should go through Bangarupetta.

413. A good deal of communication has taken place about the alignment of this railway, and the desires of the people of Venkatagiri have been met as fully as engineering considerations will admit, a fact of which they are, I am informed, quite aware.

414. I took an opportunity while at Venkatagiri of acknowledging the exceptional picturesqueness of my reception, saying:

"It is indeed most agreeable to me to find that my visit has brought you pleasure, and I am sure that my successors, when they read of the reception you have given me, combining so well the magnificence of the East with the comfort of the West, will take good care that, if I was the first Governor who came to this town, I shall not be the last.

"We have somewhat too little in Southern India of that Oriental splendour—noble elephants, beautifully caparisoned horses, and the like—which is so familiar in the north, and which here, as there, blends so well with the landscape of the country.

"Not in this way alone, but in other and far more important ones, does the Venkatagiri family show itself desirous of setting a good example. It will, I trust, continue to do so, coming ever more forward in the list of those Indian nobles who have translated into their vernaculars and into their conduct the phrase *noblesse oblige*.

"If it does this, its future prosperity will be to its present, as the broad and peaceful lands, over which it now holds sway, are to that grim and barren rock which the Raja pointed out to me, a few hours ago, as the original seat of his ancient house."

415. From Venkatagiri we passed on to Gúdúr, the Raja and ex-Raja accompanying us for the first few miles. The country presented no features of interest, except when the eye turned to the fine Vellakonda range, in which the Venkatagiri Droog is situated.

416. As we approached Gúdúr, tanks became more numerous, and when the autumn rains fall, that town must be surrounded by a pleasant belt of green. A good deal of the land, however, even here is very poor.

417. In the afternoon various persons were presented to me, and I received an address from the inhabitants, who, after some preliminary matter full of gratitude and affection to the Government, stated their wants.

418. The first of these was an improved water-supply.

To give them this is no easy matter, but the Government has kept its eye on the subject, and the latest information we have received from the Collector and Local Fund President is that the results of the boring operations in the bed of the Gúdúr Tank had not been received, but that the action ultimately proposed would be communicated to us with the least possible delay.

419. Their second request was for a railway. I told them that I was as anxious as they to see it commenced. It has now been commenced.

420. Next they asked that the backwater from Kistnapatam, which is navigable to about four miles from their town, should be extended and improved. To this, however, I was obliged to reply that we must do one thing at a time. First let us get the railway, and then we can think of the improvement of the backwater, but I was forced to add:

"As to the expense to the State being trifling, I am not sure that responsible and professional persons will endorse that statement. Sufficient, however, unto the day are the questions thereof. This one belongs to the future."

421. From Gúdúr our route traversed a country which can never be very inviting, and which at the season of my visit was peculiarly dismal. It depends almost wholly on the north-east monsoon, and it was here that the rains of November 1882, falling for several days with great violence upon the face of the Vellakondas, tore down the numerous water-courses which cross the road and produced the scene of wide-spread havoc, of which we heard so much at the time.

422. The bare level fields and wide expanses of low scrub-jungle constitute one of the least inviting landscapes I have seen in the Presidency. Things improved rather as we approached Nellore, which stands on the laterite, fine blocks of which lay at intervals along the way-side. Far to the north Dr. King pointed out to me some hills, where he had found traces of copper. The better-known copper deposits of Nellore are still further north and out of sight.

423. Before we reached the laterite, the heaps of stone, accumulated for road repair, betrayed the fact that many quartz veins crossed the country; but I learned from Dr. King that he had carefully examined it, first on his own motion, next by the desire of Sir William Denison, without finding any gold.

424. At a great distance we saw the point where the Pennér leaves the high country, and could make out, in the nearer distance, but still some two-and-twenty miles away, the whereabouts of the Sungum Anicut.

425. We remained at Nellore a couple of days, during which I had the Sungum project fully explained to me by Captain Campbell, who is in charge of the work, and visited the anicut which governs the Sarvapalli project with Mr. Rundall and Captain Henderson. I gathered that, if all goes well, 94,000 acres will be irrigated, in about three years from July 1883, by the first project, and the second, which is already, to a great extent, doing its work, affects 60,000 acres. Both will pay well, though not so magnificently as some of the other systems. The anicut, which I saw, had been originally constructed at a point where the river is too narrow, and the portion of it which joins the northern shore is protected by a lunka or island, so that far too great a stress is thrown upon the rest of the work, over which the Pennér, one of the most intractable of our rivers, rose, I think, nineteen feet in November 1882. Both here and at Sungum the difficulties are great; but eventually the Delta of the Pennér will be able, by the help of the railway now under construction, to pour into the interior vast quantities of rice, said to be superior in quality even to that of the Kistna.

426. In connection with the Sungum project I may here mention that since my visit to Nellore the under-sluices to the anicut have been completed, the body wall has been raised about half height across the river and the retaining walls nearly to full height. The apron is being constructed, the main canal itself is now nearly completed, and the large Kanigiri reservoir is approaching completion, while the two principal branch channels are in progress. The Duvvur reservoir is also finished.

427. As for the Sarvapalli project, which is part of the Pennér Anicut System, its completion estimates have been prepared and will shortly be ready for submission to the Government of India.

428. In the minute addressed to my honorable colleagues in September 1883, I said when speaking of Nellore:

"The Collector's Cutcherry is in a deplorable condition and the gaol is in an unsatisfactory state."

Since this was written considerable improvements to the gaol have been effected, while the plans and estimates for a new cutcherry have been prepared and are now undergoing revision by the Superintending Engineer.

429. At Nellore I received an address from the Municipality.

430. First the Commissioners asked for a railway. I need not say more on that subject.

431. Secondly, they asked for the improvement of the Buckingham Canal.

432. I have already explained what we have done within the last few months with reference to the Buckingham Canal, and I took occasion, when speaking at Madras last June, to emphasize the great importance which I attach to that work.

433. Thirdly, they asked for strong revetted river embankments as well as a large lock, at the dispensary, to take the surplus water to the sea.

To that I replied:

"With regard to the danger of the town from floods, I will take care that the Public Works Department is asked to give its opinion in the light of the further experience which was gained during the calamity of last year. Till I hear what that opinion is, I shall be uncertain whether what you ask is possible or not. Amateur engineering is always a grievous mistake, and amateur engineering applied to water, which pardons no mistakes, is quite peculiarly dangerous."

My warning against amateur engineering was not superfluous, for in November 1883 our experts reported that the breach, of which the Commissioners spoke as having been the providential cause of the town not having been swept away, was the very cause of the mischief that was done, and they could give no support whatever to the proposal of building the lock above mentioned. They were however, Colonel Hasted informed us, making every effort to render the embankment safe.

434. The fourth request of the Commissioners was for an improved water-supply.

435. Since my visit to Nellore an estimate has been framed for improving the Nellore water-supply, which presents very considerable difficulties, and it has been included in the Pennér anicut completion estimates, which I mentioned above.

436. I take this opportunity, however, of recalling to the people what I said at the time about the importance of husbanding the supply of water which they have got, which the district officers told me was not an unnecessary caution.

437. Next came a long address from the ryots. They began by advocating the railway, which, as I have mentioned, they are now going to get.

438. Next they had much to say about the forests—as to the importance of their being so selected and reserved as to cause no undue hardship to the village communities by producing a dearth of firewood or of pasture.

439. In notifying the reservation of certain forests in Nellore, the Government remarked:

"In conducting inquiries in this district very considerable care and patience will be called for with regard to the grazing rights claimed and enjoyed by the villagers. The Government desire that all such privileges shall receive liberal consideration, care being taken at the same time to prevent the object in view being defeated by extravagant and unnecessary concessions. The inquiries are still going on, and no complaints have been received as to the manner in which they have been conducted."

A proposal to reserve certain extensive tracts (about 210 square miles) in the Vellakondas, has moreover been rejected on the ground that it would injuriously affect the cattle-breeding of the district.

440. The last passage in the address ran as follows:

"We cannot conclude without expressing our gratitude for the generous and benevolent intentions which influenced our noble Viceroy and your Excellency in your endeavours to make us a self-governing power. In the beginning we cannot, of course, pretend to the perfection of any of the Western nations, but in process of time, and with the spread of education among the people and the kind advice and co-operation of the heads of our district, we hope to be able to do justice to the extensive duties entrusted to us, and even go a step further and claim a representation of our country in the Supreme Parliament. Meanwhile your Excellency must be prepared to find some blunders in our administration, for 'Rome was not built in a day,' nor was the English Constitution itself the growth of a year."

441. To that I replied:

"As to what you say with regard to Local Self-government, allow me to advise you to bend your minds to making the experiment that will soon be tried a success. Let district vie with district in trying which can produce the greatest number of men able to work intelligently at the details of road-making, water-supply, conservancy, sanitation, and so forth. That is what is meant by Local Self-government. It is only by unfaltering attention to very tiresome matters, but matters which affect the life, health, comfort, and well-being of each of you, that its success can be obtained, and the benevolent purposes of the Viceroy translated into accomplished facts."

442. The next address I received was at the Free Church Mission School.

To that I replied at the time, and, as there was no specific request made, I need not add anything to what I then said.

443. From Nellore we crossed the delta of the Pennér to Kistnapatam, traversing a region whose appearance in the end of July was by no means a fair criterion of its wealth, by a road which was worn down by traffic and stood much in need of an early application of the masses of broken laterite which were piled along it. The dreariness of the scene was rather heightened than relieved by the stiff *Borassus flabelliformis*, here almost as common as in Tinnevelly.

444. The Collector's bungalow at Kistnapatam stands on the edge of a very pretty backwater formed by the estuary of the Kundeleru river, and native craft, of a small size, can come over the bar. This is the same backwater which is alluded to in one of the addresses which I received at Gúdúr.

445. Embarking on the canal, I crossed without adventure the mouth of the Kundeleru and found myself in the morning near the old fort of Dugarázpatnam on the site, if I am not misinformed, of our oldest settlement on the Coromandel Coast dating from 1625, fourteen years before we occupied Madras.

446. Soon afterwards came in sight the light-house, which warns the mariner off the Armeghon shoal, but the afternoon was far advanced before we reached Sríharikót, where I landed with Mr. Gamble and Mr. Vincent, who had joined us at Nellore, to see a portion of the jungle so important for the fire-wood supply of Madras. It is divided into eight blocks, one of which is cut each year; but, in addition to the firewood, it contains numbers of trees whose products sell freely, and are collected by the Yanadis, many of whom are employed in the congenial occupation of gathering honey, the nuts of the *Sapindus emarginatus*, the fruit of the *Strychnos nux vomica*, &c. As it happened, I did not see, in the section of the jungle which we traversed, one single *Eugenia jambolana* although it is one of the most abundant and most rapidly reproduced denizens of Sríharikót.

447. On the morning on which I left Nellore a long conversation, satisfactory to both parties, about the management of the Nellore forests (to which allusion was made in one of the addresses presented to me at the capital of the district), took place between the Collector, Mr. Gamble, and Mr. Vincent. It appeared to me, after much communication with the Conservator of the Northern Circle, most important that no time should be lost in pushing on the application of the Forest Act in districts where, as in Nellore and in Cuddapah, so much depends upon prompt and judicious action.

448. This action has been taken to our entire satisfaction. In the island of Sríharikót more than 46,000 acres have been reserved.

449. Soon after leaving Sríharikót we found ourselves on the shallow, but sometimes troubled waters of the Pulicat Lake. Winds and waves were, however, favourable, and we reached Coromandel earlier than we expected.

450. Thence we paid a short visit to Pulicat, which, as I was glad to gather from Mr. Price, there is reason to think, has seen its worst days, and is slowly rising once more.

451. I noted that the Dutch tombs in the church-yard needed repair, and they have now been repaired.

452. Our next halt was at Ennore, where I was able to examine some of the casuarina plantations, which have, in the last twenty-five years, turned so many acres of dreary sand-dune along this coast into valuable estates.

453. From Ennore we went straight to Guindy, where I had interviews with various persons and thence passed to Cuddalore, where we were received by the Collector, and saw, under his auspices, Fort St. David, the casuarina plantations, and whatever else is notable in that historic place.

454. Mr. Wooldridge came to see me to report what was being done with regard to forestry, and I was able to congratulate him on the admirable woods of *Acacia Arabica* north and south of Villupuram.

455. Colonel Prendergast and Major A. C. Smith explained to me the Pelandorai project and the other irrigation works, which give South Arcot so high a place amongst our districts. The Pelandorai project is a plan for an anicut, some forty miles from the sea, across the Vellár river, which falls into the sea at Porto Novo. It will ultimately irrigate nearly 16,000 acres and produce a good return, but it has been exceptionally unlucky, violent inundations having again and again swept away much that had been already done, so that it will be a considerable time before it is producing as much direct advantage as could be wished. The complete estimates have just been sanctioned by the Government of India.

456. Here, too, after I had received the leading persons of the place, an address was presented by the inhabitants and Municipal Commissioners.

457. The first complaint made was to the effect that the district assessments were high and that water was charged at the same rate irrespective of the source of irrigation.

As to the first of these points, a comparison of the rates in force in other districts showed on inquiry that South Arcot was very far from having any substantial grievance, while any inequalities that may exist will be set right by the settlement now proceeding. So far from existing assessments pressing heavily, the sales for arrears have been going rapidly down, while the average price realized by the sales has been going up.

As to no distinction being made between the first and second class sources of irrigation, the explanation is that the South Arcot uniform rates are peculiarly moderate and much more like the rates charged on second-class irrigation in other districts.

458. The next complaint was about the repairs of the minor irrigation works. I need not return to a matter already explained in the first half of this Minute.

459. The complaint which immediately followed was one of the most curious which I have ever received, and it may be interesting to quote it at length.

"Our next grievance," said the memorialists, "refers to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue declaring the Tiruvannámalai Hill to be the property of Government, and authorizing the formation of a Government forest reserve on the greater portion thereof. Unlike any other sacred hill in the whole of India, this hill has by tradition been regarded as representing the deity of Siva himself or an incarnation of his. This hill is of the form of a "Lingam," having eight holy bulls surrounding it and facing its top. These bulls were erected by our ancient Hindu Rajas in this position in order to show that the hill is their common Lingam. The pilgrims who flock to the place from all parts of India go round the hill and worship it as if it were a "Lingam" placed inside a pagoda. The hill was treated with great veneration not only by the former rulers of the country, both Hindu and Muhammadan, but also by the British Government itself, till the Board of Revenue passed the orders they have done. The form of the hill answers the description given in the Stala Puranas, and it is one of the five great Lingams representing the five elements, the hill in question representing fire. If your Excellency will be so kind as to go fully into the merits of the case, we feel sure that the conviction that the hill belongs to the pagoda and forms the chief portion of it and is not the property of Government will force itself upon your Excellency's mind."

460. A report was called for, and soon after a very detailed one was received. The survey plan submitted by the Forest officer showed that the portion of the hill nearest the pagoda, and including the peak itself, was excluded from the reserve, as were all the sacred localities around the foot of the hill. The exclusive employment of caste-people in the reserve is now insisted on, and this at once removes all ground for objection on the score of the pollution of the hill by low-caste people. The temple authorities were not able to produce any documentary evidence making in favour of their alleged rights, and the Government had been spending money upon its own portion of the hill for thirteen years without let or hindrance. On the whole the arrangements made for the convenience of the authorities and worshippers seem as liberal as the Government could possibly make, due regard being had to the general interests of the neighbourhood, nor is there anything

whatever in the operations of the Forest Department within the reserve, which can in any sort of way profane the adjacent shrines.

461. The next complaint was the often-repeated one about pagoda management, to which I need not recur.

462. The last matter referred to has ceased to be of importance, as it related to the provisions of the Kudi Marammat (or statute labour) Bill, which has been dropped.

463. At Cuddalore two French gentlemen came to mention their wish to bore for lignite in our territory, and I saw them in company with Dr. King. Since that time they would appear to have selected the land in which they wish to bore, but have taken no further steps.

464. The gaol here, like that at Coimbatore and Nellore, was satisfactorily under-peopled.

465. The roads had the advantage of an admirable material, but not, I think, a better one than those of Nellore, which I observed were far from being in as good a condition.

466. On the afternoon of the 2nd, we went, by invitation of the Bishop of Flaviopolis, Vicar Apostolic of Pondicherry, to St. Joseph's Institution, where I received various addresses, to which I replied at the time.

467. Early on the 3rd we drove seven miles to see the large Sugar Factory belonging to Messrs. Parry and Co. at Nellikupam, whence we returned to Cuddalore. Thence we started for the north and, being transferred at Arkónam to the system of the Madras Railway, reached Ootacamund on the afternoon of the 4th August.

Eighth Tour of Inspection.

468. My eighth journey began at Ootacamund on the 9th October 1883 and took me first to the Wálayár jungle, which I examined with the local Forest officer, Mr. Lawson, and others.

469. Thence I passed on to Pálghat, where an address was presented to me.

470. The first request was for a grant-in-aid for the construction of a bridge over the Kalpatthi river.

This was not a case where a contribution could be made from Provincial funds, but a sum of Rs. 15,000 was provided for the purpose in the Local Fund budget for 1884-85 and approved by Government, while, later, permission was given to the Municipal Commissioners to raise a sum of money upon loan. The question has become somewhat complicated by the idea, which has lately been entertained, of running a branch from the Madras Railway down to Pálghat, but meantime I hope the authorities of the Madras Railway may see their way to supplying the girders for the bridge and superintending its erection, the Municipality paying the cost.

471. The second request was for an improved school-house.

472. This request would have been sooner complied with if serious mistakes had not been made in the locality as to the plans—mistakes which the Public Works Department was not in a position to rectify without further local action; but at length, the necessary conditions having been complied with, a grant of Rs. 6,000, for the construction of a new building, was made.

473. The third request was for the construction of the Pálghat and Dindigul Railway.

474. The survey of this line has now been commenced.

475. We visited also the very picturesque fort which was built for Hyder Ali by his French Engineers and was, at one time, the key to all this country, standing, as it does, just in the gap formed by the great depression of the Western Ghâts, through which the rail-road finds its way across the Peninsula. It is quite defensible and might still do good service in conceivable circumstances.

476. Looking straight to the north from Mr. Brodie's house, one sees a fine line of precipitous mountains, along the very top of which runs an elephant track

by which these creatures used, at one time frequently, but now rarely, to make their way to the Wálayár jungle, and so across the valley to the Anaimalais.

477. From Pálghat we held on to the westward, reaching Beypore and Calicut on the afternoon of the 10th.

478. I had only passed through the strip of country between these two places by night, and an inspection of it by day brought home to me more closely than ever the strangeness of the mistake that was committed when the terminus of our great line of communication from sea to sea was placed *en l'air* on an open beach cut off from Calicut by two formidable rivers.

479. With regard to this, I have already explained in the first part of this Minute that the Madras Railway is about to be extended to Calicut, and the mistake above alluded to will soon become a thing of the past.

480. Having already visited that great town, and sufficient time not having elapsed for the people to have much fresh matter to lay before me, I declined receiving any address there, and, sleeping at the Collector's house, started for the northward early on the morning of the 11th.

481. Before doing so, however, I had an opportunity of looking carefully over Mr. Logan's garden with Mr. Lawson and Mr. Morgan. The latter told me that some *Landolphias* (which Mr. Fergusson, whose garden I saw when I was last at Calicut, is trying to grow) seemed likely to succeed in this climate, and, in addition to the Cacao, the Liberian coffee, and other things, we found here the *Pimento* in a thriving condition.

482. Our first halt on our way to the north was at Quilandi. Here, as everywhere else along the road, the population was collected in vast numbers and testified its friendliness in all customary ways, amongst others by those curious and beautiful flower-carpets, which I have seen in no other part of the world, and in which charming effects are produced by the simplest materials, such as the common blue *Utricularia* of the rice-fields, the shredded flower of the Allamanda, cherished in our English hothouses, but here run wild in every hedge, the orange *Lantana*, in these parts a public enemy, the Globe Amaranth (*Gomphræna globosa*), &c.

483. There are few villages along the road, but a perpetual succession of neat, substantial, and clean cottages, standing most of them in patches of garden surrounded by thick cocoanut groves, which extend for miles and miles, but are broken, from time to time, by little islands of rice-fields.

484. On the last stage into Tellicherry we passed for a few minutes through the little fishing village of Mahé, which belongs to the French. The change in the uniform of the police from blue to red and the tricolor on their waist-belts was the only thing that showed we were in foreign territory.

485. The whole forty-two miles of the road between Calicut and Tellicherry runs through one paradise in the Greek sense of the word. The people look everywhere well-to-do and happy, while the local authorities assured me that they are as tractable, as friendly amongst each other, as punctual in the payment of their taxes, and, in all ways, as satisfactory as could be desired. Yet in every field the traveller can read the record of a state of war. Almost every patch of land looks as if a pupil of Coehorn or Vauban had been directed to fortify it, although there are now no foes but the active little cattle.

486. On my last visit to Malabar I had passed through the amshoms or counties of Ernád and Walawanád, always more or less troublesome and a few years ago rather seriously disturbed; but this region is, under different conditions, simply idyllic. Things seem to have reached the state which benevolent politicians would like to see prevailing everywhere, and to which we shall no doubt, even in northern Europe, gradually approximate; but, alas! we cannot export the sun and the climate with the pepper of Malabar, any more than we can the simplicity which induces the most respectable women in these regions to walk about naked to the waist. Through all this country runs a road which cannot be surpassed, and along that road a telegraph line. The police, the courts of law, and other machinery of civilization work at least as easily as in a model English county, and one asks

oneself whether Mr. Bates may not be right when he says in his "*Naturalist on the Amazon*" that it is in the tropics that the human race will come to its perfection.

487. At Tellicherry a deputation of European and Native gentlemen from the neighbourhood and from Coorg came to see me and placed in my hands a copy of a letter which they had forwarded, or were about to forward, to Government, with reference to railway extension in this part of the country.

488. On this letter we passed the following order:

"His Excellency the Governor in Council, having in view the heavy outlay to which the State is committed in the construction of lines of railway for protective purposes in those portions of the province which suffer most in times of famine, regrets that, in the absence of any official intimation of the intentions of the Mysore Government to extend its State Railway in the direction of Coorg, he is unable at present to hold out any hope of the proposal for establishing railway communication between Coorg and the Malabar Coast being entertained, unless the project can be shown to be sufficiently remunerative to attract the investment of private capital."

489. Then came an address from the Tellicherry Municipal Commissioners, who likewise wished for railway connection with Coorg, and also asked that a Government school for girls should be established and that considerable changes should be made in their municipal limits.

490. The last two requests were carefully examined and, being found to be reasonable, were complied with.

491. The house of the Sub-Collector at Tellicherry belongs to Government, and is in the most delightful situation imaginable. Just, however, at this point of the coast the sea was, I observed, encroaching rather seriously, so as to suggest the necessity of propping the sea-face of the building.

492. A report on this subject has been ordered and is now due.

493. We left Tellicherry very early on the 12th and proceeded along the coast through a less fertile, but still highly prosperous country. Very soon we crossed the Kodivelu river, where a terrible accident took place in 1882. The stream is narrow and is said, even when the sad event occurred, not to have been so strong as to have necessarily prevented many of those who were submerged escaping, but they lost their presence of mind, and the open sea, with the heavy surf on the bar, was all too near. I noted at the time that a temporary bridge was being put up, but that an iron girder one would soon have to replace it.

494. Provision has now been made for the erection of such a bridge and funds have been allotted for the purpose in the Local Fund budget of the Malabar Circle for 1884-85.

495. The unbridged rivers and backwaters which intersect this portion of the coast are a serious evil. We were ferried across three between Calicut and Cannanore.

496. It will be remembered that in the first * part of this Minute I pointed out that these backwaters were engaging our special attention. Colonel Ross Thompson has now arrived from England and had recently a conference with the Chief Engineer for Irrigation at Coimbatore.

497. North of the Kodivelu river, the road soon rises over low hills of laterite commanding grand views of that portion of the Western Ghâts which holds up the plateau of the North Wynaad.

498. We were received at Cannanore by General Buck, who inhabited a house pleasantly situated on the sea, here bounded by low precipitous cliffs.

499. The cantonment is very large and much scattered. It is swept during a great portion of the year by the south-west monsoon, which would make short work of any malarious vapours, if the porous rock allowed any such to accumulate. It is accordingly a very healthy station, as the appearance of the troops testified. The wide esplanade covered with short green turf had all the air of such places in temperate climes, before the midsummer heats have changed the colour of the grass.

* Paragraph 73.

500. At Cannanore, on the 12th, I held a reception, and on the morning of the 13th there was a parade and march-past of the 67th Regiment with the 19th Native Infantry. This over, I inspected the fort, and saw the plans for improving it in pursuance of the policy inaugurated two years ago throughout the Presidency. I visited also the large Central Jail, and heard the same satisfactory account which had greeted my ears all over the country—that it was then exceptionally thinly peopled. The number of prisoners was lower, they said, than it had been since 1872.

501. We embarked at Cannanore on the night of the 13th, and after a pleasant voyage in the *Culna*, one of the British India line, arrived at the Collector's house in Mangalore before breakfast the next morning. Both rivers were in flood, and the powerful crew that manned the boat of the Marine Department had enough to do to make their way from the roads into the backwater, which is formed by the *embouchure* of the Netrávati.

502. The 15th was a busy day. In the early morning I drove round the town, which was beautifully decorated; the Mango and the *Caryota urens* there replacing the cocoanut palm and the plantain, which are almost exclusively used for the pretty wreaths and arches of Malabar. I visited the well-arranged market, together with the new tile-works and the printing office of the Protestant Basel Mission. The church and the college of their rivals, which was rising on a commanding eminence, I had seen the evening before. Later in the day the Jesuit Fathers presented an address.

503. We were not able to give them all the assistance that they wished in the building of their college, but we gave them as much as we with propriety could. The building will be a notable feature in a striking place, and I doubt not of very great use to the neighbourhood.

504. The Jesuit Fathers were followed by a procession of about 500 fishermen whose petition against the bearing on their craft of recent Salt legislation was referred in due course to the Commissioner of Salt Revenue.

505. It was ultimately pointed out to them that, while it was utterly impossible to go back to the mischievous use of salt-earth for curing purposes, as many as nineteen fish-curing yards, at which wholesome salt was available at the moderate price of 12 annas a maund, that is, 1*s.* 6*d.* for 82 lb., had already been opened for their benefit in the South Canara District, while the Salt Department was ready and willing to open even a larger number if they would undertake to use them.

506. I am of opinion that immense good will result alike to the fishermen and to the general body of the population from the use of the existing fish-curing yards and from their multiplication, which I hold to be a matter of extreme importance. In all countries, however, fishermen are peculiarly tenacious of old habits, and we cannot expect immediate success; but the Collectors and other officials around our sea-board should do all that in them lies to show that they take a strong personal interest in the success of these most useful establishments.

507. We next drove to the Government College, where I received an address from the Municipality and one from the inhabitants of South Canara.

508. The first representation of the Municipal Commissioners related to the cost of middle-school education, and they promised a further representation upon the subject.

That representation duly came, and we gave them a grant of Rs. 1,000 from the Provincial Education budget for the current financial year, which was followed by a further grant to help them to pay their liabilities, on this account, for 1883-84. But, in justice to other towns, it was clearly explained to them that the charges of which they had been relieved, when the Government took over the maintenance of their police, must be applied for sanitation, instruction or construction.

509. Secondly, they asked for a good harbour, and a good harbour we should be most willing to give them if their fierce and wayward rivers, in collusion with the sea, did not make a good harbour at Mangalore a mere impossibility.

510. The third request related to the Mysore and Coorg Railway, but I need not return to it, nor to the fourth request, which related to the backwaters—both these matters having been already dealt with.

511. The inhabitants of South Canara came next. Their first request was that they should have no new survey and settlement.

512. To that I replied at the time:

"I am glad to learn from your first paragraph that you are about to submit a memorial in which you formulate your objections to a survey and settlement. In dealing officially with that document, we shall be able to show you that we are not going to do anything that ought to excite the very least alarm.

"Landed property is proverbially timid; but if your statement is exact that property worth Rs. 1,000 two years ago does not now fetch half that sum—of two things one, either there is some other cause for the depression than the proposed survey and settlement, or the land-holders are the victims of a delusion of which their more cool-headed neighbours ought to take advantage by buying them out cheap."

513. The document alluded to came and was replied to. The land-holders were told that they were entirely under a mistake in supposing that the Government was in any way pledged to maintain the present assessments unaltered. The legal right of Government to revise the South Canara land assessments cannot be gainsaid after the judgment of the Bombay High Court with reference to the similarly-situated province of North Canara. When they represented that resettlement would involve the taxation of land-holders' improvements, it was explained to them that it was a recognized principle of settlement that such improvements should not be made a ground for enhancement. When they suggested that some of the so-called Mulgueni lands—lands, that is, leased out in perpetuity—should not have their assessment enhanced, it was explained that the persons who created those tenures had, in the nature of things, no sort of power to limit the demand of the Government of the country or to give to others rights which they had not themselves, but they were told that all rights found really to exist would be carefully respected.

514. Secondly, the inhabitants objected to the removal of the regiment. I told them there was no intention of removing the regiment.

515. Thirdly, they advocated the line of railway to the Mysore frontier, and fourthly, they wanted a canal along the coast.

516. I need not return to those subjects already dealt with.

517. Fifthly, the memorialists objected to firewood coming from *kumari** lands paying seigniorage and asked that the tax might be abolished, a request which was ultimately complied with.

518. The sixth request was for the diminution of the duty on salt. The duty on salt has now been brought down to the figure which† Lord Hobart, who took so deep an interest in matters connected with salt, acquiesced in, but of course any further diminution of it which may commend itself as right and reasonable to the supreme authorities would be generally agreeable.

519. It must not be forgotten, however, that the salt-tax is almost the only contribution which a great portion of the population of India makes to the support of that British peace which alone makes its existence possible in anything like its present numbers.

520. I had occasion lately to call for the figures of our present salt consumption and to have them compared with those of a couple of years ago—before the last reduction. The salt revenue of Madras had already recouped itself to the extent of 73 per cent. A loss of 30 lakhs *would* have resulted if the consumption had remained stationary. A loss of only 8 lakhs *had* resulted.

521. The sixth request was that three District Munsifs' Courts, which it was proposed to abolish, should be retained and that the Subordinate Judge should not be invested with small cause powers.

522. Eventually, on the recommendations of the late Committee and the High Court, the three courts were abolished, one however being re-established in another place in the district where it was more wanted, while the Sub-Judge was

* Temporary cultivation on burnt clearings.

† See his letters published by Mary, Lady Hobart.—*Macmillan*, 1878.

invested with small cause powers over a restricted area. It was agreed on all hands that South Canara was pre-eminently a district for judicial retrenchments.

523. Seventhly, the inhabitants asked that their College should be raised to first-grade rank.

524. To that I replied at the time:

"Personally I can hardly sympathize much with you in regard to your having to send your children to Madras to study for their degrees. Native myself of a district about exactly as far from the great centres of English University life as you are from Madras, I have always preached to my countrymen the wisdom of sending their sons to Oxford and Cambridge and have lived to see my advice taken to no inconsiderable extent. There is nothing, I think, so good for young men as early transplantation; but this matter too I will have reported on."

525. It was reported on, and the Director of Public Instruction very properly told us that the expense involved, from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000-a-year, would not be in any way justified by the very small number of students who would take advantage of it.

526. These outlying establishments for higher education are quite frightfully costly, and it would be, I think, highly expedient rather to concentrate than scatter our efforts for its promotion.

527. The last request was that we should get the Mysore Government to enter into arrangements for making the coolies fulfil their contracts with the planters.

As to that, I said at the time:

"Your complaint reminds me of the old story of the picture of the lion by the man. It sets forth very well the planter's view of the question, but I should like to have seen side by side the opposite view. Without going into the subject at length, which I could not do without further information, I would only now say that the current of modern legislation is running in a different direction from the one which appears to find favour with the gentlemen who drew your address."

528. I have already noted in the first part of this Minute that, on reconsideration, Government have determined to take no action in this matter.

529. After receiving and replying to the above-mentioned addresses, I inspected a very instructive exhibition of the products of the district, very much the best I have seen in the Presidency, that got together at Cuddapah ranking second. The credit for this one was mainly due to Mr. Brito, the Tahsildar of Mangalore, who by the way, like four out of five of the Tahsildars in this district, is a Native Catholic.

530. On the morning of the 16th we left Mangalore in charge of the Collector, passed some hours at Gurpur, and advanced amidst a deluge of rain to Mudbidri. The way lay chiefly over a wide plateau of laterite clothed far and near with exquisitely green grass then only two or three inches high, but to rise a few weeks later to four feet, and much used for thatching.

531. Of cultivation, save in the river valleys, which are extremely fertile, there was not very much, but land is being gradually taken in and substantially fenced against the cattle, which roam over the high ground.

532. Near one village which we traversed the Collector had found a little gold, but there is no reason to think that there is any workable quantity of that metal in the district. Iron, on the other hand, is abundant, and it is said that some of the kaolin is fit for making China. The Basel Mission has, I believe, thought of embarking in that industry. Their tiles are even now excellent.

533. At several points in the interior we came upon noble avenues of the *Vateria Indica*, a grand tree valuable for its resin, though not for timber. In the woods near Karkul, we saw *Hopea parviflora*, well spoken of in Mr. Gamble's book, with a poor specimen of *Calophyllum angustifolium*, which is sufficiently common upon the hills further inland, and provides the poon spars of commerce. Near Gurpur, the wild jack (*Artocarpus hirsuta*) was observed in some abundance and the ordinary jack (*Artocarpus integrifolia*) was pretty common. Both these last are respectable timber trees.

534. I remarked *apropos* of the forests of the district:

"There is obviously much need for a professional Forest officer in South Canara, but, for the moment, we have no one available, and I think the arrangement lately made, by which Mr. Bradley takes temporary charge, is the best possible under the circumstances."

535. Mr. Bradley still remains in charge, but a trained Forest officer sent out from Europe, Mr. Peake, has been posted to South Canara to work under him until qualified by local examinations for the charge of the district.

536. South Canara is the only district in which I have come in contact with any considerable Jain population; but Mudbidri is a great centre of their faith, and very worthy people they are.

537. I could not ascertain how far that neighbourhood had been fully examined by competent archæologists, but it undoubtedly deserves, if it has not received, careful examination. A colossal statue near Karkul, 45 feet high and said to be hewn out of one block of gneiss, is almost worthy to be remembered with some of the great Egyptian monuments.

538. From Karkul we retraced our steps to Mangalore, and sailed thence for the southward, carrying away the impression that South Canara is inferior in beauty to no district in the Presidency, and equalled, if it be equalled, by Malabar alone.

539. All along the West Coast the appearance of the people is more than gratifying; even the wild Koregas, whom we saw at Gurpur, and who wear only a scanty suit of leaves, are plump, well-grown people, without the slightest suggestion of unhealthiness.

540. After an agreeable voyage in the *Malda*, one of the ships of the British India Company, we landed early in the morning at Beypore and reached the summer seat of Government, 7,500 feet above the sea, soon after nightfall.

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541. Thus ended the survey of the Presidency, which, before leaving England, I had promised myself to make, circumstances permitting, within the first half of the five years which would lapse between the 5th November 1881 and the same date in 1886.

542. In taking leave of the people of South Canara, I said:

"It now remains only to thank you once more for the frank, and to the Government most valuable, expression of your opinions upon a series of matters of the greatest local importance. I rejoice in having in this long series of addresses which have been presented to me, from the shores of the Chilka Lake almost to Cape Comorin and from Chatrapur to Mangalore, an excellent photograph of what the people of the Madras Presidency were, through their most authoritative exponents, asking from their rulers in the years 1882 and 1883. Such a document is a most precious guide to the Administrator, and will be of some service to future historians of South India. I defy contradiction when I say that these addresses are, as a whole, most creditable to the good sense of the people, and as long as I remain here it will be my constant endeavour to go back over the ground which has been traversed in them, satisfying, so far as I can, the reasonable claims—and they are many—that have been made. Nor will I fail (having now seen all the principal places and come to know all the principal people in this vast and splendid country) to extend, so to speak, the network of my knowledge of it and its inhabitants over as many as possible of those spaces which have been perforce passed through somewhat rapidly."

543. This paper will, I think, show that the promise which I made in the penultimate sentence of that paragraph has been thus far most strictly adhered to, while, with regard to the last paragraph, I have, in the year that has elapsed since I made the speech from which I am quoting, extended the network of my knowledge of the Presidency by two journeys, the one in June—July and the other in September—October.

544. In a Confidential Minute addressed to my honorable colleagues on the 23rd October 1883, I said:

"I have now seen, in just under two years, all our twenty-two districts, and have visited Travancore, Cochin, Sandúr, and Mysore. I have travelled, in the course of eight tours of inspection, occupying 174 days, over something like 9,000 miles in and about the Presidency, and have received 88 addresses, all of which will be found in the various appendices.

"Any one can see, at a glance, that what is uppermost in the minds of the people is the desire for increased material prosperity, to be obtained mainly through a judicious expenditure on public works, and that no policy could be more fatally foolish than to starve these."

545. These paragraphs are taken from the eighth and last of what I may describe as the eight printed private letters, with their appendices of addresses and speeches, addressed primarily to my honorable colleagues and secondarily to the heads of the great departments which it was intended to set in motion with a view to produce the results which have now been detailed and which have left, it is believed, little that was uppermost in the minds of the public bodies and other authorized spokesmen of the people who addressed me, that has not been done, put in the way of being done, or shown to be, at least for the present, beyond the power of the most well-intentioned Government.

546. These eight documents, being of a purely initiatory character and recording only first impressions, could not, in the nature of things, have, with any propriety, been made public.

547. The purpose of this document is entirely different. It is intended, first, to show all who have addressed me, that each of the wishes of those whom they represented has formed the subject of the most anxious individual attention on my part; secondly, to show to them that the Government, over which I have the honour to preside, has done all that it could to bring the wishes of the people laid before them through me, to rapid and full fruition; thirdly, to bring the circumstances of the Madras Presidency, more distinctly than they ever have been brought hitherto, before the eyes of the Government of India and of the Supreme authorities at home; fourthly, for the information of any one within or without its limits, who, for whatever reason, chances to feel an interest in the affairs of this corner of the British Empire.

548. It goes without saying that I could not by any possibility have drawn up this survey of an interesting portion of the action of Government in the last three years, still less have made my journeys and got the things now recorded done, if I had not been admirably seconded by my honorable colleagues, by the Secretariat, and by my own * staff, to each and all of whom I hereby return my warmest thanks.

549. I believe this Minute and the addresses with which it deals will be useful to the Administrator at home, and I have a right to say so, for, having been for more than five years at the India Office, I know well how useful such a paper would have been to me.

550. I believe it and they will not be wholly useless even to the historian, for, as I have observed elsewhere, although we are only a "Provincial Government," we rule a land larger than the British Isles, and compared to which the France of Richelieu—what do I say ?—even the France of Turgot was thinly peopled.

551. Many things that are now familiar as household words will soon be forgotten even in India. We shall in our turn be ancients, and much that is now "Life's dullest prose" will "fade in the land of dreams."

552. I had often in my mind, while drawing up this document, an incident of my early life. Shortly before I went into Parliament, Mr. Elphinstone, then in extreme old age, came to London and questioned me, as I believe he questioned others, about the manner in which the Romans governed their Provinces. His whole mind was full of that question. If only, I have frequently said, one had been able to put into his hands such a paper as this, even by the least distinguished of proconsuls, and presenting like this a mere bald record, its very dryness and practicality would have made it infinitely more useful to the aged Administrator, accustomed to go to the heart of things, than any amount of vague and ornate writing "about and about" the subject in which he was interested.

M. E. GRANT DUFF.

November 5th, 1884.

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* To Mr. J. D. Rees, who was, in the absence of Captain Awdry, acting as my Private Secretary while this paper was being composed, I am specially indebted.

B. No. 2825 W. dt. 11th November 84

D/

(Communicated to the officers of the Public Works Dept., in continuation of Go. 2582 W. dt. 21st October 1884.

C.E.

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7 NOV. 84
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C.E. for I. ✓
C.E. for Gyo. ✓ 12/11
S.E. ✓
Supt. of Wks. 2. 11. 84.
C.A. to Govt.

Governor's Tour.

Circulating His Excellency the Governor's Minute, dated 5th November 1884.

2 Copies sent to each

With order

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