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NATIVE PUBLIC OPINION.

A Bi-Weekly Journal Published every Wednesday and Saturday Evening.

Vol. V.]

MADRAS:—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1875.

[No. 4.]

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

THE Agent respectfully begs that Presidency as well as Mofussil Subscribers, who have fallen in arrears, will be good enough to remit the amount of their Subscriptions as early as possible in settlement of account, as great inconvenience is experienced by Subscribers not paying their Subscriptions at the proper time.

He further begs that Subscriptions for the current year may be paid in advance, and that he may be relieved of the trouble caused by deferred payments. All communications concerning Subscription should be addressed

C. FOSTER,

Agent.

N. P. O. OFFICE,
MADRAS, 13th Jan. 1875.

Summary of News.

—Sir Douglas Forsyth arrived in Calcutta on Christmas eve and took his seat in the Legislative Council on the Tuesday following under the usual salute.

—CHIEF JUSTICE OF BARODA.—It is rumoured at Baroda that Mr. Shantarana Naraye, the well known Hindu pleader of that City, is likely to be appointed Chief Justice of the Baroda High Court.

—It is announced that fourteen female medical students have completed their course of study, under the direction of the Ladies' Committee of St. Petersburg, and, were to be passed last month after their full term of three years.

—CROPS IN BENGAL.—In a few districts in Bengal, rain is now wanted for some of the crops, but, on the whole, the prospects continue excellent. The price of common rice also continues to fall in many districts.

—PRINCE IMPERIAL.—The following is from the *Indian Daily News*. There is no truth, says a Home paper, in the silly rumour of the Prince Imperial's engagement with a Russian Countess. The Prince is wedded to his books: he applies himself diligently to his Woolwich duties and finds time besides to watch and criticise acutely the progress of military reform in his own country. One thing is clear: the Woolwich cadet believes in himself, and has got competent judges of both countries to share the belief.

—LAXMIBAI.—The *Times of India* contradicts the report that the Government of India is about to

recognize the child of Laxmibai as the Gaekwar's heir. The subject has not as yet been considered by the Viceroy.

—LONDON.—One of the religious societies of England describing London, says that, "the police boundaries cover 576 square miles, and a population of 4,000,000 of inhabitants; that there were gathered more Jews than in Palestine, more Scotch than in Edinburgh, more Irish than in Dublin, more Roman Catholics than in Rome," and that "there is great variety in the languages spoken; also that there is one birth in London every five minutes, and a death every eight minutes."

—The Calcutta *Indian Statesman* has postponed his birth till the 15th instant.

—A Durbar was held at Government House, Calcutta, on the 5th instant, to receive Sir Salar Jung and Mr. Saunders.

—The Directors of the Bank of Bengal at their last weekly meeting, made no alteration in the rate of interest or discount.

—Mr. Froude will not visit India so soon as was expected, if it be true, as is reported, that he is going to Australia.

—Moulmein would seem to have a very mixed population. According to the local paper, Bengalees, Chittagonians, Oringees, Madrasses, Barmese, and lately Chinamen, may be seen among the fishermen of the place.

—According to the *Englishman's* London Correspondent, there is a whisper at home of Sir Hope Grant's succeeding Lord Napier as Commander-in-Chief of India, when the latter retires at the close of the present year. It is presumed that his Lordship will certainly go home, as two appointments will soon be vacant to either of which his claims would be paramount—the command in Ireland, and the Chief Engineership, known in war Office phrase as the Inspector Generalship of Fortifications.

—MILK.—Milk diluted with one-third lime-water is said, will not cause any one biliousness, headache, and, if taken regularly, will so strengthen the system as to banish these disorders.

—An interesting discussion, "under the auspices of the East India Association," as we learn, took place in London on the 25th of last month. The subject chosen was "Indian Political Economy and Finance." The topics introduced were the gravest that could be brought into any discussion on the affairs of our Indian Empire.

—ELECTRIC WAVES.—The velocity of electric waves through the Atlantic cables has been ascertained by Professor Gould to be from 7,000 to 8,000 miles per second. Telegraph wires upon poles in the air conduct the electric waves with a velocity more than double. It is a curious fact that the rapidity of the transmission increases with the distance between the wire and the earth, or with the height of the support. The *Journal des Telegraphes* says that wires placed on poles slightly elevated transmit signals with a velocity of 12,000 miles a second and those at a considerable height give a velocity of 16,000 or 20,000 miles.

—At the last Matriculation Examination of the Bombay University it is said that no less than 700 candidates out of a total of 1,115 have been plucked in English.

—OPIUM LANDS OF THE MAHARAJA HOLKAR.—It is said that the total rental of the opium lands amount to nearly sixteen lacs yearly.

—Excluding Paris, France possesses 15,623 public libraries furnishing students with 1,474,637 works.

—GOLD.—The whole production of gold throughout the world during 1873 is estimated to have been worth nearly £44,000,000.

—A CURIOUS POST OFFICE.—The most curious post-office in the world is situated, or rather hung, on the outermost rock of the mountains overhanging the Straits of Magellan, opposite Terra del Fuego. Every pass-ship opens it to place letters in or to take letters out. Every ship undertakes to forward all letters in the office which it is possible to transmit.

—In the First Arts Examination at Calcutta there are 192 passes this year, 18 in the first division, 77 in the second, and 97 in the third. Of these 40 are from Presidency College, 15 from Hooghly, 15 from Patna, 11 from Dacca, 6 from Krishnagore and only 3 from Berhampore.

All these are State Colleges under European Principals. The Metropolitan Institution which is conducted by Bengalee Professors and which receives no aid from the State has passed 8 pupils.

In the Entrance Examination the number of passes is 955, viz., 163 in the first division, 484 in the second and 308 in the third.

—THE TELEGRAPH MESSAGE IN INDIA.—The average distance traversed by every telegraph message despatched in India is one thousand miles. It is not only that people chiefly use the post for short distances, but commercial interchanges between Calcutta and Bombay—a length of 1,500 miles—contribute largely to the total despatch; whilst Government communicates freely with Peshawar—another long stretch. Remembering the comparatively short journeys which messages have to travel in England and the Continent, the *Pioneer* thinks it is pretty certain that our Indian rates here are relatively cheaper than the European, and that all things considered, too, the working system is a marvel of correctness and rapidity.

—It is reported from Calcutta that an action for compensation against Government has lately been brought in the Court of the Subordinate Judge at Alipore, by a contractor of a road at Goburdangah in the 24-Pergunnahs, the construction of which was undertaken by the Public Works Department last year, in anticipation of the sanction of the Supreme Government, which sanction, however, was subsequently withheld. The cause of this action appears to be that the contractor had nearly finished the work on the line of road contracted for, when orders were issued by the Public Works Department to stop the works, owing to Government having declined to sanction the estimate

[January 13, 1875.]

in that year. The contractor now sues for compensation.

—ESTATES IN LUCKNOW.—The Lucknow paper tells us that there are in Oudh thirty six estates, containing 2,589 villages, now under the management of the Court of Wards. The gross demand of these estates is about Rs. 24,85,561.

—FRENCH ESTABLISHMENTS IN INDIA.—The revenues of the French establishments in India in the year 1874 are set down at 1,644,407 francs and the disbursements at 1,739,407 francs. The revenue of Chandernagore is given at 199,211 fr; the expenditure at 144,112 fr; of Karikal, receipts 355,499 fr; expenditure 234,204 fr; Mahe, receipts 41,211 fr; expenditure 40,792 fr; the revenue of Yanam is set down at 56,576 fr., and the disbursements at 39,462 fr.; the revenue of Pondicherry, the chief town of the French establishments in India, was 991,811 fr., the expenditure 1,280,837 fr.

—SIR MUNGULDASS.—A Bombay paper gives a few particulars of the career of Sir Munguldas Nathooobhoy, the newly-created Baronet. His public benefactions amount to about two lakhs to rupees, the largest contribution was Rs. 74,750 towards a charitable hospital and dispensary at Kallian in memory of his wife. Sir Munguldas is a large landholder in Bombay, and never entered into any of those risky speculations which brought about ruin in the years of the cotton and jointstock mania.

—The Governor General in Council is pleased to remit the whole of the duties chargeable under the Stamp Act on Affidavits made as a condition of enlistment under the Indian Articles of War.

—The Indian salt-revenue for the current official year, from the 1st of April to the 30th of November, amounted to £3,773,717, against £3,819,333 during the same period of last year.

—Considering that there are in the United Kingdom about five thousand more women than men, the *Indian Statesman* thinks that "before very long, the Parliament of England will most probably be called upon to legislate on behalf of spinsters."

—In continuation of the Notification of the Government of India, in the Financial Department, No. 5,235, dated the 28th August 1874, the Governor General in Council is pleased to direct that, in Section 10 (b) of Supplement E to the Civil Leave Code, the words *day before* shall be substituted for the words "date of," and the words "after that" cancelled.

—OUR RAILWAY COMMUNICATIONS.—It is expected that trains will be now able to run through between Madras and Bombay over the beds of the rivers where the bridges are broken down. The restoration of the bridges will of course be a long job, but it is believed that in a few months these structures will be temporarily repaired so as to enable trains to run through in all seasons. Mr. Anderson, the Chief Engineer of the Company, starts by this week's mail for England to consult with the Board of Directors about the permanent restoration of the bridges in such a manner as to prevent the danger of such disasters recurring.

Madras News.

—OUR COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.—Sir F. Haines and Staff arrived at Rangoon on the 30th ultimo and landed under the usual salute. Several of the military officers of the Station boarded the *Oriental* to receive His Excellency, and a guard of honor from the European Regiment at the port was drawn up at the landing place. After inspecting the troops at Rangoon, the Commander-in-Chief was to have left on the 4th instant for Thayetmyo, and thence overland for Yungtoo.

—LORD HOBART has left Madras for Guindy Park, and is not likely to return to Madras before November next.

—THE TRAVANCORE MAHARAJAH'S TOUR.—His Highness has accepted the invite of the Cochin and has written to say that he will be at Ernakulam on the 10th of Malabar month, correspondingly with the 22nd Instant. Grand preparations are being made for the reception, and the abundant gratified. The Tahsildar and the inferior officials are making extraordinary efforts to collect provisions, and the apartments for the accommodation of His Highness of Travancore are being fitted up. It is expected that the day of reception will be observed as a general holiday.

—HONORARY MAGISTRATES.—The subject of the appointment of the Honorary Magistrates, so long lying in one of the pigeon holes of the Secretariat, is said to be taken up and discussed.

—CHARGE OF ABDUCTION AND WRONGFUL RESTRAINT.—On Saturday last before Mahomed Yusuf Saib, at the Egmore Police, Mr. Champion appeared and applied for summons against Mr. Newton, Master of the Wesleyan Mission School, and the Revd. Mr. Burgess of Royapettah, the former for abducting and wrongfully restraining one Teroovengada Moodelly, a lad of 16 years of age, from the lawful guardianship of his father-in-law, Parthasarthy Moodelly, and the latter for abetment and wrongful restraint. It would appear that Teroovengada was a student in the Wesleyan Mission School and his father-in-law being apprehensive that undue influence was being exercised upon him for the purposes of conversion, withdrew the lad and sent him to a native school. On the 7th instant, Mr. Newton met and induced him to go to the house of the Reverend Mr. Burgess, where it would appear that he was committed and not permitted to go home to see his wife, though he expressed a desire to do so. The Magistrate granted the application.—*Madras Standard.*

Latest Telegrams.

—OUTRAGE BY CARLISTS ON GERMANS.—It is reported that the Carlists have fired on a Mecklenburg vessel, which had taken shelter at Guetaria.

—EXPORTS OF INDIAN TEA.—CALCUTTA, 7TH JAN. The exports of Indian tea last year amounted to 18,745,682 pounds.

—DISPUTES IN THE FRENCH ASSEMBLY.—PARIS, 6TH JAN. Marshal MacMahon has addressed a message to the Assembly, asking them to vote for the bill in favor of the First and Second Chamber. The Assembly rejected the proposal by 420 against 250 votes. The Ministry consequently resigns.

—THE FRENCH FINANCIAL BUDGET FOR 1876.—PARIS, JAN. 9. Magne, Minister of Finance, has produced his budget for 1876, according to which the revenue will be 2,528 millions francs, and expenditure 2,616 millions. The deficiency will be covered by a revision of existing taxes.

—THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.—The ministerial crisis continues and great difficulty is experienced in the formation of a new ministry.

BRITISH EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FOR DECEMBER.

LONDON, JANUARY 8. The British exports for December amount to 17,875,000 sterling, showing a decrease of 1,375,000 sterling. The imports for the same month amounted to 28,625,000 sterling, showing a decrease of 4,500,000 sterling.

Editorial Notes.

MR. STANLEY'S AMERICAN WAR DIORAMA.—The Exhibitions of Mr. Stanley are entirely of a novel kind, and are very interesting, inasmuch as they combine pleasure with history. The Hall was literally crowded on last Saturday night, and a large number of persons who went rather late returned without the pleasure of witnessing the Exhibition for want of seats. The funeral procession of President Lincoln in particular was very picturesque; and the lecturer performed his part very satisfactorily.

THE ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES OF ST. THOME College took place yesterday evening in the School Hall, the Right Rev. Dr. Fennelly presiding. The Master, Mr. Ambrose, read his report on the career of the Institution during the past year, and judging from the statements therein contained, particular difficulties it had to overcome, had on the whole worked satisfactorily. After a little *cava voce* were distributed. The President, then addressing the assembly, expressed his satisfaction with the progress of the school, and from what he saw there, he fully believed that the work of the School was honestly done; and he thanked Father Ananthy, the founder and supporter of the Institution, for the invaluable good he has done to the community, native and European of St. Thome and Mylapore, in providing for the education of their children.

Parents against the folly of trying their sons in many schools without letting them remain long enough in any one to get a fair start. Then the meeting dispersed, one and all blessing Father Ananthy for his piety and goodness.

TUTICORIN MUNICIPALITY (1873-74).—It appears that the Commissioners have resolved to abandon the contract system in connection with the conservancy of the town. The cost of lighting seems to be unsatisfactory, and Government observe that efforts should be made to reduce it.

HER MAJESTY.—We are singularly brought into remembrance of the war of 1870 by the presentation to Her Majesty at Windsor of volumes of addresses from French cities, in recognition of British help and sympathy for the wounded and starving at the time of the war. The acknowledgment in this special way comes late, but was graciously received by the Queen. We had long ceased to think of these acts as requiring any further acknowledgment, but they are just the kind of bonds which preserve international good will.

TRANSIT OF VENUS.—Referring to the transit of Venus, the *Rast Gofur* takes occasion to deplore the ignorance of scientific knowledge in the native community. The paper asks "how many of the scholars whom year after year the local University parades before admiring audiences as the result of the work she performs at a considerable expense, have studied such interesting and important sciences as chemistry and astronomy?" We (*Indian Mirror*) ask how many educational officers, are this, have seriously thought of introducing the study of science into our schools?

The following is taken from an article on "the Best Food for Man" in the October number of the *Westminster Review*—

"It has been ascertained by these (Leibig, Playfair, Boussingault) and by other chemists that one pound of bread, oatmeal, rice, or sago contains more nourishment than three pounds of flesh; and that a pound of potatoes as much as does a pound of beef. Flesh-meat averages in nutritious matter about 25 per cent,

January 13, 1875.]

according to Leibig; while rice, peas, wheat, and beans average from 82 to 92 per cent.

The flesh of animals is said to be more stimulating but less nutritive than vegetable diet. But if, says the Reviewer, any body "will have the courage and sense enough to persevere in vegetarian habits he will before long be amply rewarded by finding himself improved alike in mind and body; his sensuous enjoyments will be keener, his perceptions clearer, his brain stronger, his whole person lighter, purer, and more healthful." Why then do we take meat at all?—*Bengalee.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MADRAS MAIL.

THE DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.—SIR,—In your issue of the 4th instant, "Yours Truly" says I cannot claim originality for my suggestion, inasmuch as it appeared "in the columns of one of your contemporaries several weeks ago." Allow me, please, to say that it is possible (and, perhaps, the lore of "Yours Truly" will furnish him with instances,) for two men to arrive, independently, at the same conclusion. But, however this may be, the only Madras paper I see is *The Mail*, and in it, Sir, as you may be sure, I have not seen the suggestion I made.

In answer to the long tirade of "Yours Truly," perhaps you will permit me to ask him the following questions:—Is the work of the Director such as requires for its due performance an experienced master? Is it not chiefly administrative, requiring above every other qualification, an unbiassed mind? Are there not in Madras several heads of offices who, though they have had no special training for the Departments over which they preside, yet fairly discharge their duties? Are masters made of worse material? Will "Yours Truly" compare the cost to Government of the Presidency College with the cost of some of the larger of the aided schools? Will he not confess that grants to the latter are grudgingly given?

Possibly, to stamp my suggestion as "equally wanting in wisdom," it will require more than the "ipse dixit" of "Yours Truly." His letter affords another illustration of—"no case, abuse the plaintiff."

Yours faithfully,

—NATIVE COMMISSIONERS OF DIVISIONS.—Hitherto the four Commissionerships in Mysore,—three of which are worth Rs. 2,500 per mensem, and one Rs. 1,200 a month,—have been held by officers only, but rumour has it, that a native officer will be appointed to the first vacancy. According to the *Bangalore Spectator*, Mr. Krishna Iyengar, Deputy Commissioner of the Kolar District will be the lucky man. Sir Richard Meade passed through Kolar in the course of his recent tour, and expressed himself highly pleased with the state of affairs there. In all material respects the Chief Commissioner aims at carrying out his predecessor's policy with regard to the introduction of the native element into the highest ranks of the State Service.—*The Athenaeum.*

—COAL.—The local authorities passed the following order on the 8th of last month on the papers submitted by Mr. Vanstavern on coal experiments in the Kistna District:—These papers will be recorded, and Mr. Vanstavern will be instructed by the Superintending Engineer in charge of the Kistna District to continue his borings at H till it is beyond doubt that coal is not to be met with at that locality, at any such depth as anticipated by Colonel Applegath. Then a boring at Q should be made to the same extent; and finally the pit at S deepened, as suggested by Colonel Applegath. It would appear however to be necessary to empty it of water, for which purpose pumping appliances must be resorted to, or the dry weather awaited. Major Hasted should report more particularly on this point. At the same time Mr. Vanstavern will continue his thorough exploration of the whole of the country shown on Colonel Applegath's map. There is no hurry to recommence work at Beiddadanole in the absence of proper tools, for which it has been found necessary to send home.

OOTACAMUND MUNICIPALITY.—In passing orders for 1873-74, Government observe,—From paragraph 7 of the Honorary Secretary's report, it appears that without any material enhancement of the rate or number of the taxes, there was an increase under "Rates and Taxes" of Rupees 3,691 over the receipts of the previous year, and of Rupees 835 in the income from Miscellaneous sources, results indicative of increasing prosperity in the town, as well as of satisfactory municipal management.

As regards lighting and water supply.—"It is satisfactory that a beginning has been made towards the lighting of the town, and the Government trust that the Commissioners will find no difficulty in extending their efforts in that direction. The remarks regarding the water supply of the town are satisfactory."

CUDDAPAH MUNICIPALITY, 1874.—"The expenditure of the year amounted to Rupees 35,571, or Rupees 3,833 over the estimate, the excess being chiefly due to Rupees 10,068 having been spent on the new market in lieu of Rupees 7,000 provided in the Budget. The expenditure on Municipal Schools exceeded the Budget allotment by Rupees 870, but Rupees 136 only were paid as results-grants against an estimate of Rupees 500. This should have been explained. The attendance at the Dispensary was very satisfactory, notwithstanding a small decrease in the number of out-patients. The Government observe that the salary of the medical sub-officer was not paid into the Treasury within the time. The Accountant-General will take the necessary steps to ensure adjustments of the kind being made without delay, instances of neglect on the part of Municipalities being reported for the order of Government. The conservancy of the town appears to have been carefully attended to, but the cost of vaccination was as high as Rupees 9-7-6 per annum, and really exceeded the births by thirty-nine, as shown in the registration returns."

Government have passed the following order.—"The Governor in Council has received, with regret, this account of the damage done by the heavy rains in Tinnevely. He notes, with approval and satisfaction, the promptitude and energy with which the emergency was met by the officers of all departments concerned. It is gratifying to learn that not only was there no loss of human life or of cattle, but that the agriculture of the district has derived great advantage from the rains."

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.—Imprisonment for debt, the *Daily Telegraph* has been assured over and over again by glib Parliamentary partisans, by affable law officers of the Crown, and by complacent solicitors, has been "abolished." Nobody can be sent to gaol now-a-days for debt. It is only possible to commit the defaulter for repeated, flagrant, and hardened contumacy and contempt of court. Such was the information conveyed in terms of mild admonition to Mr. Michael Thomas Bass when he made a benevolent, but unsuccessful, attempt to obtain the assent of Parliament to the genuine and not the sham abolition of imprisonment for debt. Not satisfied, however, with the assurance, the Member for Derby moved for a return of the number of County Court commitments for the year 1873. This return is a very dismal schedule. The gross total of persons sent to prison for various short terms by County Court Judges during the year last past was 5,276. Of these 2,492 were incarcerated for making default in payment of debts over 40s.; 2,756 were looked up on the judgments for sums above 5s.; but not exceeding 40s.; 30 persons were deprived of their liberty for indebtedness between the sums of 1s. and 5s.; and a luckless wretch was put in prison for a debt of one shilling.—*The Bengalee.*

POOR WHITES.—Here is something from the *Pioneer* about the "poor whites."—Poor Europeans have no business in India, and a healthy system would preclude the growth of such a class. No European should be brought to this country to do any kind of work for any kind of employer, except

under conditions which provide for his return to his native land when his work is over, unless he can show qualified authorities that he has created for himself the means of independent support. Serious neglect of these considerations by the Government of India for fifteen years past, has led to a state of things in which there is no doubt a large class of poor Europeans in the country. The claims of that class should now undoubtedly be considered, but to meet them by providing any kind of free or cheap education which would encourage them to struggle on in the country, and add ultimately to their numbers, would be a grave mistake.

THE *Hindoo Patriot* has much pleasure "in laying before the reader the following extracts from a letter which a civilian serving as district officer in North India has been pleased to send him"—

"I may note that although I have summary powers I have never yet seen a case in which I thought I could exercise them with propriety."

The exercise of authority in India requires to be surrounded with more check rather than to be relieved from those existing.

I do hope that in time some solution of the question between landlord and tenant will be arrived at and that we can then all work together for representative Government in India, for India is for Indians.

Till that is conceded I see no prospect of either political stability or a fair social equilibrium.

Why do you not urge throwing upon the entire subordinate service to competition, and thus put a stop to the system of parvarish, sufarish, umedwar, which destroys the independent bearing of our official staff and at the same time ruins high education."

A CORRESPONDENT from Perisicolum writes to us:—

"The Educational Department was, when it was established, considered as important as others in order to propagate the English tongue among the mass of natives to accelerate the discharge of the public duties. But now seeing it is a country, and a thirst of that language is felt by the natives wishing to enter into any department, they now propose to leave the Higher Class studies in our own hands, or in other words that the schools should be self-supporting."

With this intention the Government raised the scale of fees of the Taluk Schools from annas 2 and 8 to 4 and 24. When the former rates of fees were collected from the boys, this Periyakulam Taluk School contained some 100 boys with a staff of 4 teachers. After the introduction of the latter or new rate of fees the numerical strength of the schools of this kind fell down, and that of this school in particular was only 16 in the month of January 1873. Had not Mr. Gopalingar, the then Tahsildar of this place taken interest in the welfare of the school, it would have been abolished at that time. That gentleman collected all the respectable inhabitants of the town and advised them to send in their children to the school, telling them that the school would be done away with and that there would be no way to educate their children if they did not take his advice; and I must therefore justly attribute the existence of this school up to date to him alone. Now the School contains some 36 boys with a staff of 3 masters, the 4th being vacant, and the collection of fees is only Rs. 25 or so. I don't see any benefit in thus raising the fees because the collection was the same when it was not raised. But the Government have really done some good to the teachers of the Taluk Schools in general because they are drawing the same salary which they were getting while they taught some 30 boys in each class. But the fate of these schoolmasters is quite different from that of others. Till the end of last year, there were 4 classes managed by 3 masters and now a new 5th class has been formed and each master is obliged to take two classes in one and the same hour."

Native Public Opinion.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1875.

AS yet a paragraph—which we extracted from a contemporary and published in our issue of the 6th instant—complaining of law's delay in Trivellore, we have had the pleasure of hearing from an unimpeachable quarter that there is nothing whatever to complain of the District Munsiff's Court at the station, in which far from there being any delay, work seems to be done with remarkable dispatch, so much so that there is not in the file of that Court any case of more than five months old. So far then as the civil administration of the Taluk is concerned, things are in a most satisfactory condition.

THE COLLECTOR OF TANJORE & HIS CIRCULAR.

THE following is a copy of an order recently issued by the Collector of Tanjore to his subordinates. We need scarcely remark that it looks more like a Ukase of the Czar than a paper emanating from an officer of the British Government. We have heard of many a strange freak indulged in by Collectors whose zeal outran their discretion; but this surpasses all. We are at a loss to conceive under what hallucination Mr. Thomas thought himself competent to institute a proceeding so inquisitorial in its nature, or imagined that it would answer the end he had in view. To us the proceeding appears altogether arbitrary and absurd. The return called for by the Collector is quite unnecessary in the case of honest officers, and could not but be felt by them as an insult, and it was preposterous to expect that dishonest officers would submit faithful returns. Lord Hobart, at the anniversary meeting of the Lawrence Asylum hoped that his subordinates would be considerate in their treatment of natives and his relationship will no doubt be pleased with the way in which the Collector of Tanjore has acted.

Circular Order to every Deputy Collector, Tahsildar, Firkha Sub-Magistrate, Sea Customs Superintendent, Land Customs Amin, Salt Superintendent, and Chattram Superintendent, and Manager and the Sirkhel, and the Manager of the Sheali Estate.

On receipt of this order, you will by return of post, if possible, or at least within 24 hours, send me in duplicate a tabular statement in your own handwriting and under your own signature in the accompanying form, and you will require every Subordinate in your Office down to the peons to submit a like tabular statement in duplicate, each under his own signature and in his own hand-writing, if he can write, but enclosed in your envelope.

2. Perfect accuracy may not be possible from all in so short a time; but a fair approximation must be quite easy. Any intentional omission or mis-statement, which may subsequently come to light will be jealous, scrutinized, and may lead to grave consequences. You are therefore warned to be careful to make the statement as accurate as you can, and you will call your office together and give them this same warning by reading this order to them immediately on its receipt.

3. On receipt of this order, the answering of it will take precedence of all other public duty and no excuse for delay will be accepted.

4. The values to be entered should not be the annual income but the total cost or purchase price.

5. To every tabular statement will be appended and signed the following declarations. I hereby declare that I have carefully filled up the above statement not intentionally omitting anything which is really mine though standing in some one else name, or even my part share of anything.

6. Those public servants who have no property worth more than one year's salary will in lieu of the Statement submit the following declaration:

I have carefully considered the order and possess no property which should be entered in the tabular statement.

7. In the event of your wishing to add any explanation with reference to the amount of wealth amassed being or seeming to be disproportionate to fair savings out of your salary the present is your opportunity for doing it in a foot note to your statement.

(Signed) H. S. THOMAS, Collector.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
PROPERTY POSSESSED ON 1st JULY 1874.														
Name of Public Servant.	Present Office.	Date and hour of receipt of this order and of reply.	In lands.	Value thereof.	Property possessed on 1st July 1874. In houses and land of all sorts.	Value thereof.	In Chattrams.	Value thereof.	any investments in any other property not already entered.	5-7-74.	Value of property acquired before entering Government service.	Value of ancestral property acquired before entering Government service.	Total of columns 13 and 14.	Balance after deducting advances received from col.

THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

No more interesting question can offer itself to our consideration than the signs of the times in which we are living, and the state of things towards which society is slowly but surely drifting. It is not our purpose to discuss the question in its entirety, even were we competent to do so. We shall content ourselves with noting some of the conspicuous features of the state of things in our Presidency at present, and with the help of the examples of the past and the signs of the present, we shall endeavor to the best of our power to calculate what the future of this most complex and heterogeneous state of things will be.

It is a trite remark enough to say that India is passing through a transitional period in her history,—a period in which vast influences for good and evil are operating on all sides,—a period characterized by a morbid love of change which is at once the cause and the effect of an undue depreciation of the inheritance of the past,—a period one of whose most striking features is small reverence for things old and antiquated, coupled with an unhealthy desire on the part of individuals to earn transitory fame by inaugurating radical changes, be they religious, or political, or social. Those who, in a period of such revolutionizing tendencies, are gifted by God with the power of teaching and guiding the many aright, and of directing the reactionary influence into beneficial courses, have a most responsible duty incumbent on them. As creatures of the age in which they live, they are likely to be, to a more or less extent, themselves, subject to the revolutionizing influences; they may see much to condemn and little to retain in the past; they may feel convinced that reforms of a radical description are required to cleanse religion of its superstitions, social customs of their follies and

oppressions and anomalies; and they may in consequence feel themselves bound in duty to forward rather than hinder the revolutionizing agencies at work. But they ought not to forget that in the life of nations, as of individuals, there is so to speak, no break of continuity; that changes in order to be on the whole beneficial must be slow and gradual, not spasmodic and sudden; that what was good for the past was good only in proportion as it was suited to the needs of the past, only in so far as there was a harmony between the external and the internal relations, or to put it a little more clearly, only in so far as the religious beliefs and the social customs, and the political forms, were in unison with the thoughts the imaginations, and the aspirations, of the people to whom they belonged. If the people of India at the present day are the descendants of the people who lived contentedly under the old state of things only a century ago, it seems far more likely that the old state of things should be well adapted than ill-adapted to the present. Social organization, considered as the resultant of several forces, some attractive and others repulsive, merging into one, is a thing far too strong to be completely changed even in a century. No clearer illustration can be given of this important sociological fact than that India, for about 2,000 years and it may be more, has remained in much the same condition in spite of political revolutions. The aggressive Muhammadan crushed the feeble remnants of ancient native sovereignty and bequeathed to posterity works of art which will long remain memorials of his power and skill, but he left intact the social and religious organization of the conquered people. Clearly as this seems to point to the conclusion that there is very great and enduring vitality in our social customs and religious beliefs, that what was adapted to the instincts and the thoughts of the Hindus

for a score of centuries and more could not have all on a sudden become unsuited, it would be a great mistake to suppose that the circumstances under which we live do not call imperatively for reform. The old state of things may have been all well a hundred years ago, but things are not now quite what they were then. English education brings in a new factor into the calculation which is likely to alter the product considerably; the study of Western literature and Western Science introduces a new force into the system which must cause some perturbations, and it is the business of the thinking few to determine of what kind these perturbations shall be, and to what lengths they shall go.

In the palmy days of ancient India, when native kings ruled over vast tracts of land unmolested by foreign aggression, and when our revered sages, leading a life of seclusion in the shades of primeval forests, grappled with the vital problems of nature, all knowledge became of necessity deeply mixed up with religious feeling. Psychology and logic, grammar and rhetoric, and even history took a strong tinge from the prevailing religious sentiments and beliefs. Religion, thus not content with the fulfilment of its legitimate functions, made, in course of time, large encroachments on provinces not its own, on science in its several branches, and on history. One problem of serious difficulty which the present generation is called upon to solve is how to separate the incongruous elements which have got mixed up in Hindu religion. Of course, it is no easy task to draw the proper line of demarcation between religion on the one hand and science on the other, as these two things lie mixed up in the Shastras. Sometimes the commingling of the two elements may be so intimate that it will be a thing of no small difficulty to detach them from each other. Science compels our assent by exhibiting to us a chain of irrefragable reasoning, and that religion is more or less a matter of faith transcending the limits of our reason; it must be obvious that no science can stand which contradicts the reason, and that a religion mixed up with false science will suffer by the fall of the false science. More in an early issue.

THE STATE OF TRAVANCORE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—In your impression of the 22nd instant, I read with regret a letter, dated from Malabar, regarding the Government of Travancore, and the lecture of His Highness the First Prince; and I hasten to make a few observations thereon which, I hope, you will give publicity to in the interests of justice and fair play.

I am a native of Travancore, bred up and educated there. Though out of the country at present, I am a landed proprietor in it, and understand full well the existing relations between Government and the tax-payer. I have had ample opportunities too to observe the condition of my fellow-subjects throughout the state, and of comparing it with that of most of the other Native States. My object is not to varnish the blots of the present administration, not to palliate the blemishes in the character of His Highness the Maharajah—there was, and there will be, no instance of a faultless human character. I simply purpose to show that circumstances do not even seemingly justify your correspondent's raising his voice in chorus with that of one or two local news-

papers and English dailies, to "impugn the Travancore administration as a whole," and to call upon the paramount power to "appoint a commission to enquire into the state of the things in the country, to depose the Maharajah, and nominate a successor if the State continues to be badly governed." Your correspondent does not, apparently, realize all the gravity of his denouncement.

Even a cursory perusal of the communication will make any one, who has visited Travancore, believe that your correspondent has never been to the country, at least has not seen it since the last 14 or 15 years. He might have, for aught I know in the time of Krishna Rao Dewan, gone on a trip to Trevandrum from Cochin by the Backwaters, and returned by the same route without deviating from the line. Hence, perhaps, his observation about "the extensive area of submerged land specially adapted for the cultivation of paddy"—an observation naturally suggested by the vast lagoons which, occasionally contracting into channels, and widening into miniature inland seas such as the Bhamanato, &c., extend with slight breaks from Trevandrum to Ponnany in the British Province of Malabar. Hence, I think, his omitting to notice anything of the immense extent of uncultivated dry land, of hills and dales, excellently suited to grow paddy, in comparison to which the area of submerged land dwindles into nothing. In the opening para. of his letter, he merely uses His Highness the First Prince's description of "Pancha" lands. One may not be a traveller in a country, still one may be well informed of its physical and political conditions. Your correspondent is evidently misinformed on both heads. What, for instance, does he mean when he says that the conservative and retired landholder has been recently disturbed by offences against his property and ag-

before making such a statement had he founded his views on information gleaned from the landholders themselves. Again, he does not know, perhaps, that he is asserting something contrary to truth when he says that "on the return of Travancore from the trip to Bombay and Benares, he kicked up a dust with his late Dewan Sir Madava Row, and forced him to retire." He would probably have not said it, had he been aware that Sir Madava Row represented His Highness the Maharaja Holkar at the grand Darbar at Bombay, I can understand how interested local papers endeavour to mislead the public, how an English Daily such as the *London Times*, obtaining particulars from writers like its own *Calcutta* correspondent, who are themselves but the vehicles of reports and rumours unconsciously misrepresent matters. But I cannot in the least comprehend why a *Correspondent*, professing to be an informant of events that transpire in Malabar, that is, in all the territories included in the Malabar Coast Line, and dating his letters from *Malabar* to show that he is a sort of cosmopolitan on a small scale, vague reports of misgovernment in Travancore. He should try to be better informed in future or had better not rush into print at all.

The adverse comments of the Indian Press against Travancore can, I think, be easily traced to its source. The Kingdom, under that able and talented statesman Sir Madava Row, was so well administered and rose to such unprecedented prosperity, that it was pointed out by every discerning observer as a model of good government. In this age of progress everything must be progressive. When, in the midst of advancement, one thing remains stationary, it is soon left behind in the race, and though it may not actually retrogress the velocity on all sides will make it appear to be going back. Had Sir Madava Row still been Dewan, he would doubtless have kept pace with the

march all round. The conspicuous position the country attained under him now brings with it its attendant evils. Blots, supposed or real, which, less known States, would have been passed over with any notice, are looked at through a microscope, magnified beyond all natural proportions, and made to appear as evils which, if left unremedied, would lead to inevitable ruin.

But I do not see wherein lies all this corruption, all this retrogression that is laid at the door of the Government of Travancore. The *Times*' your correspondent, and all the smaller fry of agitators, agree in stating, and I cordially subscribe to the statement, that the State prospered under Sir Madava Row; in other words, that the administrative machinery constructed by him, its component parts severally and collectively, and the enactments he promulgated, were all, considering the state of the country, adapted to meet, and did compass, their various ends. Do the papers and their contributors venture to assert with even the semblance of truth that His Highness the Maharajah has introduced any radical perceptible change in these systems? Do they aver that any vast modification has been made in the public service? No. They cannot do it. There are the departments organized by Sir Madava Row, and there, in the majority of cases, are the men placed at their heads by himself. The only person of note who left Travancore since the retirement of Sir Madava Row, is Sadasiva Pillay, 1st Judge of the Sudder Court; and his place has been pretty well, if not worthily, filled by Chellappa Pillay, B. A., B. L., an officer of great attainments, though of limited experience. Do the declaimers say that taxes have been raised, additional heavy duties have been imposed, the liberty of the people has been curtailed?—of course the liberty that the people enjoyed under Sir Madava Row, and the liberty that the people enjoy now, are

unlike, and they prey upon society with the sanction of Government, any new restrictions have been placed on trade? If they do, they will be speaking contrary to truth. They take refuge in such vague, meaningless accusations as "the rule is becoming intolerable," "The people get no redress," and "the country is governed by a herd of priests, minstrels, and women"—a charge as untrue as it is libellous. Sift the letter of your correspondent, examine the calumnious reports embodied in the articles that appear in various papers. See whether any particular evil is pointed to, any intelligible, explicit indictment is framed. It is, I grieve to say, lessening the weight of public opinion when, without the least foundation, defamatory rumours are given currency to, much more when on the strength of such rumours people set up a sensational cry, and call for "commission," and "dethronements," and "examination."

I do not say that the present administration is faultless. That would be speaking against my honest conviction. As I have already elsewhere said I do not intend to throw a cloak over the faults. But the faults are passive not active—negative not positive. I mean they lie in that the Dewan does not possess sufficient energy, force of character, decision to wield the reins of Government—in that he has not talent and tact to make his influence felt all over the State machinery, to oil and smooth the wheels which revolve with friction, to reconcile and co-ordinate antagonistic influences, to set everything in motion and remain in the background—in that, in short, he is not a Statesman. Sashiah Sastry would make, and has been, an excellent head of a single branch of business—a good manager of a department. He is, I admit, a perfect master of official routine business, and is a terse and powerful writer. But his qualifications as a politician are simply nil.

[January 13, 1875.]

What, with the Resident pulling in one way, and the Maharajah in another (which, I believe, is the very primary cause of all the unfavourable criticisms); and what, with his own physical incapacity for hard active work, Sashiah Sastry must have found Travancore too hot for him; and ere this, repented of his having hastily quitted his comfortable Sheristadaship. That a single man of invention and resources can overcome all obstacles and anite jarring interests, is evident from the fact that Sir Madava Row was pre-eminently successful as Dewan under the same Maharajah. I assert, and as a native of the country I assert with all confidence, that the condition of the people has not become a whit more depressed than it was under Sir Madava Row, and that the finances are as healthy, if not healthier. When he departed the central screw became a little loose, a certain irregularity made itself felt in the ramifications of the administrative frame work, and what was just three years since symmetrical and compact appeared heavy and unwieldy.

The Travancore D. P. W. is generally pointed out as a standing reproach—as an index of a weak rule. It is the Warkkallay Barrier works that brought this discredit on the department. Now, the Madras Government, as well as all who have had any connexion with the Durbar, know full well that neither His Highness the Maharajah, nor Sir Madava Row, during whose regime the tunnelling began, is in any way to be blamed for this costly futile project—and that it is a hobby of Mr. Ballard. When the Resident first proposed the piercing of the Barrier, Sir Madava Row protested against it in no ambiguous language. And there are the records of the Travancore and Madras Governments to bear me out. Now that the plan has become almost a failure, and high authorities have pronounced the incredible sums expended on

plans on the shoulders of the Maharajah of Travancore.

Mr. Routledge, in his letter to the *Times*, "may speak in no uncertain strain of the position of Travancore," and the "Thunderer" or "oracle" may "echo the opinions expressed by its correspondent." But your correspondent is not aware perhaps, that Mr. Routledge is no authority on Travancore affairs, and that "the *Times*," however great an oracle it may be on English politics, or in matters in which it has complete and accurate information, is not, unfortunately, in the age of Delphic oracles, and cannot be expected to be infallible in things that it does not know anything of. The general and abstract statements of Treaty relations between the Paramount Power, and protected States, of the right of the former to interfere in cases of crying misrule in the latter, are all "correct to the nail"—or to a "T." But your correspondent is making a mountain of a molehill, why of no molehill at all, when he goes to the length of asserting, without having a little of evidence to stand upon, "the Government is more than retrogressive, it is corrupt," "the remedy is in direct interference," "let a Commission be appointed," &c. &c. Let a Commission, I say, be at once appointed. It will be the best thing that the British Government can do for Travancore. Let the Commission, as in the case of Baroda, take down the depositions indiscriminately of very class of His Highness's subjects, from Parayees and Madathanes, the richest folks in the realm—to Poolayers, and Koravers—the lowest people in the country. Let them collect in the independent observations of every foreign traveller, or resident who has not looked around him with a jaundiced eye, such as coffee planters on the Hills, or European and Bombay merchants on the seaports. Let the members

of the Commission walk over the province from one end to the other, satisfying themselves by an ocular demonstration. It will show the Government of India that they have been deceived by the cry of "wolf, where there is no beast of prey. It will silence the maligners of His Highness for ever. It will, it may be permissible to hope, teach His Highness in future to think twice before accepting the resignation and countenancing the retirement of farseeing and judicious servants like Sir Madava Row and Sadasiva Pillay.

Tried, indeed, by a European standard of policy, every native, every Oriental kingdom, must appear execrable. The democratic element has ever been entirely wanting, the working classes have ever counted for nothing in all eastern monarchies: and hence absolute uncontrolled power on the part of the sovereign has been perpetuated, which, in its mildest form, is, in the eyes of a free nation, a positive evil. It has been widely remarked as a curious and inexplicable fact that the subjects of such monarchies prefer by far their own to any European form of Government, though a little consideration would have shown to those who thus set the truth as an insoluble problem, that the people like to live under their rulers simply because the Government is suited to their stage of advancement, simply because they cannot comprehend what is meant by liberty of thought and discussion equal distribution of justice, and all the other similar expressions of occidental civilization. Unless the reform comes from within, no amount of theorising or declamations can raise poor Ramaswamy or Shungra Pillay per saltum to a level with Mr. John Bull, Brother Jonathan, or Monsieur Crapaud. Though I may be guilty of triteness when I say that Travancore must be judged not by placing it in juxta position with England, France, or America, but by weighing it in the

scale of its own natural corrective of abuses an impossibility. Then he comes down to say that the State of Travancore 'is now governed by a herd of priests, minstrels, and women,' and now, what is more wondrous still, we see that formidable 'thunderer' the *London Times*, stalking forward with a mettlesome and manful determination to proclaim to the world that he would, as soon as the affairs of the Guicowar of Baroda have been wound up in a right way, take His Highness the Maha Rajah of Travancore in hand for misgovernment. He expresses himself threateningly in the following terms:—"The Rajah of Travancore seems likely to be the next, whom we shall be compelled to take in hand for misgovernment,"—after the Guicowar of Baroda. And again, he adds that Travancore is such as to enable him to yoke it with Baroda.

Now, I would ask the Calcutta correspondent to the *Times*, without lending myself at once to his side of the question—without even making myself any endeavours at rebutting the arguments or statements emanating from him—to mention what are those positive facts of misgovernment (not the wretched phantoms of his own imagination, I request) communicated to him by an observant friend of his, as existing in Travancore, ever since the 'forced retirement' of Sir T. Madava Row, and how far the same have gone to justify the menacing sermons, prepared by him and his contemporary the *Times*.

I observe that he seems to divide the administration of our Maha Rajah into two epochs. The Maha Rajah as governing with Sir T. Madava Row, and the Maha Rajah as governing with A. Sashiah Shastri. The one he extols, the other he decries. To the former he points as a period, in which our 'little world of Travancore' rose in an unprecedented manner to eminence and prosperity. The other

A DEFENCE OF TRAVANCORE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MADRAS TIMES.

SIR,—I wish to invite your best attention to the most uncalled-for and malicious criticisms, which have recently been passed by a certain ill-informed Calcutta correspondent of the *London Times*, and which have also been borne out by the romantic metaphysics of the latter itself, on the administration, Government and sovereign of this our 'microcosm'—the land of Travancore.

I therefore beg you will kindly give some consideration to this subject, which is so much deserving of your wise advocacy—especially, as you seem to have been determined to hold out a helping hand, from time to time, to those Native rajdoms, which have been suffering more or less from the effects of spiteful attempts at the hand of certain green-eyed monsters of the day.

Now, it is said by the Calcutta correspondent of the *London Times*, in a communication, dated September 21st last, that the Principality of Travancore, ever since the 'forced retirement' of Sir T. Madava Row, or, in other words, the appointment of A. Sashiah Shastri, as good a Proficient of the Madras University, to the Dewanship of Travancore, 'has been running a headlong downward course to ruin,' from that zenith of 'eminence and prosperity,' to which it was once sublimated by the unflinching efforts of Sir T. Madava Row. Then, again, it is said, he has been furnished with 'some decrees, which outrage every sentiment of justice,' 'by the courtesy of an observant friend,' and also, 'the most that can be said for Princes, who allow all this, is, that their education has been generally that of corrupt Courts,' and 'that when called upon to govern, they do so without check or restraint.' Further on, he reminds that 'before the days of British supremacy, misrule in Native States had

been a natural corrective of abuses an impossibility. Then he comes down to say that the State of Travancore 'is now governed by a herd of priests, minstrels, and women,' and now, what is more wondrous still, we see that formidable 'thunderer' the *London Times*, stalking forward with a mettlesome and manful determination to proclaim to the world that he would, as soon as the affairs of the Guicowar of Baroda have been wound up in a right way, take His Highness the Maha Rajah of Travancore in hand for misgovernment. He expresses himself threateningly in the following terms:—"The Rajah of Travancore seems likely to be the next, whom we shall be compelled to take in hand for misgovernment,"—after the Guicowar of Baroda. And again, he adds that Travancore is such as to enable him to yoke it with Baroda.

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[January 13, 1875.]

he depicts as an age in which the state of our rajdom 'has been running a headlong downward course to ruin.'—For what reason our land has been 'running a headlong downward course to ruin,' the correspondent and his observant informant and friend themselves best know. Well, would it have been for the observant informant to have informed his friend what that course is; the secret and original springs, whence that course began; and well for the correspondent to have asked for necessary and full information on the points at issue, before he had begun such a headlong course. Certainly, not one among the many readers of these *originals* and *copies*, that knows, or can make out for himself, even after hours of meditation, what that state is, I am certain, they are now quite familiar simply with these words, that Travancore has been 'running a headlong downward course' to ruin. What earthly use, think you, there is in so delivering oneself before the public 'in so ungainly a manner,' on the poor information given by his observant friend? (I doubt whether from this observation of his, he might be deemed worthy of the name of observant). The facts ought to have been clearly and fully stated, and the reader convinced thereof; but the present mode is simply telling him:—"My gentle and foolish reader, take this queer falsehood I have now fabricated for your amusement, and which I have couched in libellous terms, for a truth, and believe it as such, be it what it is worth;" and forcing him to conviction as if by some magic art. But you know that art has 'long ago been tried and found wanting' in exerting its imaginary influence. 'Example is one of the most potent of instructors, though it teaches us without a tongue' is so universally known. Had he cited a few instances of the State running down to ruin, it would then have been all right. To begin to descend from one stage, there should clearly be a change, for a State without a change would be as it was formerly, and consequently and necessarily no descending, no 'running a headlong downward course to ruin.' Having established that a change should be effected to run a ruin, let me at once proceed to see what the change is or, what it can be.

If it be the mere change of ministry, as he clearly seems to affirm, that has worked its way out to this ruin, I am at a loss to conceive how that could have brought any change at all—I mean for the worse. The State, he would say first rose, in an unprecedented manner, to eminence and prosperity. As a matter of course, the foundation for such a fabric must have been laid deep and strong, and on a granite base, and the superstructure as firm. You will know, my good reader, that it was not intended that the building should be made to kiss the ground, in appointing skilful architects to watch over it. The owner, think you, would ever willingly and passively, have it totter before his eyesight? No, naturally not. The building is as strong as it was of old. It may be seen flourishing majestically in all the radiance and glow of its former glory and splendour, with all the embellishments and gildings of progressive attempts.

In justice to him, I do admit that Travancore, when as she was handed over to the charge of Sir T. M. R. by H. H., the late Sovereign of Travancore, was in a very bad plight, and that there were so many improvements and reforms introduced by him as to tell distinctly on the tone of her administration. But nobody, who is truly conversant among the features of, and who is in a position to give his most unprepossessed and undazzled verdict on the conduct and policy of our body politic would take upon himself to tax the powers that be with misgovernment, in the real acceptance of the term. His thoughts and opinions are

different indeed, and I again repeat that it is a matter of great regret that the correspondent, who seems to interest himself in correcting the so-called misgovernment of our State, has not been supplied with a correct budget of our internal affairs.

Probably and possibly, his informant is a member of the *Junto Council*, so to speak, which has been formed here since this change of ministry, mostly consisting of the friends and disciples of the esteemed knight, who, naturally enough, take a good deal of interest in smashing and crashing, shattering and battering the reputation of our "Sooran" and the credit of His Highness' Government. These satellites make it, as a rule, a point of their own business—no matter whether they do, or not, justice to their conscience and espouse the cause of truth—to snap their fingers at the credit and good report of our present administration, and at the same time to extol the reputation of their 'idol,' Sir T. Madava Row.

What has been so very disparagingly raised abroad, with reference to the maladministration of Travancore, is simply, be it remembered, a string of clap-trap representations from the interested pen of some of the fanatic clans of the *Junto Council*.

Now, I may be permitted to state a few instances of the reforms and innovations, brought about by H. H. our enlightened Maha Rajah—even those that have been inaugurated since the disconnection of Sir Row, instead of allowing His Highness' dominions to run to seed—to ameliorate the tone of H. H.'s Government, seeing that they would, *in esse*, impress the public mind with a true idea of the progress being realized in H. H.'s kingdom.

A new Penal Code, in close imitation of the British Indian, has been commanded by H. H. to be compiled by H. H.'s legal advisers, with such alterations and additions as may be adopted to the requirements of the land. A more comprehensive system of Vakeel's examination has been proposed to raise the prestige of the Bar. Besides these, attention is directed to increase the finances by all available means, such as revising and extending the old assessment of lands, and selling by auction waste lands about the hills for coffee plantation, which latter has already paid His Highness, Government more than one and-a-half lacs of Rupees. Certain effective changes in the magisterial jurisdiction of the land have been accomplished, in close imitation or assimilation of the British practice. This change has shorn the Dewan of his former privilege of cognisance and punishment of criminal cases, thereby increasing the criminal powers of the criminal courts, Magistrates and the Sub-Magistrates. The lower dispensaries of justice, in the days of good Sadasiva, had been very sadly transacting this business—dispensation of justice in due time, and been horribly neglected. Clients and witnesses had been lounging about days and days together to get their grievances redressed. Christians had been, as if by a standing infernal usage of the land, prohibited from being placed as the heads of Moonsiff Courts. Now, very unlike the then state of matters, these dispensaries have been, in the main, reorganized, new courts have been called into being, where indisputable; suits are filed, heard, and disposed of with as much regularity and punctuality as possible; the posts, in connection with those Moonsiff Courts, have been left open to the competition of all the classes of H. H.'s loyal subjects and aliens without distinction of caste, creed or colour; old worn-out, deficient servants have been, and are being, taken in hand to be pensioned and displaced by abler hands; all attempts are being made to eradicate defects that may be found in the transaction of public business; proceedings

and rulings have been, and are being, from time to time, framed and put in practice, in view to give the entire system of H. H.'s administration such a healthier tone of vitality that the judicial, the magisterial, the financial, the educational—may, the whole machinery of the whole kingdom—may now be safely and fairly said to have attained to that standard of perfection, which shall harmonize, at once, with the interests of the public weal. What! Sir, are these prompt attentions to the relative duties of our sovereign,—these salutary acts of H. H.'s benevolence towards his subjects—these constitutional changes in the general policy of His Highness' Government,—these imitations, of occidental administration in keeping up the prestige of our model State such as to prove the domains of H. H. 'running a headlong downward course to ruin,' and as such to be yoked with Baroda, and taken in hand for misgovernment by the 'thunderer'?

He says, he has been furnished with some decrees, which outrage every sentiment of justice. As it is, I am not in a situation to belie his opinions, since he has wisely abstained from publishing them along with his empty declamation. If I were furnished with copies of those decrees, with his comments on them, I might have seen how far they would go to outrage any sentiment of justice at all.

As for the next two of his assertions, I waive the discussion of them, since your readers will reason for themselves with as much ease and credit from effect to cause as from cause to effect. The good results of our administration will speak for themselves and treat them to the conclusion that no reliance could be placed on them.

Now to his allegation that Travancore is governed by 'a herd of priests, minstrels and women'—an allegation too abominable to find its way into the thoughts of so enlightened and polished a gentleman as he seems to be. The very thought is so very shocking, astounding, revolting to all common sense, nay more, savouring much of the blasphemous and libellous touch. So bold as to utter falsehoods in broad daylight in such an enlightened century?

'Forbid it shame, forbid it decent awe' that one so bold, should with lies warp the public mind. Is this allegation of his founded on facts? Were it so, I should like to know on what load of facts he had rested his; for, nothing less than a load could ever have furnished him with materials for such loud, scandalous vituperations. I don't think he really means what he, somehow or other, has said. Perhaps, he only wanted to establish that so bad is the management of our affairs, since Sashiah got the reins in his hand, that he might almost describe it by such a meaningless combination of words—such a 'nonsensical jargon of absurdities.' This 'herd of priests, minstrels, and women,' no more influence H. H. our noble-hearted Maha Rajah than they influence the correspondent and his observant friend!

And last, not least, though I submit to draw the attention of your readers to the Guicowar and the facts of his government, which the correspondent of the *London Times* represents in the course of his philippics as bearing a striking resemblance to the affairs of Travancore. Can he unfailingly show they are such as to be yoked with Baroda?

It is said of Baroda:—"that the Guicowar is 'weak and vicious'; 'he has hardly strength of character in him to adhere to one view for ten minutes together'; he 'is surrounded by corrupt favourites'; he is 'aided by a foreign minister whom he hates'; he has to rule a 'people who loathe his rule and are eager to destroy it'; that a system of 'kidnapping innocent British subjects' is tolerated, and the kidnappers let go without being punished; that the 'old' dismissed Karba-

[January 13, 1875.]

rees hold secret councils with the Guicowar, in which they endeavour to upset all the good of the 'Gaddee's Dewan,' that the State still continues to pay the old Karbrees their salaries, that 'the revenues of the State are rapidly falling off,' that 'the payment of arrears'—75 lacs of Rupees—is resisted by the ryots; that 'there is not money enough in the State treasury to pay the ordinary charges incident to the Government; that 'the ryots are utterly discontented; and that 'they would rise en masse but for the fear of any open violence being promptly suppressed by the strong arm of the British Government.' Not one of these irregularities is to be found in our territory.

Now, Sir, you have sufficient materials before you, and it is for you to come to the right conclusion.

The few foolish suggestions, which the writer brings forward to the notice of the public to reform the Musnud, pass all sense of right and justice, 'running a heldong downward course' to 'a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.'

ACHILLES.

Trevandrum, 4th January 1875.

Our Contemporaries.

THE SOCIAL CONDITION OF INDIA.—A crowded meeting was held in the Temperance Hall, Birmingham, on Oct. 20, under the auspices of the United Kingdom Alliance, Mr. G. Dixon, M. P. presiding, to hear a lecture by Babu Protah Mozoomdar, of Calcutta, on "The Social Aspects of India."

In introducing the lecturer, Mr. Dixon said with the acquisition of our great Indian possessions England had taken grave responsibilities, and although we had given to India peace and security to life and property, still, if we looked upon that dominion as for the sole benefit of England it was a very selfish view of our possessions, as it was our duty to promote the moral and intellectual as well as the physical well-being of the people there. The lecturer, speaking of the traditional customs of India and the evils of the caste system, said the Englishman was the best ideal of the Hindoo, who imitated our countrymen in the most scrupulous and minute manner imaginable. His hearers could not, therefore, doubt the influence which European usages had upon the native mind. They wanted to be as free as we are, to eat and drink as we do. So far as eating went, there was no great harm; but as far as drinking went, it led to disastrous consequences. It was said that alcohol was the secret of nine-tenths of the crime and disease of this country; and if alcohol had so much effect upon Europeans who were accustomed to it, they could fancy what the result would be in a population physically different. After the introduction of distilleries to supply the English soldiery, the liquor traffic was undertaken by the Government, as it offered next to opium a most promising prospect of revenue. Under this system every magistrate who could show a palpable increase of the revenue returns in his district was honourably mentioned for speedy promotion; so, therefore, energetic Englishmen, who really meant to return home rich, vied with each other to show the best returns of revenue made up from the liquor shops which were being established. Consequently drunkenness was rapidly on the increase in India. He said let England derive her revenue from India if she would, but not through the demoralisation of the 250 millions of people there.—*Madras Mail Supplement.*

FORT ST. GEORGE GAZETTE.

TUESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 12, 1875.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

The under-mentioned Officers have obtained leave of absence from their stations:—

Revenue Department.

Fort St. George, January 12, 1875.

Mr. J. Grose, Secretary to the Board of Revenue, two years' furlough to Europe on medical certificate, under Section 10 (a), and subsidiary leave not exceeding thirty days, under Section 18 (a), of the Civil Leave Code.

Mr. J. A. Boyle, Acting Head Assistant to the Collector and Magistrate of Tinnevely, three months' leave in India on medical certificate, under Section 10 (a) of the Civil Leave Code.

R. Ragoonatha Row, Deputy Collector of Madras, privilege leave for thirty days, from 1st March 1875, under Section 12, Supplement F., of the Civil Leave Code.

Judicial Department.

Mr. B. Horsburgh, Acting District and Session Judge of South Canara, leave for one year on medical certificate, under Section 11 and subsidiary leave not exceeding thirty days, under Section 18 (a), of the Civil Leave Code.

Mr. J. R. Cockerell, Commissioner of the Nilgiri Hills, privilege leave for one month, from the 29th January 1875, under Section 21 of the Civil Leave Code.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. J. Richards, Joint Magistrate of Wellington and Coonoor, privilege leave for fifteen days, from 25th January 1875, under Section 21 of the Civil Leave Code.

Major R. A. Walters, Staff Corps, Superintendent of the Central Jail, Trichinopoly, subsidiary leave not exceeding thirty days.

Public Works Department.

Mr. J. W. Randall, District Engineer, Tinnevely, two years' furlough, under Section 7, and one month's preparatory leave, under Section 10, Supplement F., of the Civil Leave Code, from 5th April 1875, or date of relief.

Mr. R. G. Macdonald, Examiner of Railway Accounts, Madras, subsidiary leave from the 18th to the 25th of December 1874.

Mr. E. E. Norrie, Executive Engineer, South Arcot District, ten weeks' privilege leave, from 1st February.

Mr. G. T. Walsh, Executive Engineer, one month's preparatory leave, from the date of relief, with permission to embark from Bombay.

S. Subroyachariar, M. C. E., Assistant Engineer, one month's privilege leave.

APPOINTMENTS.

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council has been pleased to make the following appointments:—

Revenue Department.

Fort St. George, January 12, 1875.

Mr. H. E. Stokes to act as Secretary to the Board of Revenue during the absence of Mr. Grose on leave, or until further orders.

Mr. C. A. Galton to act as Sub-Secretary to the Board of Revenue during the absence of Mr. Pennington on other duty, or until further orders.

Mr. H. B. Grigg, Acting Assistant Commissioner of the Nilgiri Hills, to act as Commissioner of the Nilgiri Hills during the absence on privilege leave of Mr. Cockerell, or until further orders.

Judicial Department.

Captain Hugh Robert Ogilvie, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore, to be Assistant Superintendent of Police, Malabar, from date of transfer of the Office of Assistant Superintendent of Police from the Nilgiris to Wynad, under the provisions of G. O. No. 1610 of the 29th August 1874.

Mr. Edward Smeade Sterenson to act as Assistant Superintendent of Police, North Arcot, during the absence of Captain T. Price on leave, or until further orders.

Y. Venkatakristnayya, Second-Class Magistrate of Purushottapur, in the District of Ganjam, to be Sub-Registrar of Purushottapur.

G. Narasinga Row, Taluk Sheristadar of Chicaole, in the same District, to be Sub-Registrar of Chicaole.

V. Bashika Charlu, Second-Class Magistrate of Kangundy, in the District of North Arcot, to be Sub-Registrar of Kangundy.

Public Department.

Mr. D. S. White, Acting Secretary to the Committee for the Examination of Assistants, is confirmed in that appointment from the date of Mr. Donald's departure on leave.

INVESTITURE OF POWERS, &c.

Judicial Department.

Fort St. George, January 12, 1875.

UNDER the provisions of Section 223 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Act X. of 1872), Mr. J. Thomson, Assistant to the Collector and Magistrate in the District of South Arcot is invested with the power to try summarily all the offences mentioned in Section 222 of the Code.

UNDER Section 37 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Act X. of 1872), Mambalam Sashachellum Naidoo, Deputy Tahsildar of Mettapolliem, and Pulladam Krishna Row, Taluk Sheristadar of Pollachy, in the District of Coimbatore, are appointed to be Magistrate of the 2nd and 3rd Classes respectively, and to exercise the powers conferred on Magistrates of those classes by Notification of 1st January 1873.

UNDER Section 37 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Act X. of 1872), Melur Iruappa Pillai, Deputy Tahsildar of Vedasundoor, in the District of Madras, is appointed to be a Magistrate of the 2nd Class, and to exercise the powers conferred on Magistrate of that Class by Notification of 1st January 1873.

UNDER Section 37 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Act X. of 1872), Mekala Parthasarathy Naidoo, Acting Deputy Tahsildar in the District of Nellore, is appointed to be a Magistrate of the 3rd Class, and to exercise the powers conferred on Magistrates of that class by Notification of 1st January 1873.

Mr. G. A. Parker, Acting Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Cuddalore, will be considered to have been in charge of the District and Session Court of South Arcot from the 21st November to the 15th December 1874, both days inclusive.

Public Department.

The services of Surgeon W. S. Fox, Civil Surgeon, Vellore, are temporarily re-placed at the disposal of the Military Department.

Public Works Department.

The following Gentlemen having reported their arrival, are brought upon the permanent strength of the Public Works Department of the Madras Presidency, from the dates opposite their names:— Assistant Engineer, 2nd Grade, Mr. C. Vincent, 1st October 1874.

Assistant Engineer, 2nd Grade, Mr. W. C. de Morgan, 1st October 1874.

Assistant Engineer, 2nd Grade, Mr. E. C. Bowyer-Smyth, 1st October 1874.

Assistant Engineer, 3rd Grade, Mr. J. Traill, 1st October 1874.

Assistant Engineer, 2nd Grade, Mr. A. J. Chancellor, 23rd December 1874.

VACANCIES.

Wanted a Head Master for the Local Fund A-V. School at Kandukur, in the Nellore District. Salary Rupees thirty, and service under recent orders of Government counts for pension. Matriculated or F.A. Students, who have passed in Telugu, are requested to send their applications to the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Ongole Circle.

January 13, 1875.]

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MUNICIPALITY OF MADRAS.

TENDERS FOR FARMING OF TOLLS, MADRAS.

TENDERS will be received at this Office until 2 o'clock P. M. on Saturday the 20th February 1875, for the Farming of Tolls leviable under the Madras Municipal Act of 1867, during the period commencing 1st April 1875 and ending 31st March 1876, on Carriages, Carts, and Animals entering the Municipal limits.

2. Each Tender must be addressed to the President and be accompanied by a deposit in a Currency Note or Notes of the Madras Circle for Rs. 1,000, and be sealed and superscribed—"Tenders for Farming of Tolls;" and every Tender not accompanied by such deposit will be rejected.

3. Tenders will be opened by the President at this Office at 2 o'clock P. M. on Saturday the 20th February 1875, in the presence of such of the parties interested as may attend, and will be finally disposed of by the 25th of the same month.

4. The President reserves to himself the right of rejecting all or any of the Tenders without assigning any reason for so doing.

5. The successful Tenderer will be required, within seven days from the date on which the acceptance of his Tender shall have been notified to him, to deposit in this Office, duly endorsed to the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Madras, Government Paper of the 4½ percent, for Rs. 15,000, as security for the due fulfilment of his engagement, and at his own charge and expense to execute and complete a Deed (the form whereof is open for inspection at the Office) on the basis of his Tender, whereupon the deposit made with his Tender will be returned to him.

6. The deposits accompanying all other Tenders will be returned as soon after the final disposal as possible.

7. The successful Tenderer will be required to pay the contract amount into this Office in twelve equal instalments, the first of which instalments is payable within the first week of May 1875, and the next and succeeding ones within the first week of each and every succeeding month.

8. Should the successful Tenderer fail to furnish such security and execute such deed as aforesaid within the time above specified for that purpose, he shall forfeit his deposit to the Municipality as liquidated damages, and his Tender will, in such case, be considered as having been rejected or abandoned, and the President will thereupon, at such time or times, in such manner, and on such terms and conditions as he may think fit, arrange for the Farming of the Tolls by any other person or persons, and the defaulter will be held liable, irrespective of the forfeiture, aforesaid, for all difference in contract amount, damages, loss, costs, charges, and expense arising from or by reason of such failure and arrangement.

9. The successful Tenderers and his Agents and Servants will be liable to all penalties and responsibilities arising out of any infringement of any of the provisions of the Act.

10. All further useful information may be had on application at this Office.

JOHN C. LOCH,

President, Municipal Commission

Municipal Commissioners' Office, Madras,
13th November 1874.

MUNICIPALITY OF MADRAS.

TENDERS FOR LIGHTING, &c., MADRAS.

TENDERS will be received at this Office until 2 o'clock P. M. on Monday the 22nd February 1875, for Lighting, Numbering, Renewing, and Repairing the Municipal Lamps within the Town of Madras, during the period commencing 1st April 1875 and ending 31st March 1876, according to the specification now lying at this Office.

2. The Tenders are to be sealed and superscribed—"Tenders for Lighting, Numbering, Renewing, and Repairing Lamps;" addressed to the President of the Municipal Commission, and accompanied by a deposit of Rupees 500 in Cash or Currency Notes of the Madras Circle.

3. Any Tender not accompanied by such deposit, or failing to be made in the required form, will be rejected.

4. No Person making a Tender shall be allowed to withdraw his Tender for the space of thirty days from the day of making such Tender, and in the event of his so doing his deposit shall be forfeited.

5. Tenders will be opened by the President of the Municipal Commission at 2 P. M. on the above-mentioned date, in the presence of such of the parties interested as may then be present, and the acceptance or rejection of all Tenders will be finally made known to the parties interested upon application on the 27th February 1875.

6. No Tender will, on any account, be received after the time fixed for opening of the Tenders.

7. The President does not bind himself to accept any or the lowest Tender.

8. The successful Tenderer or Tenderers will be required, within ten days of the acceptance of his or their Tender, and of such acceptance being notified to him or them, to deposit Security in Government Paper of the four and a half per cent. loan for Rupees (3,000) three thousand, and to execute a contract to be prepared by the Commissioners at his or their expense, in the form open for inspection at the Office of the Commissioners.

9. Upon the execution of such contract the original deposit shall be returned to the Tenderer or Tenderers, but in default of his or their making such deposit of Government Paper and executing such contract as aforesaid, the original deposit of such Tenderer or Tenderers shall be forfeited, and it shall be open to the President of the Municipal Commission either to reject or enforce performance of his or their Tender, and also to sue him or them for all expenses, loss, or damage that may be incurred through his or their faults.

10. All needful further information may be obtained at the Office of the Municipal Commissioners.

JOHN C. LOCH,

President, Municipal Commission

Municipal Commissioners' Office, Madras,
13th November 1874.

MUNICIPALITY OF MADRAS.

The Grazing by Contract, commencing from the 1st April 1875 and ending 31st March 1876, of the Esplanades situate within the Black Town and opposite to the Camp Equipage Depot, and to the north of the open for inspection in this Office, save and except the Esplanades immediately opposite to the Esplanade Hall and the Memorial Hall and save and except the plan open for inspection in this Office, will be put up by the President, for the time being, of the Municipality at 4 P. M. on Wednesday the 24th February 1875, with liberty for the President to reserve.

2. No person shall at any bidding advance a less sum than 25 Rupees, and no bidding shall be retracted, and should any dispute arise respecting any bidding the contract shall be put up again.

3. No person shall be allowed to bid unless he shall have previously deposited with the President a sum of 300 Rupees, which shall be forfeited to the Municipality on his retracting any bidding.

4. The successful Competitor shall, within (7) seven days from the 24th February 1875, deposit with the President a sum which, with his first deposit, shall be equal to one-fourth of the Contract amount, and shall also, within the same period and at his own expense, execute a deed aforesaid and at his own at this Office, and in the event of his failing to give effect to these terms, shall forfeit his first deposit to the Municipality as liquidated damages, and shall be considered to have rescinded the Contract; and the President shall thereupon be at liberty to enter into fresh arrangements for the grazing at such time, in manner, upon such terms, and subject to such conditions, as he may think fit.

JOHN C. LOCH,

President, Municipal Commission

Municipal Commissioners' Office, Madras,
13th November 1874.

[January 13, 1875.]

NOTICE.

The undersigned respectfully begs to bring it to the notice of European and Native gentlemen residing in Delhi and other places, that a weekly Anglo-Hindee Journal of Literature, Politics, Commerce and News will be started here (at Delhi) from the 4th of January 1875. It will mainly advocate the interests of the Native Community and be of quarto size containing four pages. Should the number of Subscribers increase and the demand be great, the undersigned will gladly undertake to increase its size.

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Revenue Department

Miscellaneous No. 295

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 16th January 1875

The Board have observed in
the Native Public Opinion for the 13th
January 1875 a copy of a Circular Order
said to have been issued by the
Collector of Tanjore requiring all officers

and of every grade to submit a
report on the property possessed by
them in a certain tabular form
within 24 hours.

The Collector will report whether
the Circular was really issued
by him and if so under what
circumstances.

A copy of the Paper which
has

has been referred to is herewith
forwarded.

1 True Extract,
1 Sig. / J. Grose
Secretary

To The Collector of Tanjore
(True Copy)

H. Elsom

Secretary

C. M. Macdonald
Capt. Macdonald

235-4 Feb 1875

Enclosure in
Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue to the
Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
dated 2^d February
1875 Mis No 797.

Rev 392/75

Copy of Board's
Proceedings dated
16th January 1875
Mis No 295.

Miss Feb 1875 No 235. —

Revenue Department
Miscellaneous No 797

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 2^d February 1875

Read Proceedings of the Madras
Government Revenue Department
dated 23rd January 1875 No 129 requesting
the Board of Revenue to report the result
of any inquiry which they have ordered
with reference to the Circular said to
have been issued by the Acting Collector
calling for statements of landed and
other Property in possession of Subordi-
nate Officers in the Tanjore District.

Copy of Board's Proceedings
16th January 1875 No 295 Miscellaneous
will be submitted for the information
of Government.

The

2. The Collector of Tanjore
will be requested to expedite the
report called for.

, True Extract,

W. H. Thomas

By Secretary

To The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with copy of Board's Proceedings
dated 16th January 1875 Miscellaneous
No. 295.

Off. M. H. H. H.

Off. M. H. H. H.

G.O. 23 Jan 1875 No 262

29/3/1875

15-2-75

32

No 392
Revenue 1875 Septa
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

LODGED

Dated 2nd
Sept 22nd 3 Feb 1875
Rec. 3rd

exp 13

Mr

Landed or other property
in possession of Subar-
-dinate Officers in Tanjore

Dt. - Copy of Board's
Proceedings requesting
Collector to report whether
he has issued any Cir-
-cular calling for state-
-ments of - submitted
to Government. - Call
to expedite the report
called for - No 235

4: Feb 75

all