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MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR

ON HIS NINTH TOUR.

CONFIDENTIAL.

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MINUTE BY THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR.

THE various matters of public importance that were brought to my notice during my recent tour to Trichinopoly, Negapatam, Tranquebar, Kumbakónam and Cuddalore will be found noticed in the addresses that were presented to me during my tour and in my replies thereto, which are printed as appendices to this Minute. These should be dealt with as required by the various departments of the Secretariat. There are, however, a few points which I did not notice in my replies, and to which I will briefly refer.

2. (*a*) The bridge over the Uppanar at Negapatam seems to be a project deserving of every consideration, and from what I was told on the subject it would seem that the District Board may fairly be called upon to provide a portion of the funds required. Perhaps, also, some assistance might be given from Provincial Funds.

(*b*) The inhabitants of Tranquebar petitioned for the establishment there of a munsif's court. This might be considered in the Judicial Department.

(*c*) They also expressed their readiness to defray the cost of a tramway from Máyavaram. It was understood that an agent of Messrs. Fowler and Co. was making proposals regarding the laying of tramways in the Tanjore district, and he might be requested to furnish a report regarding this line.

(*d*) I should wish the request of the Managing Committee of the Town High School at Kumbakónam for an increased grant from Government to their building fund to be considered in the Educational Department.

(*e*) The request of the Tanjore People's Association to have an opportunity of submitting for consideration their views on the resettlement of the district is reasonable, and any representations they may make on the subject should be carefully dealt with. They are obviously in error, however, in saying that they fear that the resettlement will affect the land-tenure.

(*f*) The attention of all Collectors may well be drawn to the necessity for reducing the number of retail liquor-shops to what is absolutely necessary.

(*g*) There seems to be very good ground for the complaints that were made regarding the inefficiency of the police at Kumbakónam. Figures that were furnished me showed the number of house-breakings to be largely on the increase and the percentage of detections to be small. The present Superintendent of Police, who has only recently joined the district, cannot, however, be held responsible for this state of affairs.

(*h*) Care should be taken that the extra tolls sanctioned in the South Arcot district, to meet the cost of repairing the damages caused by the floods of 1884, are not allowed to be levied longer than is required by the special purpose for which they were imposed.

(*i*) I was told, when inspecting the Mount Capper jail at Cuddalore, that fifty convicts were employed on the bridge works in the neighbourhood under the Public Works Department. This seems to me a means of utilising convict labour that might be extended with advantage.

(*k*) At the same jail I was informed that it had not been visited by the Inspector-General since July 1887. This is a matter that requires explanation.

GUINDY PARK,
September 16th, 1889.

(Signed) CONNEMARA.

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APPENDIX TO TOUR No. IX.

Address from the Municipal Councillors of Trichinopoly.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Municipal Councillors of the town of Trichinopoly, beg respectfully to welcome Your Excellency on this occasion.

We feel peculiar pleasure in doing so—especially as we are now in a position to thank Your Excellency in person for the several beneficent acts of Your Excellency's administration which have tended to raise the status and prosperity of our people, and some of which were undertaken at much personal risk and sacrifice, as in the case of the tour Your Excellency recently made to the distressed district of Ganjam. This occasion is another source of joy to us, as it is the second on which Your Excellency has been pleased to honor us with a visit.

We first beg to express our gratitude to Your Excellency for having recently bestowed on our council the right to elect its chairman. It is a gift which we value much, and we sincerely trust we shall profit by it. Your Excellency may remember that, on the occasion of your last visit to this town, you were pleased to recommend, in reply to our request for a paid chairman, that we should endeavour to avoid the extra expense this would entail. Your Excellency, we hope, will be pleased to know that, following that advice, we have resolved to do without a paid officer for the place.

We have again to thank Your Excellency for the great interest you have evinced in the question of a proper water-supply for this town, and we promise that the several points which Your Excellency's Government have recently referred to the careful consideration of the council in connection with that subject will receive our utmost attention. The innumerable benefits which that scheme is likely to bring to this dense and so often cholera-stricken city render its immediate execution highly imperative, and we earnestly entreat Your Excellency's continued help for the early accomplishment of this most useful but gigantic project.

It is a matter of no small satisfaction to us to learn that Your Excellency's visit is so soon to be followed by that of the eldest son of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. We feel highly honored by the proposed second Royal visit to our ancient city, and meanwhile, in thanking Your Lordship for your present passing visit, we take the opportunity of expressing our loyal devotion to the Imperial Throne Your Excellency here represents.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I am always glad to meet representatives of Municipal and local institutions. I take a very sincere interest in their growth, progress and prosperity. It is always agreeable to find Municipal institutions in this country work smoothly, and avoid those evils which too often disfigure local bodies in England. I have reason to believe that your Municipal Council does not waste its time in discussing personal questions and in engaging in personal disputes, but that you are devoting yourselves honestly and vigorously to the performance of those useful duties which lie immediately before you and are within your legitimate province. You allude to the right which has been given to you to elect your own chairman, and I observe with satisfaction that you have paid attention to the advice which I gave you when I was last here of endeavouring to get on without a paid chairman. I am glad to hear that it is likely that a gentleman will be found with sufficient public spirit to devote so large a portion of his time to this honorable duty, and I hope that the affairs of this Municipality will continue to prosper under his presidency. The great and important subject of water-supply has, as you know, received the attention of Government, and we have done our very best to meet the wishes of this Municipality. I think you have already been informed that Government are prepared to give you a quarter of the necessary funds and to lend you the other three-fourths at a low rate of interest. Of course the ways and means by which the interest is to be paid will remain with you, and I most sincerely hope that the additional burdens which this will cause the people to bear will be borne cheerfully when they see the enormous benefit in their health and comfort which a good water-supply must necessarily afford them. There were, as you know, peculiar complications in respect of this Municipality, as the new water-supply will benefit the Military, the Railway and the Municipality, and therefore the expense which is about to be incurred must be apportioned in an equitable manner between these three bodies; and I can assure you that we shall do what we can to see that the burdens are equally distributed amongst those who will derive benefits from the scheme. You allude to the happy and joyful circumstance that the eldest son of His Royal Highness the Prince Wales is

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about to visit India. I am already engaged in making arrangements for his visit to various parts of this Presidency and with their Highnesses the Maharajahs of Mysore and Travancore for a visit to those interesting and prosperous native states. I am sorry to say that the time at the disposal of His Royal Highness is very limited, and therefore I am greatly afraid he will not be able to stay more than a few hours at Trichinopoly, but I know you will give him a hearty and loyal reception, and during those few hours I trust he will be able to see some of the objects of historical interest with which Trichinopoly abounds—objects which must be of peculiar interest to one so nearly connected with the Queen-Empress of India. Your are good enough to allude to my late visit to that portion of the Presidency which has unhappily been visited by pestilence and by scarcity. For many months before I visited Ganjam, the unhappy condition of the people received the anxious and daily attention of my colleagues. They gave this matter their most serious consideration. We despatched Mr. Garstin, one of the ablest servants of the Crown in this Presidency, to the district nearly a year ago. In consequence of his report large public works were opened both for able-bodied and weakly persons of both sexes. The medical staff was very much increased, and we did all we could to grapple with the terrible epidemic which was raging in great violence in Ganjam when I visited the country. I would offer my tribute of praise to the patience and resignation which the people have generally shown in their trouble and trials—patience and resignation which I can assure you has induced me to love the people of this country even more than I did before and which has excited my sympathy for the poor and weak, which I shall continue to entertain so long as Providence grants me life and thought. There were unfortunately foolish persons who were engaged in food riots and disturbances at first, and the local authorities thought it necessary to take vigorous means to put a stop to the plundering and riots which were going on. A very large number were tried and imprisoned and I visited most of them in the prisons of Russellkonda, Berhampore and other places. I am sure these poor people were misled and misguided and most of them thoroughly penitent. It has therefore given me very great pleasure lately to issue orders for the release of all except those who are guilty of serious outrage and of misleading the more ignorant of the population. I trust, therefore, that these prisoners have been, by this time, restored to their homes and are engaged in cultivating the lands. The kindly terms in which you allude to my visit to this district oblige me to say that I claim no merit for what I did. I did no more than my duty and no more than any Governor would do who wished faithfully to discharge his duty to the Sovereign. The Queen-Empress expects from her servants in every part of the world that they should exert their utmost energies to show to her people that sympathy for the distressed and suffering which is one of Her Majesty's most noble characteristics and has made her beloved by her subjects in every part of her wide dominions. The message which Her Majesty was graciously pleased to send to her suffering subjects in Ganjam will, I know, not be forgotten by the people of this Presidency and by the people of India generally. Our local officers have had a most trying time. The Collector Mr. Horsfall has shown his devotion to public duty by declining to take leave, which he was anxious to have and to go home, until he could see that his district was restored to prosperity, and the junior local officers have been inspired by the example which has been set to them by their chief. I am happy to say that since I visited the district Providence has blessed the earth with a bountiful monsoon and the pestilence has almost disappeared. We have now reason to hope for an abundant harvest, but in many cases the poor are still without the means of providing themselves with food and gratuitous relief which was provided and organised some time ago is still necessary. There are at this moment between 60 and 70 thousand persons receiving gratuitous relief in the district of Ganjam, but I am in great hopes that this number will very materially decrease in a short time. And now, gentlemen, I congratulate you and the people of this district upon the aspect of the crops in the country through which I passed between here and Erode this morning. Everywhere the rice crops looked well and flourishing, and I hope most sincerely that the people will reap and enjoy the benefit of this unspeakable blessing. In conclusion, I would assure you and the people generally through you that so long as I am entrusted with the high office which I now hold by the favor of my Sovereign, I will, with God's help, endeavour to reflect faithfully what I know to be my Sovereign's wishes in showing sympathy and kindness to the poor and the suffering of this land and in doing my duty as Her representative with justice and mercy.

Address from the Municipal Councillors of Negapatam,

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Municipal Council of Negapatam, beg to convey to Your Excellency the expression of our pleasure at your visit to this town and to offer you, in the name of the inhabitants, a most loyal and cordial welcome. We feel our inability to give you a reception befitting Your Excellency's distinguished position, but we assure you, my Lord, that we yield to none in our heartfelt attachment and firm loyalty to the throne of Her Imperial Majesty, and in welcoming you, Her representative, we gratefully recognize the assiduous devotion to the welfare of the people by which the period of your administration has hitherto been marked.

2. Negapatam is a name not without interest to the historian, but at the present day our claims to your attention must rest rather on considerations of utility than of ornament or sentiment. As a centre of commerce and industry—as a flourishing sea-port and at the same time the seat of the workshops and stores of a large and growing railway—we venture to hope that you will find our town not undeserving of your interest and regard.

3. Reminded, by your presence, of the visit paid us three-and-a-half years ago by your distinguished predecessor, we reflect with some satisfaction on the progress which our town has achieved in various directions in the intervening period.

In connection with the port, this short space of time has seen a useless boat-basin transformed into a commodious quay and a local Harbour Dues committee instituted. The workshops of the railway have received large and important extensions. A populous district of the town has been supplied with pure, abundant and easily accessible water by means of the Jubilee well, pump and tank. A spacious location for the various courts and public offices of the town has been provided in the buildings previously occupied by the Jesuit College, and the South Indian Railway Volunteer corps has also been provided with suitable accommodation for its head-quarters. We do not forget that in most, if not all, of these developments, we have owed much to the encouragement and substantial help of Government; but we trust that you will also find evidence in them that our citizens are not wanting in that energetic and public-spirited desire for progress, which best deserves such encouragement and help.

4. We gratefully trace the accomplishment or the inception of more than one important enterprise amongst us to the consideration which your predecessor was good enough to extend to the expression of our wants when he visited our town in 1886, and we are encouraged by this remembrance to bring to Your Excellency's notice some of the larger projects for the welfare of the town, which are at present engaging our attention.

The vitally important questions of water-supply and drainage are still subjects of anxious consideration to us, as they were in 1886. The representations we then made to Sir M. E. Grant Duff secured us, on his recommendation, the services of a Government Engineer who inspected the town and neighbourhood, with a view to suggesting suitable schemes by which the town might be effectually drained and an abundant and perennial supply of good water obtained. The results of his investigations are in our hands and have reduced the problem before us to a practical shape, but the cost of the schemes suggested, amounting to nearly ten lakhs of rupees, presents a difficulty which effectually checks our further progress in the enterprise. Our present municipal outlay leaves scarcely any margin over our income, and we can scarcely regard the accomplishment of this most essential undertaking as within reach, unless a helping hand is extended to us by Government. We trust that, considering the gravity of the evils which at present affect not only the citizens of our town but also the multitudes who resort to it in the course of business or travel, and remembering the ascertained costliness of the measures necessary to remedy these evils, and the utter inability of the Municipality to undertake the task out of its own resources, Your Excellency's Government will be good enough to come to our aid and render this vital undertaking feasible partly by a direct contribution and partly by granting us a loan from Provincial funds.

5. At the desire of Your Excellency's Government, we resumed the boring of the artesian well, which at the end of last year we had determined to give up in despair. Upwards of Rs. 6,000 has now been spent on the experiment and a depth of 200 feet has been reached; but the prospects of success appear to be as remote as ever, and the contractor has now withdrawn from the work. We believe Your Excellency will agree with us that it would be wiser for us to reserve what funds we can spare for measures of ascertained efficiency rather than to expend further sums on the prosecution of this most doubtful experiment.

6. In regard to another very important undertaking we have recently been in correspondence with Your Excellency's Government. The crowded condition of our growing town and its limitation in several directions by low and marshy land make it essential that we should have free access to whatever eligible rural tracts the neighbourhood affords. Such a tract lies along the sea immediately beyond the Uppanar river; but so long as this river is crossed only by a ferry, it is evident that this district cannot be utilized for the relief of our unhealthily crowded population. A numerously signed petition appealed for the erection of a bridge in the place of the ferry, and we forwarded this petition to Government with our hearty support. We were the more hopeful of receiving the favorable consideration of Government, inasmuch as it was known that the ferry had been producing a large income for many years and that there had been no corresponding expenditure in connection with it. It appeared natural and equitable that this accumulated fund should, when necessary, be devoted to replacing the ferry by a more convenient and permanent means of communication. Your Government has informed us, however, that the proceeds of the ferry have not been received by you, but are in the hands of the District Board, which has the task of maintaining the approaches to such ferries as are within its limits.

We beg to represent to Your Excellency, however, that the District Board incurs no outlay whatever upon the approaches to this ferry, the approaches on the country side being mere foot-tracks, while on the town side the approaches are maintained by the Municipality. Considering, therefore, that the ferry owes the large traffic across it to the vicinity of the

town and that the District Board has received large dues from it without incurring the slightest expenditure for its maintenance, we submit that, since the convenience of the town demands it, the District Board should be required to devote the sum already earned by the ferry and whatever income may in future be derived from its working to the erection of a bridge, or to hand over to us, for this object, the amount of the past proceeds of tolls and the right of levying tolls for the future. We now learn that Your Excellency's Government has resolved that our claims to the receipts of the Uppanar ferry should be put before the District Board and their views reported. The great importance of the subject to the welfare of the town leads us respectfully to entreat Your Excellency's favorable attention to it.

7. In conclusion, we heartily pray for Your Excellency's long life and prosperity, and trust that, for the remaining period of your administration, you may have health and vigor to continue to bestow on this Presidency benefits such as have already won for you the gratitude and esteem of ourselves and our fellow countrymen.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I am much obliged to you for the eloquent address that has been read to me I can assure you that it has been a great pleasure to me to come to Negapatam. I have been long anxious to come here because I am very well aware of the rising prosperity of the town and I hope I am not going too far in saying that great commercial prosperity is in store for this community. I am extremely obliged to the Municipality and the inhabitants generally for the cordial way in which they received me and for the very graceful and pretty dec rations, floral and otherwise, that they were good enough to put up in my honor. I was very glad also to see yesterday so many schools — high schools and pyal schools—turn out in the streets on my way through. That education is extending among the lower classes is a progressive sign of the times. You mention in your address that my distinguished predecessor paid a visit to your town some years ago, and that, with reference to certain representations made to him, an Engineer was sent down to investigate the questions of your water-supply and drainage. I am sorry to find that the expense of a scheme in connection with it is so great that it seems to me to be almost prohibitive. I had the good fortune to-day to see a well which has been designed by Mr. Creighton and carried out from your Jubilee funds, and I should be inclined to think that the water-supply of the town may be obtained by an extension of this well rather than by any new project towards it. I am very sorry to hear that the artesian well has proved a failure; and I quite agree with you that it would be wiser to reserve your funds for measures of ascertained efficiency, and on that principle I should be more inclined to follow the advice of Mr. Creighton than to seek for extraneous aid. Prosperity seems to be very great and progress very substantial and sound. I observe that shipping has increased nearly by 50 per cent. during the last 10 years. This must induce the members of the Municipality to show public spirit for the benefit of their fellow townsmen. It is always very difficult for a Municipality to find money to carry out all the improvements which civilization and education show that they are necessary. In fact one of our great difficulties in India is that education and civilization are increasing so rapidly that people are anxious to do in a few years that which has taken Western nations whole generations to accomplish. Water-supply and drainage mean a great deal of money and the demand for them has only sprung up in this country during the last few years, whereas in the West they have been in existence for several years and have been the result of time. It behoves therefore all Municipalities to have patience and at the same time perseverance. Government are always willing to help Municipalities that show public spirit, economy and prudence in their work. I was fortunate enough to tell the Trichinopoly Municipality yesterday that Government are going to give them a quarter of the expenditure on their water-supply and to lend the other three-fourths. I hope that no such demand will be made by Negapatam, because I must say that I think you would be able to follow the plan in which you are already embarked by means of the Jubilee well with the help of your own resources. From what I have heard with respect to your drainage scheme, I think it will not be very expensive. If you find anything that is absolutely necessary to apply to Government for help, all I can tell you is that we shall give you, if not the same boon we conferred on Trichinopoly, our most sympathetic attention. The plan of lending Municipalities money for useful purposes, I am glad to say, has been assented to by the Government of India since I have been Governor of this Presidency owing to strong representations made by us. Before we were prohibited from lending money to public bodies for any purposes. You allude to the Railway Workshops here. I had the privilege of being shown over the workshops by Mr. Creighton, and I need not say that I derived very great pleasure from seeing them. It might be not only an enormous advantage to people of this town and district, but also an incentive to trade, that nearly 2,000 are employed there and are in a position to earn wages of a very considerable amount for the rest of their lives. We hear a great deal about technical education now-a-days, but I must confess that technical education of this practical kind takes my sympathy more than any other You mention also in your address the question of a bridge over the Uppanar river. I am afraid that is a thorny subject. I know the Chairman of the District Board, your excellent Collector, will watch very carefully

3042

what I say on that subject. If I tell you that the District Board should contribute towards its cost, I have no doubt he would rise and make a strong protest. It is no doubt a question for the two local bodies to decide between themselves. Now, gentlemen, I have only to thank you for the cordiality of your reception and the kind words with which you close your address. It has given me great satisfaction to see that all your wants, requirements and demands are all those which mark the aspirations of a rising community and are the evidence of the prosperity and advancement of a flourishing town.

Address of the inhabitants of the Tranquebar District.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—With feelings of profound respect and loyalty to the British Throne, we, the inhabitants of Tranquebar, most heartily welcome and thank your Excellency for kindly visiting our town with the helpful sympathy which characterises your administration.

Nearly three centuries have passed since the Danes set their foot on these shores and converted a small village into a thriving mart of trade. Such was its political and commercial importance combined with Western education and Christian philanthropic efforts that in the old records it has often been styled "the Queen of the Coromandel Coast." It is indeed sad to reflect that after 45 years of British rule the place is forced to shrink back to its primitive condition.

The town of Tranquebar was for many years the head-quarters of the North Tanjore district and the seat of several Judicial Courts and other public institutions. Since the opening of railways in the district affording greater facilities of communication, this sanitarium has been looked upon as an isolated and out-of-the-way station and has been condemned and abandoned on that account. Of the proposals made for its revival, by far the most important is the construction of a line connecting Tranquebar with the South Indian Railway. This scheme received from the Madras Government such a strong and effective support that under its sanction a regular survey of the line from Máyavaram to Tranquebar has been completed and an additional cess of a quarter anna in the rupee has been levied in the district to form the Guarantee fund for the Tranquebar Railway, as may be seen from the Government Orders marginally noted. But just at the time when arrangements were to be made for the execution of the work, certain unfavorable combination of circumstances took place in consequence of which the Tranquebar Railway project was set aside in favor of other longer lines in the district. In our humble opinion, the construction of a line from Máyavaram or Shiyáli to Tranquebar would, by annulling the isolation of this town, be productive of permanent advantage to this port and to the district. If the town is brought within the sphere of Railway influence, scope will be given for the development of local traffic and for the revival of the port. But in the present state of affairs and with the fact before us that private enterprise is not yet sufficiently developed in India to enter upon such schemes independent of State aid, it can hardly be expected that the requisite capital for the line can be locally raised without the Government guarantee for the interest. We, therefore, humbly pray that your Excellency's Government may be pleased to grant some concession for the line, and kindly devise any other measures for the restoration of this old town, such as the establishment of a court, the opening of a Military depôt and the like.

G.O., Financial Dept., dated	31st	July	1878,	No.	1331.
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Hoping that your Excellency's kind visit will give us the needed relief in time, we accord your Excellency a hearty welcome.—*Tranquebar, 8th September* 1889.

Address of the Municipal Councillors of Kumbakónam.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Municipal Councillors of Kumbakónam, beg permission most joyfully to welcome your Excellency to our town, and thank your Excellency for the kindness that prompts this visit; and in this expression of joy and thankfulness, we beg to assure your Excellency that we convey the sentiments of the entire population of Kumbakónam.

Kumbakónam is an ancient and historic town, and holds a high place not in the military, but in the religious and literary annals of Southern India. Her Pandits have been known and esteemed in every part of India where Sanskrit learning is appreciated. And under British Government though the ancient lore of the country has somewhat declined, its place has been more than filled by western culture, of which our town has become a distinguished centre. Our temples and the great tank known as the Mahamagham tank that attract thousands of pilgrims from all parts of India will, we trust, prove objects of interest to your Excellency.

5

The manufactures and trade of Kumbakónam have developed considerably within the last twenty-five years. In handicraft skill, Kumbakónam artisans are not behind their brethren of the best manufacturing towns of the Presidency. We believe it will afford your Excellency pleasure to see samples of cloths, brass and copper wares, and of other industries for which this town is noted.

Of the municipal administration of our town, it does not become us to speak at length here. We may, however, observe that local self-government has been a fair success in this town, that our Council have worked on pretty smoothly, and that though much remains to be done, we have not been unmindful of the sanitation and other demands of the town, consistently with its resources, and that we have striven to render the municipal institution as popular as possible.

Thanking your Excellency for the kind visit which your Excellency has been pleased to pay to our town, and praying that your Excellency will be pleased to convey to Her Gracious Majesty, the Queen Empress of India, our sentiments of loyal veneration for Her august Throne, we beg, &c.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I am much obliged to you for so kind an address read to me by the members of the Municipality on my first visit to Kumbakónam. I did pass through the town some little time ago, and was sorry that I was not able to stop; however, the pleasure is greater now for being postponed. What you say in your address about the interesting and historical character of the place is very well-known to me; and it will give me very great pleasure to visit the various objects of interest and also to visit the various manufactures which are, I am happy to learn, in a flourishing condition. With respect to the learning of Kumbakónam it is very well known not only here but also in other parts of India and in Europe. You mention in your address that Sanscrit learning has somewhat decayed here. I am sorry to hear it, but I think Sanskrit learning as well as I can make out seems to be quite as much appreciated in England as it is in India; and I believe almost all Sanskrit scholars seem to think that the resuscitation of Sanskrit literature is more likely to come from the West than the East, because I observe that there is a great wish to understand the Sanskrit language and literature both in Germany and in England and in all the centres of western civilization. I hope most sincerely that what you say about the affairs of the Municipality may turn out to be correct. The municipal institutions of Southern India are to me a question of very great interest, and I watch with careful scrutiny the affairs of all our Municipalities. Sometimes we are able to praise, sometimes we are obliged to criticise, and I do not think indiscriminate praise is the way to produce good results. I see a great number of friends here who I know are interested in municipal institutions, and I have no doubt that with their guidance, their advice and their example the affairs of this Municipality will flourish just as I hope they will flourish in other parts. Municipal affairs are a plant of slow growth and of recent culture in this country, and we cannot expect that they will take root in the same luxuriant way as the paddy watered by the sacred Cauvery. Although municipal institutions are a plant of exotic culture, I hope at the same time in a few years they will be established all over Southern India on such a firm foundation that nothing will uproot them. We look forward to municipal and local institutions as the instrument for working those improvements that you are anxious to make in your sanitation, in your education, in your water-supply and in all those attributes of modern physical civilization which mark the countries of the east and of the west, and therefore it is to those institutions we look for the substantial amelioration of the people. Well now, I am happy to think that your address is a model one in some respects, for it does not mention any grievances at all (laughter). I daresay I shall hear something about your wants before I leave your place, but you may be quite sure that as you have abstained with very great delicacy of feeling and good taste from putting your wants in an address of welcome, it will not make me averse to listen to your complaints at another time. Everything in its place, and that you are good enough to confine your remarks upon this occasion to an address of welcome, I can assure you will make me more disposed to regard anything you may have to say hereafter with favor and sympathy.—(Applause).

Address of the Members of the Managing Committee of the Town High School, Kumbakónam.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the members of the Managing Committee of the Town High School, Kumbakónam, beg to tender our most sincere thanks to your Excellency for the great honor done to our school by this visit, and we beg to avail ourselves of this opportunity of explaining the present position of the institution and the service which it has rendered to the cause of education.

Started in 1864 under the auspicies of the first Principal of the Kumbakónam College Mr. W. A Porter, of the late Rai Bahadur T. Gopala Rao, and of other native gentlemen of a generation now passing away, the Town High school has had a most prosperous and successful

career, and has been reckoned one of the most efficient high schools in this Presidency. It numbered at one time a thousand three hundred pupils on the rolls; and though reduced in dimensions owing to the springing up of numerous middle and high schools in and near Kumbakónam, it is yet one of the largest high schools of the Presidency and, in usefulness, efficiency, and discipline, yields the palm to few or none. It holds about four hundred and fifty pupils at present, and is officered by 20 teachers, of whom 6 are graduates.

The current year is one of special interest in the history of our institution. The committee have at last been able to carry out their long cherished object of giving it a fitting local habitation now approaching completion, and we are indebted to Mr. P. Thumbusawmy Mudaliar, a member of our committee, for the great sacrifice of time and labor at which he has superintended the structure. The new buildings have already cost Rs. 45,000 and will run up to Rs. 57,000 to complete. On the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction, to whom the committee are under great obligations for the very warm interest that he has always evinced in the welfare of this institution, Government were lately pleased to sanction a building grant of Rs. 9,600 to be paid in two instalments. But we beg humbly to submit that this grant is totally inadequate, and we shall, without further aid from Government, be compelled to draw very largely from our reserve fund to complete the building. The school has had to contend against deficits for some years past, and it will be impossible to maintain its efficiency against competition and the necessity of additional expenditure imposed by the new Upper Secondary examination, without a reserve fund of at least twenty thousand rupees. In these circumstances, we earnestly pray that your Excellency will be pleased to consider favorably the application for additional grant which we shall soon send up to Government.

Thanking your Excellency most heartily again for the honor of the kind visit, we beg, &c.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I am glad indeed to have the pleasure of meeting the committee of this school. I have heard a great deal about the cause of education as it is interesting the inhabitants of this place, and this seems to be one of the most flourishing institutions in this Presidency as you say in your address. I am glad also that you pay attention to discipline, because that is a subject to which all friends of education are now paying considerable attention. They say that the youth in this country are not so respectful, and do not show that deference to authority which their forefathers were remarkable for, and I am glad to learn that the management of this school are paying attention to that point. We all know that deference to authority and reverence for superiors is one of the most attractive qualities that can adorn human nature. People who are not reverent to their superiors very seldom respect themselves, and it would be a great pity if the great cause of education which is making such large strides in Southern India is defaced by the people departing from the customs of their ancestors in this respect. Those who are like myself brought into contact with the best men in the country, gentlemen who are most educated and most capable, are often struck by the great deference to authority which men in the highest position display, and it would be a thousand pities if that example is not followed by the younger generation, and if the younger generation are led away by a little book learning and by self-conceit to depart from the ways of their fathers and grandfathers. Well now, I am glad to find that you have been by public spirit and also by economy enabled to save sufficient money to build a home for the school which when completed will be worthy of it. Like all who embark in building, you seem to have come to the end of your resources, and I cannot say more on this occasion with respect to the request that you have made to me than that if any petition comes from you on the subject it will receive from the department concerned a sympathetic attention. We have a great many things to do with our money for education in different parts of the Presidency, and herein Kumbakónam, where we know that education has received a permanent and, I hope, a lasting abiding place, it would not be right for us to spend more money than we do in other places. I am also very glad to recognise the services of Mr. Thumbusawmy Mudaliar to which you have so gracefully alluded in the address. I must say that it is to the exertions of gentlemen like him that we must chiefly look forward for increasing the spread of education. Kumbakónam has always been remarkable for the large amount of liberality with which the citizens support their religious and educational institutions, and I may say that the whole of the district is always remarkable for the large number of charitable and educational institutions which adorn it, and I therefore hope that Mr. Thumbusawmy Mudaliar's example will be followed by other gentlemen, and that they will not grudge to spend that superfluity of money which providence has blessed them with for the benefit of their fellow countrymen as their ancestors have done before them. They will have the satisfaction of knowing not only that they are advancing with the times and spending money in accordance with the civilization of the age, but also that they are standing by the ways of their forefathers and are acting according to their ancient customs, which I am happy to say are still alive amongst the people of this district. I am glad to find that although the numbers have decreased, the efficiency has rather increased, and that you show all the signs of vitality which institutions of this kind ought to show. The Director of Public Instruction is not here to-day, as he has been detained in Madras. I am glad to find that you speak of him as if he showed great interest in this institution. There is no person in India

who has education more at heart, and I have no doubt that the advice which he will give you from time to time will be sound. I wish the boys a successful career here and in the college. You will have heard of a very material change lately made with respect to the secondary higher education. I daresay that the boys will find the examination now more difficult than it was before. I hope most sincerely that the boys will profit by that higher standard by gaining more information than they did under the old system I wish the institution every prosperity, and congratulate Mr. Thumbusawmy Mudaliar and the managers of the school upon the success which now attends it.—(Applause).

Address of the Manager, Proprietor, Masters and Pupils of the Native High School, Kumbakónam.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Manager, Proprietor, Head Master, Assistant Masters and pupils of the Native High School, Kumbakónam, beg leave to approach your Excellency and tender our sincere and grateful thanks for your Excellency's gracious condescension in consenting to visit this institution.

2. Humble as we are, we beg leave to say that we yield to none of our fellow citizens in the earnestness and cordiality with which we offer your Excellency our loyal and affectionate greeting.

3. We consider it extremely auspicious for the future of our institution that so distinguished a Statesman and so trusted and honored a representative of our Gracious Sovereign as your Excellency should have been pleased by visiting it to show your Excellency's interest in its welfare and prosperity.

4. We beg leave to take this opportunity of stating to your Excellency that this institution, the first successful example of self-help and independent effort in the field of secondary education, has been in existence since March 1876, that till very recently it was maintained entirely on the basis of self-support, that it has done useful work competing successfully in the public examinations with the recognized secondary and collegiate institutions in the Presidency, and that it has served all along as an important feeder to the Kumbakónam College.

5. We beg permission to add that this institution has always received from the present Director of Public Instruction, who has always evinced a deep and sincere interest in its well-being, a large amount of sympathy, encouragement and support; and we take this opportunity to offer our heartfelt and grateful thanks for your Excellency's gracious recognition of the work done by this institution.

In conclusion, we heartily welcome your Excellency to our institution, and pray to the Giver of all good to confer the choicest blessings on Her Imperial Majesty our Gracious Sovereign and on your Excellency, Her honored and trusted representative and our beloved and exalted ruler.

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen, Mr. Appu Sastri and Boys.—I feel it my duty as the representative of Her Majesty to come here this morning and to offer my support and countenance to this native school, which is one of the few institutions in the Presidency based upon the principles which it practises. It has given me great satisfaction to offer you my support, because any well directed effort at self-support, particularly in the cause of education, is one which any Governor of the Presidency must regard with sympathy and interest. It has also been a great pleasure to me to come here and to see for myself what great efforts have been made during the last fourteen years to establish a self-supporting school upon such a good foundation, and having for its object such high aims. You have gone through apparently a considerable amount of difficulty, and I attribute the mode in which you have encountered and overcome them to the public spirit, chiefly of the Head Master who has devoted his time, attention and labor to the cause in which he is engaged. I am informed that he has done so chiefly from conscientious motives and not from a wish to obtain gain. The desire to obtain gain is a great stimulus to human action; at the same time we all respect even more than the persons who accumulate money those who devote their time and attention to the cause of education gratuitously and with self-sacrifice. The golden ball which deterred Atalanta in her race seems to have been disregarded by Mr. Appu Sastriar, for a golden path might have been open to him if he had taken to other pursuits. I am quite sure that all his fellow countrymen and fellow townsmen are ready and willing to give him that praise, which after all must be the chief guerdon of public men. You say that the Director of Public Instruction has always given this school his support. I am sorry to say that he is detained in Madras with a fit of the gout; else he would have been here upon this occasion. I am happy to think that gout is a fashionable complaint, and some times does not attack people for a very long time. Therefore I hope most sincerely that the Director of Public Instruction will soon be able to devote his energies to the work which he is engaged in day by day, and I

3042

may say night by night. No person can do his duty more thoroughly to the State than Mr. Grigg and his whole mind and soul is occupied with the various problems of a most difficult kind which must come before the Director of Public Instruction in this Presidency. He has been devoting a great deal of attention lately to the introduction of a new scheme of higher secondary education. I hope the examination that has now been arranged to supplant or take the place of the one which has hitherto existed will be of advantage to education generally throughout the Presidency. I think it is a great compliment to those who have been instructing the youth of late years for the Government to feel that the time has come when an examination such as the Higher Secondary examination for Government service should be made more difficult than it has been hitherto. I sympathise very much with the boys in their exertions and in their labors. If I am obliged to go through those exertions myself, I think it is highly probable that I should fail in the examination, but the rising youth are much better educated by such an examination than those who have gone before them. I have just said in the school from which I came now, that as the boys become more educated it behoves them to follow the example of their ancestors and masters by showing deference to their superiors and inferiors. It would be a thousand pities if the national life of this country as it became more instructed in science and literature shall forget those ancient customs and manners which are of so much importance for your happiness. If persons have not good manners, nobody wishes to associate with them; and if a person has a rough way of addressing you, I think most people would take very great care that they are not addressed by him at all. The more gentle manners people have, the more they are likely to be associated with persons of distinction in literature and general attainments. I am very often struck myself, when I find differences in this respect amongst gentlemen who are candidates for the public service. I do not know whether it is owing to the school that they come from, or whether it is owing to the association of persons with whom they should not associate. I can assure you that there is such a difference in the ways and views of some of those who come to see me. It has been said I think that self-respect consists in reverence to inferiors, and everybody in my opinion should recollect that maxim. Perhaps all these remarks are superfluous in this school; at the same time I thought it my duty to make them because as this is one of the leading native schools in the Presidency many of the boys here may hereafter become teachers in other schools in different parts of the Presidency. I was reading a few days ago a speech made by the Hon. Mr. Justice Muthusawmy here, I think in July last. There is a great deal in it which had I time I would like to comment upon. It is well worth the consideration of all those engaged in education, and it must have been extremely satisfactory to you all to see a man who has risen to the highest position that he can possibly attain in this country coming down to his native place to offer you the advice which he did upon that occasion. His life is a sufficient example for you to follow, and if you take him for your example I am quite sure you can do no better. People now-a-days talk a great deal about the books necessary to teach boys with respect to conduct. Well, now, I should say that the best book I think you should decide to have to guide you is the life and example of a man so distinguished as the Hon. Mr. Justice Muthusawmy Iyer. You have there a loving example before you of what a man can do with high education and with rectitude of character. High education and rectitude of character are the two things that guide and must guide us to right. It is the example of such men like him that I think are of more value than any books that you can possibly read upon the subject of your conduct in life. I have only to say that I am very much obliged for the welcome that you have given me, and I hope your days in the school here will be happy and that your career in the college after training here will be a distinguished one, and that you will hand down to those who succeed you good example both as regards literary and scientific attainments, and also general character. I should like to ask Mr. Appu Sastri to give the boys a holiday in remembrance of my visit.

His Excellency's speech at the Kumbakónam College.

Mr. Bilderbeck and Students of the Kumbakonam College,—Although the sports have been interrupted this evening by the rain, I am always glad when my visits to different places are blessed by timely rain. It is always welcome, and I cannot but hope at any rate that this rain will be a good omen for the future prosperity of the college. When I say prosperity, I ought to say continued prosperity of the college, because I don't know if it will be in a more prosperous condition than it is at present. Judged by all the tests which we apply to colleges in different parts of the Presidency and in different parts of India your college stands second to none, and I hope that during the two next years when I shall have the honour of presiding at the convocation, I shall have the pleasure of conferring upon many students of this college their degrees. I hope Kumbakónam College will continue to send up to the University its due proportion of scholars, and I hope also that that due proportion will persevere in their studies, and succeed in attaining the M.A. degree. I also hope that many of you will devote yourselves in after-life to other pursuits than Government employment. Although I know most of you aspire to that service, in which I am afraid there are not sufficient places for the students that pass from various colleges in the Presidency, I hope that after your college career you will turn

your attention to other employments than Government employments. I have no doubt you will find many other occupations that will be more lucrative. I am very glad to find this evening that your physical education is not neglected here. Physical education has made immense progress during the last few years in this Presidency, and I have no doubt that under Mr. Bilderbeck all due encouragement will be given to it. I am sorry, however, I have not been able to see you play at lawn tennis. I hear that the game is popular here, and can only hope that in after-life when you will go to the different spheres of work to which you may be called, you will encourage the game and other physical pursuits. Gentlemen, I have only one thing to ask Mr. Bilderbeck, one that I was always very pleased to be the subject of both at school and college and that is, to give you a holiday. I hope he will do me the honor of giving you a holiday in commemoration of my visit and wish you all happiness both in your studies at this college and so in after-life.—(Loud applause).

Address of the Members of the People's Association, Tanjore.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Members of the Tanjore People's Association, beg to offer your Excellency our warmest thanks for the kindness and consideration that our district has received at the hands of your Excellency in being favored with two visits within an interval of two years. And believing as we do that your Excellency's visits are always associated with important business of State, we are confident that Tanjore will benefit immensely by the personal knowledge which your Excellency will derive by the tour now made through the district.

2. Your Excellency has now seen a great part of the delta of the Cauvery; and we are sanguine that the inquiries that will follow the present tour will be highly beneficial to the people of Tanjore when Government will, at an early date, settle the new rates of assessment to be imposed on the district on the basis of the classification of the soils now being made by the Department of Revenue Settlement. The question of the revision of assessments has already roused the anxiety of the Mirasidars; and naturally enough, serious fears are entertained about the tenure, as that will mainly depend for good or bad upon the new settlement. We are fully aware that Government will do nothing hastily, and that it is as solicitous about the welfare of the people as these are. But measures may be adopted in ignorance or with imperfect knowledge of the real agricultural condition of Tanjore. And our only prayer is that, before resolving on final measures, your Excellency's Government will be pleased to give the people an opportunity of submitting for consideration their views of the question. Our Association very largely represents the landed interests of this district: and it will be our duty to study the question of the new settlement with care and labor and to place before Government our humble views in the interests of the vast population whom we represent. We have reasons to fear that in some quarters erroneous opinions are entertained of the wealth and prosperity of Tanjore; and we crave that your Excellency will be pleased to test those views by the light of the statistics in our possession, which we shall submit to Government when the necessity for it arises.

3. The mismanagement of Hindu temples and charitable institutions has, for many years now, been pressed on the attention of Government. Endowments in their favor are far more numerous and wealthy in Tanjore than elsewhere in the Presidency. We beg to assure your Excellency that the evil calls aloud for remedy, and we earnestly pray that your Excellency will be pleased to confer on us lasting good by moving the Legislature to early and prompt action.

4. We are glad to learn that the Jubilee of our most Gracious Sovereign the Queen-Empress of India—an event which witnessed the most emphatic expression of India's loyalty to the Throne of Her Britannic Majesty—will be rendered ever memorable and fruitful of vast blessings to Tanjore and the neighbouring districts by the establishment at an early date of a school of technical education in Kumbakónam, a well-chosen centre for technical no less than for liberal education. We are thankful to our popular and esteemed Collector, Mr. Gibson, for the very warm interest he has taken in this matter, as indeed he has done in every question calculated to promote the good of the people. Under his wise direction and under the zealous personal superintendence of Mr. Bilderbeck, the Principal of the Kumbakónam College, we feel assured that the school, when started, will prove eminently successful and fulfil the expectations of such warm advocates of industrial education as the present Director of Public Instruction. We only pray that the school may be opened under your Excellency's generous auspices.

5. In conclusion, we beg that your Excellency will be pleased to convey to Her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India the sentiments of deep loyalty and veneration which binds the people of Tanjore to the august Throne of Great Britain.

6. Thanking your Excellency once more for the great favor of a visit to our district and wishing your Excellency as peaceful and prosperous an administration of our Presidency in the future as it has been blessed with in the past, we beg, &c.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—We are always very glad to listen to the wants of the people and one of the great objects I have in coming amongst you is to hear what your wants are. I am quite sure that the recognition you mention of your excellent Collector and his services is perfectly just, and that any representations you make with respect to grievances of any kind will be received by him with a willing ear. With respect to the new assessment that is now in progress, I have only to tell you that very careful investigations are being made with respect to land all over the district, and nothing will be done without the most mature consideration being given to it in the first place by Settlement officers and in the next place by the Collector and also the Board. If you have any representations to make on the subject of the new assessment and of the cost of cultivation of the land which is one of the great factors in the problem, you had better, I think, make them to the Collector and I am certain that he will give them all the consideration in his power. I have no doubt that if you will also submit any statistics you have with respect to the settlement in any part of the district to the Collector, they will be duly considered. One thing regarding the assessment I am quite sure about is, that the rates will not be higher in this district than they are in other districts. I am quite sure that you will be treated with as much fairness as others elsewhere. You mentioned the subject of the mismanagement of the Devastanams in your address. I wish I could see my way to moving the Legislature upon the subject in a way that will meet the objections which have been continually urged on the subject. I have told you my views a few minutes ago. The Government of India think that it is a delicate subject and that it should not be understood by any person that Government is contemplating anything like interference with your religion. We are not prepared to go further than the Act of 1863 as it exists, and I think the Act gives full power to any person interested in Devastanam funds to go to Court and have old trustees turned out and new trustees appointed. But there is the difficulty as you said of the expense of going to Court. I think that might be overcome. With respect to technical education, I have also asked some questions and received some information. If there is any well-devised schemes, I hope most sincerely that your Rs. 25,000 will be spent in introducing a Technical institute; but I must warn you against indulging in any visionary schemes and spending that money unless you are quite certain that it is going to be well spent. My own opinion is that technical education without workshops is of very little use and, certainly, technical education in India ought to have a different application from what it receives in the West, where there are plenty of workshops of all kinds in every street and every town; and what is wanted there is more scientific education: as for instance, knowledge of chemistry in chemical works and in painting and skilfulness in design which are of great value and in the same way, where there are foundries like the one at Negapatam, a knowledge of elementary mechanics and a knowledge connected with minerals and all branches of physical science and chemical science are doubtless of great importance. But here in this country I do not know if any advantages could result by imparting technical education in schools unless you have workshops attached to them. That is a problem which I leave to the educationists of the Presidency to solve. I have no doubt that the question is in excellent hands and that you may not have a better guide than Mr. Bilderbeck and the professors who are not only scientific men, but are also practical men and understand the youth of the country and the wants of the people. I am quite sure that with their assistance the question of a Technical institute will be thoroughly well and soundly solved. I shall say again that you should take very good care to satisfy yourselves that you are quite certain that the scheme you are going to carry out is likely to be successful. I am much obliged to the Association for presenting me with this address. It will be my duty, as you suggest, to convey through the Secretary of State to Her Gracious Majesty, the Queen-Empress, the terms in which you allude to her, and I have no doubt your address will be graciously received.

Address of the Citizens of Kumbakónam.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the citizens of Kumbakónam, beg permission to offer your Excellency our most sincere thanks for the great honor that your Excellency has been pleased to do us in visiting our town.

Kumbakónam is one of the most sacred towns of Southern India, and has always enjoyed a reputation for learning. Under the guidance of Providence, Western culture is gradually taking the place of the Eastern; and large have been the benefits already conferred upon the people of Tanjore and of the southern districts of the Presidency, by the college which is so pleasantly situated on the banks of the Cauvery, typifying by its very situation the intellectual fertility it is destined to produce. We pray that the institution which, under wise direction, has been so eminently successful, will continue to receive the kindest support of your Excellency's Government.

Your Excellency's administration has been one of peace and prosperity to the country; and may it ever continue so. We are thankful to your Excellency for the deep solicitude which your Excellency has ever evinced in the welfare of the millions committed to your care, as

witness, for instance, your Excellency's late visit to the famine-stricken Ganjam, unmindful of all personal hardships and discomforts—a visit, which has had the magic effect of invoking Heaven's blessings on its people, in rains and renovated hopes. We are glad that Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, with her wonted promptness to recognize and reward merit in her representatives and servants, and solicitude for the welfare of her Indian subjects, has been graciously pleased to recognize your Excellency's action in ameliorating the condition of the distressed people of Ganjam.

Your Excellency will be glad to learn that we have no long tale of grievances to tell. Still we beg permission to invite your Excellency's attention to one or two points of general and local administrative importance.

The Abkári question, we presume, is already engaging the attention of Government. And we venture to express here the opinion that the present system of retail-renting, with practically no limits on the opening of any number of liquor shops, has brought about a large increase of drunkenness among the working classes, and that the evil, unless stopped, will ere long tell seriously on the prosperity of the country.

Tanjore is emphatically the land of temples and charitable institutions; and the public are wholly dissatisfied with their present management. The remedy lies with the Legislature. We pray that your Excellency will be pleased to expedite legislation for the better management of these institutions, and thereby confer a most substantial blessing on the people.

And, lastly, we beg to bring to your Excellency's notice the unsatisfactory working of the Police of this town. Within the last few years, crime has very much increased in Kumbakónam and, in consequence, a general feeling of insecurity has sprung up among the townspeople. Gambling-houses, the usual resorts of bad characters, which the Police under the existing law does not possess adequate powers to repress, are very much on the increase. The evil, we need hardly say, demands the promptest inquiry and remedy.

We hope that your Excellency has found this visit pleasant and profitable, that the educational institutions, the temples, and the industrial arts of our town, have impressed your Excellency favorably, and that personal inspection has satisfied your Excellency that under British Government Kumbakónam has thriven materially and intellectually and that her citizens are industrious, peaceful, and loyal.

Thanking your Excellency once more for the great honor conferred on us by this visit.

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I am much obliged to the inhabitants for the very cordial reception they have given me at Kumbakónam, and for the address we have just heard so well read, I believe, by the Secretary of the Reception Committee. I beg to thank the Reception Committee very much for their kindness, and for the generous expenditure they have made on floral decorations, and for having received me as the representative of our Gracious Sovereign with so much honor. I shall take away from Kumbakónam grateful recollections of the reception which you have been good enough to give me. You mention several matters in your address of practical importance, but before I reply to those, I wish to thank you for the kind allusion you have made to the poor exertions that I thought it my duty to make with reference to the suffering people in a distant part of the Presidency. I have already said in reply to an address that was given at Trichinopoly, that I do not wish to take any credit for anything that I have done or for any good results that have followed my visit to Ganjam. I only did what the Queen expects her servants to do, who wish faithfully to discharge their duties by helping people whenever sufferings and disease fall upon them. I did no more than what all our district officers are doing every day by spending their time and energies in doing their duty. You mention the subject of abkári. The principle which has been laid down lately by the Government at home consists of three points. The first is that any extension of the habit of drunkenness amongst Indian populations is to be discouraged; the second is that the tax on spirits should be as high as may be possible, without giving rise to illicit methods of making and selling liquors. The third is that the ~~minimum~~ of revenue should be raised from the ~~maximum~~ consumption of intoxicating liquors. Those are the points laid down as the policy which we are to follow in this country, and although the Government have been kind enough to send out these instructions, I think they might have been spared the trouble of giving them to us, as they represent the principle upon which we have been acting so long as I have been Governor, and on which we shall continue to act. Of course drunkenness is a vice which we all deplore, and I shall do my best so long as I hold my high office to discourage it in every way I can, but I do not wish to interfere with the liberty of the people more than is necessary. I have no doubt that your Collector, Mr. Gibson, will act on these principles as he always has done. With respect to your charitable institutions you have heard what I said in my reply to the address, and I have no further information to add. I am very sorry to hear that the Police in this town for some reason or other has not been able to detect crime. I looked at the statistics of crime and observed that house-breaking is the crime in which there has been a substantial increase. I have spoken to the head of Police about it, and I hope most sincerely that measures will be taken to bring the culprits to justice, and to put an end to this very serious blot

3042

upon their administration, which must cause a great deal of inconvenience, alarm and apprehension to the inhabitants. I am sorry to hear that gambling is also on the increase. I am happy to tell you that the Act, which is applied to Madras, and has been extremely efficacious in putting down gambling there, is to be applied to the mofussil towns. I am extremely pleased with your educational and municipal institutions. I hope most sincerely that Kumbakónam will continue to prosper and to hold the high place which it has long held in public estimation.—(Loud applause).

Address of the Municipal Councillors and Inhabitants of Cuddalore.

May it Please Your Excellency,—It is with feelings of joy and gratitude that we, the Municipal Councillors and other inhabitants of Cuddalore, welcome your Excellency in our midst—joy because we have had the honor and pleasure of beholding this day so near our own homes the representative of Her Imperial Majesty, our loyalty to whose person and Government is not behind that of any other portion of Her Majesty's subjects; and gratitude because your Excellency has been graciously pleased to accord to us the honor and pleasure which we have referred to above.

2. We beg in the first place to remind your Excellency of the conspicuous part which this town and the district of which it is the head-quarters have played in the great events of the past and which has produced such unexampled benefits to this country! It is a district teeming with associations of no less an historical personage than Lord Clive. So honored in history, it is however not equally noted for the richness of its soil as a whole, or for the consequent prosperity of its inhabitants. Yet it has reasons to be thankful that, all things considered, it has been far more favored by nature and art than certain other parts of the Presidency.

3. Your Excellency's administration has been attended with uniform tranquillity and happiness to the people. It has been marked by the zealous efforts of Government to promote the best interests of the community—witness the measures which it has recently taken for reducing the number of shops for the sale of toddy with a view to actively discountenancing intemperance in the country.

4. We are deeply grateful for all the blessings we enjoy. We have, however, a few grievances, the redress of which will tend to increase our material prosperity; and as it is generally believed to be an important object of your Excellency in making a tour through this province to acquaint yourself personally with the condition and character of the inhabitants as far as may be, as well as to invite an expression from them of their wants and wishes, if they have any, we congratulate ourselves on being allowed this opportunity of respectfully making known to your Excellency some of our needs and desires with the prayer that they will meet with such consideration as they may appear to deserve in the opinion of your Excellency's Government.

5. In the first place we regret to have to inform your Excellency that it is with grave alarm that we have read the recent declaration of the Government of India of its determination to curtail every year the State's grant for higher education.

6. While the resources of the Municipality of Cuddalore raised in all possible ways are hardly enough to meet the ordinary requirements of the town, they have been crippled by the contribution which the Municipality has had to make towards the reconstruction of the bridge across the Gadilam. We pray that your Excellency's Government will be pleased to reconsider the orders on this subject and remit this contribution. We shall then be able to devise some scheme for improving the water-supply of the town.

7. The rebuilding of a similar bridge across the Pennar has brought about the levy and continuance of tolls on all the roads in the district, which is a severe hardship to the poor ryot. We therefore beg to submit that the number of toll-gates now existing may be reduced, seeing that the purposes for which they were instituted have now almost all been answered—an opinion fully shared in by the Local Boards in the district.

8. In connection with the paucity of Municipal funds just referred to, we pray that your Excellency will excuse us for venturing to observe that the method of replenishing them by the imposition of octroi duties which we fear is in the contemplation of Government will not only be an addition to the burden of Municipal taxation, which is already heavy, but will be a source of intolerable vexation to the people; as however good be the rules which may be framed on the subject, they cannot be worked without an amount of inquisitorial procedure by low-paid subordinates which must entail serious annoyance and hardship on the population. Some of us know by experience how great is the hardship caused by the working of the octroi rules in Northern India.

9. We next humbly take the liberty of representing to your Excellency on behalf of the poorer classes of the people that they are subject to much embarrassment and suffering for want of pasture lands and by being taxed on such insignificant forest produce as grass including brooms, wild berries, leaves of wild shrubs for manure, date and cadjan leaves for plaiting mats with, faggots for fuel, which are now taxed by the head-load, &c.; we pray in the name of those concerned that pasture grounds may be provided, and that the working of the rules of

the Forest Act may be so modified as to exempt the articles above mentioned and others of a similar kind from taxation.

10. With regard to the working of the Salt Act too, we here beg to point out, with all due respect, that the excise system which it was expected would make salt cheaper and purer has not only not produced the desired effect, but has also by promoting combination among the capitalists helped to raise the price still higher than before — a grievance to all, and particularly to the poorer classes again, whose cattle in consequence perish by hundreds every year.

11. We avail ourselves of the present occasion also to refer to the deplorable maladministration of our devasthanams owing to the defective state of the law. There is a consensus of opinion as to the urgent need for a more satisfactory legislation, as has often been pressed upon the attention of Government.

12. Furthermore, we humbly beg to state that the Police Re-organization Scheme, which, as we learn, is fast taking shape, is eagerly awaited by all the intelligent classes of the community, and to express our hope that it will be most beneficial to the country.

13. Lastly, we venture to approach your Excellency with the suggestion that an experimental farm worked by convict labor in every district would tend both to popularize improvements in agriculture and to instruct the convicts to earn an honorable livelihood after leaving the prison-house. This suggestion, if adopted, will also enable the Government to initiate and prosecute agricultural improvements without laying out a large amount of money — a difficulty which has always stood in the way of agricultural reforms.

14. In conclusion, we take the liberty of wishing your Excellency all prosperity and happiness — a recompense so well merited by one, regarding whom we are confident, that history shall hereafter record that he was a ruler after the people's own heart — as he was unquestionably one of the most zealous, most capable and right-minded of the Governors who ever presided over the destinies of an Indian Provinces.—*Cuddalore, 11th September* 1889.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I can assure you that I am very grateful for the very kind way in which you speak in the early portion of your address of the endeavours that I am making to represent the Queen-Empress worthily in this Presidency. I am glad to find myself at Cuddalore for many reasons. I have known it all my life as being a very interesting portion of the Presidency, and being full of historical associations. It is, I think, nearly 150 years now since Lord Clive received his first commission not very far from where we are standing, Fort St. David, and since that time the history of the district has been illustrated by very stirring events. Fortunately we live in peaceful times, and what was won by the sword by England we hope to be able to keep by peaceful means. Certainly we have the satisfaction of knowing that what was won by the sword was rescued from the almost continual barbarism and war which had characterised it for a very long time before. All those who read the history of Southern India must be struck by the continual wars of all kinds which went on in every part of the district, first in the early times of the Chola Dynasty, then of the Naiks, then of the Bijapur Kings, and then of the Muhammadan Kings when there seemed to be a succession of bloody and sanguinary conflicts. We have now fortunately been able to restore peace to the country, and I may say during the whole of this century there has been no such thing as a war in Southern India; and therefore it is a great satisfaction to those who represent Her Majesty in this district to know and to feel that it is by the arts of peace and by encouraging peaceful pursuits and industry that we hope to ameliorate the condition of the people. Well, gentlemen, you do me the honor of saying that I am anxious to hear what the people's wishes and feelings are when I go into the various districts. That is perfectly true, I find the people extremely reasonable when I speak to them generally, but I am sorry to say that I am not always able to give them everything that they want. I think I am always able to send them away feeling that their wants are made known to the Governor, and that Government take a serious interest in and regard with active sympathy all their wishes and wants. Regarding the various points mentioned in your address, I am greatly afraid that I am not able to give an answer to many of them which will meet your wishes. You are, I am glad to say, ready to recognize the efforts of Government to put down intemperance. Some gentlemen come to India for three or four weeks and go back to England and make speeches saying that the different Governments in India, both provincial and supreme, are anxious only to raise the revenue and increase inebriety. Those are very foolish gentlemen and I don't know that their views are worth being taken notice of. I observe that in sone of the associations in this country those gentlemen who come out to India for a short time are considered to be persons who have the interests of the people most at heart. I do not think that many wise men from the East are of that opinion, because they see the hollowness of their professions and the great number of mistakes they make. All I can say is that we are most anxious to put down inebriety and discourage it in every way we can. With respect to the bridges you mention, I am greatly afraid that the Government will not be justified in interfering, because although it is of great importance for you no doubt to have water-supply, at the same time this arrangement seems to have been of the nature of a contract between you and the Government, and certainly the Government would not be

3042

justified in breaking the contract after so short a time. I hope you will be able, within a few years, to pay off your indebtedness, and then you will be able to spend this money upon the water-supply. We can, I dare say, listen to any petition that you may have to make in case you want to borrow money for a better water-supply. We have been enabled to lend Municipalities money for a better water-supply. There is nothing that contributes more to the happiness of the whole population, male and female, than a good water-supply, and I am quite sure that if you can choose any well devised scheme for improving it, we shall be very glad to give you our sympathetic ear. With respect to the tolls over the Pennar bridge, I think that the District Board will in all probability be able to reduce them next year. I dislike tolls. Nothing I dislike more than paying a turnpike. We have them at home, and in my own country I have done all I can to abolish them by placing the burden upon the land-owners. I do not know if that would be a very agreeable measure in this country. People are inclined to think that the levying of tolls is a fair means of getting a bridge built when necessary. Somebody must pay the money, and the best principle is that those who use the roads should pay for them. I hope that tolls will be done away with here. They are a great impediment to trade and to agriculture, and I need not tell you that the agriculturists have my sympathy. With regard to the octroi duties, I am very much opposed to them myself in principle. They are duties upon industry, upon commodities and in every way they are objectionable, particularly in a country where indirect taxation is greater already than direct taxation. However, the imposition of the octroi duties is a question for the local authorities, and I am glad to see that the local authorities are alive to the fact that we should not impose those duties upon the people against their will. You also refer to the question of forest laws. I always say to the Forest Officers and to Collectors, with whom the Forest Officers work that laws have to be worked with very great care and with very great consideration for the people. I am sure you must know that the object that the Government have in view is to restore to the forests their ancient condition and to make the forests what they were many years ago. We do that in the interests of the people themselves. That cannot be done without preventing goats, cattle and other animals from grazing in those forests, and again only a comparatively small portion of this district has been taken up for forests; and there will in perpetuity be a very large portion of the forest lands, where people will be able to graze their cattle without paying anything at all, and where they will be able to gather those faggots, wild berries and wild shrubs. It is only in reserved forests a very small portion that is absolutely necessary is preserved from depredations of all kinds. I have had the advantage of speaking to the Forest Officer this morning on the subject and am glad to learn that forests in this district seem to be in a very fair way to improvement. I hope most sincerely that in a very few years they will be in such a condition that people will be able to get firewood from them, and to use them in such a way as to be a boon and a benefit to them. Certainly nothing can be more barbarous than leaving our forests to take care of themselves, and I have no doubt that in few years the forest will be an advantage to the people themselves. You speak of the Salt Act. It is quite true that the excise system was introduced in the hope of lessening the price of salt, and I do not think those hopes have been realised. So much so that I had turned my very serious attention to this question; and I came to the conclusion that it would be desirable to re-establish some of the Government manufactures and to re-establish the monopoly system in those districts where we said that there was likely to be a combination between the merchants and an undue rise in the price of salt. That is the policy we mean to pursue. It requires some time to re-establish factories that have been abolished, and the indication that we are going to re-establish monopolies has been to a certain extent successful. It is a subject that requires continual watching by the Government, and I am most sensible of the enormous advantage and boon to every man, woman, and child to have cheap salt. I only wish I could make it much cheaper than it is. You next speak of devastanam mismanagement. I mentioned my views last night in answer to an address given to me at Kumbakónam. There seems to be a misunderstanding. There is the Act (1863), and Government are not disposed to interfere with the religious endowments of this country. It is not a measure that would recommend itself ever to my judgment, but at the same time you have the power in your hands. The answer that I get continually is that it is expensive, and that persons will not take the risk or show enough public spirit by subscribing amongst themselves to raise sufficient money to enter upon a litigation with the trustees. I do not know that people are so very averse to litigation. I think the Act of 1863 gives you full power. I consulted the Government of India already on the subject and they do not see their way to going further and taking more responsibility upon themselves, for their action in the matter would make Government liable to the imputation that they were interfering with the religious endowments of the people. The next point you refer to is an agricultural farm worked by convict labor. I am very much interested in agriculture myself, and I am very sorry that all efforts to improve agriculture in this country during the last 5 or 6 years have been futile. I appointed a committee to consider the whole subject and the way in which the Agricultural department is managed. The committee has issued a report of many hundred pages which I have read, and I must say that although it contains a great deal of information, it shows that up to the present time failure has been the result of efforts made in the direction of agricultural improvements. We have not yet considered what to do with the report of the committee, but the one thing I am quite certain about is that it is not desirable to spend much more money in the direction in which money has been spent hitherto. I cannot agree that a model farm worked by convict labor would be a very desirable one. We know convict labor as a rule is not very good labor. You know also that it interferes with the general labor of

the country. That is the greatest objection to it. We find that at home such has been tried, and has not been a success. All I can say is that with respect to those questions which we have been speaking about, they are questions no doubt which concern the welfare and material well-being of the people, and that when I go back to Madras, this address will be sent to various departments concerned; and if they have any suggestions to make with respect to it, they will receive the sympathetic attention of Government. I am extremely obliged to you, gentlemen, for the last and flattering words of your address which I am afraid are of too favorable a nature and far more than I deserve. All I can say is that as long as I have the honor to represent the Queen-Empress in this Presidency, I will endeavour to carry out Her Majesty's wishes, and I know that in doing that I shall be endeavouring to meet the wishes, as far as I can, of the people over whom she rules.

Address of the Municipal Council of Chidambaram.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Municipal Councillors and townsmen of Chidambaram, most respectfully beg to welcome your Excellency to the chief town of our district. It is impossible to conceal from your Excellency our deep regret that it was not our privilege to present this address to your Excellency in our own town, which, as your Excellency is aware, is one of the most celebrated places of pilgrimage in Southern India, containing, as it does, a temple of Cyclopean structure, exquisite workmanship and great antiquity, an object of veneration throughout the land for the religious traditions which invest it. Within recent years two of your Excellency's predecessors were pleased to visit our town, and we beg to indulge the fond hope that your Excellency will find it possible before leaving these shores to accord the honor of a visit to this town of historic fame.

While feeling grateful to Government for the privileges of Local Self-Government so liberally granted to India, we have much pleasure in stating that this measure has so far proved a success in our Municipality. We take this opportunity of bringing to your Excellency's notice the two great wants of our town, viz., a good water-supply and a complete system of drainage. A project to provide this town with an adequate supply of good water is under the consideration of the Council, and we sincerely hope that when the matter comes up before Government, your Excellency in Council will take the matter into favorable consideration, and render in the carrying out of this project material help to our Municipality, which is not in a position to undertake single-handed such a big and costly scheme owing to paucity of funds.

Most heartily thanking your Excellency for having given us this opportunity of personally expressing our sincere pleasure at your Excellency's visit to this district, and of laying before your Excellency the chief wants of our town, we have, &c.

(His Excellency promised that the address should receive favorable consideration.)

Address of the Members of the Union Club, Cuddalore.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the members of the Union Club, Cuddalore, heartily welcome your Excellency in our midst, and feel most happy that, during your short stay here, your Excellency has found time to lay the foundation stone of our club building and thus help us in promoting our social interests.

This club assumed its present form in March 1884 through the exertions of Mir Shujaat Ali Khan Bahadur, Assistant Collector, who did much to bring about the union of some of the clubs which were then in existence.

As a result of this union, the institution has grown strong in numbers and we are happy to say that it is now able to maintain a library, a reading room, a billiard table and a tennis court. It is open to all sections of the community.

In their order No. 649 (Educational Department), dated 6th October 1886, the Government were pleased to allow the club the use of a portion of the Town Hall. But the growing demands of the institution have rendered a separate building necessary, and in our endeavour to provide for one we have this day the good fortune of having your Excellency in our midst at a time when our next step is the ceremony which your Excellency has graciously condescended to help us through.

In conclusion, we beg to express our thankfulness to your Excellency for having lent to this happy occasion the lustre of your name and the deep debt of gratitude we owe to Her Gracious Majesty, the Queen-Empress, whose benevolent policy has called into existence such and other kindred institutions throughout the land.—*Cuddalore, 11th September* 1889.

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Apparently there is nothing in this Engineers minute which requires special notice in the General Branch Report.

The water supply schemes mentioned in the addresses are all under the control of the Local Govt Dept; & this Dept has nothing to say to the question of funds for the projects.

With respect to para 2 (i) of this Engineers minute, it will be seen from G.O. Nos 1661W & 1667W dd 30.6.86, that the papers pertaining thereto, that the question of the employment of Convict labour on Public

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works has not been
lost sight of —

"2. The present pro-
ceedings might perhaps be
recorded" — a copy
of the tour minute
has been furnished
to P.R.

Read
Ch
28/Jan/87

Confidential 3642 Public Department

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Read the following
Minute by His Excellency the Right Honorable
the Governor on his ninth tour

Order 21st October 1889, No. 838 Mis.

Communicated to
the Local and Municipal, Judicial, Public
Works, Educational and Revenue Departments
for consideration of the points noted in His
Excellency's Minute.

(True Extract)
Chief Secretary

To.
The Public works Department
(with 2 Copies of Minute)

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P. N. (8c. 10032/1889

(467)

9th Town

8c. 838 & Mis

21 } October 1889
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Enc: 2 copies
of Minutes

No. 3042 W. 28. X. 89

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