(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 102

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 19-7-88 14.10

(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

பொதுப்பணித் துறை

அரசாணை எண். —
மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண். 2794 W

அச்சகம்
பலவகை

நாள் : 10. 9. 1888

வா கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

ஆவண. கா-1—18,000—15-6-87.

2794
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

READ—the following :—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, dated 17th July 1888, No. 4170.

Read—again G.O., dated 2nd March 1888, Mis. No. 1451.

ABSTRACT.—Recording, with remarks, Proceedings of the Public Department, dated 1st December 1887, No. 1506, communicating to the departments concerned copies of a note by His Excellency the Governor on his tour to the Western and Southern Districts of the Madras Presidency.

Read—also letter from the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, to the Wynaad Planters' Association, dated 31st May 1888, No. 114.

Order—dated 17th July 1888, No. 4170, Revenue.

Of the several subjects touched upon in the address of the Wynaad Planters' Association, presented to His Excellency the Governor on the occasion of his visit to the Wynaad in 1887, those relating to roads and cattle trespass will be dealt with respectively in the Public Works and Judicial Departments.

2. Of the remaining matters, the first is the new Revenue Settlement. The Association will be referred to G.O., dated 20th May 1887, No. 500, in which the objections raised by the Association to the principle of assessment adopted in regard to estates held otherwise than under the waste land rules or on puttah from Government have been fully discussed and disposed of. No new arguments have been brought forward in the present address and the Government have nothing to add to what they have already stated.

3. The next request of the Association is that the forest reserves stretching from Nellacotta to Sultan's Battery may be placed under the waste land rules. The reservation of these forests was made after due and careful consideration and at considerable cost to the State, and no sufficient reasons have been advanced for undoing work completed only so very recently.

4. Lastly, His Excellency the Governor in Council regrets that he cannot grant the Association's request that all lands under cinchona cultivation should be exempted from taxation for five years from the date of planting. Lands in the Wynaad which are taken up for planting under the waste land rules are exempt from assessment for the first three years, while those held under private janmis or on puttah from Government are, when planted with special products such as tea, coffee, or cinchona, exempt for two years from date of planting. These concessions the

Government consider as great as ought to be allowed. The land revenue assessment bears such a small proportion to the working expenses of a cinchona estate that any additional relief that might be afforded by extending the period of exemption on cinchona cultivation from two to five years could not have any appreciable effect on the present depressed condition of the industry, which is made the basis of the request contained in the address.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Ootacamund, dated 10th September 1888, No. 2794 W., Public Works.

As regards the question of roads referred to in the Proceedings recorded above, it is observed that in their address of October 1887 to His Excellency the Governor, the Wynaad Planters' Association expressed their earnest thanks for the improvements that had been effected in the road from Vayitri to Calicut, and trusted that the Government would see their way to keeping up the line, when completed, as an Imperial trunk road from the Nilgiris to the Malabar Coast.

2. The completed portion of the road from Kullar below the ghat on the eastern side of the Nilgiri plateau is now maintained as a Provincial trunk road; and the whole line to the Western Coast will, when finished, remain in charge of the Public Works Department.

3. A copy of these Proceedings will be communicated to the Wynaad Planters' Association for information.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R.E.,
Under-Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Honorary Secretary, Wynaad Planters' Association.
" Superintending Engineer, IV Circle.
" Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.

Exc. L. Passalgne.
Spare Copies

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2

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of 1888 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated September, 10th.

Read. *Encl.*

G.O., 10th Sept. 1888, No. 2794 W.

SEPTEMBER.

Wynaad Roads

Orders on representation made by the Wynaad Planters' Association in regard to the upkeep of —.

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APPENDIX TO TOUR No. III.

Speech at Gold Mines dinner, Nadghani.

His Excellency in acknowledging the toast said :—

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you very much for the manner in which you have received the toast of my health so kindly proposed by Mr. Lyons. I assure you it has given me great pleasure to visit this beautiful and interesting portion of the presidency, and I wish all success to the important industries you represent. I trust that my visit may be of some advantage to you, as I am sure it will be to myself and to the Government. I have learnt a great deal that is instructive to-day. I am delighted to find that I have at last reached a country where fair profits are made, and rents are seldom paid (laughter). At least I gather that to be the case in respect of some properties, and the revenue due from them to Government. I learn, too, that Government servants get extra allowances when serving in the Wynaad, on account of the liability to fever resulting from a residence therein. I am sure if they could draw extra allowance and live in so charming and apparently healthy a spot as this, where we are now assembled, they would be indeed fortunate. Mr. Lyons has spoken of the fortunes that have been lost in gold mining in the Wynaad, and of those that are to be made. There can be no doubt that the secret of success is, as he says, economical working, and I am glad to hear that this is now the rule, and that experts are of opinion that the mines may eventually pay if inexpensively worked. I only hope that gold may be found in large quantities. It would be a great relief to a much suffering class in India if something like the old relative values of that precious metal and of silver could again be established. In conclusion, I beg to propose the health of our host, Mr. Coward, who has entertained us so well and coupled with his name I ask you all to drink success to the gold mining industry.—*4th October* 1887.

Address of the Members of the Municipal Council of Calicut.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—We, the members of the Municipal Council of Calicut, heartily welcome Your Lordship to this ancient and historic town, and trust this may not be the only visit with which we shall be honored during Your Lordship's tenure of office.

We have the great privilege of sharing with our countrymen in general the common benefits of peace and prosperity, and we beg to assure Your Lordship that we are not behind-hand in our gratitude and loyalty to the august Throne of our common Sovereign.

We felt and enjoyed fully Her Most Gracious and Imperial Majesty's Jubilee as a domestic event, and we then heartily wished and still pray that Her Majesty may be spared many more and long years to rule over Her vast Empire.

From the little we have seen and heard of Your Lordship during the past few months, we have come to regard Your Lordship as a fit embodiment of that justice and wisdom which characterise the British Nation; and we ardently hope and pray that the God of all Nations may give Your Lordship health and strength to continue the course of administration which Your Lordship has so nobly and happily begun, as well as to meet fully and firmly the growing and varying requirements of our land in this its hour of transition.

We would have been gladder still had Her Excellency Lady Connemara accompanied Your Lordship to this place, but, in her absence, we beg Your Lordship to convey to Her Excellency this expression of our sentiments and our heartfelt wishes for her health and happiness.

Again, giving Your Lordship a hearty welcome, we remain &c.—*Calicut, 6th October* 1887.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I am very much obliged to you for your kind words of welcome. Your address has one peculiar characteristic, I must say, which is that it contains no request and no statement of any grievance. I should be glad, indeed, if all the addresses that I receive possessed this characteristic, but, at the same time, if there are grievances, I am always very glad, indeed, that they should be expressed, and still more glad if I can see my way to redressing them. I am very much gratified to find that you properly place in the first rank in importance in the address your devotion to the Throne and to Her Majesty's person. It will be my effort, during my tenure of office, to do everything I can to carry out what I believe to be the wishes of our great Sovereign in regard to Her Majesty's subjects. (Hear, hear.) There can be no doubt that never has a Sovereign reigned who has been more anxious that Her rule should be characterised by justice, truth and advancement than is Her Majesty the Queen.

It is also gratifying to me to learn from your address that your Jubilee was kept with all fitting loyalty. I was in Madras at the time and heard a great deal of the doings of the good people of Calicut, and I watched their proceedings with great interest. I heard with much satisfaction that you had set apart a sum of money for a permanent memorial, and I hope that some useful object will be erected in Calicut to commemorate the great event. With regard to the kind words that I have just heard concerning myself, it is always a very bad thing for people to make promises which they may not be able to perform, and all I can say is that I appreciate what you have said with respect to what I have been able to do in the discharge of public duty since my arrival, and I hope that the good opinion you have formed of my efforts in this direction will be maintained, and that when the time comes when I shall have to give up my present office, it will be generally thought that I endeavoured to do my duty. I share your regret that Lady Connemara is not here to-day, but I hope that this will not be our last visit to Calicut (Hear, hear), and that when I next come she will be able to accompany me. She will not come to you as a stranger, for some years ago she was here with her father the Marquis of Dalhousie, and ascended the river I have just come down. Now, gentlemen, I hope I shall see something more of you before I leave Calicut, and, in the mean time, I thank you again for your address. (cheers).

Address of the People of Malabar.

May it please Your Excellency.—We, on behalf of the people of Malabar, beg to approach Your Excellency with this our humble address of welcome on Your Excellency's advent into this ancient and historic town, next in importance only to Madras as regards trade, and fourth in the Presidency as regards population.

We welcome Your Excellency all the more joyfully as the brother of the late lamented Viceroy, Earl of Mayo, whose encouragement of native aspirations and sincere desire for native advancement have endeared him to our hearts.

During the few months Your Excellency has held the reins of administration of this important Presidency, Your Excellency has given promise of being a fit representative of a Sovereign whose just and generous rule, lasting over two generations, has won the hearts of all Her Majesty's subjects.

We owe to the British Raj security of person and property, protection from foreign aggression, liberal education to our children, freedom of speech, a free press, and above all a sympathetic hearing accorded by our Governors to our wants and wishes,—blessings which we highly prize, and for which we are sincerely grateful.

We heartily rejoice to find that soon after Your Excellency assumed the Government of this Presidency, Your Excellency found a way to appoint a native gentleman, temporary though it might be, to the high and responsible post of District and Sessions Judge. Though in the words of the Proclamation of 1858, which we cherish as the Magna Charta of our land, the subjects of Her Majesty are eligible for any and all appointments in the British service without distinction of creed, caste, or colour, no native of this Presidency was before thus appointed to the post of Collector or District Judge, and we hail this new departure inaugurated by Your Excellency as the commencement of a more sympathetic and liberal administration.

While we acknowledge the benefits of British rule, we should be wanting in our duty to ourselves and to our rulers if we failed to place before Your Excellency some of our more pressing grievances.

The first and foremost is the general disarmament of four taluks, namely, Eroad, Walavanad, Calicut, and Ponani, the first three of which adjoin the Western Ghâts. Our district, which is mainly agricultural, is peculiarly exposed to the inroads of wild beasts; and the destruction of cattle and crops as a natural consequence of a general disarmament has been highly disastrous. We may be permitted to point out to Your Excellency the instance of a tiger visiting the Mambat bridge not many days ago in broad day-light [illegible] carrying human life—an incident the like of which has not occurred within the memory [illegible] now living. A reference to the statistics of the destruction of cattle, we are sure, will convince Your Excellency of the calamitous results of this measure. A general disarmament, coming, as it does, after a hasty raising of a handful of ignorant Moppilas, is a stur upon our loyalty to our Sovereign. We therefore respectfully beg Your Excellency will be pleased to cancel this order and restore us our arms.

The second is the proposed transfer of the Government College to the Municipal Board. Time has not yet arrived for such a transfer, as the Municipal Council, with the many institutions under it, cannot efficiently manage a second-grade college. Financially, this college is being worked with a profit to Government in the present year, and can be so worked under good management in future years.

The next is the introduction of Survey and Settlement in this district, where a permanent settlement has been in vogue for nearly a century. The subject was once before your predecessor's Government, and in their decision, we beg respectfully to submit, we are disappointed. We therefore implore Your Excellency to bestow your kind attention upon this subject.

We are happy that we are able on so early an occasion to express to Your Excellency, as the representative of our beloved Sovereign, the immense satisfaction which we have felt and do feel

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on the removal by Government of the bar to our admission into the Volunteer Corps; and we are sure that in course of time natives will largely avail themselves of this privilege, and show themselves worthy of the confidence reposed in them by the British Government.

In conclusion, we regret that Lady Connemara has not accompanied Your Excellency in this Your Excellency's tour which you have so disinterestedly undertaken to see with your own eyes the people over whom Providence has called you to rule, and to hear with your own ears what Her Majesty's subjects under your care, whose destinies you hold in your hands, have to say. We are rejoiced to hear that that noble lady has already begun to take a lively interest in the welfare of Her Indian sisters; and we fervently hope that Her Excellency will continue her labours on their behalf as long as we have the fortune of having her in our midst.

Once more giving Your excellency a hearty welcome, and wishing Your Excellency a long life and a bright and useful career, we beg to remain, &c.—*6th October* 1887.

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I thank you sincerely for your address of welcome, and I am particularly grateful to you for your kind allusion to my late brother, whose devotion to the welfare of India you justly acknowledge, and for whose benefit his life was sacrificed.

I am well aware of the high commercial position Calicut enjoys, and I trust its prosperity will continue to advance.

It is extremely gratifying to me to find that you, in common with all the well-informed inhabitants of this Presidency, appreciate the blessings which the British rule has conferred on India, and although I feel I shall fall far short of what I could desire in conferring fresh blessings upon the country, your address will be a great stimulus to me in the performance of public duty on account of the generous acknowledgments you are good enough to make of the little I have hitherto done in discharging my duty to the Sovereign whose servant I am.

I am glad to hear that you attach due importance to the Proclamation of 1858, and I shall always be glad to be the humble instrument in giving effect to the principles it contains.

With respect to the general disarmament of four taluks which the Government have thought it their duty to carry out, I shall be very glad if the public safety will enable Government to regard it as a temporary measure. Many petitions were presented to me yesterday on this subject at Nilambur, and I am fully sensible of the hardship which a measure of the kind may create with respect to individuals. Licenses have already been granted to various people in these taluks to carry arms, and it will give me pleasure to hear that, so long as the order is in force, the number of these licenses has been increased. With respect to this measure the Government have full confidence in the wisdom and discretion of your excellent Collector, whose long service in this district must have convinced every well-wisher of the country that nothing harsh or unjust would have his support, and no one will be more glad than he when the day comes that these restrictions can be removed with due regard to the public safety.

With regard to the Calicut College, I am glad to say that a few days ago an order was issued that it shall continue to be a departmental institution for the present.

The last subject you allude to, viz., the question of the settlement of the district, is one which is receiving the attention of Government.

It gave me great pleasure to see such a smart and soldier-like looking body of volunteers at the landing place this morning, and I am glad to find that the officers take a deep interest in the efficiency of the corps. I shall watch with interest its future progress and prosperity.

I thank you for the kind words you use concerning Lady Connemara. I will convey them to her, and she will be very glad to hear that you appreciate the efforts she has made, and means to make, on behalf of her female fellow-subjects of the Queen-Empress.

Address of the Native Christian Community of Calicut.

May it please Your Excellency,—In the name of the Native Christian community of this place, we beg to approach Your Excellency with this address of welcome on the occasion of Your Excellency's visit to this ancient province—a province in which, independently of its many interesting natural and historical features, are converged the rays of the rare blessings of the direct Apostolical Evangelization of the first century of the Christian era, and the no less luminous ones of the modern age which have irradiated from Luther, the great Star of Reformation, here represented, in this century of pre-eminently missionary enterprise, by the two sisters of the German and the Anglican Churches.

2. We beg to thank Your Excellency most heartily for the opportunity given us to wait upon Your Excellency and to offer our expressions of loyalty and devotion to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress and to her Representatives in this land.

3. It will not be out of place, we venture to hope, to take a rapid survey of the growth of Christianity in this part of the presidency. The light of the Gospel was first introduced here by

St. Thomas, one of the Twelve, and the Syrian Church of the present day is the living monument of his blessed work. The members of that Church in this town belong chiefly to Travancore and are temporary residents, being mostly employed in the public service.

4. The history of Christianity in this land will be incomplete without alluding to the work of that large body of Roman Catholics whose existence is associated with the self-denying labors of that great man Francis Xavier.

5. Modern Protestantism was ushered in by the well-known Rev. Samuel Hebich, Father of the Basel German Evangelical Mission in India, which began its labors in this district in 1839. The Church built up by him and his successors is now 4,100 strong. Its spiritual work is supplemented by industrial establishments of weaving, carpentry, and tile works, which afford occupation and means of livelihood to the great majority of the poor Christians in its fold. It maintains in the town a high school for boys, besides elementary schools for boys and girls.

6. The Tamil Church of England was organised in 1881 to meet the requirements of the increasing numbers of Tamil settlers in this district. It is under the direct control of the Bishop of Madras, immediately supervised by the Government Chaplain. It is unconnected with any Society, and is wholly supported by voluntary subscriptions of the European gentry in the town and of the members of its congregation. It has no church of its own; but its services are held in the English Church. It numbers 100 souls in all.

7. The unity and harmony of sentiment with which we have met here to do honor to Your Excellency is, we beg to submit, emblematic of the genuine work of Christianity in this country as well as every other, and we are thankful to be able to say that in this and every thing else, we are actuated by these motives and considerations we are commended to have.

8. We need hardly say that our deep loyalty to our Sovereign and to her Representatives in this land is based on our "one faith and one hope in Christ Jesus and Him crucified," and that it is strengthened by the feelings of gratefulness for the temporal blessings we enjoy in common with all Her Majesty's subjects. We are thankfully conscious that under the British rule and especially in this period of Her Majesty's sovereignty we are free from persecutions in the exalted and free profession of our faith. No less are we thankful that our claims for admission to the public service are recognised.

9. It is but an historical truism that the spread of Christianity is helpful to the development of civilisation and good government, and we beg to submit, in all humility and without any disparagement, that this applies to India no less than to any other country.

10. We beg to submit, for Your Excellency's information, that there are certain questions—such as the education of the Native Christian community on this Coast and the sites required for a Tamil Church and a Protestant Native Christian Cemetery—which we would like to place before Your Excellency, but considering they are matters which may be settled by the authorities and departments concerned, we refrain from dwelling upon them here.

11. In conclusion, we fervently pray that God Almighty may pour down upon Your Excellency and Lady Connemara all the blessings of this life and the life to come, and that Christian England's rule over India may continue to the end of time, to the prosperity and happiness of the millions committed to her charge.—*Calicut, 6th October* 1887.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I acknowledge with much gratitude the address which you have just read from the interesting community to which you belong, and I recognise with satisfaction your expressions with regard to our Most Gracious Sovereign.

I observe very gladly that a spirit of Catholic benevolence and charity runs through your address, and that it is distinguished by expressions of good-will to the various different communities amongst whom you labor.

I am very glad to learn that the educational establishments which have been fostered amongst you are flourishing, and it will always give me great satisfaction to hear of their prosperity.

You are quite right in believing that the particular subjects to which you wish to draw my attention are amongst those which can be dealt with by the local authorities and officials, but I can assure you that a community possessing so many interesting and historical features as yours will always command my sympathy.

Address by the Wynaad Planters' Association.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—As a deputation from the Wynaad Planters' Association, we beg to welcome Your Excellency to Malabar.

Feeling assured that Your Excellency has the interests of all classes equally at heart, we venture to draw attention to certain matters which we consider affect us injuriously as a com-

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munity. In ignorance of your Excellency's proposed tour we have recently addressed Government on these subjects and trust we shall not be thought out of order in personally soliciting Your Excellency's interest on our behalf.

We append, for Your Excellency's information, copies of our letters.

1. ROADS.—We beg to tender to Your Excellency and Your Government our earnest thanks for the improvements that have been effected in the road from Vaniri to Calicut and trust that Government will see its way to keeping up the line, when completed, as an Imperial Trunk Road from the Nilgiris to the Malabar Coast.

2. CATTLE TRESPASS.—The next subject which we would bring to Your Excellency's notice is the law of cattle trespass.

We append a statement showing the difference in the protection afforded Forest Reserves and that given to private plantations.

We would point out that the produce of our Coffee and Cinchona plantations while more valuable than Forest products is as easily destroyed by stray cattle.

We have since 1883 endeavoured to obtain more efficient protection and we gratefully acknowledge the recommendations which the officials of Malabar and the Government of Madras have made on our behalf. Still no redress has been obtained and planters are forced to stand by and see their valuable produce destroyed by semi-wild cattle, the owners of which are perfectly indifferent as to the damage they do, knowing that practically no penalty can be inflicted on them. We would ask Your Excellency to press on the notice of the Supreme Government of India the justice and advisability of speedily bringing private plantations under the protection of a system of fines and penalties similar to that which local experience has found necessary for Forest Reserves since 1882.

3. REVENUE SETTLEMENT.—The third subject to which we would request Your Excellency's attention is the new Revenue Settlement. We had hoped to have been honored by Your Excellency's presence in South Wynaad and to have explained by a personal inspection of an average estate the hardship inflicted on the owners of the older estates by the proposed settlement for 30 years and by the rule that coffee land abandoned after the settlement on which the cultivation tax of Rs. 2 per acre is not paid has to be relinquished to Government for the term of the lease although the freehold does not belong to Government.

Although new land is being opened from year to year, it is certain that, in the ordinary course of events, a considerable acreage must also go out of cultivation, and in the event of the proposed assessment being made on the existing area, it will press unequally upon those that have, and on those that have not, reserves of forest.

Many instances may be adduced of estates where the proprietor would be forced into at once abandoning a considerable portion of, if not the whole area, which, though capable of being cultivated at a profit for a few years, could not possibly bear an unalterable tax for thirty years. This is more specially applicable to old estates, which have duly paid taxes, say, for the last quarter of a century.

Whilst fully recognising the difficulty attending a yearly inspection for revenue purposes, we would respectfully suggest that this might be overcome by the applicant for reduction of taxation being compelled to produce a plan of the land to be abandoned and a sworn declaration of the acreage thereof, such land to remain in his possession at the occupation tax of 6 pies per acre.

4. FOREST RESERVES.—Fourthly, we would ask Your Excellency to consider the advisability of placing under Waste Land Rules the forest reserves stretching from Sultan's Battery to Nellacotta.

This district has been proved eminently suited to the cultivation of coffee, and is the only one in which any considerable quantity of land is available.

These reserves contain hardly any valuable timber, nor is their preservation required for climatic reasons.

5. CINCHONA TAX.—We would bring to Your Excellency's notice that in G.O., Revenue, No. 1349, dated the 30th of October 1883, His Excellency Sir M. E. Grant Duff, in view of the depressed condition of the planting interests, exempted from assessment, for five years from the date of opening, land planted with cinchona.

That although the coffee industry is now in a better condition than it then was, yet many planters who then had coffee have since been forced to abandon it and rely entirely on cinchona. That the price of cinchona is now less than a quarter of what it was in 1883, and it does not pay to take the younger and inferior barks which used to give a cinchona planter returns in the third and fourth years. The exemption quoted above was only conceded to lands opened between 1882 and 1887. In view of the extreme and continued depression in the cinchona market, and the fact that a cinchona planter cannot take saleable bark from his trees under five years, we pray Your Excellency to make the exemption of cinchona lands from taxation for five years from the date of opening a permanent one.

In conclusion, we beg to wish Your Excellency a happy and prosperous rule in Madras and to subscribe ourselves Your Excellency's most obedient and devoted servants.—*6th October* 1887.

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We pray respectfully that Your Excellency may be pleased to take the grounds into Your Excellency's kind consideration, and direct that desirable changes be made in the said Bill and Act.—*Calicut, 7th October* 1887.

Address by the Mercantile Community of Calicut.

May it please Your Excellency,—Representing the whole mercantile community of Calicut, both European and Native, we beg permission to invite your Excellency's attention to the manner in which Port Funds on the Malabar Coast are applied, and especially those at Calicut and Beypore, and to bring prominently to your notice the small benefits gained by those ports.

Up to the present time little or nothing has been done for the benefit or improvement of Malabar ports, although the total amount of dues collected is large.

We understand that the balance at the credit of Port Funds for Malabar ports on 1st September last amounted to Rs. 3,68,295; this amount is however, we believe, subject to small deductions for contingent expenditure chargeable in Madras.

The separate figures showing balance at credit and the result of each year's working for the chief ports of Malabar for the official years 1884-85, 1885-86, and 1886-87, are hereto appended, and the balance shown at credit of this port and Beypore on 31st March last amounted to Rs. 40,700.

This amount, however, does not represent the true earnings of Calicut and Beypore, for according to existing rules, any vessel paying port dues at one port on this coast, and proceeding to another of the group, is exempt from payment of further dues. And as vessels usually call at Cochin first, and then proceed to other ports up the coast, the receipts shewn at those north of Cochin do not indicate their true earnings.

The approaching completion of the railway to Calicut will materially increase the trade of this port, and further facilities for landing and shipping operations will become imperatively necessary.

We therefore beg to submit for Your Excellency's favorable consideration, the desirability of forming a Port Trust for Calicut (to include Beypore), to be composed of members appointed by Government and European and Native merchants, to which might be entrusted the administering of the Port Funds, and the general improvement and interests of the ports.

We would also take advantage of this opportunity to touch on two other kindred subjects, viz.—

The transfer of the Calicut Custom House from its present position, where it is most inconveniently situated for the mercantile community, to the old site south of the light-house. This improvement was promised by one of Your Excellency's predecessors.

The other subject is that connected with the opening of the Kullai River, which has yearly of late become more obstructed, and for nearly the whole of the last 12 months has been entirely closed to traffic. The exports of timber from Kullai for the official year 1883-84 amounted to Tons 21,218 valued at Rs. 6,53,530, and for the year 1884-85 Tons 19,803, value Rs. 5,88,690. We regret we have not been able to obtain more recent figures, but these are sufficient to shew the great importance of this trade, and the absolute necessity for opening and improving the mouth of the river, which we understand can be done at a trifling cost.—*7th October* 1887.

Statement showing Port Funds at four chief Ports of Malabar—1884-85, 1885-86, and 1886-87.

		Balance at the commencement of official year.		1st April to 31st March.				Balance at the end of official year.	
		Credit.	Debit.	Receipts.	Disbursements.	Excess.	Deficit.	Credit.	Debit.
		Rs. as.	Rs. as.	Rs. as.	Rs. as.	Rs. as.	Rs. as.	Rs. as.	Rs. as.
Cochin	1884-85	1,11,294	..	43,761	13,275	30,486	..	1,41,780	..
	1885-86	1,41,780	..	41,115	18,257	23,858	..	1,64,638	..
	1886-87	1,64,638	..	43,012	11,253	31,759	..	1,96,417	..
Beypore	1884-85	4,580	..	2,294	1,297	997	..	5,577	..
	1885-86	5,577	..	2,108	1,210	1,898	..	7,475	..
	1886-87	7,475	..	4,262	1,047	3,215	..	10,690	..
Calicut	1884-85	17,647	..	13,173	10,064	3,109	..	20,656	..
	1885-86	20,656	..	12,780	8,836	3,644	..	24,300	..
	1886-87	24,300	..	14,428	8,728	5,716	..	30,010	..
Tellicherry	1884-85	20,225	..	4,421	3,843	581	..	26,806	..
	1885-86	26,806	..	3,660	2,913	747	..	27,553	..
	1886-87	27,553	..	3,089	3,128	1,961	..	29,515	..

His Excellency's Speech at the Government College, Calicut.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I am extremely obliged to you in the first place for the very warm welcome you have been kind enough to give me. Allow me to say that I feel very grateful for the decorations which I see around me, which show that the cultivation of good taste is one of those things that you learn in this college as well as the subjects comprised in the ordinary curriculum. I am extremely pleased to see the flower carpet in front of me, which is a form of decoration peculiar to this part of the Presidency. Indeed, I am always glad to see the spontaneous products of the various places I visit, and none can be more beautiful than this. With respect to the poem which has been just recited in my honor, I am very much obliged indeed to the student who has been kind enough to write it, and I only wish that I merited all the good things he says about me. But we know that poets are allowed a poetic license (laughter,) and which is creditable, as it is very difficult to master the pronunciation of a foreign language, more particularly of English. I have heard with pleasure the Sanscrit recitation also, and am glad to learn from Mr. Joseph that there are a great number of students who are working at that ancient and sacred language here. Day by day, its study is becoming more popular, not only in India, but also in Europe. Through its medium we become better acquainted with the manners, laws and customs of the peoples who inhabited this land long ago, and in it we find a great deal which Hindu, Muhammadan, or Christian may peruse and adopt with advantage to themselves, morally, socially, and intellectually. It gives me great pleasure to announce that this College will remain for the present a Government institution. (Hear, hear.) I hope that this decision will have a good effect, and that it will continue to produce in future the good results that it has in the past. I congratulate the students to whom I had the pleasure to give prizes. I hope their success to-day will stimulate them in pursuing their studies in the University to which many of them are destined to go. Those who have not received prizes will, I hope, be encouraged by the example of those who have received them, and will themselves succeed next year. I rejoice to see that this College is so largely utilised by all classes in Malabar. It is the wish of the Government that the benefits of such institutions as these should be spread as widely as possible, and nothing can give me greater pleasure than to find that education is increasing amongst us. (Hear, hear.) I hope, however, that those who have influence will use it to promote the primary education of the people, to provide for which is all important. I need not tell you that the British Government welcomes in its service heartily those who belong to the lower, as those who belong to the higher, classes. On the whole, the results of the year's working in this College are satisfactory, and I only hope that future years will be crowned with even more success. My attention has been called by the President of the Municipal Council to the fact that the present Dewan of Mysore is an alumnus of this College, which must, I am sure, be proud of him. I have the pleasure to know him myself, and watch with much interest his career in Mysore in the successful administration of which the Madras Government is greatly interested, and I admire very much the ability which he displays in serving His Highness, the enlightened Maharaja of that State.

Address of the Pupils of St. Joseph's School.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—We, the students of St. Joseph's Poor European Boys' School, most humbly beg to approach Your Lordship's presence with heartfelt pleasure and joy, on this occasion of Your Lordship's visit to our institution.

Our institution is intended chiefly for imparting a middle-class education to the children of the Catholic community of the place, most of whom are East Indian and poor, but a good number of Native Christians and a few Moplas also are attending the school. The strength of the institution is now 180; nearly half this number are free scholars, and in the majority of instances they stop their course after coming up to the highest class, which is the one preparing for the Middle School Examination of the Madras University. Last year, nine of our companions were presented for this examination, and seven of them proved successful. The Deputy Inspector who examined the other classes stated that the result was very satisfactory. This is a great encouragement for us to attend and love also our school.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity in expressing our grateful feelings towards Government for the yearly assistance which it renders to the school in the shape of result grant.

Again we most heartily thank Your Lordship for the condescension with which Your Lordship has honored us with this visit, and we will ever cherish the occasion with profound respect and gratitude.

In conclusion, we pray that God Almighty may be pleased in His infinite mercy to vouchsafe Your Lordship a long lease of life and prosperity and shower upon Your Lordship His inestimable blessings.—*Calicut, 7th October* 1887.

Address at the Syro-Chaldean Church, Trichur.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP.—We, the Kor Episcopos of the Syro-Chaldean community of Malabar and the Clergy and Trustees of this church, avail ourselves of this opportunity for greeting Your Lordship with this address and offering our heartfelt thanks for Your Lordship's kind condescension in honoring our church with a visit on this occasion even though our Metropolitan, the Most Rev. Mar Elias John Mellus, is unfortunately absent from us in Mesopotamia. We congratulate ourselves in being privileged to welcome to this church now, for the second time, a representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty our Queen-Empress. The Chaldean community of Malabar forms a branch of the large mass of the Syrian population which inhabits the territories of their Highnesses the Maharajahs of Travancore and Cochin, dividing itself into the different denominations of Syro-Chaldean, Syro-Jacobites, Independent Syrians, Syro-Romanists, and Syro-Anglicans. Although these different parties owe allegiance to their respective ecclesiastical heads, we are all one in holding the common claim of tracing our conversion to the personal labors of St. Thomas the Apostle, who, about the middle of the first century, planted seven churches in Malabar, of which that of Neranom, near Quilon, was the most important. We also acknowledge our pedigree to Brahminical as well as Chaldaic extraction; a colony of Syrian tribes having settled on this coast in the 2nd and 4th centuries. History informs us that the Malabar Syrian Christians in the early times were recognised as a separate national body under a king of their own nation, that they were very influential in the courts of native chiefs, that they had high votes in the political management of those times, and thus they possessed the highest privileges which accorded them a social status next only to that of the Brahmins, the nobility of the country. The Syro-Chaldean church enjoyed a long and uninterrupted prosperity at the time extending over a period of 800 years under the See of Ankamaly; but the Portuguese sway in India proved detrimental to the interests of this church as well as to the national prosperity. The Syrian king was dethroned and his Sceptre and Crown deported to Portugal, where they are said to rest to the present day: the See of Ankamaly ceased to exist and the Syro-Chaldean church dwindled down into insignificance, affording for the first time ample opportunity for the intrusion of the tenets of the Latin church as well as for the formation of the other denominations. The effects of the crushing blow the church and nation then received would, in all probability, have proved fatal, had not, under the wise dispensation of Providence, the British Flag with its tolerant hand been hoisted in India. Although efforts have been ever since made by the different sections of the Syrian nationality to regain something of its lost splendour, it is much to be regretted that nothing substantial has as yet been achieved, the failure being mainly due to the impracticability of reconstituting a recognised common national head. It may not be out of place here to express our wish that, if it be possible for the Government which Your Lordship has the honor of representing to take into its consideration any practical step by which the national condition of a race that dates its origin to the Apostolic times may be restored, at least to some extent, as a lasting memory of the Jubilee of Her Majesty's reign, the Syrian population will be placed under everlasting gratitude. The Syro-Chaldean church in Malabar looks to the Patriarchate of Babylon as the centre of its ecclesiastical organisation, and our present Metropolitan had his commission in 1874 from His Gracious Beatitude Mar Joseph Oudo, the late Patriarch of happy memory. We would be failing in our sense of gratitude if we omit to mention here the patriotic spirit displayed over us by the Government of our benevolent Sovereign the Maharajah of Cochin, to one of whose ancestors this Christian town and its church owe their existence. Thanking again for the honor given us by your Lordship's visit to a church which had the privilege of being selected for the residence of the Chaldean Metropolitan of Malabar, and wishing your Lordship a pleasant tour and choicest blessings from above.—*October 9th.*

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you for the warm reception you have given me on this occasion. I was greatly interested in the Syrian Christians, and have listened with attention to your account of their descent from Apostolic ages. I had the pleasure to see the Kor Episcopos this morning, and learnt a great deal that was interesting and instructive from him concerning traditions of your ancient church, and though I am sorry that the Bishop Mar Elias John Mellus is absent in Mesopotamia, I can only say that he appears to be very efficiently represented. I notice with great satisfaction that you acknowledge the tolerance of His Highness the Rajah of Cochin. The tribute is no more than is due to His Highness and his ancestors. Tolerance is traditional in his family, which long ago allowed the first Christians to settle on this coast. You are now able to practise your religion without let or hindrance, and I think with you, that a religious body that can do this has every cause to be satisfied with its position. Again I thank you for your kind reception, which has been in some respects unique in its character, and has given me great satisfaction.—*9th October* 1887.

His Excellency's Reply to His Highness the Elaya Raja of Cochin's Toast at the Bolghatty Residency.

YOUR HIGHNESS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I cannot sufficiently thank His Highness the Elaya Raja for the very kind terms in which he has proposed, or you for the cordial manner in which

you have received, the tone of my health. The reception which I have had in Cochin has been, like my reception in all parts of the presidency I have visited, most gratifying, and I wish I could adequately thank His Highness the Raja for the admirable arrangements made for my comfort during my visit. His Highness the Elaya Raja has been good enough to ascribe to my efforts the sanction lately accorded for the commencement of the Periyar project. I can, however, only claim the merit of using such as personal influences as I possess to help to bring about this most desirable consummation, but there are others to whom credit is due, and I can assure you that there is no one in India who has been more anxious from first to last to obtain sanction for this beneficent project than the Viceroy who has the welfare of this part of India as much at heart as that of any other part. His Highness has also referred to the fact that my first year of office has been coincident with the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, and has considered this a good omen. I trust it may prove so, and I am sure it is a matter of congratulation to me that I was here to witness the magnificent exhibition of loyalty which this presidency afforded. Not the least amongst those who contributed to the general result were His Highness the Raja and the people of this State. His Highness also contributed very largely towards the Imperial Institute, in which the Prince of Wales, who spoke to me just before I left for India of the pleasant visit he paid to Madras, is so much interested. His Highness has also referred to the fact that I have endeavoured, and am endeavouring, as soon as possible during my term of office to see for myself the extensive presidency confided to my charge. It is obviously much better that I should, during the earlier portion of my tenure of office, make such tours as I can, in order to become personally acquainted with the various portions of the province which differ much from one another, but all resemble one another, in being all most interesting, and in all of which I have been so well received. It will be my endeavour to see as much as possible of the country and the people, and I can only say that nowhere have I been treated with more kindness or hospitality than in this State. In conclusion, I would propose the health of the Raja of Cochin. May His Highness long enjoy health and prosperity, and continue to rule this interesting and prosperous State.—*October* 10*th*.

Prayer, used at the Tekmalagam Synagogue, Jew Town, Cochin, for the Empress and the Imperial Family.

May He who dispenseth salvation unto kings, and dominion unto princes, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, who delivered His servant David from the destructive sword, who maketh a way in the sea and a path through the mighty waters; may He bless, preserve, guard, assist, exalt, and highly aggrandize our Most Gracious Paramount Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, Empress, His Imperial Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and all the Imperial Family. May the Supreme King of Kings, through His infinite mercy, preserve them, and grant them life and deliver them from all manner of trouble and danger. May the Supreme King of Kings exalt and highly aggrandize her, and grant her long and prosperously to reign. May He grant her sway flourish through the world, west, east, north, and south. May peace be within her walls, prosperity within her palaces, honor within her borders, and unity within her Empire. May the Supreme King of Kings, through His infinite mercy, inspire her and all her councillors and nobles with benevolence towards us and all Israel our brethren. In their days and in ours, may Judah be saved and Israel dwell in safety, and the Redeemer come unto Zion. May such be the Divine will, and let us say—Amen.

O Lord God of hosts, do we praise and glorify Thy Holy Name on this solemn day, and offer up our hearty thanks unto Thee, who hast graciously brought this occasion that enabled us to see in our midst Her Imperial Majesty's representative in our most beloved and popular Governor, Lord Connemara. O Lord God of Hosts, bless him in all his ways, grant all his doings agreeable in the eyes of God and men. Shower, O Lord, the treasures of Thy blessings on him and all his family, grant his life long and prosperous. May such be the Divine will—Amen.—*October* 11*th*.

Address at St. Joseph's High School, Cochin.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the undersigned manager, teachers, and pupils of St. Joseph's High School, Cochin, beg most respectfully to approach Your Excellency with this address of welcome on the occasion of Your Excellency's visit to this historic town, and more especially to this institution.

We beg to assure Your Excellency that we are highly gratified and flattered at Your Excellency's condescending to visit our school, this being the first time in the annals of our school that a representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty has honored us with his presence.

It may be interesting to Your Excellency to know that this school was opened by four Carmelite Brothers from Ireland in 1880. But owing to climatic causes, they were obliged to sever their connection, and His Grace the Archbishop of Verapoly, anxious to educate the rising Catholic generation, supplied their places by indigenous hands. Although the school is chiefly intended for the benefit of Roman Catholic children, it is by no means denominational, as its doors are always open to all classes of the community without distinction of caste or creed.

The school now musters 240 pupils, among which may be counted Eurasians, East Indians, Native Christians, Hindus and Muhammadans. It was only at the beginning of this year that a matriculation class was opened; and 9 pupils have already sent in their applications for the forthcoming University Examination.

We do not wish to trespass upon Your Excellency's valuable time with a long address. But kindly permit us to say before concluding that our pleasure would have been infinitely enhanced had Her Excellency Lady Connemara, of whose endeavours to promote the welfare of the Indian subjects we have already heard so much, also graced this institution with her genial presence. We therefore beg Your Excellency would be pleased to convey to Her Ladyship our heartfelt wishes for her health and happiness.—*October* 11*th*.

Address of the Cochin Reform Association.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Cochin Reform Association, beg to approach Your Excellency with this humble address of welcome on the auspicious occasion of your visit to the Native State of Cochin, and to express our feelings of profound gratitude to Your Excellency for having honored us with this visit almost at the very commencement of your administration. The event of a gubernatorial visit is always hailed by the loyal people of Cochin with heartfelt joy and gratification, and on the present occasion we do it with peculiar pleasure on account of the many excellent qualities of our illustrious visitor. Your Excellency has, in less than a short twelvemonth, succeeded in endearing yourself to all classes of the vast population committed to your care, and in the profound respect and admiration which the whole Southern Presidency feels towards Your Excellency we fully participate. From a speech which Your Excellency delivered a few days before you left England, we are rejoiced to learn how warm is the interest you take in the advancement of the Native States and the education of the royal and aristocratic youths of the country, and we feel fully confident that Your Excellency will not fail to always watch with interest and attention over the welfare and progress of the Native States under your charge. Once more bidding Your Excellency a most hearty and respectful welcome—we beg to subscribe ourselves, &c.—*October* 11*th*.

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I am very much obliged to you for your address. I have come here, as you say, at the commencement of my rule, because I desire, as early as possible, to ascertain what I can concerning the Native States as well as the British districts of the Presidency. During my term of office I shall always be glad, if I can see my way, to give effect to such of the requests made during my tours as may be found to be reasonable on inquiry and consideration. I can necessarily do less here in this direction than in British India. I hope that Native States will be able to get on with the advice, but without the assistance, of the British Government, the desire of which is that they should stand alone, subject to the proper maintenance of the influence of the paramount power. I thank you for what you say in respect to what I have endeavoured to do since I have been in India, and I can only repeat that the way in which I have been received in this Presidency by all classes, particularly by the more educated classes, is a very great encouragement to me to do all I can for its good and for the good of its people. You refer to the education of the sons of the Chiefs and Zemindars of the Presidency. I have already taken some steps in this matter, and I hope before very long we shall be able to establish in Madras an institution in some measure providing for an acknowledged want. The conditions of affairs here are very different from those in the north of India. The Mayo College is established in Rajputana chiefly as an educational establishment. In Madras you have plenty of educational institutions, and therefore I should say that what would be the most feasible and the most practicable step would be to establish a home where the occupants could under discipline follow their own customs and their own habits while taking advantage of the tuition afforded by educational institutions like the Presidency College, the Christian College, and other colleges which impart an admirable education at very small cost. These are only the general lines on which I should be disposed to build, but the subject is one in which my honorable colleagues and myself are greatly interested and it will not be lost sight of. I see you call yourselves the Reform Association, and I wish all Reform Associations were as practical in their demands as yours, from the conversation I have had with you, appears to be. You are fortunate enough to live under the rule of a very enlightened Rajah, and I am sure no person can be more anxious than he is that wise and moderate reforms should receive due consideration.

Address of the Cochin Chamber of Commerce.

Your Excellency,—The members of the Cochin Chamber of Commerce desire to welcome Your Excellency to this ancient town, and to take advantage of your presence among us to bring to your notice various matters of importance in connection with the trade of this port, more particularly in regard to the much-wished-for improvement in our shipping and landing facilities.

This matter has on previous occasions been brought to the notice of Your Excellency's predecessors, but the Chamber regrets that so far the subject has not met with that success which the Chamber considers it deserves.

It is hardly necessary to recapitulate the arguments already adduced by the Chamber in favor of the harbour improvements, as the records are already in possession of Your Excellency's Government. But in case these should not be at the moment forthcoming, the Chamber begs to forward to Your Excellency a printed pamphlet giving "the correspondence relating to proposals for the improvement of the 'Cochin' Harbour."

From this pamphlet it will be seen that the scheme as then put forward was not considered practicable by those deputed to inquire into it.

The Chamber, however, feels confident that notwithstanding its previous proposal for harbour improvement having failed, there are means whereby this object could be attained at a very moderate cost, and as it is a matter of very considerable importance to the whole trading community, it ventures again to address Your Excellency's Government on the subject with the hope that it will meet with your favorable consideration.

To deepen the bar so as to enable vessels to enter and leave at all times, is the primary and chief object to be attained.

Several schemes to accomplish this have been suggested, among them the constructing of groynes north and south of the harbour mouth, so as to create a scour sufficient to sweep away the bar; this was considered impracticable by Government.

At one time a ladder bucket dredger was here for some years, but was found to be next to useless.

Mr. Geo. Brunton, M.I.C.E., our Chairman, has brought to the notice of the Chamber a method whereby "bars," such as the one we have to contend with, are removed and made navigable in an apparently easy manner.

The method suggested by Mr. Brunton was designed some years ago by a Mr. J. J. Van Hattenstein of Rotterdam, and called by the inventor a propeller dredger.

The following description of this dredger is taken from the "Minutes of Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers," vol. LVIII, page 145 :—

"A propeller dredger consisted of an ordinary strong craft, a 12 H.P. portable engine and a pair of trussed beams, one on each side of the craft, carrying steel shafts, and suitable bearings for them. These beams were hung from the sides of the craft so that they could be raised by tackles and lowered to any depth required. The lower ends of the shafts were fitted with ordinary propellers, about 3 feet 6 inches in diameter, and the upper ends with bevel wheels, to which power was transmitted from the engine fixed in the craft, by a cross shaft driven by a belt from the fly-wheel. This machinery was tested several times in the river Maas, and in April 1876, when he was present, the craft was steamed into position by its own propellers against the current, the depth of water being then about 14 feet over the shoal, with deep water all round. The propellers were lowered until they nearly reached the top of the shoal, and work was commenced. The engine made ninety-six revolutions and the propellers about one hundred and twenty-six revolutions per minute, the craft being anchored in such a manner that it could be kept straight to its work, and warped as required to keep on the higher part of the shoal. It soon became apparent that a large quantity of material was set in motion by the revolutions of the propellers, and after about forty minutes' work the engine was stopped and soundings taken. It was then ascertained that the shoal had been lowered about one yard in depth for a length of 150 yards and a width of 8 yards.

"The craft was next turned round and worked with the stream, the results obtained being practically the same as when working against the stream. The shoal consisted of a coarse, compact sand in water.

"The machinery was subsequently used under the supervision of the engineers of the Water Street in various kinds of strata, such as fine sand, clay, peat, clay and peat mixed, &c., and the average results were that, including the time necessary for getting the craft into position, about 150 cubic yards of sand were moved per hour, 116 yards of sand mixed with clay, and proportionally lower quantities in peat and clay. This appeared to indicate that a great deal might be done in the way of leveling the bottoms of rivers by simple and inexpensive mechanical appliances, which could be worked almost continuously irrespective of variations in the depth of water."—

which the Chamber gives *in extenso*, as it will then be more simple to compare it with the requirements of this port.

Now, the bar at the entrance to the Cochin harbour is about 900 yards or 1,800 feet broad; the water varies in depth from 10 feet to 14 feet at low tide and is wholly sand.

What the port requires is a minimum depth of at least 22 feet, and with such an apparatus as the propeller dredger, the Chamber does not see that there would be any difficulty in attaining this end, while it is more, at a greatly reduced cost when compared with other schemes.

The Chamber is unable to state what the actual outlay would be, but at Your Excellency will give the scheme your support, estimates will be made. It may be worth mentioning the whole work of construction and maintenance could be undertaken by Mr. Brunton, M.I.C.E.

With regard to the cost and upkeep of such a dredger, the Chamber would point out that the port is well able to bear such an outlay. The average income of port dues collected for the last ten years is Rs. 24,312 per annum, and the amount standing to the credit of this port in the

"Port Fund" according to the Administration Report of the Marine Department for 1885-86 amounted on the 31st March 1886 to the sum of Rs. 1,64,657-15-11, the largest sum but one due to any port in the whole Presidency!

As regards the trade, the Chamber would simply mention that the total amount of tonnage that frequented this port for seven years (from 1880-81 to 1886-87) amounted to 1,864,335 tons, averaging 266,334 tons per annum; and the value of the export and import trade for a similar period averages the sum of Rs. 1,23,47,042 per annum.

The Chamber would also draw attention to the fact that steam tonnage is gradually but surely taking the place of sail, which brings into greater prominence the importance of improving our harbours, as steamers naturally require quicker despatch than can be given them when anchored in the roadstead. Many steamers belonging to the B.I.S.N. Company and the Asiatic Company call regularly, and during the season those of such lines as "Holts," Shines and others already frequent the port.

It does not require any eloquence on the part of the Chamber to point out the great advantages that would accrue to the trade of this port (*vide* page 9, paragraphs 17, 18 and 19 of accompanying pamphlet) were vessels able to enter and leave the inner harbour at all times.

The Chamber submits that such advantages are within reach, and it humbly begs Your Excellency to give the proposal now brought forward your careful and favorable consideration.

The Chamber observes that Your Excellency's Government have lately sanctioned a large outlay of Port Fund money for the construction of an iron pier at Gopálpur, and more recently the port of Negapatam has received some large concessions for the improvement of its port. They trust that the same favorable notice may be taken of this port's requirements.

It only remains for the Chamber to remind Your Excellency of the scheme which is now on foot for bringing a line of railway through Travancore to the port of Quilon, at which place it is also contemplated to construct a harbour.

Should these undertakings be carried through—and there is every reason to think they will be—the Chamber would point out that much injury may be done to the trade of this port. Hence a greater need than ever for improvement and facilities in the case of Cochin.

This Chamber much regrets that the scheme for connecting the town of Ernacollum by a line of rail with Shoranur on the Madras Railway, which at one time was in a fair way of becoming an accomplished fact, has fallen through. That such a line would have conferred great benefits on this part of the country there is little doubt.

It is to be hoped that the scheme may be shortly revived and that it will meet with more success.—*October 11th.*

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I am extremely glad to receive the representatives of the Chamber of Commerce. The questions brought before me are of the greatest possible importance, and I shall be very glad indeed if, during my term of office, they can be solved. One of them, that of the Harbour, has exercised the attention of all the rulers of the Presidency for a long time past. I need not say that the matters referred to in your address will have my immediate attention when I go back to Madras. What the result will be it is not for me to say. The feasibility of the schemes propounded for the Harbour is for engineers in the first place to consider. In any case, I wish all prosperity to your commerce, and anything I can do for you from time to time I shall be happy to do.

Further Address of the Cochin Chamber of Commerce.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,—At the interview which you were good enough to grant to the members of the Chamber of Commerce at Bolghatty on the 11th instant, special reference was made as to the desirability of forming a Port Trust at this port.

Your Excellency kindly promised to give the proposal your serious consideration, and desired the Chamber to furnish you with some particulars.

It is with this object, therefore, that the Chamber begs leave to again address you.

What the Chamber desires to see established here is a "Port Trust:" a Trust to take over the management of the Port funds, to apply same to the improvement of the harbour, and to the general interests of the port.

As already pointed out to Your Excellency, the amount standing to credit of this port in the Port fund, on 31st March 1886, was Rs. 1,64,657-15-11. The following statement will show Your Excellency the receipts and expenditure for the last three years:—

Official year.	Receipts. Rs.	A.	P.	Expenditure. Rs.	A.	P.
1884-85	44,732	12	6	8,581	9	11
1885-86	40,520	9	5	18,823	11	9
1886-87	40,522	4	5	15,708	15	5
						4

With regard to the expenditure, the Chamber would beg leave to draw your attention to the following facts.

In the year 1885-86, a sum of Rs. 7,258 is charged to our port for repairs to the I.G.S.S. *Margaret Nevinson*, and in 1886-87 the sum of Rs. 9,800 for repairs to the I.G. Tug *Madras*. Neither of these boats is connected with this port, and although there could, perhaps, be no objection to charging it with a proportion of repairs to a vessel which might be used for Provincial purposes, it seems hardly fair that the whole burden should fall upon it, particularly so when no benefit has been, or is likely to be, derived by it from such expenditure.

These items, with others which the Chamber will not take up the time of your Excellency by entering into in detail, will prove that, had the expenses of the port only been charged to it, its credit balance would now have been very much larger.

So far, nothing has been done to improve the port, but the Chamber believes that, with the annual revenue and the amount standing at its credit, much might be done for the benefit of all concerned.

The Chamber begs to tender its best thanks to your Excellency for the very courteous manner in which you have received its proposals, and now begs that this further request may also receive your favorable consideration.—*Cochin, 15th October* 1887.

Address of the Cochin Municipal Council.

May it please Your Excellency.—We, the members of the local Municipal Council, respectfully beg to approach Your Excellency with this address, expressive of our hearty welcome on Your Excellency's visit to this, the oldest European town in India.

This Municipality, which is the smallest in the district of Malabar, has been entrusted to our management, and we have done, and are doing, all that we can with the limited funds at our disposal for the general good of the inhabitants. But there are a few matters of grave importance, beyond our means, to which we must crave the serious consideration of Your Excellency's Government.

Firstly, the sea is again rapidly encroaching, and devastency on the north side of the Lighthouse, to wash away the old Dutch cemetery, with all the ancient tombs and vaults in it; and on the south side, the road along the beach, the only promenade in the place to which the community resort for recreation. Nothing but the extension of the groynes constructed by Government will effectually arrest the present threatened calamity. The cost which the measures would involve will no doubt be great, yet we, on behalf of the inhabitants, pray that a portion of the large amount of port dues collected annually at this port may be utilized for the work.

The next thing that excites alarm is the erosion in several places of the river road by the backwater, at which an inspection will easily convince Your Excellency. A plan showing the extent of the erosion, with an estimate of the cost of revetting the river bank with granite stones and filling up gaps caused thereby, was forwarded in March 1882 by our predecessors in office to Mr. McWatters, the then President of the Municipal Commission, with a request that he would address Government for aid out of the Port Funds to carry out the protective work, and that the work be undertaken by the local Marine or Public Works Department, but nothing has been done as yet.

Lastly, the public landing place in the inner harbour, which was constructed by Government shortly before this town was declared to be a Municipality, and has afterwards been occasionally repaired and kept up by the Municipality, is now in a ruinous state and requires to be entirely removed and a new one, on a better plan, built in its stead. The heavy expenditure this would entail is more than the Municipality can at present afford to lay out. We therefore further pray that, as the landing-place is situated just at the eastern end of the proposed revetment, alluded to in the preceding paragraph, the same may also be reconstructed by Government.

We shall abstain from taking up Your Excellency's precious time with a lengthy address; and shall therefore conclude with the expression of our heartfelt thanks to Your Excellency for graciously condescending to visit our little town.

With fervent prayers for Your Excellency's and Lady Connemara's long life and happiness.—*October* 11*th*.

Address of the Travancore Malayali Sabha.

May it please Your Excellency.—On behalf of the Malayali Community of Travancore, we, the undersigned members of the Travancore Malayali Sabha, beg respectfully to offer Your Excellency a most hearty welcome to the capital of this ancient, important and interesting principality, which, under the ægis of the British Government and the rule of a succession of wise sovereigns, has long enjoyed the blessings of uninterrupted peace and material prosperity.

We deem it a high privilege to be permitted to offer our humble greetings to the honored Representative, in the Southern Presidency, of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress, whose beneficent reign, we are grateful to acknowledge, has been the source of much of the

happiness we now enjoy in common with the rest of India; and we feel no less gratified than proud that in Your Excellency's person we are doing honour to the brother of one of the most eminent and most beloved of our Indian Viceroys and to a statesman of distinguished reputation, who has, during the short period of his administration of the Madras Presidency, given ample proof of his anxiety for the welfare of the millions committed to his charge and of his determination to be a "Friend of the people."

We beg permission to state that the Malayali Sabha, or National Association, which we have the honour to represent, is mainly intended to improve the social condition of the mass of our countrymen, who, though an intelligent race according to the concurrent testimony of all competent judges, have not been able to keep pace with the march of progress owing chiefly to a spirit of conservatism and contentment carried to a fault. In spite of the difficulties incidental to a movement of this description, we are glad our humble efforts have been attended with some success, as may be found from the enclosed brief account of the Sabha and its working.

We beg once more to express our unbounded thankfulness to Your Excellency for the kind visit paid to our country, which we take as an earnest of Your Excellency's interest in this Native State, an old and faithful ally of the British Government, and with fervent prayers for the long life and prosperity of Lady Connemara and of Your Excellency.—*Trivandrum, October* 14*th*.

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I have heard your address and have perused its enclosure with great pleasure. The object which you have in view seems to be a good one, and I am extremely glad to find that His Highness the Maha Raja takes a great interest in the success of your Sabha. I am sure there is no ruler in India more anxious to do good to his people than the Ruler of Travancore, and therefore it is particularly agreeable to me to see that the party of progress here in Travancore has the Sovereign of the country at its head, and that the Sovereign in turn is so loyally supported by his most intelligent subjects. It is no more than is his due, for he is anxious to lay the foundation of his popularity widely and deeply amongst all classes of his people. The education you have had will be a great support to His Highness's throne, as every monarch and ruler must be strong in proportion to the number of educated people who support him. In these days, when the schoolmaster is abroad in every direction, it is desirable, as you justly say, that you in Travancore should not be behind the rest of the world; your anxiety in this respect is fully shared by the Maha Raja. Your Association cannot be better occupied than in promoting the cause of education and in teaching the people loyalty to their own Sovereign. This is one of the chief foundations of the people's happiness so long as the Sovereign continues to do his duty, as I am sure, with God's help, His Highness the Maha Raja will do his. You have been so kind as to refer in terms of appreciation to what I have done, or tried to do, since I have been in this Presidency. Such tokens of appreciation, which I hear from different sides, are a great encouragement to me to proceed in the way I have begun. I shall always be anxious and ready at all times to hear the opinions of the educated classes—no matter from what side they come, whether from British India or from Native States—and while anxious to hear all alike, I cannot pretend to pay the same attention to the views of the uneducated, because we know that such are often misleading and mischievous. I am grateful to you for your allusion to my brother, the late Lord Mayo. I am very conscious that I could not walk in the footsteps of a wiser or a more just and benevolent ruler, but men must be judged by their own acts, and it is my earnest desire to endeavour to stand on my own merits. You are kind enough to refer to Lady Connemara. She is very sorry not to be able to see this beautiful country, and I hope that she will visit Travancore on another occasion, when I am travelling less rapidly than I now am. I hope to see a great deal before I get to Madras, and meanwhile it has afforded me great pleasure to have had this opportunity of seeing yourselves and receiving your address.

Address of the Syrian Christians of Malabar.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Metropolitan, the Clergy and the Laity, the representatives of the Syrian Christians of Malabar, venture to approach Your Excellency with this our humble address of welcome on Your Excellency's first visit to Travancore. Your Excellency's presence amongst us here to-day is hailed with a two-fold interest, not only from the fact that you are the Representative of Her Imperial Majesty in this Presidency, but also from the illustrious connection of Your Excellency's exalted house with India and its administration from times past.

Our community proudly trace their history back to the time of St. Thomas, the Apostle, who preached the Gospel in these parts, and our ancient origin has evoked deep interest in the minds of savants and statesmen. Our career has been an eventful one; but we think it needless to enter into details here, presuming that our history is well known to Your Excellency. Suffice it to say that, for ages past, we have maintained the independence and purity of our National Church, unaffected by the foreign spiritual influences frequently brought to bear upon it.

kind treatment we, as a community, have ever experienced at the hands of the illustrious Sovereigns of Travancore and under their beneficent administrations. Nor has the Government of Madras been behindhand in helping us to maintain our status as an independent local Church as may be gathered from the fact that they have, on several occasions, delivered us from the trammels of foreign supremacy.

We are proud to state that, under such fostering care, we, as a body, have been also keeping pace with the march of intellect. Our community boasts of being able to count among us to-day many educated men, of whom several are graduates in arts and sciences, and who have not only distinguished themselves in their scholastic career, but who, at the present moment, hold high and responsible posts under the Madras, the Travancore and the Cochin Governments, in various branches of the administration.

We have much pleasure in cordially welcoming Your Excellency to Travancore, our ancient and hospitable home; and, while doing so, we sincerely pray God that every happiness may attend Your Excellency and Your Excellency's Noble Family, feeling sure that Your Excellency's administration of this Presidency will be marked as an era of greater progress and prosperity to the loyal millions committed to Your Excellency's care.—*Trivandrum, October 14th.*

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you for your address. I know that you belonged to a historical and interesting community, that you claim to trace your history back to St. Thomas. I am very glad to hear that you are in a prosperous condition, and I agree with you that you are very much indebted to His Highness the Maha Raja and his predecessors for the tolerance with which they have regarded the Syrian Christians at all periods in the history of the country. I have no doubt that the feelings of toleration, which animated his predecessors, continue to animate the present Maha Raja in respect to yourselves. I thank you in that you sympathise with me in the work I am endeavouring to do in this Presidency. In conclusion, I must commend the loyal feelings towards His Highness the Maha Raja, which I am very glad indeed to see so eloquently expressed in your address, and with which, I trust, your community will always continue to be inspired.

Address of the Students of the Maha Raja's College, Trivandrum.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—We, the students of His Highness the Maha Raja's College, Trivandrum, respectfully beg to approach Your Excellency with this humble address of most cordial welcome. We dare say many persons in congratulate ourselves on this happy occasion. This is, in fact, the first occasion ever given by the students of this College to the ruler of our Presidency; and it is peculiarly gratifying to us that this first attempt has been made in welcoming Your Excellency, who, as far as we know of your connection as our Governor, enlisted our sympathy and love, even before Your Excellency touched our shores. Your Excellency has sprung from that noble stock which gave for our Viceroy, though for a short time, your much esteemed and greatly lamented brother, the Earl Mayo, whose name, as the students of Combaconum have most truly and gracefully said, is inextricably connected with the initiation of many a wise and good reform calculated to promote the welfare and happiness of the millions of the Indian soil, and who was the first to lay the foundation stone of what Lord Ripon so nobly asserted himself to be utmost to introduce in India, viz., the Local Self-Government Scheme.

Nothing is more gratifying to the people of this Presidency than Your Excellency's assurance that even if Your Excellency had the genius of those great conquerors and soldiers who have preceded you in the Government of the various parts of India, Your Excellency would be more proud if you could attain the reputation of being the Friend of the people rather than the fame of a great Conqueror or a great General. May Your Excellency continue to be the Friend of India throughout your lifetime, which we pray to God will be a long one.

We should expose highly ungrateful if we did not avail ourselves of this opportunity of expressing our indebtedness to His Highness the Maha Raja. His Highness and his illustrious predecessors have been labouring for the past fifty-two years that not only His Highness's subjects, but also upon many less favoured of the neighbouring districts, who, but for this kind help, could not have received the benefits of a liberal education.

We beg to offer our hearty thanks to Your Excellency for having graciously condescended to be welcomed by us, and we humbly offer our apology for having encroached upon Your Excellency's precious moments.

May your rule in our Presidency be a source of gratification to Your Excellency and of happiness to those under your rule. May Your Excellency and Lady Connemara enjoy long life and prosperity.—*October 14th.*

His Excellency's Reply.

MR. PRINCIPAL, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AND STUDENTS OF THE MAHA RAJA'S COLLEGE,—I am very glad to see you all here to-day, and I thank you for your address and the flattering remarks contained in it with regard to myself, of which I must feel myself quite unworthy, though it is true enough that it is my earnest wish to benefit the people socially and morally as much as I can during my Governorship. It is the wish of Her Majesty The Queen, whose Representative I am, that her Indian subjects should be as happy as they can be made, and it is consequently my duty to do what I can to bring that about. His Highness the Maha Raja entertains the same wish, and does all he can to improve the condition of the people of this ancient State. However, it takes time to make people happy, and a wise ruler will not precipitate new measures which may run counter to the prejudices of the people. A few well-considered improvements effected are more beneficial than more rapid and hasty strides in the path of progress. You have been good enough to quote some words of mine, and I can only repeat that I would greatly prefer the reputation of being a Friend of the people to that of a great Conqueror or a great General. Fortunately, the days of conquest are over, and now, under the British rule, and under its protection, subjects of British India and of Native States have leisure to apply their talents to the arts of peace, and should times of trouble come, the inhabitants of British India and of Native States would combine to meet them with a firm front. And here I am reminded of your Principal's remarks concerning the promotion of physical exercise, which does for the body what intellectual exercise does for the mind. One proof amongst many that both body and mind may be cultivated with improvement to both is the success of the student who to-day has gained prizes in both branches. Without exercise people are apt to become morbid and a burden to themselves and to those around them. Of course, there are many exceptions but this may be stated as the general rule.

I am glad to see that the Dewan's son plays lawn tennis, and I wish the Dewan played himself. I would then challenge him, and it would be only proper as the representative of the paramount power that I should beat him. I thank you for the kind remarks you make concerning my brother, Lord Mayo, who has his reward in the grateful recollection of the people whom he served so well. In conclusion I wish all the students of this College success in school, in the play-ground and in after life.

Address of the Sisters and Pupils of the Convent of the Holy Angels, Trevandrum.

EXCELLENCY.—We, Sisters and Pupils of the Convent of the Holy Angels, are indeed happy to have the honor of welcoming Your Excellency to our Convent School on the occasion of Your Excellency's first visit to beautiful Travancore. It would be most gratifying to us, Teachers and Pupils, to have it in our power to receive Your Excellency in a manner more befitting your distinguished rank, and to introduce Your Excellency to less humble surroundings; but if, in this instance, we can appropriately make use of the French saying "*Pauvreté oblige*," we can as truly assure Your Excellency that the greetings which we offer Your Excellency spring from very warm hearts. But a few short years ago—in November 1880—this humble institution was started, in the midst of many serious difficulties, with a total of 49 scholars—all one above Infant School standard. At present our total number on school-rolls exceeds 200, and our standard includes Matriculation, for which 7 candidates are being prepared, and Your Excellency will be happy to know that this proficiency in higher studies has not caused us to neglect the beautiful and important feminine accomplishment—Plain Needle-work. Yet we have had to struggle on all this time entirely dependent on the bounty of our good Bishop; but Your Excellency will, we are sure, be pleased to hear that His Highness, our kind Maharajah, and His Highness' Government have taken into consideration the good work being done, and have graciously sanctioned, or are about to sanction, a grant-in-aid to our school, and Your Excellency will easily pardon our probing of this auspicious occasion to express a legitimate hope that this very much needed pecuniary assistance is only waiting the approval of our kind Resident, Mr. Hannyngton, and that of Your Excellency. In conclusion, we most heartily thank Your Excellency for so kindly consenting to devote to us a few moments of Your Excellency's precious time during Your Excellency's short stay in Trevandrum. With a fervent prayer to the Almighty for Your Excellency's perfect health and happiness, and entire success in the work Your Excellency has generously undertaken for the good of Her Majesty's Indian subjects, we have the honor to remain, &c.—*Saturday, the 15th October.*

Speech by the Maharajah at the State Banquet.

MY LORD, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—When last we met round this table just eight months ago, it was to celebrate in joy and thankfulness the Jubilee of the glorious reign of England's greatest Queen. It has been granted to us to meet again this day to receive and honor the Ruler of the Southern Provinces of Her Indian Empire. And according to custom we begin

with proposing the health of India's Empress. Her name has but to be mentioned to evoke all the loyal enthusiasm with which the toast is ever received to Her Majesty's health.

His Highness next said:—

And now, ladies and gentlemen, I give you the toast of the evening, the health of my honored guest. My Lord, I take it as a special mark of your good will that you have honored me and my country with this visit so soon after the assumption of your high office. Travancore is one of the oldest allies of the British Government, and under all circumstances has been loyal to her allegiance. As a result of the happy alliance, she has been protected from foreign invasion and internal convulsions. And not only so, but she has shared largely in the progress and prosperity of the British Empire. These are not small matters to be thankful for. Your Lordship's present visit will, I trust, further strengthen and improve the friendly relations which have always existed between the British Government and this ancient little State. As the son-in-law of one illustrious Viceroy and the brother of another, the most deservedly popular, your Lordship comes with special claims to our respect and esteem. That your administration will be marked with the like popularity it is easy to see, for the morn portends the day. I sincerely wish your Lordship and Lady Connemara health and every happiness.

His Excellency replied:—

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I can assure you that I am very thankful to you for the manner in which you drank my health, and I thank His Highness the Maharajah for the very eloquent terms in which he has proposed that toast to you. He has very naturally and very properly first recounted to you the advantages which this State has derived from its connection with the British Empire. It is always a great satisfaction to those who represent the Queen to recollect that those who rule over the Native States thoroughly appreciate the advantages of that connection, and it is extremely agreeable to me, as representing the Sovereign on this occasion, to hear from the lips of His Highness that, as one of our oldest allies in India, he is alive to the advantages of the position. I can only say that I hope that the connection will long remain as it is, and that while the British Government affords its ægis and protection to this Native State, as well as to all other Native States in India, Native rulers will, at the same time, be allowed to enjoy that amount of independence which they now possess, and that we shall see them going on endeavouring to do their best, as Native rulers, to govern according to the dictates of enlightened humanity. Travancore has been very happy in its rulers, and for a very long time—I will not say how long—they have been distinguished by enlightenment and devotion to public duty. I have no doubt whatever that the present Maharajah will in these respects endeavour to excel the virtues of his predecessors. Provided he does so, His Highness may rely on the support of the British Government, and it will give me, as Governor of this Presidency, so long as I am here, the greatest possible pleasure to do everything I can to assist His Highness in the task of just administration.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I think that all of you who have witnessed the events of the last two or three days must feel that, as representing the Queen on this occasion, I have every reason to be gratified by the cordiality of the welcome His Highness has given me to his State. I wish also particularly to mention that nothing has struck me more in coming here than the very loyal and cordial manner in which I have been received by all classes of people. There has been a general courteous simplicity and kindness about the manner in which I was welcomed, and I have been struck by the extremely-natural and high-bred courtesy which distinguishes the natives of this State. I need not say that I think that the Maharajah is a worthy representative of his own people (Hear, hear), and I beg to thank him most sincerely for the regal reception with which I have been greeted since I entered his territory, which I can only attribute to the sentiment that exists in all Englishmen's hearts, and which I believe is strongly developed in the heart of His Highness, that is, undigested respect and admiration for our Gracious Queen. Of course, ladies and gentlemen, I should ill represent everybody's feelings here, if I were to attribute it to any merits of my own, because I know very well that a Governor, who is received in the very magnificent manner in which I have been received by His Highness the Maharajah of Travancore, has those attributes of respect paid to his office and to the great monarch that he represents, and not to himself. I am very much obliged to your Highness for the kind words you have spoken in respect of myself personally. I do not expect to be able to do one hundredth part of what I wish, but I can only say that, so far as my own health and strength permit me, I shall endeavour to do my duty, not only to the subjects of Her Majesty in the Presidency of Madras, but also towards the native inhabitants of the various Native States with which we are so happily united. I trust that the alliance between those States and England will long remain as cordial as it is at present, and that those relations which exist between them will continue to be as firmly cemented as they now are. If at any time it may be our duty from causes which, I must say, I do not think very likely to arise at present, to ask the Native Princes to put forward their strength in defence, not only of their own territory, but also of British territory in India, I am quite certain that we can rely upon the loyalty of all our Native allies, and that they will rally around the British Government, knowing that in doing so they are defending their own country and their own homes. I know very well that in the administration of affairs, His Highness has been of late extremely successful. I have had occasion during the last few days to read accounts of almost every branch of His Highness' administration, and to visit

many of the public institutions of the State, and I can tell you that almost every one seems to be in a prosperous condition. I think he has every reason to be satisfied with the advancement that his State has made during the last few years, and every reason to be thankful to the Almighty for the blessings and success that have attended his rule. In these circumstances, I have great pleasure in proposing the health of the Maharajah, which I am sure you will drink with great cordiality. I ask you to drink the health and long life of His Highness the Maharajah of Travancore.—*October 15th.*

Address of the Inhabitants of Tenkási.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the inhabitants of this ancient city, once the abode of one of the Pandian Princes and only 3½ miles from the far-famed falls of Courtalam, the sanitarium of the South in our Presidency, most respectfully beg to approach Your Excellency to welcome you to this town, which is full of historic interest and renown. The roof under which all of us are now assembled forms part of the Hindu temple built about 500 years ago by one of the said Pandian Princes, and the ancient monuments which Your Excellency will see in front of the shrine carved in one single piece of granite stone will go to show that there existed at one time in this town artists of great skill and importance. A few yards from this shed is our embryo Library and Reading Room, of whose history we have already acquainted Your Excellency by a copy of the Proceedings, into which we now humbly beg to solicit Your Excellency's visit and patronage, and pray for a copy of your photograph, so that we and our posterity may always remember the honour done to us in this town.

2. This town, viz., Tenkási, the Southern Benares in point of sanctity, contains about 13,000 inhabitants consisting of Muhammadans, Naiks, Vellalars and Brahmins. It is chiefly an agricultural town, and the only notable manufacture being that of rough cotton-goods, carried on chiefly by Muhammadans, which find a ready sale in the markets of Travancore. The Naik population, termed Gentoos, usually supplies a large number of sepoys for Her Majesty's army, and there is always a large settlement of military pensioners in the town.

3. We now beg to state briefly our wants, which are but simple and real in their nature, so as to be easily complied with. Though this town could boast of 13,000 inhabitants, it has not the fortune to possess an English school which could send up candidates for the Middle School examination. After it was taken under the direct supervision of the local fund board, the rigour of the term-fee system was introduced, and hence a school of very nearly 75 boys in strength dwindled down to 20 pupils, who alone complied with the demands of the said term-fee system expecting a speedy reduction in the same. On the repeated efforts made by the parents of the boys that were obliged to keep away from the school, the President of the taluk board has ordered the head master of the institution to levy fees as he did before when the school was in a prosperous condition, pending the orders of the Government on the subject. We now hear that an order has been passed to the effect that the rates of fees for Local Fund schools will be the same as for Government schools. If that be the case, we will be obliged to close our school for ever, and this town will have to suffer without an English school. We therefore beg that the rates of fees in our school be half the old rates as before when there was a large attendance.

4. The extension of the South Indian Railway from Tinnevelly to Quilon through Ariangavoo Pass, through which Your Excellency has just been travelling and which will open an unlimited traffic between Travancore and Tinnevelly, is a subject very often discussed but not effected. More than once plans and estimates were prepared by the Travancore Government in furtherance of this noble design, but given up on account of the wish expressed in Travancore to have the railroad connected with Travancore *viâ* Nagarcoil: if it is done so, we will only have the satisfaction of seeing Tinnevelly and Trivandrum connected by rail, and the present extensive traffic will, as before, continue to be carried on in carts as is now done along the route from Tinnevelly to Quilon *viâ* Tenkási. By adopting the western route, the interests of traffic will be best secured, and, if necessary, Trivandrum could be reached by a branch line from the main road *viâ* Kulathupalli, and the line may even be extended to the port of Alleppy *viâ* Kayangulam. We pray that this route be adopted.

5. The stringency of the Forest laws, and the great inconvenience experienced with regard to pasture for cattle, have been remarked over and over, and we only pray that a sufficient good pasture land be allotted to every village near the hills for common use. Before taking proper precautions in preventing the felling of forest trees on the British side, we pray that Travancore Government may be requested to adopt measures for preventing the promiscuous felling on the Travancore side, which is the real cause of the failure of the periodical South-west monsoon on the British side.

6. Another point to which we beg to draw Your Excellency's kind attention is the neglected state of the minor irrigation works. Only a very limited amount is allotted to the repair of these works, which are so numerously scattered all over the district. Only a very few tanks are repaired every year, and that insufficiently: and in all cases a certain proportion of the amount

required for their repair is exacted from the ryots as contribution. Many years must elapse before all the tanks coming under the head of minor irrigation works could be repaired under this system, and by a want of continuity in the repair of tanks, arising chiefly from insufficient allotment of funds, much of the value of repairs done is lost; in Imperial works no contribution is required. Further, by a recent order, only earth-work and the repair of existing masonry works are allowed from the funds allotted for the minor irrigation works. The chief defects of the minor irrigation tanks are want of proper sluices and escapes; and if these are not to be constructed, the condition of minor irrigation works will not improve. We therefore pray that your Excellency will take this matter into your kind consideration, and cause these works to be repaired in the same way as those of Imperial works are done by laying out a sufficient amount.

7. There are only District Committees for the management of the religious institutions spread over the district. These committees are located in the town of Tinnevelly, and are therefore unable to have a direct and local supervision over the temple property that is situated far away from it in different taluks. We pray that this single and solitary committee be broken up, and a separate board be established in each and every taluk, so that there may be a direct and local supervision over the property attached to each temple.

8. More than half the civil suits on the file of the District Munsif of Ambásamudram are from this taluk. Mr. Hughesden, once our District Judge, recommended to the High Court that there should be an additional Munsif's Court to assist the District Munsif of Ambásamudram. On this suggestion an additional Munsif's Court was granted to us, but unfortunately is located at Tinnevelly, where there is already one. We pray that the said additional Munsif's Court, which is superfluously located at Tinnevelly, be transferred to this place, and thus save the trouble of travelling over to Ambásamudram, a distance of 24½ miles from this town and 42 miles from the confines of Cadiarpatti, a mittah in this taluk, and of fording two big rivers—the Gatana and the Pottalputhoor—which have defied all our efforts in constructing bridges over them.

9. Since the appointment of the new chairman in Tenkási, a gradual improvement has been effected, improper assessment of houses, about which there was a general complaint at the beginning, has been reviewed, a reduction effected in cases of unequal assessment and a slight increase made where it was found necessary. We pray that the members of the Union Panchayat be appointed by public election as provided in the Act, and that the house-tax of Rs. 2,500, collected on the eve of the year 1886-87 without sufficient time for expenditure, be utilized for the year 1887-88, and thus stop the collection of this year's house-tax.

10. The dismissal of Zemin Curnums is entirely placed in the hands of the Civil Judge, who alone has the power to deal with their removal. The mischief, vexation, and faction they create in their villages are really unbearable; and the Zemindar has virtually no power over them. He is put to a great deal of trouble and expense in filing a regular suit in the Civil Court in order to get them dismissed for their misconduct. We therefore beg that their removal rest with Revenue officers, as is the case with the Ayan village establishments, and for which we hear that there is already a Bill pending sanction in Your Excellency's Legislative Council.

11. It is indeed an omission in the Income Tax Act not to provide for issuing individual notice of assessment under the Act for any amount below Rs. 2,000. Hence the assessee is rendered unable to file any objection petition in time, and thereby the assessment becomes final without the assessee being able to appeal on the order of the local officer, who makes his assessments generally from the information obtained from the village Curnum or other authority. It is true that the District Gazette contains notice of such assessment, and tomtom lists are published in the villages, generally the assessees have no means of knowing about their assessment unless they are personally served with notices.

12. Another important and the last point to which we crave your Excellency's close attention is that of the two cultivation seasons here: one is during the south-west monsoon, known as Kar, and the other during the north-east, which is Pishanam. Before the settlement there were two classes of lands, single and double, and remission of assessment was granted in each season whenever there was a failure of crop indiscriminately both on single and double crop lands. But after the settlement, most of the lands were compounded for two crops, whereby the ryots agreed to pay a reduced rate of assessment for the two crops together, whether they cultivated in one or both. This course was adopted as advantageous to both the parties—the Government securing their revenue, which was otherwise subjected to fraud, and the ryots themselves being relieved from paying a higher rate of taxation. The compound rules were binding on the ryots only as long as there was any wilful neglect in cultivating on their part. By them it was not meant that natural causes of failure of crop or of cultivation are to be out of consideration. It often happens that owing to want of water in any one of the seasons, either lands are to be left entirely waste or the crops wither away. According to the existing principles observed by the Revenue authorities in the granting of remission, the poor ryots, instead of wishing for a better season to succeed the disastrous one, have to pray for something worse, as no remission of assessment would be granted unless there be a total loss of both the crops in the Fasli. In parts along the foot of the hills which enjoy the "Sural" or the south-west monsoon, the Kar cultivation is more important, and in other parts the Pishanam cultivation is prominent. When the more important crop fails and the less important yields something, the ryot loses a greater part of his income, for the something he

gets he has to pay the full tax based upon the whole income of the land. The tax is to bear no proportion to the income he gets. It sometimes happens, as in this year, that a Pishanam crop of one Fasli in which there was no yield is followed by another which likewise totally fails. Here though two succeeding crops have virtually failed, on account of a slight technicality—*i.e.*, loss in two different Faslis—there is to be no remission at all. The poor ryots, having not a single grain for their support, are forced to pay the full assessment of the field which the Provident Will did not choose to make to yield. We therefore pray that a proportionate assessment be remitted for the failure of each crop.

13. In conclusion, we beg to express our heartfelt thanks for the condescension shown to us in receiving our humble address, and may God the Almighty shower forth His choicest blessings on Your Excellency, Lady Connemara, and family.—*October 19th.*

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—In the address which I have just heard read, you allude to a great number of very important subjects, and it is not my intention to go into very great detail with respect to them, because they must be considered by Government when I return to Madras. In the first place, I must say that it has given me great pleasure to visit this ancient town and its temple, the carvings in which are of great merit. The first thing you mention is the want of a middle class school here. I must say that I think the people here should be able to find money for the payment of the fees levied in other parts of the Presidency, and I do not think it would be possible to charge different rates in different localities. Another question is the proposed extension of the South Indian Railway to Quilon. I had an opportunity of speaking with His Highness the Maharajah of Travancore on the subject and I hope most sincerely, as does His Highness, that the extension may become an accomplished fact. There is, however, the eternal question of money, and I fear no State aid can be expected at present, although if it can be carried out by private enterprise, I shall sincerely rejoice. The attention of the Collector will be called to your request that members of the Union panchayat may be elected and the collection of the house-tax suspended for the present year. With respect to the removal of the Additional Munsif's Court from Tinnevelly to this place, I can make no promise, but the matter shall receive the consideration of Government. Another question to which you refer is the stringency of the Forest laws, which, no doubt, require to be administered with a great deal of prudence and caution. Forests cannot be conserved, however, without keeping out grazing cattle. I have spoken to the Forest Officers on the subject, and have no doubt that they will carry out the rules with discretion and leniency. In your 12th paragraph you take exception to the manner in which the rules relating to the compounding of assessment affect you. The principles on which these rules are based were, however, fully considered, when composition was agreed upon, and I cannot offer you much hope that the existing rules will be altered. Nevertheless, this address shall be considered by the Board of Revenue and the Government, and if we can see our way to granting all or any of your requests, we shall be glad to do so. Gentlemen, I am very much obliged to you for the kind welcome you have given me. I am very glad to see the people of Tenkási so prosperous, and I hope that the rain which has fallen in the last twenty-four hours will be succeeded by more, and that you may be ensured an abundant harvest and a prosperous season.

Address of the Mirasidars of Kalakad.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the undersigned Mirasidars of Kalakad, and adjoining villages of Nánguméri taluk, in the Tinnevelly district, beg most respectfully to approach Your Excellency on this the first occasion of Your Excellency's visit to this district with the expression of our cordial welcome and gratitude for the honor done to us. We take this opportunity of congratulating Your Excellency on the success with which Your Excellency has acted up to your noble declaration of feeling, a pride, in being called "the friend of the people of India," and we assure Your Excellency that the willing ear given to views regarding the wants of the people, the sincere efforts to become personally acquainted with the requirements of the country, the desire evinced to consult the wishes of the people in the administration of affairs, and the liberal policy pursued by Your Excellency in administering the Presidency, have already endeared Your Excellency's name to the hearts of the people here and in other parts of the Presidency.

2. Encouraged by the kindness with which representations of this kind from the agricultural population are listened to by Your Excellency, we respectfully beg to submit that we inhabit the southernmost taluk of the southernmost district of this southern Presidency in India. The breadth of the land growing less and less towards the south, and the chain of mountain separating us from Travancore occupying the western half of this narrow promontory, Your Excellency's memorialists may be said to reside in the southernmost extremity of the Presidency

under Your Excellency's rare consisting of undulating plains of red sand, studded with palmyra trees towards the sea-side and rugged hill tracts towards ghâts; as a matter of course, the watercourses which lie in this part of the country are very short in length, they are dry most part of the year, and the volume of water running in them is also limited, the major part of the rain falling on the western hills flowing to the Travancore side. Thus it will be seen that we depend for our supply of water on the precarious purtie streams which traverse our taluk from west to east, and on small rain-fed tanks situated in the midst of sandy plains.

3. Owing to the failure of usual rains this year, the distresses experienced by your most humble memorialists and their brethren in other parts of this district are really great, and in many cases pitiable to describe. To give a simple instance of the state of the agricultural condition of this district at present, we refer Your Noble Excellency to the appearance of the vacant and desolate-looking paddy fields visible from the platform of the Tinnevelly railway station; the fact that the fields referred to above have not failed as in the current year within the past fifty years may give Your Excellency some idea of the extent to which the failure of the south-west monsoon has affected the prosperity of mirasidars holding lands under even the never-failing Tambrapurni. Your Excellency's humble memorialists have not the least doubt that Your Excellency will be pleased to inquire into the present agricultural condition of this district, in view to be in a position to consider with mercy the innumerable petitions for remission which are threatening to pour from all parts of the country, as also for advances necessary for carrying on cultivation operations in the next season.

4. To make the best of the advantages afforded by Nature and to improve the condition of some at least of the villages of this taluk, it has been proposed to utilise for agricultural purposes the water of one of the numerous mountain streams on the western hills—water which is now wasted and lost in the valleys and ravines along its course. The project has received the approval of able and experienced Collectors like Messrs. Puckle, Stuart and Pennington, and it has been (we believe) strongly recommended to Your Excellency's Government by our present esteemed and benevolent Collector, J. Lee-Warner, Esq., also the superior officers of the Public Works Department have scrutinised the project and submitted favorable reports to Government. If completed, this project will, besides permanently improving 10,000 acres of land now cultivated with wet crops, bring under irrigation about 2,000 acres of land now lying waste or occasionally growing dry grains. About Rs. 30,000 have already been spent from subscriptions raised from amongst us for cutting and repairing a channel forming part of the project under reference. And what now remains to be done is the construction (rather repairs) of a dam—Kumaraswami Pillay's Anicut, Kalakad hills, Nanguneri taluk—across the stream whose water it is proposed to utilise. The Superintending Engineer visited the locality (probably under order of Government), and, we have reason to believe, has been favorably impressed regarding the advantages likely to accrue from the work both to the Government and Your Excellency's humble memorialists. We beg to invite Your Excellency's kind attention to this matter in view to the passing of early orders.

5. As to rain-fed tanks, some of them small and shallow, we regret to have to own that want of uncertainty amongst the villagers who depend on these uncertain sources of water-supply, and their inability to combine in carrying out works calculated to benefit the village at large are the main cause of the deplorable condition in which they are. These tanks are getting silted up year after year, and the capacity for holding water becoming less and less, the area under cultivation necessarily decreases in extent, and if not the supply of water is felt to be insufficient. Unless, therefore, systematic measures under Your supervision be adopted to keep these minor irrigation works in satisfactory order, the condition of ryots who depend upon them must, we fear, become less and less happy.

6. The rigour of Forest laws has been referred to by people in several parts of the presidency. We, the residents of this most Southern taluk of the Presidency, while returning to it, respectfully submit that we suffer most from the severity with which the Forest laws are enforced. The whole of the eastern half of our taluk and even part of the other half consisting of plains of red sand, the country presents a dry appearance; we scour the ruins sense, there is little or no pasture. People who once used the slopes of the west hills for grazing their cattle during several dry months of the year feel it a great hardship when the servants of the Government refuse to allow them to follow their old practice.

7. The months fixed for the collection of revenue are, we submit, not quite suited to the circumstances of the ryots who have to pay them. The revenue is now demanded in this district in 5 instalments, some of which become due when the ryot's pocket is empty and when he is anxiously looking forward to the produce in his fields to mature and to enable him to satisfy the Government demand. It is therefore desirable to increase the number of instalments to eight, as it was before the settlement of the district and as is still continue in Tanjore and other districts.

8. In conclusion, we earnestly pray that Your Excellency may be blessed with health and strength to continue to administer the country for the good of the millions entrusted to Your Excellency's charge, and we beg to express our heart-felt thanks for having been kindly permitted to present this humble memorial.—*October 1887.*

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—It is a pleasure to me to receive an address from an agricultural community like yours, for I have been an agriculturist myself all my life and am very fond of the pursuit of agriculture. I have gone through the subjects referred to in your address with the Collector, and am sorry I cannot myself go on to Kalakad. Your chief want, however, is more water, and you refer particularly to Kumaraswami's anicut, the restoration of which is earnestly desired by the people of Kalakad, who have already spent large sums in connection with the scheme. It is a great encouragement to Government to spend money when they find that the people benefited are prepared themselves to help in a worthy cause. The condition of small rain-fed tanks is doubtless not as satisfactory as it might be, and this subject is one which is ever receiving the attention of Government. The difficulty is to provide money sufficient for the up-keep of so many small and scattered works. I will cause inquiries to be instituted as to the allotment made for this district when I return to Madras. You speak of the Forest laws, and they no doubt require very careful administration, as I have said to every deputation which has addressed me on the subject. I can only express a hope that the present restrictions, which are doubtless rather irksome, may be borne as cheerfully as possible in consideration of the future benefits which will result. I cannot hold out hopes of a change in the present number of instalments in which the revenue is paid, as the existing arrangements were quite recently made after full consideration by the Board of Revenue. I will, however, see that your petition is duly referred to the Board. I have no doubt that the Divisional officer, Mr. Rawson, who has heard what I had to say, will take all your wants into consideration, and where he can do any good to you, I feel sure he will be very glad to do it. I wish you a good season and a prosperous year.

Address of the Protestant Christians of the Tinnevelly District.

May it please Your Excellency,—To be granted the privilege of assembling before the representative of our Beloved Queen-Empress in South India is indeed a happy event to all Her Majesty's subjects in these parts: and to us, the Protestant Christians of the Tinnevelly District, who, in addition to the common loyalty and devotion to the same throne are united with England by the bond of a common faith and worship, this visit Your Excellency has been pleased to accord is one of intense pleasure. Occurring, as it does, in the Jubilee year of Her Majesty's reign, which we celebrated only a few months ago amidst general rejoicings and prayer and praise in hundreds of our churches, Your Excellency's arrival amongst us has evoked in our minds the deep sense of gratitude we entertain for the many temporal and spiritual blessings which under Divine Providence we owe to the British Government and nation.

The profound, uninterrupted peace we, in common with all Her Majesty's subjects, have enjoyed since, at the commencement of this century, the British flag was hoisted over us in a province where, as we learn from history, war and rapine was the normal condition, is a blessing, the full import of which we feel we cannot adequately at this distance of time realize, and for which we can never be too grateful. Time would fail us to enumerate the many beneficent measures adopted by our truly paternal Government, whereby equal and impartial protection of the law is accorded to all alike, life and property secured, civil and religious liberty is enjoyed, education encouraged and advanced, and the material improvement of the people is constantly promoted, while the resources of the country are gradually developed.

In your extensive reading Your Excellency will doubtless have become informed of the introduction of Christianity into this province some 110 years ago and its gradual progress especially among the industrial classes. When the mission returns were last made up in December 1886 the number of Christians on the rolls in connection with the S. P. G. and C. M. S. Societies was 88,012, under the pastoral care of 95 native clergymen, assisted by 887 lay agents. We have 695 primary schools (attended by 21,479 children, of whom 5,195 are girls), 14 middle schools, 2 high schools, and 2 colleges, one first grade and the other second grade. There are, besides these, normal and theological institutions for the training of catechists, schoolmasters and schoolmistresses at the head-quarters of both missions.

For some years past great efforts are being made to render our church establishments self-supporting, and we are glad to state that fair progress is being made in this direction. The contributions of the congregations last year for the support of their spiritual agency amounted to Rs. 29,269-2-10, besides about Rs. 10,528-5-5 paid for the erection of churches, school rooms and other special objects. It has been to us a matter of no small importance that the two missionaries who came to these parts above 50 years ago and helped to organize the many plans of mission labor in our midst are still continued to us, to guide us with their mature and paternal counsel.

From the Government we neither expect nor desire any exclusive privileges. We claim no indulgences. All that we can reasonably hope for is that the Government will strictly impress

upon all its officers in authority over us to maintain that just neutrality which shall secure to us, as to all Her Majesty's subjects, freedom and protection in our worship and the enjoyment of all the civil rights which become ours under the enlightened Government of Great Britain.

In one point, however, connected with the general administration, we humbly crave Your Excellency's kind consideration. In the matter of patronage, we feel that Native Christians are placed at disadvantage. For while of the candidates who in this district pass the University Examinations every year, nearly one-third are Protestant Christians, those that have been taken into Government service may be counted on one's fingers. And therefore, as said before, although we, as Christians, ask for no special favor, we humbly trust that Your Excellency will not consider that our claim in this respect is unreasonable. All we beg to urge is that educated Native Christians should be represented in Government service in a somewhat fair proportion to the educated classes of other communities.

We regret that Lady Connemara has been unable to accompany Your Excellency on this occasion, as we think she would have been much interested in various things she would have seen in Tinnevelly, especially the progress that has been made in female education.

In conclusion, we beg to thank Your Excellency for the patient hearing accorded us. We acknowledge with gratitude the honor done us and our district by this visit, and we pray that the Almighty will prosper Your Excellency in your various journeys and grant you health and wisdom to contrive and execute such plans and measures as shall be conducive to the welfare and happiness of the people committed to Your Excellency's trust by our Gracious Queen-Empress.—*October 21st.*

His Excellency's Reply.

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It has given me very great pleasure to come here this morning, for I have heard so much about the great work that has been going on for the last fifty years in Tinnevelly and in the rest of Southern India. Many years ago when I came to this country, I was anxious to visit Tinnevelly, but unfortunately I was not able to do so at the time. It has afforded me a great deal of gratification to see the very interesting sight which I have just witnessed in the neighbouring room, and all honor I think ought to be given to those noble ladies who have disregarded the comforts and associations of home, and have come out to do their best to spread the influences of civilization and education amongst our brothers and sisters in India. I have no doubt that they meet with much difficulty and discouragement. But there is no great work that has not encountered some amount of difficulty; and it must be a great satisfaction to these ladies to see the children progressing so rapidly and so satisfactorily in the various subjects which they study. As a result of the education they are now receiving, they will be enabled to make their homes happy in the future and to enjoy the blessing of domestic peace and happiness. I share the regret you are good enough to express at the absence of Lady Connemara, but I shall have much pleasure in telling her of the great work these ladies are carrying on here, and I am sure she will always be very glad to give these ladies any encouragement in her power consistently with her duty as the wife of the Governor of this Province, knowing she therein she will only be doing what our Gracious Sovereign would do herself if she were living amongst you. You say of Lady Connemara justly when you say she has a deep interest in the cause of female education. In the first paragraph of your address—so admirably read by Mr. Martin Indico—you allude very naturally and very properly to our Most Gracious Sovereign and to the blessings which we enjoy under her benign rule. I am sure that if Her Majesty were here herself, she would remind you that, although rulers and potentates receive great honor in this world, yet none are more worthy of the highest place than those who are devoting themselves to the service of the Almighty. That is a text upon which I have no doubt your Bishop often discourses, and he can speak to you in much eloquent terms than it is necessary for me to dilate upon it on this occasion. There is another subject in your address which I am very glad to see mentioned, and that is the presence amongst you of the two benevolent pastors who have been laboring at the head of their respective missionary societies in Tinnevelly for the last 50 years. I wish I could speak in your own language in order that I might convey to you more strongly and more emphatically the advantages I feel sure you have gained from the labors of those two eminent men. However, I am quite certain that they are rewarded by the many marks of progress which their teachings have left amongst you, and that is the best reward that men can have for conscientious work. I am glad to hear that you have no grievances to complain of. There is one point which you mention, and which will receive my attention. You justly ask that you should have the same privileges of entering the public service as other sections of the community. But this is a principle you well know upon which the British Government invariably acts, namely, that all classes and all religious shall be treated alike, and it is the desire of the Government that a just proportion of the educated classes from all communities should be employed in the public service. Now I will not detain you any longer. I am very much obliged to you for the kind welcome which you have given me, and it will always be a pleasure to me to hear of the prosperity of this community (Loud applause).

Address of the Municipal Council, Tinnevelly.

May it please Your Excellency.—We, the Members of the Municipal Council of Tinnevelly, beg leave cordially to welcome Your Excellency on the occasion of your first visit to this town, which is the capital of the southernmost district of the Presidency. Your Excellency's administration of the Presidency, short as it is, has already exhibited unmistakable proofs of the immense happiness and prosperity reserved for the inhabitants of this province under Your Excellency's good rule. The kind condescension with which Your Excellency is graciously pleased to attend to all classes of people, the desire to become personally acquainted with their real wants and grievances, and the promptitude with which Your Excellency has always endeavoured to remedy them, and, above all, the very first and brilliant example set by Your Excellency in advancing natives to appointments of the highest importance in a district, are undeniable facts which promise a very happy future. We are highly thankful for the several measures of Local Self-Government introduced amongst us, and they owe their origin to your illustrious brother, the late Earl Mayo. We are happy to state that they have worked well in this district, and we hope that the system may be further enlarged and become better developed under the benign administration of Your Excellency. We think it is our duty to express our thanks for the liberal help and kind advice given to us by the local officers of Government, and our obligations are specially due to our popular Collector J. Lee-Warner, Esq., who has ever attended to our welfare. We beg to state that our town has not had a proper supply of pure drinking water, and how to get this defect remedied has long occupied our anxious and earnest attention. A water scheme is to be started, and it is proposed to take up as a reservoir a tank called Ottankulam, which is on a sufficiently high level to the town and situated at a distance of 1½ miles from it. The scheme may probably cost a large sum of money. We humbly beg that Your Excellency may be graciously pleased to lend us the aid of the District Engineering staff for the completion and supervision of the water scheme, and this free of the usual contribution. In conclusion, we beg to express our deep sentiments of loyalty and devotion to Her Imperial Majesty, and our sincere wishes for peace and prosperity throughout her dominions. We pray that Your Excellency's administration may continue long, and that the Almighty may shower the choicest blessings on Lady Connemara and yourself.—*October 21st.*

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I have had a great anxiety to see Tinnevelly, which occupies a very prominent position amongst the towns of Southern India, and possesses many interesting, historical and other features. I am very glad to hear that this Municipality thinks that I have done my best to learn what are the wishes of the people. It is of great importance that a Governor should make himself acquainted, not only with the wants of the people, but also with the leading members of the various municipalities, who under the existing scheme of local government, possess considerable influence, and have a great many important duties to perform. There is, I think, only one matter in your address which calls for remark, namely, the supply of drinking-water to the town. The attention of the engineering staff of the district has already been directed to this matter, which has received and shall receive its earnest attention. At the same time you must bear in mind that the want of good drinking-water is one which is generally felt throughout the whole Presidency. We feel it very much in Madras, where a scheme for a better supply, which will cost the municipality a very large sum of money, is under consideration. I am afraid that, in the main, we must rely upon the municipalities themselves for finding the funds. There exist sometimes exceptional circumstances under which Government may see their way to assist the local committees; but the need is so general that such circumstances must be very exceptional indeed. You must be aware of the objections there are to devoting funds subscribed by the tax-payer generally to any particular locality. I am glad to hear that you speak in high terms of your respected Collector, and I have no doubt that what you say of him is only just and true. You will, no doubt, regret that his sphere of usefulness is likely to be changed, but will continue, as Government does, to appreciate what he has done here.

Address of the Municipal Council, Tuticorin.

May it please Your Excellency.—On behalf of the Municipal Council and of the inhabitants of Tuticorin, we most respectfully beg to welcome Your Excellency to this district, and bring the following to your favorable consideration. For many years past, this town has been rapidly increasing in population as well as in trade and commerce. In 1871 the population was 10,565; in 1881 it had risen to 16,281; and now it is over 20,000, besides a considerable floating population. The value of its imports amounts to 42 lakhs of rupees, and exports to 125 lakhs of rupees, annually. This being the terminus of the South Indian Railway, passengers to and from Colombo find it the most convenient port for landing and embarking: and owing to the extensive traffic in cotton, jaggery, and other produce, thousands of people from up-country resort here daily on business. With all the promising prospects of this town, we extremely regret to tell Your

Excellency that our water-supply is in a wretched condition. At present the town receive its supply of water from the Korampallam tank, about 5 miles distant, which is fed by the Tambraparni river from its last anicut at Srivaikuntham. This supply invariably fails for about 5 or 6 months every year, and very often for a longer period; and this unfortunate failure usually happens at the height of the hot season when water is most needed. This year the supply has been a total failure since January last. During the season of drought, we are obliged to obtain water from holes dug in the sandy tracts lying to the extreme south and west of the town, and the sufferings of the people then are considerable. These holes be about a mile distant from the centre of the town. When Government undertook to construct the Korampallam tank, we were given to understand that the main object, besides the raising of revenue, was to bring the water of the Tambraparni river within the reach of the people of Tuticorin. Mr. F. X. Fuckle, the then Collector of the district, whose memory is revered by the inhabitants of this town, made this a strong point when recommending the scheme to Government. We now beg to approach Your Excellency on lay before you a great drawback that now exists in the carrying out of the project of this water-supply to the town, even during that portion of the year when there is plenty of water in the river. The Korampallam tank is the lowermost of the chain of tanks fed by the northern channel from the Srivaikuntham anicut, and consequently when there are freshes in the river, it takes a considerable time before they reach this tank, inasmuch as all other tanks are filled up to their maximum level first. The freshes are generally not sufficient to fill up all the tanks at once, and before subsequent freshes come, those higher-up tanks exhaust their supply for irrigation and therefore also absorb the next freshes. It therefore naturally happens that such freshes only as would last consecutively for more than a month can reach our supply tank. And freshes only as would last consecutively for more than a month can reach our supply tank. And this occurs very seldom. Consequently, the tank can only receive its proper supply during heavy and continuous rain. We therefore pray that Your Excellency may be graciously pleased to instruct the Public Works Department to allow the first fresh in the Tambraparni to reach the Korampallam tank by opening the sluices of the higher tanks as soon as they are filled to their lowest sill level, and so allow the Korampallam tank being filled before the water is drawn off higher up for irrigation purposes, so that this town may be supplied with water as soon as possible after the water has come down from the hills. With a view to remedy the sufferings of the people, we have spared no possible means in our power, nor was my attention towards the same in any way wanting. Some time ago we tried the boring of an artesian well; but our experiment proved a failure. On the occasion of the Jubilee of Her Most Gracious Majesty's reign, the Jubilee Committee undertook to carry out a water project in commemoration of that happy event in order to supply the town with water after the failure of the Korampallam supply; and they consulted Mr. Crigton, Locomotive Superintendent, South Indian Railway, on the subject. He kindly responded to their requests, and, after inspecting the locality known as "the Cricket ground" advised them to dig about half-a-dozen large and deep wells and pump the water therefrom into the town reservoir by means of a portable pumping engine. As the expected subscriptions were not received, the Jubilee Committee were unable to carry out the scheme on its own. They have however excavated a large well 20 feet in diameter and 15 feet deep. Our experience of the supply of water in the cricket ground convinces us that it is inadequate for the consumption of the town for 4 or 5 months in the year, unless the yield therefrom is supplemented by a storage tank. We further beg to bring to the notice of Your Excellency the necessity for a good supply of water is felt not only by the inhabitants of the town for domestic purposes, but also by three owning cotton press factories, who have now during the hottest and busiest season of the year to cart all water used for boilers and (this not of the best) from a distance of one or two miles. The absence of a good supply of water is a great factor preventing factories for other purposes in which steam power is necessary from being set up. In order to alleviate the misery of the people during four or five hottest months of the year, we respectfully beg to lay before Your Excellency a water scheme which is impossible for us to carry out unless the Government come forward to give us a helping hand in the completion of the same. In close proximity to the western suburb of the town, there is a valley known as the cricket ground measuring 13 acres of land. This place possesses fairly good water, and lies on a lower level than the delivery channel from the Korampallam tank. It is admirably situated for a storage tank, the construction of which, we roughly calculate, will cost from Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 15,000. Water could be stored in the tank at least one month before the Korampallam supply fails, which could be easily anticipated, and as the place is only a few hundred feet distant from the town-reservoir which receives and distributes water to the conduit wells in the town, the water from the storage tank could be pumped into the reservoir through iron pipes by means of a steam pump which the municipal council is prepared to buy and maintain. The municipal resources do not permit us to carry out this scheme; and we therefore most earnestly beg that Government may contribute a moiety of the cost of construction of the tank in consideration of the municipality paying the usual water charge all the year round, instead of as at present only during three months in which water is actually supplied. We also beg that the district board may be required to pay a fourth part of the cost in consideration of the supply of water used for the floating population of the town. The remaining fourth part will be contributed by the municipality. We therefore request Your Excellency to send down a competent Engineer to examine the feasibility of the above-mentioned scheme. The next subject to which we beg to solicit Your Excellency's attention is the condition of our port. It is well known that Tuticorin is one of the most important ports in Southern India; and the business carried on has been already set forth. We are glad to say that

there are sufficient funds as the "Reserve of Tuticorin Port Fund," which, we understand, amounts to above Rs. 1,70,000, and this may be advantageously utilised in lengthening and strengthening the jetty and in adding more powerful machinery for landing heavy cargo and also in making other improvements to the port. In conclusion, we most earnestly pray Your Excellency to give us a helping hand in carrying out a proper water scheme and to arrange for the improvement of the port. For which act of benevolence we shall, as in duty bound, ever pray.—*October* 21*st*.

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I have heard your address with great pleasure, and I wish most sincerely that I could give you as satisfactory an answer with respect to your water-supply as you would desire, but what I have just told the Municipality of Tinnevelly exactly applies in your case. If public money is to be spent upon the water-supplies of various municipal towns, we shall have to largely increase the burdens of the general tax-payer. The cry for a better supply of drinking-water is heard from the Kistna to Cape Comorin. I last heard it at Kurnool, which is a long way from Tinnevelly. Your address shall, however, be referred to the Public Works Department, and I shall be glad if they can see their way to recommend the Government to do anything. With respect to the condition of your port, I shall make inquiries with regard to funds, for I do not know at present how the matter stands, though I do know, of course, that Tuticorin occupies a very prominent position among the ports of the Presidency, and that its needs deserve all attention.

Address of the Chairman and Council of the Palamcottah Municipality.

May it please Your Excellency.—We, the Chairman and Council of the Palamcottah Municipality, respectfully offer Your Excellency our most sincere welcome on this occasion of your visit to our town, and we trust that we may be allowed to bespeak your sympathy with our humble efforts to promote the good of the people.

2. We are but a poor municipality as compared with the flourishing similar institutions of the larger towns of South India, and though our income at the very highest has never exceeded Rs. 18,000 per annum, yet we flatter ourselves that on our limited means, we have thus far earned the good opinion of the several public officers who have inspected our work in the various branches of education, conservancy and sanitation, and general administration. We owe much of our success to the laudable attitude of the native community towards us as is evidenced by the promptness with which they discharge their obligations.

3. As to our progress during the last ten years, the following figures will show Your Excellency that it has been steady, though not, perhaps, remarkable. Thus:—

	Tiled buildings.	Terraced.	Thatched buildings.	Assessment. Rs. A. P.
In 1877-78 there were	1,006	1,081	3,885	3,328 2 5
In 1886-87 there were	1,768	1,281	3,093	4,154 14 9

Thatched buildings are thus shown to be giving way, while the number of tiled and terraced buildings has increased by 40 per cent. As to the means of transit for the purposes of traffic in the interior which is chiefly carried on by carts and bullocks as well as for all local purposes, we find that where the number of carts in 1877-78 was 236 it is now 326, and the number of bullocks has increased in proportion, and the assessment on both these sources of revenue has risen from Rs. 944 to Rs. 1,204. Other items of revenue show similar increase, and the net revenue obtainable from all sources has risen from Rs. 15,849 to Rs. 17,363. It will thus be seen that the burden of municipal taxation has not cramped the growth of the material prosperity of the townspeople.

4. With this increase of our revenue we have not neglected to bestow liberal attention upon the wants of the rate-payers, especially in the matter of education, lighting of the streets, and conservancy. Thus in education the charges have risen from Rs. 1,091 in 1877-78 to Rs. 1,956 in 1886-87, in lighting from 132 street lamps at a cost of Rs. 1,209 to 171 lamps at a cost of Rs. 1,517, and in conservancy and sanitation from Rs. 2,150 to Rs. 2,507.

5. Your Excellency has visited us at the end of an unparalleled drought. We respectfully bring to your notice that we have suffered from the want of good drinking water for which we are dependent on wells and reservoirs, more or less drawing their supply from the irrigation channel which goes round two sides of our town. This channel runs dry in the hot months, and the only means of getting over the difficulty seems to be to divert a portion of the water of this channel by means of under-ground pipes into a commodious reservoir in the town. We have reason to think that the scheme is feasible, but the cost would far exceed our means. We pray that Your Excellency will give the matter your kind consideration.

takes a great interest in female education. I am very sorry that Government have been obliged to reduce the money grants which they have given hitherto to schools, and hope that better financial times may come when all schools may receive as much encouragement as they desire. I hope every girl of this school will, when she leaves it, endeavour to impart to others in some measure the advantage of the education which she has herself received.

Address of the Masters and Pupils of St. Francis Xavier's High School, Palamcottah.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Masters and Pupils of St. Francis Xavier's High School, Palamcottah, beg to approach Your Excellency to offer the tribute of our hearts, the warm welcome and deep gratitude for the great honor of the auspicious visit of Your Excellency—a visit which will form an epoch in the history of our school, and which will inspire into our hearts fresh vigour and energy for the future. But when we consider how disproportionate this institution is to this grand occasion, the second of its kind, we deeply regret on the one hand and are highly gratified on the other.

A few words of this school will not, we venture to think, be making any inroads on Your Excellency's worthy attention. St. Francis Xavier, after whom the school is called, was one of the most self-denying and philanthrophic of mankind. In commemoration of this great soul, a Primary School was founded which, encouraged by the hearty co-operation of the Masters and by the valuable aid from the Municipality, steadily evolved itself into a High School within a lapse of four years. Now the progress has been impeded and even the High School Department is rendered heavy to the Reverend Manager for want of Government aid. But in all public examinations this school, though we say it, has generally carried off the palm in the whole district. The credit is due partly to the venerable Manager whose kindness has invariably secured our hearts, and partly to the able Director, whose ingenuity has unmistakably guided our steps. Your Excellency will permit us to add, without any breach of modesty, that this school, in the absence of Church Mission College which is now transplanted in Tinnevelly, has adequately answered the want of this town by richly contributing to the education of the mass—one of the chief and noble aims of the Government.

Your Excellency's early political career fosters our hopes generated by Your Excellency's high connection with the most popular Viceroys of India—hopes of reforms and hopes of fresh impetus to education by suitable encouragement to the educated.

May God Almighty shower His choicest blessings on Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress, on her noble representatives the Viceroy and Your Excellency, and last but not least on Lady Connemara, both in this world and in the world to come.

His Excellency's Reply.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I am rather at a loss to know in what language I should address you. We have heard so many during the last few minutes, and as there are ladies here, I am afraid to speak Latin. Again, there are too many critics for me to attempt Tamil; so I hope you will allow me to speak in my own tongue. I am extremely obliged to the masters and pupils of this institution for the very kind way in which they have received me, and I can assure you all that visits to institutions like yours, although they come very frequently during a tour like that which I am now making, are always pleasant. It is very gratifying to find that all sects of Christians get on well together in this town, and that the various institutions which are conducted by Protestants and Catholics seem to have one end in view, viz., that of working in harmony. In the report read to us by Father Rottori he alludes to the check the High School Department has received owing to the smaller grants now made by Government. I can only say that while we are extremely anxious to promote higher education as far as possible, we cannot conceal from ourselves that primary education is the first duty of Government and that it is rather the duty of the parents of the children concerned who can afford it to provide them with higher education from their own pockets. For my own part I am most anxious to promote primary education in this country, and I hope, before I leave, that progress will have been made in the direction of bringing vernacular education more generally home to the houses of the poor. I regard primary education as the greatest blessing which a nation can have, and therefore I do not wish to hold out very much hope that Government will at any time give more help than they do now to the cause of higher education. I am very glad to find that the middle class school here has been so successful. Nothing would apparently be more satisfactory than the report read a few minutes ago. I am indebted to the boys and masters of the school for the Tamil poem composed in my honor. By means of the translation I am enabled to see what it means, and that it contains a great many flattering remarks. As we know, and as I had had occasion to say before, poets are

consequence, remissions are liable to be refused even in deserving cases, and the ryots are the sufferers. Again, the ryots have to look to one class of officers for revenue purposes, and to a different class for their water-supply. No professional knowledge or special skill is needed so far as the *distribution of water* is concerned. It might require an Engineer to say how many feet of water can safely be let in a particular canal, or how much water can particular tanks be safely allowed to hold. But within the limits thus assigned, the Revenue authorities may *distribute the water* among the different villages according to the requirements of each village. We, therefore, beg most respectfully to suggest for Your Excellency's favorable consideration the desirability of reviving the former system in regard to the distribution of the water-supply.

The next subject that we beg to submit for Your Excellency's consideration is the system of granting remissions for failure of crops.

Lands were assessed at different rates at the settlement, according as they are single crop or double crop lands. While remission is granted for failure of crops on single crop lands, no remission or reduction is allowed when one of the crops on double crop lands completely fails for want of water. Such failures are of common occurrence, and it is extremely hard that the ryots should systematically be refused any reduction of assessment on such occasions. Setting aside the loss of produce, there are the actual cultivation expenses which cannot be recouped by the ryots; and it is only fair that remissions or proportionate reductions in the kist should be granted to them in cases of such failures.

We next beg to invite Your Excellency's attention to the improvement of agriculture in the district. Immensely useful and beneficial as the recently-improved ploughs and certain other European implements are, mere ploughing matches and demonstrations held in a few places in the district cannot popularise them among the ryots as a class. With some exceptions in the advanced classes, very few of the ryots can be induced to travel to any distance to witness the demonstrations, while at the same time many of them are not slow to adopt any change in the method of tillage, provided they are convinced of its superior utility and advantage. In order to secure the end in view, we would humbly suggest the appointment of an Agricultural Inspector, whose duty it will lie to travel through important villages or groups of villages in the district, and by the actual working of the improved ploughs and other implements, practically explain to the ryots their real usefulness.

The Inspector can also be asked to hold demonstrations at the important cattle fairs in the district.

Equally necessary is the introduction of certain kinds of cereals and better varieties of cotton and tobacco. Tinnevelly is a cotton-growing district, and the position of a large section of the agricultural classes can be considerably improved by stimulating and encouraging the cultivation of superior kinds of cotton. We have a Spinning mill in Pápanásam; and the starting of two more mills, one at Koilpati and the other at Tuticorin, is in contemplation. But the cotton produced in these parts is not considered suited for finer kinds of thread, which, in consequence, has to be imported from other countries.

Some of the well-to-do land-owners of the district can be induced to undertake the cultivation of superior cotton, tobacco, &c., but the services of a trained student are needed to give them timely advice and help.

We submit that the Agricultural Inspector will be of much use in this respect.

Closely allied to agriculture is the question of pasturage. In the district as a whole, pasturage is scanty, while it is no exaggeration to say that in several villages there is absolutely no pasture land at all.

The villagers who used all along to graze their cattle on the slopes of hills are now disabled from doing so, by the rules and proceedings under the recent Forest Act.

We humbly pray that such measures as Your Excellency may deem fit may be adopted to supply this want.

In conclusion, we most sincerely pray that the Lord of the Universe may shower the choicest of His blessings upon Your Excellency, Lady Connemara, and children.—*October 22nd.*

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I am glad to have an opportunity of thanking the good people of Tinnevelly for their very hearty reception on this occasion, and I trust the high hopes they are good enough to express with regard to my administration will not be disappointed, and in these days, when we are endeavouring to develop the system of Local Self-Government, I myself look forward with confidence to the people helping themselves much more than they did in times gone by. The natural advantages which you derive from the Támbraparni river must be an unspeakable blessing to the whole population, and the complaints which you make that the rains are sometimes too late or hold off altogether, is, I fear, one for which I cannot profess to find any remedy.

The question of the enlargement of tanks is a very difficult one, and I have seen already that it cannot be attempted without materially interfering with private rights. If the size of the tanks is inadequate, it is a matter to be dealt with by the local authorities, and if additional land is wanted for increasing the area of a tank, compensation must of course be given to private owners whose land is taken. I know that it is the opinion of many people that a large quantity of water is now wasted, and I think it may be desirable to introduce legislation on that subject. This is a question which is now receiving the attention of Government. Such legislation would have in view the best means of providing for a more equitable general distribution of water than is made at present and for the prevention of waste. You allude to the change that a little time ago took place in the authority which regulates the distribution of water, and you desire to return to the old system which left this duty in the hands of the Collector. I am afraid I cannot hold out much hope to you that this wish will be realised, as the miscellaneous work of Collectors has so enormously increased that it is necessary that this particular branch should be made over to the Department of Public Works, which, having no interest in the collection of revenue, may be considered to be, if possible, more impartial than the Collector. With respect to the assessment of double crop compounded land, this was agreed upon by the ryots in conjunction with the authorities some years ago, and I cannot offer you any hope that it will now be changed. I am glad to see that you are turning your attention to the improvement of agriculture. I am not, however, certain that European implements are at all times those best adapted to the wants of the ryot. I think that much good may be done in this, as in all other countries, by agricultural exhibitions which have been found most beneficent in the West. I should be averse to the appointment of an Agricultural Inspector as in the interest of the public tax-payer. I am very much opposed to the formation of new offices. I incline to think that the appointment of an Agricultural Inspector would be a useless burden on public funds. In saying this I do not under-rate the importance of the subject and would rather look forward to the labors of such societies as the Agricultural Association of Tinnevelly to effect the improvements you desire to bring about. I am glad to see that your attention has been called to the production of better cotton, and that two more cotton mills are likely to be started in the district. I have no doubt that a judicious distribution of prizes to the growers of the best cotton would have a good effect. With respect to pasturage, I have no doubt that it is lamentably scanty in many parts of the district. In fact I know that at this moment grazing cattle are suffering for want of pasturage, and I hope that the Forest Act may be so worked as not to inflict any unnecessary hardship on the people in this respect. I thank you most sincerely for your kind wishes in respect to Lady Connemara and myself, and I can assure you that any efforts which may be made to ameliorate the condition of the cultivating classes in this district will always receive my warmest sympathy.

Address of the Citizens and Municipal Councillors of Madura.

May it please Your Excellency.—It is with feelings of deep loyalty, respect, and pride that we, the citizens and Municipal Councillors of Madura, beg to welcome Your Excellency to our ancient royal town, which, with its rich antiquities, has always proved attractive to visitors from all parts of the world.

The Municipality of Madura is one of the largest in this Presidency, and it is behind no other in its feeling of loyalty and devotion towards Her Most Gracious Majesty our Queen-Empress.

We hail your Excellency's visit with very special delight and gratitude, for as much as it is connected with the inauguration of the Periyar Project, from which we look forward to considerable material benefit to this District, and to our own municipal town, and we fervently pray that it may be the happy lot of Your Excellency's administration to carry out this great scheme to its completion.

Anxious as we are to discharge the important duties which have devolved on us as the municipal council of so large a station as this, and striving as we do in our humble way to promote the prosperity of our town, and the health and comfort of its inhabitants, we are well aware that there are many improvements yet to be effected, which, in the present state of our finances, can only progress very slowly—we allude to the Water-works, the Vaigai bridge, the Farm, and the People's Park. All these improvements were started some years ago, and are as yet but in an imperfect condition; but we hope, during the course of Your Excellency's administration, to advance them zealously as much as lies in our power. The sanitation of the town and the education of the masses are also receiving our best attention.

We respectfully beg to thank your Excellency for the liberal views your Excellency has manifested regarding the municipal affairs of our town, and for the cordial and sympathetic support given to the actions and proceedings of our council in their discharge of the duties of Local Self-Government.

In conclusion, we pray for a happy sojourn in this country for both Lady Connemara and yourself during Your Excellency's tenure of office, and that, when it shall have come to a close, you may both retain cordial feelings of kindness towards India and its people.—*October 24th.*

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I can assure you I receive with great pleasure the address of the citizens and Municipal Councillors of Madura, an address which has many merits,—one of them that it is exceedingly succinct and to the point. I am sure you are only doing yourselves justice in stating that you entertain feelings of loyalty and devotion to Her Most Gracious Majesty our Queen-Empress. You are right also in thinking my main object in coming to Madura is in connection with the inauguration of the Periyar Project, an undertaking which has been heartily supported by His Excellency the Viceroy and by many preceding Governors. Although I cannot expect that this great work will be completed during my term of office, yet I trust that, during the few years in which, with God's help, I hope to administer this province, great progress will be made towards the completion of a work which will be second to none of the kind in magnitude and importance throughout the Presidency. I am much gratified to hear that you are endeavouring to promote the prosperity of your town. I can well understand that the works you allude to require much time and money, and I am glad to hear that you purpose zealously to advance them. These works, as well as the sanitation of the town and the education of the masses, will always receive the sympathy of my Government, and I shall watch your proceedings personally with increasing interest. I thank you sincerely, for Lady Connemara and myself, for your kind wishes. I can assure you that if we live our cordial feelings towards India and its people will not close with my term of office in this Presidency.

Address of the Inhabitants of the City and District of Madura.

May it please Your Excellency.—It is with feelings of profound respect and devoted loyalty that we, the inhabitants of the city and district of Madura, welcome Your Excellency to this ancient city.

Among other illustrious visitors who have honored our city with their presence, we are proud to mention the names of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and of our noble Viceroy, His Excellency Earl Dufferin. The Albert Bridge over the River Vaigai, and the Periyár Project, will ere long be associated in the minds of a grateful public as the beneficial fruits of their visit. We now rejoice to be able to connect Your Excellency's name with that of the Earl of Dufferin as one to whose noble exertions we mainly owe the inauguration of the great Periyár Works.

We fervently pray that the great Periyar Project, inaugurated as it is in the auspicious year of the Jubilee of Her Most Gracious Majesty our Queen-Empress (may God bless Her!), will arrive at its completion during the term of Your Excellency's administration, and that it will be reserved to Lady Connemara and Your Excellency finally to declare the works open and complete. Considering the magnitude and the utility of this great work, it is not too much to say that Your Excellency's name, with that of our present Viceroy, will be handed down to posterity as the two great benefactors of this sometimes famine-stricken district.

While thus acknowledging our indebtedness to Your Excellency's administration for the inestimable blessing conferred on us by the sanction of the project, it will not be out of place here to notice what our local municipality has been doing for us. We have to note with satisfaction several works of utility recently started for the improvement of our city, such as, the Albert Bridge, the Water Works, the Park, and the Industrial School. All these are as yet in an imperfect condition, owing to the financial difficulties now besetting the municipality. We feel confident, however, that the municipality will, under Your Excellency's cordial and sympathetic support, ere long find means to bring them to perfection. In an agricultural country like ours, a knowledge of scientific and practical agriculture is all important; a farm was some time ago started with this object, but it is now in a neglected condition, and it is hoped that our municipality will very soon take it up and develop this useful institution.

Satisfied, as we have reason to be, with the works already undertaken for our good, we would here respectfully crave Your Excellency's permission to urge the importance of a railway communication between Madura and Pámban and between Dindigul and Pálghat. The salt and the timber trade would thereby be materially benefited, and thousands of pilgrims from all parts of India to the famous shrine at Rámesvaram will find it of immense value.

We cannot omit to thank Your Excellency for the recognition of the principle that the natives of India are deserving of employment in the higher grades of public service. Bearing in mind the happy selection already made during the short period that has elapsed since Your Excellency entered upon the Government of this Presidency, we have every reason to hope that the principle will receive a more extended application.

In conclusion, we cannot but express our regret that we have not been allowed an opportunity of paying our respects of welcoming Lady Connemara with Your Excellency to this district. But we fondly look forward to the time when the Periyar Project will be an accomplished fact,

and that it will be an event in the annals of our district which Lady Connemara will deem worthy of commemorating with her presence. With our best wishes for Her Ladyship's and for Your Excellency's long life and prosperity,—We beg, &c.—*October 20th.*

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I gladly embrace this opportunity of thanking, not only the leading inhabitants of Madura for the beautiful decorations they have made in my honor, as the humble representative of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, but also the poorer classes who have flocked in such enormous masses to give me a most warm-hearted reception. I can assure them all that I shall not forget it, and will convey to Lady Connemara the many kind expressions your address contains with respect to her. It is possible we may both live to see the completion of the Periyar Project, but I greatly fear that the magnitude of that scheme will preclude us from having the satisfaction of witnessing its beneficent operations. I hope, however, that nothing will interfere with its continuous prosecution—a hope I am justified in entertaining, as I believe there is no work in India which our enlightened Viceroy regards with more favor than that in which you are so deeply interested. I know very well myself how a supply of water is food, health, and life to the people of this Presidency, and I wish with all my heart that we could bring it within the reach of every cultivator and householder. Whilst I trust the Government will do all they can in this direction, we rely also upon the efforts of those who have the administration of local and municipal funds, as well as the people themselves, to diffuse as widely as possible this great source of material happiness and prosperity. You mention many works of utility which your municipality has lately undertaken, and I wish them every success. The railroads to Pámban and Palghat have been for long under the consideration of Government, and I have no doubt that they would profuse the benefits which you anticipate from them. But I am not in a position to state that funds will be immediately available for their construction. My views on the employment of natives of merit and ability in the public service, I perceive, are well known to you. They are not likely to change, and I acknowledge with satisfaction the moderation of the opinions generally entertained on this subject in this Presidency by native gentlemen who desire that their country should be governed on enlightened and progressive principles.

Address of the Members of the American Madura Mission.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the American Madura Mission, tender to you our most cordial welcome on this your first visit to this historic town and district.

This mission was opened in 1834, and has, during its fifty-three years of effort, kept steadily before it the spiritual good of the people. Its reward is found in part in the nearly 12,000 souls which now form a Christian community under its guidance in this district. This community is conspicuous for its law-abiding character and its advancing intelligence and abounds in loyalty to your Excellency's Government. We are proud to welcome you in their name and to offer to you their grateful thanks for the blessings which they enjoy under your Excellency's Government.

The mission does not confine its labors to those who have embraced our blessed religion. It has also done constant and fruitful service in the education of the people of this town and zillah, and while its efforts have been appreciated, and its educational advantages availed of by all classes, its work has been mainly among the common classes. In this work we have been specially prospered. At the present day the mission has 161 institutions in which more than 5,000 pupils are being instructed. Among these institutions is a Second-grade College, two High Schools, a Normal School for girls and also one for boys, and several Middle Schools.

The vast majority, however, are primary or elementary institutions. In this town alone there are nearly 900 youths under instruction in our 12 schools. Of this number fully one half are girls.

The mission, as is well-known to Your Excellency's Government, has done much during these years through its physicians and his assistants for the alleviation of the physical sufferings of the people; and with this same end in view two ladies have recently joined us, by whose efficient aid this department will add much to its usefulness.

In conclusion, as citizens of the great Republic of the United States of America, and as representatives of the Congregational Churches of that land, we humbly and sincerely thank you for the many blessings, including the kind and efficient protection, of your Excellency's Government. And we invoke Heaven's choicest blessings upon your Excellency and upon all associated with you in the arduous duties of governing and of promoting the welfare of this great Presidency.

We also unite in devout prayer for Her Majesty, the Empress of India, that God may grant her long life and happiness, and may give unto her Empire continued peace and prosperity.—*October 24th.*

His Excellency's Reply.

Mr. Jones, Ladies and Gentlemen,—The clear and graphic account which your address gives me of the great work of education which you are doing in this historic town and neighbourhood commands my warmest interest and sympathy, and I observe with great pleasure that in addition to a Second-grade College, two High Schools, a Normal School for girls and also one for boys, and several Middle Schools that your main labors are directed towards primary education, and I also rejoice to hear that you are working successfully for the alleviation of physical suffering among the people. I congratulate you on the fact that two ladies have joined your mission, and hope sincerely that their labors in the homes of the sick will be as effectual as those of other ladies who are most nobly working in the same field. It gives me great pleasure to offer to the citizens of your great Republic the assurances of my deep respect, and I am glad to have this opportunity of expressing through you my warm appreciation of the great service to humanity and civilisation which the American Missions are performing in many parts of the world.

Address of the Members of the Madura Union Club.

May it please Your Excellency,—It is with sincere pleasure that we, the Members of the Madura Union Club, beg to welcome your Excellency to our institution which you have this day honored by your kind visit. Your Excellency, as the fitting representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, and as the beloved brother of one of our wisest and kindest Viceroys, has endeared yourself to the people of this Presidency, and we regard it as a privilege to be able to give you a hearty welcome.

2. Though our Club has had the honor of owning as its patron your Excellency's predecessor in office, the late Governor of Madras, and the privilege of receiving, within its walls, Princes and Statesmen, this is the first occasion it has been favored with the visit of the direct representative in this Presidency of the Queen-Empress of India, and we congratulate ourselves on the opportunity thus afforded us of expressing to you in person our deep appreciation of the benignant reign of half a century which has conferred on this vast Empire the blessings of peace and prosperity to an extent never before realised or known.

3. Your Excellency will be glad to know that this institution came into existence in the wake of the resuscitation by Lord Ripon of the policy of Local Self-Government and Decentralisation inaugurated by your lamented brother, the late Lord Mayo, and that its chief aim and aspiration is to promote that policy, in however humble a manner, by acting as the medium of communication between the people on the one hand, and the Government on the other, as the mouth-piece of the one for a loyal representation of their wants and grievances, and of the other for dispelling the fears and misapprehensions of the people regarding the acts and intentions of the Government, to awaken enlightened interest in the minds of the people in the work of administration, and by removing all friction, render it easy and beneficial.

4. We fully believe that this our Club, which owes its origin as much to the sympathetic co-operation of the local officer who represented Government at the time, as to the voluntary efforts of the leading men of the district, and which has had the patronage of Sir M. E. Grant Duff, will receive at Your Lordship's hands also the support and encouragement which it has till now enjoyed, and which it will be its constant endeavour to deserve.

5. In this Hall we are happy to congratulate Your Lordship on the immediate occasion of your visit to this district. Although it was reserved for our illustrious Viceroy, Lord Dufferin, to sanction the scheme, the honor of pushing the Periyar Works to the front was due to Sir M. E. Grant Duff, and we pray God that it may be Your Lordship's proud privilege to accomplish that great project before the end of your reign. Its completion will mark the beginning of a new era of material prosperity and progress, and by effacing famine from a district whose legends and traditions even were darkened by its miseries, you will be permanently enshrining yourself in the hearts of a grateful people.

6. We shall be failing in our duty, if we did not avail ourselves of this opportunity to place before you, side by side with this prayer for our material advancement, the necessity for more attention being paid to the educational wants of the district. The intelligence of its people, its central position, the success of its educational institutions, its past history as the most famous seat of learning and enlightenment in Southern India, all mark its capital city as the one place

in the South of India which, above all, is entitled to the permanent location of a college. This fact has been recognised by the Education Commission; and although the head of the Educational Department in this Presidency has not failed to take note of it, we have reason to apprehend that, instead of raising the status of the local College, the Government are about to divest themselves of its direct management. We would be highly thankful to your Lordship to use your influence for the prevention of such a retrograde measure.

7. At this late hour, we shall not detain Your Lordship by referring to other matters of less moment though of sufficient importance to invite your Excellency's attention; we shall reserve them for another occasion, and would beg leave now to thank you most heartily for your kindness in accepting our invitation, and to request you to convey our respects and good wishes to Lady Connemara, and we hope that your Excellency and Her Ladyship may be pleased to honor this hall with your presence again and again, and take away with you pleasant and kind recollections of this City and of our Club.—*October 24th.*

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I am very glad indeed to think that I have the honor of being the first Governor who has visited this club, and I am glad that you have signalised that event by recording your appreciation of the blessings which Providence has vouchsafed to our Empire during the reign of Our Gracious Sovereign the Queen-Empress. The objects which you declare are the chief aim of your society, are those which have my entire sympathy, for it is most desirable that on the one hand people of education and wisdom and moderation should act as the mouth-piece of the masses; it is also equally desirable that any apprehension which the people may from time to time entertain regarding the intentions of the Government should be explained and removed by those who, like yourselves, are acquainted with the wants and wishes of those amongst whom you reside. So long, therefore, as you continue to promote the objects which you tell me you have in view, you may depend upon my sympathy and support. It has given me great pleasure to see that you remember with gratitude that the honor of pushing the Periyar Project to the front is due to my predecessor Sir Mountstuart Grant Duff, and I trust that the great benefits that are anticipated from its completion will be realised. I am glad to hear that you are paying attention to the educational wants of this place. I hope the intelligence of its people will induce them to provide higher educational institutions adequate to their wants without the assistance of Government. The particular subject you mention is one to which I have not yet had time to pay much attention. I am much obliged to you for your kind allusions to Lady Connemara, and have no doubt that if she were here, she would, like me, carry away very pleasant recollections of this evening.

Address of the Officers in charge of the Albert Bridge Works, Madura.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the officers in charge of the Albert Bridge Works, most respectfully beg to welcome Your Excellency and to express our sincere thanks for the very great honor Your Excellency has done us in inspecting our works.

This bridge was started by the local municipality and the district board, at the desire of the loyal citizens of Madura, to commemorate the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to their city. The citizens had collected a very large amount to give a fitting reception to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and even after the right royal reception, there was still a large surplus left in their hands, which they handed over to the municipality for the construction of these works. The works were subsequently entrusted to, and taken charge of by, the Imperial Public Works Department on the suggestion of Colonel J. O. Hasted, R.E., with approval of Government.

The foundation stone of this important work was laid by the present Viceroy, Earl of Dufferin, on the occasion of His Excellency's visit to this city last December. It is our fervent prayer that we, with the citizens of Madura, may have the happiness of seeing Lady Connemara and Your Excellency once more on a visit to this city to inspect the bridge when completed and to declare it open to the public.

In conclusion, we ardently pray to the Almighty to pour forth on Lady Connemara and Your Excellency His choicest blessings, and to grant you and your honorable family long life, happiness, and prosperity.—*October 25th.*

Address of the Members of the Anjuman-i-Islam of Dindigul.

May it please Your Lordship,—We, the members of the Anjuman-i-Islam of Dindigul, with great respect, beg to approach Your Lordship on this occasion of your visit to this district to convey our heartfelt gratitude for the manifold blessings of peace and prosperity which we enjoy under the kind and benevolent rule of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress. We beg to assure Your Lordship that we are second to none in our loyalty to the British Government.

2. Your Lordship will not be unaware of the increasing efforts of many leading Muslims to improve the condition of the Muhammadans of India. Here, in the Madura district, with its large number of indigent Muhammadans, earnest attempts are being made by us as a body, and many private gentlemen, to raise our people to a more prosperous and enlightened condition. We have lately, under the auspices of the Anjuman-i-Islam, opened a school to give instruction to Muhammadan youths especially, and have named it after our beloved Viceroy, the Earl of Dufferin. One of our members, Gulam Hussain Sahib Bahadur, a rich landholder in this taluk, has placed at the disposal of the Anjuman a very spacious and new building, costing more than Rs. 7,000, to be used as a boarding house and has offered a donation of Rs. 5,000 to start with for the school. We desire to train our youths in trades and arts, and to start them in life as loyal, independent citizens.

Our beloved Viceroy, the Earl of Dufferin, in aiding the cause generally, has given us here special proof of his interest. We pray that Your Lordship also will mark your approbation of our efforts in any way that may appear feasible as an incentive to other Muhammadans to join in our efforts or to work for themselves in the same direction.

3. We are thankful to the Government of India for instituting inquiries into the character and application of our old educational endowments with the object of securing means to aid us in our advancement. We pray also that Your Lordship will be pleased to direct the committee appointed in this presidency to ascertain whether the Muhammadan public will agree to the utilization for educational purposes of such portions of religious endowments as are not now actually applied for the maintenance of religious institutions, instead of restricting the inquiry to educational endowments only, as such are very few in this presidency, and, if necessary, in getting the laws amended to meet the object.

4. We remember with gratitude and encouragement how Sir Mountstuart Elphinstone Grant Duff, after his sound experience of the presidency and before he placed the reins of Government in Your Lordship's hand, commended us to your kind and merciful care. We derive encouragement also from Your Lordship's past connection with Stamboul, which must enable Your Lordship the better to understand our feelings, our grievances, and our wants.

5. Most gratefully we acknowledge Your Lordship's order that this community be fairly represented in the public service, and we humbly appeal for a like protection towards us in all our efforts to raise our Muhammadan brethren. We need generous aid and personal interest to make our weak efforts to provide suitable education and employment for our people a means to stem the tide of poverty and ignorance which threatens to overwhelm us. Your Lordship's personal interest will make a weak cause strong.

6. The agricultural and industrial classes of Muhammadans are not in a position to understand the value of education, not to speak of contributing towards or sympathising in the moral, political, and social improvements of the day. But, that they are capable of improvement under proper guidance, is evidenced by the movements set on foot in a few places, where educated Muhammadan officials have found their way. We beg also, that as suggested in the leader of the 5th September of the *Madras Mail*, Your Lordship will institute inquiries as to the percentage of appointments held by Muhammadans getting salaries of Rs. 50, 100 and 200 respectively. This will enable Your Lordship to better understand our position. We are sure that if each district secures a few Muhammadans in respectable offices, a vast improvement may be effected. The strict rules of selection by a comparison of general attainments and promotion by seniority must for a time at least be relaxed in favor of men of such classes, if qualified by having passed the prescribed tests, and otherwise found fit for the work; and, as for high offices, if Muhammadans of great attainments are not available in this country, we beg that a selected number of our advanced brethren may be imported from North-West Provinces and Bengal to represent us and guide us.

7. In conclusion, while we beg that Your Lordship will be kind enough to consider our requests, we fervently pray God to bless Your Lordship and Lady Connemara with long life and sound health.—*October 26th.*

His Excellency's Reply to the Address of the Anjuman-i-Islam of Dindigul.

Gentlemen,—You are quite right in thinking that I take great interest in the well-being of the Mussulman population of this presidency, and it has given me very great pain upon many occasions to hear from yourselves that you are not as prosperous as other sections of the community. I do not think I can offer you much hope that special rules will be made for the

admission of Muhammadans into the public service, for that would be unfair to other communities, but I shall always be very glad to promote the advancement of Mussulman gentlemen in that service. We must recollect that God helps those who help themselves, and I have no doubt that the efforts that are being made by you to improve the condition of your brethren will bear fruit before long. It will afford me very great pleasure if I can recognize before I leave this presidency by the promotion and advancement of worthy Muhammadans that your efforts in this direction have been successful. I am glad to hear that one of your body has presented a school house and offered a handsome donation to found a school for the education of Muhammadan boys. I know you are quite right in attributing to our distinguished Viceroy great interest in the welfare of your community. Unfortunately, those who are anxious to employ Mussulmans in the public service too often find that there is not a sufficient number of qualified men available. I think you are only right in mentioning in the first place in your address an acknowledgment of the blessing you enjoy under the rule of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress who reigns over more Moslems than any other ruler in this world. You refer to the fact that my distinguished predecessor recommended you to my protection, and all I can say is that I shall be very happy to promote any schemes in that direction which be initiated or thought worthy of support. I am very glad to have the pleasure to see you here to-day, and I hope at some future time I shall be able to visit Dindigul.

Address of the Members of Uttamapalliam Panchayat.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—We, the Members of Uttamapalliam Panchayat and other loyal subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, beg to approach Your Excellency with due reverence, and request to be allowed to express our heartfelt sense of gratitude to your Lordship's Government, to the Government of India, and to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, for the immense benefits that we have had the good fortune to enjoy under the British rule. The fatherly interest that Your Excellency takes in the welfare of the many millions entrusted to Your Lordship's care is clearly evinced in your Excellency's present trip to Periyár. The Periyár Project was first mooted years ago and it lay dormant till His Excellency Earl of Dufferin, the Viceroy of India, visited the time-honored city of Madura on the 6th December 1886, and listened to the earnest appeal made by the inhabitants of this district concerning this project. Now that the project has begun working, we feel sure that it will before long be completed under the parental care of Your Lordship, and the strenuous exertions of our much-beloved Superintending Engineer and Collector. The above work, when completed, will surely prove a great boon to the whole district of Madura, and we can by no means be too grateful to the Government for the benefits to be derived therefrom. It is therefore a great pleasure to us, the inhabitants of this place, to address a few words of welcome to Your Lordship, whose high sense of duty and great attention towards the welfare of the many millions in this Presidency have been displayed in innumerable instances within the short time of Your Lordship's having assumed the reins of Government over us.

The last of our having enjoyed innumerable benefits at Your Lordship's hands, and the probability of enjoying more at no distant date, brings to our minds the famous text, "Ask and it shall be given thee," and we make bold to lay before Your Lordship the deplorable state of ignorance that prevails in these parts, and earnestly pray that Your Lordship may be pleased to bestow attention towards the improvement of education (primary and technical), since without which India can never rise to what it once was and what Europe and United States now are. Primary education is now at its ebb, and its prominent cause, if not its sole cause, is the enhanced rate of school fees which has of late been brought into force. Higher education also is not very promising, and it will surely be a fatal day for it when the Government withdraws its support from it altogether. We respectfully beg that technical education may also be fostered and encouraged by Government.

Further, we beg leave to lay before Your Lordship that Kovilapuram, a village close by, was once a Devastanam village belonging to the only Siva temple here; that subsequently the Government annexed it on a grant of an annuity of Rs. 600, equivalent to the original assessment thereon to the said temple; that its revenue has of late risen to Rs. 3,000 and odd; and that it will be a great boon to us, the inhabitants of this town, if the Government will be kindly pleased to raise the annuity granted to this temple in proportion to the increase in revenue.

In conclusion, we pray that a channel may be cut out from near the Vyravahalli junction with a view to supply drinking water to, and to irrigate Gudalur, Cumbum and other places where men and cattle have to go more than a mile-and-a-half for drinking water and where much land lies waste; that Your Lordship will bestow on the Siva temple here an annuity equal in amount to the present collection of revenue in Kovilapuram village, and that education and manufacturing industries may be afforded all possible facilities and made to flourish during Your Lordship's administration here as the representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India.

With our fervent prayers to the one Supreme Being for your Lordship's long life and that of Lady Connemara, we beg to remain, &c.—*October 26th.*

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Address of the Municipal Councillors of the Town of Periyakulam.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Municipal Councillors of the town of Periyakulam and the members of the Periyakulam Taluk Board, beg, on behalf of ourselves and of the other inhabitants of our town and taluk, most heartily to welcome Your Excellency to our small but interesting rural town lying at the foot of the Pulneys, whereon is situated Kodaikánal, the famous *sanitarium* of the southern districts of this presidency.

2. On this rare and happy occasion of Your Excellency's visit *en route* to the Periyár, we would most respectfully beg leave to express our sincere love and loyalty to our Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, whose good will and benevolent sentiments towards her Indian subjects are so well revealed and reflected in Your Excellency's benign administration of the presidency.

3. Your Excellency would, we are sure, rejoice to be informed how happy and grateful we are at the prospect that the "great Periyár Project," which was first conceived quite a century ago, and which had oftener than once been given up like unto the alchemist's search after the "Philosopher's Stone," is no longer to be a dream and a matter of idle speculation with us, but that it will soon be a *fait accompli* rolling luxuriance and fertility into our famine-stricken district. We cannot but regard it a significant act of Providence that the honor and the privilege of the practical inauguration and commencement of the great scheme should have been reserved till Your Excellency's advent as our good and popular Governor, and we would now most respectfully and cordially congratulate Your Excellency on that honor and that privilege which Your Excellency so richly deserves.

4. Great and manifold as are the advantages which are likely—nay, certain—to flow from that project to the district generally, only a small portion of our taluk will be directly benefited by its influence, and Your Excellency will on that account, we trust, pardon us for soliciting Your Excellency's favorable consideration to a small scheme known locally by the name of the "*Barájam* Project," which, if carried out, will tend to ensure the permanent prosperity of our small town and its adjacent villages and hamlets.

5. There is a large catchment area called the *Barájam*, roughly estimated at 5 square miles, on the plateau of the Pulney Hills and very favorably situated with reference to the South-west monsoon. The greater portion of the drainage therefrom formerly supplemented the irrigation of the fields at Periyakulam. But the water now flows by an outlet on the west to the detriment of our old irrigation. Now the object of our small project is to convert the catchment area on the plateau of the hills into a huge lake or reservoir for the storage of water to a depth of 24 feet or thereabout, for which it is so eminently fitted, and to utilize the water in irrigating the fields in the "minor basin" of the *Varaghanadhi*, on which our small town is situate.

6. This project, which has already received the sympathetic attention of our good Collector and Superintending Engineer, has been estimated to cost Rs. 30,000, and will, if carried out, help us in bringing and supplementing the irrigation of 2,500 acres of land under wet cultivation, besides obviating the necessity for granting remissions to the amount of Rs. 2,000 *per annum*, on an average, on account of *shavi* and waste. We would, therefore, most respectfully and earnestly pray Your Excellency to be graciously pleased to sanction the small scheme, and also to kindly accord us permission to associate Your Excellency's name with the project.

7. The next thing to which we beg respectfully to invite Your Excellency's kind attention is the state of our communications in this taluk. The road from Periyakulam is, as Your Excellency will shortly see, *en route* to the Periyár, intersected by no fewer than six wild streams, which, during the freshes, intercept all communication and traffic, to the great inconvenience of the public. The Local Fund Board and our newly-constituted municipality are unable to undertake the whole cost of the construction of bridges over them owing to want of funds. As the bridging of the said streams—at least one or two of the biggest of them, such, for instance, as the river *Varaghanadhi* on which our town stands—will also greatly help and facilitate the carriage of materials necessary in connection with the execution of the "Periyár Project," we would fervently pray that Your Excellency may be pleased to aid the municipality and the Local Fund Board in their endeavours in this direction, with liberal grants from "Provincial Funds."

8. Lastly, we would fain bring to Your Excellency's benign consideration the vexed question of the severity of the Forest laws. All the hills worthy the name in this taluk have already been, or are just being, constituted "Reserves." The grievances of the poor, ignorant ryots in the matter have so often been brought to Your Excellency's notice at other places by abler persons in terms more impressive and engaging than we could command, that we will not detain Your Excellency with repeating them here; but we would content ourselves with requesting Your Excellency to render the practical working of the Forest laws and rules as little incompatible as possible with the indispensable wants and immemorial rights of the poor ryots, which have been greatly curtailed in spite of the efforts of the local authorities to help us; their rights, especially, in regard to the head-loads of Forest minor produce, such, for instance, as fuel for cooking, grass for thatching, leaves for manuring, wood for home-steads and cattle-sheds and

agricultural implements, be they fetched for *bonâ fide* domestic consumption or for sale, for which latter purpose, occasions, we beg to assure Your Excellency, will be very rare in these out-of-the-way rural parts and interiors of the district.

In conclusion, most ardently and sincerely praying that God Almighty may bless Your Excellency and Lady Connemara with long life and prosperity, we would respectfully beg, &c.—*October 27th.*

Address of the Periyár Employés.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—We embrace this opportunity of your Excellency's visit to offer you a hearty welcome, and to meet your Excellency as the representative of the paramount power, a power under whose benign rule not only this Government but all the other States in India, whether large or small, strong or weak, rich or poor, have alike enjoyed or now enjoying and will ever enjoy the inestimable blessings of protection, tranquillity, civilization, prosperity and happiness.

2. No doubt your Excellency in visiting these places at the early part of your term of office as the Governor of our Presidency, evinces the great interest your Excellency takes in being personally acquainted with the wants and welfare of the numerous principalities under your control.

3. We tender our loyal congratulations to your Excellency for paying a visit to this place (as yet shut out from direct postal, telegraph, and railway communications), and which would be interesting and beneficial to the various classes and creeds of Southern India.

4. We beg leave of your Excellency to say in few words the usefulness of this immense project, the engineering soundness and the financial prospects of which have already been appreciated by the Secretary of State for India.

5. The history and scope of the scheme and the nature of the proposed works are fully and clearly described in an elaborate report written by Colonel J. Pennycuick, R.E.

6. The river Periyár rises on the western side of the ghát and traverses the Native State of Travancore, falling into the sea close to Cochin, and it is proposed to intercept the drainage of 240 square miles of its catchment basin by a dam constructed opposite to the Gudalúr ghát on the main road between Madras and Travancore.

7. The object of the scheme is to utilize a portion of the superabundant rainfall on the western slopes of the ghats for the purpose of irrigation in the district of Madura to the east of the water-shed, where the rainfall is comparatively scanty and often very uncertain, and where famine has in consequence been very severely felt on more than one occasion. It is therefore proposed to accomplish this object by diverting to the eastern side of the ghats the waters of the Periyár river which flows on the western side.

8. No doubt the project is a very bold one, worked out by our energetic Colonel with considerable labor, personal investigation, and commendable care and skill.

9. The total estimated cost of the project is Rs. 64,89,913, of which Rs. 61,85,000 represent direct and Rs. 2,04,913 indirect charges. But irrespective of the direct pecuniary returns to be looked for from the scheme, the additional protection that will be given to the district of Madura from the effects of the scarcity must be taken into account in appreciating its value.

10. The works to be done are so peculiar in character and, being situated as they are in an almost uninhabited jungle on hills which are for the most part of the year very unhealthy, require a method of construction so unusual that the energetic Colonel, the Executive officer, and his staff deserve a vast deal of praise. As a natural consequence of which, brambles and briers abound in places where rice and sweet should grow. We hope by all legitimate means to improve the material prosperity of our country, for it is on that a good deal of the political and intellectual greatness of the nations occupying it depends.

11. We heartily and confidently hope that there lies before this project a long and bright course of usefulness and success, and that the whole of the country between the Madura district and Travancore territory will be, in a course of few years, one vast sea of rice ready for harvest.

12. We earnestly hope that we will have the pleasure to see the accomplishment of that much cherished object during your Excellency's tenure of office.

13. It is moreover highly gratifying and cheering to see before us now those energetic and honorable gentlemen who took an active interest in this scheme, and to whom one and all of us owe a great debt of gratitude and thankfulness for their noble and philanthropic conduct.

14. In conclusion, we humbly beg to submit that your Excellency will be able to carry away with you some out pleasant and happy recollections of this place, the extraordinary beauty, the most picturesque scenery, and the wild luxuriance of vegetation.

15. Wishing your Excellency a pleasant tour through our country, many years of happiness and prosperity, and the success of our cause.

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Address of the Chairman and Members of the Municipal Council of Trichinopoly.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—We, the Chairman and Members of the Municipal Council of Trichinopoly, desire to express the gratification we feel at this opportunity of welcoming you on the occasion of your first visit to this historic town. We need not enter deeply into its past history, which is doubtless well known to your Lordship. It may perhaps interest you more to know what we are doing at present, and what we are aiming at in the future.

The important question of sanitation has been occupying the earnest attention of the council for some years past. It is evident that the two most vital points connected with the subject are an efficient drainage and a proper supply of pure water; but both these bristle with difficulties owing to the large and extended area over which they have to be carried, the comparative poverty of a large mass of the population, and our inability to obtain professional advice. Major Drake-Brockman, R.E., in 1881, at our request and at a cost of Rs. 2,500, drew up an elaborate drainage scheme; but as his estimate amounted to nearly three lakhs of rupees, we have had to act with great caution. Another scheme for the water-supply was suggested by Mr. C. E. Crighton, of the South Indian Railway, but by a recent Government order he was prohibited from rendering us any further assistance. The last move we made was to advertize for a sanitary Engineer, but no satisfactory application was received. Our attempts, therefore, have so far been unsuccessful.

We desire also to bring to Your Excellency's notice the fact that our municipal limits cover an area of about 9 square miles, stretching 3¼ miles from north to south and 3 miles from east to west. The duties of the Chairman consequently require more time and attention than can reasonably be devoted by men who have other public and private duties to attend to. How true this is may be inferred from the many changes that have occurred in the Chairmanship ever since the new Act has been in operation. Mr. C. W. Pearce, our first Chairman, was appointed in April 1885; and he only consented to accept office as there was a reasonable prospect of his being soon relieved by Col. Lys, who succeeded to the chair two months afterwards. In December of the same year Col. Lys was ordered elsewhere, and Mr. A. M. Jones, Deputy Collector, acted as Chairman till March 1886, when Dr. Hyde took up the duties. But on his leaving Trichinopoly in November of the same year, the Revenue officer of the taluk, Mr. Rajagopala Chariar, officiated for 2 months, the office on his transfer being taken up by his successor, Mr. Moothuswami Aiyar. In March last Col. Hudleston was with difficulty induced to accept office; but at the end of about a month he resigned, when the Revenue officer had again to officiate, and it was only after much hesitation and at the intervention of the Collector, that our present Chairman consented to accept office on trial. It is therefore not unreasonable for us to hope that this town, next in importance to Madras in the Presidency, may be allowed to secure the services of a gentleman who would give his whole time and attention to the extensive interests and varied wants of this important city. But this cannot be effected unless we are permitted to offer him a fair remuneration.

We cannot but think it an auspicious occurrence that your Lordship's first visit should coincide with the Jubilee year of our Most Gracious Sovereign's reign, and we take this opportunity of begging you as Her representative to accept a renewed assurance of our love and devotion to the British throne.

Thanking Your Lordship for your gracious visit and hoping to have the pleasure of welcoming you soon again, we beg to remain, &c.—*October 31st.*

His Excellency's Reply.

YOUR HIGHNESS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—You are quite right in saying in your address that the objects which you have most at heart are those which claim my first attention on this occasion, and not the temples and historical monuments of the town in which I was chiefly interested when I visited Trichinopoly sixteen years ago. At that time I was the guest of Mr. Whiteside, who is well remembered amongst you as a vigorous and enlightened administrator. I am much obliged to you for associating my visit upon this occasion with the Jubilee year of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, and I can only wish that my short term of office among you might in some small measure reflect the virtues of Her Imperial Majesty's long and glorious reign.

Your address refers to the two great questions of water-supply and sanitation, which occupy the attention of every municipality that I have had the pleasure of meeting since I have been in the Presidency. The cry in every case is for help from Government. As for pecuniary help, I have told many municipalities, what I am afraid I must tell you, that if we help one we must help all, and I do not think that the inhabitants of the municipality of Trichinopoly would be very much pleased if we were to give large sums of money out of their pockets—which represent the pockets of the general taxpayer—for the assistance, say, of the municipalities of Madura and Tinnevelly. On the other hand, Tinnevelly and Madura would not be very well pleased if they were taxed for the benefit of inhabitants of Trichinopoly. I am afraid, therefore, that you must trust to your own resources. I hope nothing I say upon this occasion will lead you to think that I do not attach the very greatest possible weight to the important questions of sanitation

and water-supply. The great want that the capital suffers from is in respect to water, and I do not believe that there is any town in the Presidency that has more unsavoury surroundings than Madras, and although we have spent a great deal of money, I cannot say that its water-supply is at all what it ought to be—far from it. Gentlemen, you know that at home, whenever people suffer from accidents due to the mal-administration of railways, many of the public think that one of the best ways to prevent a recurrence of such disasters is to dismiss some of the directors. Well, if water-supply and sanitation are not in a satisfactory condition in the Madras Presidency, you have the satisfaction of knowing that the first person who suffers is the Governor himself. You have heard of the silvery Cooum, than which I do not believe that a more pestilential sewer exists in the world. It flows past the door of Government House, Madras, so that those who ride or drive near it are very nearly poisoned. Again, our drinking-water has to be brought from such a distance and is so apt to be contaminated on the way, that of my guests those whom I find it most difficult to please are the total abstainers. You may be quite certain, therefore, that I am fully alive to the importance of the questions of water-supply and sanitation. In England, where the system of local self-government is making great progress, I do not think that there are any subjects to which so much attention is paid as these. I dare say you may have seen during the last two or three days a most excellent article in the *Times*, reviewing this year's report of the Local Government Board in England. There is one passage in this article which I read in the train to-day, and, as it applies to you, I shall take the liberty of reading it to you: "In India this great work is at its initial stage. Every great town and village in the Empire stands in need of structural sanitary reforms, and till those reforms are carried out, they will continue to be scourged by the great epidemics which year by year make their presence felt in one part of the country or another, and by the high death-rates which prevail normally in many Indian towns. How the money for these reforms is to be raised, and how its expenditure shall be superintended and controlled, are questions which the Indian Government will not be able much longer to put aside." I can assure you that the Government of Madras have no desire to put aside this question, as we consider it among the most important which demand our attention.

In your address you allude also to the extensive area of your municipality owing to which, you contend, a difficulty in obtaining the services of an unpaid chairman. I can quite understand that it is very difficult to find a person wealthy enough and possessed of sufficient public spirit to devote the amount of time that is absolutely necessary to the proper performance of the duties that devolve upon the chairman of a municipality like this. And you suggest that you should be permitted to offer fair remuneration for the performance of these duties. I hope, however, that you will be able to get on without a paid chairman, but if every municipal councillor loyally supports the chairman and sacrifices a portion of his time for the public good, I have no doubt that you will so encourage him, that, you will be able to obtain good services. I think I have touched every point referred to in your address, but if there is any omitted, I hope you will tell me now or during the few days I am to have the pleasure of your society.

Address of the Members of the Muhammadan Literary Institution, Trichinopoly.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Members of the Muhammadan Literary Institution, Trichinopoly, beg respectfully to approach Your Excellency with the expression of our heartfelt welcome on this occasion of your Excellency's first visit to this town, which was once the seat of the Muhammadan rulers who were its active friends, and who rendered valuable services to the British Government. One of our poets says: "Your arrival is the cause of our prosperity, and the mention of your name is the source of pleasure to us."

2. We feel much obliged to Your Excellency for having recently passed orders directing the heads of departments to see that the Muhammadans are fairly represented in the public service. But we regret to say that such orders are not carried out in integrity in the mofussil by heads of departments. Should Government be pleased to impress upon heads of departments to adopt the following course in filling vacancies, we feel assured that qualified Muhammadans would succeed in getting employments in every office. When a vacancy occurs, instead of making, as now, the appointments before qualified candidates can come to know of vacancies and make their application, the heads of departments should, we humbly suggest, give to the public notice of the vacancy by having it stuck to the notice boards in offices and call upon candidates to apply for the post up to a fixed date. If they receive any application from a qualified Muhammadan, they should give preference to him in all cases until the Muhammadans gain a fair proportion in the public service. We further beg to suggest that officers of high rank, such as Deputy Collectors, Huzur Sheristadars, Head Clerks, may be appointed in such collectorates where the Muhammadans form a comparatively large portion of population, such as this town, where the number of the Muhammadans is not less than 12,000, so that the Muhammadans may take advantage of representing through them their grievances to the Collectors of the districts.

3. Most of the members of the committee appointed under Act XX of 1863 for the better management of religious endowments have died, the transaction of business has been in abeyance for a long period, and the religious duties for which the lands have been granted as inam are not

performed. We therefore trust that some arrangement will be made to fill the vacancies, and the Collector desired to move the committee to resume their transaction.

4. It was thought advisable during the administration of late Lord Hobart, Governor of Madras, to establish elementary Muhammadan schools in those towns where the Muhammadans are in large number, to get their youths educated in English through the medium of their mother tongue (Hindustani). Such schools were accordingly established in some towns, and the scheme produced a good and palpable result. A similar school was started in this town also, and many Muhammadan boys received their elementary education therein and succeeded in passing several examinations. But alas! this school was, three years ago, transferred to the municipality, began to decline gradually owing to the reduction of its standard by the Municipal Council, and was in consequence closed. The Muhammadan community has presented a petition to Your Excellency and another to the Director of Public Instruction, praying for orders for its maintenance by the municipality. The Government has not as yet passed any final orders on the subject. We therefore respectfully beg to request that Your Excellency will be graciously pleased to give due attention to the matter and pass orders for its re-establishment.

5. In conclusion, we pray both morning and evening to the Almighty Ruler to ever bless Your Excellency as an intelligent administrator of justice, and your whole family of high dignity with good health and prosperity, and hope that under Your Excellency's benign rule, due attention will be paid to the welfare of the neglected Muhammadan subjects entrusted to your care.—*November 2nd.*

Address of the President and Members of the Trichinopoly Town Hall Committee.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the President and Members of the Trichinopoly Town Hall Committee, beg most respectfully to welcome Your Excellency to this district, to this ancient and historic town, where the first foundation of this vast Empire was to a great extent laid by the victories achieved by those great English heroes, Lawrence and Clive, and to this Town Hall, the remains of the old buildings constructed by the most popular Hindu Queen Mangammal, of the Nayadu dynasty, which was restored by one of your distinguished predecessors, Lord Napier, and which was secured to the Native community by the kind intercession of Mr. Henry Sewell, who had been for many years our Collector. We welcome Your Excellency as the representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, the completion of whose 50 years of glorious and happy reign, devoted entirely to the well-being of all her subjects, we celebrated only the other day. We welcome Your Excellency as the brother of that illustrious Viceroy of India, Lord Mayo, who conceived and matured the grand principle of decentralization, the introduction of which is now doing an immense deal of good, and which has already commenced to produce on the minds of the Natives the most favourable impression of the justice and the high sense of duty of the great English nation towards the subject race. We welcome Your Excellency as the benefactor of the Native Princes and young Zemindars, whose moral and social improvement is, we understand, occupying your anxious attention. We welcome Your Excellency as the Governor who, in spite of the financial difficulties, had the firmness to sanction the great Periyár project, by which many thousands of acres of dry land are to be irrigated and converted into a most fruitful source of wealth and happiness to the ryots, who hitherto often suffered seriously from scarcity of rains and in consequence from want of a good harvest. And we welcome Your Excellency as one who fearlessly meted out justice to those innocent officials who suffered in connection with the late much-vexed question of floods and remissions in Tanjore.

It is really kind of Your Excellency, and very fortunate for this district, that you should have thought of visiting it so early in your reign, and while we thank you most heartily for the interest you have thus evinced in this district, we most earnestly hope that that interest will be permanent and productive of comforts and happiness to us. Your Excellency's condescension towards the Natives, your courtesy and kindness to them, are in the mouth of every schoolboy, and we venture to hope that such a sympathetic Government will stamp the country with many a blessing that can never be forgotten.

We most sincerely regret the absence of Lady Connemara, whose sympathy for the females of India is being so well appreciated throughout the Presidency, and we most respectfully request that our heartfelt gratitude may be kindly intimated to Her Ladyship.—*November 2nd.*

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I think it is quite natural that you should first mention in your address the glorious traditions of this town, which is associated with the names of Clive and Lawrence, who did so much, as you say, to found the British Empire, particularly when we remember that it was very near the spot where we are standing, that Clive first displayed those great qualities of soldier and administrator which made him afterwards one of the greatest men whom England ever saw. I am glad to learn that you have not forgotten Lord Napier. He is a great friend of mine, and I am happy to say that he is still well and vigorous in health and intellect, and he

will be glad, I am sure, to learn that you continue to associate his name with the restoration of this hall which was built by the Hindu Queen Mangammal. I am very much obliged to you for the allusion you have made to my lamented brother. I have on several occasions thanked various bodies throughout the Presidency for their recollection of him, and it would be a source of gratification and solace to him, if he were alive, to see that the wise policy which he certainly inaugurated in regard to local self-government is so popular in this Presidency. Local government has a future before it in India. It is certainly now entirely in its infancy, and, like all infants, suffers occasionally from infantile complaints; but I hope that it will succeed in overcoming them and attaining to a vigorous state of health and adolescence. I thank you also for the kind manner in which you allude to the interest that I take during my stay here in the condition of Native Princes and Zemindars. Whilst I am anxious to see the great masses of the population better educated than they are, and enjoying the fruits of their labor in peace and prosperity, I do not forget how important it is that the lettered classes and those of high rank should be fit for the positions they hold, and how much an educated upper class can assist Government in carrying out the objects it has in view. There sits on this occasion on my left hand a young prince who is born to a great estate. I have had several opportunities of seeing him during the last day or two, and I am quite sure that, young as he is, he is quite sensible of the responsibilities which will devolve upon him. With the aid of the wise and able Dewan he is fortunate to have as his adviser, I trust that he will, if spared, grow up to be a blessing to the people of his State. You are kind enough also to allude to certain administrative acts with which my name has been connected since I have been in Madras. One of these is the Periyár project, but nothing can be further from my wish or intention than to take credit for doing more than urging, as strongly as I could, that the execution of that work should be sanctioned. My immediate predecessor, Sir M. E. Grant Duff, took the greatest interest in the project, and I am quite certain that nothing will please him more than to hear that it is now to be carried out. In one of the last minutes he drew up, he said that the project ought to be in a fair way to be completed during the time of his successor, and I only hope he will prove herein to have been a true prophet. All I have done is to urge on the Government of India and the Government at Home that, considering the enormous benefits which will be derived from it by the people of the Madura district, it would be absurd a slur on the Administration which admitted the beneficial nature of the scheme, not to sanction its execution, could money by any possibility be provided. I am happy to say that I spoke to most willing ears, and that His Excellency the Viceroy and the Secretary of State were as anxious as I was that the work should be sanctioned. You are kind enough to allude to the absence on this occasion of Lady Connemara, who, I assure you, has the interests of India as much at heart as any lady who has ever come to this country as Governor's wife. I shall have much pleasure in conveying to her your message, and on her behalf and my own I thank you once again.

Address of the Principal, Vice-Principal, and Professors of the S.P.G. College, Trichinopoly.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Principal, Vice-Principal and Professors of the S.P.G. College, Trichinopoly, desire heartily to welcome Your Lordship upon the occasion of your visit to this historic town, and specially to this institution, which was the first to provide higher education in this district, which has always been attended by a large number of students, many of them now occupying high positions, and which has commanded the confidence of the public to such an extent that the fees have for a long time covered a larger portion of the expenditure than in any other institution in the Presidency.

The Middle and High Schools are already self-supporting, and can be maintained without any cost to the State if they are not bound down by regulations with regard to fees which do not exist in any other Presidency, or, indeed, in any other country.

The Venerable Society is still desirous of continuing its educational work in the district, and has given proof of it by sending out two distinguished English Graduates of educational experience to strengthen the staff, relying on the generous support of the Madras Government, which this institution, for many years the largest aided College in the Mofussil, has hitherto always enjoyed. Lord Napier, one of Your Lordship's predecessors, during his visit to the College in the year 1875, was so pleased with the great popularity of this institution, that he requested Mr. Whiteside, the then Collector of the district, to collect funds for enlarging the crowded class-rooms, His Lordship heading the subscription list. The appeal to the native public was readily responded to; and the sum being supplemented by a grant from His Lordship's Government and the Society, this Hall, in which we have the honor of addressing Your Lordship, was erected. It is hoped that the Society will meet with similar encouragement during Your Lordship's administration.

Since the advent of the present Acting Principal, who is anxious to enhance the usefulness of this institution, a Science Branch has been added to the B.A. course; Book-keeping is taught in the Middle School Department, and an offer was made to the Director of Public Instruction to provide legal education, but it has not been thought advisable to commence the latter without some sort of sanction and recognition from the Government.

The Gymnasium has been completed, and, though exercise upon it has not been made compulsory as yet, a large and increasing number of boys are taking exercise upon it.

The institution has not suffered much numerically from rival institutions charging lower fees; there are 1,293 students in the College and its branch or feeder schools. Sixteen have taken the B.A. degree, 142 have passed the First Examination in Arts, and 575 the Matriculation Examination.

We are glad that Your Excellency has been pleased to visit the institution of the Society in this important town, and assure Your Lordship that Your Excellency's visit will long be remembered with pleasure.—*November 2nd.*

Speech at the St. Joseph's College.

FATHER RECTOR, BROTHERS AND STUDENTS OF ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE,—I assure you that it is quite impossible for me to express to you how great is my gratification at the most original and interesting entertainment that has been so kindly prepared here by the Father Rector and the Brethren and students of this college. I have always heard that those who provide popular entertainments find it most difficult to introduce into them sufficient variety, but the Reverend Fathers have entirely solved this difficulty on this occasion, and their programme has been full of novelty and originality, for it has been oratorical, historical, pictorial, musical, floral, terpsichorean, and artistic and interesting in a variety of ways. I cannot but congratulate the Reverend Brother who conducted the musical entertainment, and those who assisted him. It is unspeakable pleasure to those who are fond of music to find that it is not neglected by those who are taking part in the education of the youths of India. With respect to the pictorial representation, skilfully portrayed in colored powders, which is before me, its beauty is surprising. I have been accustomed to see this coat-of-arms since my boyhood, but I must say that I have never had it presented in so attractive a form before. The tablets of my memory will ever retain a grateful recollection of its beauty. With respect to that extremely amusing and talented dissertation on Indian History which we have heard, I can hardly trust myself to speak, because it recalls to my mind recollections both tender and sad. It will, I am quite sure, give the only surviving daughter of Lord Dalhousie, and the widow of Lord Mayo, the greatest possible gratification to know that the father of one and the husband of the other are so well remembered and loved by the youths of India. I shall not fail to inform the daughter and the widow of the many kind things you have said of the father and the husband. In conclusion, I can only hope that this institution may prosper in every way, and thank you all most sincerely for the cordial welcome you have given me (Loud applause).—*November 2nd.*

Address of the Mirasidars of the Kulitalai Taluk.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, members of the Kulitalai Club and Mirasidars of the Kulitalai taluk, with profound respect and humble loyalty, beg to approach Your Excellency with our feeble yet hearty expressions of welcome to Your Excellency. We are indeed unable to express with what feelings of love and joy we are prepared to receive Your Excellency here. We consider this to be the happiest of our days. Nothing could be dearer to our heart than the happy event of Your Excellency's visit to our district, and the happy event of our personal interview with Your Excellency. Although our little town cannot boast of any historical importance or of possessing holy shrines, yet it cannot be behind any other place to come forward to express its feelings of loyalty to the most benevolent and worthy representative of Her Gracious Majesty, the Queen-Empress.

2. We should be extremely wanting in gratitude if we did not avail ourselves of this opportunity of acknowledging the immense benefits that we enjoyed, and we still continue to enjoy, under the British administration. The words of assurance that Your Excellency gave out when leaving England, regarding the welfare of this country, the peculiarly kind and indulgent manner with which our native deputations were received and respected after Your Excellency's arrival in Madras, the way in which Your Excellency is prepared to receive and reply to addresses from all classes of people and from all parts of the Presidency, the determination with which Your Excellency was pleased to give effect to the promise of Her Gracious Majesty by appointing, for the first time, a native to the place of District Judge, are so many kinds of proofs of Your Excellency's personal nobility, kind heart, and impartiality, so much so that we feel flattered that, whatever we might say, whether wanting in decorum or reverence due to Your Excellency, will, instead of meeting with Your Excellency's anger, meet with Your Excellency's benevolent feelings of affection and sympathy, such as those which flow from a parent to his children.

3. Notwithstanding our deep sense of the gratitude for the various blessings of the British administration, we think we shall not be doing our duty to ourselves and to the Government, if we do not lay before Your Excellency our few grievances, which we earnestly hope Your Excellency would be pleased to remedy.

4. *School Fees.*—The measures adopted by Government recently in regard to school fees will, it is feared, in a short course of time, shut out entirely the poor and middle classes of the people from the benefits of education. The enhanced rate of fees and their mode of collection by term-fee system are working a great hardship. The recent notification of the Government placing the Local Fund and Municipal schools on a par with Government schools in respect of school fees has considerably added to the people's sufferings.

We therefore earnestly pray that Your Excellency would be pleased to give early attention to the subject, reduce the school fees, and abolish the new system of collection.

We also beg to submit that the transfer of higher education at this stage to local bodies will, we fear, be highly prejudicial to the general cause of education.

5. *Forest and Salt Laws.*—The introduction of Salt law has caused considerable rise in the price of salt, and the oppressive effects of this law are very seriously felt in this country, where the major portion of the people are very poor. The procedures laid down in Act I of 1882 for the detection and inquiry of salt offences is calculated to cause a great deal of harassment and inconvenience to the people. If Salt law affects the people, Forest law affects both the people and the cattle alike. The people are deprived of their fuel, and the cattle of their fodder. The pound-fees under this Act are considerably higher than under Cattle Trespass Act. The levying of the same fee alike for the younger and the older animals is a source of great hardship. In addition to the pound-fees, the owner of the stray cattle is also liable to prosecution. The existence of railways, Public Works Department reserves, and the cultivated fields, along with the Forest reserves, leave our cattle no pasturage whatever, and the consequence, therefore, are most miserably felt in a country like this, where people entirely depend upon their cattle for all agricultural operations. The various other details of the harsh working of the Salt and Forest laws having been already brought to Your Excellency's notice in other places, we had simply to allude to them here to show that the effects of such laws are also felt in this district.

We therefore most earnestly pray that Your Excellency would be pleased to make the necessary modifications in the laws, so as to relieve the people from their distress.

6. *Local Boards.*—We take this opportunity of expressing with pleasure that the local boards are working very satisfactorily. We would humbly submit, for Your Excellency's kind consideration, that the affiliation of the Devasanam affairs with the local boards would eradicate the present evils and effect a great improvement in our temples.

7. *Criminal Courts.*—The separation of the Judicial and Revenue functions will tend to a fair, impartial, and speedy administration. This subject, which was mooted some time ago by a Revenue officer of great experience, was not brought into immediate force, probably for reasons of financial difficulties. We humbly submit that the high utility of this efficient means of Criminal administration should not be postponed on the score of public finance. We therefore most respectfully solicit Your Excellency's early attention to this subject.

8. *Village Munsifs.*—Regulation IV of 1816 is a subject of no little importance for Your Excellency's consideration. This regulation is entirely unsuited to the present times. The pecuniary jurisdiction has been, by Act IV of 1888, extended to Rs. 20. In certain cases and under certain conditions only, prosecution against Village Munsifs is allowed in the District Courts. People, though often aggrieved, seldom resort to the District Courts, which are far from their villages at a great expense and inconvenience. We would therefore suggest that Your Excellency would be pleased to invest the District Munsifs, who are comparatively nearer, with powers to hear appeals from their decisions and to exercise general supervision over their conduct and procedure.

9. *Pleaders.*—Pleader's tax is very heavy. They have to pay income tax, municipal tax, and a tax for their certificates. We hear that in certain districts they are exempted from paying municipal tax. We therefore pray that the municipal tax may be abolished. Income tax upon those who have uncertain means of income operates very hard. High taxes are imposed and the parties are left to seek remedy by appeal, which is seldom properly decided. The abolition of income tax, therefore, in so far as it concerns persons who have precarious and uncertain incomes, will be accepted as a great boon.

10. These are our grievances and suggestions, which we hope will meet with Your Excellency's earnest attention.

With feelings of love and gratitude which no force of language can adequately describe, we most respectfully approach to thank Your Excellency for the really kind, patient, and magnanimous manner with which Your Excellency condescended to listen to our long and tiresome address, thus setting forth our deep sense of the immense benefits of Her Majesty's administration of this country, and our humble prayers and suggestions in regard to certain matters calling for Your Excellency's aid and attention.

May God be pleased to shower His bounteous blessings of peace and prosperity upon Your Excellency's Government of this Presidency and Her Majesty's reign of this Empire.

Address of the Members of the Srirangam Municipal Council.

May it please Your Excellency.—We, the Members of the Srirangam Municipal Council, beg to approach Your Excellency with a most hearty welcome on this occasion of Your Lordship's visit to this town, which, for its sacredness and antiquity, has gained an everlasting renown among Hindus of all classes and is visited by thousands of pilgrims from all parts of India.

The magnificent temples in the centre of the town have attracted the attention of many distinguished visitors, including His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, our present Viceroy His Excellency Lord Dufferin, the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, and several others. We need hardly mention that Your Lordship's visit to our town will be impressed indelibly on our grateful memory, especially when we feel that in welcoming you, our present popular and benign ruler, we are providentially brought in personal contact with the brother of one of our most earnest and illustrious Viceroys, Earl Mayo, the end of whose unfortunate career has caused an irretrievable calamity.

The wants of the people of this town are being gradually supplied, and there are yet several public requirements, which will be attended to, in the course of time, as the municipal finances improve. In this connection we cannot fail to mention that, with the help of the munificent donation of Sir Savalay Ramasami Mudaliar, Kt., C.S.I., who contributed Rs. 10,000, we have been enabled to restore these hospital buildings, portions whereof were consumed by accidental fire in 1884.

We very much regret the absence here of Lady Connemara, who has already manifested a lively interest in the cause of our women, and we cannot adequately express our gratitude to Her Ladyship for her endeavours to enlarge and utilize, for the benefit of our women, the Lady Dufferin's Fund—started with an object at once so noble and laudable.

In conclusion, we, on behalf of the inhabitants, wish to state that our town, though small in extent and population, is yet not inferior to any other towns in its unbounded loyalty to our beloved Queen-Empress, whose noble representative we are met here to welcome from the very bottom of our hearts.

May Lady Connemara and Your Excellency live long in sound health and prosperity is the earnest prayer of Your Excellency's most humble and loyal servants.—*November* 1*st*.

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I regret very much that Lady Connemara is not here this morning to hear your kind acknowledgments of her efforts to improve the condition of your fellow country-women. For myself, I shall remember with gratitude the remarks which you have made in respect to my brother. I am glad to find that you have made such a good use of the munificent gift of Sir Savalay Ramasawmy Moodelliar, who has done a very great deal of good to Madras, and who is always ready to come forward in the cause of charity. At the same time, it must be very gratifying to him to find that the charitable donation which he has been good enough to make to this town has been turned to such good account, for your hospital seems to be very well conducted and the patients to be well and kindly treated.

Address of the Members of the Municipal Council of Tanjore.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Members of the Municipal Council of Tanjore, beg to accord to Your Excellency a most cordial welcome to our town.

2. We are aware that in the course of your present tour Your Excellency has visited many places of great natural beauty and political importance; still, we venture to believe that Tanjore possesses an interest peculiar to itself. As it was at one time the capital of a succession of native dynasties, it presents many vestiges of its former greatness which cannot fail to attract Your Excellency's notice and attention. The big temple of Bragatheswara Swamy, built by the ancient Chola Kings, is the finest specimen of architecture in Southern India and a lasting monument of the attainment of our ancestors in this art. The little fort built by the original founder of the Naick dynasty enclosing this temple, the Sivaganga tank, the great reservoir of drinking-water supply of this town, and the statue of the well known Father Schwartz erected by Rajah Serfojee in commemoration of his services, and the big fort with its numerous temples, and the palace, are objects of curiosity and interest to every visitor.

3. Since the establishment of this municipality, many improvements have been carried out in the matter of sanitation, elementary education, and in the other departments subject to its control, and the members of the corporation are making earnest efforts to effect still further improvements.

4. We are happy to inform Your Excellency that the people of this town evince great interest in the matter of local self-government—a subject with which the name of Your Excellency's illustrious and much lamented brother, the late Earl of Mayo, is so honorably connected.

interests of the public. We believe that upon this point opinion is unanimous and the only objection to the proposed change is the increased expenditure which it necessarily entails. We hope, however, that by readjustment of funds and strict economy in other directions Your Excellency will see your way to effect this reform at an early date.

7. Our religious institutions are so notoriously mismanaged that Your Excellency cannot too soon take the subject of their reformation in hand. We are aware that this all-important subject has already engaged the earnest attention of Your Excellency's Government, and we pray that early legislative measures may be adopted for the purpose of preventing the gross spoliation that is going on in the extensive endowments attached to these institutions.

8. The subject of the rights of Mirasidars in Poramboke land also requires an early settlement. We, as inhabitants of a district essentially agricultural, are peculiarly interested in the question, and as Poramboke lands are required by the Mirasidars for numerous agricultural purposes, we trust that Your Excellency will give due weight to this circumstance in defining our rights. While on this subject it is our respectful prayer that Your Excellency will view with favor the memorial that has been submitted by the Mirasidars of this district to Government through our Collector protesting against certain alterations recently introduced into our pattahs in derogation, as we conceive, of our vested interests and praying for a reversion to the old practice.

9. Another subject requiring the prompt and immediate attention of Government is one, the importance of which, particularly to this district, can scarcely be over-estimated. We refer to the question of irrigation. We believe that great confusion and uncertainty exist in regard to the rights of Mirasidars in this matter, and that no certain or uniform procedure is known for settling differences between the Mirasidars themselves. We think it highly necessary that some measures should be adopted for affording redress through some defined channel in cases of disputed rights.

10. Another subject to which we respectfully invite Your Excellency's attention is the present position of the adopted son of the Ranees of Tanjore. Your Excellency will be pleased to hear that their Highnesses are now living in perfect amity with each other, and supporting their adopted son out of their private income. We believe that the circumstances of the case are well known to you, and while we disclaim all intention of seeking any political recognition of the status of the Prince, we cannot but pray as fervently as possible that, in consideration of the uniform and unfailing loyalty and devotion of the Rajahs of Tanjore to the British throne, Your Excellency will be pleased to recommend the settlement on him of a decent allowance sufficient to relieve him from the effects of a possible withdrawal of the Ranees' support.

11. In conclusion, we beg permission to refer to the Tanjore remission question. While most heartily and sincerely thanking Your Excellency's Government for the independent and impartial spirit in which justice has been done in the case of a number of officials who were dismissed, we should be guilty of a grave dereliction of duty if we omitted to point out that not only does justice remain to be done to a number of other officials, but that above all, nothing whatever has been done for redressing the grievances of the numerous Mirasidars who have been forced to pay a heavy sum of money to Government under circumstances justly entitling them to a remission of revenue.

12. We feel that we have been taking up a great deal of Your Excellency's time with the tale of our wants, but the opportunities which we get for holding a direct interview with a just and sympathetic ruler are so few and far between that we could not resist the temptation of exercising to the utmost possible extent the rare privilege accorded to us by Your Excellency of urging our wants in our address of welcome.

13. We extremely regret that on this interesting occasion Your Excellency has not been accompanied by Lady Connemara to whom we should have considered it a high privilege to show our regard and esteem.

14. In conclusion, we beg permission to thank Your Excellency for the kind indulgence with which you have given us a hearing, and to pray that the great Giver of all good will confer His choicest blessings on you and crown your coming labors in India with the success and glory of which the beginning of your administration has already given promises.—*November 4th.*

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I can assure the inhabitants of Tanjore that I fully appreciate their expressions of devoted loyalty to the throne, as well as their kindly reference to myself.

The subjects to which you call my attention are legitimate matters for discussion and consideration.

You wish the Collector's residence removed from Vallam, while I have had a petition from the inhabitants of Vallam strongly deprecating such a change. You say you have every reason to believe that the present Collector shares your views, while I find on the contrary he dissents from the remarks your address contains upon the subject. On personal grounds I dare say it might be more agreeable to the Collector to reside in Tanjore, where he could enjoy the society of friends and those recreations which the station affords; but you must be aware that the work of the Collector of this district is so enormous that it is necessary he should have time to labor in occasional retirement without that continued interruption to which he would be subjected in

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resorts of vice, and the keen competition among a numerous class of petty renters who use all arts to tempt people to their shops, have a most pernicious effect on the lower classes of the population. It is sad to think of the increase of drunkenness within recent years; and the evil is likely to be immensely augmented under the system of petty farming now brought into force.

8. The forest law is being introduced into our district—in spite of, as we understand, the protestations of our Collector. In the delta portion of the district there is no necessity for Government planting trees: people plant them, as they have planted for ages; and they may be left free. The forest law in force in our neighbouring districts, such as Trichinopoly, has already very much enhanced the price of our fuel; and we beg that the evil may not be brought home in our midst, while the district needs no additional planting. Population is fast spreading even in the dry portion of Tanjore, and private planting is everywhere on the increase. Special departments have a widening tendency, and in their desire to enlarge the field of their work, they are very apt to disregard local peculiarities and hardships. We beg earnestly to request that our district officials may be consulted on this question, and people saved from a needless hardship.

9. The income-tax has been very oppressively worked in this district. The assessing officers seem to think that their safety and prospects of promotion depend on the amount of taxation they collect. Detailed inquiry will, we are assured, reveal many cases of arbitrary assessment. We pray for moderating orders to the executive.

10. The location of the Collector's office at Vallam has long been felt a vexation. Numerous are the men who have to appear daily before the Collector as parties to suits, petitions, and the like. In the first place, Vallam is not a Railway station; secondly, it is a village and cannot give any accommodation to the men who daily throng before the Collector's office; lastly, all other public officers being in Tanjore, people find it extremely costly to engage Vakils from Tanjore to appear before the Collector. On the other hand, we are not aware of any justification for heaping so much hardship on the people, and making the head of the district practically inaccessible to those over whom he is placed. The evil admits of an easy and simple remedy. We can imagine no difficulty to the transfer of the office to Tanjore.

11. There is strong complaint everywhere against the imposition of house-tax in villages under the Local Fund Act. It is a new tax, and very oppressive in its nature. People justly complain that they have now to pay for everything which they obtained formerly without special taxation. Likewise the system of requiring *licenses* for the erection of pandals, &c., in villages is a most annoying interference. We pray that Local Fund Boards may be forbidden to carry out the corresponding provisions of the Local Fund Act. We beg also to pray for the providing of more efficient control than exists at present over the expenditure of the Local fund revenues. It is the Collector who has at present the control over the Local fund executive; and the best of Collectors hardly command the requisite leisure for efficient control. As a matter of fact, the benefits reaped under the Local Fund Act are not commensurate with the money drawn from the people. The subject is a large one, and we have touched on it in the hope that proper inquiries may be instituted and the evils remedied.

12. The recent flood in the Cauvery and its branches breached the river in various places and has caused heavy damage. Our river bunds need strengthening. The responsibility for the safety of the bunds is so divided between Revenue officers on the one hand, and the Public Works Department on the other, that when breaches flood the country, no prompt action is forthcoming. The evil is periodical and needs speedy remedy.

13. We now come to a question to which we beg most earnestly to invite Your Excellency's special attention. The eastern taluks of our district, Shiyáli and Máyavaram, are not well irrigated at present, owing to the scanty supply of water in the lower reaches of the Cauvery. But the evil may be effectually remedied by improving at no very considerable cost the irrigation of the Coleroon under lower anicut. By carrying out what we propose, Your Excellency will have conferred a lasting benefit on this district, and entitled yourself to a place by the side of those ancient Rajahs of Choladesa who devised and carried out the system of the Cauvery irrigation, and of the English Engineer Sir Arthur Cotton who repaired and improved it.

14. The *Mirasidars* of this district have, for some years past, been gradually deprived of their rights in the village *Poramboke* or communal lands. And recently, in the pattahs granted to them, even the word *Mirasidar* has been changed into *kudi* or tenant. This covert encroachment upon rights that have been enjoyed from time immemorial, and that could be established by reference to old treaties, laws and other documents, is calculated seriously to affect the agricultural prosperity of the district. We beg to refer Your Excellency on this question to the memorial submitted recently by our Association; and we most earnestly pray for the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the question at length and to restore to the Mirasidars the rights they are losing.

15. The irrigation of the district suffers often very seriously by minor irrigation works being entrusted in part or wholly to the Department of Public Works. From the very nature of things, that department cannot be expected to know the wants and requirements of the Mirasidars as the Revenue officers do, nor possess the same sympathy with them. We beg therefore that in future all minor works may be taken off the hands of the Department of Public Works

and transferred to the Revenue authorities, and that these may be held responsible for their efficiency.

16. Our temples and charities still continue to be mismanaged, and we beg that the proposed legislative reform may be soon carried into effect.

17. Her Gracious Majesty's ever memorable Jubilee has been availed of by the inhabitants of our district for raising a fund of twenty-five thousand rupees to be devoted to the founding of an agricultural and technical institution, attached to the Government College at Kumbakónam. Liberal as the contribution is, it cannot go much way towards the up-keep of an efficient institution. We humbly pray that Your Excellency will be pleased to take the institution under your special patronage, and accord to it the liberal support of Government, so that Her Gracious Majesty's Jubilee may be ever associated with the agricultural and industrial prosperity of our district.

In conclusion, we beg most devoutly to pray to the Father of all to bless Your Excellency and Lady Connemara with His choicest blessing, and render Your Excellency's administration of our country ever dear to our memories.—*November 4th.*

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—It is very agreeable to me to learn that my humble endeavours to perform the duty which our Gracious Sovereign the Queen-Empress has imposed upon me are generously appreciated by you, but when you say you expect a vast deal more, you rather alarm me, as I fear the expectations of the people in this respect must always be in excess of the powers of a Governor, no matter how great may be his wishes and exertions.

I am sure you only do justice to the people of this district in describing them as you have, and I observed with pleasure the part they took this year in commemoration of their love and regard for our Gracious Queen-Empress.

I learn with pleasure that the People's Association of Tanjore has been useful to the Legislative Council at Madras, and I hope that our legislative body will continue to be in harmony with the wishes of all in the Presidency whose knowledge and wisdom entitle them to respect.

I regret to learn that you appear dissatisfied with the decision of Government regarding the remissions of 1884.

All I can say on this subject, without raising false hopes, is that I shall pay attention to any well-founded complaint on the subject that reaches me in the regular manner.

I fear that your opinions upon the question of the new Salt laws are shared by many, but they have been too recently introduced to justify the Government in making a change at present. They will, however, be closely watched and reported upon.

I am grieved to hear of the alleged increase of intoxication in this district, and I shall regard with disfavor any system which can be shown to have an injurious effect upon the normally temperate habits of the people.

Your remarks upon the Forest laws will be referred to the head of the department, and the attention of the Collector will be called to what you say with respect to the income-tax.

I have made inquiries as to the paragraph in your address respecting minor irrigation works, but I cannot at present see that the change you advocate would be beneficial to the public.

With respect to the foundation of an institution for instruction in technical education in Kumbakónam, I understand that the Director of Public Instruction has the question before him.

And now, gentlemen, in bidding you farewell, I can assure you it has afforded me great pleasure to visit this district and to see what great strides the richest and possibly the most advanced Collectorate in the Presidency is making in every branch of civil administration.

Address of the Mussulmans in Tanjore.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Mussulmans in Tanjore, esteem it a high privilege to be allowed to welcome to Tanjore the most honored representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, Empress of India, whose beneficial reign is the source of all the happiness enjoyed by us in common with all other classes, and we feel not a little proud that in Your Excellency's person we are doing honor to one of the most eminent and most beloved of our Indian Viceroys, and to a Statesman of high reputation, who, during the short period of his administration of this Presidency, has evinced considerable interest for the welfare of all the classes committed to his care and has won the reputation of being the "People's friend."

2. The public address of the inhabitants of Tanjore dwells on several points affecting the interests of Hindus and Mussulmans alike, and we beg permission to refer only to a few subjects that peculiarly concern our community.

3. It is our painful duty to lay before Your Excellency the backward state of Mussulmans (1) in the matter of education, and (2) in the share of high appointments held by them in the

Public service. The causes therefor are numerous. The principal difficulties of Mussulmans at this day are want of means to give their children sound education; and the absence of prospects of a sufficiently inviting character to those who are educated.

4. The first stimulus in both these directions was given by the late lamented Lord Hobart, whose name has become a household word in our families, and as the result thereof, several young Mussulmans have come out successfully from schools and many more will be found working strenuously in them to that end. Though thus the seed sown by our beloved Governor has borne good fruit in the matter of education, his efforts to give us a larger share in the Public service has not, in spite of the solicitude of successive Governors, met with the same satisfactory results.

5. It is our humble conviction that the first and most important step towards giving us a larger share in the Public service is to secure a leaven of our race in the higher ranks of the Public service. So long as this is not done, the progress of the younger generation must be extremely slow. There is at present a fairly sufficient stock of persons to draw upon for such places. We have found officers to acknowledge the fact that in respect of mental, moral and physical attainments we are not behind other classes.

6. In urging our prayer we humbly beg to invite Your Excellency's attention to the favorable terms in which Your Excellency's noble predecessor, Sir Grant Duff, G.C.S.I., commended us to Your Excellency's care on the eve of his departure from these shores. His Excellency said:—

"I commend you most heartily to the excellent and able man who is to succeed me and who amidst his many experiences of men and cities has had no small experience of Stamboul." We are grateful to acknowledge that the hopes raised by this gentleman are beginning to be realized, for the light of encouragement is already shown in the minute passed by Your Excellency concerning the larger employment of our race. But in view to complete effect being given to Your Excellency's views on the subject, we beg with great respect to submit that an accurate return of the higher appointments, say of Rs. 50 a month and upwards, now held by Muhammadans should be called for. We believe that a general return of such appointments was called for some time ago, but the return so submitted to Government must, in our humble opinion, be misleading, as we have reason to suppose that the figures shown therein include many minor appointments.

7. We have every reason to believe that the number of appointments held by us in the higher grades of the Public service bears an extremely small ratio to the number of our population, and we pray that as an encouragement to those already in the service and as a stimulus to our youths, Your Excellency will be pleased to pass a general order directing a certain percentage of appointments, in both higher and lower grades in each district, to be held by Mussulmans, who were once the governing class, and who in the hour of need may be trusted to be as true to Her Majesty's throne as to their own faith.

8. Our next prayer is to raise the status of the Madrasa-i-azam and to attach to it a boarding house for the benefit of the Mofussilites. They find at present considerable difficulty in finding a proper lodging and are left practically without supervision, control, and discipline, so essential to progress in education. Funds, we believe, may be found for the purpose in the endowment designed for the institution.

9. In conclusion, we beg most respectfully to express our heartfelt thanks for your kind courtesy in permitting this deputation of our community to wait on Your Excellency, and we fervently pray that Your Excellency and Lady Connemara may live long and happy, and that Your Excellency's rule may prove a blessing to Her Majesty's subjects entrusted to Your Excellency's care.—*November 4th.*

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—As your address calls my attention to the backward condition of the Muhammadans in this district, I can only express the same regret upon that subject which I have already expressed to the Moslem communities of Dindigul and Trichinopoly and other places.

It is the wish of the Government that the Muhammadans of the Presidency should advance from the condition of inferiority which they say they now occupy, and you justly approve the orders which the Government have lately passed upon this subject.

If any class has obtained a larger share of public employment than another, it is owing entirely to its own energy and ability, and it is quite within the power of the Muhammadan community to distinguish themselves in this respect.

I believe that there are institutions in Madras which are working well for the advancement of Muhammadans.

I have already endeavoured to give them encouragement, and shall continue to do so.

I shall, upon all occasions, be glad to receive deputations similar to yours, and I thank you sincerely for the good wishes you so warmly and, I am sure, sincerely express with respect to Lady Connemara and myself.

Duplicate No 606 SW.

Superintending Engr's Office, 4th Cir,
Camp Wellington, 13th Sept 1886

From,

2794/30

The Superintending Engineer,
IV Circle.

To,

The Chief Engineer,
S. W. Department.

Sir,

As directed in your endorsement No 6262 of 7th instant, I have the honor to report on the complaint of the Hon. Secretary Wynaad Planters Association regarding the state of the Calicut-Vayitre Ghat Road; which he states "threatens soon to be impassable."

2. You are aware that there is an estimate sanctioned for the improvement of the road from Calicut to Vayitre, of which the Tamaracheri ghat forms a portion, and the improvements have been in progress under Schedule Contract since about last

last October. The contractor's
work has been confined prin-
pally as yet to the upper portions
of the ghat; and from enquiries
I understand that the complaint,
which was made in July, had re-
ference to the portions of the ghat
where the improvements have
not yet commenced.

3. It must be borne in mind
that hitherto it has been almost
impossible to keep the metalled
surface of the ghat in order during
the monsoon; owing to the want
of proper side and catch drains
and under tunnels. The rain
fall is very heavy on that ghat;
and the floods off the steep hill
sides sweep away all metal in
places down to the bare rock.
June, July and August also are
the worst months of the South
West monsoon, when it is very
difficult to get road work done
owing to the rains.

4. The complaint was made
in July; when floods and landslips
were constantly occurring 2794 on the
ghat; and has been repeated, ap-
parently in the same terms, to you
without reference to the work done
since to remove the grounds of com-
plaint.

5. The Executive Engineer reports
that he inspected the road in the
middle of June, and again early
in August; and that in spite
of the constant heavy rains there
was a marked improvement
in the condition of the road. Of
late there has been a Sub Overseer
and 110 Coolies employed, depart-
mentally, on the repairs of the
ghat portion of the road; filling
in pots, clearing side drains, and
removing small land slips. The
supply of labor is now ample;
and it was expected that,
with three hundred Coolies at
work, in the next fortnight
the

the road should be kept in very fair order.

Mr. Taylor also states that the words, "The road threatens to become impassable" express in his opinion a "very exaggerated view of the case." Certain portions of the road have been in a bad state, but it never has been, and is certainly at present not likely to become, impassable.

7. He considers that "the staff employed depart materially on the roads have done well in keeping the roads open to traffic against the difficulties of a heavy monsoon and accidents in the way of land slips; and he is sanguine that, now the heaviest rains are over, the state of the road will be so improved that, by the time the produce carts begin to come down, the planters will have no reason to complain".

8. The Executive Engineer is informed by persons who know the road that it "has not been worse at all than it was before, and is now considerably better than it has been for some time past."

9. I have also to observe that no complaints have been made by the Planters' Association to myself, or to any of the officers of this Department; so that it was not possible for me to satisfy them that every thing possible was being done to remove all ground of complaint.

10. I expect to visit Vazitri and inspect the ghât, as well as the rest of the road from Vazitri to Calicut, before the close of this month.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obt Servt

[signature illegible]
Lt Colonel &c.
Supt Engr 4th Circle.

From,

The Superintending Engr.
IV Circle.

To,

The Chief Engineer,
P. W. Department.

Dated 13
Recd } September /86.

No 160c
" W.

Calicut Vayitri Road.

Reports on the complaint of the Hon- Secretary Wynaud Planter's Association regarding the state of the —

No 160c
" W.

Superintending Engr's Office, 4th Cir.
Camp. Wellington. 13th Septr /86.

From,

The Superintending Engineer,
IV Circle.

To, 2294/34

The Chief Engineer,
P. W. Department.

Sir,

As directed in your endorse-ment No. 626 D of 7th instant I have the honor to report on the Complaint of the Hon'y Secretary Wynaud Planters association, re-garding the state of the Calicut "Vayitri Ghat Road; which he states "threatens soon to be impassa-ble."

2. You are aware that there is an estimate sanctioned for the improvement of the road from Calicut to Vayitri, of which the Tamracheri ghat forms a por-tion; and the improvments have been in progress, under Schedule

Contract

contract, since about last October.
The contractor's work has been confined principally as yet to the upper portions of the ghat; and from inquiries I understand that the complaint, which was made in July, had reference to the portions of the ghat where the improvements have not yet commenced.

2. It must be borne in mind that hitherto it has been almost impossible to keep the metalled surface of the ghat in order during the monsoon, owing to the want of proper side and catch drains and under tunnels. The rainfall is very heavy on that ghat, and the floods off the steep hill sides sweep away all metal, in places, down to the bare rock. June, July and August, also, are the worst months of the south-west monsoon, when it is very difficult to get road work done owing to the rains.

4. The complaint was made in July, when floods and land slips were constantly occurring on the ghat; and has been repeated, apparently in the same terms, to you without reference to the work done since to remove the ground of complaint.

5. The Executive Engineer reports that he inspected the road in the middle of June, and again early in August; and that in spite of the constant heavy rains there was a marked improvement in the condition of the road. Of late there has been a Sub Overseer and 80 coolies employed, departmentally, on the repairs of the ghat portion of the road; filling in pots, clearing side drains and removing small landslips. The supply of labor is now ample, and it was expected that with three hundred coolies at work in the next fortnight the road would be put in very fair order.

6. Mr. Taylor also states that the

the words "The road threatens to become impassable" express in his opinion, a very exaggerated view of the case. Certain portions of the road have been in a bad state, but it never has been, and it certainly is not now, likely to become impassable.

I consider that the staff employed departmentally on the road have done work in keeping the road open to traffic against the difficulties of a heavy monsoon, and accidents in the way of land slips; and so sanguine that, now the heaviest rains are over, the state of the road will be so improved, that by the time the produce carts begin to come down the Pelante Ghat there will be no reason to complain.

The Executive Engineer is informed by persons who know the road that it has not been worse to all than it was before, and is now considerably better than it has been for some time past.

9. I have also to observe that no complaints have been made by the Planters Association to myself or any of the officers of this Department, so that it was not possible for me to satisfy them that everything possible was being done to remove all ground of complaint.

10. I expect to visit Vayitre and inspect the ghát, as well as the rest of the road from Vayitre to Calicut, before the close of this month.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obt Servt,

C. Beatty - Colonel, R.E.
Superintending Engr, 4th Circ.

From,

The Supy: Engineer,
IV Circle.

Copy of the Supt
Engineer report &c
to furnish to the
Wynaad Planters
Association, with
reference to their
Secretary's letter
dated 9th September 1886.
Received 13th September 1886.
Read 13

The Supt Engineer
will please prepare
Estimate Vagitie road
as he suggested.

Executive Engineer
Nilgiris Division
Ootacamund
Dated 13th September 1886.

To,

The Chief Engineer,
S. W. Department.

No 1602/
Exd

Patient Vagitie Road.
Reports on the com-
plaints of the Hon Secre-
tary Wynaad Planters
Association regard-
ing the state of the

Note Ended

WYNAAD PLANTERS
ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH WYNAAD.

Dated 8th Oct 1886

2794/86

To The Chief Secretary to Govt.
Public Work Department.

Sir

Under instructions from the Association I have the honor to trouble you for the prompt attention that was paid to our complaint about the Calicut Vythiri Road and further to request that you will be good enough to convey our Thanks to the Executive Engineer for the excellent work that has been done on the Patient Vagitie Portion of the road.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedt Servt
George Ronilly
Hon Sec.

WYNAAD PLANTERS
ASSOCIATION.

MELIORA SPERAMUS

Meppadi
SOUTH WYNAAD.
4th Sept 1899

2799/39

The Secretary to Govt
Public Work Department.

Sir

I have the honor to address you on the subject of the State of the Calicut-Vythery Ghaut road. The maintenance of which I believe is under the supervision of the Public Work Department.

I addressed the President of the District Board on the subject on the 16th July last, but received no reply.

I am now addressing the Collector of Malabar.

But as the matter is urgent, for the road threatens soon to be impassable and the time for the despatch of our crops to the coast is drawing near, I venture to last appeal to you direct in the hopes that some steps may be taken to improve the road at once

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedt Servt
George Connelly
Planter

2794

40

2794
41

Letter from the Secy. of
Wynaad Planters
Association

Copy forwarded
to the Supdg. Surgn. IV
Circle for favorable
attention & report.

[illegible]

7.9.80

Dept. 7.9.80.

To the Supdg. Surgn. IV Circle ✓

Secy. to Govt. ✓

No. 160 dated 9-6-88

1888.

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

Current No. 6899

From

The Hony: Secretary
Wynaad Planters Assocn
Vaigheri

Enclos.—

No. —

Dated 11th July 1888

Received 14 — do —

Subject.

offering to undertake the upkeep of the 3 miles of road Vedamoor Vaigheri @ 67 under lieu of the present allotment of Rs 250 a mile is handed over to the Association.

Disposal.

No. 3762 C Dated 20 July 1888

Referred to the Supdg. Engineer W Circle for favour of report.

(Sd) J. O. Haskoll Col. R.E.
Secy. to Govt. P.W.D.

No. 4642

Government of Madras.

2791/87

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

Ootacamund, 22nd Sept 1888.

OFFICE NOTE.

From The Joint Secretary to Govt
P. W. Department

To The Chief Secretary to Govt
Public Dept

Please furnish for reference the address of the Wynaad Planters Association referred to in G.O. 1596 Public dt/ 1st December 1887

The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor has recently called attention to this "address" with a view to requisite action being taken, but the document has never been communicated to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) H R Mead Col RE.
Jt Secy to Govt
PWD

2/5/88 Ex 624 Jud C Jon

No. 4642.

Government of Madras.

2794/63

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

Ootacamund, 2nd August 1888.

OFFICE NOTE.

Office note.

From the Chief Secretary to Govt
To the Joint Secy to Govt
P.W.D

From The Joint Secretary to Govt
P.W. Dept

No copy of the address referred to is available in this office. Printed copies may be obtained from the Private Secretary's office.

(By order)
Lobb
Assistant Secretary

Presented 16-8-88

To The Chief Secretary to Govt
Public Dept

It is believed that the Revenue Dept has a copy which might be obtained for reference.

15/Aug.

I have furnished four copies of the "address" of the Wynaad Planters Association, referred to in G.O. 1596 Public, dt 1st December 1887.

The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor has recently called attention to this "address" with a view to requisite action being taken, but the document has never been communicated to the Public Works Dept.

The Revenue Dept has only one copy which cannot be spared even temporarily for reference. The Dept can however obtain a copy on application to the Private Secretary

16/8

for Chief Secy to Govt

No. 553 D.

Government of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

Ootacamund, 20th August 1888.

OFFICE NOTE.

2794/85

From

Encl. 1.
R/ 7.9.88

PWC 8963.

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT. 23 AUG. P.W. DEPARTMENT, MADRAS.

2794/44

Forwarded to the Secretary to Government Public Works Department, with reference to this office note 553 D dated 20th August 88

Rl/155
Rpm 27.8.88
Government House
22nd August 1888

BRSeal
Private Secretary

Secty, will you please let me have a copy of the Planters' address referred to in G. O. 1596 Public dy 1st December 1887 to enable me to see whether there is anything for the P. W. D to attend to. I have tried but failed to obtain a copy of this address

No. 532 D.

Government of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

Ootacamund, 20th August 1888.

OFFICE NOTE.

2798/85

From

The Public Works Secty.

To

The Private Secty. to H.E. the Governor

Adverting to your letter No. 114 dy 31st May 188 to the Hony. Secretary Wynaad Planters' Association, copy of which has been sent to me by the Revenue Secty., will you please let me have a copy of the Planters' address referred to in G.O. 1596 Public dy 1st December 1887 to enable me to see whether there is anything for the P.W.D. to attend to. I have tried but failed to obtain a copy of the address

in

in the Secretary's office.

from the Departments of Government
which

Private Secretary's office.

Ootacamund, 31st May 1888.

No. 114.

From

The Private Secretary
to the Right Honorable the Governor

To

The Honorary Secretary
Wynaad Planters' Association
Vythiri

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of His Excellency The Governor, to reply to your letter of 10th March

The subjects which were touched upon by your deputation have received the careful consideration of His Excellency and of his honorable colleagues; and His Excellency therefore, does not think that any useful end will be served by his receiving a second deputation from your Association

In cases, if they have not been already received, will be received by you from the Departments of Government,

which deal with the different subjects referred to in your address.

I have &c.

(Sd) T. D. Rees

Private Secretary

Government House

Coimbatoor, 31st May 1858

Dear Mr Price. 2794/48

His Excellency desires me to return to you your kind and exhaustive note about the Wynaad Planters' address, together with a copy of the answer, which by his direction, I have sent to the Secretary of the Association. I am to ask you if you will kindly see that the answers promised in your department go, if they have not already gone; and will you kindly circulate my letter to other departments concerned, so that the necessary action may be taken in them, also, in case anything yet remains to be done.

Yours sincerely

(Signed) T. D. Rees.

Frederick Price Esqre.

Secretary to Govt.

Revenue Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT & W. DEPARTMENT, MADRAS.

2799/49

Read again G.O. dated 2nd March 1888, No. 1451 Mis. recording with remarks Proceedings of the Public Department, dated 1st December 1887, No. 1596 communicating to the departments concerned, copies of a note by His Excellency the Governor on his tour to the Western and Southern Districts of the Madras Presidency.

Read also letter from the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor to the Wynaad Planters' Association dated 31st May 1888, No. 114.

Order thereon, 17th July 1888, No. 4170.

Of the several subjects touched upon in the address of the Wynaad Planters' Association presented to His Excellency the Governor on the occasion of his visit to the Wynaad in 1887, those relating to Roads and Cattle Trespass will be dealt with respectively in the Public Works and Judicial Departments.

2. Of the remaining matters the first is the new Revenue Settlement. The Association will be referred to G.O. dated 20th May 1887, No. 500 in which the objections raised by the Association to the principle of assessment adopted in regard to estates held otherwise than under the Waste-land Rules or on puttah from Government have been fully discussed and disposed of. No new arguments have been brought forward in the present address and the Government have nothing to add to what they have already stated.

3. The next request of the Association is that the forest reserves stretching from Nellacotta to Sultan's Battery may be placed under the Waste-land Rules. The reservation of these forests was made after due and careful consideration and at considerable cost to the State, and no sufficient reasons have been advanced for undoing work completed only so very recently.

4. Lastly, His Excellency the Governor in Council

annual regrets that he cannot grant the Association's request that all lands under cinchona cultivation should be exempted from taxation for five years from the date of planting. Lands in the Wynaad which are taken up for planting under the Waste Land Rules are exempt from assessment for the first three years, while those held under private Pattas or on Puttah from Government are, when planted with special products such as tea, coffee or cinchona, exempt for 2 years from date of planting. These concessions the Government consider as great as ought to be allowed. The land revenue assessment bears such a small proportion to the working expenses of a cinchona estate that any additional relief that might be afforded by extending the period of exemption on cinchona cultivation from two to five years could not have any appreciable effect on the present depressed condition of the industry which is made the basis of the request contained in the address.

(True Extract)

Acting Secretary to Government.

The Wynaad Planters' Association with copy of G.O. dated 20th May 1887, No. 500

The Judicial Deptt. } with copy of D.O. from
The Public Works Deptt. } The Private Secy to H. E. The Governor, 31st May 1887.

The Commissioners of Land Revenue.
The Commissioner of Rev. Settt. and Director of Land Record and Agriculture

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the

READ the following

Proceedings, Revenue Department No. 470 of 17th July 1888.

As regards the question of roads, referred to in the Proceedings recorded above it is observed that in their address of October 1887 to His Excellency the Governor, the Wynaad Planters' Association expressed their earnest thanks for the improvements that had been effected in the road from Vagitri to Sultan's Battery, and trusted that the Government would see their way to keeping up the line, when completed, as

are

2794
51

Cal. of Miss. Levee
PUBLIC. WORKS.

Rec'd 10 Sept 1888, No. 2794

Wynnd Roads

Extract from Representative made by the Wynnd Planters Association in regard to the Roads —

90