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INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Dr. Smith, who has
been, Fisher, & Robt.
on draw certain
salaries, while ^{present} spots
to Collection of Karmore
Beltary & Anantapur

ORDINARY, MS.

Public DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 6-1-92
No. 6

INDEXED.

When given for copying

[Despatch Abstract.]

Directing that Messrs.
Hewitt, Forbes & Roberts
are draw certain
salaries while ^{being} ~~spelt~~
to Collection of Karmool
Belary & Anantapur

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OF 18

DIRTY

1 No

IT WITH DITTO.

GOVERNMENT

F GOVERNMENT

W/TH DISTO.

T FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
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Q = Copy heading only.

Order 6 January 92 N. 6

With reference to the appls. of
Messrs C. Henry, A. T. Forbes &
J. H. Robertson to be Special
Assistants to the Collectors of Kurnool,
Bellary and Anantapur respectively,
under Chapter I. para 11 of the

notified in No 11 613
on p. 2 of the Fort St George
Gazette of the 5th Jan'y 1892,

Madras Famine Code, H.E. the

Governor in Council is pleased to
direct that whilst so employed Messrs
Forbes and Robertson shall draw ~~the~~
salaries as Ag. Hd. Asst. Collectors.
Mr. Henry will draw the pay of
his permanent appt.

(from Order)

6 Jan'y

Coll. Kurnool
" Bellary
" Anantapur
Acct. Genl
Copy to Rec. Dept.

RECEIVED
3 JAN 1892
IN N.S.

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6.1.92

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24.15.15, 41.1.16

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24.15.15, 41.1.16

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Pub: c. 1900. 39/72

MEMORANDUM ON HIS EXCELLENCY'S FOURTH TOUR.

The Educational Department should supply information about the Raja of Pithapuram's Girls' school. It is said that the salaries of the teachers are unpaid, while the transfer of the school to Government is being arranged, and it is also said that such a transfer has been decided upon.

The Marine Department should inform His Excellency whether Mr. Thorowgood has proceeded to Vizagapatam, and also furnish Colonel Sankey's report upon that harbour for perusal.

The Local Fund and Municipal Department should report whether any general pledge has been given that half of the cost of the water-supply for Municipalities will be borne by Government.

It is not known whether the Collector of Vizagapatam has sent in a programme of works required for relief in his district. The Revenue Department should report whether he has or has not. His Excellency wishes to see it when it comes in.

If, as is stated, the house and land rate of Bimlipatam has lately been raised to the maximum of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., His Excellency would like to see the papers. House property probably will now deteriorate there, which makes it doubtful whether this is the time to increase the rate.

The Chicacole residents asked that one of the Agricultural schools should be established there. This request should be noted by the Revenue Department, for consideration in connection with the paper on this subject which is now before Government.

The request that a branch of the railway should be made to Chicacole should be noted in the Railway Secretariat. In answer to this His Excellency said that the question could not be taken into consideration until the main line had been completed, and gave no promise on the subject. He wishes that the request should, none the less, be considered.

A reference to the School-fee Notification made by the residents of Chicacole should be referred to the Educational Department for a note. It should be circulated to the Honorable Member in charge of the Department and to His Excellency.

An inquiry might be made as to the progress of the Religious Endowments Committee's report, and as to how its submission will be affected by the unfortunate illness of Mr. Justice Muthusawmy Iyer.

An inquiry should be made as to the result of the application for the establishment of a Munsif's Court at Kimedi; and the Inspector-General of Police should report upon the request that a separate Town Police should be established at Parlákimedi.

References to the education of the Uriyas contained in the three addresses delivered at Parlákimedi should be noted upon in the Educational Department; and the respective departments concerned should also note upon the questions raised as regards the contribution of Government towards the Parlákimedi Medical officer's pay and the establishment of a Bench of Magistrates in that town.

The Educational Department should take due notice, at the proper time, of the request that the Uriyas should be excepted from the rule which is to come into force whereby only graduates are to be appointed in future to certain specified posts in the public service.

In regard to the East Coast Railway, unfortunately the earthwork on the embankment through the Tekkali zamindari and certain distressed parts of the Chicacole taluk will be completed before the time comes when the people of this area will feel the pinch, and will probably require some extraneous help in the way of State-provided labour. A suggestion made by His Excellency to Major White that the embankment should be raised so as to lessen the gradients does not commend itself to that officer, because the bridges have been estimated for so as to suit the height at which the embankment is at present being constructed.

ADDRESSES, &c.

PRESENTED TO

AND

REPLIES MADE

BY

HIS EXCELLENCY THE LORD WENLOCK,

G. C. I. E.

ON HIS FOURTH TOUR.

December 1891.

ADDRESSES, &c.

PRESENTED TO

AND

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BY

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ADDRESSES, &c., PRESENTED TO AND REPLIES MADE BY HIS
EXCELLENCY THE LORD WENLOCK ON HIS FOURTH TOUR.

Address of the Municipal Council, Vizagapatam.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—We, the Members of the Municipal Council, Vizagapatam, on behalf of ourselves and the people of this ancient and important town, beg respectfully to give a hearty welcome to your Excellency on this your first visit to this place, as the worthy representative of our august and beloved Sovereign, Empress Victoria. We regret that owing to the short notice given us we find ourselves unable to give your Excellency a reception, such as your Excellency has met with in other districts, befitting your Excellency and worthy of ourselves; but we beg to assure your Lordship that we are behind none of the inhabitants of this Presidency in our feelings of attachment and loyalty to the British Government under which we have enjoyed the blessings of continued peace and prosperity. We cannot but avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude and thanks to Government on behalf of all the people of this district for the East Coast Railway, which is destined to play an important part in the history of the Northern Circars. We are greatly indebted for this boon to the exertions of our late worthy Collector, Mr. H. G. Turner, who repeatedly pressed the subject on the attention of the Government, and to your Excellency's predecessor. It is our earnest desire that the work begun under such auspices may soon be completed and may conduce in a large degree to our comfort and advantage. The works in connection with this railway have given employment to a number of people who would otherwise, we fear, have felt much the effects of the failure of the last two monsoons; and we pray very earnestly that your Excellency's advent here may be the harbinger of rains which are so much wanted, and the continued absence of which, we apprehend, may necessitate the starting of other works to give employment to the poorer classes. We would also express a hope that the proposed Raipur-Vizagapatam and Cuttack-Calcutta Railways may soon become accomplished facts, and the important capital towns of India situated in different parts of it become thus connected with each other and with this town by railway. We beg to approach your Excellency with another subject no less important than the East Coast Railway. The construction of a harbour here has been, for the last twenty years, engaging more or less the attention of the Government, and Engineers of great eminence and vast experience have, from time to time, visited the locality and expressed favorable opinion on the feasibility of constructing a harbour here. We have lately seen in the papers that Mr. Thorowgood is coming out here in this cold season from England to give his professional opinion on the matter. We are informed that, in the opinion of experts, this port is capable of being converted into the best harbour on the eastern coast, without much cost. We would bring to your Excellency's favorable consideration the natural facilities of this port as a harbour and its convenient position for ships plying between Calcutta and Madras. We would also place before your Lordship the importance of the subject, the facilities to commerce, and the probable revenue to the State likely to arise from the construction of a harbour here. The East Coast Railway must add vastly to the importance of Vizagapatam by concentrating the whole trade of the district here, and what is now wanted is a harbour to give facilities for trade at this port and for ships sailing in the Bay of Bengal. We earnestly beg your Excellency may be pleased to commemorate your visit to this town and your administration by seeing that this project is carried to a successful termination. Your Excellency's name will then be undoubtedly enthroned in the loving hearts of the people of the Northern Circars. We would humbly beg that your Excellency will be pleased to allow us to say with pride and pleasure, "Lord Connemara gave us the East Coast Railway and Lord Wenlock the Vizagapatam Harbour." We earnestly crave your Excellency's favorable consideration for the scheme of water-supply which is at present engaging the attention of this Municipality. We need not dwell here on the great advantages of pure water for purposes of drinking, as many diseases commonly met with here take their rise from the impurities of the water used by people living in crowded towns. As the Municipal Corporation is not rich and the people are poor, we would humbly beg that your Excellency will be pleased to give a liberal support to the scheme when it is laid before your Lordship's Government in due course. We beg humbly to thank your Excellency for the opportunity allowed to us to meet your Lordship here and the kindness with which you have been pleased to hear us, and we pray that Almighty God will be pleased to shower His choicest blessings on your Excellency and Lady Wenlock.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN.—I beg to thank you for your enthusiastic reception. I can assure you that no decorations are required, and that the goodwill of the inhabitants is the best welcome that can be offered to the Governor. I infinitely prefer to see your town in its everyday dress rather than disguised in expensive decorations at the cost of the tax-payers. I endorse all you say as regards the East Coast Railway and the debt you owe to your late Collector, Mr. H. G. Turner,

who, though absent from Vizagapatam, is still with you in spirit and loses no opportunity of furthering your interests in England. There can be no doubt that this railway, which Mr. Turner did so much to bring about, will be of incalculable benefit to the people of this part of India. The Secretary of State, Lord Cross, almost every week expresses to me his desire to see the cities of Calcutta and Madras united as soon as possible by means of this great undertaking. In regard to your harbour, it is yet premature for me to express an opinion. Mr. Thorowgood should be here in about a fortnight and the results of his investigation will be submitted to eminent Engineers at home, and the vexed question whether or not this harbour can be improved, and in what manner it can best be improved will, I hope, be finally settled. I gather that it has never been thoroughly examined before. The improvement of Vizagapatam harbour cannot but lead to a concentration of trade in this direction which must be of advantage not only to the people of Vizagapatam, but also to the inhabitants of the vast country behind it. If the harbour be improved and made, and turns out a success, there can be little doubt that a line of railway from Vizagapatam to Raipur will follow. The immediate results of such a railway must be a great expansion of trade and the cultivation of vast areas of waste land. I look upon this project as one of the greatest importance, and I sincerely hope that it may be given to me to see the harbour question at least satisfactorily settled during my term of office. In regard to your water-supply, in all you say as to the great advantages of pure water I heartily agree. It becomes necessary for all large towns to go further afield for water as the extension of buildings and the crowding of inhabitants results in the contamination of previously existing sources of supply. In conclusion, I would thank you for the kind wishes you have expressed towards Lady Wenlock and myself, and would assure you of the pleasure it has given me to visit this great centre of the Eastern Coast and to inspect, so far as possible in the limited time at my disposal, the commencement of the work in which you are all so interested.

Address of the Municipal Council, Bimlipatam.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—We were most agreeably surprised at the unexpected intelligence of your Excellency's intention to visit our town, and we have now the pleasure to offer your Excellency our most hearty welcome. Acquainted as we are with the hurried nature of the visit, we would not detain your Excellency with a very long address. It affords us much pleasure to inform your Excellency that the general health of our town is good. Although at present the prospects of our crops are, we regret to say, not encouraging owing to the failure of the monsoon, yet we do not apprehend the hardships of famine times as the neighbouring districts appear to have fared better; moreover, the East Coast Railway continues to find employment for a large number of the working classes, and we still hope that the remaining crops may yet be saved in the event of our being favored with rain. Our Municipal Council has been working with harmony in carrying out as far as possible the provisions of the Municipal Act. As to the results of our work, we have not much to say as the successive reviews by Government on the administration speak for themselves. We have almost all the advantages of the best regulated Municipalities in the Presidency, and although of course there is room for improvement, we have no reason to complain. The Sanitary Commissioners who have been inspecting the Municipality from time to time have, no doubt, brought to your Excellency's notice the wholesome condition of our drinking water sources as well as of our drains and streets. And this visit, short as it is, has, we hope, given your Excellency an idea of the cleanliness and the naturally advantageous position of our town. Bimlipatam has hitherto been able to afford, except on rare occasions, sufficient employment for the majority of the working classes chiefly in connection with its large import and export business; while the helpless poor are provided for at the Ripon Poor House and by voluntary contributions. What we have most reason to complain against and the redress of which we are so sanguine of obtaining from your Excellency's present visit, is the disallowance of a branch line of the East Coast Railway to our town. In our memorials submitted to your predecessor Lord Connemara, and to your Excellency, succinct reasons were given and detailed statistics submitted to justify our claim and your sanction to our solicitation. We have proved, we venture to say without fear of contradiction, that our town has for years been the commercial centre of the Vizagapatam district; that it is capable of affording sufficient accommodation for the storage of all the produce exported; that the port is less liable to risks than Vizagapatam; that its sanitary condition is by far preferable to that of its neighbouring towns; and that there will be a saving of 20 miles by traffic getting an outlet here instead of at Vizagapatam which means a lot of money gained by the merchant. If any of these claims, which were recommended to Government by the Madras Chamber of Commerce, had received the least favorable support of the Railway or District authorities, we would not have been under the painful necessity of troubling your Excellency with this re-representation. The reasons assigned by the Engineer-in-Chief on the last reference made to him by your Excellency's Government in May 1891 are chiefly these:—viz. (i) that the line to Bimlipatam costs 14 lakhs of rupees; (ii) that for the carriage of exports or for imports going inland, it is not in the least required; (iii) that it appears far more desirable to throw all the eggs into one basket and spend a portion of this 14 lakhs in improving the port of Vizagapatam than in making a branch

line; (iv) that if the Vizagapatam harbour is at all improved, it will become one of the most important places on the East Coast. With regard to the first objection, we beg to submit that we are still under the impression that the railway was sanctioned by Government not that it would be a very profitable or paying concern, but that it would tend to improve the country. This being the case, we most submissively beg to represent that it would not be just to ruin our town to improve a neighbouring one. Moreover, if 14 lakhs be deemed too much an outlay for Government to spend for the benefit of this town, how ruinous would it be for us to have to forego the value of all the house property here, fully 7½ lakhs at 5 per cent. on the rental value, and invest a much larger amount for similar accommodation at Vizagapatam, not to speak of the difficulty of obtaining suitable sites there. The Engineer-in-Chief has not raised any insurmountable difficulties in the way of constructing the line. With regard to the second objection, we beg to represent that the Vizagapatam port has neither the accommodation nor the conveniences for the export of all the produce shipped from here, should it go there; neither is it as safe a working port as Bimlipatam; and on this most important point no opinion appears to have been taken from those who are in a position to give it. With regard to the third objection, the Engineer-in-Chief does not appear to see whether under existing circumstances the basket is big enough to hold all the eggs which he would throw into it. Unless he would also suggest the construction of godowns miles away from the beach, near Mairipalem or Hanumanthawaka or on the swamp, there is not the least likelihood of the beach or thereabouts furnishing room for the storage of additional produce which he hopes Vizagapatam to get. In this connection, it would not be out of place to represent that during the jaggery season at Vizagapatam the bags have not unfrequently to be left in the open air for want of godowns to hold them. With regard to the harbour at Vizagapatam, if the 14 lakhs thus intended to be saved would pay for the cost of forming a good harbour to admit with safety steamers of the class calling here regularly, no one could well object to the expenditure, but it is a well-known fact that during the last 20 years the harbour scheme at Vizagapatam has been pronounced impracticable by several able engineers and nautical men. Although Vizagapatam is considered to have a fairly large export trade, it must be borne in mind that the bulk thereof is in the hands of the mercantile community of Bimlipatam and not of the merchants at Vizagapatam. In these circumstances, we humbly beg to be excused for requesting your Excellency to reconsider the last order on the subject and support our earnest prayer for a branch line, thus rendering the present visit the commencement of a happy era for Bimlipatam. In conclusion, we beg to express our sincere gratitude for the honour your Excellency has condescended to us by affording us an opportunity of welcoming our Governor, a pleasure we have not had for many years past.

Address of the Saraswati Samaj.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—We, the members of the Saraswati Samaj, Bimlipatam, have great pleasure in offering to your Excellency our hearty welcome with feelings of profound respect and deep gratitude for the great benefit of the East Coast Railway extended to this portion of Her Majesty's Indian Empire. Our town is naturally situated on an advantageous position by the side of the hill with the sea facing it. Its climate is cool and salubrious, and it is one of the healthiest towns in this Presidency. Great attention is shown towards its sanitation as well as the requirements of the people by the local Municipal Corporation through its able and energetic Chairman. We are in the enjoyment of the best comforts that a benign Government can bestow upon its subjects. But we cannot reckon our comfortable position and the future prospects of our town safe and encouraging, unless and until the Government deign to grant us our just claims in common with our brethren for a branch line of the railway which we regret to say has unjustly been withheld hitherto. We would not weary your Excellency with the recital of the claims, as we understand they were explained in detail in the memorials already submitted to Government by the Railway Committee. The intimation of your Excellency's wishes to visit this town has resuscitated our hopes in this direction, inasmuch as it will afford an opportunity to judge for yourself whether this town deserves the concession so much prayed for, as we have all along been confident that a personal inspection by your Excellency will crown our aspirations with success. We have stated above that the management of the Municipality has been satisfactory, but we beg to bring to your Excellency's notice that it would also be more popular if the only hardships the people are labouring under be removed, that is, the enhancement of the house and land rate from 5 to 7½ per cent. which we understand has been recently insisted upon by Government. Owing to the precarious nature of the future prospects of Bimlipatam, the house and land property has considerably deteriorated, a fact borne out by the purchase at a nominal value of all the house sites of Kottapetta village by a merchant here. In conclusion, we offer our sincere prayers to the Almighty to shower His choicest blessings on Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress of India and your Lordship, Her Majesty's representative, for the watchful care with which we have been looked after all along, as has often been seen on many an occasion before now and at present also by your Excellency's recent tour through the famine-threatened districts with the object of averting the difficulty and spreading peace and plenty all over.

His Excellency's Reply.

I am greatly obliged to you gentlemen for the kind reception you have given me on my first visit to your town. It is with great regret that I learn that the season has been unfavorable, and that the rainfall has been very deficient. I heartily hope that a good downpour may shortly occur which may relieve you of anxiety on this score. I see for myself that the condition of your town quite justifies the favorable comments which have been made upon it, and this reflects great credit on the Town Council and particularly on Mr. Hanumantha Row. I think Bimlipatam is one of the most picturesque towns I have seen in India. The chief point really at issue in your address is the request of the inhabitants of Bimlipatam that a branch line should be constructed to this town. Now I sympathise deeply with you in your desire. I have myself quite an open mind as to the relative advantages of the two ports of the district. But I regret very much to say that, after a careful enquiry into the matter, the reply I have to give is of a discouraging character. As far as trade facilities go, Vizagapatam and Bimlipatam are about equal. Vizagapatam, however, has the advantage of being indefinitely improveable, while Bimlipatam cannot be improved. In the course of another year we shall know to what extent and in what manner Vizagapatam can be best improved, after Mr. Thorowgood's report has been dealt with. Bimlipatam is a little nearer to the most productive areas of the district, say 21 miles by rail. This at $\frac{1}{2}$ pie per bag per mile would mean an advantage of As. 1-2 per bag. This is of no practical importance so that, as far as the district generally is concerned, one port of lading is as good as another. The branch line would cost 14 lakhs and the annual financial result to Government would be as follows, supposing the total traffic to amount to 50,000 tons, a very high estimate—passenger traffic may for the purpose of this calculation be neglected, as there would be scarcely any:—

Interest on capital of 14 lakhs at 3 per cent.	Rs.
Maintenance on 16 miles	42,000
Locomotive and traffic working expenses at Rs. 80 per mile per week	25,600
	66,560
Total	1,34,160
Deduct gross earnings over all classes at $\frac{1}{2}$ pie per maund per mile, 9 pies per ton per mile	37,500
Net annual loss	96,660

The difficulty of finding sites in Vizagapatam for godowns to which you refer is one which could best be met by taking steps to secure what is available in time. The area at Vizagapatam certainly is limited, but I think it can be largely increased. With the railway lining the backwater as it does in Vizagapatam, the facilities for shipping will be enormous, even if nothing is done towards improving the port. The statement made in your address to the effect that several able Engineers and nautical men have pronounced a harbour scheme at Vizagapatam impracticable is, I think, hardly correct. The reports have almost invariably been the reverse. The reason why no works were ever recommended was that the trade did not justify the expenditure then; but things are changed now. I must say I regret very much to think it may be necessary for the merchants to leave this picturesque and cleanly town, but I much fear it may be necessary for them to follow the trade which seems likely to determine in the direction of Vizagapatam. Again I thank you for your address and the kind reception you have given me to-day.

Address by the Inhabitants of Chicacole.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—We, the residents of Chicacole, beg to approach your Excellency with feelings of gratitude and loyalty, and to give you a right hearty welcome in our midst, particularly so at a time when there are signs of distress in our district. We thank your Excellency for the paternal solicitude shown on occasions like this at considerable sacrifice of personal comfort and health. Our old and historic town has not had the privilege of a visit from any Governor since it was visited by Lord Napier in 1865, when there was a severe famine. We therefore exceedingly regret to learn that your Excellency does not propose to visit our town on this occasion. Owing to lack of rain in this district famine seems inevitable. We therefore think it is high time to open relief kitchens on a small scale, at important centres, under the charge of responsible and conscientious working officers. Our small efforts have, in this direction, hitherto been the formation of a Charitable Relief Committee in Chicacole, under the presidency of our popular Principal Assistant Collector Mr. Andrew. A copy of the resolutions of that Committee we beg to present for your Excellency's perusal. In this connection we respectfully beg liberty to mention that Mr. White, the Chairman of our Municipality, and medical officer in the station, was one of the originators of the measure. But to our great regret and surprise,

just as we were throwing our scheme into working order, a telegram came announcing the transfer of Mr. White to Burma. This has paralysed our efforts a great deal. Such an officer, with broad sympathies, is the man wanted for such exceptional occasions. If it is not presuming too much on our part, we respectfully urge that Mr. White may be retained at Chicacole to give our scheme its full effect, and to adopt further measures, in this direction, when necessary. As a medical officer, though it is hardly six months since his arrival here, he has endeared himself to all classes by his sympathetic treatment of the cases coming under his notice. It may not be out of place to bring the fact to your Excellency's notice that this officer, but a year ago, served in Burma on the Chin-Lushai Expedition, and has only recently returned. We therefore pray that your Excellency may be graciously pleased, under these circumstances, to issue orders for the cancellation of his transfer. In connection with the East Coast Railway, we beg to state that, though Chicacole is a great paddy depot, unfortunately it has not been proposed to give the town the benefit of at least a branch line from Amidavalasa to Calingapatam crossing Chicacole, Arasavilly and Sreekurumam. The last two mentioned places of pilgrimage are second only in importance to Poori. If it is not practicable to give us the benefit of the main line, we humbly pray that a branch line from Amidavalasa to Calingapatam *via* Chicacole be sanctioned at an early date. The advantages of such a line, we need hardly say, would be manifold. We are assured that the engineering difficulties are few, and that the branch would pass through rich paddy-yielding lands. This district, unlike Godavari and Kistna, is conspicuous by its lack of any navigable canals. We have natural advantages, and our rivers Vamsadhara and Langulya may be utilised to supply a net work of canals, facilitating trade and rapid communications to all parts of this taluk, and enhancing the fertility of the country. It is highly desirable that the Ganjam district should have a model farm for agri-horticultural operations, at Government expense, for the improvement of agriculture in general and to educate the ryots to better methods. We have a Municipal High School at Chicacole educating up to Matriculation standard with an Upper Secondary class. Our boys after passing the Matriculation examination find it difficult to go to Berhampore, Vizianagrum and Vizagapatam to prosecute their studies further. We therefore pray that an F.A. class be opened at Chicacole, Government bearing the net cost of the High and College departments. The School-fee Notification (term fees) is pressing hard on many a poor worthy school-going lad. We beg your Excellency to be pleased to do something to make the burden as light as possible by recognizing the district as "backward," which it undoubtedly is. The state of our Hindu mutts and temples and Muhammadan mosques calls for radical changes. At present there is no proper check on the so-called managers. It is high time that some Government supervision be exercised in the matter. A part of the income from their endowments may be usefully spent on famine relief, education and other charitable purposes consistent with the wishes of the original donors. We respectfully beg your Excellency that the scheme to segregate lepers may be speedily brought into force at least in important centres in the Presidency. Believing that the opium traffic is doing great harm to the physical and moral well-being of our people, we request your Excellency to do all in your power to secure the prohibition of the sale of the opium except as a medicinal drug. We join the appeal of our brethren in other parts of the country that the revenue and magisterial functions may be separated as early as possible. We fear we have trespassed our limits in detailing at length our various wants, for which we crave your Excellency's pardon. Occasions like this are few and far between. Deeply grateful as we are for the manifold blessing conferred on us under Her Majesty's benign rule, we ask for more, as our wants are increasing in proportion to the advanced state of the country, which is the outcome of education given all round. Once more we thank your Excellency for the patient and indulgent hearing your Excellency has kindly accorded us, and we earnestly hope that the various requests presented here may receive your Excellency's favorable consideration. In conclusion, we fervently pray the Almighty to grant Her Majesty, your Excellency, and Lady Wenlock, long life and prosperity.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN.—I am much obliged to you for the cordial welcome you have given me in this place. I much regret that I have not time to visit Chicacole, but my engagements and the dates on which steamers sail do not allow me to do so on the present occasion. I hope, however, to see something of other parts of the district in which I regret to hear a certain amount of scarcity and consequent distress prevail, though up till now happily nothing approaching famine can be said to exist. I learn with pleasure that a Relief Committee has been established at Chicacole for the purpose of dealing with bad cases, and of this Committee Mr. Andrew is a member. I am confident that we shall receive intimation as soon as it becomes necessary to open relief kitchens. To do this at present would be altogether premature. In regard to the retention of Mr. White at Chicacole, I am afraid it is not possible to meet your wishes, as his successor has already arrived. I will see if at any future time this matter can be arranged to your satisfaction. You request that a branch of the East Coast Railway should be made to Chicacole. As matters now stand, such questions as this cannot be taken into consideration until the main line has been completed. I would ask you to distinctly understand that I can give no promise on the subject; but I will see that your request is duly considered. You comment in your address upon the absence in this district of navigable canals; but the fact is that its rivers

census. It contains 725 villages and is, we consider, worthy of having a separate Munsif's Court. At present parties are put to much hardship and expense by going to Sompét, a distance of about 44 miles, and to Chicacole 42 miles, as the taluk is under the jurisdiction of two District Munsifs. Moreover, the people of Battili and other villages lying to the north-west of Parlá-kimedi have to travel more than 60 miles to go to a civil court. (c) Increase of Government contribution towards the medical officer's pay. The pay of the medical officer here is Rs. 125 of which $\frac{1}{2}$ is contributed by Government. As this contribution is paid by Government even in unimportant stations where there is no Police hospital, and as this station has a large Police hospital and other Government work such as post mortem examination which is greater than in other stations, necessitating the Medical officer's devoting more than half of his time to Government work, we respectfully request that the Government contribution be raised to one-half of the maximum salary. In conclusion, we beg most sincerely to thank your Excellency for having kindly condescended to give a patient hearing to our humble address which we are sorry we could not have printed owing to want of time. May the Almighty bless your Excellency with health and long life. Praying Him to favour us with an opportunity of paying our humble respects to your Excellency at least once again during your Excellency's tenure of office.

Address of the Municipal Council, Parlákimedi.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—The progress of education among the Uriyas of this district, notwithstanding the many privileges given them, is still very unsatisfactory; not a single graduate has yet come out of this community, and there are not even a dozen matriculates amongst them. As the Secretary of the Uriya Association wishes to deal specially with this question, we only beg to express our opinion in the matter with a view to support his request. Uriyas are now required to pay school fees at $\frac{1}{2}$ the maximum rates, but unless a further reduction be made, they cannot be hoped to reap the benefits of education equally with their Telugu neighbours. The proportion of pupils in the Vernacular Primary schools maintained by the local boards. The proportion of boys of school-going age is not very encouraging. In our town, with a population of about 17,000, the number of pupils in all the schools, both Municipal and Zemindari, is only about 700, inclusive of girls. The income from fees levied in the Vernacular Primary schools is comparatively a trifle. Our Municipality realises an income of only Rs. 140 against an expenditure of about Rs. 1,700. By giving up this trifle, the Municipal Council can make the elementary education free to all the boys in the town; and if it consents to do so, we hope the Government will not object to it. Your Excellency's attention has already been invited to the present miserable state of the Pariahs, the most degraded caste of the Hindus. It is seldom that their more enlightened neighbours will be so far free from prejudice and selfishness as to help them up. A Hindu of the higher castes would rather allow an ass or a pig to approach him or to enter his house than a Pariah. As we see no way by which their state can be ameliorated except by the help of the Government, we beg to recommend that as a preliminary step, in towns where the Pariah population is not less than a thousand, one or two schools (Government) should be established for them. Thanks to the Municipal Council, our town contains one Pariah school but there is only one teacher on Rs. 4 a-month, and since the Pariahs are scattered all round the town, one single school is found insufficient. All things considered, it appears to us that for some years to come the Government should take into its hands the sacred work of educating this most pitiable class of human beings. We strongly hold that no part of the duty which an enlightened Government is expected to discharge is so important as to raise these worse than lower animals to the level of average humanity. We beg once more to express our pleasure and gratitude for your condescension to come to our town, and we wish your Excellency and Lady Wenlock all prosperity and happiness.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—We, the members of the Ukal Hithe-shini Samaj and the Madras Uriya Educational Committee of Parlákimedi, Ganjam district, most humbly and respectfully crave permission, on behalf of ourselves and the Madras Uriya community in general, to approach your Excellency with feelings of great pleasure, endless gratitude, and spontaneous and heartfelt loyalty to welcome your Excellency on this memorable occasion of your Excellency's visit to this Parlákimedi, a poor town rarely seen or noticed by our Governors, who are the august and beloved representatives of Her Most Gracious Majesty, the Queen-Empress of India, whose deep concern in the welfare of Her Indian subjects has awakened in our hearts a sense of attachment for her person and her throne. We further beg to state that we congratulate ourselves upon having an auspicious opportunity to approach your Excellency to express our wants and grievances in person at a time most needful; for blessed are they who come in contact with their rulers in persons to represent their grievances and to have them redressed. We cannot but thank your Excellency with all sincerity for this eventful visit, a special

mark of favour, your object being, as we well know, to personally acquaint yourself with the present misfortunes of this benighted district, of which the chief is the impending famine and its attending evils. We the Uriyas, your Excellency is pleased to know, are treated on a par with Muhammadans, on consideration that we are on the same level with them in respect of education and other matters, and as we occupy the lowest position in the scale of educated natives. We therefore have to represent more than the wants and grievances which we have in common with our Telugu and Muhammadan brethren. Without taking the liberty of trespassing too far on your Excellency's patience with reiterating what our local Municipality and the Board of Revenue have already laid before your Excellency, we limit our prayer to the education of the natives and the removal of the grievances which we have in particular.

The subject of English education of the Madras Uriya population has received from time to time certain considerations from the Madras Government as means of encouragement; and concessions in regard to the rate of school fees and scholarships have been given; in all these respects the Uriyas are equally treated with Muhammadans in respect of education. These concessions and the Government being quite insufficient, we invoke the further assistance of our benign Government. The educational status is far worse than that of the Muhammadans, inasmuch as the Muhammadan community can boast of many graduates and undergraduates, while the Uriya community has been blissfully so barren as not to produce, unfortunately up to date, even a single graduate more than a dozen matriculates. The causes for this pitiable and unenviable backwardness do not lay before your Excellency here, as they have already been fully expressed in the report issued by the Madras Uriya Educational Committee, a copy of which has already shared your Excellency's kind attention; but it would suffice if we represent the four main causes which throw many obstacles in our way to the progress of English education, and which urge your Excellency for immediate redress, viz., although English education extended to the district in 1857 yet the Uriyas had no chance of going up for the University examinations in the year 1871, when the Uriya language was recognised by the University as one of the official languages according to G.O., dated 18th July 1871, No. 201. We here deem it desirable to bring to your Excellency's notice that we are greatly indebted to Mr. H. B. Grigg, C.S., for the blessing conferred on us in 1871, as it was he who first brought to the notice of the Government the backwardness of the Uriya population in point of English education when he was Acting Inspector of Schools of the 1st Division in 1867. The poverty of the Uriya community is general; the wealthy microscopic minority of this community neither send their children to schools nor contribute their support to the poor fathers desirous of getting their sons educated. The enhanced scale of term-fees has also increased our pecuniary difficulty.

Want of proper schools.—The existing schools do not meet the requirements of the boys reading in some classes of the Middle School Department, where English instruction is imparted through the medium of Telugu instead of their mother-tongue Uriya, as demanded, and where the Uriya boys will have to read, for other lessons, books all written in Telugu, a language which will take for them so great a deal of time and difficulty as English. This arrangement needs the acquisition, on the part of the Uriya boys, of two languages, English and Telugu, besides their own, to secure a pass in the annual examination in different classes,—a difficulty which would have been altogether avoided had Uriya been introduced for Telugu in the curriculum of studies. The Government orders which have been passed and which will come into force after 1893,—disqualifying matriculates to be admitted to the Special Tests, and to enter the public service, which is the only inducement to education, and raising the various other qualifications for following either the University or the public service—have deprived us of every ray of hope of, may have frost-nipped the bud our desires for, the advance in the path of education and general progress. We regret to represent that this is evidently a gross injustice to the benighted and helpless Uriyas, who, though in an unsuitable position, are required to compete, in an open field, with the brethren of other communities of higher level, for entering the different departments of public service, in spite of the grievous difficulties and inconveniences on our way to competition. Under these circumstances, considering the enlightened policy of the benign Government to bring all subject nations to one and the same level, we most respectfully and solicitously pray your Excellency that these grievances be redressed by ordering the Uriyas may be allowed to pay the school-fees at the rate of half of what they at present do. The establishment of two or three Uriya schools in different centres, where instruction should be imparted through the medium of Uriya, our mother-tongue, and the recent Government Orders relating to the disqualification of the matriculates to enter public service, and such others, and that such educational Government orders relating to the same as may hereafter be passed from time to time, should not be insisted upon the Uriyas, as an encouragement, for a period of ten years. We shall be wanting in gratitude if we do not represent to your Excellency that our grievances have found a true representative and warm supporter in our Collector, Mr. Johnson, your Excellency's representative in this district. He has indubitably been doing his best to meet our timely wishes and he is also endeared to us by what he did in connection with the Uriya Court language movement, the recognition of Uriya as one of the vernaculars for the Deputy Collector's Test, and the arrangements he made for the Uriya translation of the Acts, Bills and such like. In conclusion, we permit us to express once more our pleasure, to tender our grateful thanks for the honour conferred on us by your Excellency's remarkable visit to this town, and to represent that we hope

your Excellency will be pleased to see your way to accede to our desires without the accomplishment of which we shall be quite unable to spring up, from the present state of darkness, ignorance and error, as beings of some human intelligence and western civilisation, to avail ourselves of the manifold blessings which the British Government has so liberally conferred on India.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—As much the same ground is covered by your respective addresses, and as I must necessarily repeat myself if I give you three different answers, I beg you will kindly consider my present answer as addressed to you all. In the first place I have to thank you for the extremely kind welcome I have received on the occasion of my first visit to Parlākīmedī, which to my great regret is made at a time when a certain amount of scarcity exists among you, which may possibly deepen into something worse—a calamity which I hope and trust may be averted. I have seen for myself that the crops under channels and rivers are still holding their own, while the dry crops have either withered or are withering. So far as Government can alleviate the distress which must result from this state of things you may be sure that it will do so, and no one is more anxious that every possible assistance should be given than your Collector, Mr. Johnson. At the same time I must observe that, should there be any distress in the Zamin-dary, it devolves upon the Zamindar in the first instance to come to the help of the people, and if further aid be required the Government will render him all such as may be neces-sary or desirable. I have no fear that the Zamindar of Parlākīmedī will be found wanting, for he takes an enlightened interest in the administration of his great estate, has already accom-plished several works of public utility, and is understood to contemplate others of still greater enterprise and moment. You are fortunate to live upon the estate of so excellent a landlord. Your complaint that no Munsif's Court is located at Kīmedī has already been laid before the High Court with the support of the District authorities, and I hope that your application will prove successful. As to the inauguration of Town Police at Parlākīmedī, your request shall receive the careful attention of Government, and I will see that the Inspector-General of Police reports upon the matter. The strength of the Police Force in any given locality depends upon general considerations and upon the total strength available for distribution. I do not therefore commit myself to any promise beyond that of giving the matter my careful attention. You refer to the degraded condition of the Pariahs, and urge that Government should specially charge itself with the task of educating this most pitiable class of human beings. I must say personally I heartily agree in what you say upon this subject, and I sincerely hope that some means may be devised of bringing to this neglected class such education as may give them a better chance in the race for life. The whole question is now before Government, and I cannot say more now than that I hope some measure of success may attend our deliberations. I look to education as the best means of providing them with a weapon to enable them to cope more successfully with the many difficulties attendant in their position. As regards the backward condition of the Uriya people with regard to education, I must observe that they now enjoy the considerable concession of paying only half fees. No doubt Uriyas labour under a serious disadvantage resulting from the remote situation of their country—a disadvantage, however, which will be shortly removed. You request, however, that Uriya schools may be established, which appears *prima facie* reasonable, and the other suggestions made on this behalf in the addresses presented to me shall receive the attention of Government and of the Educational Department. The points raised as regards the Government contribution towards your medical officer's pay and as regards the establishment of a Bench of Magistrates will be duly considered. If I have not been able to speak more definitely upon the various points submitted to me, it is because I have seen these addresses for the first time on my arrival here just now. I am glad that I shall to-morrow have the opportunity of seeing the various institutions of the town, which will, I am sure, bear evidence to the careful administration of the Zamindar and of his Agent, Mr. Taylor, who has the interests of the people so much at heart.

Address by His Excellency on the occasion of the Distribution of Prizes at the High School, Parakkimedi.

GENTLEMEN,—I can assure you that it is with great pleasure that I have come here to distribute the prizes to-day and to find so flourishing a school here, for which you all owe a great debt to the Zamindar of Parlákimedi, who is, I am glad to see, present. He thoroughly recognises the great importance of encouraging education among the people entrusted to his care. Nothing does more to advance the sum of human happiness than the spread of education, and nothing has done more for those who have distinguished themselves in life than their early training. I am glad to see so good a school here, but I am even more pleased to find that the building is not large enough to hold its pupils, and that your generous Zamindar is about to build for its accommodation a larger and more commodious building. It is very doubtful whether I shall ever have the pleasure to come here again and see this school located therein, but I shall at any rate continue to be interested in its progress and to wish it all success in a fuller and more

satisfactory future. The population of this town is pretty equally divided into Telugus and Uriyas, and I regret that the latter people are so much behind the former in regard to education and to general enlightenment. I would ask all Uriya parents present to seriously consider whether they cannot in future do more for their children. I have been asked that the operation of the rule whereby only graduates will be admitted to certain posts in the public service may be suspended in the favour of Uriyas. I think there is something to be said in support of this request, but if the rule is relaxed there must be a limit of time to such relaxation, and in view of the approaching improvement of communications I do not think that concessions to Uriyas can be of other than a temporary character. I hope their young men will shortly go by rail to Madras, and return fully qualified in great numbers to take their post in the Government service and in other employments. Now that I have given you the prizes awarded for the cultivation of the mind, I believe the next thing is to see how you have succeeded in the hardly less important cultivation of the body. You know how thoroughly its importance was recognized by the Romans, who always aimed at attaining the *mens sana in corpore sano*; and I am glad to find that you here recognise the truth of this saying, and do not neglect the opportunities of obtaining a healthy body as well as a healthy mind.

Address of the Berhampore Municipality.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the undersigned Chairman and Councillors of the Municipality of Berhampore, take the liberty of approaching your Excellency with this address of welcome on the occasion of your gracious visit to our town. We, with the rest of the Presidency, are gratefully sensible of your Excellency's exertions in the cause of humanity, at an immense sacrifice of personal comfort, ever since the alarm of distress was sounded in the southern districts. We have reason to be still more grateful to your Excellency now that you are in our midst to see with your own eyes the state of this district, which only two years ago claimed the deepest solicitude of your predecessor when death and disease were committing havoc amongst us. It is a matter of great gratification to us that the East Coast Railway, which your predecessor took so much pains to induce the Imperial Government to take in hand as a famine protection work, is now in course of construction, and we are sanguine that your Excellency will have the pleasure of seeing it completed during your *régime*. We have to pray in this connection that this town, as the capital of the district, may be made the Railway head-quarters and the principal Railway station in it, several disputing rumours being afloat to the effect that Chatrapur will have that honour in preference to Berhampore. There are two crying wants in this Municipality of ours which, though keenly alive to them, we have not yet been able to satisfy for want of funds. They are—a supply of wholesome drinking-water and a good system of drainage. The Sanitary Engineer to Government, after his visit to this Municipality, matured a scheme for the supply of drinking-water from the Ambugada tank—which has been submitted to Government with the Council's Resolution, No. 1, dated 7th May 1891. To enable us to carry out both this and the drainage scheme, a sum of two lakhs of rupees approximately will be required; and unless your Excellency's benign Government lends us a helping hand, we can never hope to see them accomplished. We therefore earnestly pray that a grant be made to us of a moiety, and that the remainder may be granted as a loan payable in 30 years. The Town Magistrate having his hands always full of work, the trial of petty offences against the Municipal Act and bye-laws is very often delayed; and the salutary effect which speedy conviction in such cases is calculated to produce is lost. We therefore respectfully suggest that a Bench of Honorary Magistrates may be again constituted for the trial of such offences. A Bench was appointed at the outset for this town along with the other towns in the Presidency; and it worked well for 2 or 3 years, when, most of the Honorary Magistrates having left the town for good, no proper steps were taken for filling up the vacancies. Though Local Self-Government has not achieved any great triumphs here, still we are happy to state that we have always worked in amity both amongst ourselves and with the townspeople, who have of late begun to take an interest in the choice of their representatives. The district authorities, we have thankfully to admit, have never failed to co-operate with us in all matters connected with the well-being of this town. We fear we have already detained your Excellency too long. We therefore conclude with an expression of our feelings of sincere loyalty to our beloved Queen-Empress for the many blessings of Her Majesty's rule and with a reiteration of our gratitude to your Excellency for this gracious visit, from which we hope this district will reap incalculable benefit during the rest of your Excellency's rule.

Address of the Inhabitants of Berhampore Town.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the townspeople of Berhampore, beg to give your Excellency a most hearty welcome into our midst, and to express, however inadequately, the feelings of unalloyed pleasure and deep thankfulness with which we, in common with the rest of the district, regard your visit to these parts. The district of Ganjam is so far removed from the head-quarters of Government, it has such an evil reputation as a hotbed of fevers, malarious and otherwise, it enjoys so few facilities for communication and affords so few attractions,

that we always feel doubly thankful for the many tokens by which, from time to time, we learn that our welfare and advancement are none the less anxiously watched over and cared for by the Government. And of these precious tokens, not the least precious are the visits which the Governors have paid to the district, to see with their own eyes how we are faring, and to find out by personal inspection what measures are needed for our improvement and well-being. We beg to assure your Excellency that the people of this district are profoundly grateful for the East Coast Railway whose completion we are sanguine will be the commencement of a new era in the history of our hitherto backward district. We take this opportunity of pointing out that, for some reason or other, the work is not being pushed on here with anything like the same vigour and spirit as in the sister districts; and we would most earnestly pray that such measures may be adopted as shall ensure its speedy completion. We would also bring to your Excellency's notice the general feeling amongst the people that the chief Railway Station in the district should be at Berhampore and not at Chatrapur, as it is currently rumoured it is to be. Berhampore being the largest town, the chief commercial centre, the principal civil station and the only military station in the district, we respectfully beg to submit that the balance of convenience and profit is in favour of this town as the Railway head-quarters for the district. While on this subject, we respectfully beg to be permitted to urge on your Excellency's attention the many obvious advantages to be gained by a direct line of railway from Raipur to this district, which would open up to us and our neighbours in the south the rich grain markets of the Central Provinces. We are deeply thankful for the Rushikulya Project, which is now so rapidly being pushed on. We know by bitter experience that, as the surest means for preventing, instead of merely averting, famines, the one thing needful is an unfailing water-supply, and that the loss of water can never be adequately compensated for by the importation of food-grains, however rapidly effected. We are, therefore, not only looking forward eagerly to the early completion of the Rushikulya works, but are most anxious that Government should also take in hand the Vamsadhara and other projects as a complement to the Rushikulya works. Whilst we readily admit that the conservancy of forest is a matter of prime importance, we beg to point out that the fees now levied by the Forest Department are very excessive and are pressing very hard especially on the poor and on the ryots. The fee formerly charged on a cart-load of bamboo thorn was four annas; but now it has been raised to Rs. 1-4-0 and the result is that the ryots find it impossible to properly fence their fields against cattle trespass. So with regard to dry fuel, the seigniorage has been raised at one leap from 4 annas to Rs. 1-4-0 a cart load, and in consequence the poorer classes often eat food that has not been properly cooked. So grievously do these measures press upon the poor that we feel we cannot too strongly urge upon your Excellency's attention the need for a speedy revision and material reduction of these rates. Closely connected with these matters is the loud complaint of the ryots about the insufficiency of pasture. They say that most of the available Government waste land is being demarcated and reserved without sufficient regard to the urgent need of pasture lands for the ryots' cattle. So much of the district's welfare depends on the ryots' cattle being in a fit condition that we beg that your Excellency will give this matter your favorable consideration. The newly-levied seigniorage on earth, gravel and stones is felt to be a great hardship, and we pray that the rates may be reduced, if not altogether abolished. We hear that it is in contemplation to remove the regiment at present stationed here; and the news has had a very disquieting effect indeed. With hill-tracts everywhere in the district inhabited by uncivilised tribes like the Khonds, and with frequent famines and consequent loots, we apprehend that if the regiment be removed, the peace and security we have hitherto enjoyed will be seriously imperilled. We therefore pray that Government will be pleased to decide in favour of the regiment being retained here. We fear we have already trespassed too long upon your Excellency's time and patience, but we trust that the grievances we have set forth and the suggestions we have ventured to offer will meet with your Excellency's kind and patient consideration. We wish your Excellency a pleasant and prosperous voyage to Calcutta, whither the gratitude and esteem of the one-and-a-half million loyal subjects of our beloved Empress in Ganjam will follow you.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—As your addresses cover much the same ground, I will answer them both together, but in all towns the Town Council is supposed to represent the townspeople, and its members are in fact their official and elected representatives. I therefore look upon the two addresses I have just received as proceeding from one and the same source, and in the first place I would thank you for the very kind reception I have met with on my first visit to Berhampore, which affords me, I assure you, very great pleasure. Your Municipality does not profess to have attained to any unusual success, but it is obvious that it is doing its best to further the cause of local self-Government, and I need not assure you that Government watches your efforts, and is prepared on all occasions to offer its advice and assistance. The first matter brought to my notice is the urgent necessity for completing the East Coast Railway, and you may rest assured that I am as anxious as any one to see it finished, and that no effort of mine shall be wanting to bring this about. You are doubtless aware, however, that in such a matter financial considerations have great weight, and that Government is not always able to devote the considerable amount of money required for the construction of a railway to that purpose, however desirous of doing so, and that delays are occasionally unavoidable. You ask that Berhampore and not

Chatrapur may be made the chief station in the district; but I am given to understand that it will be, and that you are labouring under a misapprehension in this respect. As regards the line hence to Raipur, in the Central Provinces, it is no doubt most important that some point on this coast should be connected with Raipur by rail, so that the extensive granary of the Central Provinces may have an outlet from some convenient port. I cannot say at present where this connection should be made, and the people of Bimlipatam and Vizagapatam, as well as Berhampore, urge that their ports are the most convenient. I quite agree in all you say as to the great importance of the Rushikulya project, and as to the necessity for pressing it on to completion. It is, however, a work of equal magnitude and beneficence, and cannot be hurried beyond a certain rate of speed. A great accession of prosperity will doubtless accompany its completion, and, recognising this fact, you urge the Government to take up a similar project on the Vamsadhara river, with the exact particulars of which I am not acquainted, though I have been over the ground with the map and with the Sub-Engineer. It appeared to me evident, so far as I can judge, that considerable extension of irrigation under that river may be found feasible on further investigation. I will see that the matter is carefully enquired into, and I hope it may prove feasible from an engineering and financial point of view. As regards the hardships resulting from the carrying out of the forest laws and rules, no doubt it is difficult for those who pay fees to thoroughly appreciate the fact that their payment is desirable in their own interests; but it is the bounden duty of Government to protect the forest and to improve the pasturage of the country, and in so doing it endeavours as far as possible to minimise the resulting hardships and to raise or lower the fees prescribed with due regard to the resources of the payers and to the character of the season. I trust that in future pasturage may be provided at almost nominal rates; but at present you are paying but one pie per load of grass—a fee of which it is hard to complain. These are times when even this might be advantageously remitted. Its payment, however, as a rule ensures pasturage for the better cattle in years of drought. In such seasons the older and less useful animals no doubt suffer, but it would be the first duty of Government, when all head of cattle cannot be saved, to endeavour to keep alive those which are absolutely necessary to the cultivator. In respect of the seigniorage rates levied on bamboos, the general rate sanctioned by the Government is Rs. 1-4-0, but the Collector has the power of reducing it, and he exercised this power and reduced it to 8 annas, whereupon the Board of Revenue, finding that this district did not contribute its fair share to the expenses of forest conservancy, and that a higher rate might reasonably be levied, raised it to Re. 1, and I must remark that private owners charge considerably more and that Government must obtain at least a reasonable return. The seigniorage on stone and gravel has been newly imposed and is very low, viz., one anna for a cartload of rough stone and 6 pies for the same quantity of gravel and metal. I understand that these fees chiefly affect contractors, and as Government must endeavour to increase the public revenue in order that it may meet the growing demands thereon, I consider their levy unobjectionable. As regards the transfer of the High School to the Municipality I will see that reply is sent to you, after your representation has been considered in the Educational Department of Government. Your request that Government may contribute to the cost of your water-supply shall receive due attention when a scheme has been elaborated and submitted. I hope it may be possible to assist you, but I cannot commit the Government to any promise, and I must ask you to be content with the assurance that Government wishes to help Municipalities in providing themselves with good water to the utmost extent within its power. As to the establishment of a Bench of Magistrates in the town, the matter presents no difficulties, if only a sufficient number of qualified gentlemen come forward, when the Government will be glad to give your request its sympathetic consideration. In regard to the removal of the regiment from Berhampore you urge that the conditions existing in this district render such a step very inadvisable. I will bring your objections to the notice of the Military authorities. They may find it necessary, having in view the desirability of concentrating regiments in convenient centres, to move the regiment after the railway has been opened, but it may be that this would not be advisable before communication by rail is established with other military stations. In conclusion, allow me to assure you of the pleasure I have experienced from my present visit, and of the satisfaction with which I shall hail the commencement of a new era of prosperity for this town and district, which will, I am sure, coincide with the completion of the East Coast Railway.

Address of the Inhabitants of Chatrapur.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—We, the inhabitants of Chatrapur, most humbly beg to approach your Lordship to render our most cordial welcome and to thank you for the concession you have shown in coming to our midst at the sacrifice of your personal comfort with the sole view of acquainting yourself with the condition of this our isolated portion of the Presidency. We also thank your Lordship for the many and varied benefits you have conferred on our brethren in the famine-stricken districts of the south and for the keen interest your Lordship has shown in them by your presence among the distressed people. Though we are aware that addresses of welcome should not include representations of grievances, yet our backward situation is such and the gubernatorial visits to these parts are so few and far between that we find ourselves

compelled to mingle with our welcome a few words on the subject of our wants, in the hope that they will meet with your Lordship's kind consideration. It is a fact well recognised that we of Ganjam are far behind our brethren in other districts in the pursuit of Western civilisation and especially of education; and it was most truly remarked by your Lordship's predecessor when he was here two years ago, that we were so behind by fifty years. The low percentage of passes obtained by young men from Ganjam in the different examinations of the Madras University, and the almost entire absence of Uriyas (who form more than half the population of the district) from the University pass lists are very real and sad facts which show abundantly that the plant of English education has not yet sufficiently taken root in the soil of the district to be able to thrive without the active support of its planters. We leave it to your Lordship's benign judgment to consider how a district so far behind in every respect, a district the finances of whose Local Boards end each year with a *minus* balance, a district whose aristocracy have not yet begun to feel the impulse of Western education, a district most of whose Zemindars are deeply involved in debts and quite unaffected by Western civilisation, can safely be left to itself so far as education is concerned. In 1887 the only second-grade College in the district—the Government College at Berhampore—was made over to private enterprise for reasons which would have been valid only if our district could be looked at in the same light as other districts, the Government thereby withdrawing its direct support in the matter of higher education. The College is at present maintained by subscriptions from some of the Zemindars and other private persons. One of these Zemindars has already withdrawn his subscription, while another contemplates following this noble example. It is an admitted fact that no institution started by private enterprise in this country can last long. Should the College cease to exist, it is impossible for parents of ordinary means to send their children to Colleges situated in other districts. We pray, therefore, that the Berhampore College be taken over by Government and 2 or 3 High schools established in places where they are most needed. The people of this district have been suffering from successive failure of crops for the past three years. In 1888 there was a severe famine, in 1889 the cyclone seriously damaged the paddy crop when it was nearly ready for the sickle, and in 1890 the crop was indifferent owing to the inability of a large number of ryots to provide themselves with the requisite quantity of seed paddy of good quality in consequence of the damage sustained by the crops in the previous year from the cyclonic inundation; while in the current year 1891 which is again threatened with failure of crops and scarcity of water the ryots had to pay two years' Government assessment in addition to the value of seed grain supplied to them at 7 tooms a rupee by selling 16 tooms of paddy per rupee. To add to all these disadvantages the Forest Department is enclosing pasture lands as fodder reserves. A majority of the ryots who are unable to maintain themselves and their families cannot be expected to purchase grass for their cattle from these reserves; paying in hard cash every day. We therefore earnestly pray that all the restrictions on grazing lands may be removed. We do not think it to be the object of Government to make the Forest Department a source of revenue. To render it self-supporting it will, we submit, be quite sufficient if the forests and jungles be conserved without interfering with the pasturage of the cattle. Gopálpur has always been a dangerous port, and it was with a view of rendering it a safer one that the Government was so kind as to undergo an expenditure of about three lakhs of rupees for the construction of a pier; but unfortunately it has not been of any use in consequence of its not being of sufficient length. We therefore pray that your Lordship will be pleased to postpone the collection of pier dues till it may be lengthened. We have hitherto been deprived of the advantages which the existence of a Railway confers upon the people; now we are fortunate enough to have the prospect of realising shortly our long cherished desire for a Railway. But we regret to have to say that the progress of this line was so often interrupted that we were led to believe that we were merely being tantalized. It may be that the financial condition of the Government necessitated the interruption of the work; but we fervently pray that the same necessity may not recur, and that your Lordship may see your way to push on the work to its completion in the shortest time possible. This district is entirely dependent on Orissa for the most part of the paddy required for its consumption. Prices become exorbitantly high whenever there may be failure of crops in the district, which is unfortunately too often the case now-a-days. We therefore pray that the construction of a branch line from the Central Provinces may be taken in hand so that there may be abundant supply and that cheap prices may prevail even in times of scarcity by reason of competition between Orissa and the Central Provinces. We are very thankful to your Lordship for petition between Orissa and the Central Provinces. We are very thankful to your Lordship for the patient hearing you have given us and humbly beg your Lordship's pardon for having occupied so much of your Lordship's valuable time. Once more we thank your Lordship and also our beloved Sovereign whom you have the honour to represent in our Presidency, with whom the hearts of Her Majesty's subjects, the rich and poor, and the young and old, are united by the cords of unfailing love.

His Excellency's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,—I wish first to express my thanks for the kind welcome I have received in this place. It is with great satisfaction that I visit the head-quarters of the district after having travelled over a great deal of it with the Collector, the advantage of whose company I have enjoyed ever since I landed at Calingapatam. You have brought to my notice the backward

condition of Ganjam and you say that my predecessor, Lord Connemara, described it as being 50 years behind the rest of the Presidency, and no doubt there is a good deal of leeway to be made up here, and in regard to education you are behind other districts. The point raised as regards the High School at Berhampore shall receive the careful attention of Government, and I can only express a hope that some arrangement which may give you satisfaction may be found feasible. It is, as you say, unfortunately the case that for some time past you have suffered from the vicissitudes of the season, and that at the present time though the failure has not been general there has been serious loss in some parts of the district. I see no reason, however, to apprehend anything like the very serious distress and suffering of 1889. No doubt the ryots have in consequence of a succession of bad seasons a difficulty in meeting their engagements, but out of the amount due to Government from this taluk alone, no less than Rs. 1,20,000 remain uncollected, which shows that the authorities have not been pressing for payment. The Collector will postpone collections wherever necessary. I have already referred at Berhampore to the complaints made in regard to the Forest Laws, and can only repeat what I said there that the Government finds it more and more necessary as every year passes to look to the necessities of the future, since free fuel and free pasturage have become impossible, and both fuel and pasturage are fast disappearing. The fee paid per load of grass—one pie—is almost nominal; but even this will be remitted by the Collector in the case of *bona fide* ryots, who actually require grass for their cattle and cannot afford to pay for it. What you say about the completion of the East Coast Railway has also been laid before me at Berhampore, and I say here, as I did there, that no one is more fully sensible than I am of the importance of completing it, and that I will spare no effort to ensure its early completion. Financial considerations necessarily enter largely into this question and affect the rate of progress. Nothing will tend so much to remove your disabilities in regard to education, and in every other respect, as the improved communications which you are shortly to enjoy. Whether the line from Raipur to the East Coast should reach the sea at Cuttack or at some point south of that I cannot now say, but this important question will of course be decided for, what is considered by those best qualified to judge, to be the greatest good of the greatest number. I thank you again for your kind address and for the warm welcome you have given me in Chatrapur.

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