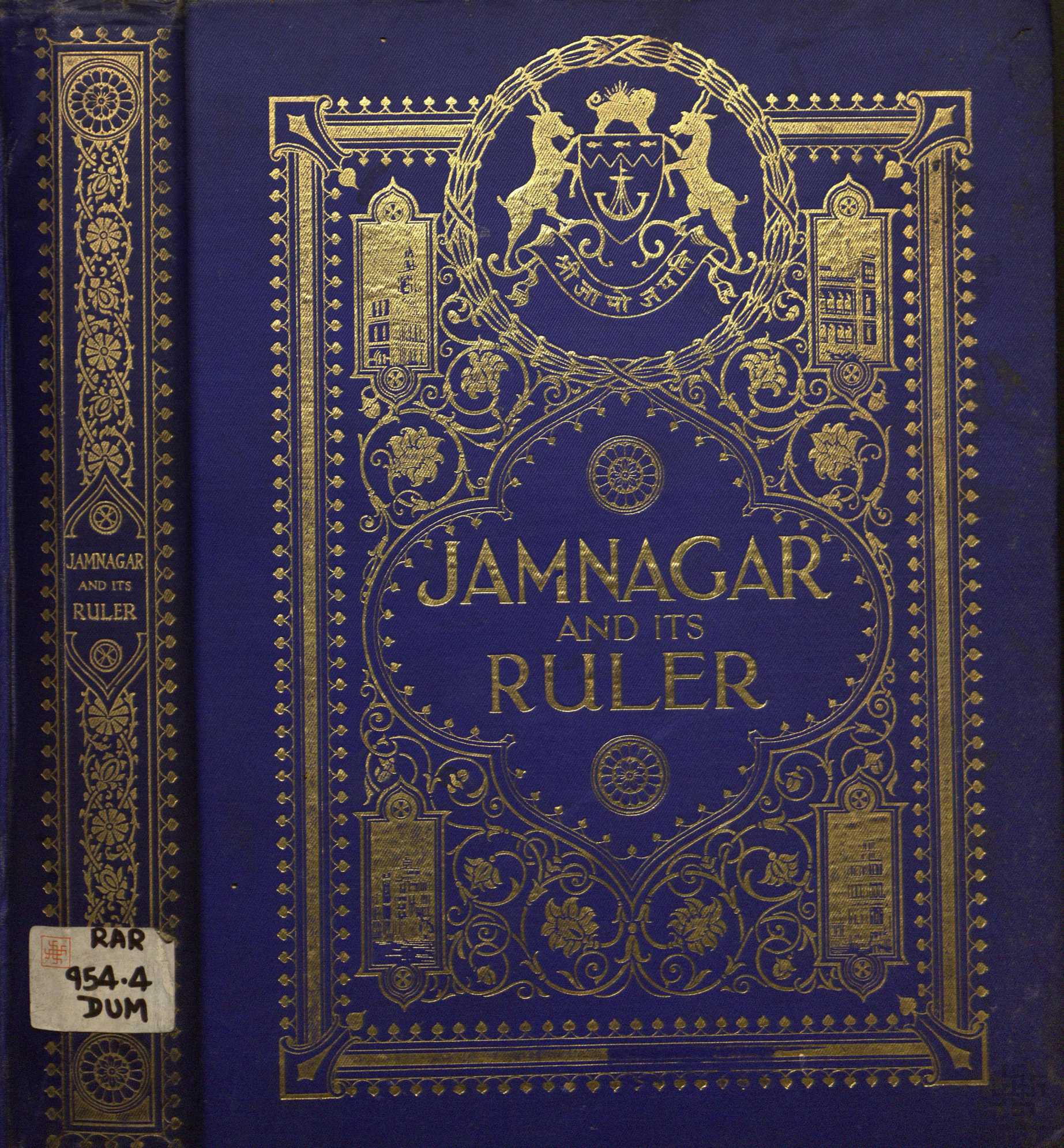


JAMNAGAR
AND ITS
RULER

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JAMNAGAR

A Sketch of its Ruler and its Administration

By

NAOROJI M. DUMASIA

With a Preface

By

Dr. L. F. RUSHBROOK-WILLIAMS



BOMBAY:
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AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

THIS book aims at giving a sketch of an Indian State and its Ruler, not only because that subject is from many points of view attractive and interesting but because it has an ever-growing importance to all who are in any way concerned with present-day India. The selection of Jamnagar for this purpose scarcely needs to be explained. It is a State which presents to the student a fine variety of problems, and its ruler, H. H. the Jam Saheb, is as conspicuous among members of his own Order for the work he has undertaken for the Empire, and for the reforms he has introduced in his State, as he is for the hold he long since established on the affections of the British public.

It is true that no one State can be taken as typical of the whole body of Indian States which by reason of their different characteristics, their status, history, method of administration and treaty relationship with the British Crown, cannot be reduced to any exact common denominator. But in so far as it is possible to visualise the position of the whole body of States in relation to British India, by selecting one of them for detailed examination, Jamnagar may very fittingly be chosen for that examination. It is all the better suited to that purpose because during recent years it has advanced in the scale of civilisation with a rapidity and thoroughness that can scarcely be rivalled in any part of India. For that progress H. H. the Jam Saheb has been responsible, and in achieving it he has displayed qualities of imagination, administrative power, and compelling energy which place him

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very high indeed among the great Indians of this or any other age. His accomplishment is all the more interesting because of the romantic circumstances which attach to his advent to the *gadi*, of his display as a ruler of those manly qualities which won him an unrivalled place as a sportsman in the very home of sport, and of his determination to do all that is humanly possible to make his State independent of the vagaries of the monsoon. In the pages of this book there will be found the record of a great man's work and its results. That record is writ large on the face of Jamnagar—particularly on its capital and its ports—but it was surely well worth while to transfer it to print, not only as a matter of history but also as a guide to those who are considering what will be the future of the Indian States in relation to British India already started on the adventurous road to responsible government. The immensity of the constitutional problems that has in the near future to be solved is evident to all. But none can fully comprehend it without possessing considerable knowledge of the Indian States. If this book helps to direct attention to that aspect of the problem, if it spreads enlightenment about one of the best administered States, it will not, in the author's humble opinion, have been written in vain.

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FOREWORD.

WHEN MR. NAOROJI DUMASIA, my old acquaintance and former colleague on the Legislative Assembly, requested me to write a Foreword to this book, I felt much honoured and not a little puzzled. Honoured, because the personality with whom Mr. Dumasia deals is a household word among Englishmen all over the world : puzzled because I could not perceive how I could possibly make any contribution of value. I am still not so old but that I can readily recall my own schooldays : and it occurs to me to wonder what my school-fellows—and for that matter my masters—would have said, had they been told that it would at some future date fall to my lot to write a Foreword to a book dealing with that demi-god of the cricket field, the beloved and idolised " Ranji "! Nothing very flattering, I fear.

But since this pleasant duty has been laid upon me, I must strive to discharge it to the best of my ability.

It seems to me that there are two distinct spheres in which His Highness the Jam Saheb has played a part unique in his day and generation : and if we would essay that most difficult of all tasks, the evaluation of a life work which—happily for us all—has not yet reached its concluding chapter, it is from this standpoint that we must start. In the first place, " Ranji " was, to the best of my knowledge, the first Indian of princely blood to be taken to the heart of the British public. Before his day, the general impression which that public had formed concerning Indian Princes—supposing

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there had been any impression at all—was that of a number of effeminate persons covered with pearls from head to foot, and spending their days reclining upon silken cushions, observing with an apathetic eye the gyrations of scantily-clad dancing girls. The better-informed classes in England, particularly those who possessed any family connection with India, did not, of course, fall into so crude an error : but even they would have been the first to admit that they could not regard the Indian Princes as being in any sense of the word comrades or co-workers in the task of upholding the Commonwealth. Now " Ranji " altered all this ; and it is an astonishing achievement for a single individual, however eminent or gifted. He worked an entire revolution in the manner in which Indian Princes were regarded by Englishmen. This he did, not so much by playing cricket supremely well, as by utilising to the full the opportunities which his genius at the national game placed before him. The present ruler of Jamnagar was, it is true, marked out by fortune for athletic prowess. Some mysterious natural gift in the co-ordination of hand and eye gave him that superiority over ordinarily first-class batsmen which Mlle. Lenglen possesses over ordinarily first-class tennis players. But this of itself is insufficient to account for the place which he won, and still retains, in the hearts of the English. " Ranji " was not merely idolised as a cricketer : he was beloved as a sportsman. The two things are quite different as anyone who considers the present generation of athletic stars will readily agree. Unaided by his miraculous cricket, " Ranji " might never have captured the heart of the British public : but a cricketer might well be as good as " Ranji," and still leave that heart quite untouched. It was through cricket that Prince Ranjit Sinhji found his opportunity : but opportunity is useless without the will and power

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to exploit it. To enquire to what extent the present Ruler of Jamnagar was animated by consciously conceived motives of high policy, or to what extent he was content to follow the natural instincts of a character of unusual force and insight, would be unnecessary. The fact remains. He taught the British public that an Indian Prince could rank supreme in a nation which prides itself on sportsmanship : which measures other nations by standards of sportsmanship : which ranks sportsmanship above all other virtues, human and divine. He could never have done this, unless his own sportsmanship had been remarkable : and sportsmanship is something quite different from supremacy in athletics. It includes a world of things which many a Champion does not possess : the faculty of playing for one's side rather than for one's self : the gift of courteous consideration for others : the power to play the game for the game's sake, while sustaining victory with restraint and defeat with cheerfulness. In a word, a sportsman must be a " gentleman " in the well-tried sense of the word : and it is just because " Ranji " was so perfect a gentleman that we all loved him so much. Prince Ranjit Sinhji was the only Indian Prince we knew, and because of him, we thought better of all the Indian Princes whom we did not know.

But in the eyes of the British public, " Ranji " was not only a Prince, he was also an Indian. Hence it was that from him, many Englishmen came to realise that differences in the pigmentation of the skin matter very little. Whether it was inhabited by people whose complexion was prevailingly brown, or whether, like England, a ruddy hue was more fashionable, any country which could produce a " Ranji " must surely be " a fairly decent sort of place." Hundreds of thousands of Englishmen, yes, and men from

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the Dominions too, met India for the first time in the person of Prince Ranjit Sinhji : and because of him, came to hold a better opinion, not merely of the Indian Princes, but of India herself. In a word, if it be the function of an ambassador to encourage right understanding, and to cement cordial relations, between one country and another, " Ranji " was the finest ambassador India ever sent to England.

It must be remembered, further, that all this was accomplished at a time when India in general and the Indian Princes in particular were far less interesting to the British public than is the case to-day. Here, as in other directions, the War has wrought a great change. India and England are to-day much more concerned with each other than they were even fifteen years ago. Both the Press and the Public of England have now acquired a wholly new sense of the importance of India in the Commonwealth. To-day there are a number of Princes whose genial sportsmanship and outstanding personalities are almost as well-known in England as in India. Even the man in the street remembers their names, and recalls their war-services with gratitude. Such Princes are real links in the chain of Empire : and what the skipper of the M. C. C. team had to say about Their Highnesses of Patiala and Jamnagar last year, found an echo in many English hearts. For the War had shown that Princes of India were not only a present help in times of trouble, but that they possessed the will, as well as the power, to play their part in the destinies of the greatest Commonwealth the world has so far seen.

These, then, are the two spheres in which the Ruler of Jamnagar has played a unique part. He was the first Indian Prince to open

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the heart of the stay-at-home Englishman to Princes of India, and thus to provide an opportunity of which the War allowed his brother Princes to take full advantage. The result is a solid foundation of good will, not lightly to be shattered. Again, he was the first Indian to become a popular idol in England, and thus to raise the entire reputation of his country in the eyes of a people who can be approached most readily along the avenue of sportsmanship. This was an achievement of first-class political importance : and we have yet to realise how much even politically-minded India owes thereto. Concerning the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms, there may be diverse opinions : but it may well be doubted whether the Government of India Act of 1919 would ever have been passed, if the Ministry and the back-benchers alike had not seen something of " Ranji " in the lineaments of the Indian whom they pictured in their mind as the subject of their legislation.

In this brief Foreword I have contented myself with indicating, in the most summary manner, certain aspects of His Highness the Jam Saheb's career which seem to me particularly worthy of note. For this reason, I will not follow Mr. Dumasia into his picture of the Jam Saheb as the Ruler of Jamnagar, as the father of his people, as the enlightened administrator : but I hope that many Englishmen, reading the book, will come to realise, more clearly than before, the great position which a Prince of India occupies within his territories, and the almost illimitable opportunities for advancing human happiness, which this position entails. At a time when the future position of the Indian Princes in the Indian polity is among the problems immediately confronting constructive statesmanship, it is important that Britain should realise how much can be

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accomplished by a capable and resourceful Ruler. The opinion of such Princes is surely of value in the search after a *modus vivendi* between British India and the Indian States : and it is to be hoped that before any decisive step is taken, the counsel and advice of His Highness the Jam Saheb and of the other Princes who have long been associated with him in the working of the Narendra Mandal, will be earnestly weighed and considered.

L. F. RUSHBROOK WILLIAMS.

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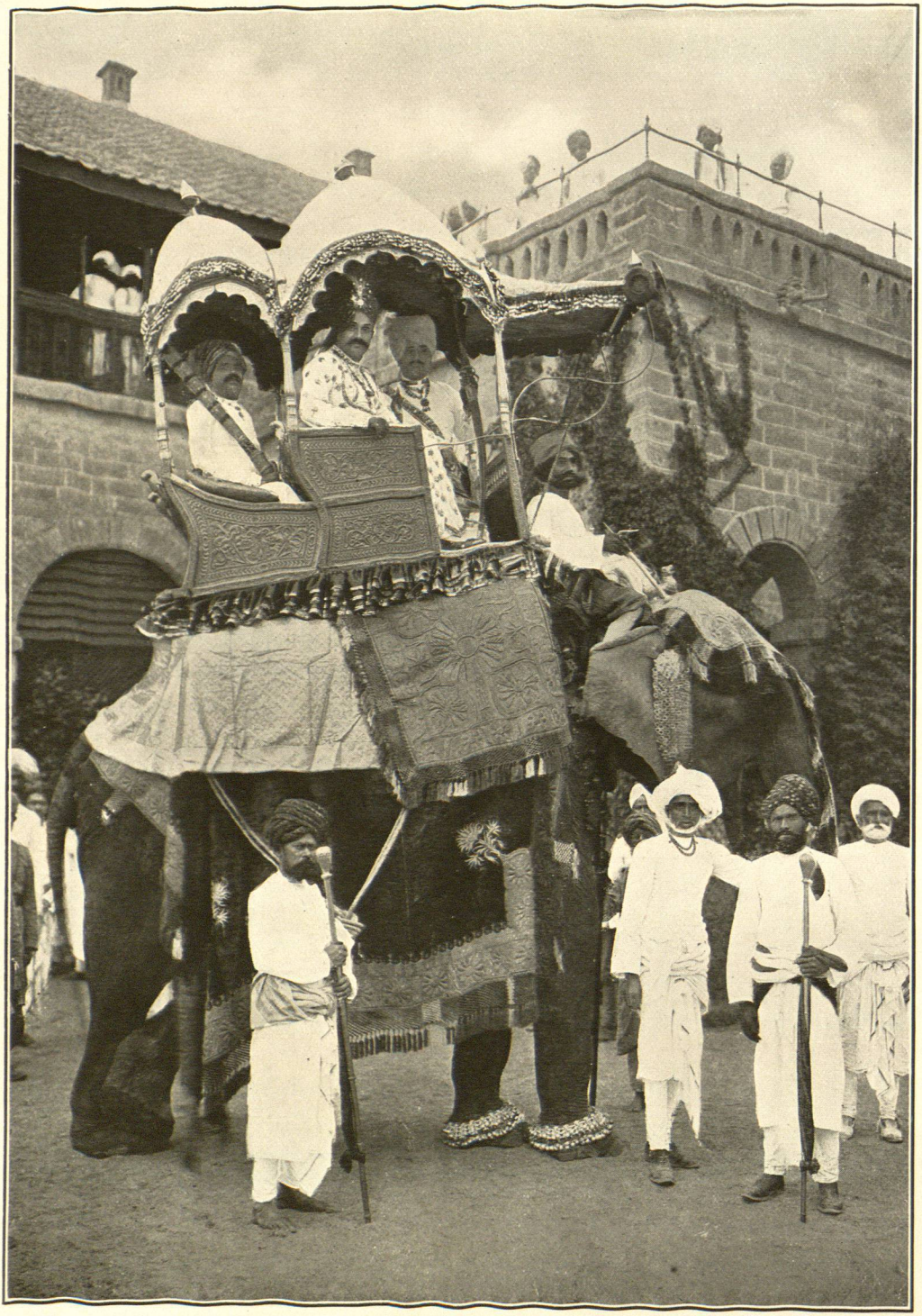


Photo by Messrs. Vernon & Co.]

His Highness the Jam Saheb proceeding to the Installation Durbar.

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INTRODUCTION.

MORE than 3,000 years ago Shree Krishna, the deified hero and renowned ancestor of His Highness Maharaja Jam Saheb, ruled at Dwarka, and it therefore appears that, although Jamnagar was not founded by Jam Rawal until the fifteenth century, the connection of the Jam's ancestors with Kathiawar dates back to a very remote period of the world's history. There is a halo of religious reverence surrounding the name of the hero of the Hindu epic, the Mahabharata, a whole-hearted loyalty to the successors of that illustrious hero is an undying sentiment which the whole Hindu community hold in their hearts : respect and reverence are their natural heritage. That hereditary love of his people and " religious reverence " for authority, the Jam Saheb has enjoyed to the full. But he does not rest his laurels on the laudatory deeds of his sires. He has chosen to derive his authority and establish his claim upon the love of his people on his ability to promote their well-being.

He could have followed the beaten track of conservative principles and yet have retained the love of his people ; but he believes that the day of sentiment is over and that the government of the people is a practical question and that he has to address himself to the problem of promoting the good of his subjects as a business problem in conformity with the new conditions of life that have arisen. His work affords a striking example of what great things may be achieved by a ruler by taking full advantage of his opportunities and by determination to raise the social and economic standard of his people. He has proved himself an oasis in the political desert of his State and his achievements entitle him to the respect and love

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In British India, on the other hand, we have passed out of the paternal state of Government, which produced a splendid type of British administrators, and are no longer isolated by impenetrable mountains and inviolate seas. British India is permeated with ideas springing from west and east alike. The condition demands new men and new methods. If crystal gazing were a reality and it were possible to see the future faithfully reflected, one might foretell the future political condition of the country.

But as it is, the future is impenetrably obscure. At present the country is quiescent; sedition is not dead; it only sleeps. But while it is the duty of the rulers to put down lawlessness, it is their duty to recognise that the whole of India is quivering with new hopes, new ideas, new ambitions. These are the product of British rule and training, and a compliment to that rule and to the civilising influence of England and to western culture. "It may be that the public mind of India may so expand under our system as to outgrow that system; that our subjects, being brought up under good government, may develop a capacity for better government, that being instructed in European knowledge they may crave for European institutions." Such a day when it came, said Macaulay, would be the proudest day in the annals of England.

The change in India has been vast, rapid and deep but, as Sir William Hunter has said, it derives its motive power, not from the individual impulse of isolated men of genius or of cultured Popes and Princes, but from the mighty centralising force of a Government which, as an engine of human unification, has had nothing to compare with it since the days of Imperial Rome. This is an axiom. Prudent statesmanship requires that England should satisfy those ambitions which

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Indian chiefs that a very clear and positive duty devolves upon them. It is not limited to perpetuation of their dynasties or the maintenance of their Raj. They must not rest content with keeping things going in their time. Their duty is one, not of passive acceptance of an established place in the Imperial system but of active and vigorous co-operation in the discharge of its onerous duties." The Jam Saheb has fulfilled that duty in a way which does credit to him and his Order. Again Lord Curzon emphasized the equality of standards ; and argued the need for bringing the States rigidly into line with British India in administrative efficiency. This view of Lord Curzon, which was expressed in order to emphasize the duties of partnership, was challenged on the ground of its expediency and it was viewed with alarm by some States as they feared that administrative efficiency, if achieved on lines unsuited to local conditions, would tend to impair the loyalty of the people to the ruler, as it was generally a personal loyalty. In this respect the memory of Lord Minto will be cherished with gratitude by Indian princes and the memorable policy of non-interference which he enunciated in 1909 at Udaipur, and which has been emphasized in the Montagu-Chelmsford report, has given him an abiding place in the hearts of the Princes.

If Lord Curzon were alive to-day he would be astonished at the standard of efficiency introduced in several States in India, and he would not be slow to pay a warm tribute to the Jam Saheb for the generous reforms that he has introduced in a conservative State with the maximum of benefit and the minimum of friction.

But the one factor that clearly emerges to-day from the relationship of the British Crown and the Indian States is that, because of the new ideals that have sprung up as the result of the war and

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of his people and the admiration of the outside world. He has identified himself with progress, and progress involves inevitable strife in a conservative land. There can be no motion without friction but the courageous, yet prudent, way in which he has wrestled with new forces that have come into being, mastering and controlling them to beneficent ends, has led to the happy result of cementing more firmly the ties which bind him to his people. He was free to carry out his will by ignoring his people, but he saw that there was danger in allowing the people to develop a sense of wrong and therefore " conciliation and co-operation " became the keynote of his activities which have brought Jamnagar to the front rank of civilised States. He has performed a Herculean task without the help of a Hercules. He has done yeoman service to his people and set a noble example to the members of his order by enforcing a vigorous, energetic, enlightened and sustained policy for the uplift of his people, finding his reward in the consciousness of his duty done. He has justified the assertion of an American political satirist that " Of one thing at least, we may be certain that, under whatever method of helping things to go wrong men's wits can contrive, those who have the divine right will be found to govern in the end and that the highest privilege to which the authority of mankind can aspire is that of being governed by those wiser than they." He has reduced statecraft to a fine art. It is no longer a mystery ; it is business. He has successfully drawn out the best from every material that came to his hand and proved that the mantle of Shree Krishna could not have fallen on worthier shoulders.

In an address delivered in Durbar at Rajkot in November, 1900 Lord Curzon explained his views upon the duties devolving on Indian Princes and said : " I lose no opportunity of impressing upon the

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have created great unrest in British India, the Government of India will have to rely more and more upon Indian Princes for preserving the stability of the Empire, so that at no time has the duty of maintaining good relations with Indian States been more imperative than it is to-day. In his book on Lord Curzon Mr. Lovat Fraser has said : " The time has come when we must be more careful than ever when intervening in the purely internal affairs of Native States. We cannot on the one hand announce our intention of giving greater liberty to the people of British India, and on the other, turn the screw upon the Indian Princes." Much has happened since those lines were written ; but to-day the complaints about the interference of political officers in the internal administration of the States are no less incessant. Time alone will show that there is no wisdom in the policy which is a reversal of the wise and statesmanlike policy laid down by Lord Minto.

The great problem confronting the statesman to-day is : Will the fate of India pass into the hands of lawyers, schoolmasters and professional politicians, and, if that happens, what will be the powers and prerogatives of ancient States ? It can at once be stated that it is impossible to believe the representatives of ancient dynasties will relinquish any of their rights until they are convinced that to do so will prove to the advantage of India and of their own people in particular. The people in Indian States are contented and do not understand the meaning of statecraft which they are inclined to leave to their hereditary rulers : they are more conservative than their rulers and they remain unmoved and unaffected by changes in British India. Paternal rule is, with but one or two exceptions, the only government to which they are accustomed and they are content to continue it.

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it has created : a beginning in self-government has already been made.

But it is obvious that all the demands put forward by hot-headed politicians claiming to speak on behalf of united India when unity is non-existent cannot be satisfied for a long time to come. If they were to be satisfied, British authority would be reduced to a pale shadow and that such a thing may be allowed to happen is inconceivable so long as Great Britain is responsible for the good governance of India. But that is not all. A new cult has sprung up—non-violent non-co-operation—which aims at revolution and destruction of British power and British authority. If that were unexpectedly realised it would mean the ruin of the ancient country, and would usher in the unspeakable horrors of anarchy. But, fortunately for India, the bulk of the people never looks for wisdom in that quarter and moreover that cult has almost died of its own inanity.

Two things are necessary for the continuance of British supremacy in India—(1) admission of more and more Indians into partnership in the administration of affairs and the grant of provincial autonomy under certain safeguards ; and (2) mutual co-operation with, and preservation and strengthening of, those Indian States which have been the pillars and source of strength in upholding the prestige of the mighty Empire—an Empire greater than any that existed from the days of Alexander to Napoleon. Will British statesmen realise the necessity of upholding the prestige and dignity of the States, which have proved themselves the staunchest allies of the British Government and which have considered no sacrifice too great for cementing their ties with the Empire ? The famous author of the Rajasthan, Colonel Tod, in his dedicatory epistle to King William IV, wrote "that your Majesty's throne may ever be surrounded by chiefs

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who will act up to the principles of fealty maintained at all hazards by the Rajputs" was his (the author's) heartfelt aspiration. That is the feeling, that is the aspiration of every Rajput Prince. The prayer of this writer to Lord Irwin and to the Throne, which has been the watch-word and rallying point of the Rajputs, may be expressed in the imperishable words of Colonel Tod," that neither the love of conquest, nor false views of policy, may tempt us to subvert the independence of these States, some of which have braved the storms of more than ten centuries." The spirit of allegiance which Tod described so vividly in his book still remains intact. But attempts are being vainly made by some hair-brained agitators in British India to destroy that spirit so that the fate of India may pass into their hands! When that day comes the ruling princes will not sit supine within their palaces, and one cannot do better than recall the words of that versatile journalist Mr. Lovat Fraser and bring them to the earnest and sympathetic attention of the greatest Viceroy who has come to India since Lord Ripon. " In all the reforms we institute," says Mr. Lovat Fraser, " we should keep carefully in mind their probable effect upon the Native States; and it should never be forgotten that whatever our ultimate purpose in India may be, we shall only be successful so long as we keep the Native States as a living and integral part of the structure of the Empire." If Lord Irwin enforces the necessity of working hand in hand with the States and of not putting a breaking strain on them, he will do immense service to the States as well as to the Empire. From what the present writer has seen of Lord Irwin he is sure that in him are the elements of the Empire-builder, that the iuterests of India are safe in his hands, and that the honour and prestige of Indian Princes are secure as long as he is at the helm. It is desirable and necessary that this spirit should

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pervade the different departments of the Government of India, who are in duty bound to guard the interests of the Princes as zealously as those of their own departments. They must remember that they have to justify the sacred pledge contained in the memorable proclamation of 1858, by Queen Victoria: "We shall respect the rights, dignity and honour of Native Princes as our own."

The imperative duty of the Government of India to keep faith with the Princes at any cost and even to its own disadvantage, since the Princes are and must ever remain one of the strongest foundations of British rule in India, was prominently brought out in an admirable series of articles that appeared in the "Empire Day" edition of *The Times* in May 1911. The series was designed with special reference to the visit of Their Majesties the King-Emperor and Queen to India on the occasion of the Coronation Durbar. In the article on the Princes of India, which provides much food for sober reflection, it is pointed out that, while among the British the desire for annexation has vanished for ever, it has been replaced by a growing consciousness that the Princes are valuable allies; not so much for the help they are able to give—though that was subsequently to prove of immense value in the war—but because their support carries great weight. The article lays emphasis on the fact that the loyalty to the Crown cherished by the Indian Princes is a factor of immense importance in the preservation of British rule. Unfortunately this fundamental principle is lost sight of owing to the idiosyncracies of particular officers. Some have been "fussy or intrusive or imperious"; others have been far too passive. But where, "as has sometimes happened, the intermediary between the Government and a particular prince has been tactless and domineering, the consequences have been occasionally unfortunate." The Crown is the

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sole object of their allegiance and therefore their adhesion to the system of British administration and its results are of vital moment to the British in India. The loyal co-operation of the Princes is an essential condition of the maintenance of Rule, and this is acknowledged by eminent British writers who point out that if it were withdrawn the security of our rule would at once be greatly impaired. They realise that in a system of governance, modelled as extreme and advanced Indian politicians desire, there would be no room for the personal, direct and sometimes archaic systems found in Native States. Thus their sympathies are all with the British in their efforts to stem the current of revolution because if the flood rises they too may be overwhelmed. The rapid developments in India in recent years have given the Native States an increased importance which is still only imperfectly discerned. "To the British administration, as the article points out, they have become breakwaters in the midst of occasional storms of hostility. The Indian Princes naturally expect larger liberty of action, and at a time when Great Britain has been enlarging with some ostentation the liberties of the peoples of British India, it becomes imperative to lessen the checks upon the freedom of internal control enjoyed by the Princes in their own States. When the British Government institute further reforms the point of view of Indian Princes should not be overlooked, and their support cannot be forfeited for they have an awkward habit of clinging to opinions which would dismay sentimental radicals in the House of Commons." As far back as 1911 it was pointed out that the Indian Princes had not "the smallest intention of abandoning their present privileges and powers, and every fresh reform in British India adds to their embarrassment." Even in the most advanced

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States such changes as have been instituted have rarely shorn the ruler of any of his personal powers. They flatly refuse to keep pace with us and they are within their right in doing so, and it behoves great Britain to take care that their support is not alienated by hasty reforms of which they may disapprove."

The article from which these extracts have been taken sums up the position in the following words: "When the time comes—as come it assuredly will—for a further extension of the principles implied in recent reforms in British India, the problem presented by the Native States will contain aspects likely to cause both anxiety and perplexity. We cannot for ever continue to settle their larger destinies without even the pretence of consulting them. Such an episode as the placid extinction of the revenue from opium enjoyed by several States, without even the courtesy of a previous notification, will, if it is repeated, create grave trouble. While the lawyers and merchants and school-masters of British India are permitted to exert an increasing influence upon the greater issues of Indian policy, the Princes and Chiefs, who rule one-fifth of the population and are often directly concerned, continue to be deliberately excluded. We gladly accept the assistance of their troops in time of war, but we give them no chance of having a direct control in the general affairs of India." This passage reflects the true state of things, which is indeed deplorable. Indian Princes are not the enemies of progress, but they are in favour of evolution and not of revolution. The Maharaja of Bikaner, for example, speaking on behalf of himself and his brother princes at the luncheon of the Empire Parliamentary Association to the Indian delegates to the War Conference, at the House of Commons in 1917, pleaded for an instalment of reforms which would appeal to the imagination of the people and he has since

given evidence of his sincerity by introducing reforms in his own State suited to the indigenous requirements. The Jam Saheb has been openly advocating the advancement of Indians, but the work he does behind the scenes in this respect is not known to many. The late Maharaja of Gwalior recognised that the future of India was inseparably bound up with industrial development and in order to create fresh wealth, he employed his immense wealth in British India for the industrial development of the country. He called himself a servant of India, but he stood out boldly against any indiscriminate advance which would have the effect of weakening the authority. He saw that in order to create contentment in India there should be an improvement in her economic condition and he also wisely perceived that, by means of acquisition of wealth and power through the development of industries, the youth of India might be diverted from the sterile pursuit of politics and healthy comradeship established between English and Indians.

Such a desire has animated the Jam Saheb and no Indian Prince has done more to engender the spirit of comradeship on the social side than he has by captivating the hearts of Englishmen by his splendid performance as a sportsman. Indian Princes, looked at from any point of view, are not the enemies of progress ; but anything that connotes disorder and anarchy or weakening of the power of authority they instinctively oppose. The problems confronting the Government of India involve several grave and far-reaching issues to the States, and true statesmanship demands that they should be looked at not from one side only but that, in order to arrive at a correct understanding and peaceful solution, there must be a complete treatment from all points of view involved in the problems. The Princes naturally draw a line between impatient idealism and

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the sphere of practical politics, recognising the need of caution in this matter of vital importance to the well-being of the millions of people in this country.

The British connection with Kathiawar, which commenced at the beginning of the last century, has brought one long and uninterrupted period of peace, progress and prosperity in the Province. It will readily be conceded by every one that it began, not in the assertion of British rights, but in the measures adopted for the security of the rights of its Princes and safety of its people. The British policy in Kathiawar has been both conservative and constructive. It is profitless to speculate as to what administrative institutions would have sprung up had Maratha supremacy not been disturbed by the appearance of British forces. There would have probably been some kind of progress under unaided, indigenous influence; but under Maratha domination, as it formerly found expression in Kathiawar, evolution would almost certainly have been an evolution *a retour*. In Kathiawar, everybody's hand was against everybody and in that age robbery and murder were honoured as hereditary occupations. All that has been changed to-day, and to-day tranquillity reigns where turmoil and strife were rife; in Kathiawar to-day there is no other rivalry than that the Princes are prompted by the desire to excel each other in the administration of their territories, and among them the Jam Saheb with his towering personality has pushed his State to the forefront and is therefore entitled to every support from the representatives of the Government in his laudable efforts to promote the well-being of his State. It is hoped the spirit of unselfishness in which the British connection with Kathiawar commenced will permanently pervade there and will form a continued and closer unity between the Princes and the

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representatives of the Paramount Power to the lasting peace of the Province and mutual benefit. Kathiawar was in political relationship with the Government of Bombay until 1924, when a great change took place and the political relations of the Princes and Chiefs of the Provinces were transferred to the Government of India as a result of the policy adumbrated in the Montagu-Chelmsford report on Indian constitutional reforms. The Princes still cherish with gratitude the work done by the political officers of the Bombay Government for the progress of the Province. A memorable feature of that work was the permanent settlement of the tribute of the Kathiawar chieftains made by Colonel Walker in conjunction with the Gaekwad authorities in 1807-08 which was a great landmark in the history of Kathiawar. It defined for all time the financial relations of the Princes and Chiefs with the Maratha power; it relieved the States from the nightmare of the collection of tribute by armed force, the pernicious *mulkgiri* system and it secured the Princes and Chiefs in the possession of their States. In 1820 the Gaekwad agreed to make no demand on the Princes and Chiefs save through the British Government. Two years later the British Government assumed the paramount power and much vigour was shown in preserving order, appeasing feuds, and in allaying internal discords. But two other measures were necessary before Kathiawar was set firmly on the road to order and prosperity. They were the establishment of the Rajkumar College, where the sons of the Princes and Chiefs were educated on the principles of an English public school, and the institution of the Rajasthanik Court, which by regulating the relations between the Princes and the Girasias struck at the roots of the agrarian discontents which made outlawry—or in the picturesque local term " going out on the road "—a recognised, almost a legitimate, means of protesting against injustice.

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It is now recognised that the progress made through these agencies—security, the rule of law and education—has been almost inconceivable. As was pointed out by *The Times of India* on the occasion of Lord Reading's visit to Kathiawar in 1924: "The amazing confusions which accompanied the break up of the Moghul Empire and the Maratha incursions are vividly depicted in the Gazetteers which are little read now. Even in recent times Kathiawar was in a political state little removed from the primitive. A writer in the pages of *Blackwood's Magazine*, who visited the province in the last seventies, has preserved for us a lively account of the prevailing insecurity. The Rajkumar College was then beginning its admirable work, yet such was the fear of kidnapping that the young Princes were jealously watched by armed guards day and night and their progress to and from Rajkot was in the nature of a military procession. Outlawry was then winked at, much as the exploits of Robin Hood were admired as a protest against feudal tyranny. The great material pacifying agency has been the railway, which has covered the Province with an efficient system of communications."

The administration of many of the Kathiawar States now challenges comparison with that of any of the Indian States. Kathiawar is to-day such a scene of peace and ordered progress that an occasional dacoity causes a thrill of surprise. It is an open secret that the transfer of the Kathiawar States to the Government of India was not received with favour by all the States concerned. The Jam Saheb did not share their fears. On the whole he conceived the change to be beneficial and, with his characteristic enthusiasm for every policy that has the effect of strengthening the bonds between the Government of India and the States, he set to work whole

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rights and privileges may be whittled away." That was written in 1918 and yet the same feeling of suspicion exists to-day. The change would be meaningless unless the Government recognised in season and out of season that the treaties with the States are inviolate and inviolable. It is in their daily practice to recognise that the States of importance are entirely responsible for their own administration. Nothing but the supreme interests of the body politic can justify interference, and a study of history must carry the conviction that interference, when reluctantly practised, often fails in the long run of the desired effect. The growth of responsibility in provincial Governments and the eventual introduction of autonomy—in which case the position of Indian States may not be agreeable—must to some extent unfit them to act in political matters as mere agents of the Government of India. In that way also the change is desirable but it is the duty of the Viceroy to see that the Princes, in avoiding the frying pan, do not fall into fire.

The transfer of the States under the Bombay Government to direct political relations with the Government of India would be of no avail, unless as the author of *India under Lord Curzon and After* urged with all the emphasis at his command that at any cost the treaties should be upheld. These treaties may seem of little moment to ministers with a policy, but, as he pointed out, to the States they were sacred, adding that " a far greater principle was at stake, and that is the honour of Great Britain." " The one guiding policy," he submitted, " is to keep faith with Indian States at any sacrifice." The sacrifices which Indian States made during the war require that the treaties should be upheld at all costs and the writer has no doubt that Lord Irwin will never allow Indian Princes to say that their sacrifices have been in vain. Lord Irwin will win the

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lasting gratitude of the Princes by announcing his Government's determination scrupulously to uphold treaty rights of Indian States. That will be by no means a small service that Lord Irwin will render to the Empire, because, as is pointed out by the Aga Khan in his " India in Transition," the Indian Princes are the real bulwarks of the Imperial connection and an insuperable barrier to the success of the ambitions of those who are determined to wreck the British power in India.

On the occasion of his visit to Kathiawar in 1921 Sir George Lloyd spoke in unequivocal terms about the vital importance of Treaty obligations towards the States being maintained in a most scrupulous manner. Speaking at a banquet in his honour at Rajkot Sir George Lloyd said : " First and foremost I desire to assure Your Highness, one and all, that no one has more at heart than I have, the importance of maintaining unimpaired the dignity, the interests and the privileges of that Order. No one could long occupy my present position, or have closely studied as I have, the varied texture of this wide world's affairs, without recognising immediately how important a position the Princes of India occupy in the general policy of the Empire. I consider naturally that the obligations of the British Government to maintain those positions as defined closely in the various sanads, treaties and agreements, between ourselves and the States are completely binding and therefore any policy which tended to weaken the positions so defined and so guaranteed, would be one, which I should personally consider it my duty to resist and to resist in a very definite manner. I conceive therefore that Government and the States are bound not only by the honourable and mutual discharge of their treaty obligations existing between them but in their several interests

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as well to see that British policy towards the States and the State's policy towards their subjects is of such a character as will justify the agreement between the two parties and ensure their prolonged and progressive existence. He would indeed lack vision and statesmanship to-day, who did not quickly and vividly realise how vitally important the British connection is to the States to-day but equally how vitally important are the States to the strength and maintenance of that connection.

The Royal pledges as to the sanctity of treaty rights with the States were emphatically re-affirmed, on the historic occasion of the inauguration of the Indian Princes' Chamber at Delhi in 1921, by H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, who, speaking as the representative of His Majesty, said: "Some of the problems that will arise may make demands on your patience. Some may depend for their solution upon a fair interpretation of the letter of treaties and engagements between the States and the British Government. If so I feel sure that a way will be found to reconcile any doubts or differences that may present themselves. The sanctity of treaties is a cardinal article of Imperial policy. It was affirmed by my beloved mother, the Great Queen Victoria, in her famous proclamation of 1857. It was re-affirmed by King Edward the Seventh and his present Majesty, King-George the Fifth, has once more announced in his proclamation his determination ever to maintain unimpaired the privileges, rights and dignities of the Princes. Nothing is wanting to mark the solemnity of this time-honoured engagement and no words of mine are needed to reassure Your Highnesses that the British Government will stand faithfully by its promises. I would only ask you when you come to discuss any difficult question of practice in your relations with the Government of India or of the interpretation

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HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT

Who inaugurated the Narendra Mandal at Delhi in December 1920 is the only surviving son of Queen Victoria who is held in great esteem by the Princes and peoples of India.

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of your treaties to remember that these pledges will be ever present to the minds of the officers of the British Crown. You may rest assured that the Government and its officers will recognise freely the internal sovereignity to which your treaties and engagements entitle you."

In the last century, the annalist of the gallant and long oppressed race of Rajputs, solicited for them the full measure of the support of William IV and prophesied that in return, when the time came, they would, by making His Majesty's enemies their own, glory in assuming the " saffron robe " emblematic of death or victory, under the banner of that chivalry of which His Majesty was the head. That prophecy came true during the last war and the Jam Saheb was among the foremost Rajputs, who personally served on the Western front with honour to the British Flag and glory to his race. He claims no reward for it, but as an ally he is entitled to justice and fair-play in his dealings with the Paramount Power. Those who know Lord Irwin are confident that the rights, privileges and the dignity of the successor of Shree Krishna are safe in his hands.

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heartedly to make the transfer an accomplished fact. It was to signalise this change brought about by strenuous and persistent advocacy on the part of the Jam Saheb that Lord Reading paid a visit to Kathiawar in 1924, and, in the course of his speech delivered in Durbar held at Rajkot, His Excellency recognised the sense of solidarity that had grown and remarked that " while the Princes hold firmly to the position which is guaranteed to them by their treaties and which will be scrupulously maintained, they will recognise how close their interests are bound up with those of British India and of each other." Again, in the same speech Lord Reading said : " Changes will no doubt come, for all institutions must move to meet new conditions, but none affecting your position or privileges can ever receive my approval or concurrence without regard being paid to local sentiment and feeling."

The first and foremost consideration that arises from the change, as remarked by *The Times of India* on the occasion of the historic Durbar in 1924, is that the Government of India should have a definite and fixed policy. It may be said that Government have a policy, and that it is contained in the speech at Udaipur in which Lord Minto announced the determination of the Government not to interfere, save in very rare instances, in the internal affairs of the States. But if the Government have that policy, on which varying opinions will be held, it is not open to doubt that the execution of the policy varies according to the personality and experience of those who are executants of it. In the report on Constitutional Reforms it is remarked that " Some Rulers are perturbed by a feeling that the measure of sovereignty and independence guaranteed to them by the British Government has not been accorded in full, and they are apprehensive lest in process of time their individual

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JAMNAGAR

JAMNAGAR is a first class State situated on the southern shore of the Gulf of Cutch. It is bounded on the north by the Gulf and Rann of Cutch, on the west by the Okha Rann and the Arabian Sea, on the east by the Indian States of Morvi, Rajkot, Dhrol and Gondal, and on the south by the Sorath Division of Kathiawar. It has an area of 3,395 square miles with a population of 3,50,000.

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Jam Shree Rawal, the founder of Jadeja rule in Kathiawar.

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I.

Origin of Jadejas—Descendants of Shree Krishna—Origin of the Title of Jam.

THE Jadejas, the warrior clan of which the Jam Saheb is a member, belong to the Lunar dynasty and are the leading representatives of the old Sind tribe of Samma Rajputs. James Tod, the famous author of "The Annals of Rajasthan," connects the Sammas with Sambu, son of Krishna, who brought a colony of Yadavas from Dwarka in Kathiawar to Sind. According to another account, the Jadejas, claiming to be sprung from Krishna and the Yadavs, trace their descent through a line of eighty sovereigns of Sanitpur and Misr, the latter Egypt, the former (otherwise called Devikot), the capital of Banasur, a legendary king of Southern India, whose story is told in Vishnu Puran. When the pedigree of a family is lost in antiquity, it is natural that different accounts should be given of their origin. According to one account the Jadeja Rajputs are descended from one of the four Jaravs, who escaped from the destruction which befell their race at Bilanal Pattan about five thousand five hundred years ago. The four Jaravs who escaped the fate of their brethren were preserved by the care of the goddess Hinglaz Matta in Sind, called "Assapooree," *i.e.*, "Hope fulfilled." One of them was concealed in her mouth, another on the ivory bangles on her arms, the third under her cushion of State and the fourth in the fireplace. From this disposition they have been respectively named Jadeja from Jara, the mouth; Choora Sama from choora, bangles for the arms; and Samma, connected with Chukutta,

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from Chukla, a cushion of State and Buttee which signifies a fireplace. To these Rajputs Hinglaz Matta further extended her care by assigning to each a separate dominion. To the Jadejas she assigned Sind ; to the Choorasamay, Sorath ; to the Chukutta, Husnapore and to the Buttee, Jessalmere. It is worthy of remark that, notwithstanding the long period of time which tradition assigns to these events and the many subsequent revolutions, the Rajas of Jessalmere have retained possession of their dominions to the present day, and the Jadejas, though they were dispossessed of, or gave away, Sind, have always been rulers of a considerable tract of country, and continue to rank among the most powerful of the Rajput tribes who have at any time possessed authority in the western part of Hindusthan. Jadeja, the first of his tribe, established his seat of authority at Nugger Sammooee, or Tata, five thousand years ago, and from this circumstance the whole of the Jadeja Rajputs are also distinguished by the appellation of Sammooee. The Jadejas maintained their independence in Sind for a long period, and resisted their invaders with a spirit and fortitude befitting a military race. In former times the Jadejas had the sun as their real object of worship, and it is not, perhaps, too extravagant to suppose that they originally followed the religion of the ancient Persians.

The Jadejas, princes of Cutch, claimed that they were the descendants of the great Emperor Jamshed of Iran, and it is said that they derived their title of Jam from Jam or Jamshed. Wars with Mussalmans had made them more hardy and enterprising than the inhabitants of the province they were destined to conquer. Oomur, one of the descendants of Jadeja, after his tribe had, through a succession of ages, multiplied to a considerable number, bestowed his country in charity on Charuns, and went forth himself with a

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powerful army to conquer another. With this view he advanced through Cutch, crossed the Rann and attacked Ghumli, at that time a place of great note, and the residence of the chiefs of the Burrada country. It has been stated that Oomur, despairing of success, had set out on his return for Sind, but his son, Bamunee, assumed command of the army and reduced Ghumli. The resistance which the chiefs of Burrada on this occasion made to the encroachment of the Jadejas probably prevented them making an attempt to settle in the country. Bamunee, therefore, evacuated it, and had arrived in Cutch, on his return to Sind, when he formed the design of establishing his authority there, and was successful. When Bamunee settled in Cutch thirteen Jadejas colonised with him. These, though all descended from the same common ancestor, were distinguished by different appellations, according to a custom common in eastern countries, which assigns to the descendant of a person famous for some virtue or great deed, his name, as an honorary distinction.

Whatever account may be correct, there is no doubt that the pedigree of the Jam Saheb is ancient and splendid and goes back to Krishna, the hero of the Mahabharat. Care has been taken not to introduce foreign, obsolete and fabulous relations into this account; and notwithstanding the accumulated fiction of centuries, which pervades every Hindu historical account, the above gleanings, according to Captain Raikes of the Bombay Political Department, are founded on truth.

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II.

Conquest of Jamnagar by Jam Rawal—A Brilliant Chapter in Rajput History.

JAM was the title under which the Princes of Cutch first ruled. They originally descended upon Cutch from Tata in Sind. They belonged to the warrior race and defied the Moghul Emperors and remained independent in their territories. Their power appears to have reached its zenith about the middle of the eighteenth century when in the reign of Rao Daisul I. they held garrisons in Sind, Parkar and Kathiawar. During his reign the Moghuls were thrice repulsed and signally defeated. Jamnagar was founded by Jam Rawal, who descended upon Kathiawar from Cutch in the year 1535 and dispossessed the ancient family of Jetwa, Chief of Porbandar, then established at Ghumli. Nawanagar, the present picturesque capital of the State, was founded in 1540 by Jam Rawal, a man of indomitable courage and resource as a General. His name recalls many stirring incidents in the history of Cutch and Kathiawar and many a romance clusters round his name. His successors have contributed to make the history of Kathiawar. They added many a fascinating page to the annals of the Rajput race and their deeds abound with instances of chivalry. Down to the beginning of the nineteenth century the history of the State was a record of stormy scenes and violent struggles which periodically occurred between the rival members of the ruling house for the succession to the *gadi*, and impeded the peaceful progress of the State. It was reserved to Jam Ramalji, who came to the *gadi* in 1820, to retrieve

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H. H. Jam Saheb Vibhaji by whom "Ranji" was adopted.

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the State from the chaotic condition and confusion into which it had been thrown. He displayed great energy and ability in the administrative work and during the three famines that occurred in his time, he helped his subjects to a considerable extent and secured their affection. He was a great sportsman and bagged many lions and tigers.

He died in 1852 and was succeeded by Jam Vibhaji whose name is revered throughout the length and breadth of the Province as a kind and sagacious ruler devoted to the interests and welfare of his subjects. He was made a K.C.S.I. in 1878. In presenting the insignia of the Order, Sir J. B. Peile, the then Political Agent of Kathiawar, said : " The race of His Highness the Jam was long regarded with special veneration as the foremost Hindu dynasty of this peninsula, stout in fight with the Viceroys of Akbar ; generous to fallen greatness in Muzuffar ; bold in aggressive warfare on Mendarda and Jeytpur." In administering the affairs of the State, Jam Vibhaji showed a keen solicitude for the moral and material advancement of his subjects. He introduced several reforms in the State, did away with many abuses, and facilitated trade and commerce by constructing roads and a railway and earned the gratitude of his subjects. Though belonging to the old school of thought, he recognised the advantages of education and opened a number of educational institutions in his territory and founded scholarships in the Bombay University for the prosecution of higher studies for deserving sons of his subjects. He also opened hospitals and dispensaries for the relief of suffering and sickness.

In addition to being a humane ruler, free from pride, ever solicitous for his subjects, Jam Vibhaji was, like his predecessor, a great sportsman. He was succeeded by Jam Jasaji, who was born

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Her Excellency Lady Irwin.

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after the adoption of the present Jam Sahib. Jam Jasaji died in 1907 without an heir and the British Government recognized the claims of the present ruler. This recognition of his claims met with the approval of all the Rajput Chiefs of India, including the Maharao of Cutch, who belongs to the senior branch of the Jadeja Rajputs and General Maharaja Sir Partapsinh of Jodhpore.

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HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAO OF CUTCH

who, as Lord Curzon remarked, adds to his other accomplishments that of being a talented and graceful speaker.

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In heroic chivalry and independence the Jadeja Rajputs in Kathiawar were what the Sissodia Rajputs of Mewar were in Rajputana. They fought several battles with the Moghul armies which were completely routed. In one of the battles fought near Dhrol, the Royal Standard, Mahi Mahtab, was captured by the Jadeja army together with 150 elephants and about 60 guns made by the Portuguese. In ancient days the Jams of Nawanagar maintained a big army and they were able to put at one time 50,000 soldiers in the field.

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III.

Rulers of Ancient Dynasties—Their Influence in Eradicating Inhuman Institutions—A Great Moral from Mournful Tale.

THIS chapter is intended to show that the ancestors of the present Jam Saheb have not only produced soldiers and statesmen but humanists and liberals. They were able to eradicate crying social evils simply because of their great influence as the illustrious representatives of ancient dynasties for whom Orientals have profound love and respect. There was a time when Indian Princes—as remarked by the late Amir Abdur Rehman, a man of remarkable genius—were sunk in ignorance, sloth and indulgence. They did not know what was going on in the world nor what was in it. They were quite unable to walk, because they had never been in the habit of walking; thinking it minimised their prestige. The Amir pitied "these poor things," upon whom he looked as effeminate men, and "I pity the poor subjects who were to expect justice and administration at their hands." If the Amir were living now, and came in touch with rulers like the late Maharaja of Gwalior, His Highness Maharaja Gangasinghji of Bikaner, or the subject of this sketch, he could have found them at least his equal if not his superior. They can easily rival him in manly sports, and statesmanship, and they can easily excel him in refinement and enlightenment. It is truly said that sagacity, unselfishness and benevolence are not the fruits that grow on thorns and brambles.

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Such noble attributes of kingship strike roots deep when " divinity doth hedge a Prince."

There are two kinds of ruling chiefs. The first belong to what are called the mushroom dynasties, and the second to ancient and hereditary families. When cynical fortune deals the cards, the " mushroom " dynasties spring up, but only to fall. But the other class of rulers sit firmly on the Throne, being fortified by the traditions of their ancient lineage stretching back to the misty ages of antiquity and by the traditional loyalty of the people. They are the rulers of august dynasties whose hereditary dignities have descended in an unbroken line through many generations. As was said by the late Sir Lepel Griffin, who came in close touch with Indian rulers in Central India :—" Whatever may be said of the divine rights of kings, it would seem that the stars in their courses fight on their behalf ; that something of divinity hedges them about ; they are the object of respect and love which is worth more to them than armies in battle array ; the immemorial sentiment of mankind demanding a master, the weakness of humanity, asking to be ruled, are the very foundations of a throne. A single mistake or a pungent epigram may cost the heir of an adventurer his crown but the hereditary ruler can securely sit, like the Olympian Gods, above the thunder." Such reasons explain the continuity of an hereditary dynasty ; and when we look to the history of dynasties which can claim to have become illustrious, we find that they have additional reasons for their continuance inasmuch as they have established a claim on the hearts and imagination of their subjects by deeds of benevolence and humanity.

The Jadeja Princes, of which His Highness the Jam Saheb is the distinguished leader in Kathiawar and whose famous ancestor

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Lord Shree Krishna made the soil of Kathiawar pure by living at Dwarka have been noted not only for their prowess in battles but for correcting social abuses which were at once the cancer of society and impediments in the path of progress. The eradication of at least three deadly social evils which were a blot on humanity may be set to their credit. They were the abolition of slavery; the abolition of the inhuman practice of suttee; and the abolition of the cruel custom of infanticide. These evils had taken deep root in the soil, and were foisted on society in the name of religion, the most powerful of all levers working on the minds of ignorant people in the East. The famous ancestors of the Jam Saheb who eradicated those barbarous customs had to act with circumspection and steadfastness, knowing well that the best actions may lead to unforeseen and undesirable results and may precipitate disaster.

In West Africa, for example, one result of the abolition of slave trade was that the tribes in the interior made no prisoners of war; having no market for them, the victors killed the vanquished, whose continued existence in their vicinity would constitute a standing danger to themselves. The abolition of slavery in the Soudan by Khedivial decrees, intended to satisfy British conscientious objections to that peculiar institution, resulted in the uprising of the Mahdists, who, under the skilled leading of the impoverished slave dealers, overthrew the Egyptian domination, and brought on many bloody and disastrous campaigns. Cæsar was not sparing of life when conferring the inestimable gift of Roman civilisation on Gaul. But he did not kill all his prisoners. He sold 50,000 to the slave-dealers on one occasion at a very fair figure: wholesale slaughter would not have paid. Titus, who destroyed Jerusalem, the garrison of which would not come to terms, carried away

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60,000 captive Jews to build a magnificent Temple of Peace in Rome and commemorate his victory. The abolition of slavery had many advantages, but it deprived victorious Generals of any market for prisoners. " I want no more prisoners," said Bismarck, during the war of 1870-71, " the officer who makes prisoners should be court-martialled." The Iron Chancellor expressed his anger when informed erroneously that Garribaldi and 13,000 foreigners had been made prisoners ; they should have been all shot out of hand. If they could have been sold at even ten or twelve pounds a piece the clear profit of a good round million or thereabouts might have been a temptation to spare their lives. The slave market is not an agreeable place under any circumstances, but most people would prefer to be conducted thither to be sold to the highest bidder than to be taken straight to the abattoir. Slavery has been banished by modern civilisation, in the interest of society, and in civilised countries it has perished utterly. But in countries that are not civilised, its enforced abolition is not an unmixed gain to humanity. It has been said that the mild patriarchal form of slavery abolished in Pemba was incomparably more merciful and human than the system of enforced labour that was introduced in our own times in Rhodesia. But nobody called it slavery.

Fortunately the abolition of slavery by Jadeja rulers was unattended with any such evil consequences. Do not do evil that good may come, is an accepted maxim of high morality, though it is not infrequently honoured in the breach rather than in the observance. The converse warning that you should not do good lest evil befall would be scouted and the propounder of it would have a very bad time in these days of progress and civilisation. Nevertheless the maxim is not without its salutary value and it would have been

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His Highness Maharaj Rana Bahadur of Jhalawar, K.C.S.I.

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considered a folly to depart from it at the period with which the writer is now dealing. The courageous forefathers of the Jam Saheb did not hesitate to put the laws into force, as soon as they were convinced that they were right and good in themselves; and to all appearance destined largely to add to the sum of human happiness, while proportionately reducing the sum of human cruelty on one hand and of human suffering on the other. A century's experience shows that they have eventuated in the existence of millions of widows and a large number of unmarried women in India—a social phenomenon never previously allowed to manifest itself. In British India, these righteous and apparently most beneficial prohibitions were dictated by its conquerors to the assembled landed proprietors of the Punjab and Bengal, who were not free to object that they would lead to untold evils within a short space of time, though they were doubtless quite satisfied in their own minds that such would be the case. The laws in question were propounded in those provinces by the British after the thunder and lightning of conquest, as the Ten Commandments were delivered to Moses in thunder and lightning on Sinai.

In Jamnagar, thanks to the skill and tactful exertions of the Ruler, the laws were introduced smoothly. The prohibition of infanticide did not promise to be an unmixed blessing; but that did not deter its ruler from adopting so benevolent a measure; there was the difficulty of getting suitable husbands for the daughters of Jadejas who did not marry their daughters to inferior tribes. Cutch, from which State Jam Rawal came to Jamnagar, was an isolated place and husbands would not risk the cost of a long journey so long as they could get wives nearer home. The difficulty did not escape the British officers as well as the ruler of Cutch, and

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the latter set a noble example to others by being the first to give his daughter to the Maharaja of Idar and persuading the Jadejas to give their daughters in marriage to that class of people from which they chose their wives while they deemed it derogatory to their rank to give their daughters to them. The reformers had to encounter no trifling storm in overcoming the prejudices and obstinacy of the Bhayads. To conquer the deep-rooted beliefs of a conservative people is no small task. It was a period of great trouble and trial to the then Jam who emerged triumphant out of the terrible ordeal without losing his prestige as a devout and religious Jadeja. From the first he gave the utmost assistance to the British Government towards the attainment of so desirable, so laudable, and so humane an object as the suppression of infanticide—considered to be a cruel, unnatural and detestable crime by civilised nations, if not by all the nations of the earth, with the exception of a few misguided clans, who regarded its termination as sacrilege and an unpardonable crime. By abolishing those inhuman practices, the Jam Saheb's forefathers did incalculable service to humanity which it is difficult to assess at its proper value at this distant date. All honour and glory are due to them for setting a noble example as pioneers in social and religious reforms in the western parts of India, where these evil practices had become a scourge. Their acts ushered in an era of regeneration making it easier for their successors to continue the advancement of the moral and material well-being of their subjects.

In considering their services to humanity it should be borne in mind that the abolition of suttee was a tremendous task. We can well imagine Lord William Bentinck abolishing, by a short resolution, a practice believed to have been sanctioned by religion

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H. E. Lord Irwin.

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and the usage of centuries ; but it requires an effort of imagination to behold a Rajput Prince, and that too a champion of religious rites with a tendency towards orthodoxy, advocating the abolition of an immemorial usage, the violation of which was looked upon as anything but honourable and entailed the loss of reputation. Those who performed suttee were held up as model wives and as paragons of virtue. The practice had the sanction of antiquity and the approbation of the Hindu people. It formed an essential feature in their customary religious rites. The task of prohibiting suttee was therefore fraught with danger. All honour therefore to the Jadeja rulers that they should have enforced the abolition of the senseless act of human sacrifice.

As to the second of the three momentous reforms introduced by the head of the Jadeja tribe in Kathiawar in consultation with the then head of all Jadejas, Rao Daisulji of Bhuj, it played an imposing and historic part in the lives of a proud race. Great credit is due to English officers for prevailing upon the Jadeja rulers to be the saviours of a numerous race of helpless innocents. These officers succeeded in re-kindling the parental tie—the strongest that pervades creation—among a whole tribe, from whose breasts it had for many generations been rooted out by pride, avarice and some of the worst feeling that ever enters the human heart. The suppression of infanticide appeared to be by far the most difficult subject that Englishmen had ever to deal with in India. Suttees or immolation on the banks of the Ganges were nothing as compared to it. They simply required the fiat of the Government to put a stop to them in British territory ; but to check infanticide the authorities had to oppose not only sentiments which were strange enough to suppress the common feelings of human nature but to interfere

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in the most secret and sacred affairs among the higher classes of Hindu women. Now that the final abolition of the barbarous custom has been effected and the pages of history have ceased to be stained by instances of terrible atrocities, the whole world looks back with astonishment at the wickedness of the crime; yet in those days the Hindus, with a facility proportionate to their credulity, generally ascribed the inhuman and heartless custom to a divine origin. When the abolition was enforced, people in India had not arrived at a stage of society when sentiments of humanity had any influence upon the community, and the difficulty of persuading the populace to discontinue an ancient and memorable custom confirmed by prejudice and family pride, was very serious indeed. The moral of this reform surely is that it is nobility of birth more than nobility of soul that counts in India, and that it is the hereditary love of the people towards the descendants of Lord Shree Krishna that led them to acquiesce in the decree of their ruler. The name of the immortal Krishna, hero of the Mahabharata, is sufficient to excite a feeling of reverence for his descendants and to call for what is finest and noblest in the character of his descendants.

The mantle of Shree Krishna could not have fallen on worthier shoulders than those of the present Jam Saheb who is pursuing the same forward policy in social reform as that which distinguished his illustrious ancestors, who were fully familiar with the nobler acts which enhance the dignity of man. Without healthy social growth, national growth in India (where dancing girls place their fragile virtue under the special protection of a deity) is impossible. The history of Jamnagar is, therefore, the history of organic and national growth and the prevention of disintegration of society.

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Mr. W. G. Grace and the Jam Saheb.

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IV

"Ranji," A Great Sportsman—Romance of His Life.

THE Jam Saheb is a direct descendant of the famous Prince, Jam Raisinhji who ruled in Jamnagar two hundred and sixty years ago and who, after a brief but brilliant rule, met a soldier's death in battle with Kutbudin at Sheakut in 1664. Ever since those remote times the branch of the Jadeja Clan, to which the Maharaja Jam Saheb belongs, the Sarodar House descended from the gallant Falji of Bhanwad, have been distinguished for their personal courage and through many troublous times have played a prominent part in the history of the State and the shaping of its fortunes. His grandfather Jalamsinhji was renowned for his gallantry, and his father Jivansinhji was esteemed as the beau ideal of a Rajput gentleman. The whole aspect of his position and station in life was changed from that of a son of a Bhayat to that of heir to the *gadi* when he was adopted by Jam Vibhaji. He received his early education at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot, where he easily obtained pre-eminence among his companions both in the class room and on the playground. After completing a course of study there he was sent to England for education to suit him for the high responsibilities of the future ruler of Jamnagar. The future greatness of "Ranji" was predicted so far back as 1890 by Principal Macnaghten of the Rajkumar College. In that year Mr. Macnaghten took with him to England three Rajkumars. Ranji was one of them. At a social gathering held in his honour prior to his departure for England, Mr. Macnaghten said that their going would make a gap in the College, where they

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had been so well-known and liked . . . . " Ranjitsinghji is among us now to represent the hopeful triumvirate, and of him I say, and I know you will agree with me, that a better or manlier boy has never resided within the College . . . . Disappointments and troubles come to us all and he has had his, and has borne them bravely. Looking back on his College career, I think he may look back without regret, and feel that the time he has wisely spent here has been a happy as well as a useful time. It is a blessed thing for us all when we can look back and feel like that. I speak of him specially because he is here, and he has taken so marked a lead in the College that he will be specially missed." As Mr. Macnaghten had predicted Ranjitsinhji has become a notable figure not only in Kathiawar and India but in the Empire, and he has derived pleasure in giving pleasure to others. At Cambridge he won fame as a cricketer and the endearing name of " Ranji " by which the English public still knows this great sportsman. Some people seem to sneer at the qualification of a sportsman and think that sport is an end in itself. It is nothing of the sort. Sport in India is a great vehicle for cultivating a sound mind in a sound body ; it inculcates those qualities of fairness, tolerance and discipline, of joy in seeing the best man win, which all are proud especially to associate with English character. In that sense the Jam Saheb has shown that sportsmanship is a synonym for statesmanship and good training in the atmosphere of English public life and that it connotes fairness, liberality, accessibility and camaraderie, which are still the best attributes of that life. The story of his disappointment over the birth of an heir after his adoption and the consequent cruel fate that he had to encounter is well known. It has been the romance of his life. On the death of Jam Vibhaji he contested his claim to the *gadi*. It was disallowed.

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It was a great and cruel blow that fate then dealt to "Ranji." But in the hour of his adversity the patience and fortitude he displayed command our admiration. He took his fate with philosophic calm and, in spite of provocation and intrigues, he maintained a dignified attitude. He was rewarded for his patience for, in 1907, he came into his own when Jam Jasaji died after a brief illness.

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V.

"Ranji" comes into his own—His Promise to play the Game—How he made Jamnagar a Model State.

RANJI was installed as the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar on the 11th March 1907. The ceremony was performed by Mr. Fitzgerald, Agent to the Governor of Bombay, who, in addressing the Jam Saheb, made an interesting speech and prophesied that the Jam Saheb, Ranjitsinhji, might be spared to make the State one of the richest and the most prosperous. He pointed out that the broad acres of the State comprised much fertile land. Its waters include a pearl fishery which is of no small value, and its harbours were capable of great development. The Jam Saheb in reply promised that he would endeavour to play the game so as not to lose whatever credit he had earned in another field. He has more than fulfilled his promise, and, within the short space of 20 years, he has brought Jamnagar into the front rank of civilised States and established for it the title of a model State.

It was in a prophetic vein that the Agent to the Governor on the occasion of the installation said :—"It would behove you in the present financial circumstances of the State to proceed with caution at first, but as your means permit you should extend your railway towards Dwarka ; irrigation, forestry and the development of the magnificent harbour which you have at Salaya should claim your attention, and you should be strong to maintain, and lose no opportunity of extending, the reforms which were inaugurated during the period the State was under the direct administration of

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H. H. The Jam Saheb with Mr. C. B. Fry.

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"Ranji" as a cricketer. He has had to his credit the astonishing achievement of scoring two double centuries in a single match on a single day against Yorkshire. His season's average of 87 with a total of over 3,000 runs was easily the high water mark of English cricket. Thrice he had totalled over 3,000 runs.

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the British Government." There is no doubt that in his new career he has added to his reputation by showing himself to be a sound and liberal administrator. He has vigorously pushed on the reforms which were mentioned in the speech of the Agent to the Governor and the world is now eagerly looking to the decision of the Government of India whether he is to enjoy the fruits of his labours in connection with the development of his ports which he has carried out at an enormous outlay.

Since his accession to the *gadi* he has embarked upon several ambitious schemes for the better development and administration of the State tending to the promotion of the physical, moral and material well-being of his people. His schemes conceived with care and wisdom in a spirit of liberality have tended to increase the prosperity of his people. Reforms in the revenue system, extension of railways, a water scheme for irrigation as well as for domestic use in Jamnagar, the improvement of agriculture, urban and village sanitation and education reforms—all these have claimed his attention. After the war he brought into being an Advisory Assembly with a non-official majority, with the object of increasing the association of popular opinion with the administrative machinery in a well-defined manner.

His Highness' labours in the interests of his Order as a member of the Conference of Princes and Chiefs, annually held at Delhi under the presidency of His Excellency the Viceroy, have earned for him a prominent place in the Conference, and he was one of the four Princes appointed by that body to formulate a scheme for reforms which was accepted by Mr. Montagu and Lord Chelmsford and forms an important chapter in the well-known Montagu-Chelmsford Report. Incidentally it may be recorded in this connection that he was the

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first Prince to order a statue of Mr. Montagu for erection in Jamnagar in appreciation of that statesman's service to India.

It is not generally known that he is giving immense sacrifices to help the members of his Order, who find themselves in troublous waters. His anxiety for upholding their dignity is so great that he keeps himself constantly absorbed in their affairs at no little inconvenience to himself, and the writer has personal knowledge of the Jam Saheb's great concern for the izzat of his brother princes. His advice is sought by leaders of ancient and chivalrous races ; and Rajputs and Sikhs, Moslem and Maratha princes, make a practice of seeking his advice and assistance.

Soon after his accession to the *gadi*, His Highness had to work hard to familiarize himself with the working of the different State departments. He was also overwhelmed with petitions of persons who had real or supposed grievances to be redressed, or who courted favours from His Highness. He had further to set his own house in order and to attend to the ceremonies and other requirements of his numerous and distinguished guests. His great enthusiasm for work and his over-anxiety to satisfy every one led him into feats of exertions which would break down the most robust constitutions. Nature was not thus to be trifled with and it exacted the severe penalty of a long and most serious illness from His Highness which put the heaviest strain on the nerves of his relations and subjects and necessitated his departure for England for the overdue rest and peace of mind for the recruitment of his health. On the termination of his illness and before his departure for England, in spite of his weakness His Highness undertook the fatiguing journey from Bombay to Jamnagar to satisfy the fervent ardour of his subjects to have a glimpse of their beloved Chief. A most enthu-

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siastic reception was accorded to him, and Dr. Childe and the nurses who had waited on His Highness during his illness, were presented with addresses for their devoted and most valuable services during the critical period of his illness. His Highness had so much endeared himself to his subjects that their joy at seeing him again in their midst knew no bounds, and never perhaps was prayer of thanksgiving offered to God with greater fervour than on the occasion of the termination of that strain when the people saw him with their own eyes after his illness. His Highness left Bombay for England leaving his State in the charge of Kumar Shri Harbhamji as Vazir Saheb.

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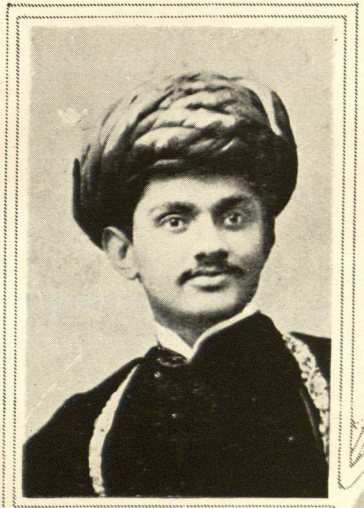
VI.

A Great Natural Leader—Progress of Civilization—An Epoch-making Rule.

THE writing of a historical narrative is not so difficult as the task of delineating the character of its hero. The narrator of political events has his function distinct from that of a biographer. A student of history can perform the first task easily; but he who undertakes to delineate the personal characteristics of the subject of his memoir must possess special qualifications. He must enter into the spirit of the work of his subject; be in close touch with him and study him at close quarters not as a friendly and sympathetic critic but as a judge.

For many years the Jam Saheb captivated the imagination of the English and Indian public by his prowess on the cricket field. The present writer has closely followed the interesting career of "Ranji" and has gained an indelible impression that Ranji's genius would have done him credit in the eyes of his fellow-subjects and raised him to greatness in any walk of life, even had not fate ordained him to be a ruler. It can be said without the least fear of contradiction that it was not his birth that gave him eminence; it was his singular personality. Since he succeeded to the *gadi* of his ancestors he has worked with might and main towards a high ideal and the results of his labours are evident to-day. His State has witnessed many reforms; numerous blessings have been conferred on the people; civilisation has progressed apace and the rays of education have penetrated and illumined remote villages.

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1888



1900



1893



1895



1898

Jam Saheb at different stages of his life.

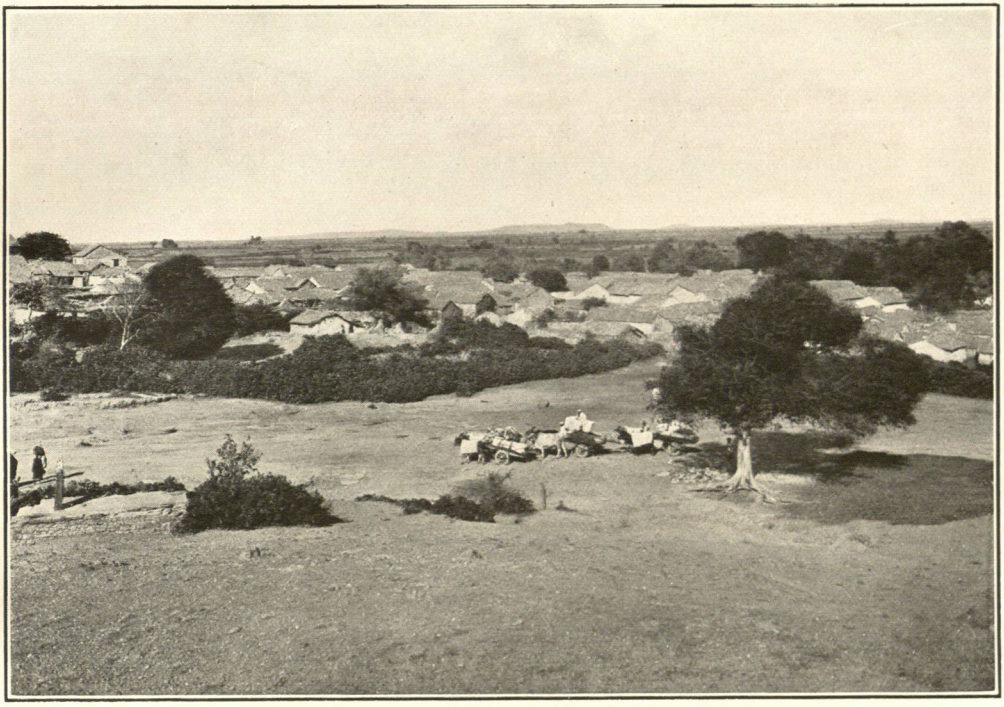
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in spite of his charming manner and innate modesty, his masculine understanding, natural intelligence and sparkling wit become apparent to those who come in contact with him. His manners confirm the truth of Tennyson's description :

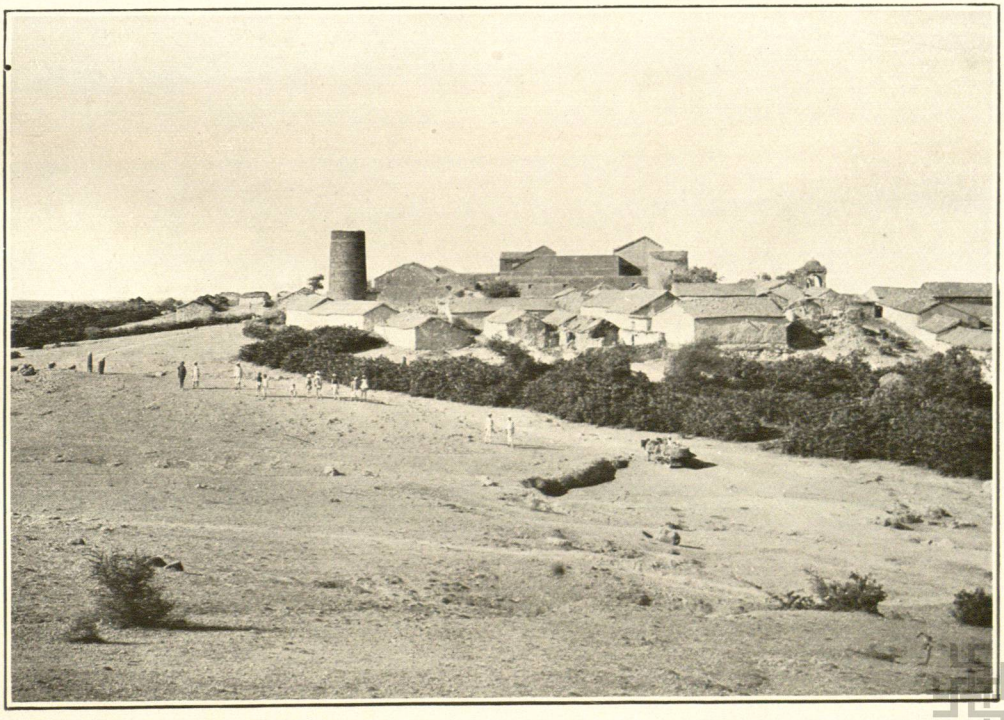
> " Manners are not idle, but the fruit
> Of noble nature and of loyal mind."

With his extraordinary quickness of mind and his brilliant abilities he would have become a celebrity in any form of public activity even in the most advanced countries. Industrious by instinct and a student by nature, it required the wholesome stimulus of a high standard of duty to bring his great powers to the affairs of his State. In the generality of Indian States the administration has become a mere piece of fine machinery ; it is oiled and kept in motion, under high pressure, by continuous outward direction. The Jam Saheb has refused to recognise any limitations on his exceptional talents, which if unused would have become wasted. He therefore determined to make his rule epoch-making. A brighter and more hopeful era has dawned on his State and his powerful personality is reflected in every aspect of its progress.

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Sarodar, the Birthplace of His Highness.



Another View of Sarodar.

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VII.

A Brilliant Career—Appreciation of Character.

JAM SAHEB RANJITSINHJI is one of the most remarkable persons that modern India has produced. His Highness is as it were a Peer among the Princes. His aims have always been as high as his great powers of organisation and endurance, and it can be said without the least exaggeration that no Indian name is more familiar in England than that of "Ranji" and no one has achieved greater distinction than he in the world of sport. He was a giant on the cricket field, "the supreme exponent of the Englishman's game." But what is true of his prowess in cricket is more so as regards his genius in administration.

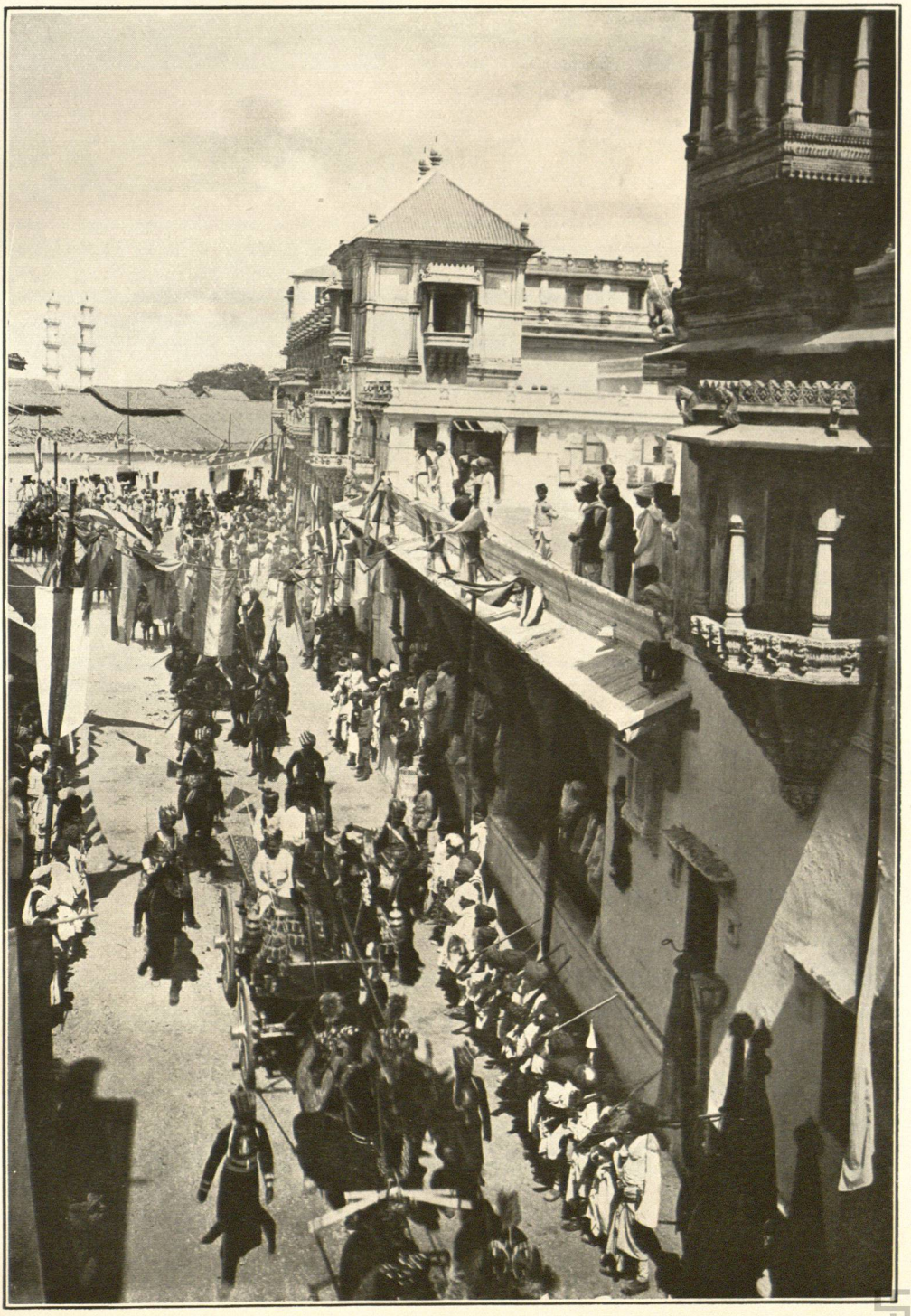
In his admirable volume, "The Pillars of Society," Mr. A. J. Gardiner in an excellent sketch of the Jam Saheb says: "It is the Jam Saheb's supreme service that, through his genius for the English game, he has familiarised the English people with the idea of the Indian as a man of like affections with ourselves, and with capacities beyond ours in directions supposed to be peculiarly our own. In a word he is the first Indian who has touched the imagination of our people. He has released trains of thought in the common mind that cannot fail to influence beneficially the popular feeling in regard to the greatest task that belongs to us as a nation." And Mr. Gardiner then thoughtfully adds: "If India has sought to make herself heard and understood by the people who control her from afar, she could not have found a more triumphant missionary

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than the Jam Saheb with his smiles and his bat. Great Indians come to us frequently, men of high scholarship, noble character—the Gokhales, the Banerjees, the Tagores. They come and they go, unseen and unheard by the multitude. The Jam Saheb has brought the East into the heart of our happy holiday crowds and has taught them to think of it as something human and kindly, and keenly responsive to the joys that appeal to us. He is as engaging with his tongue as with his bat, a lively raconteur and a man of thoroughly democratic sympathies and serious purposes."

That significant passage, which reflects truly the chief characteristics of the Jam Saheb, opens a vast vista for reflection. There is not a greater friend of the people of British India than the Jam Saheb. A great lover of liberty, imbued with a real patriotic desire, he has on occasions espoused the cause of Indians for a larger share in the government of the country; and in his own State he has introduced reforms in advance of the times. In his own person he furnished a shining example of the capacity of an Indian for progress and constructive genius. He understands Englishmen and the latter understand and respect him. His name lives in the hearts of hundreds of thousands of British people and his influence will be far more productive of good to India than the agitation of the politicians in broad-basing the Government on the people's will. But the Jam Saheb is the butt of the extremists and they are never tired of dubbing him as a reactionary Prince and an enemy of progress! It is said that he is an Imperialist at heart; but if that be so, it is an article of faith with him that true "Imperialism is a spiritual sympathy more than a material bondage." Having spent his early life in England, the nursery of free institutions, he is naturally inclined to the orderly growth and development of free institutions

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A State Procession in Jamnagar.

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suited to the times and environment, but he is an enemy of revolutionary ideas and has set a stern face against disloyal Indians bent on wrecking the Empire. India's safety lies in the Empire's strength. The Jam Saheb is one of those who believe in sound and well-thought out political advance, suited to the spirit of the age; but he is convinced that an even more urgent need of India is social reform and removal of the unhealthy and squalid surroundings in which the people now live. The Jam Saheb's devotion to the person and throne of His Majesty the King-Emperor is founded on his deep sense of loyal duty, and he is a great pillar of the Empire. The king of cricket has proved to be a greater and an incomparably superior driving force in the administration of his State than he was even in the realm of cricket. He has brought it to a pitch of administrative perfection in less than a generation's time. The transformation is indeed a revelation. As a cricketer he played many a brilliant innings; as an administrator his performance is still more dazzling and challenges comparison with the most efficient administration in the country. It is his rare power of performance which made Mr. H. J. Henley recently remark in *The Daily Mail*, "A Ranji, like a Shakespeare, comes only once in a long span of years."

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VIII.

Spread of Education and Medical Relief—Progress of Public Works—Awakening of Public Philanthropic Spirit.

AN idea of the progress of Jamnagar can be gleaned from the activities of its public works department, which has spent over three crores of rupees within the last 20 years. About fifteen lakhs of rupees have been spent on the City Improvement Trust with the result that the city has been transformed from an abode of unhealthiness and congestion, with its attendant evil of high mortality and outbreaks of epidemic, into a modern town interspersed with broad roads, picturesque bazaars, extensive gardens and open squares. During the last 20 years there has been uninterrupted construction of works of public utility. Residential palaces and bungalows have cost nearly 56 lakhs of rupees. Realising that the city improvement scheme seemed to suffer from want of so necessary an adjunct as electrification of the town, the construction of a big electric power house and the installation of engines, machinery and requisite accessories were sanctioned by His Highness in 1925. Since the inauguration of the scheme in that year the total expenditure incurred amounts to over 7 lakhs of rupees. Since the opening of the power house, energy has been supplied to the municipality for city lighting as also to the public for lighting and industrial purposes. This department has also under its control the telephone system. In 1907 no telephone existed in this State. To-day the system counts as many as 82 telephone stations with an annual expenditure of about Rs. 10,000. This system of communication has facilitated better supervision

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The City Dispensary and a part of the Masjid.

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on work in mahals situated far away from the capital and easy and immediate despatch of important official work when necessary.

Medical relief has also received careful attention. There were eight taluka dispensaries in 1907. Of these two have been converted into fully equipped hospitals and lodged in new buildings at Khambalia and Jodya. Six new dispensaries have been opened at each of the centres, namely, Jam Jodhpur, Paddhari, Balambha, Raval, Nawagaum and Lalitpur. The Jubilee Hospital which was built in 1891 has been greatly extended and brought up-to-date. The staff has been strengthened and brought up to the required standard. An out-patients dispensary, donated by the late Sir Abdul Karim, supplies a long-felt want. A sanitarium for tuberculosis patients is under construction at Kileshwar with all hospital and residential facilities : the height of the hills and the dry air make it an ideal spot for the treatment of consumption. The mahal dispensaries are very well looked after and the cost of medical relief has more than doubled during the last few years.

The claims of education have received special attention from the Jam Saheb. Primary education was made free in 1911 and secondary education was made free in 1916. In 1907 there were 118 primary schools, there are 202 now. The number of secondary schools has risen from 8 in 1907 to 29 at present. The number of English schools in the mahals has increased from 5 to 24 in the last 20 years ; and the expenditure on education during that period has nearly trebled and now stands at Rs. 1,80,000. The number of pupils has increased from 9,000 to nearly 20,000. The education of girls has also received a stimulus and the number of girls now attending the schools is 3,500, which is three times more than in 1907. His Highness lays special stress upon the education of girls

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as the influence of mothers upon the healthy growth of children plays a very important part. A new girls' high school is being built, and the citizens of Jamnagar have raised a fund for the purpose and have decided to name the institution after Lady Hardinge. The fund including a state grant of Rs. 1,25,000 amounts to Rs. 2,80,000.

An account of the educational activities would be incomplete without some mention of His Highness' very liberal policy of educating young members of the Raj family at Darbar expense. Several young Kumars have received education at the Raj Kumar College, Rajkot, and subsequently in England. Three of them are at present in England, one is at the Raj Kumar College, Rajkot, and seven are being educated in Jamnagar under a special staff of teachers. The sum already spent on the education of Rajkumars aggregates about Rs. 10 lakhs. His Highness believes that if the State is to be lifted up its Girassias should be educated so as to enable them to recognise their responsibility and improve their Giras estate ; he is therefore striving to impart to the Bhayads such education as may enable them to settle in life as independent, honest, healthy members of the aristocratic society.

As a result of the stimulus given by the Jam Saheb, there is an awakening of the spirit of social and philanthropic service among the well-to-do people and there are increasing signs of response on their part to appeals of humanity and to claims of education. An illustration of this new spirit is found in the opening of a High School at Jodya at the request of Mr. Vasanji Jivandas who contributed a lakh of rupees towards building the premises of the High School. Mr. Khimji Dayal was a very philanthropic merchant of Jodya, who had an extensive cotton business in Bombay. He built a good hospital in Jodya. After his death his heir Sheth

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His Highness the Maharaja of Kapurthala, who was awarded the title of G.C.B. on the completion of his Jubilee in December 1927.

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Vasanji offered to build a High School in his memory in the event of the maintenance of the High School being permanently undertaken by the State. This was done, and full high school standards are now established in the new building.

About Rs. 50,000 are annually received from wealthy people of the State for the promotion of education. This is a tribute to, and an appreciation of the efforts of, the ruler for his subjects. The awakening of this public spirit in itself is an achievement of note.

Liberal scholarships are given to students studying in the schools within the State and to students who prosecute further studies in the Technical Schools and in the Arts, Medical, Engineering and Agricultural Colleges in the Bombay Presidency. Besides special scholarships are from time to time awarded by His Highness to deserving students prosecuting some advanced courses here and abroad.

In order to encourage education among the Girassias, His Highness started a hostel in Jamnagar in 1914 where Girassia boys are lodged, fed and looked after, under the direction of a superintendent engaged by the State. A majority of the boys are free students maintained by the State, and in the case of well-to-do Girassias, a small charge of Rs. 70 per year is levied per head. The State allots Rs. 7,500 annually towards the upkeep of the hostel.

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IX.

The Jam Saheb as Saviour of His People—Battle against Famine and Pestilence.

AMID the pre-occupations of the war, which taxed his skill and energy, His Highness had to combat in his own State those deadly elements of famine and pestilence which destroy and carry off more lives than are killed on battlefields. The devastating influence of famine in an Indian State can hardly be exaggerated, and successive famines in Jamnagar entailed a burden upon the State which was indeed crushing. But in the hour of its peril, the State possessed a vigilant and resourceful ruler whose power of organisation, method of distribution of relief and measures adopted for the amelioration and recuperation of the population were equal to the task. In British India, State help is supplemented by private charities of the most splendid type. This happy combination of State help and private philanthropy is unfortunately for the most part absent from Indian States where people are benumbed in times of calamity and the spirit of fatalism becomes almost a religion. By their fatalistic attitude they make it impossible to cope with the prevailing distress in an effectual manner. Owing to the way in which the Jam Saheb responded to the call of duty in the cause of humanity, the tide of distress, instead of submerging the cultivators, was so successfully kept back that there was extremely little disintegration of rural communities. The unexampled success with which the battle against famine was waged was all the more a subject

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JAMNAGAR SUBJECTS WHO ACQUIRED EMINENCE IN PUBLIC AND COMMERCIAL LIFE IN BOMBAY.

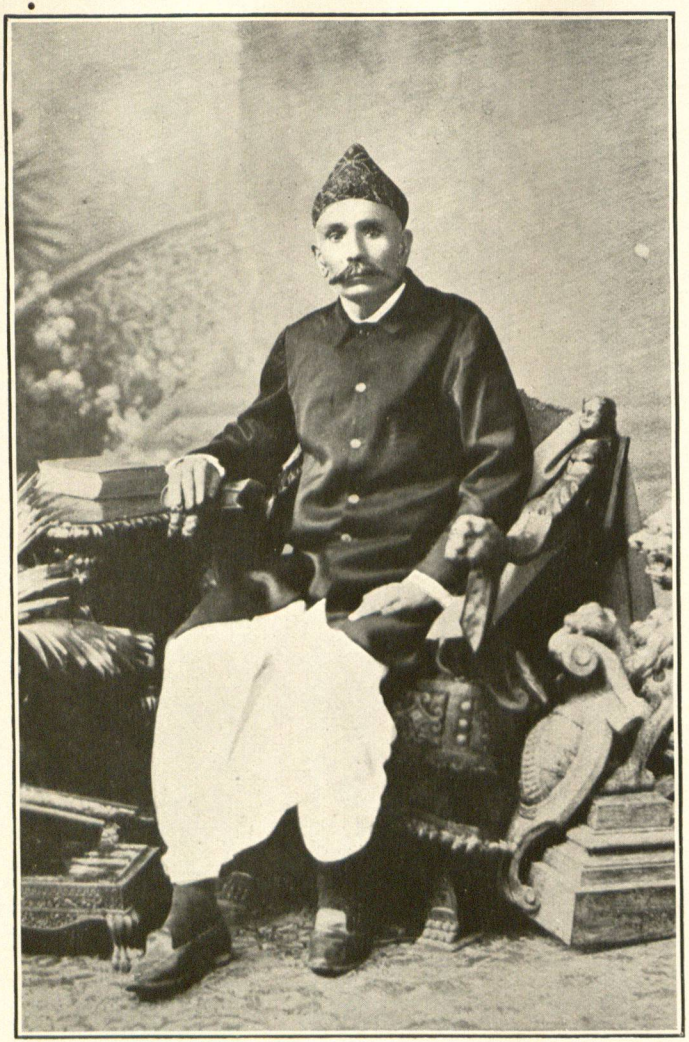


The late Sir Vithaldas Thackersey.



Sir Ibrahim Rahimtulla.

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The late Mr. Khimji Dayal who was instrumental in affording substantial relief to the sufferers by Famines in Jamnagar.



The late Sir Abdul Karim Jamal of Jamnagar was well known in India as a Merchant Prince and Philanthropist.

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for congratulation when it is remembered that the resources of the State were mobilised in the service of the Imperial Government for winning the war. The scanty remaining resources of the State in men and money were employed to the utmost possible extent to relieve the distress and they met with considerable success owing to the fact that the Jam Saheb had infused his own spirit in his officers and electrified them with his own energy. The shadow of famine has hung over the State almost every third or fourth year. But the fact that the severest famines have left the smallest marks of devastation in the present règime as compared with the deadly havoc in his predecessor's time speaks volumes in favour of the effectiveness and promptitude of the measures adopted by the Jam Saheb. There was poverty and but inanition there was no starvation or death as in the past règime. Think what a difference this means. Grain was moved from one district to another, with amazing rapidity and distributed discriminately ; cattle were saved ; tagavi advances were liberally given ; and there was prompt remission of taxation. His Highness does not believe in the suspension of revenue ; he is for total remission as he believes in giving adequate relief to the agriculturists whom he regards as the backbone of the prosperity of the State.

The way in which His Highness combated famines at once stamped him as an administrator and organiser of great skill and energy and it was through his personal activity and liberality that the distressing effects of the great calamities were minimised and he proved to be the veritable saviour of his people.

The famine of 1918 was a dry famine of very acute type, its evil effects being aggravated by very high prices induced by the war. The transport capacity on land and sea had been fully taxed, there

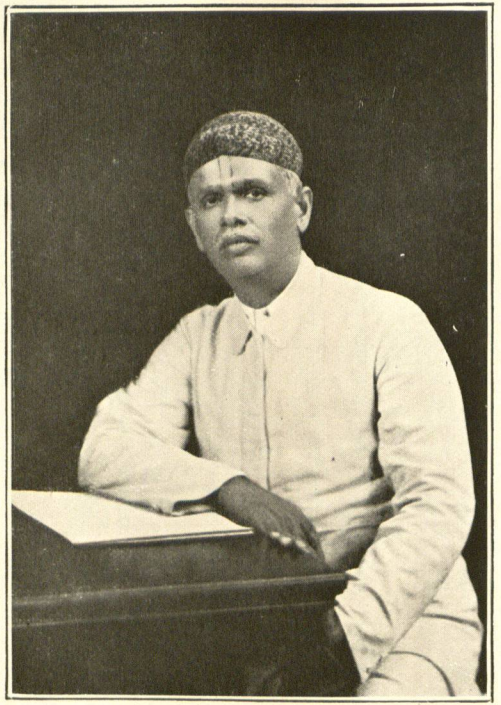
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was shortage of currency, and there was not only a food famine but also a severe fodder famine. The State was in predicament because in an agricultural country, no misfortune is greater than that of the scarcity of fodder. But as if these evils were not sufficient pestilential disease broke out in a virulent form. The situation was indeed alarming. The Jam Saheb, however, decided to face it in an unflinching manner and gave orders to the Revenue Secretary, who was put in charge of the famine operations and relief measures to see that not one human life was lost in the State as the result of famine hardship.

The relief measures were of a comprehensive nature and remedies adopted for the mitigation of the distress were as prompt as they were effective. First of all there were cheap grain shops opened at different centres where food-stuff was sold at a price lower than the market rates. In Jamnagar itself 63,296 persons took advantage of the shop and it cost Rs. 35,000 to the State. In the Mahals the State suffered a loss of Rs. 40,000 on the sale of grain. Again as an additional measure for levelling down the prices in the capital a grain trading company was established at Jamnagar under the patronage of the Durbar. The State purchased hundreds of tons of rice and wheat in Bombay and sold the same in the State through certain merchants at fixed rates. The relief measures were extended to Meghmals, Dheds and Untouchables and special care was taken to afford them adequate relief as they were neglected by higher classes of the people The relief operations were on an extensive scale. This necessitated the starting of a special fund to which His Highness contributed one lakh of rupees. Fifty thousand persons were afforded relief from the special fund to which Sir Abdul Karim Jamal and other merchants generously contributed. In the districts 35,000 maunds

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WEALTHY JAMNAGAR PHILANTHROPISTS WELL KNOWN IN BOMBAY FOR INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISE.



Mr. Lalji Naranji, J.P., M.L.C.



Mr. Mathuradas Vusanji, J.P.

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The late Rao Bahadur Vasanji Khimji, J. P., whose name is a household word in Jamnagar. He was a public-spirited merchant, well-known for his charities.



Mr. Shantidas Askaran Shah, a Cutchi philanthropist, and a leader of the Jain community interested in the development of Jamnagar.

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of grain were distributed at a cost of Rs. 1,74,000 to which the famine fund contributed Rs. 75,000 while the balance came from Messrs. Khimji Dayal, Vasanji Jeewandas and Mathuradas Vasanji Khimji. Mahant Shree Ramprasadji gave most valuable aid by throwing open his own Sadavrat institution for feeding the poor at a cost which came to half a lakh of rupees. Messrs. Chaturbhuj Gordhandas and Lalji Naranji of Messrs. Mulji Jaitha & Co. started a kitchen where hundreds of people were fed daily. About a hundred children were collected and sent to the Anathashram, where they were looked after by Mahant Shri. In addition to this 60 orphans were taken over by Mahant Shri and they became a permanent charge on the institution till they attained majority. Communal charities which came to Rs. 75,000 included the relief organised by Mr. Hirji Khetsi, for all Dasa Oswals in the State and received help from Messrs. Champsi Bhara, Ghellabhai Guna, Velji Lakhamsi Nathu and Tokarsi Mulji. They distributed free grain to their co-religionists in all villages and all deserving cases. The greatest effort of the local Mahajan was concentrated on different Panjrapoles. About six thousand cattle were fed at a cost of nearly five lakhs of rupees, Messrs. Mulji Jaitha & Co. contributing Rs. 30,000 while Sheth Sunderdas Thakarsi Rajda organised the relief at Khambalia on a big scale. Public works were also started and several hundreds of labourers were employed on the works. The works cost the State Rs. 6,21,365. While these measures were in progress, no efforts were spared in the primary task of keeping all the cultivators on their legs. About 1,154 new wells were constructed, His Highness having given a free grant of Rs. 125 on each well ; Rs. 89,659 were paid to cultivators for their maintenance ; Rs. 26,935 were given for seeds ; Rs. 24,000 were advanced for the purchase of bullocks,

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and Rs. 77,795 for grass. These figures speak for themselves. The greatest relief, however, came in the shape of remissions which absorbed Rs. 7,71,455 and further suspensions to the extent of Rs. 6,16,637 were granted. Other remedial measures were also adopted, destitute Girasia widows were maintained; tagavis to the extent of nearly Rs. 2,50,000 were given.

That Jamnagar is progressing in every way will be seen from the fact that at the instance of the Darbar the cultivators have started a famine insurance fund. The idea, which would have been considered as novel only a few years ago, has been eagerly taken up by the agriculturists, who are to contribute towards building up a voluntary reserve capital sufficient to serve as an effectual provision against bad years. Each cultivator has to contribute an amount equal to one year's assessment by annual subscriptions at the rate of one anna per vigha of land. This fund already amounts to Rs. 11,41,004 and if good years continue and the fund receives the support of the cultivators, as enthusiastic as before, it will soon accumulate into an amount that will render the cultivators safe in a famine of average severity.

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The New Bazar in Jamnagar.



The Old Bazar.

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X

Jamnagar—Past and Present.

THERE is no more picturesque place than Jamnagar in the whole of Kathiawar. If Jamnagar cannot boast of so many historical antiquities as ancient Junagadh it has nevertheless a special interest of its own. It possesses a combination of historical antiquities as well as modern institutions. It contains several well-regulated schools and hospitals, law courts and charitable institutions, several palaces of considerable architectural beauty, and an uncommonly fine equipment of clock towers—no fewer than three being visible from almost any vantage point. It has a splendid library and industrial school and the present Jam Saheb has greatly improved the public gardens. Trade has received a great impetus by the improvement of the principal port of Jamnagar and the extension of the railway. The revenue of the State was about 24 lakhs under the late ruler, but it has been raised to nearly 62 lakhs in the regime of the present Jam Saheb.

In recent years there has been a great improvement in the capital of the State and the districts. There has been a rapid stride of progress in all directions. The roads in the newer portions of the city are broad and excellently maintained and great cleanliness is everywhere apparent. The old streets are unconscionably narrow, but even at noontide they are thronged with people and are perhaps more characteristic of those scenes of purely Indian life in which a painter would delight, than either Junagadh or Bhavnagar, Dhrangadhra or Porbandar. The quaint old gabled houses, the

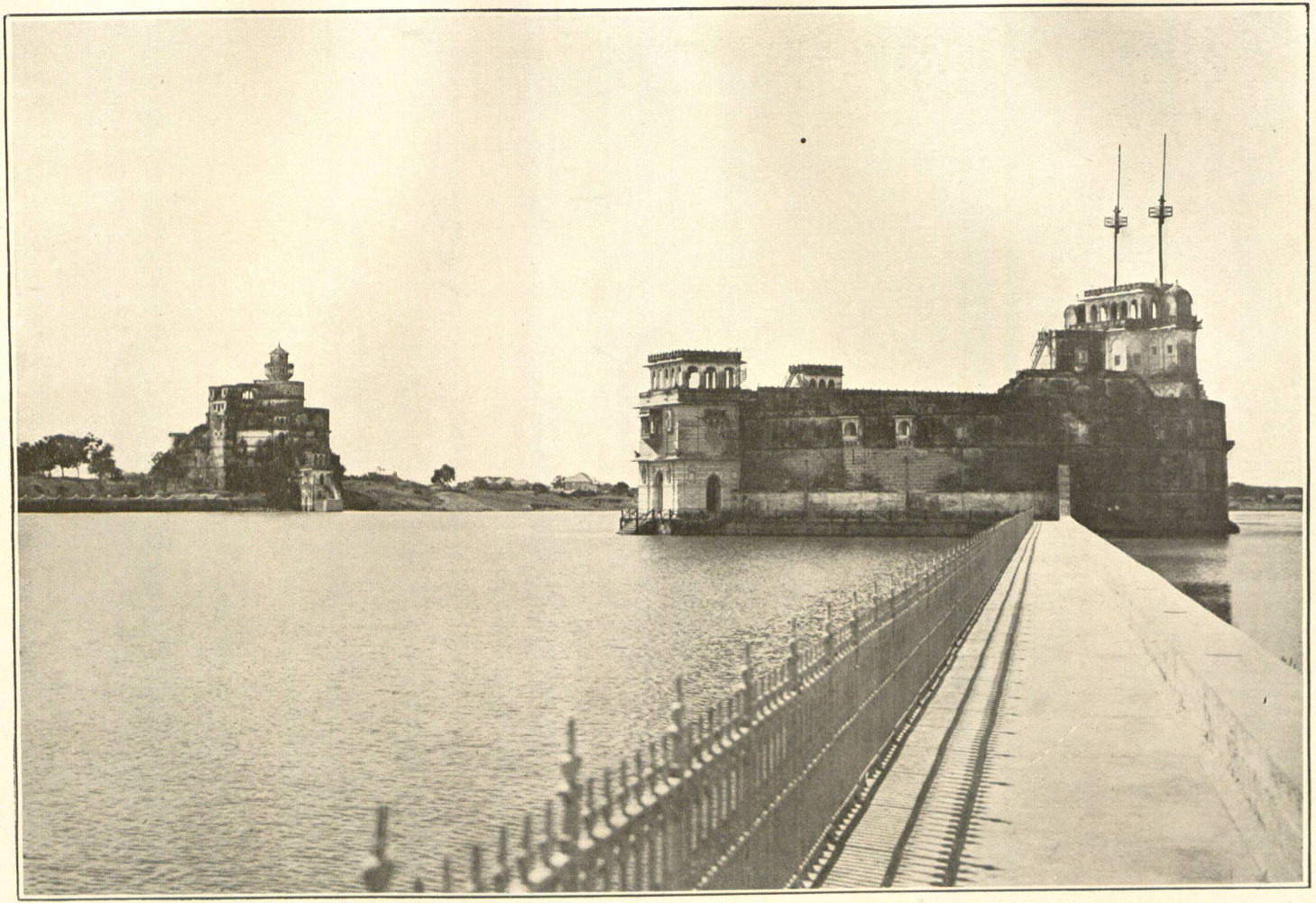
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sharp turns, the tortuous windings, the busy shops, the gaily clad crowd, make a picture full of colour and movement. The street in which the Jumma Musjid is situated is the most notable of all. It was originally just wide enough to admit the passage of a carriage, though it was better to walk, because then one might pause while the shop-keepers showed specimens of the silken fabrics and gold embroidery for the manufacture of which Jamnagar is famed. This has all been altered now and with the reconstruction of the city the Musjid has now come in a prominent position, owing to the narrow lane being widened. The Jamnagar Kinkob work, by the way, is said to be equal to that of Ahmedabad and its silken saris are the delight of Parsi ladies of Bombay. They are as handsom as but less costly than Benares saris.

Halfway along the thoroughfare rise the massive walls of the Musjid, and from the frontage spring two tall, slender minarets. In the courtyard within, which is surrounded by walls surmounted by a series of small domes, are solid structures largely composed of marble. A pair of sandalwood doors richly inlaid with mother-of-pearl, at once attracts the attention of the visitor.

The best place from which to gain a general view of Jamnagar is from the topmost story of the Lakhota, a kind of small circular fort built into the outer wall of the city. The Lakhota is said to be only a hundred and twenty years old though it seems older. However, the whole city of Jamnagar—or Nawanagar, as it is more correctly called—was only built three hundred years ago. From the Lakhota one looks out upon a city rising from the midst of a green oasis of trees. It is curious how trees are the dominating features of any of these places when contemplated from a height, but from below the plenitude of foliage is not conspicuous. The central

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The Old Fort (Lakhota and Kotha).

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feature of the landscape is the high square building known as the Durbar Gadh, the old palace of the Jams, used by His Highness as a cold weather residence. Near it are the white outlines of a Jain temple, and close at hand the greyer structure of Baldavil's Temple. On the other side are the graceful minarets of the Jumma Musjid and round all these landmarks the city clusters. On the left, far beyond a great flat expanse of fertile country, are the blue waters of the Gulf of Cutch. The bundar of Jamnagar is four miles from the city, and a short creek leads thence into the open sea. The same level plain meets the eye if one turns from the city and gazes inland. The monotonous brown country stretches right away to the horizon. Just where land and sky meet there rises the dim outline of the Barda Hills where former Jams were wont to go lion-hunting. It is a curious fact that the few remaining lions left Jamnagar territory and sought their last refuge in this remote corner of India in the Gir forests of Junagadh so recently as the year 1860. It is supposed that they were frightened away by the firing of guns used in the pursuit of outlaws.

The Lakhota is reached through the great Bhirbhunjan Gate, just outside which stands a striking temple built of polished chunam at the cost of one of the wives of Jam Saheb Vibhaji by whom "Ranji" was adopted. Walk a little way inside the walls and there appears a large and imposing tank, whose waters lave the walls. A terrace built along the wall leads to the Lakhota which may be best described as an exaggerated bastion. It is crowned by twin flagstaffs of unusual design with "crow's nests" half way up the poles. The entrace to the Lakhota is by steps through an old and smoky guard room, where ancient fire-locks and powder flasks and rusty swords are hung. Within is a

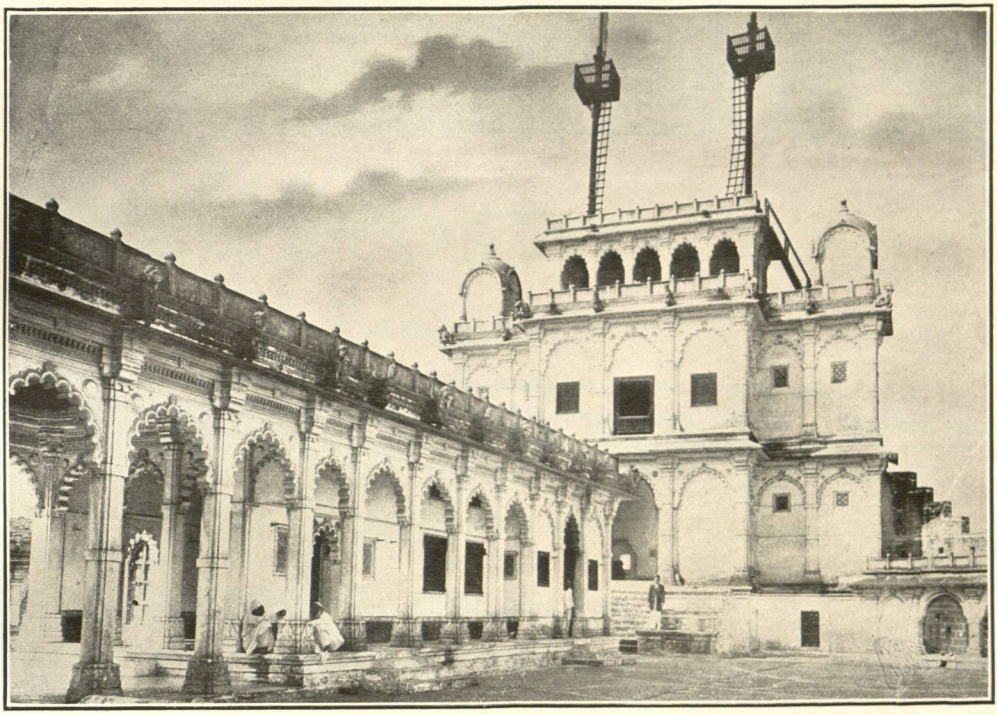
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large circular platform surrounded by a wall whose interior forms a colonnade. The wall is pierced with double loopholes for muskets and embrasures for guns and quite a number of ancient guns are still trained through them, which are used for firing salutes.

The centre of the circular platform is occupied by the tomb of a Mussalman, evidently of considerable sanctity; for before his burial place small coins are placed by the devout. An adjacent room was said to have been his dwelling place, but who or what he was no one seems able to explain. The outer edge of the Lakhota is surmounted by a much higher structure containing several rooms from the roof of which is gained the most striking and pleasant view. There is a little balcony built outwards on the outer wall which looks on to the open plain beyond the marble tracery, it is like that little balcony built into the walls of Delhi in the farthest recesses of the Dewan-i-Khas, where the last of the Moghuls used to sit and look upon the Jumna. Before guest houses were built in Jamnagar, the rooms in the Lakhota were often utilised for the accommodation of political officers and guests of importance, and, with their painted ceilings and tiny windows, they must have been odd resting places.

One small low-ceiled room is well worth description. It is covered with remarkable frescoes some of which depict the exploits of a former Jam. One of these shows the Jam on horse back firing at a lion which has one of his Sidi followers in its grip. A whole array of nobles with levelled muskets are riding behind him. This must have been Jam Ranmalji who died in 1852. Another fresco shows the Jam and his retinue spearing pig in the most reckless fashion. On an adjacent river bank, a lion is engaged in

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The inside view of Lakhota.

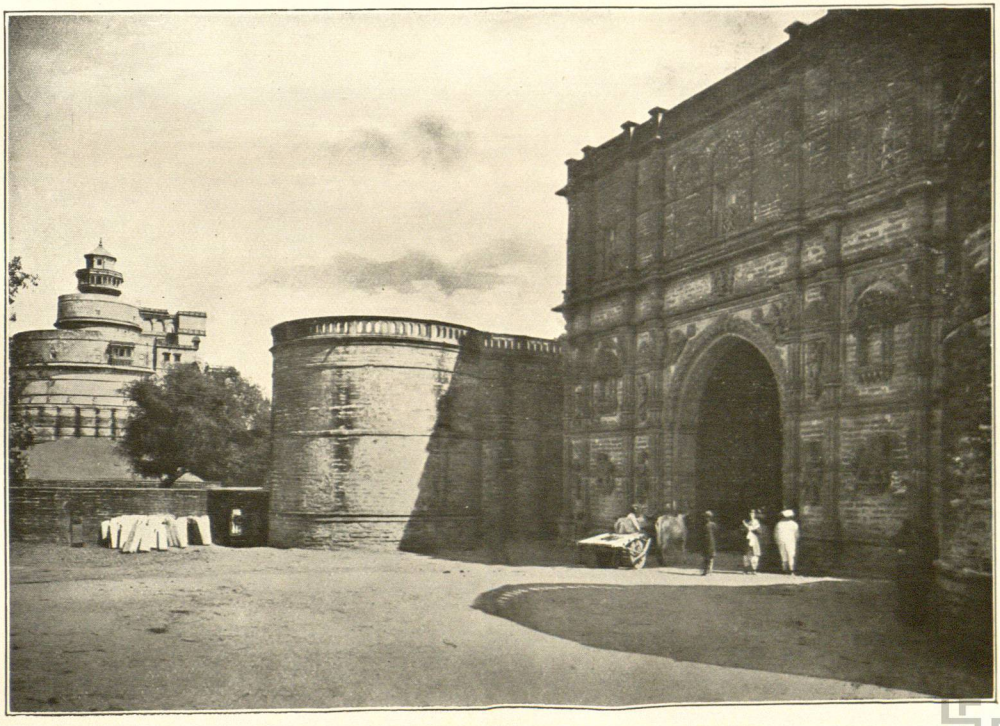


Photo by Messrs. Vernon & Co.

The Khambalia Gate.

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A part of the Willingdon Crescent.

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deadly combat with a cobra. In true mediæval fashion the artist was determined that there should be no mistake about his river, so he has carefully drawn the fishes in it. Another painting depicts the Jam and his ministers carousing (Mr. Gladstone Solomon and his pupils do not manage to find such inspiriting subjects for their mural paintings) and yet the picture apparently has for its subject a princely picnic in the forest. But the quaintest fresco deals with a temple at Dwarka and shows a number of women bathing in a tank, while in the trees around a number of ash-smeared devotees are seated looking at them in stolid contemplation. One worthy onlooker has elected to regard the scene while hanging upside down from a branch and the odd use to which he has put his point of vantage is said to display a penitential purpose on his part; it is to be hoped that the fair bathers appreciated his motive. Near the Lakhota at an adjacent corner of the walls is another fortified bastion somewhat similar in size and shape. It is known as the Khota.

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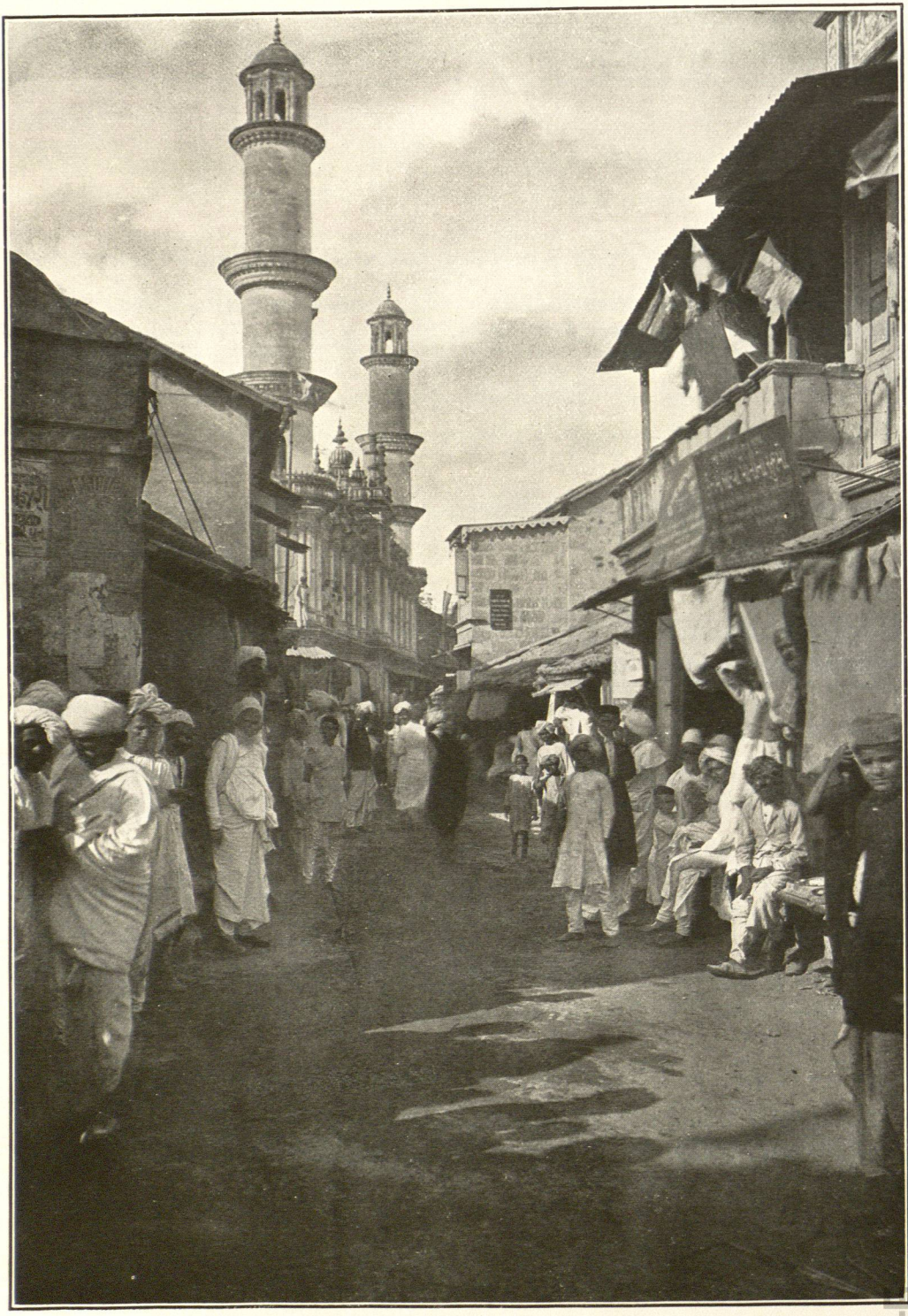
XI.

Reconstruction of Jamnagar: A stupendous task. An energetic housing policy.

In order to understand the contrast between old and new Jamnagar, it is necessary to recall the conditions of Jamnagar as it prevailed twenty years ago. A political officer in describing the condition of Jamnagar at the time that His Highness succeeded to the gadi of his ancestors wrote to the Jam Saheb: "I have realised that your work from the beginning has been rather a difficult one, because you have been left a place which is fit for the body of a gallant but dirty animal and you will find it very hard in the unsatisfactory finances to which you succeed to convert it within a reasonable period into a place where a gentleman of modern ideas with which you are imbued can reside without dismay and difficulty and without creating intolerable disabilities."

The authors of "The Great Opportunity"—two distinguished statesmen of England, Lord Irwin, the Viceroy of India, and Lord Lloyd, a former Governor of Bombay—were impressed by inquiry and experience combined that by nothing is the health of England of the future more vitally affected for good or ill than by housing. Good houses, as they pointed out, "mean the possibility of home life, happiness and health; bad houses spell squalor, drink, disease, immorality and crime, and in the end demand hospitals, prisons and asylums in which we seek to hide away the human derelicts of society". . . "An energetic housing policy is the condition precedent to a successful attack upon the forces of

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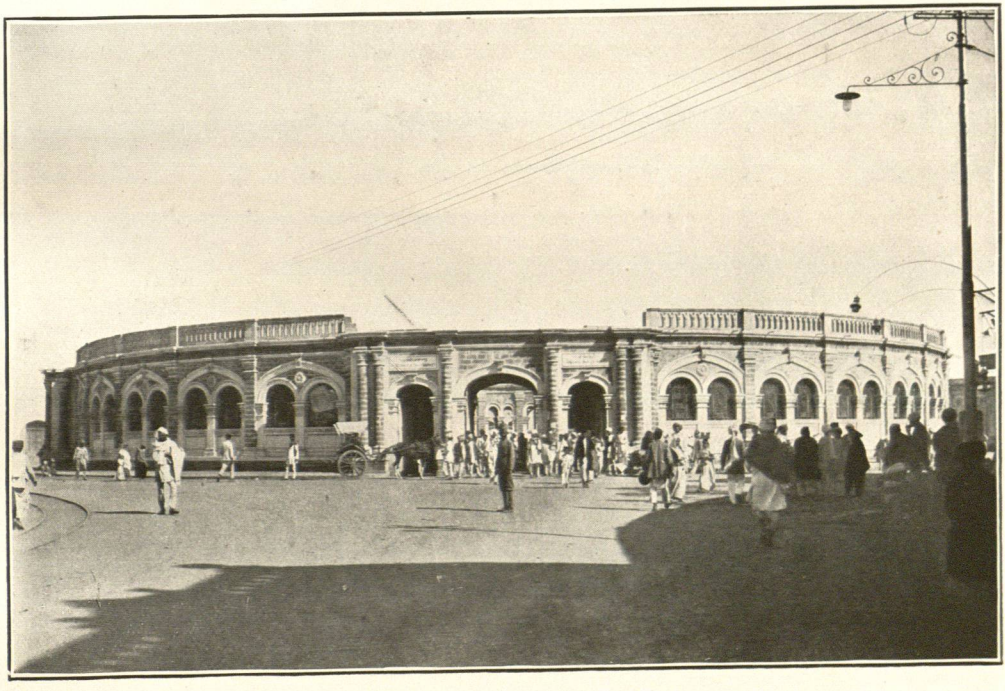


A Street Scene in old Jamnagar.

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The Power House at Jamnagar.



The Chelmsford Fruit and Vegetable Market.

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ill health and crime. It is almost certainly the golden key to half the problems of intemperance." This was written when the great war was still in progress, but these ideals were recognised by the Jam Saheb at the commencement of his rule and recognising that the young life of a country is its greatest wealth, he took in hand an ambitious scheme for reconstructing Jamnagar. The task was indeed of great magnitude. In requesting Lord Willingdon to perform the ceremony the Jam Saheb said: "It has now passed through its days of infancy into a healthy adolescence. Jamnagar was and is a congested city of narrow streets, crowded dwellings, insufficient light and a relatively heavy mortality. To remedy these evils and to provide to the city a system of gradual improvement on sanitary principles was a duty of which I had caught an early significance . . We have begun with the centre of the town and have tried to bring out the beautiful Jain temples a little way behind us, which were hedged in between and hidden by numerous closely built and mean dwellings, belonging to the Matwa people. These people along with nearly 2,000 cattle dwelt inside them and made the centre of the town a perfectly plague spot, or a distributing centre for all kinds of germs throughout the year. We have removed the Matwas with their cattle outside the city wall and have built them good and commodious houses where they and their cattle prosper well without any danger to the other inhabitants. Four wide cross roads will open up these temples on all sides and will run in front of an imposing circle that I propose to associate with the honoured name of our popular Viceroy Lord Hardinge. Our scheme also aims at bringing into this central place, by twelve straight roads, all the traffic converging from the twelve gateways of the City wall. The realisation of this

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idea will depend on time and money and, if Providence favours us with better seasons and less frequent famines, we shall be able to accelerate the progress of the work and will enhance the beauty and importance of the town and, I hope, vastly improve the health of my subjects residing in the capital. Even the small improvement which has been achieved hitherto has directly affected the health of the city and reduced its mortality perceptibly. Malaria is much less virulent, cholera now appears at greater intervals and claims a much lower percentage of victims and plague has disappeared totally. The last fortunate event is unique in this province and bears a very striking testimony to the efficiency of the methods of sanitation and urban improvement taken in hand during the last nine years.

"The Crescent before us thus marks the beginning of a project which aims at making the city habitable and beautiful and nothing has given me greater pleasure than the feeling that it will bear the honoured and beloved name of a Governor who has already earned in an uncommon degree the love and gratitude of the Princes and people of this Presidency by an exceptionally sympathetic and just administration and who, besides, happens to be my personal friend of old Cambridge and Sussex days and for whom I cherish the highest regard and esteem. I am indeed grateful to Your Excellency for allowing me to call this pile of picturesque and beautiful buildings after Your Excellency's name. The association of an honoured and esteemed name will endear the place to us permanently and keep the memory of Your Excellency's visit to Jamnagar ever fresh in our minds."

"The centre of the large space in front of the shamiana will be occupied by a fountain of which a plan designed by the State

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MINISTERS WHO HAVE HELPED HIS HIGHNESS TO BUILD UP MODERN JAMNAGAR.











1. Khan Bahadur Merwanji Pestonji, B.A., LL.B., Dewan Saheb.
2. Mr. Gokalbhai B. Desai, Bar-at-Law, Minister-in-charge Revenue and Agriculture Portfolios.
3. Colonel Berthon, Alienation Settlement Officer and Administrator-in-charge in His Highness' absence in Europe during war.
4. Mr. Parasuram B. Junarkar, B.A., LL.B., Minister-in-charge Political and Military Portfolios.
5. Mr. Hirabhai M. Mehta, Bar-at-Law, Minister-in-charge Home and Finance Portfolios.

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LEADING JAMNAGAR CITIZENS WHO HAVE HELPED TO BUILD UP MODERN JAMNAGAR IN ITS PUBLIC ASPECT.



1. Mr. Dayashanker Bhagwanji, President, Jamnagar Praja Mandal.
2. Mr. Pestonji Merwanji Karanjia, leading Merchant and State Agent.
3. Mahant Shri Ramprasadji, Head of Jamnagar Anadabava Charitable Institutions.
4. Mr. Gordhandass Morarji, leading Advocate.
5. Mr. Shamji Ghelaram, President, Jamnagar Merchants' Association.

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Engineer, Mr. Fulchand, is placed on the table opposite for Your Excellency's inspection. It will supply a pleasing variety to the people and I feel sure it will add to the amenities of the Crescent immensely. I must add a word of appreciation and thanks to all those who have contributed a part of the funds that have made these buildings opposite possible. These contributions have come from the scheme of Famine Insurance Fund raised and maintained voluntarily at my suggestion by religious institutions endowed by the State. It is an inherent obligation, now dimmed and but vaguely understood and acknowledged, on these bodies to apply their revenues to the cause of religion and charity, which are closely intertwined in our system of religious polity, and I had to remind the inheritors of these charitable and religious trusts that they owed a duty to the suffering subjects of the State, which they were bound to discharge by diverting a portion of the large and generous endowments made by my ancestors in the past to the cause of suffering humanity in the days of famine and distress."

Old Jamnagar was a veritable death-trap. It was the spot where plague, cholera and malaria exacted a human toll which ravaged the city all the year round. The Jam Saheb grasped the fact that it was a question of life and death for his people and he undertook the task of cleansing the Augean stable. For this purpose he adopted a bold and comprehensive scheme for the provision of better and sanitary dwellings.

The results of the operations undertaken on a grand scale are seen in the improvement of the health of the people, the reduction in mortality from plague, cholera and malaria. The task of reconstructing Jamnagar was stupendous ; the idea of town planning was novel in an Indian State ; and the conservatism of the people

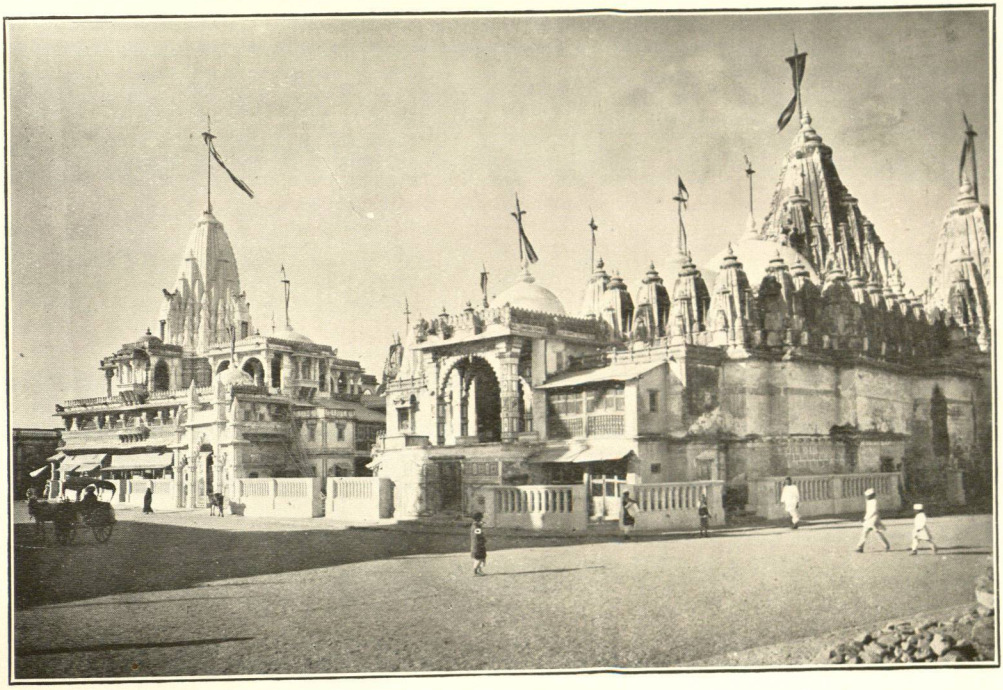
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revolted against measures of hygiene and sanitation. The results are as astonishing as the vigour and tenacity with which the programme has been pushed to completion in spite of the opposition of the people. But, the progress of health has been so marked as a result of the improvements and the reduction in mortality so striking that like Oliver Twist, the people are now asking for more of these measures which while executing new and improved idea as may be applicable to the conditions of an Indian town, have preserved the picturesqueness of the place while retaining what was necessary in the old system of architecture, thus completing harmonious combination of the old and new.

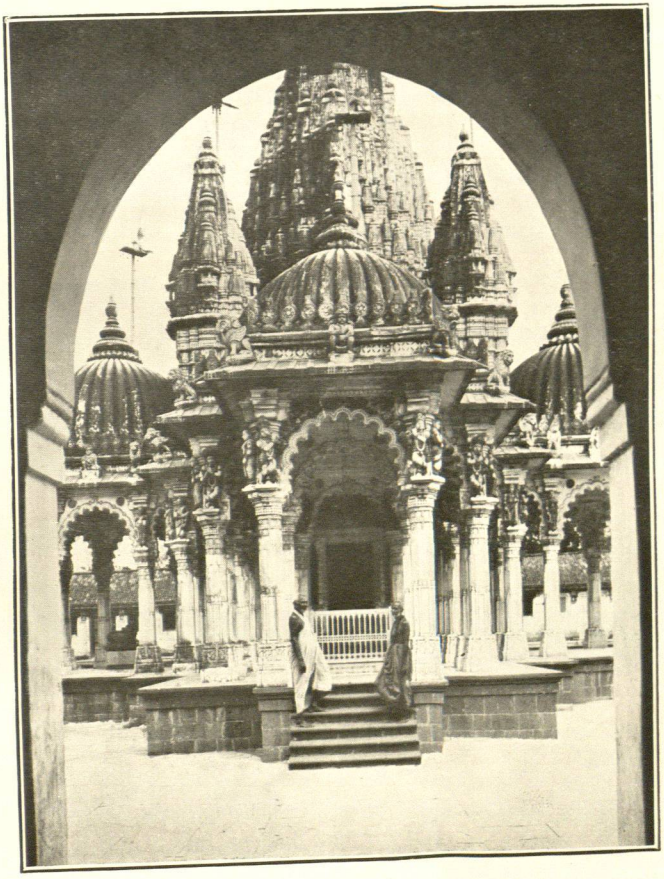
In the enthusiasm of introducing what at a particular period are called improvements (called because each decade not infrequently has its pet reform or improvement which its successor substitutes another) the Jam Saheb has not swept away or destroyed what has stood the test of ages ; but he has ruthlessly swept away all menace to the healthy growth of manhood and promoted the progress of health by all means in his power.

Jamnagar, the capital of the State, was known as Nawanagar that is new city. But it has become a really new city during the last ten years and has excited the admiration of every one who has recently seen it. Lord Lloyd was so moved by it that he said : " I have always been confident that a ruler so enlightened as Your Highness would identify himself whole-heartedly with the interest of his subjects. And what I have seen in this your capital town is a sufficient assurance of the energy and wisdom which Your Highness is devoting to the amelioration of the condition of life of Your Highness's people. I candidly confess, however, that I am

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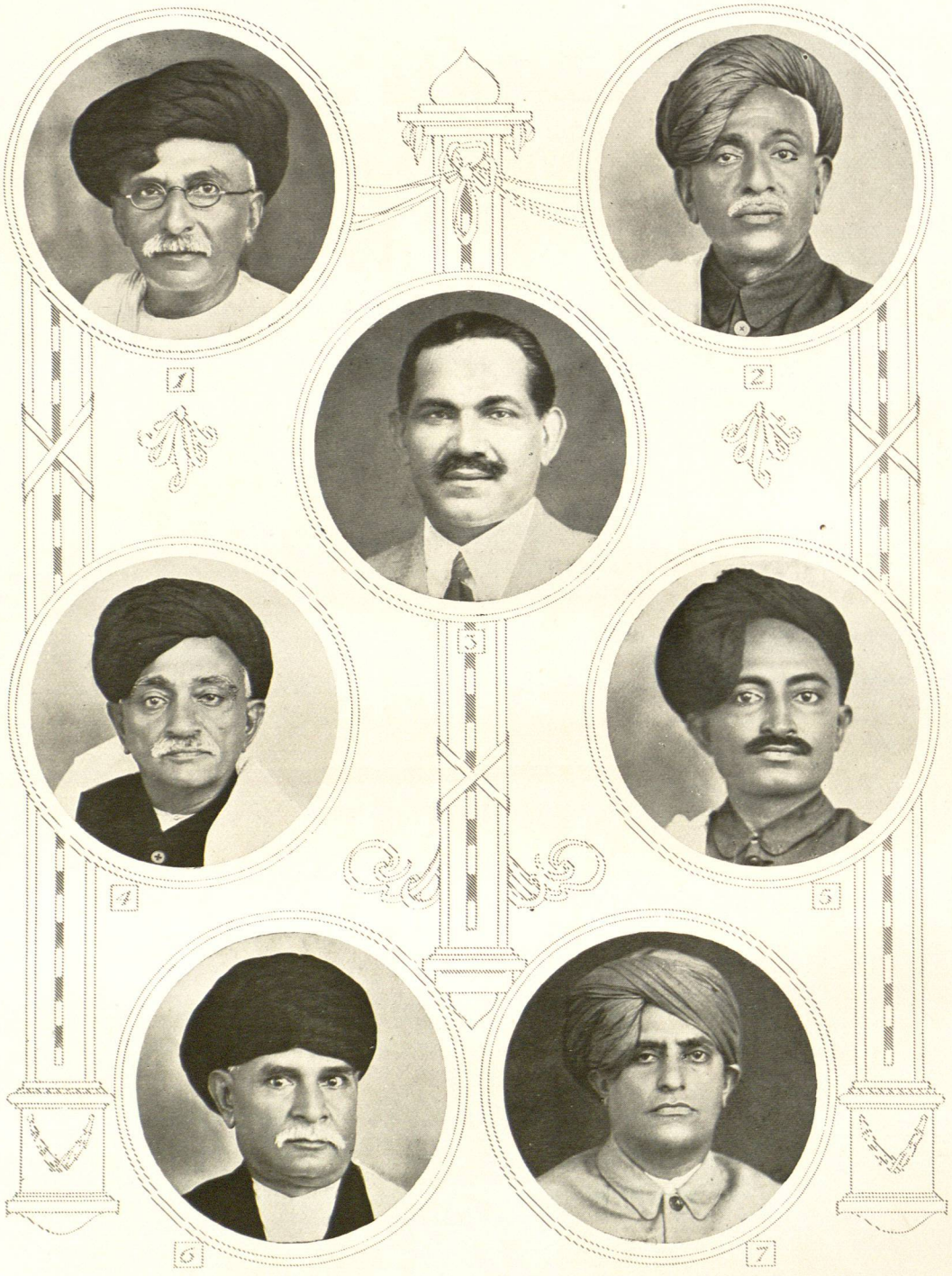
The Jain Temples in Jamnagar.



Kashi Visvanath Temple.

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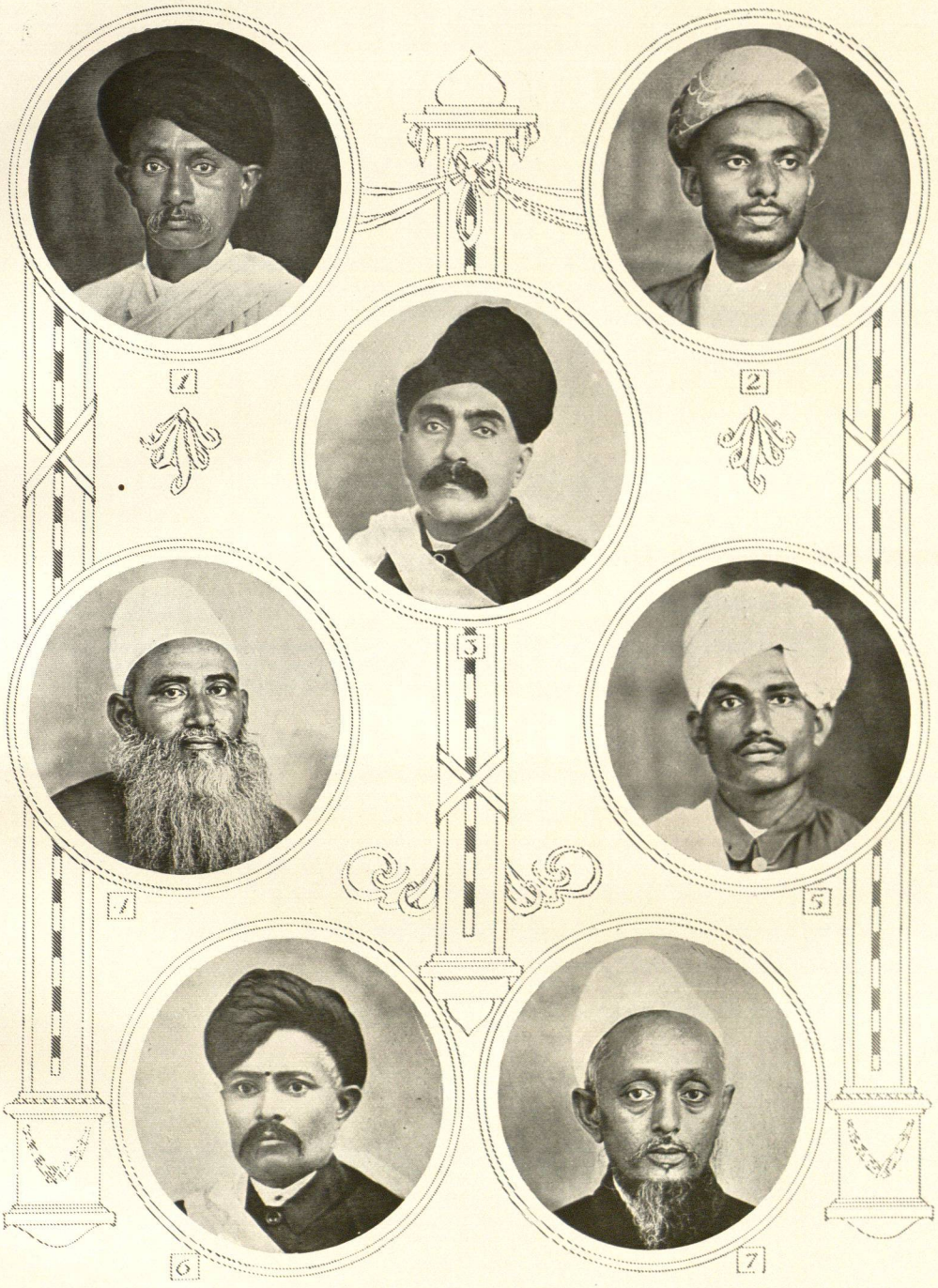
MERCHANTS WHO HAVE HELPED TO BUILD UP JAMNAGAR'S REVIVED TRADE.



1. Uttamchand Bhawan.
2. Valamji Khetsi.
3. Jhaveri Alibhai Ababhai.
4. Bhagwanji Nathoo.
5. Chhaganlal Bhanji.
6. Ismail Poonja.
7. Vaidshastri Shankerlal Manishanker Govindji.

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MERCHANTS WHO HAVE HELPED TO BUILD UP JAMNAGAR'S REVIVED TRADE.



1. Devraj Depa.
2. Bhukhabhai of Dawoodbhai Moosaji Makati Co.
3. Jhaveri Gokaldass Ravji.
4. Dawoodbhai Thavarbhai of Nazarali Dawoodbhai Co.
5. Shantilal Nagji of Mansukhlal Shantilal Co.
6. Motichand Champsi Dadia.
7. Mahomedbhai of Kadarbhai Mohomedbhai Co.

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surprised and delighted at what I have seen, and I can sincerely say that in no city in the Bombay Presidency has there been carried out so bold and so well considered a scheme of town planning as that which we have seen in Jamnagar. I congratulate Your Highness on having so skilfully preserved every good characteristic of an Indian town while eliminating from it the grave defects of congestion and bad sanitation which are so often blended with the picturesque. It is also a pleasure to see the beauty of Indian handicraft in stone and wood carvings so freely utilised, and Your Highness must indeed be pleased to feel that so much talent can be recruited from within Your Highness' State. Your Highness' firm determination to work out all these changes with the help of your own subjects and without the unsolicited and officious intervention of outside parties has my fullest sympathy."

At a gathering in honour of Sir George Lloyd, the Jam Saheb said : " Though much maligned as a class and bearing more than my portion of obloquy and bad name I am willing to be judged by my people in the light of solid achievements which we can point to and which we have secured by great co-operation and trust during the fifteen years of my rule of this State. I started with a revenue of about 22 lakhs, whereas the average of the last five years comes to Rs. 52,67,000. Succession of lean years and bad harvests, and occasional setbacks due to epidemics like plague and influenza have seriously interfered with our progress but this has not delayed the carrying out of wide improvements in the city, undertaken six years ago and now responsible for broad roads, new buildings and spots of recreation, which have visibly raised the sanitation and health of the city, and have provided healthier surroundings in place of congestion, familiar to those who saw us here ten years

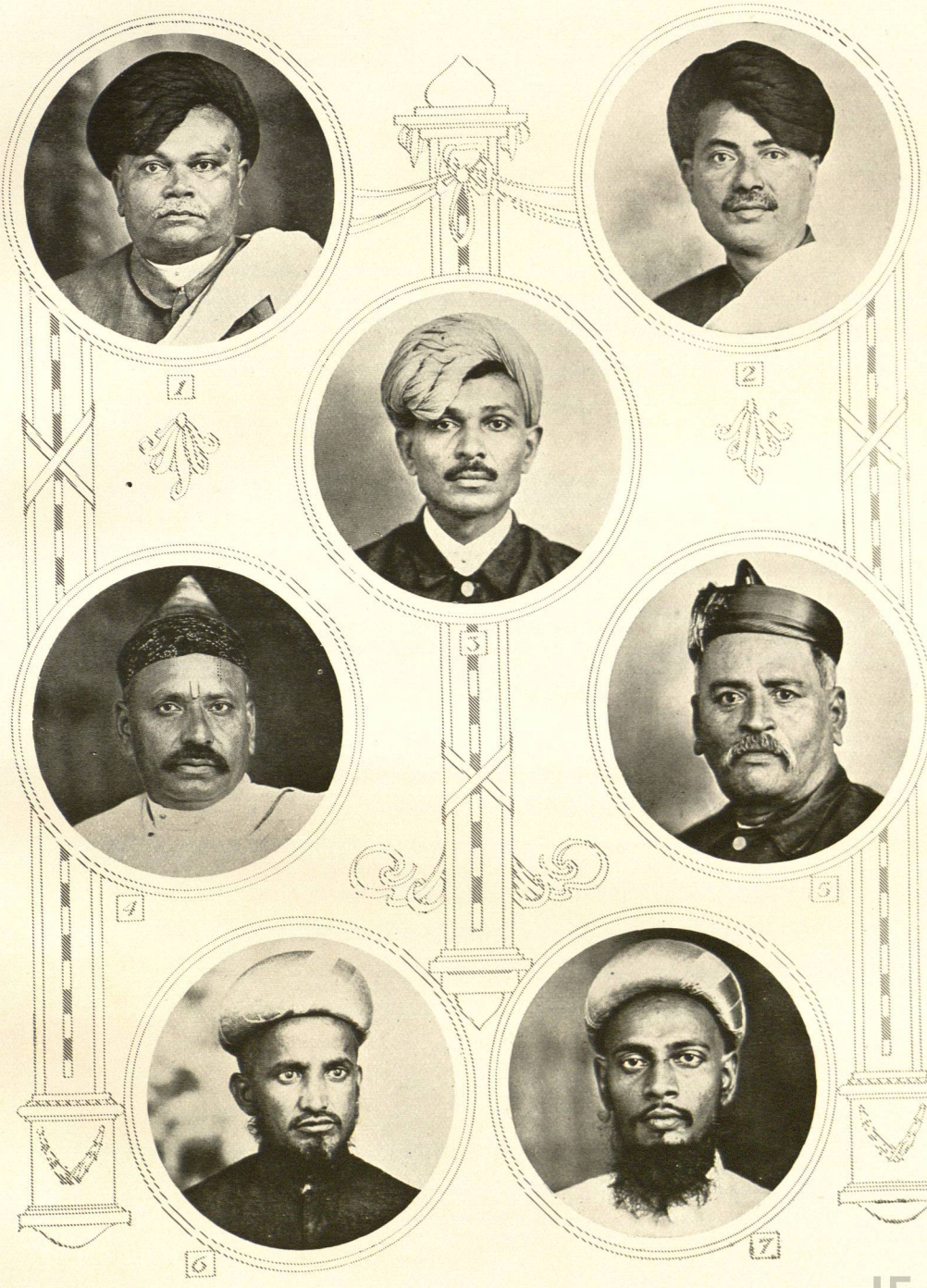
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ago." The modernisation of the town is seen in the aspect presented by well-kept broad roads outside the city, long avenues of trees, splendid buildings and palaces and fast growing gardens and parks and lawns which are a delightful feature of the new experiences of a visitor. Improvement in the city itself was beset with many difficulties. But it was taken in hand in right earnest and the heart of the city was relieved of congestion and broad arteries were opened out which converge on to the Willingdon Crescent in the centre of the city and carry light and life, where darkness and disease prevailed. Lines of shops have risen in long rows of trim gracefulness and wide road-steads flanked by clean pavements are running in the place of a conglomeration of old disorder which baffles description. But these improvements have taxed the Municipality and its resources. It requires more men, more lighting, more cleaning, more watering. The efforts of the Jam Saheb would have proved more successful but for the absence of civic sense and civic responsibility among the citizens. They showed little desire to assist and encourage the efforts that were made to render life in the city cleaner and healthier and surround it with amenities sufficiently attractive and cheerful. His Highness has always been anxious that the citizens should learn and begin to manage city affairs in co-operation with State agencies with patriotic pride, which must be the basis of all improvements of homes and hearths, if they are to be lasting and real.

In the past there were very few suitable buildings either for the use of the Rajkutumb or for the officials or State guests. The past few years have been one uninterrupted period of energetic operations on works of public utility and convenience, and works of a remunerative character. Suitable quarters have been constructed

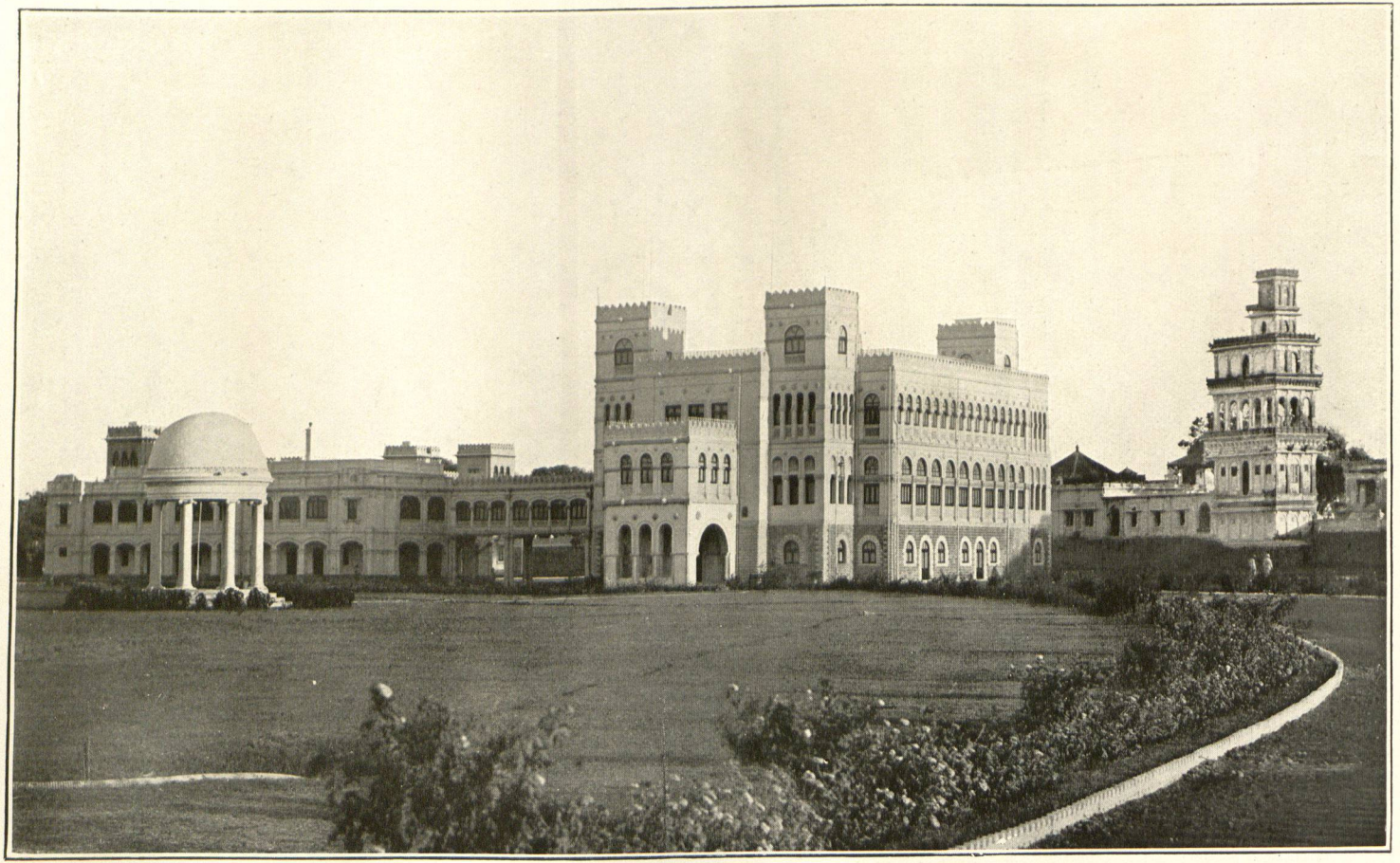
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MERCHANTS WHO HAVE HELPED TO BUILD UP JAMNAGAR'S REVIVED TRADE.



1. Tarachand Panachand Parekh.
2. Ladhabhai Dhanjibhai.
3. Jamnadass Bhanji Patel.
4. Madhavji Jetha of M. Padamshi Co.
5. Monji Panachand.
6. Noorbhai Hussenbhai of Hussenbhai Sullemanji Co.
7. Abdul Hussen Alibhai of Alibhai. Amirbhai Vejlani Co.

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Vibha Villas Palace.

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Pratap Villas Palace.

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for the residence of His Highness and members of the family. Various improvements have been introduced, having special regard to the latest hygienic principles, in the Jamnagar City ; several new roads have been constructed, and the existing communications in the city and mahals improved by means of better roads and telephone wires for administrative purposes ; greater conveniences and better facilities for passenger and goods traffic at the different ports have been provided ; landing places for passengers at Rozi, Jodya and Jhinjuda bunders constructed ; four new leading beacons have been put up at the Salaya bunder ; profitable reclamation and irrigation works have been completed in the Mahals and fresh irrigation projects of a remunerative character are being matured ; several new buildings for medical institutions have been constructed, while conveniences, on sanitary and scientific bases, have been provided in the old buildings ; new quarters for European and Indian guests have been provided and gardens and public parks have been laid out ; public places of recreation and grounds for out-door games have been provided : a motor garage and stables have been constructed ; a small zoo and aviary have been established ; several new roads with beautiful avenues of trees on both sides have been planned out and completed ; thousands of new trees are regularly planted throughout the State every year : the congested quarters of Jamnagar have been opened up and improved ; three new markets are under construction and lastly a new hill sanitorium at Kileshwar in the Barda has been established. The Railway to Dwarka with branches to some of the important ports forms one of the most valuable assets of the State.

These are some of the most important improvements effected within the period of seven years as a result of the strenuous

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XII.

VALOUR OF JADEJAS—HOW THEY SAVED KATHIAWAR FROM MAHOMEDAN INVADERS AND INTERNAL STRIFE—HEREDITARY LEADERSHIP—WHAT IS SWARAJ?—RULER'S DUTY—PROTECTION OF HIS PEOPLE—INJUNCTION OF LORD SHRI KRISHNA.

AN event of outstanding importance in the year 1918-19 has to be chronicled here. His Highness convened the first meeting of the Advisory Council on the 29th March 1919—"the Installation Day." In giving the *raison d'etre* of the institution, foreshadowed in the Darbar speech in September 1917, His Highness said in the Darbar held on the 29th March:—"I am about to inaugurate a measure regarding which I had made a public announcement in the past year. My leanings are towards introducing changes and reforms after consulting the feelings of the people and giving effect to them as far as possible. But there was no regulated and established means for the expression of these feelings and for popular consultation up to now. You know, ours is an agricultural country; and our welfare depends entirely on agricultural prosperity. For this reason I convene periodical meetings of the cultivators, and initiate discussions with them on agricultural problems and introduce measures, after thrashing out the *pros* and *cons* for their introduction, in such meetings. In the same manner, you are well aware that I came to a decision on important matters after meeting your leaders and holding deliberations with them.

"Swarajya is nothing new to us. It exists in our midst. In old times, our Empires were conversant with popular assemblies

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and our ancient Kings remained in touch with public opinion, by convening assemblies of selected councillors.

" The Emperor Asoka, who ruled India, larger territorially than even to-day, and whose regime marks the noontide of India's Imperial Sovereignty, used to convene an assembly of one thousand Elders, selected from among his subjects of all classes and drawn from all parts of his far-flung dominions and held discussions with them on public matters in his resplendent capital. This policy lapsed into abeyance as time advanced. I am making an humble effort in the same direction ; and in accordance with our time-honoured polity, I propose bringing into being, this evening, an institution whereby I can consult the leading people in my State on important matters."

His Highness then announced 57 appointments, of which 19 were allotted to officials, 19 to agriculturists and 19 to merchants, vakils and representatives of other professional and learned bodies. His Highness opened the proceedings of the Council that evening with the following notable speech : " As announced in the morning Darbar to-day, I am now performing an important function. I am opening an institution that will occupy a very important place in this State. You all, as members of this body, will have a valuable opportunity of rendering service not merely to myself but to the State also ; you will commence such labours immediately. I heartily welcome you all to this Council, and thank you for accepting the solemn duties and responsibilities of a councillor.

" Before explaining the constitution of this Council, I intend to address a few words to you on the historical connection of our family with the State of Nawanagar.

" About four hundred years ago, our ancestors won this country from Jethwas, Valas, Kathis and Vadhers by personal valour and

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The retreat of Mahomedan Army near Ahmedabad before the conquering hordes of the Jadeja Rajputs.



Jam Shree Rai Singhji's Army at war with Kutbuddin, a Governor of the Moghul Emperor.

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Jam Shree Sataji's victorious army in action near Buchar Mori.



Jam Shree Sataji's army which defeated Koka Azam, the Governor of the Moghul Emperor at Ahmedabad.

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bravery. Humayun was the second Emperor of the Mogul Line at the time and his viceroy in Gujerat, Sultan Bahadur, was so engrossed in affairs at home that Halar was suffering from the oppressive rule of several clans, fighting for supremacy. My ancestor Jam Shri Ravalji stepped in at this moment, saved the country by his valour, established a solid government and spread peace and security, where unrest and pillage prevailed and persisted. The Imperial seat of the Moguls was at a great distance. Their satraps in Gujerat were hardly free from domestic entanglements to look about ; and Kathiawar was ravaged by internal strifes and dissensions. In such times of general disorder and insecurity Jam Ravalji, Jam Sattarasalji and other valiant Rulers of Halar, kept their swords unsheathed in defence of their country and religion, suffered untold hardships, marshalled their resources against religious fanaticism, fought famous battles, like the Bhuchar Mori near Dhrol, sacrificed their heads and saved their country and their religion.

" Sources of acquisition are threefold ; you win a thing, you acquire it by purchase, or by gift. I leave you, gentlemen, to decide to which source of acquisition, we are indebted for our sovereignty in Halar. We all recognise that the principle of the popular voice having predominance in the governance of a country has waxed strong in the west ; circumstances are favourable there for the practical realisation of such a theory. Higher level of mass education, political training and municipal experience extending over centuries and other similar causes have contributed to the success of republican institutions in Europe. On the other hand, we have also seen the reverse side of the shield. We have had a realistic demonstration of the evils in a kingless country, so vividly described by Rishi Valmiki in our sacred book " The Ramayana,"

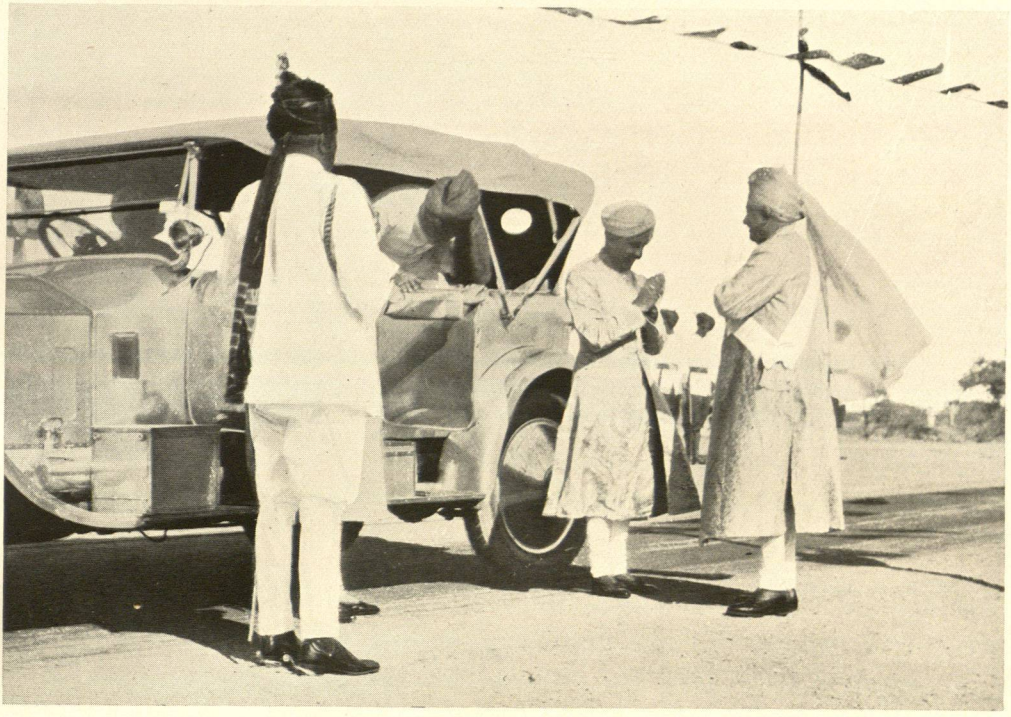
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in the anarchical horrors and bloodshed now being perpetrated in Russia, Germany, Austria and the Balkan States.

"In the orient, hereditary leadership of the Crown has been handed down to the present times from a hoary past. Rulers devoted to the welfare of their subjects and their country, and bearing their responsibilities with single-minded adherence to high ideals, are still held in great reverence and are even worshipped among us. Lord Shri Krishna has said in that sacred book, the Bhagwadgita "I dwell in a special measure in the Rulers of men." It is not for me to dilate on this subject. But it is to be remembered that we carry heavy responsibilities. We live in the British Empire and that Empire recognises and acknowledges hereditary kingship. We are bound by certain treaties and engagements with the Imperial Crown. In these circumstances, it is beyond my powers to transform Jamnagar into a republic. I will even go further, I conscientiously believe in the hereditary kingship from the beginning; that principle has been running in our blood for untold generations and as I said above I have firm faith in the creed. For these reasons also, I cannot act against my conviction and promote methods of undiluted democracy. If I am not much mistaken, a large majority of you, gentlemen, believe in the time-honoured cult of hereditary rulership. With me, it is a three-fold tie that binds me to the principle: (1) understanding, (2) nature and (3) rational inference. I also honour the sacred injunction of our Shastras, which asks men not to inhabit a place which possesses no ruler.

"I readily recognise that a government has its paramount duties and obligations: protection of the people, adoption of measures to make their lives happy, encouragement and help in their occupations and their general amelioration. So far as these objects are not

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The Jam Saheb receiving H. H. the Maharaja of Dholpur.



His Highness the Maharaja of Kapurthala who is standing in the centre performed the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the protective mall at Bedi Bandar.

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accomplished, we must admit our failure in the due discharge of our sacred functions. What is really essential is this : we must know the needs of the people and in all measures that we adopt for their protection and betterment, we should secure their concurrence and goodwill. With this object in view, I intended to establish an Advisory Council and it gives me great pleasure to inaugurate it to-day.

" There will be a two-fold appointment to this Council—official membership and non-official membership—tenable for three years. There will ordinarily be two sessions in the year, but the Council may meet oftener if necessary. The agenda of the work to be transacted at each session will be prepared by the Darbar and communicated to all members beforehand. The Council will deliberate on the matters laid before it and the President of the Council will submit to us the result of such deliberations. If there be matters, not on the agenda, regarding which any non-official member may desire to draw the attention of the Darbar and pray for redress, he will be at liberty to move a petition of redress regarding that matter. The President of the Council is empowered to receive such petitions, and it is provided that the official members will not be present when such motions are made. The President will submit such petitions to us ; and, if necessary, they will be laid before the next meeting for general discussion.

" We shall consider the recommendations and opinions of the Council with great sympathy ; they will receive our very careful attention. The decision, whether these recommendations and opinions can be adopted or not, will rest with us. It may not be possible for us to accept some views, for reasons of good government, law and order.

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" Let me inform you candidly that I do not desire to announce paper constitutions carrying high-sounding denominations like the ' Representative Assembly' ; that would be misleading the public and a dishonest endeavour to carry popular favour. I dislike any such sham. Our people are still backward in education. They have yet to learn and advance a good deal. In framing the constitution of this body, I have kept in mind the principle on which His Excellency the Viceroy convenes the Annual Conference of Ruling Princes. That distinguished assemblage includes members of various grades and types of intelligence and capacity. There is His Highness the Maharaja Saheb of Bikaner, who possesses surpassing intellectual attainments and brilliant ability and there are others who occupy lower rungs of the ladder. Similarly, we have before us members showing a wide divergence of ability and calibre. We cannot expect a uniform level of capacity here as elsewhere.

" For these reasons, I think it convenient to invite advice and opinion on public matters from councillors, carefully selected and nominated. Probably this body will occupy a position similar to that of the old Privy Council in England. Khan Bahadur Merwanji Pestonji will be the President and the three Secretaries will act as Vice-Presidents. I have nominated, at present, 15 official and 38 non-official members.

" I wish all success to this Council. I hope that its deliberations may be fruitful of good results for the welfare of the Ruler and the ruled."

Seth Lalji Naranji, as the leading non-official member, then addressed the Council, expressing the gratitude of the public of Nawanagar for the great step His Highness had taken towards

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consulting public opinion in matters of supreme importance and securing general goodwill and co-operation in measures affecting the well-being of the State and its subjects. Seth Lalji remarked :— " It is appropriate that the cultivators should possess so many seats in this Council. Their needs will be directly brought before this body and they will have many opportunities of getting their difficulties and troubles redressed and removed. The very circumstances that the non-official appointments are twice as many as official nominations, is a testimony of His Highness's desire to allow the expression of public opinion full scope and weight. This is in my opinion the first instance of an advisory body constituted on such a liberal basis in any Indian State." Colonel Tod, the author of the " Annals and Antiquities of Rajsthan " in the dedication to His late Majesty William IV said : " It has been my endeavour to draw a faithful picture of States, the ruling principle of which is the paternity of the Sovereign. That this patriarchal form is the best suited to the genius of the people, may be presumed from its durability which war, famine and anarchy have failed to destroy." In spite of long lapse of time the statement of Colonel Tod stands good to-day. The heart of the people of Jamnagar has always gone out and remained loyal to the hereditary dynasty and they have adhered to their rulers in good as well as evil fortune, ready to sacrifice themselves in the defence of their rulers.

FORMATION OF ADVISORY COUNCIL—CONCEPTION OF DEMOCRACY.

An interesting function took place in Jamnagar on the occasion of the visit of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb of Alwar in May 1919. The foundation ceremony of the Jay-Mandir or Council Hall was performed by the distinguished guest at the request of

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His Highness who in indicating the need of such a building outlined the scope and purpose of the Advisory Council. His Highness said : " I will briefly indicate the constitution of the Advisory Council. I would begin by informing Your Highness that we do not belong to a school that idolizes democracy for democracy's sake, and leaves but a thin line between anarchy and all-men rule. I know Your Highness is an ardent advocate of popular rule in the sense that weighty, stable and reasoned public opinion should be at the back of strong, beneficient, paternal government. Dasaratha and Yuddhisthira ruled as autocrats, but who would say that they flouted public opinion or spurned weighty counsel at any time. Sensibility to such opinion was at times carried to an incredible pitch, as when we see Shree Ramchandraji forsaking his queen because an isolated rumour took liberties with her pure name. Even in later times our Emperors convened assemblies of carefully selected elders whose opinion was sought in consultative gatherings regularly called and conducted. Asoka's Council of one thousand elders is an instance.

" With such patterns before us, it is not difficult to work out a constitution that aims at securing the representation and advice of such interests as are stable, sound and trustworthy, intellectually, commercially and otherwise."

His Highness did a distinct service to the members of his order and to the people of Indian States by defining the attitude of his State towards democracy and by frankly and courageously stating the administrative policy he had determined to pursue in the interests of his subjects. In 1924 an American professor contributed an illuminating article in the Yale Review in which he submitted that he did not believe that the discontent of intelligentsia would be allayed by democracy in larger and yet larger doses. To him the

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Indian mind possesses peculiar characteristics, which do not fit it for the rough and illogical methods by which alone democratic institutions have worked in the West. With this idea in his mind the Professor turns his eyes from the clamorous politics of British India to a part of the country where he can find indigenous political institutions at work, namely, the Indian States. He is under no illusion as to the excellence of their government ; indeed he considers that they are considerably less efficient than the British authorities. But their administrative works, and most significant of all, it is liked by their subjects. This fact would be remarkably enough if it stood alone ; but it does not. The Government of an Indian State may with popularity take measures which would cause a revolution in British India. What is the cause of this remarkable difference ? Why can an Indian Prince take the steed out of the stable, when the British Government may not even look over the wall ? Professor Buck finds the explanation in the characteristics of the two systems of administration. He stoutly maintains that India understands one kind of rule and one only : the rule of the person rather than the rule of the machine. A Maharaja is able to do the most amazing things : first because he does them himself, and secondly because he is the father of his people, who have direct access to him. Personal rule, that to this American observer, is the secret of the Indian States. On the contrary, he sees in British India the rule of a system and of a machine. A highly efficient and admirably upright machine ; but a machine all the same. This gives little scope for the encouragement of that personal loyalty which is still the strongest nexus in Indian public and private relationship. And every day the machine gets more mechanical as unceasing time and energy are expended on the task of making it

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sufficiently foolproof to be entrusted to inexperienced hands. Its character will not be essentially altered merely by substituting indigenous parts for those foreign manufacture. What needs to be changed is its mechanical nature. In other words, British India should take a leaf from the book of the Indian States ; and her rulers should, as in the days of John Company, get more closely in touch with the people. The complicated mechanism of Government instead of being allowed to grow more complex, as is inevitable under attempts to make it more democratic, should be simplified. In short, the scheme of governing India upon Western lines is not what India wants. What she does want, as it seems to this American Professor, is government of a personal kind. He has no readymade panacea in his pocket ; but he urges strongly the necessity of a new orientation between Government and the governed. Coming from a detached observer, his ideas are in solving India's political problem, unlikely to afford much practical assistance, interesting though they are.

In commenting upon the article, the *Pioneer* of Allahabad pointed out that " it is too late to put back the clock, fascinating as we have found Mr. Buck's speculation, we remain unshaken in our conviction that India's progress towards self-government lies along the pathway marked out for her by the Reforms." While this is true of British idea, it is equally true that the progress of Indian States depends on the personal rule which is the only recognised form of Government from prehistoric times and on which the safety of the State and society depends. The Jam Saheb's speech which reflects the ideas and ideals of progressive Princes must set at rest the speculation that is rife as to the position of Indian Princes in relation to the constitutional reforms in India.

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His Highness the Maharaja of Danta.



His Highness the Thakore Saheb of Palitana.

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XIII.

Western Culture and New School of Thought.—Creation of Wealth.—A Great Problem.

PHOCIAN once said of the speeches of Demosthenes that they were like cypress trees, tall and comely, but they bore no fruit. This was true (with some notable exceptions) of Indian Princes—stately and picturesque, but indolent and irresponsible until the new school of thought came into being as a result of Western culture, which produced eminent, enlightened and liberal rulers like the Maharaja of Mysore, the Maharaja of Baroda, the Maharaja of Bikaner and the Maharaja of Patiala. The princes belonging to the new school of thought have a clearer conception of their duties. The drawbacks of absolute power in the hands of a selfish or incompetent prince are obvious; on the other hand its advantages and opportunities are infinite, if benevolence and unselfishness be its guide. First of all they regard that the immediate problem to be tackled is in essence economic. Equally important is the task of social reconstruction and the strengthening of the nation-building departments. But the problem of problems is the creation of new wealth to meet the ever-growing demands in a progressive State. How is it to be done? In this essential particular the Jam Saheb has shown that he is the master of his craft and the manner in which he has tapped new resources without adding to the burden of the people commands our admiration. Old industries which were dying have been revived, new ones have been created, employment is plentiful and wages remunerative owing to the development of

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ports and railways. The Jam Saheb saw that the population cannot exist only on agriculture in a country where rainfall is precarious. The agriculturists had lost all stamina, and the population was emigrating to industrial areas in British territory. It was to prevent this and to bring prosperity to his people that he embarked upon a programme of development of the State on healthy lines. The British Government should regard this performance with pride as there could be no better tribute to the success of their own system than that it has found so worthy a disciple. There is cause for abundant rejoicings at the marvellous stride of progress achieved in Jamnagar which prove that the triumphs of peace are no less than the triumphs of war. The secret of his phenomenal success is that he threw the whole weight and applied the full vigour of his fertile mind to achieve development at minimum of cost and derived maximum of profit. Among the pleasing features of these great undertakings is the fact that the cost did not exceed the estimate and British experts and British engineers should take a leaf out of the book of the Jam Saheb who has erected the works of great magnitude in a short span of time and at a cost which compares favourably with the cost in British India. The Jam Saheb had this advantage that he could plan and undertake his works without reference to the obstructionist party in the Assembly who, as Lord Reading remarked at Jamnagar, threw out the Budget for public works and public safety as if they could manage without the things. It is not unnatural to expect that the Government of India should encourage the State in the laudable efforts of its ruler to promote the progress and prosperity of his people.

One of the most urgent problems of any State in India is that of the organisation and development of its industries. With the

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His Highness Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwar of Baroda, a most enlightened and liberal Maratha Ruler.

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exception of a few States like Mysore, Gwalior and Baroda, the Indian States have not generally adapted themselves to the changed situation owing either to inadequate resources or the lack of imagination or opportunity. The Government of India have created a Commerce and Industries Department; they have accepted and applied the principle of protection in the steel and iron and paper industries. But what of the Indian States? The bulk of the population is rooted on the land. Successive famines have crippled them. Plague and famine have left deep marks on their national life. The magnitude of the calamity which befalls India when the rains fail can be imagined from the fact recorded in history of old "the highways were full of dead bodies" and "the flesh of a son was preferred to his love." In modern times these horrors are mitigated in British India but in the Indian States, owing to there being no organised system of famine relief, the evils of drought are intensified. The only working capital of the exhausted and enfeebled agriculturists is cattle and its devastation makes them helpless for years.

The obligation of famine relief on an extended scale has been brought home to Indian States in recent times; but even now, when they accept that obligation, they are handicapped by the lack of administrative staff and the poverty of their financial resources. The Jam Saheb has been made painfully familiar with the necessity of enlarging the resources of the State by the development of industries. By his sacrifices in the war, by his constant loyalty to the King-Emperor and by his enlightened rule and progressive ideas he has established a claim on the support of British Government in attempting to achieve that end. He considers any delay in the development of his State that will give him the means of affording relief to his people in the time of terrible visitations as a crime

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against his present subjects and future generations. The ever-growing recognition of the need for developing his industries is always present to his mind ; but he lacks the sinews of war. One may rest sure that in his case " thoughts have gone forth whose power can sleep no more." He is doing his best—and with no little success—that his State should take its place in the economic life of the country which is in the early stage of industrial expansion as without it the material progress of his State is impossible of achievement. So far agriculture has been the main industry in Indian States. His Highness the Aga Khan has shown in his admirable volume " India in Transition," that so far as one could foresee, the exploitation of the surface of the soil must remain the predominating feature of India's economic life far surpassing all other activities in importance. This applies more pertinently to Indian States where one of the difficulties of improving agriculture has been the lack of capital. As Mr. Rushbrook Williams has pointed out somewhere, India to-day provides an apt illustration of the truth of the dictum that the destruction of the poor man is his poverty, and that while agriculture is the foundation of all other industries in India it is painfully undercapitalised. In British India ameliorative agencies are already at work, but in Indian States everything depends upon their resources. The Jam Saheb has been trying to place the agriculture in his State on a scientific footing so as to enable it to bear its economic burden. Improved seed, improved implements and improved methods have been provided for his people. The Jam Saheb has made a survey of the industrial potentialities of the State and decided upon a programme of industrial development as the funds permit. Once it is recognised that industries in Jamnagar furnish a field for the employment of capital it is bound to attract the attention of outside

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capitalists. At present there are ten ginning factories and two cotton presses in the State and a cotton spinning and weaving mill is under contemplation. The cultivation of cotton is receiving attention and experiments for the growth of " Spence " cotton have been so far very successful. Forestry and fruit-growing and other subsidiary industries have also been taken in hand and promise good results.

There are about 40 oyster rocks forming pearl fisheries in the State off the coast on the northern portion of the State in the Gulf of Cutch. Valuable pearls of all sizes are obtainable from these oyster beds. Besides, smaller varieties of pearls designated "Kansara pearls" which are mostly used for medicinal purposes are also found in shells buried in silt and lying on the bed near Pindara and Rozi. The State has now taken in hand the development of pearl fisheries and the results will be watched with interest by the public.

All other industries are still in their infancy; and owing to financial handicap the progress must be slow. People are often in this hustling age inclined to lament the slowness of the growth of advanced ideas in Indian States. But looking back on the history of Jamnagar during the last 20 years, and the innumerable difficulties it had to encounter, firstly owing to bad legacy, secondly owing to frequent, natural calamities and thirdly owing to the strain of the war, it must be admitted that Jamnagar is growing much faster than any other State in the Bombay Presidency. The Jam Saheb feels that there is no service to the country greater than to break down the barriers of poverty and ignorance and to help the people to attain a higher standard of living and enlightenment. To that task he has devoted himself with singleness of aim and he looks to the future with assured confidence that Jamnagar will every year

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become a stronger, a wealthier and a brighter place, and that it will continue to play a more splendid and patriotic part of an even greater British Empire of the future.

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XIV.

Irrigation in Jamnagar—The Ganga Sagar Tank.

THERE is not a single feasible measure of administrative reform or important development tending to the increase in the revenue, or touching the welfare of his people, which has escaped the notice of the Jam Saheb. His far-seeing urban policy created the modern Jamnagar and there is to his credit the construction of two important works for irrigation purposes, as well as for the supply of drinking water to the city. The first scheme was inaugurated in 1910 by Sir George Clarke (now Lord Sydenham), the then Governor of Bombay. It formed one of the most important of the many schemes of public utility which the Jam Saheb took in hand. The Vijarkhi tank has an area of 493 acres and was built a few years ago at a cost of very nearly three lakhs. The weir has been raised to increase the capacity of the tank by a hundred million cubic feet. At 6½ miles from the tank and about 12 miles from Jamnagar, near the village of Bhalsan-Mota, on the river Nani Fulzar, there is a narrow gorge in the river about 800 feet wide. A reservoir has been now formed there by building a masonry weir. This reservoir feeds the Vijarkhi tank and also forms an independent reservoir sufficient to supply water for irrigating about 1,823 acres of land. The whole scheme of the new Bhalsan tank, together with the cost of raising the weir of the Vijarkhi tank, has to cost about Rs. 3,50,929. The whole of the water in both the Vijarkhi and Bhalsan tanks if applied to irrigation

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purposes alone would be sufficient to irrigate an area of 3,571 acres, *i.e.*, 1,748 by the Vijarkhi and 1,823 by the Bhalsan tank on the basis of 1,000,000 feet of water per acre per crop. Another useful water-work was inaugurated by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb of Bikaner on the occasion of his visit to Jamnagar. In February 1919, at the special invitation of the Jam Saheb the Maharaja of Bikaner, who had just returned from Paris where he attended the Peace Conference as a representative Indian Prince, visited Jamnagar as the Jam Saheb desired to mark the appreciation of His Highness' brilliant services to the country and to his Order giving by him a fitting reception in his capital. In this His Highness was assisted by Their Highnesses of Porbandar, Dhrangadhra and Wankaner, the Thakore Saheb of Pithadia, who all went to Jamnagar specially for the occasion.

The Ganga Sagar tank and water-works, which the Maharaja Saheb of Bikaner inaugurated and which is named after him, comprises a big scheme of irrigation and the supply of drinking water. In explaining the scheme, the Jam Saheb expressed his gratitude to the Maharaja of Bikaner for consenting to initiate the construction of an extensive tank that would serve a wide expanse of cultivable land and provide much-needed water-works for the city of Jamnagar. The city was depending upon a limited supply, provided 35 years ago from storage wells, which was not sufficient for the growing needs and sanitary requirements of its expanding population. Addressing the Maharaja of Bikaner, the Jam Saheb said: "Your Highness has allowed the association of your great and auspicious name, with the project now to be inaugurated. It is a blessed and sacred name in itself. Your Highness has lent to it the lustre of enduring fame, by acts and achievements, which it would take many pages and many

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His Highness Maharana Natwarsinhji, K.C.S.I., of Porbandar, belongs to the most ancient House of Rajput conquerors of Kathiawar. As Lord Irwin remarked in his speech at Porbandar His Highness is justifying the famous trust by a policy of progress and improvement in his State.

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HIS HIGHNESS THAKORE SAHEB DAULATSINHJI OF LIMBDI,

who was popularly known as Col. Dadba before he inherited the gadi of Limbdi, rendered very valuable services to Jamnagar and Porbandar in connexion with the Port rights of the States. He has proved himself to be a liberal leader.

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His Highness The Raj Saheb of Wankaner, who rendered valuable services to the Imperial Government during the war.

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The Thakore Saheb of Wadhwan.

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hours to relate and I will not embarrass Your Highness with the recital of a proud record, which is so recent and so widely known that the recital would be an unnecessary repetition. Your Highness has brought prosperity to your noble and great State, of which it has yet but seen the dawn and an early rising : so that Your Highness' name beloved of us for many reasons spells, and is a synonym for growing prosperity and success. That such an auspicious name will be coupled with a scheme of enduring utility to my capital and its adjoining lands is a happy augury for its ultimate success, and I cannot be too grateful to Your Highness for the kind permission which will enable us to bring into existence ' The Ganga Sagar Tank and Water Works.' "

" Some description of the work is necessary. The present site is not more than seven miles away from Jamnagar : it is thus conveniently adjacent ; the river bed is rocky, the bank firm, and the basin is retentive. It is proposed to form the tank by bunding up the river Nagmati by means of a masonry dam with wide earthen flank embankment. The range of low hills running parallel to the river will form side bunds, thus enclosing an extensive basin of flat land. The catchment area is about 106 square miles in extent ; and the storage capacity of the tank about 980 million cubic feet, so that the tank, when ready, will be the largest of its kind in Kathiawar. Of the 980 million cubic feet of water, about 164 millions will be used up in providing drinking water to Jamnagar which will leave about 816 million cubic feet for irrigation purpose. This quantity of water will serve about thirteen thousand acres of land annually.

The cost of the whole scheme was estimated at 15 lakhs of rupees approximately, of which about six lakhs and-a-half were

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allotted to the construction of water-works for supplying drinking water to the city of Jamnagar. These two water schemes conceived in the best interests of the people afford testimony to the remarkable spirit animating the Jam Saheb for moderning the State, promoting the prosperity of the agriculturists and improving the sanitary condition in the urban area ; and they form an enduring monument of his efforts for the welfare of his people.

The State pays sustained attention to irrigation and reclamation subject and dams and bunds are progressing to completion in various places. The Mewasa bund is fast approaching completion and the reclamation works at Balambha and Shampur which are extensive are progressing satisfactorily. The work of constructing the dams at the Ganga Sagar tank is also progressing rapidly.

Besides the State undertakings, philanthropic merchants are also doing what they can to construct water-works for the benefit of the public. An instance of this kind is furnished by Salaya, which received in 1924 the gift of a system of water-works constructed by Seth Vithaldas Liladhar, who built a well near the river bed about a mile from Salaya and put up a pucca reservoir with a capacity to hold 30,000 gallons of water. The works are called " The Liladhar Bhimji Water-Works." The work cost him about Rs. 60,000. This work is handed over to the Salaya municipality for management. The annual expenditure for maintaining the water-works is Rs. 3,534 and is borne by the State.

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His Highness the Nawab of Bhopal,
an earnest worker in the cause of Hindu-Moslem unity.

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PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS TO THE JAM SAHEB.

The presence of the several Ruling Princes in Jamnagar on that occasion was seized upon by the citizens of Jamnagar, who insisted on the Jam Saheb accepting a public address of congratulations from them on his receiving the eminent distinction of Knighthood of the Grand Cross of the British Empire. While deeply appreciating the high value of this distinguished honour from the Sovereign, His Highness was naturally reluctant to be the centre of a public function got up in that connection, but the citizens would take no refusal this time ; the ceremony of presenting the address took place on the 18th February in the presence of the illustrious guests.

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XV.

A Torch-bearer of Enlightened Progress.

IT has been said that the history of civilisation is the history of roads. The pioneers of civilised society were distinguished from their contemporaries by the attention which they gave to the building of good means of communication and transport, the road-makers were the torch-bearers of enlightened progress, since civilizing influence followed in their wake. For a time railways eclipsed roads, but the eclipse was only temporary and with the development of motor transport the pendulum has swung back again in those countries where the road system is most highly organised. In Jamnagar State, there were no means of communication and there were no funds to construct roads. But if funds were to be made available His Highness recognised that the country should be developed by the construction of new roads and to this he directed his energies and built as many roads as he could and introduced motor services and provided facilities for the removal of grain and other products to the ports and railway stations. The last few years have seen the opening of a new era of active and systematic road construction and improvement and what is more important of concise and systematic plan. In the administration report of the State for the year 1925 the following statement appears :—

The mileage of district roads has increased from 128 in 1918 to 226 in 1926 entailing a capital expenditure of 6½ lakhs and the corresponding increase in the annual maintenance charge.

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With the changed conditions of traffic, its routes, kind and quality due to the ever increasing mileage of railways, such repairs as render the highways reasonably passable at all seasons is what is aimed at. Slopes are eased off, and causeways built across the large rivers and nallas interspersing. Considering the short duration of floods and the kind and importance of traffic, large high level costly bridges are not now a necessity. In such cases a highway may conveniently and economically be deducted for the fair weather period of the year only.

A circumstance unhappy in itself—that of consecutive lean years—inasmuch as it made it easier and possible to do the foundation works has given stimulus to the intensive construction work of a large number of causeways across river and nalla crossing. Wooden needles were provided on the upstream side and now water is stored and overflooded on top of causeways. Thus they would serve the purpose of good river crossings for the road traffic besides serving greatly to improve agriculture in the neighbourhood and provide pleasant spots of interesting scenic beauty to the weary traveller.

Roads are utilitarian things, their object being to enable persons and goods to be transported from place to place. With this end in view bold far-reaching road schemes of two great roads to Samana 30 miles and Killeshwar 56 miles and also one bed motor road of 12 miles are recently completed. The former joining up sanitarium at Dholi Vao and the Ganga Sagar with Jamnagar connects up 8 villages and passes through large grass growing tracts and limestone quarries. The latter while joining up the important Mahals of Lalpur, Bhanwad and Jam Jodhpur with each other and with Jamnagar, connects up 15 villages and brings the road to

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many more at no distance, brings the Barda hills and the ruins of Ghoomli within easy reach of the sportsman and lover of nature and of the antiquarian and historian respectively.

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Thakore Saheb Shree Hamirsinhji Saheb of Kharedi, Virpur State (Kathiawar).



His Highness the Thakore Saheb of Rajkot.



His Highness the Thakore Saheb of Gondal, G.C.I.E., LL.D., M.R.C.P.

The Rulers of Gondal, Rajkot, Dhrol and Virpur have descended in direct line from the Jadeja rulers of Nawanagar.

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XVI.

Railway Development.

THE State has a shorter mileage of railroad than the changed conditions and economic development of the State demand. The total mileage at present is 121 miles and a further extension is laid down and will be carried out as soon as sanction is received from Government. It was Lord Harris who turned the first sod of the Jamnagar-Rajkot Railway in the year 1893. That Railway has added greatly to the facilities of communication. It is now paying a handsome dividend on the capital cost of Rs. 23,26,826 besides conferring other indirect advantages to the State. An extension of this line to Salaya was under contemplation some years ago, but the scheme was not executed owing to the famines of 1899-1900. The present ruler was keenly bent on carrying out the useful scheme and the first sod of the Dwarka Railway was cut by Sir George Clarke in January, 1910. The Government of His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda desired that their outlying territory of Okhamandal should be connected by a railway line with the rest of Kathiawar. A most powerful incentive to the fulfilment of that desire was the location there of Dwarka which is one of the most venerable shrines in India. Hundreds of thousands of pilgrims visit the shrine every year and the construction of a line from Jamnagar to Dwarka *via* Khambhalia with a branch to Salaya has thus the double advantage of opening up a faraway outlying country and affording facilities to this vast army of pilgrims yearly visiting the sacred shrines. The subjects of

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Jamnagar are noted for a spirit of commercial enterprise which makes them seek their fortunes in Bombay and elsewhere in the British dominions as they find only a limited scope within the Jam's territory. On the route of this line there are Khambhalia and other cities of importance to which many of these enterprising merchants belong and it is a great boon to them to have the conveyance of a railway. Having regard to all these considerations His Highness decided to have the Jamnagar-Dwarka Railway *via* Khambhalia, Bhatia and Madhi. Salaya is 8 miles from Khambhalia. It is a good and safe port, capable of being turned into an excellent harbour and hence the importance of a branch to Salaya connecting it with this railway at Khambhalia. His Highness entertains the idea of gradually connecting his interior mahals or talukas with his ports by good roads as his finances may permit in the future. This will materially add to the utility of the new line. The Jamnagar-Dwarka line with a branch to Salaya is over a hundred miles of which about 79 miles are in Jamnagar's territory. It passes through several of the important mahals of the State, *viz.*, Padana, Khambhalia and Bhatia.

The total gross earnings of the railway during the year ended 31st March 1926 amounted to Rs. 6,97,920 against Rs. 6,22,181 in the previous year. The working expenses amounted to Rs. 4,04,835 or Rs. 1,941 less than in the previous year. The net earnings were Rs. 2,93,085 against Rs. 2,15,405, *i.e.*, Rs. 77,680 more than the previous year and gave a net return of 9·07 per cent. on the capital outlay including suspense. The Jamnagar-Dwarka Railway from Jamnagar to Kuranga with the opening of the Okhamandal Railway gives through connection to the sacred shrine of Dwarka. The whole line is under joint management by a Board on which are

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represented the Baroda State, the Nawanagar State and the Jamnagar-Dwarka Railway Company.

The line is worked by the Manager and Engineer-in-Chief of the Jamnagar State Railway and his staff. The three railways forming the joint system are :—

The old Jamnagar Railway from Rajkot to Bedi .. 55 miles
Jamnagar-Dwarka Railway from Jamnagar to Kuranga 66½ miles
The Okhamandal Railway from Kuranga to Adatra .. 37½ miles

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XVII.

Developing Industries and Banking.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH RAJ SAHEB OF DHRANGADHRA honoured Jamnagar with a visit in June 1919 and laid the foundation stone of the building which is designed for the Central Bank. When requesting His Highness to perform this ceremony, His Highness the Maharajah Jam Saheb said: "It would be like gilding the moon, were I to give a retrospect of the close and cordial relations that have bound the Ruling Houses of Dhrangadhra and Nawanagar, for generations in the past. Sharing of common dangers, united front and fellowship against a foe, prompt succours in fields of battle, as also delightful connections by marriage and friendship have helped to endear and entwine the two families in a striking manner. Your Highness, as the brilliant representative of such a family, you are very dear to us. Further, Your Highness is my esteemed nephew, and Your Highness bears an auspicious name, that will bless and consecrate the 'Ghanshyamsinhji Central Bank of Jamnagar'. There is still another reason why the present ceremony is specially auspicious. Your Highness has done wonders in developing the material side of the prosperity of Dhrangadhra, since Your Highness' accession to the throne, and our Bank will have, at its nativity, the blessings of a beloved name, as well as a fortunate hand to help it at its birth. The Bank will be a very strong building, with well secured rooms and iron boxes, to hold deposits from the people. It will accept deposits, and make advances on sound business lines and will be a helpful factor for developing industries

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H. H. MAHARAJA GHANASHYAMSINHJI OF DHRANGADHRA
who has started a great alkaline industry in his State. He is the first to start such an important industry on such a gigantic scale in India.

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and trade in the city. It will have to be started as a State institution, but my desire is that, it should be taken over by the citizens, after it has attained sufficient popularity and earned the confidence of the people".

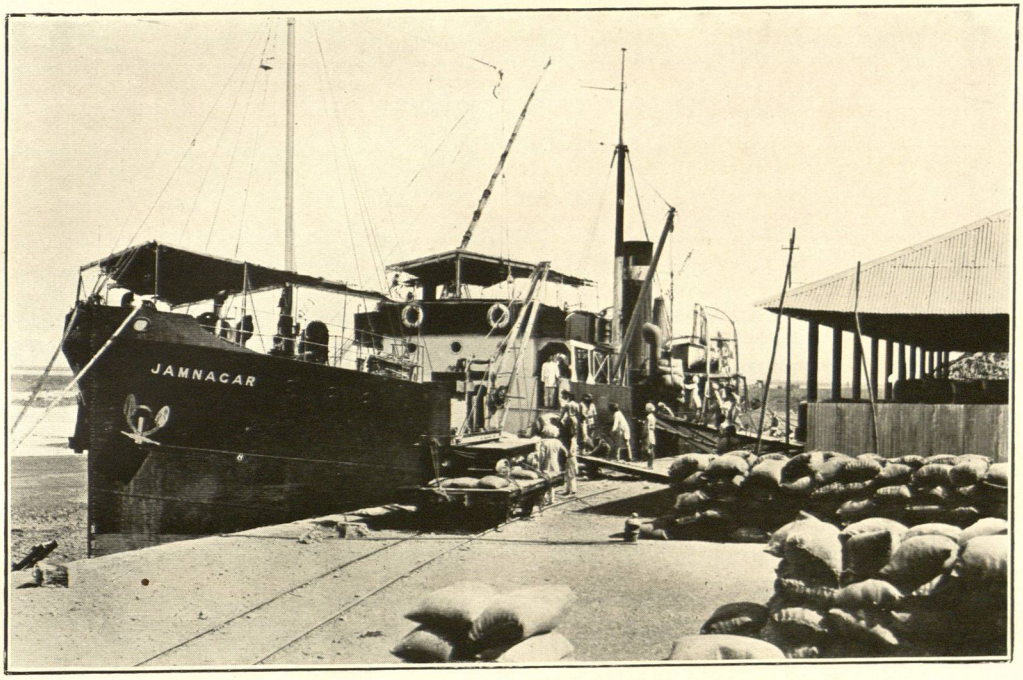
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XVIII.

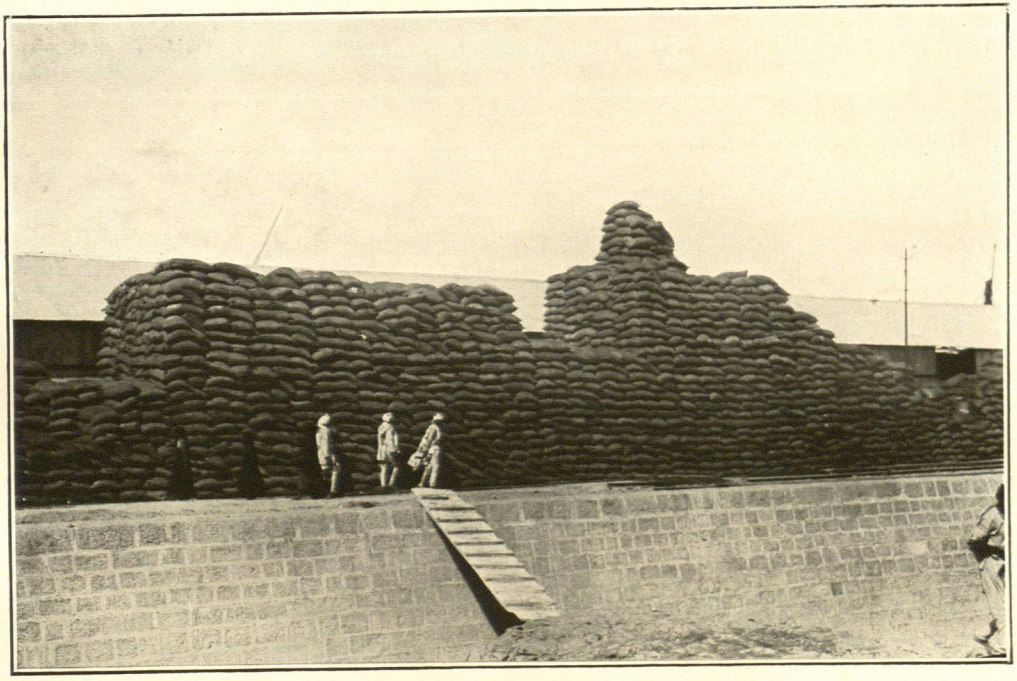
Revision of Customs Tariff.—Abolition and Re-imposition of Viramgam Customs Line.—A Blow to Economic Condition of Kathiawar.

ONE question that for long agitated the minds of the Princes of Kathiawar was the customs barrier at Viramgam which was imposed in 1905. It was the cause of great heart-burning between the Paramount Power and the maritime States of Kathiawar and there was naturally great indignation among the States at the action of the Government in imposing it. Its injustice became more obvious and pronounced during the war when it was absolutely necessary to preserve harmonious relations between the Government and the States. The Jam Saheb applied his mind to the solution of this vexed question and it was through his persistent efforts that this constant cause of irritation was removed. With a view to facilitate its solution, the first step His Highness took was the revision of the customs tariff in his State so as to maintain it on an equal level with that obtaining in British India. This was done with a view to safeguard Imperial interests in the hope that every maritime State would also show a similar readiness to protect Imperial customs revenues. The Customs tariff was revised during the year 1916-17 and rates similar to those obtaining in British Indian ports were introduced from the 1st of August, 1916. Competition of a peculiar nature then developed in the province and affected the economic position of the various States and the network of railways that leads to the important ports in the province. Facilities of transmission

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The Chief Port of Jamnagar, Bedi Bundar, which has lately come into prominence owing to its rivalry with Bombay and Karachi.



A Mound of Sugar bags at Bedi Bundar, illustrating the plentiful trade of the Port.

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led to a general desire to attract trade which did not fall within the legitimate local sphere and there ensured a lowering of customs which passed on to lower gradients as each distant market was captured and ambition egged on to further annexations. This race, equivocal in character and prejudicial economically, had to be arrested and an experimental adoption of a higher tariff based on British Indian rates was decided upon in July, 1916. The preamble to the new Act explains the object of this policy. It may be reproduced here :

" Whereas it is expedient to revise the tariff rates existing at present on seaborne and other trade, import as well as export, because (1) the tariff of import duty at seaports of Nawanagar is much below the rate obtaining at British Indian ports, with a view therefore of removing the misconception that may have prevailed about the readiness of the maritime States to adopt measures calculated to protect Imperial Customs and revenue, H. H. the Maharaja Jam Saheb has directed the raising of customs rates and maintaining them on an equality with those obtaining in British India, with the exception of duty on certain articles, useful for local and indigenous industries, which need protection, from competition with outside manufacturers, owing to existence of the customs barrier at Viramgam and have obtained a fame throughout the provinces and supply occupation and living to a large number of skilled labourers and artificers. The rates on those articles will be assimilated with British Indian rates as soon as the customs line at Viramgam is removed. The adoption of British Indian rates will have an injurious effect on local trade to a certain extent but His Highness has sanctioned their introduction with a hope that other maritime States will evince similar readiness to safeguard Imperial interests,

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so that the removal of the preventive line on the Kathiawar frontier, with its innumerable hardships to the travelling public at Viramgam may be facilitated and rights similar to those enjoyed by the ports of one of our States may in justice and fairness be extended to all the maritime States in the province."

The next year, that is 1917, marked the abolition of the Viramgam Customs Line by Government after a satisfactory disposal of the question of the ports that was pending for a long time. The maritime States of Kathiawar fell into line with the British Government and adopted the Imperial Customs tariff at their ports. The objectionable features that had prevented an earlier solution of this question were eliminated by Government in a spirit of generous appreciation of the progressive administration of the States. The Nawanagar State had anticipated the change a year earlier and introduced customs rates similar to those obtaining in British India with a few exceptions as an earnest of its desire to co-operate with Government in the protection of Imperial Customs. The new tariff was introduced at the State ports on the 1st January, 1918. The improvement of harbours was a natural corollary of the abolition of the land customs barrier, for anyone gifted with imagination could foresee the opportunity that had arisen. But there was another valid reason which impelled the Jam Saheb to undertake the development of his magnificent harbours. The State's revenue depended upon the rainfall and every third year the monsoon proved a failure and brought in its train economic disasters which taxed the resources of the State to its utmost limit. This was a matter of vital importance to the existence of the State and, after long thought as to how to make the State revenue independent of the rainfall, he ultimately decided to improve his ports. The State has

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32 ports with some magnificent harbours. Of these the important ones are Jamnagar, Salaya and Jodiya; Rozi, Nawa Bandar, Bed, Lamba, Pindara and Jhinjudare being of minor importance. The port of Salaya is, according to the Gazetteer, capable of becoming a second Liverpool if properly developed, while Jodiya carried on extensive trade with Java and other places long before Bombay came into prominence. That his greatest concern was to develop his resources so as to enable him to meet the expenditure in the time of famine was seen from his speech delivered on the occasion of the State banquet in honour of Lord and Lady Reading in 1924. On that occasion His Highness said :

" Regarding the further direction of our efforts, I will at once say that my ambition is so to develop our resources that my State may be self-sufficient at all times, including periods of famine and drought. It is, I submit, a legitimate ambition and must depend for its fulfilment, from the very nature of our position, on the sympathy and support we are able to receive from the Government of India. It even concerns our self-preservation, for, unless we expand our trade and commerce, and widen the existing channels of our industry, apart from agriculture—the more enterprising members of our population will continue deserting us and will employ their talents and energies in the big trade centres of British India and abroad, where the Indian immigration question is already so acute. Not only will this economic drain continue without end, but our surplus population will be absorbed—as it is being absorbed for years—in industrial capitals like Bombay, Karachi and Rangoon and on the African continent for want of occupation in the land of their birth ; this fact is being conveniently ignored by our critics who ascribe this simple phenomenon and consequent decrease in

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our population to our unpopular rule and its many imaginary evils. I have made a very careful study of this subject and it will be my endeavour to bring to the notice of Your Excellency's government such drawbacks and defects as exist and hinder our progress with a view that they may be investigated and removed and that a position of healthy and happy rivalry be established between the system of trade, commerce and industry obtaining in British India and in Indian States. I have no doubt that our aspirations, so far as they are perfectly natural and legitimate, will receive sympathetic consideration and support from Your Excellency's Government."

Again, the reference made to the desirability of developing his magnificent harbours by the representative of the Government of Bombay in Kathiawar, on the occasion of his installation, could not have escaped the attention of such a shrewd ruler. The idea of the development of his ports had been present to his mind since the day of his installation and he had only to wait for a favourable opportunity to put the idea into execution.

On the great undertaking of developing the ports he sank much capital which he found had to be done if the State was to be freed from the constant anxiety of famine. His Highness staked his all on that development. He was equally alive to the problem of removing the hardships of passengers and providing facilities for trade. The main line of access to Cutch passed through Rozi Bandar and the unhappy passengers by this route frequently had to undergo much discomfort and hardship in embarking and disembarking there. The process of wading through deep mud for a considerable distance was not a pleasant one and the first impression of a passenger on arriving in Kathiawar was charged with a sense of disappointment which was not just to the charming state of

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Nawanagar. For the purpose of trade the conditions were most unfavourable if not impracticable. It was recognised that the provision of facilities must develop traffics of all kind and, with a view to remove the hardship of the passengers and provide trade facilities, His Highness constructed a road which extended as far as the beacon. His Highness further contemplated the construction of a dock and harbour works there with a necessary canal broad enough for the passage of a coasting steamer. The plans, which were prepared in 1910, showed the position of the dock, the canal and the road with their measurements. The whole scheme was estimated to cost about 5 lakhs of rupees.

In the time of the late Jam Jasaji, on the occasion of the visit of Lord Lamington (the then Governor of Bombay) to Jamnagar in 1905, landing at Rozi was a matter of some difficulty. A special wooden pier had to be constructed to afford an easy landing to Lord Lamington. It was constructed after fully calculating the state of tide at the time fixed for His Excellency's arrival of landing. The steamer was unfortunately two hours late and this rendered the temporary pier useless. This concrete instance forcibly brought home to the Jam Saheb's mind the advantage of having a landing place which could be reached at any state of the tide. In inaugurating, in February 1910, the construction of the Rozi Bandar Pier, Lord Sydenham said: "Future passengers will be able to land and embark in ease and comfort and they will have reason to bless Your Highness' thoughtful enterprise. I am glad to know that you have further projects under consideration. If Nawanagar could be provided with a port for commerce available at all times and seasons there can be no doubt that the benefits would be great. Harbour works, however, unless the natural conditions are

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exceptionally favourable, are generally liable to miscalculations of cost which are sometimes serious. I can recall several instances in point. The questions, as to what works can be carried out on this site or at Salaya and whether it will be desirable to undertake large operations at both places will entail the careful thought which Your Highness will give to them, and I need not tell you that estimates will require anxious scrutiny, alike from the engineering and the commercial point of view."

In 1922 His Highness earnestly took in hand the improvement of Bedi Bandar and spent nearly 75 lakhs of rupees in making it a model port. He took care to provide such facilities to merchants as would enable them to handle their goods economically and speedily. He spent lakhs of rupees on constructing railway sidings from the port to the railway station, built extensive godowns and made Bedi a port unrivalled in Kathiawar.

The geographical position of those ports, which were nearer to Central India, Rajputana, the Punjab and the northern part of Gujarat than any British ports, gave him an advantage. The absence of the heavy port charges which were levied at the British ports conferred another inestimable benefit on the merchants and traders. Then he had on his side the advantage of cheap labour, nominal charges of godown, light transit fare, and moderate rate of interest on advances to the merchants from the State Bank. All these were attractive to merchants and they were not slow to take advantage of the opportunities. This process naturally led to a rapid rise in the volume of trade which passed through his ports. The position of the State before the development of the ports from the point of view of revenue was that at the beginning of his rule the average annual income of the State was 20 lakhs calculated on the

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average of ten years immediately preceding and fixed by Government for the nazrana demand from the State on his accession to the *gadi*. In 1916 the figure rose to a little more than 29 lakhs and the maximum revenue realised in one year was nearly 36 lakhs. In spite of famines that have retarded the progress of the State, the State was improving materially; the revenues were rapidly expanding and the population of Jamnagar had increased and the city had become in every way better, more populous and more prosperous. This modest measure of expansion, as the Jam Saheb termed it, was achieved without putting any undue strain on the existing resources and without summoning to his aid untapped materials that were lying undeveloped for want of capital. By 1922 the revenue had reached 55 lakhs of rupees, but there was a corresponding increase in expenditure. It was calculated that the additional revenue from customs would meet the increased expenditure and insure the State against famines. But the calculations of the Jam Saheb have been for the time being upset by the unexpected action of the Finance Department of the Government of India which has come upon the maritime States of Kathiawar like a bolt from the blue. In 1917, when the Government of India abolished the customs barrier at Viramgam, it entered into an agreement with the maritime States of Kathiawar which gave the States the privilege of British ports in respect of coasting trade. The main conditions were that the State should undertake to levy at all the ports customs duties not lower than those enforced simultaneously at ports in British India by the Indian Tariff Act 1894, as subsequently amended, and by the Tea Cess Act.

In his letter to the rulers of the Maritime States, the Agent to the Government wrote: "The Government of India recognise

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the inconvenience caused to the public and the States of Kathiawar by the maintenance of the existing Land Customs Line, and are anxious to terminate it. If these conditions which represent the extreme limit to which the Government of India are prepared to go to meet the wishes of the Durbar were accepted, the preventive line might be abolished and the States would then not only receive the privilege of British ports in respect of coasting trade but would be allowed to receive the duty on all articles of foreign origin which are imported into British India from the States by land, and the Government of India would not levy duty on goods which are the produce of or are manufactured in the States when imported into British India across the land frontier. This concession if made would not be construed as amounting to an abandonment of the undoubted right of the Government of India to levy duty on all goods imported into British India whatever may be the origin of such goods and by whatever route they may be imported. But while the prerogative of the Paramount Power would be upheld the Governor-General in Council would be prepared to guarantee that such power would not be exercised so long as the States abide loyally by the terms of the proposed agreement. If they did not, and if in any State at any time such grave maladministration were discovered as to jeopardise Imperial interests, the Government of India would retain the power to take any measure necessary to protect those interests. The smuggling of arms is specially a matter of concern to the Imperial Government, and the Darbars would recognise the need of securing a rigid adherence to condition (IV) of the agreement. It would also be clearly understood that, if at any time in the future, by the creation of a port capable of accommodating large vessels or

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otherwise, the fiscal interests involved became very important the Government of India would reserve the right to reconsider the position generally."

In reply, the Jam Saheb expressed grateful appreciation of the action of the Government of India in withdrawing the seventh condition regarding inspection and thereby acknowledging their trust and confidence in their good faith and loyal adherence to Imperial interests of which he ventured to assert the Government of India had been receiving ample proofs all along. In his opinion it was an adequate appreciation of their administrations and their ability to safeguard their interests as well as Imperial interests in the management of their ports, and it betokened moreover a generous attitude towards the fiscal advancement of the States for which the States were very grateful.

Regarding the 4th para. of the letter His Highness observed that it was out of the question for a Kathiawar State to be in a position to equip and set up a rival port to Bombay or Karachi; but the phrase " the fiscal interests involved became very important" introduced a vague reservation and he hoped their acceptance of the conditions would not interfere with a healthy development of their resources to the extent of their natural capacity. In conclusion the Jam Saheb said: " Our progress and prosperity are always regarded with genuine sympathy by the British Government and it is not for me to say that our prosperity is an asset that is as valuable to the Empire as it is to ourselves."

To this letter Mr. (now Sir) Evan Maconochie, Agent to the Governor of Bombay, replied that " Government have no intention of imposing conditions which will interfere with a healthy development of the resources of your State to the extent of its natural capacity."

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The Jam Saheb naturally regards that assurance as a clear and unmistakeable guarantee of his rights, and, added to the sanctity of the guarantee, he relied upon the high sense of justice which is a distinguished mark of British rule in India and which he regards as his surest shield as well as the only weapon of defence for the protection and vindication of treaty rights. Relying upon the guarantee, he undertook and carried out a heavy and expensive programme for the improvement of his coastal trade which he commenced by buying a small steamer from his private purse. The financial success of the enterprise gave him an incentive to make further developments, which again were attended with further success. He spared no expense over the development of his ports. He brought out a special officer from England and concentrated all his resources, his energies and his time on making the port a success. Necessity is the mother of invention. As has been stated above, it was the very necessity of preservation of his State against the inroads of famine that drove the Jam Saheb to the development of ports and he therefore gave the order " Full steam ahead." The development of the ports was therefore a worthy, noble and legitimate object. The development of the ports, however, brought the State into conflict with other vested interests and the Jam Saheb was made the butt of fierce attacks and his opponents called upon the Government of India to take action to protect the revenue of British India. The Government of India accordingly called a conference of the representatives of the maritime States in Kathiawar at Mount Abu in June, 1927. At that conference certain terms were offered to the maritime States which were rejected by them and a deadlock ensued, with the result that the Government of India immediately re-established the land customs barrier at

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Viramgam which had been removed in 1907 through the willing co-operation and assistance of the Jam Saheb.

Commenting on the situation, *The Times of India* said :

" The very meagre *communique* in which the Government of India announce their intention of forthwith reimposing the land customs line against the maritime States of Kathiawar leaves a good deal to the reader's imagination. The line is to be reimposed because " an agreement on the lines necessary to secure the fiscal interests of British India has not been reached " at the Mount Abu Conference, and the public are left to guess why no agreement could be reached on the basis of the terms offered by Government to the States. As our special correspondent at Mount Abu has reported, these terms included the customs administration of the ports concerned by officers of the Government of India and the assignment to the States of a proportion of the customs revenue and of some compensation for expenditure on port and railway development since 1917. The details of those terms are not of immediate importance. What is of very real importance is that discussion of them led to a deadlock. That result ought at almost all costs to have been prevented and we believe it could have been prevented had Government not insisted on offering the same terms to each of the various States concerned. For example, to treat on an equal footing States concerned only to a very limited extent in the transhipment business and States like Jamnagar and Baroda interested in the far more important direct shipment traffic showed a fundamental misconception of the issue. But in spite of that, so far as we can learn, the States which had most to lose by accepting the Government terms were those most ready to meet Government ; the States which had least to lose were those which proved most

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obdurate. How far jealousy of one State for another led to this development we are unable to say, but the factor is one which in this instance, as often before in the history of Kathiawar, cannot be ignored. To say that, however, is not to relieve the Government of India of blame for permitting the deadlock to arise. As we have seen, as soon as it had arisen it was at once announced that the immediate reimposition of the Viramgam line was the only alternative. A victorious belligerent imposing terms on the vanquished could hardly have been more arbitrary. Nor does the decision appear to be any less arbitrary when one reflects that it will directly affect only such ports as Bedi Bandar, Okha and, possibly, Porbandar. To those ports indeed it must mean ruin, and the ruin of Bedi Bandar, on which we believe His Highness the Jam Saheb has spent over 70 lakhs since 1917, is an event that cannot lightly be contemplated even by those who have been most anxious to maintain the customs revenue of British India.

"It will be noticed that in bringing back the Viramgam line the Government of India are following the advice given them by an official representative of the Bombay Government in the Assembly. It is natural that the Bombay Government should be alarmed at the effect that the development of Bedi Bandar has had on the revenues of the port of Bombay, but so long as the Bombay Government were responsible for political relations with the Kathiawar States they were considerably less enthusiastic in their zeal for the protection of Bombay. It was in fact as Agent to the Governor of Bombay that Sir Evan Maconochie gave His Highness the Jam Saheb a written assurance that Government 'have no intention of improving conditions which will interfere with a healthy development of the resources of your State to the extent of their natural capacity,' and

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on that assurance His Highness proceeded to develop his port. But now the Government of Bombay apparently supports the Government of India in reimposing the Viramgam line. The position is as unsatisfactory as it could be. The two Governments most concerned and a large body of public opinion, including ourselves, were in agreement that some way must be found to solve the problem of an immense amount of revenue being diverted from British India, but the measures taken to solve the problem are such that the States are not even permitted to discuss some of the most important points arising from them. This would be serious enough if nothing more than fiscal interests were involved.

" But this cutting of the Gordian knot does a great deal more than readjust a fiscal question. We maintain that under the Agreement of 1917 the Government of India would have been within their rights in revising their attitude, even in imposing the Viramgam line. But there is that explanation of the Agreement to which we have referred, and it seems to us that if there is any ambiguity in its meaning there is a clear case for negotiation on it with the States. But we think we are correct in saying that Government refused even to discuss the Agreement. It seems incredible to us that the Political Department of the Government of India would have consented to the extreme step that has been taken if it had not been overruled by the Finance Department with the result that a question, which is quite as much political as financial, has been settled on financial grounds alone and even then in a way that does little credit to the Finance Department. What the Government of India have done is to take away what they gave, in order to rectify their own miscalculation as to the extent to which the Kathiawar ports might develop. The whole trouble has arisen from that

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miscalculation and it has been intensified by this solution. The States of course may appeal to the Secretary of State on the ground that the Government of India have infringed their agreement, and however glad we may be to think that the taxpayer in British India may not have to endure fresh taxation because the Kathiawar States are making money, we cannot but think the States have justice on their side in standing up for the rights given to them by agreement."

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XIX.

Dawn of a New Era.

A NEW era of "progress and plenty" has dawned upon Jamnagar. His Highness was able to see happiness and contentment firmly established among his people at the outset of his career and the great work to which he set his hand has gone on increasing every year to the great advantage of his subjects. Like other Kathiawar States Jamnagar is essentially an agricultural State. The prosperity of the State depends upon the prosperity of the agriculturist and the Jam Saheb has done his best to promote the interests of agriculture. As Sir George (now Lord) Lloyd remarked "we have nothing but admiration for the energy and wisdom with which Your Highness has pushed forward the storage of your waters and the wide distribution of serviceable wells for the good of the cultivators."

He inherited in 1907 a programme, handed down from the time the State was under minority administration—a programme which embraced the transformation of the revenue levy prevailing in the State through ages and known as Bhag Batai, into cash system, with holdings carefully measured, marked and assessed. It took about seventeen years to carry out the change and the last village was assessed in 1917. The cultivators are further given extensive rights of transfer and inheritance, so that permanency of tenure is thoroughly secured, with a few necessary precautions to prevent the land from being impoverished or wasted through thriftless or incapable tenantry. The system has worked well and to the entire satisfaction of the ryots. Much is being done every year to promote

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irrigation by erecting dams and bunds; and since 1918 the cultivators are given fixed State assistance at the rate of Rs. 125 for sinking one pucca well in their holdings. This is a free gift and is very freely availed of. The annual amount thus distributed in aid of well irrigation is about thirty thousand rupees and has resulted in adding an average of about three hundred wells every year. Indebted cultivators have been given legislative protection on the lines proposed in the Bombay Agriculturists' Relief Bill of 1916. It has been the practice of the Jam Saheb to visit the Mahal stations at least once every year and he holds meetings of the cultivators at every Mahal station he visits. They come to him freely and discuss with him questions bearing on cultivation generally and on their own welfare.

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HIS HIGHNESS THE AGA KHAN ON A VISIT TO JAMNAGAR.

[No one has a more remarkable place in the roll of Indian Princes than the Aga Khan, a descendant of the Royal House of Persia. He is deeply venerated throughout the whole world of Islam and the bluest of blue blood flows in his veins. Though not an Indian by descent he possesses an influence deeper and wider than any Indian Prince can claim. He is not a titular ruler of a single scrap of territory yet he holds his princely title from the British Crown. He is one of the greatest Indian patriots and one of the greatest Moslem leaders that India has produced. He rules nowhere but he guides and his guidance is not only shrewd and conciliatory but instinct with devotion to the British Empire, his dominating characteristic being a burning loyalty to His Majesty the King-Emperor. He is the only Indian to be raised to the rank of a Prince with a salute of eleven guns.]

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XX.

Progress in Jamnagar: A Review by the Jam Saheb.

On the occasion of the visit of Lord Reading, the Jam Saheb gave a retrospect of his activities as a ruler in the following words: "I will not dwell at length on the improvements I have been able to achieve and the difficulties that I have encountered during the seventeen years of my rule, for that would not be in harmony with this festive occasion, but may be properly dealt with in a note which I propose to place in Your Excellency's hands for your sympathetic consideration. Nevertheless I may be permitted the privilege of a brief retrospect of our activities and the direction which these activities have taken, leaving results to the judgment of the conscience and of the world.

I succeeded in 1907 when the revenues of the State averaged to about 22 lakhs of rupees per annum. The average of the last five years including two successive lean years comes to over 62 lakhs. We may look in vain for any credit on this account, were the increase secured by enhanced taxation or by tapping with a double knock those resources which we possess. But we have earned this advance by the steady pursuit of a policy—in which I have strongest faith of encouraging well irrigation, and of damming and conserving seasonal torrents which rush through rivers and brooks, and get lost into the sea. My Revenue Department is making a free gift of Rs. 125 for each well sunk by the farmer and has already spent about three lakhs of rupees over this object. We began with

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eight thousand wells and have now about 15,000 wells devoted to irrigation purposes. Besides this, about 15 lakhs have been spent on bunds and dams in various places, which hold water and distribute it by subsoil action within a wide radius of wells and tanks.

This help to irrigation consolidates measures taken from time to time to lighten irritating burdens on the farmer, and to give him stabilised interest in his holdings. These holdings were measured and assessed according to a rate fixed in the happy decade which opened with the present century years in which the purchasing capacity of the rupee was about three times what it is to-day :—a light rate based on the prices of those days was adopted throughout, and the levy in kind was exchanged for a fixed money payment: which process ended in 1917. In 1918, an Act was passed to give legal relief to indebted cultivators and in 1919 all cultivators were given the right of free disposition of their occupancy rights, by will, sale, mortgage or gift. They were also permitted to adopt an heir. Further widow's succession and collateral succession to the seventh degree were recognised.

In the collection of assessed revenue, bad years, which recur more frequently of late, bring up problems of relief, prominent among which is the question of suspension. I have, as a rule, preferred remissions to suspension, and have striven to relieve the needy farmer of a debt which is too heavy for him to bear, and during the current year about three lakhs of rupees were written off in this manner.

We carried out the settlement of alienated lands a measure in which the Nawanagar State was behind almost all the important States of Kathiawar—and this calls to the grateful memory, the name of Col. Berthon, whose services were lent by Government for the

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A State Drummer.



Lord Reading at Jamnagar.

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purpose of this settlement. Generous and lenient rules were framed, and nearly three thousand cases were investigated and settled and there was no complaint to the British Agency with the exception of the Sodhas who claimed the status of Mulgiras. This claim was rejected by Sir Evan Maconochie, the then Agent to the Governor, who upheld the decision of Col. Berthon.

Though a succession of rainless seasons and bad harvests, I may mention here that out of my 17 years' rule there have been up-to-date seven bad years with visitations of plague and influenza thrown in between, which have not allowed us sufficient respite to complete some of the big works in contemplation. We have not delayed necessary measures of sanitation and health : a wide scheme of town improvement in the city, with which we made a modest beginning ten years ago, is now well in hand and has resulted in broad roads running across the city, handsome bazaars and well laid out avenues and parks, in place of congestion familiar to those who saw us 17 years ago. The mortality of Jamnagar stood at 35 per thousand in 1907, and this figure is now reduced to 11, thanks to the ministrations of light and air, and to the efforts of my Medical Department.

Irregular monsoons and a gradually sliding average of annual rainfall—which is an unhappy symptom which we have got to recognise—has created water shortage in thickly populated areas and as one of the preventive measures, we have already taken in hand the construction of the Gangasagar tank and reservoir, about six miles to the south of Jamnagar. When finished, it will be the largest work of its kind in the Province and will cost about 15 lakhs of rupees.

Jamnagar is the largest State in Kathiawar in point of area, being about 450 square miles ahead of Junagadh and a thousand

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square miles ahead of Bhavnagar, and yet the railway system inherited in 1907 was confined to 52 miles between Rajkot and Jamnagar, which compared very unfavourably with the other railway systems in the Province. I immediately set about extending the line to Dwarka, the great pilgrim centre in this part, and though the first sod of the construction was turned by Lord Sydenham, then Governor of Bombay, when he visited Jamnagar in 1910, the scheme suffered delays for twelve years owing to reasons over which I had no control. This line is now finished and adds 66 miles to the old system. Towards the construction of this extension my State has contributed 26 lakhs of rupees, besides a loan of 39 lakhs from the Baroda Durbar. As conditions improve, I hope to carry out further much-needed extensions in my districts, for facilitating transport and the development of agriculture.

In the Department of Education I have added, during my rule, about a hundred schools making a total of 225, giving an average of one school to three villages, and have made education free in both the primary and secondary stage, and look forward to starting an industrial and technical college, when conditions are more propitious. This is the third lean year which has followed in the wake of two successive bad years, and has created an inevitable set-back, which must react on our aspirations and our energies for some time.'

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TWO FRIENDS.



The Maharaja Jam Saheb and the Rana Saheb of Dharampur, which is a State of great antiquity. The Rana Saheb claims his descent from the famous clan of Seesodia Rajputs of Mewar who achieved undying glory by their chivalry and heroism on the battlefield of the world-renowned fort of Chitor.

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ON ACTIVE SERVICE.



[*Photo by the Central News.*

H. H. The Jam Saheb is seen here leaving the War Office, London, with his A. D. C., Mr. Rupsingh.

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HIS HIGHNESS MAHARANA OF UDAIPUR.

The Grand Old Leader of the Princes in India, who, according to His Majesty the King-Emperor, has greatly maintained great traditions and won a noble reputation for himself in Rajputana and in India.

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XXI.

JAMNAGAR'S PART IN THE WAR—KING-EMPEROR'S MESSAGE—HEROIC EFFORTS OF THE STATE—CO-OPERATION OF THE PEOPLE. JAM SAHEB'S PERSONAL SERVICES—JAM SAHEB'S NEPHEW GIVES SUPREME SACRIFICE FOR THE KING-EMPEROR—ANOTHER NEPHEW WOUNDED—JAM SAHEB'S SOURCE OF INSPIRATION—STABILITY OF THE EMPIRE.

NOTHING has stirred the Indian Princes more than the great war which occasioned a splendid outburst of loyalty on their part. The great part which the Indian States played during those critical years has not fully been realized; nor has its significance been properly grasped. The Indian Princes quickly perceived the danger to the Empire and the menace to the world which was implied in the challenge of German militarism. Loyalty to the King-Emperor was an article of faith with them, but, over and above that feeling of loyalty, it was the ethical principle involved in the challenge that Germany threw out to the world which strongly appealed to them. That principle was whether might was to prevail over the right and whether civilization was to perish before brutal military force. His Majesty the King-Emperor sent the following telegram in the autumn of 1914 to Lord Hardinge, then Viceroy of India:

"During the past few weeks the people of my whole Empire at Home and Overseas have moved with one mind and purpose to confront and overthrow an unparalleled assault upon the continued civilization and peace of mankind. The calamitous conflict is not

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of my seeking. My voice has been cast throughout on the side of peace. My Ministers earnestly strove to allay the causes of strife and to appease the differences with which my Empire was not concerned.

" Had I stood aside when, in defiance of the pledges to which my Government was a party, the soil of Belgium was violated and her cities laid desolate, when the very life of the French nation was threatened with extinction, I should have sacrificed my honour and given to destruction the liberties of my Empire and of mankind. I rejoice that every part of the Empire is with me in this decision. Paramount regard for the treaty faith and pledged word of rulers and people is the common heritage of England and India.

" Amongst the many incidents that have marked the unanimous uprising of the populations of my Empire in defence of its unity and integrity, nothing has moved me more than the passionate devotion to my Throne expressed both by my Indian and English subjects and by the Feudatory Princes and Ruling Chiefs of India and their prodigious offers of their lives and their resources in the cause of the realm. Their one-voiced demand to be foremost in the conflict has touched my heart and has inspired to the highest issues the love and devotion which, as I well know, have ever linked my Indian subjects and myself.

" I recall to mind India's gracious message to the British nation of goodwill and fellowship which greeted my return in February 1912 after the solemn ceremony of my Coronation Durbar at Delhi, and I find in this hour of trial a full harvest and a noble fulfilment of the assurance given by you that the destinies of Great Britain and India are indissolubly linked."

The splendid response which the Jam Saheb gave to the clarion

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call of Lord Hardinge, the Viceroy of India, will remain as one of the brightest episodes in the history of the country. The heroic sacrifices and services which the Jam Saheb rendered to the Empire cannot be too highly assessed. Apart from its material value, the moral effect of his personal participation in the war, was of incalculable value. The enemy was counting upon the disruption of the Empire and the disloyalty of the Princes and people of India. But that idea proved to be a terrible delusion, which had a most distressing and depressing effect upon the enemy even in his hour of triumph through Belgium and Flanders. That England should sacrifice its all for the preservation of the integrity of smaller nations, that a great power like Germany should characterise sacred treaties as a scrap of paper, that England should champion the sanctity of treaties at all costs, produced a most profound impression upon the Indian Princes, whose response to the call of the Empire was as spirited as it was generous. It was in consonance with the warlike spirit for which the Rajputs, the Sikhs, the Gurkhas and the Marathas are noted. The description of His Highness the Jam Saheb's services as " splendid and distinguished " does not convey an adequate idea of the spirit of patriotism which moved him or the vitality of his personality. As soon as the hostilities commenced he threw himself whole-heartedly into the work with earnest zeal and wonderful energy.

Lord Sydenham, ex-Governor of Bombay, in addressing the Princes and Chiefs in Durbar at Rajkot in 1910 alluded to the qualities of valour and of chivalry which have distinguished the Rajput race and to the part played by the Jadeja class, of which the Jam Saheb is the head in Kathiawar, in resisting the subjugation of Kathiawar by foreign invaders and said that those qualities would

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again assert themselves if the need arose. Four years before the war broke out the Jam Saheb referring to Lord Sydenham's remarks said: "Your Excellency in your Durbar speech referred to the sturdy qualities of the Jadejas of whom I have the honour to be the present head in Kathiawar in successfully withstanding the repeated onslaughts on the invaders of our province. We as a clan feel proud of the compliment paid us, and I can assure Your Excellency that the same valour and chivalrous spirit still animate us and if ever the need arises for the display of our martial valour we would consider it a high honour and privilege to fight shoulder to shoulder with the British army in maintaining intact this great Empire and its glorious and untarnished name. The Rajputs have still the old fighting spirit burning within their breast, whether they be clad in the sombre raiments of the West or the luxurious silks of the East." The Jam Saheb has nobly fulfilled all the expectations formed of him during the war and his gallantry and chivalrous disposition have shed lustre on the great fame of Jadeja warriors who saved Kathiawar from the invaders.

The following account gleaned from the administration report of the State issued soon after the commencement of the war will give an idea of Nawanagar's share in it and how the Indian States grasped the genesis of the war:—

"The greatest war ever known in history which is now being waged with relentless vigour is, as we all know, the outcome on the part of the enemy of a barbarian militarism, a grasping lust for the acquisition of fresh territories and an utter disregard and contempt for the treaty obligations with smaller and weaker States admittedly administering their affairs on the basis of a highly civilized rule. Previous to the outbreak of hostilities the enemy was deceived into

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the belief of a discontented India. But the first clash of arms on 5th August 1914 scattered all these misconceived notions to the winds. The splendid outburst of loyalty and devotion to the person and throne of the King-Emperor, and the unprecedented and spontaneous enthusiasm to assist the Imperial Government with monetary aid and offer of personal service that pervaded throughout the length and breadth of the country, especially amongst the Native States and their rulers, will go down to posterity as a glorious and bright page as regards India's part in this war. Indeed India has made a magnificent response to the call of duty. Very soon after the outbreak of the war His Highness the Maharaja Jam Saheb offered to Government his personal services at the front and placed the whole resources of the State at the disposal of Government.

" On 31st August 1914 a public meeting of the citizens of Jamnagar was convened at which His Highness the Jam Saheb presided. It was attended by Major and Mrs. Berthon and all the principal officers of the State besides a large number of Indian ladies. His Highness, in addressing the meeting, briefly explained the causes which led to the present war, how the British Government had used every possible endeavour, up to the last, to maintain peace on honourable terms, and how they had been compelled to enter on the war in fulfilment of solemn international obligations and to vindicate the principle that small nationalities cannot be permitted to be crushed in defiance of international good faith at the arbitrary will of a strong and overmastering power. His Highness then drew a picture of what India had suffered prior to the advent of the British, how justly and righteously this vast continent has been ruled for a century and how the hearts of the teeming millions have, on the present occasion, gone forth in support of the correct and righteous

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action of the British in going to war with a bullying and grasping power, the successful result of which no sane person would doubt, but was only a question of time. The universal outburst of loyalty pervading the length and breadth of this vast Empire in support of the British Raj and the spontaneous offers of monetary help and personal service in its defence which are pouring in daily are, said His Highness, a sure test of the deep and genuine loyalty cherished by one and all, rich and poor, towards the British rule. He alluded in terms of pride and admiration to the offer of personal service at the head of his army then recently made by His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner and other Ruling Chiefs. He added that the Indian soldier had, in the past, given a good account of himself in active service in the expeditions mentioned by Major Berthon in his speech and the present war, he said, once more offered him an unique opportunity to show his mettle and to earn for the Indians a glorious name. What this means to an Indian, said His Highness, we as Indians are in a position to realize. His Highness finally exhorted his subjects to come forward liberally and assist to the best of their power in the noble work undertaken by Her Excellency Lady Willingdon as President of the Bombay Presidency Women's Branch of the War and Relief Fund. Any gifts, however small, he said, would be accepted in the shape of clothes and other necessaries for a hospital.

" It was finally decided to appoint committees of the different castes to collect donations in the shape of clothes and other necessaries of comforts for the sick and wounded and several ladies expressed their readiness to help in making up clothes under the presidentship of Mrs. Berthon. Major Berthon very kindly undertook to work as Honorary Secretary and to accept and acknowledge the

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donations and forward them on to the Headquarters of the Women's Branch of the Bombay Presidency War and Relief Fund.

"Large quantities of flannel and cotton garments, blankets, rugs, jerseys, sheets, ambulance requirements, etc., have been made by the ladies and tailors lent by His Highness and the orphanage. His Highness himself gave several thousand rupees worth of material and the citizens of Jamnagar also gave ready support in the shape of gifts of all descriptions. In addition large quantities of comforts have been carefully packed ready for distribution and despatched to Bombay. These include such items as Indian cigarettes, betel-nuts, cardamons, cloves, tobacco in small bags, coffee, etc. His Highness also generously placed his cellars at the disposal of the Fund and Champagne and Port Wine are still being despatched to meet the requirements of the Hospitals in Bombay and the Ambulance Trains.

"In addition to the above, large sums of money have been remitted, the principal amounts collected being as under :—

	Rs.
H. H. the Jam Saheb's mother and sisters.	3,000
,, ,, brothers and cousin	1,050
Collections in cash from officers and subjects of the State up to date ..	24,081

"The work of collecting and packing comforts still continues and cash contributions continue to come in.

"Besides the above contributions and donations towards the Women's Branch of the War and Relief Fund His Highness has given the following assistance :—

	Rs.
Contribution towards the Imperial Indian Relief Fund (first instalment) ..	5,000

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	Rs.
Contribution towards Lady Londesborough's Fund for Relief of the Indian Soldiers	3,750
Contribution towards Her Imperial Majesty Queen Empress' Socks and Belts Fund	3,750
Contribution towards a Motor Ambulance Fleet given by the Chiefs of Kathiawar..	26,630

14 motor cars fitted up and put into excellent working order together with two European and four Indian chauffeurs fully equipped and paid in advance for 12 months, 40 horses as chargers.

"The services of the Nawanagar State Imperial Service Lancers fully equipped, the usual expenses of which are still being met by the State.

"Six large double-poled tents for field hospitals.

"One Ambulance motor car for use in Bombay sent to the Honorary Secretary, War Relief Fund.

"His Highness fitted up his private house at Staines as a Hospital for officers and placed it at the disposal of the War Office. The Hospital contains 45 beds and was in sole charge of the St. John's Ambulance Association. It was named after H. R. H. the Prince of Wales with the permission of His Majesty the King-Emperor. Their Highnesses the Maharajas of Kashmere and Patiala kindly shared the expenses of the Hospital. Mr. A. K. Jamal, C.I.E., also contributed handsomely towards the maintenance of the Hospital which has a staff of 4 doctors, 5 professional nurses, 36 voluntary nurses, 24 Ambulance men and 12 staff servants.

"Furthermore the Director of Public Instruction of this State

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Field Marshal Sir John French.



Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig.

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has delivered a series of war lectures in Jamnagar and the different Mahals with the view of acquainting the masses as to the true facts in connection with the war. These lectures were well attended and were listened to with much interest and have served to remove the wrong notions that existed previously on the subject.

" On the 16th November 1914 His Highness the Maharaja Jam Saheb left Jamnagar personally to take part in the war. He was attached to the staff of the General Officer Commanding the 2nd Indian Cavalry Division but was subsequently transferred to the staff of Field-Marshal Sir John French. Soon after his departure from Jamnagar in November last news was received that His Majesty the King-Emperor had been pleased to confer upon His Highness a commission as Honorary Major in the Army and that His Majesty had been further pleased to appoint the Maharaja Jam Saheb his Honorary Aide-de-Camp. "

His Highness left for France to take part in the great war in November 1914. He was first gazetted to the staff of General Cookson, but was subsequently promoted to the staff of the Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in France, Field-Marshal Sir John French as his A.-D.-C. This was not an empty honour. It was a great compliment to his powers of organisation and to his vigilant eye. As Mr. Gardiner has said in a sketch, His Highness combines an Oriental calm with an Oriental swiftness—the stillness of the panther with the suddenness of its spring. These qualities which he displayed in the great English game and which made him the king of that game shone out brighter in the great hour of the Empire's need. The way in which he performed his duties at the battle front in France struck the military authorities. In a speech delivered at Jamnagar, Lord Willingdon, then Governor of Bombay,

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HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE V,
Emperor of India.

Photo by Messrs. Bassano, London.

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said : " I may now reveal a secret which may not be known to anyone of you here. It is here. The Commander-in-Chief in France, Sir Douglas Haig, has written to the Government of India referring in terms of the highest praise of His Highness' services at the front and added that should His Highness think of returning to the front he should be glad to have him on his staff."

Not only did the ruler of Nawanagar serve on the Western front but his three nephews served with distinction in the war and one of them, Lieutenant Kuver Shree Dajiraj, gained the undying glory for the Jadeja warrior clan of Rajputs, by meeting a warrior's death on the battlefield. He was serving with the Jodhpur State Imperial Service Lancers. He was killed in action in September 1917. The Jamnagar administration report for the year 1917-18 contained the following reference to his death :—

" Immediately afterwards a very sad bereavement overshadowed the Ruling House of Nawanagar, namely the untimely death of Lieutenant K. S. Dajiraj, His Highness' nephew, who fell, while carrying out his duties gallantly in the battlefield of France. Lieutenant K. S. Dajiraj applied to be taken on active service immediately the European War broke out in August 1914. Lieutenant Savaisinghji, another of His Highness' nephews and Dajiraj's *confrere* at school and college, was fighting in Africa, while Lieutenant Dajiraj was fretting and chafing at his forced inaction, and trying every known means, applications, telegrams, recommendations, references—for a call to the Front for one year and a half, before he could get himself transferred to the Jodhpur Lancers and secure his heart's desire by being asked to join those famous horsemen, commanded by the doyen of Rajput chivalry, Lieutenant-General Maharaja Sir Pertabsinhji in France.

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LIEUT. KUMAR SHREE DAJI RAJ,
who was killed while doing his duty gallantly on the battlefield of France.

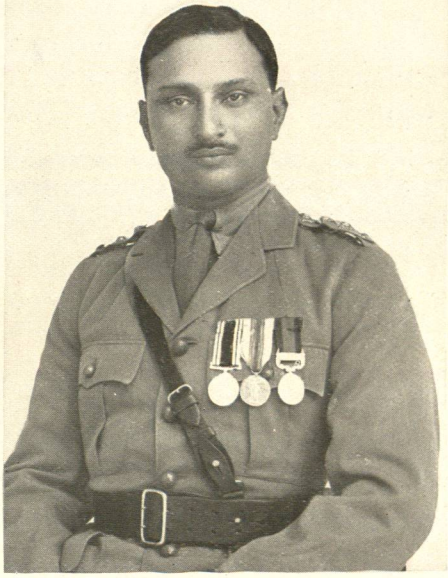
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Captain Kumar Shree Sawaisinghji of Jamnagar, who went on active service during the war.

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THE JAM SAHEB'S NEPHEWS, WHO WENT ON ACTIVE SERVICE DURING THE WAR.







(1) Captain Kuver Shree Himatsinhji.
(2) Lieutenant Kuver Shree Digvijaysinhji.
(3) Lieutenant Kuver Shree Pratapsinhji.

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Lieutenant Dajiraj was following the traditions of his House by devoted conduct in the service of the Sovereign whose commission he was privileged to bear. It is said that just at the time of his untimely end, he was carrying a feeling of keen disappointment not being one of the nine Indian Officers who were given permanent commissions in the regular Indian Army. Of course K. S. Dajiraj had no strong reason to take the omission to heart, considering his age and the fact that K. S. Savaisinhji, one of the Jamnagar Family, was selected for that honour. But youth is always impatient and K. S. Dajiraj's friends say that he allowed his soured feelings to impel him to undertake hazardous missions and while returning from one of such missions he was struck down by a shell in the early morning of the 24th September and succumbed to the injuries within a few hours. Funeral honours usually accorded to the sons of a Ruler were rendered under His Highness' orders to the memory of the deceased who was very popular and universally liked wherever he was known. The citizens of Jamnagar held a public meeting and decided to observe, deep mourning and offered condolences to His Highness. Lieut. K. S. Dajiraj is the only Rajput Kumar to have made the last sacrifice in the defence of the Empire, and the Nawanagar House is very proud of the shining proof that the Kumar has given of the war-like traditions of the Jadeja clan to which, along with other celebrated members in the past, he has again set a splendid example of devotion and self-sacrifice. Another nephew, Kuver Shree Savaisinhji, also volunteered his services and he was able to cover himself with honour and glory. He held a commission in the British Army and he went with the 13th Rajputs to East Africa. He was the first Rajput Kumar to have shed his blood in the service of the

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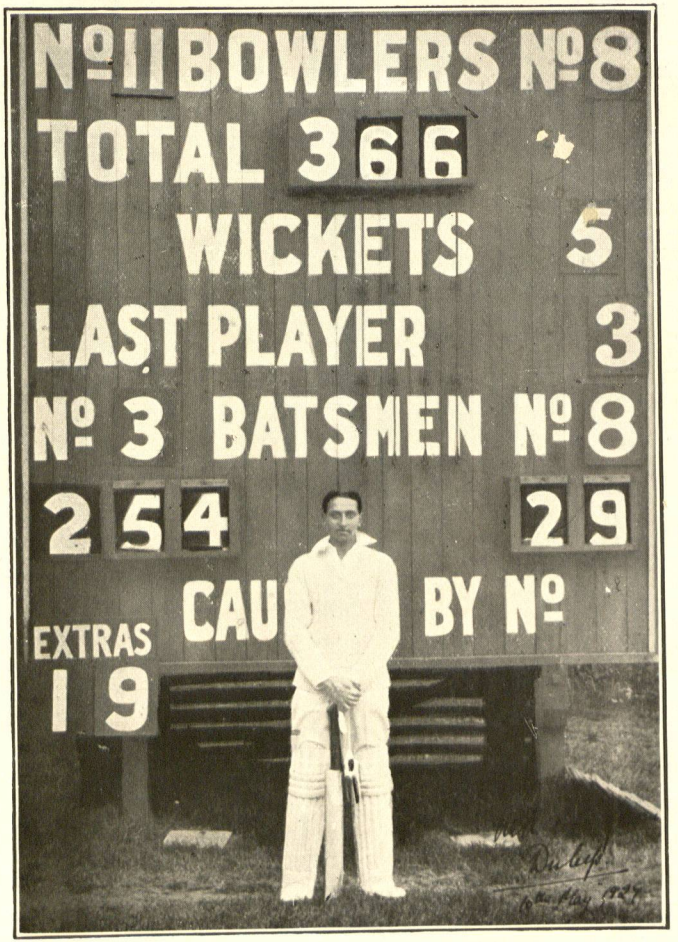
King-Emperor. He was invalided home, but he returned to his post from Aden feeling that his recovery was sufficiently effective to enable him to fight again. His war services in East Africa were reported on favourably. The Jam Saheb's third nephew, Kuver Shree Himatsinghji, was studying in England when the war broke out. He joined the O.T.C. at Oxford and got a commission in the Indian land forces as Lieutenant. He served in Mesopotamia and there upheld the traditions of the Jadeja Rajputs for gallantry. The collapse of Russia gave an edge to the enemy's ambitions of conquest in the East and the Prime Minister cabled to His Excellency the Viceroy an inspiring message in the following terms :—

" At this time (2nd April 1918) when the intention of the ruler of Germany is so transparently clear, I wish to ask the Government and people of India to double their efforts . . . . . I have no doubt that India will add to the laurels which it has already won and will equip itself on an even greater scale than at present to be the bulwark which will save Asia from the tide of oppression and disorder which it is the object of the enemy to achieve." This menace brought home to the authorities the necessity of raising an efficient army for defence in India. In the year under review, it was resolved by Government to raise a Kathiawar Company and His Highness' suggestion of giving the recruits preliminary training in Rajkot was adopted, with the result that the recruits are now forthcoming in Kathiawar. Nawanagar has offered various inducements to its subjects for enrolment in the army, such as grant of half the pay promised by Government, for maintenance of families, an equal amount of bonus, liberal pensions in the event of disablement or death, preferment in service on return after

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Lieut. Kumar Shree Rajendra Singhji of Jamnagar,
2nd Lancers (Gardener's Horse).



Kumar Shree Dulip, who has brought additional fame
to Jamnagar by his prowess in Cricket in England.

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war is over, stay of civil proceedings during absence, etc. Though the response is not as rapid and wholehearted as desired, the Nawanagar State easily heads the list in the number of recruits offered, namely, 80. Subsequently more recruits were found and sent to Rajkot. The amount of bonus, extra pay, etc., to the recruits amounted to about Rs. 12,000 during the year."

The Nawanagar Imperial Service Lancers performed garrison duty at Karachi throughout the war. Subsequently half the squadron was sent to Jacobabad for military duties. A signalling party of the Imperial Service Lancers was kept in Egypt with the Expeditionary Force. These units were specially mentioned for their services. The deputation of Imperial Service troops cost the State a large sum of money over and above the normal charges and the Government of India proposed to bear the extra charges but His Highness made proposals to which effect was given for the distribution of the amount due to Jamnagar among the various war funds.

His Excellency the Governor of Bombay convened a war conference in Bombay in June, 1918, and invited His Highness to attend it and move an important resolution at the meeting. His Highness discharged the task in a spirit of selfless devotion to the Imperial cause, without a thought of public favour or frown. As the speech that His Highness delivered while moving the resolution is an important one it is reproduced here. His Highness said :—

" The resolution that I am privileged to move runs as under :—
" This Conference is of opinion that the man power and resources of this Presidency should be utilized and developed to the fullest possible extent. With this object in view it recommends that a War Purposes Board be appointed consisting of official and non-official members

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and that the scheme outlined in the memorandum attached in the agenda be approved and adopted." I would begin by making it clear that in standing before you to-day and asking you to adopt this resolution in a spirit of whole-hearted and cordial co-operation, which it eminently deserves, I am not so much a Ruling Prince hailing from a principality in a distant corner of Kathiawar, as a citizen of our Empire—the greatest that history has ever known. We are aware, my Lord, of the terrific struggle which is shaking Empires and nations and devastating God's fair creation, and we realise, I hope, to the full, the stupendous effort that England and the rest of the Empire are making at this moment for the purpose of rendering this world habitable for free men and for the peaceful evolution of free and progressive institutions, so dear to humanity as its birth-right and its inherent privilege. We also know what the stakes are. It hardly takes much thought to choose between liberty and serfdom. The manly part that our Empire is taking in vindication of the eternal verities of life and progress, must claim a large and prominent share from this land of the Mahabharata and the Ramayana. On the one hand, is the glorious future, rendered more glorious by the realisation of our best aspirations and hopes; on the other is the stigma on our national character that will never be wiped off, if we fail to rise to the occasion and allow our Emperor's clarion-call to fall on dead or deaf ears. I assure you, ladies and gentlemen, if India stinted at the present moment and did not give of her very best in the great sacrifice of human liberty and civilization—sacrifice which all good and free nations are making, we will not deserve to be a nation and the judgment of history will go against us for ever. Which of the two courses will you prefer? There could be no doubt about your response. It would be an insult to Indian

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character to doubt for one moment what that response will be. Glorious achievements in a brilliant past have laid the foundations of India's national character, and the peoples' best traits are formed nurtured and developed in the epic deeds of our ancestors of the days of Shri Krishna and Arjuna, in the nearer traditions of Asoka, Chandragupta and Prithiraja, and in the more recent histories so full of valour and wisdom of their Mahomedan successors—Babar, Akbar and Shahjahan. A land ringing with heroic memories of a living past can never be deaf to the great call that the Empire sends forth in its hour of dire necessity and peril.

" Brethren, what can be more pleasing to your sense of patriotism and nationality than the fact that the Empire stands before you and asks your assistance ? The role of the donor has always stood pre-eminently high in the psychology of Indian mind ; and what has an Indian not given when a hand is laid out before him to receive ? Your Karna skinned himself clean and appeased the anxious demand of the Prince of Paradise, and your Bali Raja gave everything he had to the Lord of Creation. Can we ever forget that we are sons of that sturdy heroic race ? Sacrifice in supreme moments like these should be nothing to us.

" There is one matter on which I would like to say a few words with your Excellency's permission in this connection. I would put a question to you, gentlemen, and ask, shall we stand at the door haggling over the price of our assistance some sort of exchange for what we give—when the Empire is shaking convulsively with the heroic effort that it is making to crush inhuman despotism ? Shall we be asking for a barter and naming a return for our services at the present moment ? It is my firm, nay, reasoned conviction, gentlemen, that this is not the right moment for pressing forward

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political claims in any way that would embarrass the action or disturb or divert the energies of any single one of us, no less than those of Government or cause but one slight deflection from the supreme end we all have in view, *viz.*, the prosecution of war to the bitterest end—an end that spells a victorious end. Let us remember that loyalty and service to the Empire are our noblest traditions; for no Empires are held secure unless by the unalloyed sacrifices and devotion of their citizens and no greatness that they can aspire to is enduring unless it has at its back the whole-hearted unanimity of the citizens composed in them, and unless it has before it a noble and unselfish goal. Empires are not made by areas geographically vast, and mountains and rivers; it is the peoples, free, contented and happy that constitute Empires and let us believe that our claims will never be forgotten, but will receive a compelling value at the right moment if we but do our duty just now in a spirit of disinterested devotion as enjoined by the holy teachings of our sacred scriptures. Gentlemen, let us not forget that loyalty is our tradition and freedom is our birth-right, and that neither can be bought nor sold. You have already before you a sacred pledge given by the National Cabinet of the Empire, backed by British democracy. India is promised full responsible government and I cannot conceive that such a solemn pledge can be or will be broken by the British Cabinet or by that great people who control our destinies. The only question at issue is regarding time. When will India receive her promised goal? Shall we stand haggling for obtaining to-day what is yours to-morrow, when the shores of noble Britain are in peril, gallant France is bleeding, Belgium is ravished, Serbia remains destroyed, and great Russia is dismembered and disfigured out of all recognition of her past greatness and entity,

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not to speak of unlucky Rumania bled white from forced concessions? I beseech, earnestly beseech, all leaders of public opinion, whom His Excellency has convened to-day representing as they do, various shades and schools of thought, to be statesmen and to look ahead, well ahead. Let us not be petty men, brooding over disappointments, great and small. The instance of Russia should be a sufficient warning to us to arrest all political discord and disunion; we should and must close the ranks at the present time when the most gigantic war known to history is being waged to a finish.

" Before proceeding further, I take this opportunity of clearing some misimpression that I believe is current in some quarters, and credits us, the Ruling Princes, with doing things, with conscience in our pockets, sometimes at a higher bidding and sometimes to please the powers for selfish interests. This, I venture to say emphatically, is a false and mischievous idea, as unfair and unjust to Government as it is insulting to us. We are never desired or asked to say or to do things which our conscience does not dictate or our reason does not approve. Our Order yields to none in the patriotism and love for our country and our countrymen, no less than in the loyalty and devotion to our Sovereign and to the Empire. We sympathise with all the just and legitimate aspirations of our brethren all over India and we believe in a steady and progressive realisation of the political ideals defined by British statesmen recently, and held out as the ultimate goal of British rule in India.

" My Lord, ladies and gentlemen, destinies of nations are never outside God's good guidance, and the connection of India with Great Britain has in it something too great, too divine, not to partake of a direct and active dispensation governing it. Beyond the evident

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beneficence of this rule—the rule of the greatest liberty-loving nation of the world—we have the inestimable benefit, in this present war, of imperishable links being forged in the blood-stained battlefields of Europe between Britain and India, and a spirit of camaraderie and fellowship hallowed by companionship in battle, is bound to form and consecrate chains that will draw us still nearer and closer and to the permanent benefit of all partners of this Imperial Commonwealth.

"My Lord, we have no reason to despair. His Imperial Majesty's messages to India from time to time are emblems of the awakened conscience of India, working for the good of our land. His Majesty's message in 1905, made for the infusion of a wider element of sympathy in the administration of our country. His gracious watch-word to us, on the eve of his departure from India in 1912, was " hope ". It was like the dawning light that pointed out the goal to our country and now His Majesty has with a clear prevision shown us our opportunity to make for that goal. Let us seize this opportunity and make the utmost of it, without loss of time, without stinting, without shirking any sacrifices, without haggling or hesitation of any kind ; with fervour, alacrity, zeal, resourcefulness and strength and lastly with faith. I will not neglect this opportunity of appealing particularly to my countrymen and subjects, merchants of Jamnagar, who occupy such an honourable position in the mercantile world of Bombay. I will emulate my illustrious predecessor H. H. the Maharao Saheb of Cutch and ask my subjects to add to their very valuable efforts and do all they can in their own way to help the cause. They responded nobly last year with great liberality to my appeal, and of this I am more than proud. I request them to renew their efforts and add fresh lustre to their loyal and zealous devotion

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to their country, their Ruler and their Sovereign. My Lord, I have done. I have taken much of your valuable time. I sincerely wish I had greater rhetorical powers to present the resolution in my charge more forcibly before this distinguished assemblage, but the superabundant necessities and reasons for pooling and piling all our resources in men, money and material, for the one object at present, are so evident and so urgent that any deficiencies of mine will not, I hope, interfere with a ready and eager response from you, and the utmost efforts of which we are all capable, will not be withheld in the service of our King, of our Empire and our country. My Lord, I do not pretend to be an orator or statesman, but I speak from the bottom of my heart earnestly and passionately, not merely in the interest of India alone, but for the larger issues of humanity, freedom and civilisation as well."

The various war contributions made by the Nawanagar State comprised :—

(*a*) Fourteen motor cars fully equipped with eight Indian and two European chauffeurs.

(*b*) One ambulance car with chauffeur given for use in Bombay.

(*c*) Six double-poled tents.

(*d*) 48 horses.

		Rs.
(*e*)	Share in the Motor Ambulance Fleet presented for war services on behalf of Kathiawar ..	28,000
(*f*)	Cash contributions to various Relief and Red Cross Funds and Branches	2,10,531
(*g*)	Contributions for aeroplanes	1,00,000
(*h*)	Contributions to the war as promised at the Delhi War Conference in April 1918 ..	3,00,000

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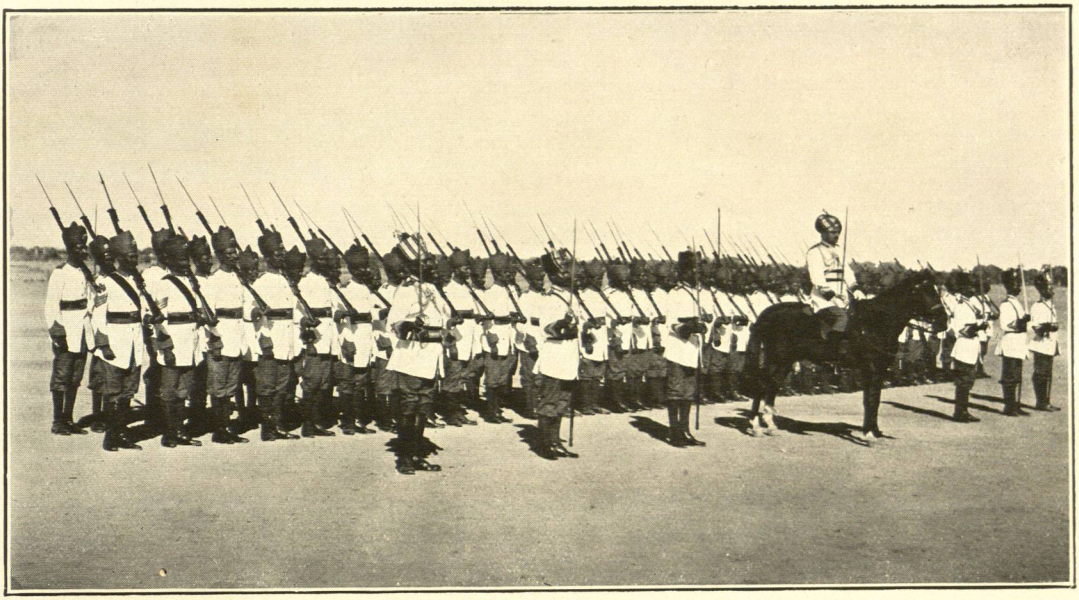
(*i*) Gifts and contribution of articles of comfort, flannel and cotton garments, shirts, jerseys, socks, blankets, rugs, sheets, cigarettes, betelnuts, cloves, books, port and champagne from the Palace cellars sent to the Women's Branch of the War, and Relief Fund Bombay. 1,10,000

(*j*) Hospital for the wounded officers in Staines, England, His Highness has converted his house in Staines into a hospital for wounded officers and spared for the cost of maintenance and equipment.. 8,00,000

The subscription to the War Loan from the State and its subjects in Jamnagar and other places reached the splendid sum of 75,00,000

In January 1915 His Highness had the honour of being received in audience by Their Imperial Majesties the King-Emperor and Queen-Empress at the Buckingham Palace. The second occasion on which His Highness had the honour of an audience with Their Majesties was in June 1915 when he presented to the King-Emperor the Kathiawar Motor Ambulance Fleet for war services. On 31st August His Highness met with an unfortunate accident from the effects of which, it is gratifying to record, he has completely recovered. During the period he remained under treatment at the Hospital at Leeds His Highness received the greatest kindness from Dr. Secker Walker. His Highness was on this occasion the recipient of innumerable messages of sympathy from his large circle of friends and acquaintances from all parts of the Empire. His Majesty the King-Emperor sent a most gracious message. In grateful recognition of the kindness he experienced at the hands of his

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The Jamnagar Infantry.

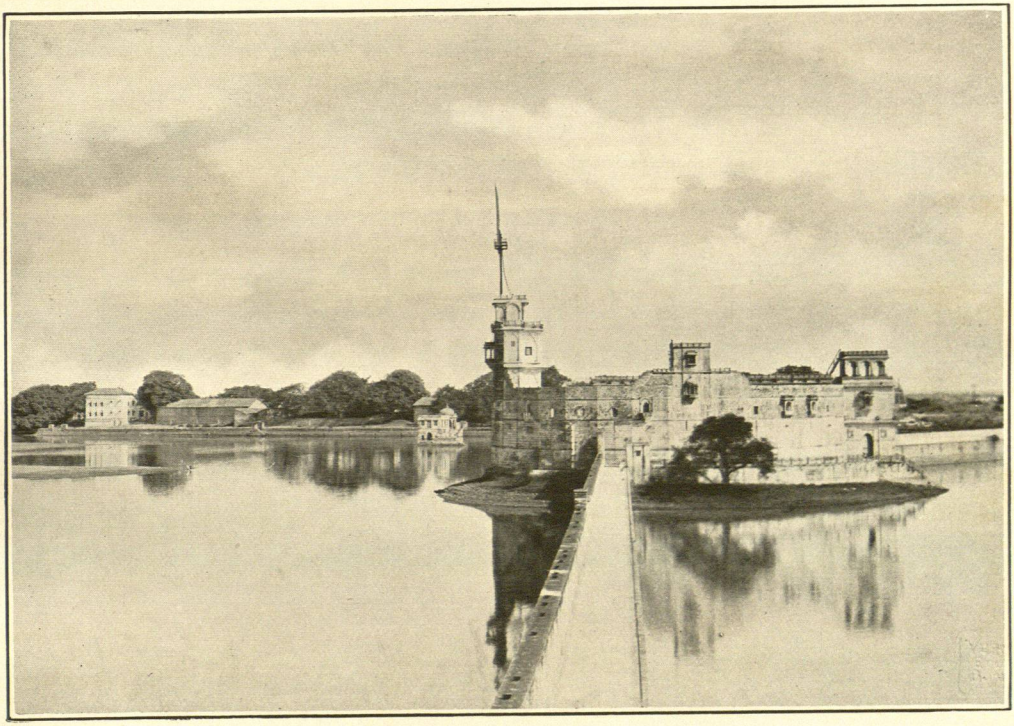


Photo by Messrs. Vernon & Co.

A City Tank and View of the Fort.

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physicians and nurses at the Hospital His Highness offered an annual donation of £105 to the Leeds Infirmary.

In considering the war efforts of Jamnagar State the difficulty under which that effort was made should be borne in mind. When he inherited the gadi of the Jam the State Exchequer was almost empty. The State was backward in education ; the administrative machinery was in no way efficient and the resources of the State were undeveloped. Since his accession to the gadi, the Jam Saheb has pursued a most advanced policy and public funds have been invested in water-supply, schools, markets, railways and tram lines and the connection of all districts by a telephone system. Again efficient administration meant a heavy outlay. As Lord Willingdon on the occasion of his visit to Jamnagar remarked, His Highness had put his whole heart in the welfare of the State and from what he (Lord Willingdon) had seen such improvements in the city as one would have believed impossible of attainment in the time in which they had been achieved. These improvements were carried out at a heavy outlay. In addition to these the finances of the State were crippled by successive famines. It was therefore all the more creditable to His Highness that the response he made was so very generous and whole-hearted. Nawanagar's response to the call of the Empire in its hour of need was in keeping with its position as the premier Rajput State in Kathiawar, its size and its means. It was not to be beaten in the spirit of loyal devotion to the Throne of England and in spite of the fact that it was handicapped in resources by a succession of bad years the handsome contributions which the State made cannot find adequate appreciation in words. His Highness left the war organisation to Major Berton and his efforts in this direction cannot be too highly praised. He was the centre and the

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vital centre of the Jamnagar Branch of the War and Relief Fund of the Bombay Presidency and the splendid manner in which he organised and carried out with unabated zeal the collection and despatch of cash, materials and articles reflected great credit on the State. The State derived inspiration from the noble and spirited example of the Ruler. He was one of the first to recognise the need of propaganda. False impressions were created in the minds of ignorant people by ill-informed and mischievous persons in villages and it was necessary to explain the genesis of the satanic struggle to the villagers and in this direction the State did excellent work.

Lord Reading, who was the first Viceroy to pay a visit to Jamnagar, in 1924 paid a warm tribute to the Jam Saheb by testifying to the fact that His Highness's services to the Empire entitled the State to stand high in the regard of his Government, especially as the Jam Saheb had added lustre to the annals of his House by personal services to his Order, to the Government of India and to the Empire. Lord Reading added : " With becoming modesty Your Highness has avoided any detailed reference in your speech to the public work you have done outside your State. Though as the years go by, the great world sets further and further into the past, nevertheless the memory of your great personal efforts in the war and of the services of your State under your guidance to the Empire is still fresh and treasured by my Government."

Sir George Lloyd was the first Governor to pay a visit to Jamnagar since the conclusion of the war. In acknowledging the war services of the Jam Saheb, Sir George said : " No more convincing proof could have been given of the living force of those noble and war-like traditions than that which Your Highness

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have given throughout the war, and on this the first visit of a Governor to Kathiawar since its conclusion. I am anxious to pay—indeed it is my proud duty to pay—a public and a vibrant tribute to the devoted loyalty which Your Highness displayed in that splendid crisis, to the ungrudging liberality of the gifts Your Highness made and to the enthusiasm with which you offered your services on all occasions to His Majesty's Government."

Again at another place Sir George Lloyd added : " For proof that Kathiawar is no barren land, we have the wonderful series of service of every kind rendered by Jamnagar during the war, the tale of which Your Highness has related to us with justifiable pride. I have listened to it with interest and with admiration, and I may be permitted to add to it a point which Your Highness omitted. Those who have had the opportunity of judging know very well how large a part of the achievement was due to the unswerving loyalty and the personal enthusiasm of Your Highness. It was therefore eminently fitting that one who had seen so much services and worked so energetically for his country should be selected, as Your Highness was, to represent the Princes of India at the first Assembly of the League of Nations at Geneva. Such a record has inspired in all who know Your Highness a confidence that the administration of Your Highness' State will be characterised by an energetic progress and development."

The services of the Indian States during the war were acknowledged in handsome terms by H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, who, at the inauguration ceremony of the Indian Princes' Chamber at Delhi in 1921, speaking on behalf of His Majesty said :—

" The Princes of India have shown for many past years, and more particularly during the great war, their devotion to the Crown

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and their readiness to make any sacrifice for the safety and welfare of the Empire. When most was needed most was given. His Majesty has watched with feelings of deep pride and gratitude the part taken by Your Highnesses in the war. The devotion of those who gave personal service in the field, the patriotic zeal of those who sent their troops to the front and furnished recruits for the Indian Army, the lavish generosity of those who helped with money and material, for all these services His Majesty has asked me to convey to your Highnesses on his behalf a special message of thanks.

"Loyalty is a tradition with the Indian States. His Majesty knows well that, in good times or evil, he can always count upon the fidelity and unswerving support of the Indian Princes. But with the memories of the past six years ever present in his mind, he cannot forbear on this great occasion from making public acknowledgment. During the greatest struggle in the history of mankind the help that you gave at the outbreak of war, when the tale of your deeds and offerings sent a thrill of emotion throughout the British Empire, and your strenuous efforts in the dark days of 1918, when the fate of civilisation seemed to be hanging in the balance, can only be forgotten with the Empire itself. I am confident that the same spirit of loyalty and co-operation that your Hignesses displayed during the war will continue to animate you in the years to come."

In his preface to a volume recording the services of Indian Princes, Indian soldiers and Indian troops in the great war, Field-Marshal Earl Haig said the part played by Indian troops in the ordinary stages of the war in France, their gallant and courageous bearing in the face of strange conditions and adverse climate and great odds, were known in every corner of the British Empire. They accomplished splendid things and won high renown when there were

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Mr. Montagu's Statue at Jamnagar.

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few to uphold the banner of the King-Emperor. They discharged their duty out of the line with the devotion and sincerity of an oldfashioned civilisation, whenever the Indian cavalry regiments had occasion to come into action they displayed all the historic qualities of the fighting races of India." These troops received great inspiration from the fact that men like Maharaja Pertabsingh of Jodhpore, the Maharaja of Bikaner and the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar had come forward to fight the battle of the King-Emperor and the allied countries. No small honour and credit are due to the Jam Saheb for upholding the British flag.

As the late Maharaja of Gwalior once said "the great war threw a searchlight on our resources which were, of course, limited; but we hope that the services rendered by the Indian States proved to the world at large that the loyalty to the British Throne and the determination to give practical shape to that loyalty which lies behind those resources are indeed unlimited."

Considering the limited resources of Jamnagar, the contribution of the Jam Saheb in men and money must be acknowledged as magnificent. More than that, his personal service did credit to the Rajputs in particular and the Indian Princes in general as it proved to the countries of the world what capacity Indian Princes possessed. As the Maharaja of Gwalior pointed out "The Princes of India constituted a body whose interests deserve consideration."

When the present Amir of Afghanistan adopted a hostile attitude towards the Government of India and committed aggression on the British territories war had to be declared against Afghanistan and the Jamnagar squadron was again placed at the disposal of the Government by His Highness, who expressed an earnest wish that it should be employed on active service. This offer was

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accepted and the squadron was transferred from Karachi to the North-West Frontier. It was posted at Loralai and returned to Jamnagar in December, after the Afghan War was over. It may be noted that the squadron was absent on duty from the headquarters for about five years and that His Highness gave a public reception to the returning troops on their arrival in Jamnagar, warmly welcomed them, declared donations and gifts in cases of disablement, death, etc., and gave a poshak to every sowar and every officer. It is very gratifying to note that Commandant Ramsinhji was appointed an Officer of the Excellent Order of the British Empire by command of His Imperial Majesty in June in appreciation of his services during the period of the War.

There is no occasion which has done more to bring the ruling princes into closer relations with the paramount power than the war. In the Montagu-Chelmsford report, the authors state :—

'No words of ours are needed to make known the services to the Empire which the States have rendered. They were a profound surprise and disappointment to the enemy ; and a cause of delight and pride to those who knew beforehand the Prince's devotion to the Crown. With one accord the Rulers of the Native States in India rallied to fight for the Empire when war was declared ; they offered their personal services, and the resources of their States. Imperial Service Troops from over a score of States have fought in various fields, and with great gallantry and honour. The Princes have helped lavishly with men and horses, material and money, and some of them have in person served in France and elsewhere. They have shown that our quarrel is their quarrel ; and they have both learned and taught the lesson of their own indissoluble connection with the Empire, and their immense value as part of the polity of India."

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JAMNAGAR HOUSE, STAINES.

This house was lent by the Jam Saheb for the purpose of a Hospital for Officers during the war. The Jam Saheb contributed Rs. 8 lakhs towards the maintenance of this Hospital.

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Lord Reading during his visits to Jamnagar laid the foundation stone of a "Victory Memorial" which, as the Jam Saheb said, "will also stand as a token of the sacrifices made in the great war by this State, its subjects, and its ruler, in common with the whole of India and the British Empire, and will be a sacred sign post, to which those who have lost their kith and kin in the war, will point with pride and satisfaction that those who made the last sacrifice in the right cause have not slipped out from the grateful memory of their Ruler and their brethren.

"We did our humble share," continued the Jam Saheb, "in the stupendous effort the Empire put forth under His Imperial Majesty's banner. It was in proportion to our modest resources but if I may be permitted to say so, we were second to none either in the output of our contribution in men, money and materials or in the spirit and zeal which inspired and animated our co-operation.

"My State contributed three lakhs of rupees for war purposes in 1918, one lakh of rupees for aeroplanes, about four lakhs of rupees for Red Cross and Relief purposes, besides motor cars, tents, camels and horses: I paid a share of the expenses incurred in maintaining a Hospital for Officers at Staines which share amounted to about eight lakhs of rupees. About three-quarters of a crore were invested by the State and our subjects living here and in Bombay in the War Loan.

"I served personally at the Western Front for over a year: my nephew Lieutenant Savaisinhji served in the African Campaign for two years and was wounded in action, another nephew Lieutenant Dajiraj served in France for a year and a half and was the first member of a Ruling House in India to have made the supreme sacrifice in war—he was killed in action in September 1917—a third

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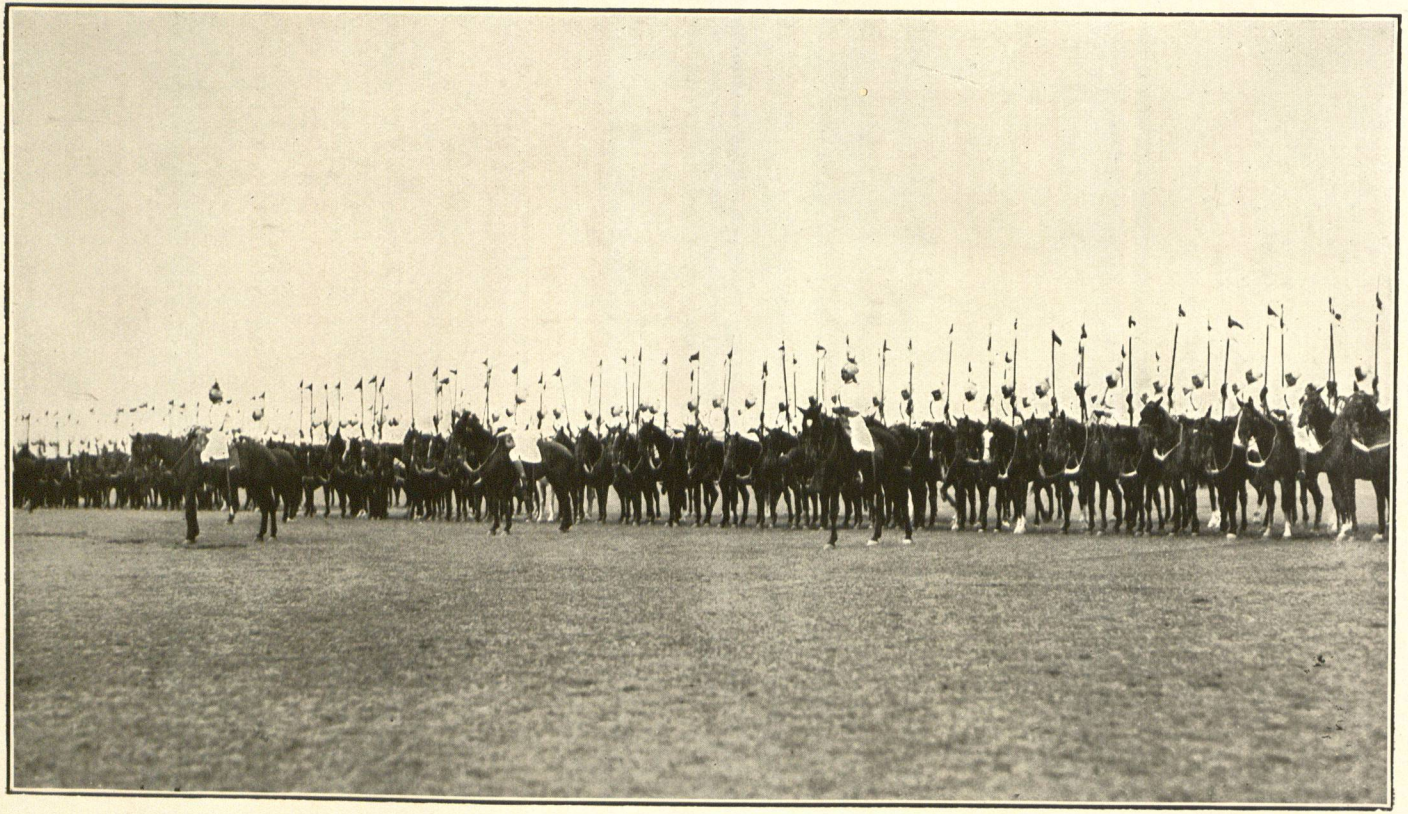
nephew Captain Hematsinhji—who is present here to-day—served in Mesopotamia.

" The Nawanagar Imperial Service Lancers performed garrison duty at Karachi throughout the war. A signalling party of the Lancers was in Egypt with the Expeditionary Force E. Immediately on the conclusion of peace, my Lancers were sent from Karachi to the North-West Frontier to quell a rising on that side where they were reported to have done good service.

" I will at this place refer to the reorganisation of our force now undertaken in consultation with, and under the guidance of the Military Authorities of the Government of India. It is the outcome of better mutual understanding and greater confidence that has resulted from the unstinted and loyal support, received particularly from the Indian States during the war, and I have no doubt that it will secure visible advantages for the Empire and add to its solidarity and strength, by placing the forces of the Indian States in a stronger position in point of training, equipment and efficiency."

The Jam Saheb has studied the principles of western civilisation in their own home. With the unerring acumen of a statesman he saw that the fortunes of India were inextricably linked with those of the British Empire. On a dispassionate survey of the situation as it developed from time to time he was deeply impressed by conviction that the highest development of India and the States was bound up with the British Empire and, although it was said that the war was waged to end the wars of the future, he was shrewd enough to recognise that the possibility of war would not be banished by the triumph of the allies. During the war the importance of sea-power was more clearly manifested than ever; the sea power of the British Empire has been the sure shield behind which India

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The Jamnagar Lancers, who did garrison duty during the war.

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enjoyed tranquillity during the fearful titanic struggle. But in India with its great land frontiers which must be effectively defended with the Soviet as our enemy, vigilance and preparedness must be maintained. It must be recognised that no part of the Empire can stand alone. The whole future of the Empire is dependent upon that unity. This conviction has grown upon the subject of this sketch because he was able closely to study the British people, their problems and the foundation of the Empire at the very centre of the Empire. Moreover, he further saw that India is definitely and probably wisely committed to Western principles in her social economic and political development. The Princes like the Jam Saheb, however, have year in and year out declared that this does not for a moment imply the uprooting of our country, our attachment to our own religion, and our adherence to all that is best in out ancient civilisation, but rather the grafting on this strong stock of those fresh shoots which will bear richer and abundant fruits. The stability of the Empire by means of unity and the preservation of ancient civilisation were the beacon light that guided the footsteps of the talented ruler of Jamnagar during the war.

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XXII

WELCOME TO H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES—PROGRESS RIDES THE WAVES IN THE COUNTRY—INVADING AFFECTIONS AND CONQUERING HEARTS.

HIS HIGHNESS was present in Bombay to welcome His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales on his historic visit to the Indian Empire. The reception of His Royal Highness by the Ruling Princes of the Presidency was most cordial and enthusiastic, and His Highness was privileged to take a prominent part in organising this reception at the unanimous desire of the Ruling Princes present in Bombay.

His Royal Highness's visit to Delhi in February 1922 was the occasion of a further gathering of the Ruling Princes of India in the capital of the Empire to render homage to the Imperial Heir. His Highness went there and was selected by the Princes as one of the four members of their Order to whom was assigned the honour of addressing words of welcome to His Royal Highness at the Great Durbar held in the famous Diwan-i-Am on the 16th February.

The Prince brought with him a stirring message from His Majesty the King-Emperor which touched the hearts of the Princes and people of India. His Majesty said :—

" On this day, when my son lands for the first time upon your shores I wish to send through him my greetings to you, the Princes and peoples of India. His coming is a token and a renewal of the pledges of affection which it has been the heritage of our House to re-affirm to you. My father when Prince of Wales counted it his privilege to see and seeing to understand the Great Empire in the East over which it was to be his destiny to rule ; and I recall with

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H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES

who, during his visit to India in 1921, made himself extremely popular among the Princes and People of India.

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thankfulness and pride that when he was called to the Throne, it fell to me to follow his illustrious example. With this same hope and in this same spirit my son is with you to-day. The thought of his arrival brings with a welcome vividness to my mind the happy memories I have stored of what I myself have learned in India ; its charm and beauty ; its immemorial history, its noble monuments, and above all, the devotion of India's faithful people, since proved, as if by fire, in their response to the Empire's call in the hour of its greatest need. These memories will ever be with me as I trace his steps, my heart is with him as he moves amongst you, and with mine the heart of the Queen-Empress, whose love for India is no less than mine. To friends whose loyalty we and our fathers have treasured, he brings this message of trust and hope. My sympathy in all that passes in your lives is unabated. During recent years my thoughts have been yet more constantly with you. Throughout the civilised world, the foundations of social order have been tested by war and change. Wherever citizenship exists, it has had to meet the test, and India like other countries has been called on to face new and special problems of her own. For this task her armoury is in new powers and new responsibilities with which she has been equipped. That with the help of these, aided by the ready guidance of my Government and its officers, you will bring those problems to an issue worthy of your historic past and of happiness for your future ; that all disquiet will vanish in well-ordered progress is my earnest wish and my confident belief.

" Your anxieties and your rejoicings are my own. In all that may touch your happiness, in all that gives you hope and promotes your welfare, I feel with you in the spirit of sympathy. My son has followed from afar your fortunes. It is now his ambition

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by his coming among you to ripen goodwill into a yet fuller understanding.

" I trust and believe that, when he leaves your shores, your hearts will follow him and that by his stay with you one link the more will be added to the golden chain of sympathy which for these many years has held my throne to India. And it is my warmest prayer that wisdom and contentment, growing hand in hand, will lead India into ever-increasing national greatness within a free Empire, the Empire for which I labour and for which, if it be the Divine will, my son shall labour after me."

Considering that before the Prince came to India the non-co-operators had decided to boycott him and all the ceremonies and functions held in his honour on the plea that the Prince was the guest of the bureaucracy only and was used by them in an attempt to bolster up a tottering regime—a nonsensical idea—and considering the situation of the country the Prince had a remarkable and an unexpectedly enthusiastic welcome in which loyal Princes of India played an important part.

His one great desire was that the Prince of Wales should visit Kathiawar and he was engaged on making elaborate preparations for the reception of His Royal Highness. It was a great disappointment to him and other princes and chiefs of Kathiawar that it was not possible to include Kathiawar in the Royal tour.

The Jam Saheb took a most loyal and active part in the reception of the Prince. In a thoughtful speech delivered in Delhi on the occasion of the reception of the Prince at the Dewan-i-Am, the Jam Saheb said :—

" Your Excellency, Your Royal Highness,—In my very happy and I trust not unfruitful earlier days in England I was once vastly

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astonished to find myself described in cold print as a conjuror. Would that this description were true ; for, following, as I do, their very eminent and very eloquent Highnesses the Maharajas of Gwalior, Bikaner and Patiala, I surely need—and sadly lack—some magic power in order even to attempt on behalf of my brother Princes (by whose gracious choice I am now speaking)—in order I say even to attempt, a tribute of welcome to Your Royal Highness in terms in any degree worthy of our Royal guest on this paramount occasion, I fail for lack of power but not in burning warmth of desire.

"Your Royal Highness, the Ruling Princes and Chiefs of India, united here, offer you, above all, a welcome of unity—the unity of our Order in deep and enduring loyalty towards His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor, towards the glorious House of Windsor. and towards Your Royal Highness, his beloved and so distinguished heir ; nay further, the unity of our Order with the rest of India in the mighty fabric of the British Empire as a true member of that great body politic. With unity as the keynote of our welcome we salute Your Royal Highness as a most happy and most successful instrument of unity and of amity. Once for all and all for one, we salute and welcome you. Your Royal Highness unites in your single person many attributes that merit the deep warmth of our welcome.

" Sir, you come to us, the loveable, the tactful, the experienced ambassador of fellow-feeling and friendship between all the scattered parts of the Empire. You come to us, a renowned Prince, the heir of the greatest Empire of all ages bearing on your shield, fostering in your heart, realising in your work, and actions the noblest and most princely of all mottoes—" I serve." You come to us as the first subject of His Imperial Majesty who rules the proudest and widest Empire in the annals of history. You come as the first citizen of the

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fairest and most benevolent State the world has ever known. You come as a soldier proved and tempered in the most devastating war of all time. Sir, you come as an officer of the tremendous Navy whose splendid ships stood between the mortal foe of freedom and the dominion of the world—the Navy whose far-flung protection has ever been the Empire's free gift to India and has ever guaranteed to Indian travel, wealth and commerce the freedom of all the oceans—lest we forget. You come to us as our friend and benefactor, willing to help us, bear our burdens, willing to know and love us as we would know and love you.

"Our heartfelt welcome to you on personal grounds is enhanced by a very clear and vivid recognition that Your Royal Highness's unique station as heir of the Imperial Throne, beyond all possible doubt or cavil, places your gracious visit far above the smallest trace of political character, nay far above the smallest trace even of well-intentioned statecraft. The Crown is high above politics and in the ordinary sense high above statesmanship.

"As Your Royal Highness yourself so happily declared in the moving speech to which we listened at Bombay, you have come in simple kindness and lively interest, in your own individual right, in order to see us and to know us. This pronouncement, this clear fact, we shall all do well to remember and to remember well.

"Your Royal Highness is welcome to us as a living and shining symbol of the splendid function which the Crown exercises as binding and holding together, in attachment and loyalty, the various and diverse parts of the Great Empire, to which we are so proud to belong. It may truly be said that Your Royal Highness has invested that function with a glowing reality, in an unparalleled and peculiar manner. Fighting the battles of the Empire, you stood

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shoulder to shoulder with soldiers hailing from all its parts; and in thus facing common dangers on common grounds. Your Royal Highness, as yet on the threshold of early manhood, was able to forge golden links of loving devotion to the Throne, such as no sovereign or his heir has had the privilege of forging heretofore.

"A critic might say that we live in troublous times and that your visit has found India in heavy waters; but may it not be that the unpropitious elements now visible are but the froth and foam which ever appear on the surface when progress rides the waves. May we not conceive that the present troubles are but healthy signs of a great forward movement, of a great striving after better things? And surely the history of the world teaches us that we progress only by striving and there is no striving without strife. However this may be, I believe that the deepest student of Indian history will find nothing in our age-long past that can compare with the progressive vitality of social and political life which has blossomed in India under the aegis and sceptre of three Imperial Sovereigns, of the last of whom you are the beloved heir.

"We are well aware that Your Royal Highness's tour in India full as it may appear on the surface, of pleasures and pastimes, as it was undertaken from deep and serious sense of responsibility so it is fraught with heavy toil. In your laborious work endured with that buoyancy of heart and energy of character that so elevate your personal charm, Your Royal Highness has again proved your manhood to us and won our deepest gratitude and sincere respect.

"You came to us in the 'Renown', a renowned Prince, a sailor, a soldier, an ambassador and a friend. You have seen us we hope in all our aspects.

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"Truly Your Royal Highness's visit is in the nature of a conquest but one vastly different from those which India has so often suffered in the past. We have been invaded by the sword; we have been invaded by the pen; we have been invaded even by the tongue. Your Royal Highness in contrast has invaded our affections and has conquered our hearts, garnering a swift and enduring success, the fruits of which will hereafter ensure happiness to millions in this immense land.

"When Your Royal Highness returns to tell His Imperial Majesty of your visit to us, you, Sir, will be able to use the words of another great conqueror but with a new meaning and respectfully present to His Imperial Majesty another triple plume—the triple plume of your own Indian tour—*Veni, Vedi, Vici.*"

Upon the non-co-operation movement itself, the visit of His Royal Highness has not been without effect. Before His Royal Highness left India there was a general feeling among the substantial classes of the population that the outrageous conduct of the non-co-operators had disgraced India's fair name. The fact that His Royal Highness's programme was carried out in detail despite the loudly proclaimed efforts of the non-co-operation leaders, has not failed to prove a severe set-back to their claims, on the whole it may be said that His Royal Highness's visit to India has been an inspiring example to every subject of His Majesty the King-Emperor, and for this reason alone, has proved of notable service to the Empire. Of His Royal Highness's own feelings, his Farewell Message gives evidence:—

"I bid farewell to India to-day with feelings of the deepest regret. I pride the hand of friendship which India has extended to me and shall ever treasure the memories of my first visit in future

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years. By God's help I may now hope to view India, her Princes and peoples with an understanding eye. My gathered knowledge will, I trust, assist me to read her needs aright and will enable me to approach her problems with sympathy, appreciate her difficulties and appraise her achievements. It has been wonderful experience for me to see the Provinces and States of India and to watch the machinery of the Government with interest. I have noted signs of expansion and development on every side. It has been a great privilege to thank the Princes and peoples for their efforts and sacrifices on behalf of the Empire in the great war and to renew my acquaintance with her gallant fighting forces. . . . . I trust that my sojourn in this country may have helped to add some grains to that great store of mutual trust and regard and of desire to help each other which must ever form the foundation of India's well-being. On my part I will only say that if the memories which I leave behind in India are half as precious as those I take away I may indeed feel that my visit has brought us closer together. That India may progress and prosper is my earnest prayer. I hope it may be my good fortune to see India again in the years to come."

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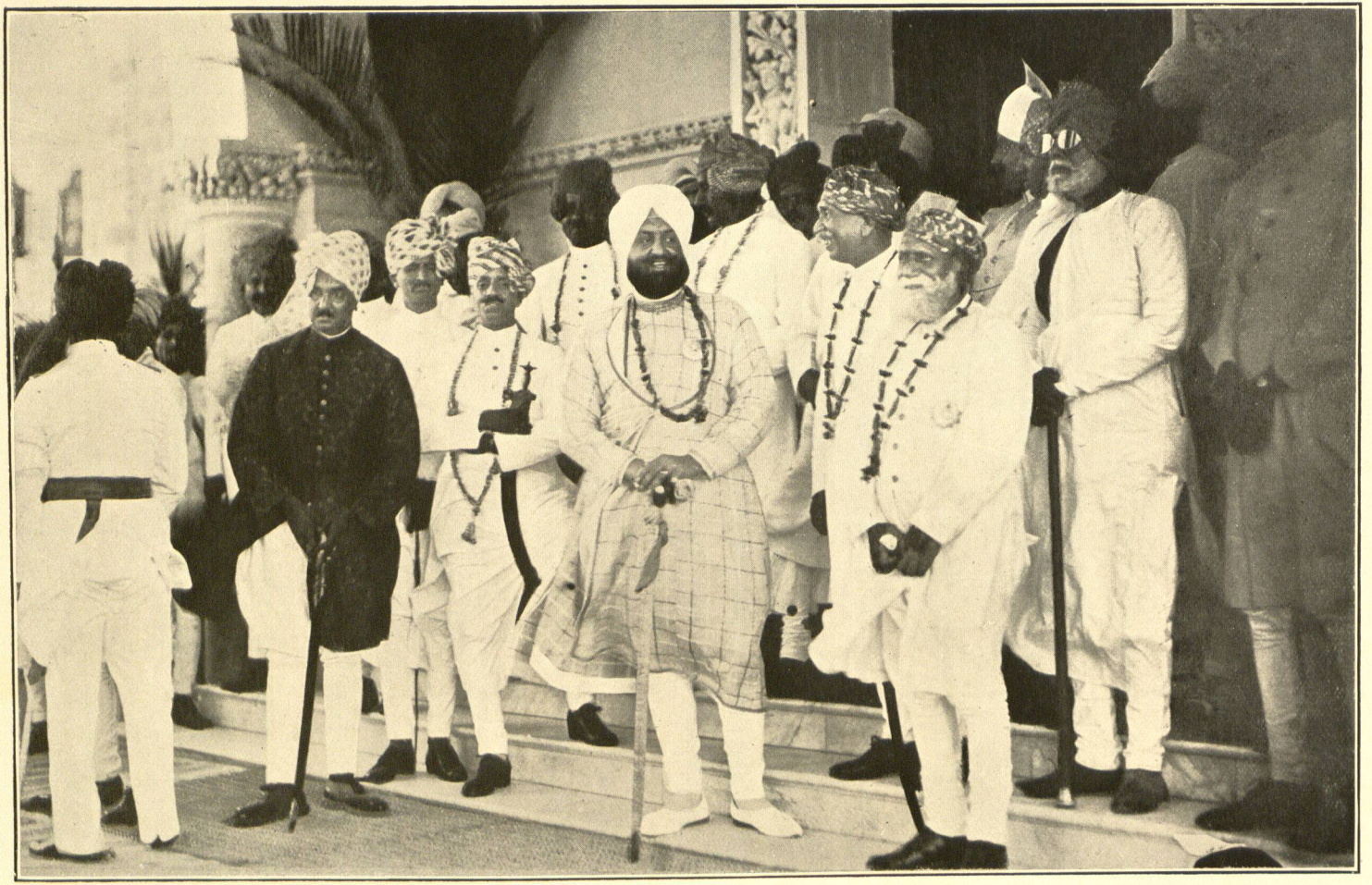
XXIII.

The Future of Indian States—Their Relation to British India.

THE future of the Indian States in the new India and their relation to the British Empire is now closely engaging the serious consideration of the Indian Princes. To them, as to many, it appears that political power is slipping away gradually from the hands of the Civil Service, the representatives of the Home Government in India, and passing into the hands of the Indian politicians. Their position is somewhat delicate. While undoubtedly they owe allegiance to the Throne, they have also to contemplate the adjustment of their relations with a future democratically governed India. They cannot forego their treaty rights and privileges but at the same time they must also live amidst changing conditions. It is therefore not surprising that they are said to be in favour of an immediate authoritative pronouncement on their status and relations with British India.

The Indian papers are giving considerable prominence to the subject, which has naturally excited some apprehension in the minds of the Princes owing to the aggressive nationalism which has manifested itself in British India. Their apprehension has valid reasons behind it. Nor is this apprehension of recent origin. So long ago as 1920, for instance, the Maharaja of Bikaner voiced one aspect of it on the occasion of the visit of Lord Chelmsford to his State saying that the Princes had no desire to encroach upon the domestic affairs of British India, just as they would not tolerate interference in their own affairs on the part of British India, he proceeded :

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H. H. The Maharaja of Patiala at Jamnagar.

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"The deep sympathy of the Ruling Princes with the legitimate aspirations of their fellow countrymen in British India has in the past been voiced in clear and unmistakeable terms on several public and private occasions. Nevertheless, the Princes in view of their Treaty relations, in view of their large stake in the country, and in view of the very real identity of interests which exists between the British Government and themselves, cannot look with equanimity on the possibility of the spread of doctrines inimical not only to the interests of good government but of the people themselves—doctrines intended to paralyse constituted authority, which some day are bound directly to affect the Princes' territories also. Nobody desires more ardently than the Princes the peaceful progress of their Motherland to full Nationhood, but that goal can assuredly be reached only by the process of evolution and not by revolution, by constitutional means and by the co-operation of the people with the Government and by these methods alone." At the time that speech was made more than one outrage had shaken India from end to end, exacerbating racial feeling and naturally impeding the cause of Indian progress. Since then British India has been started on the way to self-government and the Princes, watching that progress and the accompaniment of a steadily growing menace of communalism, have found no cause for discarding their apprehension: on the contrary, they have plentiful reasons for augmenting it.

In an illuminating article entitled "Some thoughts on the present position of Indian States" contributed to the Parsi New Year Number of the *Sanj Vartman* in 1926, Dr. Rushbrook Williams has pointed out that the changes now taking place in British India threaten the stability of the States in certain directions. The States do not fear Western democracy as such, since they are firmly convinced

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that their own traditional polity, with or without modifications, is at least equally efficacious for the well-being of their subjects, " Their fear arises from the apprehension lest the democratisation of the Government of India may result in the application of pressure in certain directions which they will find difficult to resist even though they believe these directions to be definitely undesirable."

A highly educated Parsi lady recently asked the writer : " Don't you think that at the first symptoms of an outbreak in British India, the subjects of Indian States will join the revolutionaries in British territory and make short shrift of the Princes ? " This lady showed profound ignorance of the remarkable position which a ruling Prince occupies within his own State. In the States the personal will of the ruler has everywhere a formidable and, in many States, a decisive influence. In Mewar, for example, which is the heart of Hinduism, the ruler enjoys the deepest veneration on account of his descent. He is the representative of a race of real antiquity and chivalry, and every Hindu feels respect for him and pays him homage as the descendant of great Hindu God Ram. Every stone at Chitore, the stronghold of Rajput chivalry, bespeaks the gallantry of its heroic defenders and every Rajput is proud of it. But the great Maharana is held in deep esteem not only by his own people but by every Sikh, Maratha, Parsi and even Mahomedan on account of his meritorious personal qualities. It may be mentioned in passing that, though he rules with much success on patriarchal lines and is worshipped as a demi-god, the ill-considered action of certain political officers has created much trouble for him in his old age. It is sad to think that an illustrious ruler who, in the words of His Majesty the King-Emperor, has "greatly upheld the great traditions" should have to fall in with an unworkable scheme of dyarchy.

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Representative institutions in the States are nowhere entrusted even with that imperfect control over the executive which they possess in British India. There is no Press in the States and public opinion is far weaker than in British India. Peace and amity reign between all communities—a circumstance to which pointed attention has recently been drawn by H. H. the Nawab of Bhopal and H. H. the Maharaja of Jodhpur. If they have any differences between themselves or with State officials they settle them amicably through the rulers. There is neither any demand nor any capacity for self-government which is quite foreign to their nature and traditions. The point was recently elaborated in a leading article in *The Times of India* which may appropriately be cited here: "The affairs of British India and of the States—it said—are daily becoming more deeply and inextricably interwoven. The British Indian Customs tariff and its partial utilisation—one almost wrote manipulation—for the protection of industries in British India as directly affect her people of States as they do those of a British Indian province. Meanwhile, as the problem thus necessarily engaged the attention of the Princes the constitutional changes in British India forced upon them another aspect of it. The Government of India, holding charge of the relations of the British Government with them, they saw passing more and more under the influence of a legislature elected in British India and they beheld that Government become composed in part of members drawn from British Indian political life.

And further the popular House of that legislature showed towards them no friendly feelings, but rather the reverse. We doubt whether many in political life in British India realise how deep was the unfavourable impression which the Legislative Assembly made upon the Princes by the hostility it showed in its treatment

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of the Princes' Protection Bill. The Princes have become alive to the fact that the Government of India of the future will be of different status from that with which they made their treaties and are taking counsel together as to how in view of that fact they can safeguard their position. The politically minded amongst their subjects are at the same time conferring with a view to utilising the constitutional changes in British India as a political lever for their own purposes.... Lord Irwin has spoken no truer word since his arrival in India than his caution in his Benares speech that whatever the solution of the question of the position and function of the States in India "its essential basis will be mutual agreement and confidence between the States and British India." Without such agreement and confidence there can be no solution at all. Happily, a number of the wisest of the Princes have been alert to lead their Order along roads congruous with the times, and there is an outstanding point of agreement between them and the British Indian politician. Many of the Princes have in their own territories introduced political changes conforming with the spirit of the times. Many, again, not always the same, have assisted in the formation of the Chamber of Princes which was one of the means suggested by Lord Chelmsford and Mr. Montagu for assisting the ideal of a federated India. The great point of agreement between the Princes and British Indian politicians is that the Constitution inaugurated in British India under the Act of 1919 is not ideally suited to Indian political genius. It follows from this that when one Prince or another declines to establish for his own subjects anything precisely like it, the leaders of unofficial political thought in British India and those in the States who think with them should be the first to concur in his refusal. There is evidently broad ground whereon to hope and to work for

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that mutual agreement and confidence between the States and British India for which Lord Irwin spoke and the opportunities which it offers for constructive efforts for the good of all India are unbounded."

In a remarkable article which appears in *The Round Table* for September, 1927 (received when these pages were in the Printer's hand) the position of a Ruling Prince in his own State has been correctly described. "He appears the unquestioned master all around him, the embodiment of proud tradition, the living personification of sovereignty; he has freely lavished upon him a popular devotion and reverence which is almost without parallel in the modern world. Even where he rules badly, his people seem to ascribe their complaints to the defects of his advisers. Everything good is attributed to the Prince; anything that is unpopular must, in the view of his people, be the fault of ministers. The Prince is the pivot upon which the whole State turns ..... His word is law and his slightest wish a command."

Though the Parsi lady referred to above was profoundly ignorant of the impregnable position of an Indian Prince, she fairly accurately described the ambition and sinister motives that lurk in the heart of the Extremists and which cause uneasiness to Indian Princes. Would they ever consent to be controlled and swayed by a popular assembly deriving its powers from an ignorant electorate in British India? Indian politicians do not possess the tradition of rule and, as the article in *The Round Table* suggests, from the standpoint of an Indian aristocrat, this particular class has no place in the scheme of Government. How can they, as the Princes, be expected to rule successfully? Have they any real stake in the country and (again to quote from *The Round Table*)

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"Can they command the unquestioning allegiance of fighting men, prepared to die in their service? Have they any traditions of knightly honour and the pride of breeding which can alone enable power to be exercised wisely and firmly?" The Indian Princes "see that the personnel of the Government of India is being increasingly indianised. They apprehend that a day may come when a Prince may perhaps find himself under the political control of his own native born subjects." The Indian Princes are naturally apprehensive that when the Government of India become more and more democratic, their interests and dignity will suffer and they therefore desire that their position in the future polity of India should be clearly defined and adequately safe-guarded without any delay. This subject is now receiving the attention of H. H. the Maharaja of Patiala, Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes. And members of the Standing Committee of the Chamber Dr. Rushbrook Williams, Foreign Minister of Patiala, and Colonel Haksar, an able and trusted Minister of the late Maharaja of Gwalior, were sent to England in the summer of 1927 to take opinion of eminent counsel—Sir John Simon and others—as to the rights of Indian States who are in treaty relations with His Majesty's Government, with the King in Parliament as the heir of the East India Company; and from the interview they gave to the representative of the Press on their return to India in August 1927, it seems that the result of their mission in England has been satisfactory.

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H. H. the Maharaja of Patiala, the Premier Sikh Ruler, and the present Chancellor of the Indian Princes' Chamber who distinguished himself as a Statesman at the Geneva Conference of the League of Nations in 1925.

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XXIV

Epilogue.

THE preceding pages must have convinced the reader that the Jam Saheb is a man of many and varied accomplishments. His dominating sense of loyal duty to His Majesty, his fidelity to the members of his own Order and his dutiful service to his own people command public admiration. What first strikes an observer who meets him is his personal charm, the warmth and wealth of his humanity, and his considerateness for those who work with him and for him. A sportsman in the best sense of the term, he has borne the burden of administration which involves duties of unexampled complexity and severest strain, physical and mental, in a manly spirit, never allowing himself to be deterred by obloquy or discouraged by temporary checks. In whatever sphere he has moved he has radiated vitality and charm, and, whether in the field of sport or in the sphere of administrative activities or in the larger field of service to the Empire, either in the hour of supreme national crisis in the history of England or in the peaceful and diplomatic deliberations in the Councils of the League of Nations, he has displayed the same restless energy, the same resourcefulness, and the same masterful personality which distinguished him on the cricket field.

The very name Ranji, the Lion of Kathiawar, is sufficient to inspire awe among the evil-doers in the territory over which he presides. It may, for instance, be said without the least exaggeration that it was his vigorous policy and the fear that his name inspired that was responsible for the disappearance of those daring gangs of

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armed dacoits who were formerly a terror not only in Jamnagar but in other States of Kathiawar. The magnitude and importance of the service in the suppression of the dacoits can only be understood when it is remembered that these bands of dacoits were of no ordinary kind; nor was there one Robin Hood; they carried on what would in other countries be regarded as a guerilla warfare. In freeing the country from that pest the Jam Saheb has rendered no mean service to his people.

An old-fashioned writer would have constructed a kind of parable out of that episode, taking the dacoits as typical of the obstacles which the Jam Saheb has had to overcome in bringing his State to its present high state of development. But it is scarcely necessary to point the moral or adorn the tale with any such elaboration of argument. Those who know His Highness recognise in him not only a Prince Charming who compels their admiration but a man of frank and simple character which requires no elaborate explanation in order that it may be fully understood. This book, it is true, records at length much that he has done. It is scarcely a tithe of his achievement that has been disclosed yet it may serve to illustrate his power and character as well as the infinity of services he has performed for his State. The foreword to this book, by the author's accomplished friend Mr. Rushbrook Williams deals mainly with the part that the Jam Saheb has played as the interpreter to England of the great order of Indian Princes. That role has been as great as it is memorable, and in the hope that it may be still farther sustained, this book has sought to illustrate the importance of an Indian State and its Ruler in relation to British India—a subject about which there unhappily is much ignorance both in England and in India. Some writers on India, it is true,

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Ranji as an expert Shikari

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are fully aware of its great importance. But since not many of them have borne testimony to the commanding influence and the fine ability of H. H. the Jam Saheb it is all the more noteworthy that the sketch given in this book should have received confirmation from so independent an authority as Mr. J. A. Spender, the accomplished journalist, who came to India last year as the special correspondent of the *Westminster Gazette*. His pen picture is vivid and life-like and it is therefore reproduced as the testimony of a man whose judgment commands respect both in England and in India.

In his book " The Changing East," published by Messrs. Cassell & Co., Mr. Spender writes :

About two hundred miles north of Bombay, lying along the southern coast of the Gulf of Cutch is the little State of Nawanagar, one of the Kathiawar Group, ruled over by the famous cricketer Ranjitsinhji, now His Highness the Maharaja Jam Sahib. What to do with famous cricketers when they have made their last centuries and laid down their bats is a problem unsolved in Great Britain, and still deserving the earnest consideration of the M.C.C. Here in this corner of India it has found its perfect solution ; for the famous cricketer, still in his prime, is devoting himself heart and soul to the welfare of the people committed to his charge and to the development of his and their estate, and bringing to his task an energetic resourceful spirit which proves that his strokes are by no means exhausted.

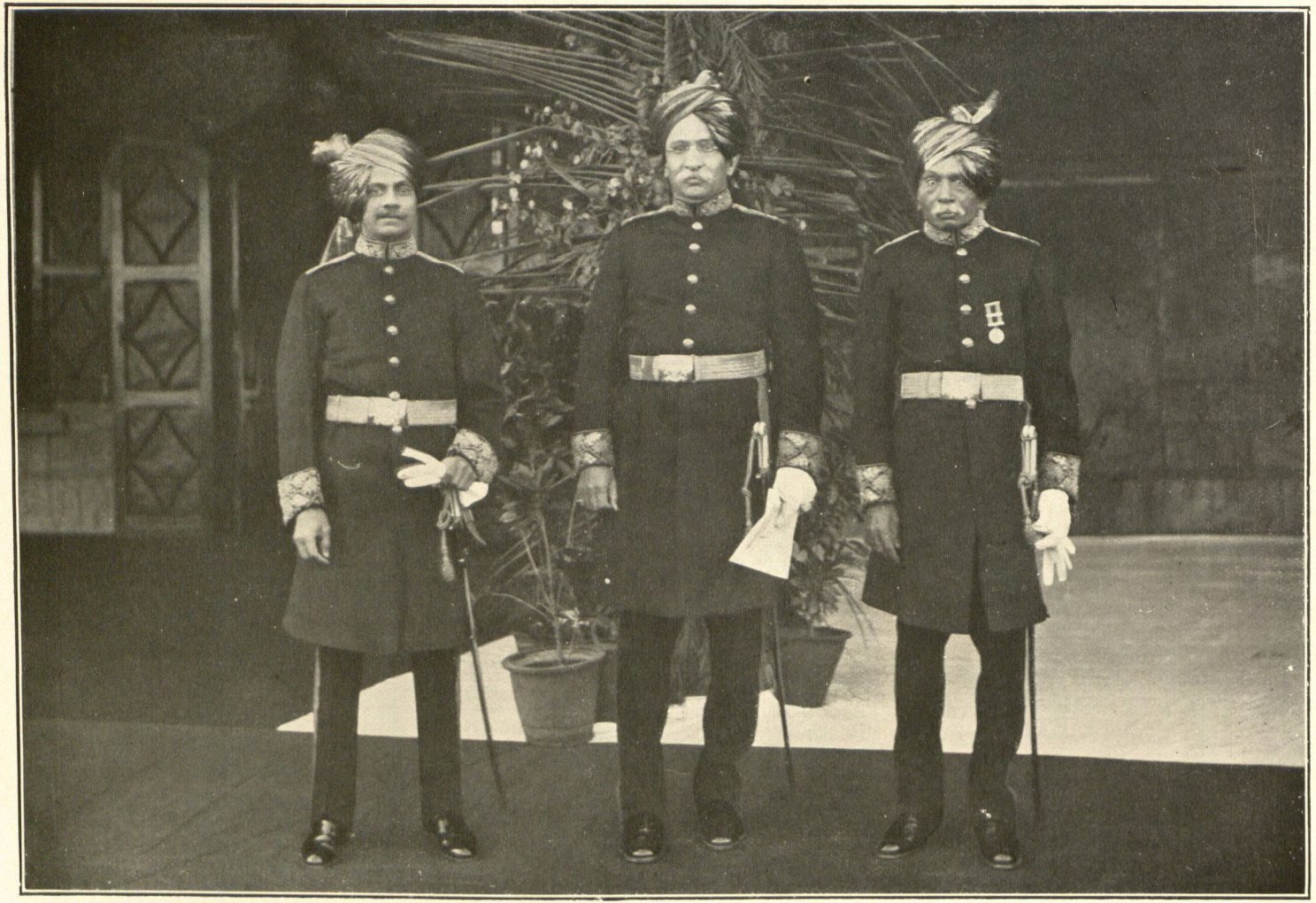
Nawanagar is a little State by the Indian measurement but it is as big as three average English counties, and contains a population of 400,000 people distributed among 400 villages with one town of more than 50,000 inhabitants and another of 20,000 inhabitants.

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Here is ample opportunity for a benevolent autocrat who takes his duties seriously. The Jam Saheb is no arbitrary despot. He has a Cabinet of three Ministers; his towns have their municipalities; his villages their headmen; he has adopted the system of British law; and cases, both civil and criminal, are tried by judges with five assessors. There is all the apparatus of a modern state, but the ruler keeps his hand on every department, and is incessantly moving about between his towns and villages, learning the needs of his people, hearing their complaints, planning ways of meeting their emergencies. His comings and goings are not merely the gracious visitations of royalty bestowing smiles and favours; he is Prime Minister and Inspector and Chief Engineer and Court of Appeal and modern earthly Providence to all the 4,00,000 and, wherever he goes, there is business to do, reports to be considered and action to be taken.

For his territory is not, like a stretch of green and smiling English country-side, where the rain falls plentiful and one crop or another is sure; it is during nine months of the year a great brown waste with a few oases in it, and but for an incessant struggle to conserve its scanty water, might all fall back into desert and famine. I can imagine a painter thinking its landscape delightful; the faint blue hills to the east, the rolling plains, the dark green mangrove plantations on the salt marshes, and the line of sea beyond give an exhilarating sense of space, colour and atmosphere. But one can see at a glance that it is a thirsty land. For four successive years the monsoon on which it absolutely depends for the sustenance of its population has either failed or been seriously short, and its ruler has to reckon with the possibility that the careless deforestation of former times has permanently reduced its annual rainfall. What

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Members of Cabinet, Jamnagar State.

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then is to be done? A spiritless man might accept it as the act of God and sit down in resignation while the population dwindled or moved away, but the Jam Saheb has taken it as a challenge to make good by science and human effort what Nature denies. He has satisfied himself that the scantiest monsoon will supply enough water for the whole territory if only it can be retained and stored instead of being left to run off into the sea. From that beginning two things follow. Dams must be built to hold up the rivers and contain the water; new wells must be sunk and old wells sunk deeper to tap the water at a lower level. Both operations are going on all over the country with State aid and under State supervision. Nawanagar is lucky in having an unlimited quantity of excellent stone and first class masons among its populations. The cost of public works is thus reduced to a minimum, and dams can be constructed with the granite of the country on foundations of its rock.

The estimate of the ruler is that with the works now in progress and 25,000 wells the country will be safe from any famine or serious dearth. State-aid for the sinking of the wells, which cost about a thousand rupees each, is thus, for the present, a cardinal point of public policy. The State gives a free grant, and advances a further sum at a low rate of interest; the cultivator does the rest. He needs little urging, for he often knows that his existence depends on getting water. The result is that, in spite of a short monsoon, this territory strikes one as one of the most prosperous in India. Its people are well fed, smartly dressed, and for the most part live in substantial stone-built houses, instead of in the mud-huts that one sees in such profusion elsewhere. A large proportion of its children are being educated in elementary or secondary schools, and a few years hence illiteracy will be extinct. Its hospitals and dispensaries are model

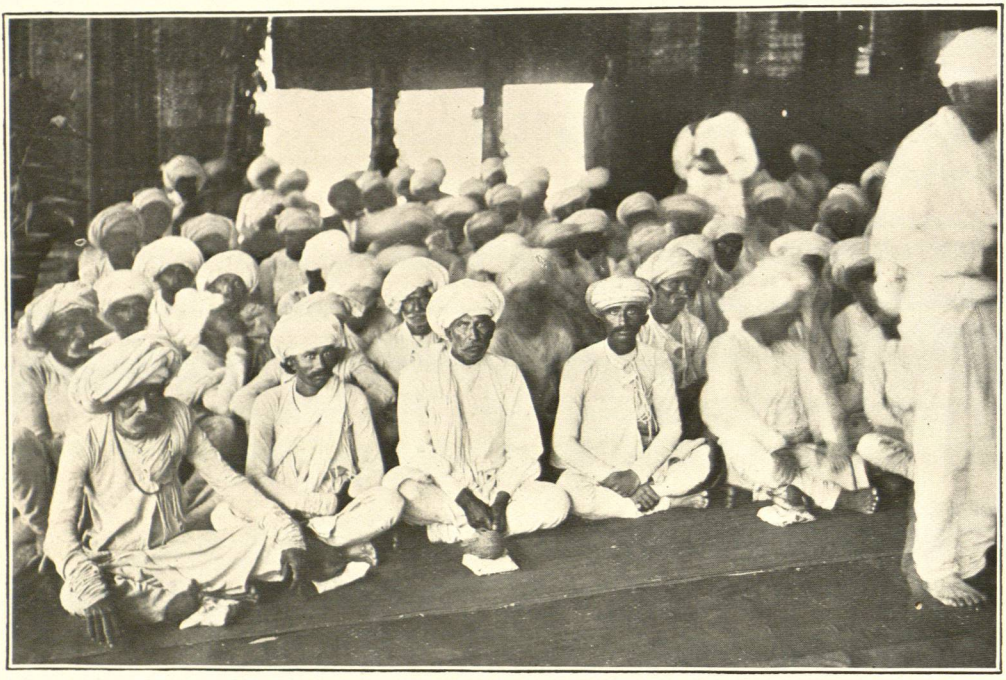
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institutions according to Western standards, and it is a pleasure to see their spotless cleanness and modern equipment. The principal medical officer is a man of the highest competence, and he is aided by well-qualified assistants and nurses. To him falls the supervision of jails, which conform to the same high standard. While the civil surgeon in British India has often to lament that the District Boards of municipalities will not give him the money he thinks necessary for the minimum of efficiency, here a benevolent autocrat sees that nothing is stinted for the health services, or indeed, for any other service which he thinks will bring in a return for the benefit of the people.

There is nothing here of the "unchanging East." Wherever one goes there is a pleasant sense of bustle and activity. The little ports on the Gulf of Cutch are being developed, and bring in a constantly increasing revenue, which has been a veritable god-send in the years of dearth. The town of Nawanagar is being rebuilt with solid stone buildings of two storeys or more, some in crescent form with arcades below, and broad roads are being run through what were formerly mean streets. Close to the new market is a sitting statue of Edwin Montagu, an old friend of the Jam Saheb, who is here commemorated as the author of the Indian reforms. The style of architecture is a blend of East and West, and Hindu ornament embellishes Doric columns in a manner which may startle a severe taste. But it all is very much alive, and in keeping with the bright sun and glittering atmosphere.

I am not writing a guide book, or I could dwell on the extraordinary interest of the old buildings in the city of Nawanagar. The old palace within the walls is a labyrinth of closely packed and richly carved buildings, and the ceilings, and the walls are covered with paintings telling the story of the state and its rulers and the struggles

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The agriculturists, who form the back-bone of the prosperity of the State, awaiting the arrival of the Jam Saheb to attend their meeting.



Jamnagar shepherds and their flock at a watering place.

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The Old Arab Infantry.



Saifi Institute Madressa.

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by which they kept the Moghuls at bay. One can still see in a room in this old palace piles of pikes and swords, just as they were thrown down three hundred years ago after the decisive battle with the Moghuls which secured the independence of the State. Outside the city, one in the middle of a lake and one beside it, are two great round forts of a type which I have seen nowhere else in India. These too abound in curious detail and have painted chambers within, which may occupy one by the hour in puzzling out their story. But the main interest here is the development of the modern state under its benevolent autocrat.

The villages of Nawanagar are divided into twelve groups, each of which is inspected at least once in the year by the ruler. It fortunately happened that the inspection of one of the outlying groups, comprising seventy villages, fell due during my visit and the ruler invited me to accompany him.

We travelled seventy miles across the territory in his very comfortable train, and Ford cars took us by bullock-cart tracks over the twelve miles that separated the rail-road from the village where the inspection was to be held. The way was over a rolling plain, with the hills not far off, and chink and black-buck came bounding across the road in front of the cars. We stopped to kill a large cobra which had been unwise enough to deploy on our track, and made a tame but futile attempt at escape into a tree. All the villages on the route were decorated, and the children sent up a British cheer to greet the ruler.

Our destination was a large, clean, and substantially built village, and all the clans and their bullock-carts and their camels were gathered about it. The durbar was held in the court house, where the police magistrate tries his cases, and the Jam Saheb sat

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in the magistrate's chair, with his English friends on either side of him. Except his secretary no officials were with him. This is the first rule of these proceedings. The people are to be absolutely free to lay their petitions and make their complaints without the presence of officials. The officials will have their turn, but not till all the others have spoken. The proceedings are informal and paternal. The Jam Saheb is their father: what he says they will accept, but no one must come between him and them.

First came in the patels or headmen of the seventy villages, venerable-looking men, dressed in laced smocks and white linen trousers, with white or coloured turbans. They sit cross-legged on the floor and seem perfectly at their ease. Some of them bring written petitions, which the Secretary collects for reference to the departments. Others have statements to make and speak very earnestly and fluently in their own tongue, Gujerati, which unfortunately I am unable to follow. I gather that they are making small complaints about assessments or police regulation. All are listened to patiently by the ruler, who either disposes of the matter off-hand or promises inquiry. The hearing takes about half an hour; they go away with respectful salaams and apparently well content.

Then come the cultivators, about a hundred in number, to my eye a more varied type and generally younger. Some are clean shaven and have long hair with flat turbans; others are bearded and moustached and have high turbans with long streamers. One or two Brahmins wear caps and have their caste-mark on their foreheads. For the next half hour the same process is repeated. There are petitions and complaints—that the headman has not behaved fairly, that pig, panther, jackal, or deer are doing more than the tolerated amount of damage to crops, that water is short, and so forth. But

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Kileshwar, a new hill-station at Jamnagar.

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there are also lively personal incidents. A sullen looking lad complains that his wife has deserted him, and that his father-in-law is detaining her and demands to have her back. The Jam Saheb asks if they will accept his judgment instead of going to court about it, and the parties consent. Then the father-in-law gets up and tells his story, which is that the lad has ill-treated and even knifed his wife, and that her life will not be safe if she returns to him. The husband is asked what he has to say ; he scowls and glowers, but remains silent as though his tongue was paralysed. In the presence of the Jam Saheb he dare not deny what the whole company knows to be true ; so judgment goes by default and the father-in-law is told to keep his daughter. Then as the company troops out, a veiled woman flits in and presents a petition and is told that she must have it stamped and presented in due form. She comes back later, having satisfied these formalities, but I could not discover what her complaint was about.

After the farmers, come the merchants, money-lenders (banias), traders, shopkeepers and others, who do the business of the villages and dispose of their surplus produce. They seem prosperous people and some of them are of the sharp, aquiline type. Their principal spokesman is a tall fellow with bushy, dark moustache and mountainous blue turban. They have two complaints to make. First, that the duties on wine and tobacco—of which they have a monopoly—are too high and make these commodities disproportionately dear compared with their prices in neighbouring states ; second, that the restriction of the rate of interest to 12 per cent. for the benefit of the farmers is unfair on them, and should be removed or relaxed. On the second plea they get the short but expected answer that the 12 per cent. is ample, and that the Jam Saheb will

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not have his cultivators ground down by usurious money-lenders. On the other point he argues with him. Wine and tobacco are luxuries, and those who want them must be ready to pay. What other states may do does not concern him. So far as he is concerned, he will be well content to lose the whole revenue if his people will give up smoking and drinking, but so long as they smoke and drink they must continue to pay. Having put their case, the merchants are apparently quite content to have it decided against them; the man with the blue turban subsides, and they troop out apparently in high good humour.

Last come the officials. They too sit on the floor while the Jam Saheb briefly summarises the proceedings and tells them of certain things to be inquired into and put right. And so, having lasted about three hours the session ends. During the whole of the time the villagers, with all their families and bullocks and goats and camels, have sat in a circle about the court-house, the scarlet and orange of the women's dress and the gold embroidered finery of the children lending an indescribable brilliancy to the whole scene as one looks out on it from the dark court-house. The interest is enormous, and as each deputation comes out it is eagerly questioned and voices are raised in shrill conversation. Finally, the Jam is garlanded and his friends are garlanded, and the little procession is re-formed and make off, while the crowd cheer lustily and children sing the State anthem.

Another day we go twenty miles across country to the sea-shore and are carried in "dandies" over the mud flats out to the great wooden zareba just below low water mark where the pearl oysters are being brought up. The shore is lined with birds of all sorts and hundreds of flamingos, rising suddenly from the flat, make a glorious rose-red cloud against the blue sky. Ten thousand oysters

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Hospital for Women.



Aides-de-Camp of H. H. The Jam Saheb.

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are collected, and we go back in procession with them to a little durbar, where the Jam Saheb in the shadow of his tent presides over their opening. About fifty fishermen squat round, each with a brass platter in front of him on which the oysters are piled. It is a breathless business. The pearl of great price may be found, or nothing may be found, or only the comparatively worthless " baroques " and inferior kinds. Three out of four containing nothing, and the fourth has a little cluster in its heart, and so on through varying kinds and qualities till one, in the third thousand yields the perfect product, of a size, lustre and colour which the expert who is watching pronounces to be of the highest quality, as good, and when all are and worth at least £ 500. Another in the sixth thousand is nearly as good and when all are counted up, there are 3,500 of various sizes and qualities roughly assessed at £ 3,000 in value.

It is a messy business, for the pearl oyster is not the elegant transparent creature that is brought up at Whitstable or Colchester, but a large coarse kind, and the pearls have to be dug out of its yellow-brown interior. But it is more exciting than hunting for mushrooms, and those who watch see a possible new source of revenue for the State which may presently be converted into dams, wells, schools and hospitals. The fishermen are a weather beaten lot, hardened by much buffeting during the weeks of monsoon in the Gulf of Cutch, and some of them are in the habit of running every day the sixteen miles to Nawanagar and back to take their fish to market. Most of them have dyed hair and beards, and we gravely discuss with them, while they open the oysters, whether it is right to dye, and if so, which is the most becoming colour and the fastest against exposure in this climate. There is general agreement that dyeing is a necessity since it is not well that

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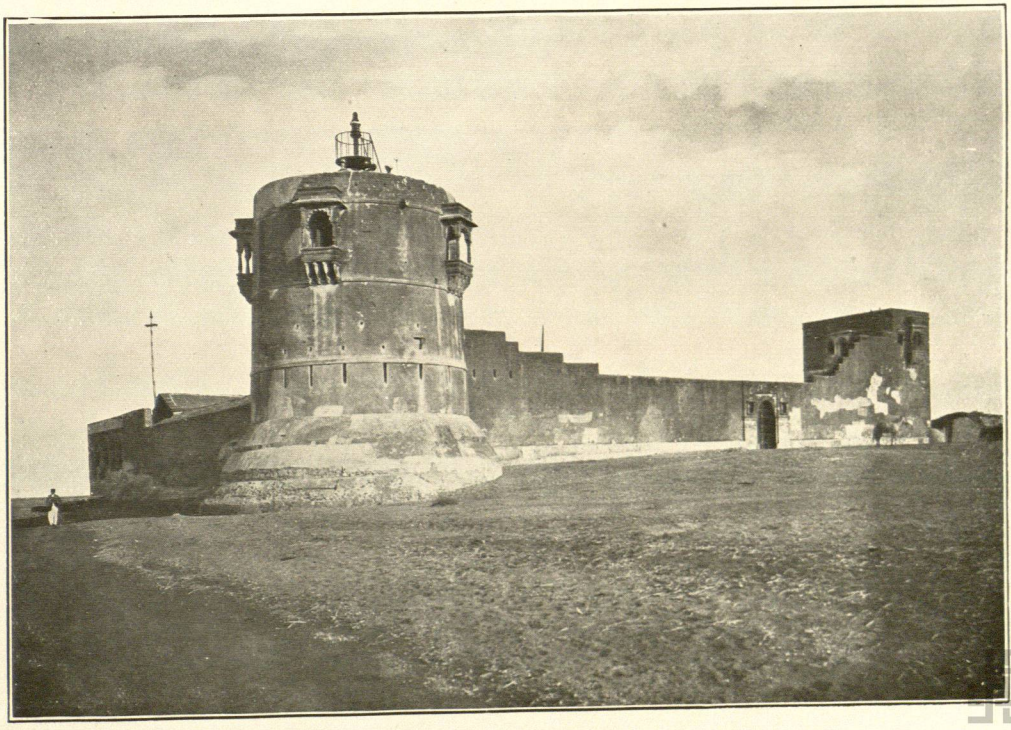
the young should know the age of their elders and, though there is a minority for black, a burly man who seems to be the leader of the party carries the day for his own colour, which is a pinkish brown. Then the conversation passes to the inconveniences of fasting, a subject rendered opportune by the fact that they are all Mahomedans, and since this is the month of Ramazan, they have eaten nothing since sunrise and will eat nothing till after sunset. The wish was piously expressed that the Prophet had chosen a month in which the sun rose later and set earlier, but it was thankfully acknowledged that there were worse months than March.

I bear away from Nawanagar the impression of a very able, benevolent man doing dutifully the work which has fallen to him and combining new and old in a very interesting way. He and his people are like a great family ; they all gather round him and almost any day one may see a large part of his Civil Service playing tennis on the courts behind the palace, while he looks on and criticises their game. The thought flits through one's mind that if there were five hundred men like him in India—men trained and educated in England but knowing India as only Indians know it—and they each had half a million Indians to look after, some part of the Indian problem would be solved. There are unfortunately not five hundred Jam Sahibs in India, and though he modestly tells me that he is a typical case of an Indian prince, I have yet to verify that fact. The relation of the Government of India to the Ruling Princes is a vastly important subject which will need the most careful consideration, if and when we go forward to a Federal Constitution. The difficulty is to find a general principle which will give the good rulers the freedom which they ought to have to develop their States in their own way and yet prevent the bad from misgoverning or oppressing their subjects.

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Brothers and Nephews of H. H. The Jam Saheb.

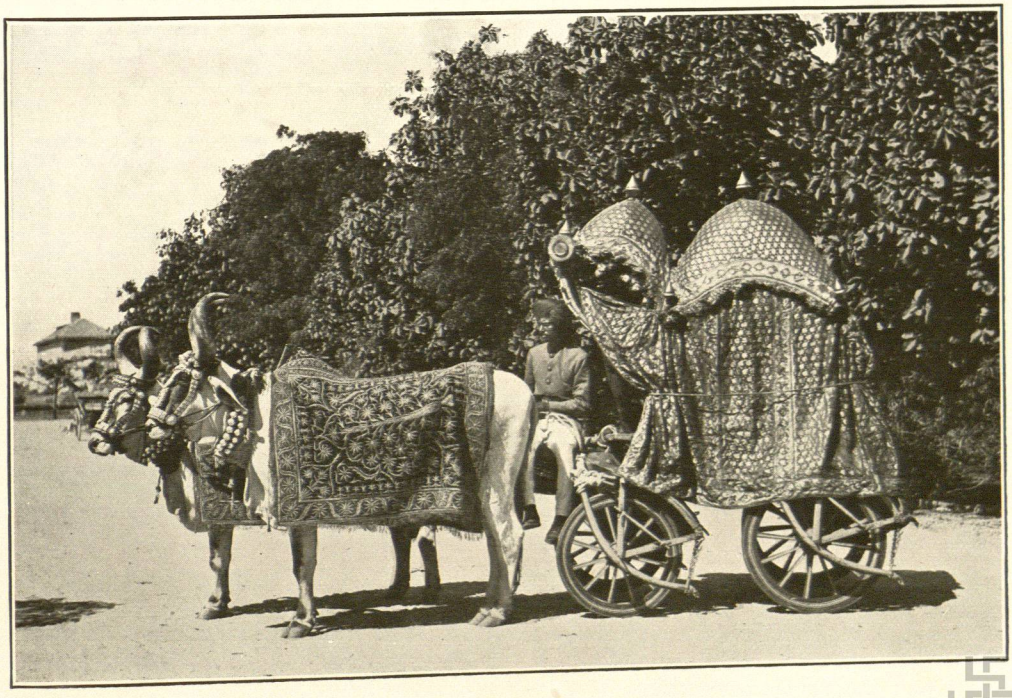


The Rozi Light House.

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A Camel Cart with Drummers.



A Bullock Car for Purdah Ladies.

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Ranjitsinhji in State Dress.

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NOTE.

The photograph and pictures in this book were supplied by Messrs. Joshi and Vara, Photographers to H. H. the Jam Saheb, who placed their splendid collections at the disposal of the author who acknowledges their invaluable service in promptly supplying all that he wanted.

The author's thanks are also due to Messrs. Vernon and Company who supplied some beautiful pictures taken by them on the occasion of the Jam Saheb's installation in 1907.

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APPENDICES

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I

INSTALLATION OF "RANJI."

A Brilliant Assemblage.

Reproduced from the "Times of India."

HIS HIGHNESS JAM SAHEB RANJITSINGHJI arrived at Jamnagar on 10th March 1907 by a special train from Porbander, in the company of Mr. Fitzgerald, C.S.I., Agent to the Governor of Bombay in Kathiawar. His Highness was given a hearty send off by the Rana of Porbander and his subjects the previous night, and the Jam Saheb travelled in a saloon placed at his disposal by H. H. the Nawab of Junagadh. The train steamed into Jamnagar station exactly at 6-30. From five o'clock people had begun to collect at the station and by six o'clock the platform was crowded to overflowing with people of all denomination and castes. All the State officials were present to pay their respects to their new Ruler, for whose future the highest hopes are formed.

As soon as the train halted, Mr. Naranji Dwarkadas and Mr. Joshi Harishwar Mahadeo, Pandit of Bombay, and Mr. Chhotalal Baxi of Junagadh were received by His Highness in his saloon. The astrologer was consulted as to the most auspicious time for alighting from the carriage. The time was given and accordingly, at 7 o'clock, the upright figure of Ranjitsingh was seen to emerge from the saloon. His Highness was in Darbar dress and wore a beautiful pearl necklace. His Highness saluted those present as he alighted from the train.

Jamnagar station at this time presented a scene of the most lively animation. On one side were drawn up the Jamnagar troops, which presented arms on the Jamsaheb's appearance while the Porbander band struck up the "National Anthem."

At His Highness' desire, Dewan Mirwanji was immediately presented to him. The rush of people at the station was so great that it was impossible

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for the other State officials to be formally presented and Mr. Fitzgerald and Kumar Devisingh, brother of the Jam, had great difficulty in making a passage for His Highness, as people rushed in to garland their ruler.

The people were frantic with enthusiasm and cheers rang loudly through the station. A photograph was taken as His Highness was standing near the saloon carriage and the Jam then passed out of the station and accompanied by Mr. Fitzgerald, Major Beale and Kumar Devisingh, rode to the summer residence of the Jam. En route His Highness met with a tremendous ovation. Although the hour of arrival was early, large crowds of people thronged the road and approaches to the station and the whole route was lavishly decorated with flags and banners, shields and triumphant arches, bearing suitable inscriptions of welcome. The Hindus, Parsis and Mohamedans adorned their buildings with ever-green and flowers, and as Ranjitsingh's carriage passed flowers were showered upon him from terraces and windows by the way.

The route chosen for the entry into the city had been marked out by the astrologers, according to the ancient usages and beliefs prevalent in the State. It was the astrologer who fixed the time for the arrival and for alighting from the train, and the route for entering the city ; and it is the astrologer also who has fixed the time for the installation ceremony on Monday. The installation has had to be hurried forward, because, according to the Hindu sashtras, no auspicious ceremony should take place for two months after the date. Before His Highness alighted from his saloon a number of young maidens went into the carriage and performed the ceremony of happy augury for the future welfare of the ruler and similar ceremonies were performed by the lady members of His Highness' family at his residence. His Highness' mother and other relations had arrived a day previously.

For the installation ceremony on Monday numerous distinguished guests are pouring in from Rajputana, Central India and other parts of the country. Though plague is unhappily raging in the town, people have come from long distances to testify by their presence to the great popularity in which new

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Jamsaheb is held. For the accommodation of the guests quite a town of tents has sprung up on the maidan facing the guest house. And the camps are beautifully laid out. There are large shamianas for dining and drawing rooms and the camps have been elegantly decorated.

A Grand Durbar will be held on Monday for the installation of Ranjitsinhji as Jam, the Durbar taking place in a large shamiana erected in front of the palace.

The guests who have already arrived include Mrs. and Miss Fitzgerald, Major, Mrs. and Miss Condant, Capt. Adams (Commanding the Kathiawar Imperial Service troops), Capt. Burton (Prant Political Officer), Mr. Shoe bridge (Traffic Manager, Kathiawar Railways), Kumar Shri Devisinhji, brother of H. H. Ranjitsinhji), Mr. Naranji Dwarkadas of Bombay and others. Eight special trains are expected to-day bringing Indian Princes among whom are expected to be Col. H. H. Maharaja Sir Pratab Singh of Idar, H. H. Mahrao Shri Khengarji Savai Bahadur of Cutch, H. H. the Maharaja of Alwar, H. H. the Maharaja of Jodhpur, H. H. Nawabsaheb Rasulkhanji of Junagadh. H. H. the Rana of Porbander, H. H. the Rajasaheb of Dharangadhara and Kumar Manchir Kachhar of Jasdan.

Since the arrival of Jam Saheb's train early this morning there has been a great amount of bustling excitement at the Railway station. Throughout the day the Railway officials have had a busy time, coping with the unprecedentedly heavy traffic. Special after special runs into Jamnagar, bringing thousands of visitors and a large number of illustrious guests. The rush of visitors is so great that furniture, beds, tents and carriages have to be brought from Rajkot and other states by special trains. Carriages and tents have been lent for the occasion by Bhavnagar, Junagadh, Wankaner and Dharangadhara.

The Maharajas of Kotah, Rutlam, and Sirohi are coming to-night, in addition to the Princes mentioned in my previous message. Such an assembly

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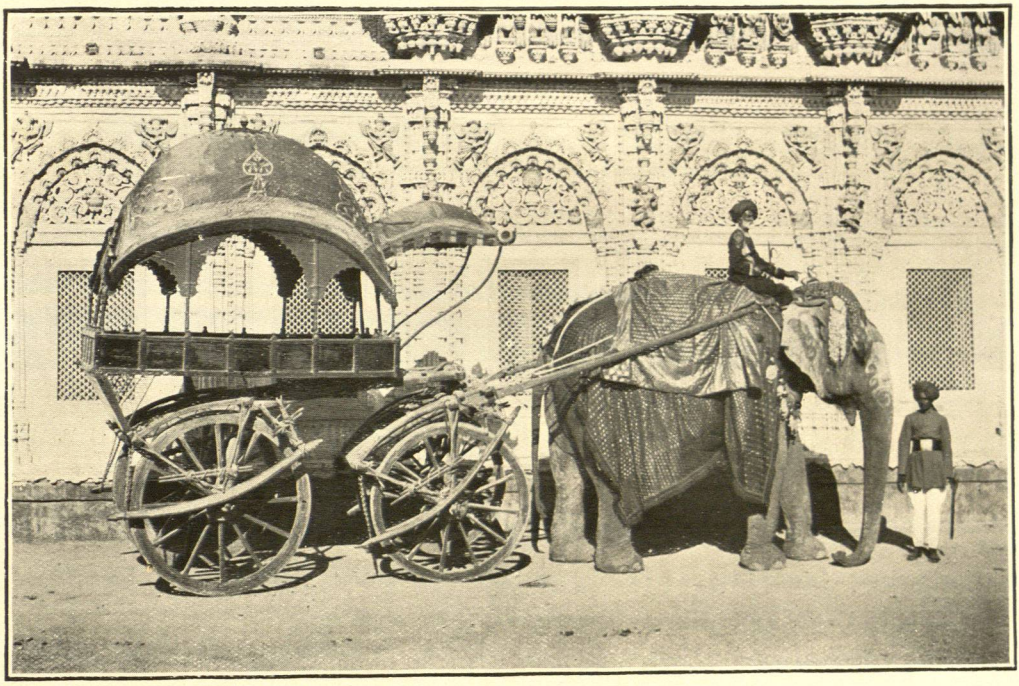
of distinguished personages, it is said, has never before taken place in Jamnagar and it has taxed the resources of State for accommodation to its utmost capacity. Those Chiefs who are unable to come owing to shortness of notice have sent deputations with rich Poshaks, which will be presented to morrow at the Durbar after the installation. Deputations have already arrived from Kashmir, Baroda, Bikaner, Benares, Kapurthala and Dhurbanga.

Gowswamji Maharaj, the spiritual leader of the Vaishnavite community and head of the spiritual ministers of the ruling house of Jamnagar, also arrived to-day by special train from Ahmedabad. Among the interesting presentations that will be made to H. H. the Jam Saheb to-morrow, the first will be made by H. H. the Rao of Cutch who presents a horse and sword as senior Jadeja Chief, Jamnagar, being an off-shoot of Cutch.

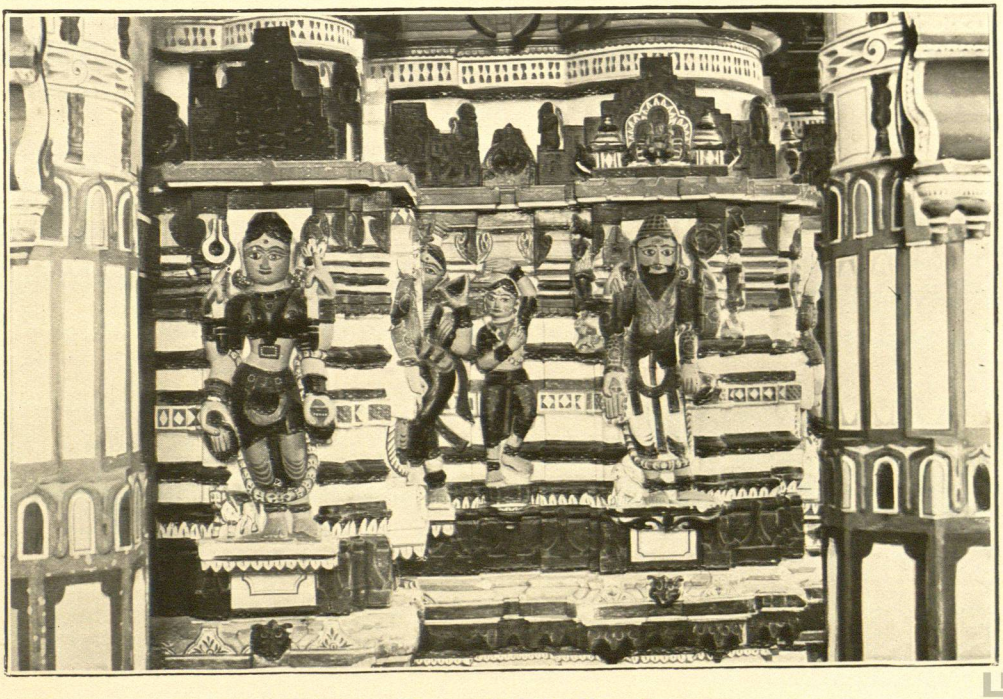
The installation ceremony takes place on Monday, at 3-30, the preliminary religious ceremonies in connection with the installation took place to-day at the Palace, under the direction of Mr. Joshi Hareshwar Mahadeo, a well-known pandit of Bombay. He was assisted by hundreds of Brahmins who chanted Mantras for propitiating the deities and ruling stars of the Jam Saheb. Prayers of thanksgiving were offered in the Hindu temple.

The new Jam Saheb is daily receiving hundreds of telegrams from England, the Continent and various parts of India. The telegraphic traffic has increased apace until it is so enormous that about half a dozen signallers have had to be imported. Almost the whole of to-day the Jam Saheb has passed in receiving visits from Bhayads and prominent State officials. He was personally present at the station to receive the Thakore Sahib of Bhavnagar, who came in by a special train this evening. The Jamnagar State troops and the Imperial Service Lancers have supplied guards-of-honour on the arrival of the Princes and the station was filled with crowds of spectators the whole day.

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An Elephant Car.



Interior of a Jain Temple.

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II

PROPHESY FULFILLED—AN EPOCH-MAKING REIGN.

[*Reprinted from the "Times of India."*]

The 11th of March will be a red-letter day in the history of Jamnagar as on that day commences a reign which promises to be epoch-making in the annals of Kathiawar. The most cordial reception that was extended to Jam Saheb Rawal, for that is the name and title which Ranjitsinhji assumes to-day, after the name of the founder of Jadeja rule in Jamnagar, bore testimony to his unbounded popularity. Jam Rawal was a man of indomitable courage. Jam was the title under which the Princes of Cutch first ruled. They originally came from Tata in Sind. The name of Jam Rawal recalls many stirring incidents in the history of Cutch and many a romance clusters round his name. How Jam Rawal's father was murdered by his uncle Jam Hameer, how Rawal avenged himself on the murderer of his father and then became ruler of Cutch and the circumstances under which he was subsequently defeated and dethroned by Rao Khengar, a son of Hameer, and the way in which he came to Kathiawar and ultimatley founded Jamnagar and became an independent ruler are matters of history and common knowledge in the province and need not be recapitulated here. Suffice it to say that these events took place about the time the House of Stuart succeeded the throne of England.

Jam Ranjitsinhji belongs to a race of warriors who defied the Moghals and maintained their independence in Sind and Cutch. Ranjitsinhji has succeeded to a name and title which conjures up before the mind's eye the ideals of chivalry and heroic deeds on battlefields. Ranjitsinhji belongs to the Bhayad or Brotherhood of Jamnagar. The circumstances under which he was adopted by Jam Vibhaji (whose memory is still cherished with reverence in Jamnagar in consequence of his many benevolent acts for the welfare of his subjects) and then set aside in favour of the late Jam Jasaji and again ultimatley accepted as rightful claimant by the British Government are fresh in public memory. It has already been demonstrated that the choice of Government is the

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choice of the Princes and people of Kathiawar. Various deputations that have come from distant parts of the country, from Kashmir on the one hand and from Travancore on the other, are ample proofs, if any proofs were wanted, that the election of Ranjit to the Gadi of Jamnagar has been more widely approved. The fact that the succession has been approved of by the Rao of Cutch, a staunch Jadeja of Jadejas and testified to by his presence at the installation as the senior ruling Chief of the clan to which Ranjitsinhji belongs must remove any doubt as to fitness of Ranjitsinhji in the estimation of his brother Chiefs to maintain the dignity of the illustrious house of Jam Rawal. The brilliant assemblage of Princes and distinguished guests in Jamnagar points to the worth and character of Ranjit and the high esteem in which he is held by even the conservative and the orthodox Rajput Ruling Houses. It goes without saying that he is the popular idol of Princes and public alike in the country. The recognition of Ranjitsingh's claim by the Rao of Cutch and other Rajput Princes is acquiesced in by the Bhayads of Jamnagar who greeted him on his accession to the Gadi of Jamnagar as their head and swore allegiance to him.

The installation was a very interesting ceremony. It took place in a magnificent shamiana erected in the open square of the Palace, or durbargadh, where a grand Durbar was held by Mr. Fitzgerald, C.SI., Agent to the Governor of Bombay, in Kathiawar. From an early hour people began to congregate on the roads leading to the Palace and by noon all the approaches were filled by dense crowds of people several rows deep. Eager spectators seated themselves on the roofs of houses to catch a glimpse of the new Jam Saheb and zenana women placed themselves in balconies covered with thin screens. So great were the crowds congregated on the roads that vehicular traffic was greatly obstructed and impeded and it took a long time to reach the Palace. Outside the Palace there were dense masses of people and also in front of shamiana, which was artistically decorated and covered with rich shawls, and carpets. Outside the shamianas the State Troops and Imperial Service

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Lancers lined the road and furnished a Guard-of-Honour. On one side of the square were stationed elephants with rich howdas and golden trappings and the shamiana was filled to overflowing with a brilliant assembly.

The preparations, though hasty, were suitable for investing the ceremony with that imposing and impressive character which the occasion demanded and there was a wonderful picturesqueness in the colour and variety of the costumes worn by the numerous personages of distinction who were present and in the splendid jewellery which some of the Princes wore.

Amongst the distinguished guests, the Maharaja Pratap was a conspicuous figure. The soldier Prince is a kinsman of the Jam Saheb. The presence of a representative of the Maharaja of Jodhpur reminded the assembly of the ancient connections existing between the rulers of Jodhpur and the ancestors of Ranjitsinhji. The bearings of the Rajsaheb of Dharangadhara and the Thakore Saheb of Vankaner also attracted attention. The Thakore Saheb of Bhavnagar was noticeable by his order of a K.C.S.I. and by a beautiful necklace of pearls of great value which he wore. Nawab Rasulkhanji of Junagadh was accompanied by Shahzada Sherzamankhanji and Dewan Saheb Mirza Baig. Among other notable people present were : Kumar Dadba (now the ruler of Limbdi), Mr. (now Sir) Parbhashanker Patani (Dewan of Bhavnagar); Mr. Naranji Dwarkadas ; Mr. Ibrahim Adamjee Peerbhai and Mr. Valibhai Peerbhai. Several past and present Kumars of the Rajkumar College, including Kumar Manchir Kachhar of Jasdan, were also present.

The central figure was, of course, the Jam Saheb. He wore a fine rich dress with jewels sparkling upon it, and with a magnificently jewelled belt across his shoulder. He carried a sword, which sparkled with gems.

The Durbar was to have taken place at three but owing to delay in the arrival of the Junagadh special it had to be put off till 5 o'clock.

The booming of guns at 5 o'clock announced that the Agent to the Governor of Bombay, attended by Capt. Benthoven, Political Agent, Halar

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Prant, had left the Guest House for the Durbar. Mr. Fitzgerald was met at the entrance to the shamiana, where the Durbar was held, by the Jam Saheb, Major Beale and other Political Officers being on duty. A salute of thirteen guns were fired as he alighted from his carriage and the Guard-of-Honour presented arms.

Mr. FITZGERALD'S SPEECH.

Your Highness, The Jam Saheb of Jamnagar,—The eventful moment of your installation as Chief of the principal Jadeja State in this province has arrived. I consider myself fortunate in being privileged on behalf of Government to place Your Highness on the Gadi of your ancestors and to invest you with the powers of a First-Class Chief in Kathiawar. You are the direct descendant of that Jam Raisinghji, who ruled this State more than 250 years ago and after a brief but brilliant reign met a soldier's death in a battle with Kutubudin at Sheakhput in 1664.

It is interesting here to remember as evidence of the ancient connection existing between your house and the noble house of Jodhpur that Raisinghji's son Tamachi, after nine years of ceaseless struggle, owed his restoration to his father's throne to the intercession of that great Viceroy of Gujarat, Maharaja Jaswatsingji of Jodhpur, whose line is represented here to-day by my distinguished friend Major-General Sir Pratapsingh, Maharaja of Idar. (Cheers). Ever since those remote times the branch of the great Jadeja clan, to which you belong, members of the Sarodad house descended from the gallant Falji of Bhanvad, have been distinguished for their personal courage and through many troublous times have played a prominent part in the history of the State and the shaping of its fortunes. Times have changed and you have won fame on a more peaceful field. Your reputation as a cricketer and as an athlete is world-wide, but in the making of it you have shown that you possess all the gift of the fine old Rajput race from which you are descended. I knew your grandfather Jhalamsinghji, whose gallantry at the time of the Wagher

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rebellion won for him the confidence and favour of Jam Vibhaji and the high consideration of the officers of the British Government. I knew your father Jivansinghji and esteemed him as the beau ideal of a Rajput gentleman and I have known you since you were a little boy, ever since you were designated his heir by Jam Vibhaji. I have seen you tried by sore adversity and have admired the pluck, the patience and the restraint with which you have met it and I have no fear for your future. I am confident that as in the past, so in the future, you will bear yourself with wisdom and courage. To the instincts of a great ruling race you have added the experience of a man of the world, an experience gained, over a wide field in the West, and in the East, but your long residence in England and your Western training have never diminished your love for your people and I feel that no Jam ever sat to rule this State better equipped for his task than you are.

The Value of Caution.

It is customary on such an occasion as this for the representative of the Government to read the young chief a homily, but you are no boy on the threshold of man's estate and I feel that there is no need to warn you against the flatterers, intriguers and sycophants. Your antecedents give me no reason to fear that you will be idle, luxurious or indifferent and I am confident that you will not act hastily without consideration, or on the impulse of the moment but that you will always be just and that you will ever be guided by a high sense of your responsibility to your people. I trust that you may be spared to make your State the richest and the most prosperous. Ten sad years of plague, pestilence and famine have reduced it sorely, but the evidence of its great recuperative power, which the revenue collections of the current year afford are as remarkable and encouraging to the Administrator, as the splendid endurance and stoutness of heart displayed by its population in their long adversity. The broad acres of the State comprise much fertile land, its waters include a pearl fishery of no small value and its harbours are capable of great development.

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It will behove you in the present financial circumstances of the State to proceed with caution at first, but as your means permit you should extend your railway towards Dwarka, irrigation, forestry and the development of the magnificent harbour which you have at Salaya should claim your attention and you should be strong to maintain and lose no opportunity of extending the reforms which were inaugurated during the period that the State was under the direct administration of the British Government. Be always careful of the various departments of your administration, employ the best men, pay them adequately, insist on efficiency and do not be led by any mistaken feelings of kindness, into retaining a bad man. Encourage your Judges to judge without fear or favour and be ever watchful of your police, for a bad or inadequately controlled police may cause much misery to your people. Be liberal in your programme of public works and in the provision of medical relief. Mix freely with your subjects, give ready audience to the humblest, ascertain the truth for yourself and watch over everything.

I will not detain Your Highness longer; you start on your career as a ruler under the best auspices and the news of your installation to-day will be welcomed all over the world. Here your subjects acclaim you, throughout the Native States of India the tidings will be received with great joy and nothing but the shortness of the notice has prevented an assembly of Chiefs in this Durbar such as never been seen in Kathiawar before. While in England where you lived so long there will be thousands who will rejoice that " Ranji " has come into his own. I pray that the career which starts with such promise and such universal good-will may be long and prosperous and that in the exercise of your powers you may ever have the help and guidance of God. (Loud applause.)

The Agent to the Governor then conducted H. H. the Jam Saheb to the Chair of the State and seated him thereon, under a salute of 11 guns. The Agent to the Governor then presented H. H. the Jam Saheb the congratulatory Kharita of H. E. the Governor.

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Major W. Beale delivered to His Highness, the Jam Saheb, the Seal of the State and Keys of the Treasury.

THE JAM SAHEB'S REPLY.

His Highness the Jam Saheb then rose and addressed the Agent to the Governor as follows :—

Mr. Fitzgerald, Your Highnesses, Chiefs, Ladies and Gentlemen, including Sirdars, Nobles and people of Jamnagar—Mr. Fitzgerald, you will permit me on this most auspicious and noteworthy occasion in my life, first to express my warmest thanks to their Highnesses and Chiefs who have so kindly graced this occasion by their presence.

I cannot omit to state that they have each and all been uniformly kind to me in the past but their past kindness and acts of friendship are simply overshadowed by their presence here to-day, which is not only a favour upon me personally but is an honour to the State and its people, and is, I believe, unique in the annals of this State.

In the second place, I must thank all ladies and gentlemen who have taken the trouble to come here at such a short notice on this memorable occasion.

To you, Mr. Fitzgerald, I can hardly express, how deeply thankful I feel, you being my life-long friend from my childhood and it is a strange coincidence, showing he divine hand therein, that it was you, who was the Prant Officer at the time of my adoption by H.H. the Jam Shree Vibhaji, by which act my position and status was changed from that of a son of a Bhayad to that of heir to the gadi, and that is you, who now, as the head of the province, are carrying out, as if it were, the final step that ought to come out of that act. It gives me great pleasure to know that I shall now have the benefit of your great experience and unique knowledge of this country and that I can always feel secure in your advice.

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I have also to request you to convey my hearty hanks to H. E. the Governor of Bombay and H. E. the Viceroy of India, who have been good enough to recognize my claims.

Ladies and gentlemen, you have just listened to a speech—which I call a memorable speech from Mr. Fitzgerald. In fact it recounts the old history of the State, history of my family, my personal life, my adversities and experiences, as well as vicissitudes thereof, in such a happy and choice language, that I am afraid I can make no adequate reply.

I am proud of my father-to-son descent from that illustrious Jam Raisinghji and proud to admit that the same noble family of Jodhpur who assisted the Jam 250 years back should still continue the staunch friend and supporter of this State and myself.

Mr. Fitzgerald, your short narration of the history of Sarodar, of my reputation on the cricket field, your kind reference to my grandfather Jalamsinghjee and natural father Jivansinghjee, whom you rightly described an ideal Rajput, have touched me deeply. Your kind expressions about myself spring, I know, from a true heart. Your estimates of the wide feelings of joy with which my installation as a Chief has been received throughout India and Europe is, I hope and believe, true. But I am also aware that all those expressions and feelings add immensely to my responsibilities and I feel deeply the obligation which rests upon me, never to disappoint my friends. In my case, while it would be vain to predict, that my new career will add to my reputation, I can only say, I shall endeavour to play the game so as not to lose whatever credit I have earned in another field. I only hope I shall be able to achieve that, and to do it, I rely upon the good will of my people, the loyalty of my officials and the kind advice and attention of British Government and its officers.

I must admit, with all my experience in my past life, I am entering upon a page of history which is new to me. I know it will be trying. I know I

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HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF JODHPUR.

The Rulers of Jodhpur have been staunch friends and supporters of Jamnagar for more than 250 years. The ties of friendship were cemented by the marriage of the Jam Saheb's sister with the late Ruler of Jodhpur.

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A GREAT RAJPUT SOLDIER.



H. H. the late Maharaja Sir Pratapsingh, ex-Regent, Jodhpur State, who was present on the occasion of the installation of the Jam Saheb. His renowned ancestor, Maharaja Jaswantsinhji of Jodhpore, helped Jam Tamachi in regaining his Father's *gadi*.

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have to guard against the various pitfalls into which a Chief is likely to be led by interested persons. I cannot afford to be idle, luxurious or indifferent as that would involve injury not only to my personal interests, but to the interests of the large population committed to my care.

Mr. Fitzgerald, I am very thankful for the various suggestions you have made as to the different ways in which I can improve my State and its administration. The advice and suggestions are so rich that I must keep them always before me and endeavour always to act upto them. I know the State and its people have suffered much from the three scourges mentioned by you. I only hope that we are now entering upon a better cycle of years.

I hope to abide by the traditions of this State, in its deep, unswerving loyalty to the British throne, in which I could not have a better example to look up to, than my friend, the famous Major-General Sir Pratapsinghjee, the Maharaja Saheb of Idar.

In conclusion, I thank you, Your Highnesses, Chiefs, Ladies and Gentlemen each and all for your presence to-day.

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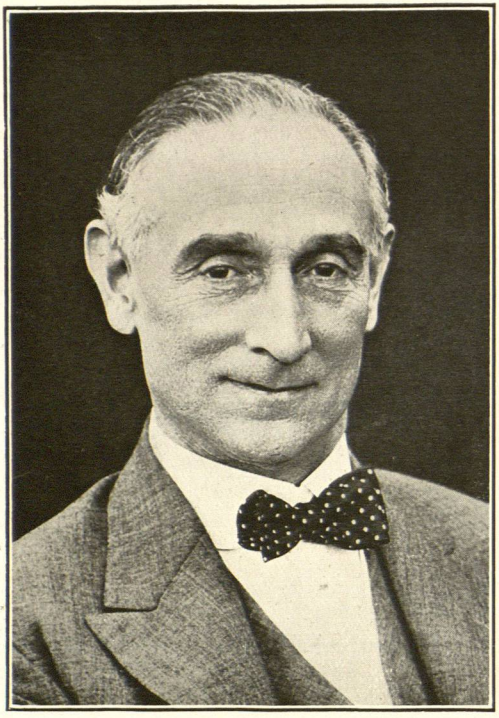
III

BOMBAY GOVERNMENT'S RELATIONS WITH KATHIAWAR STATES.

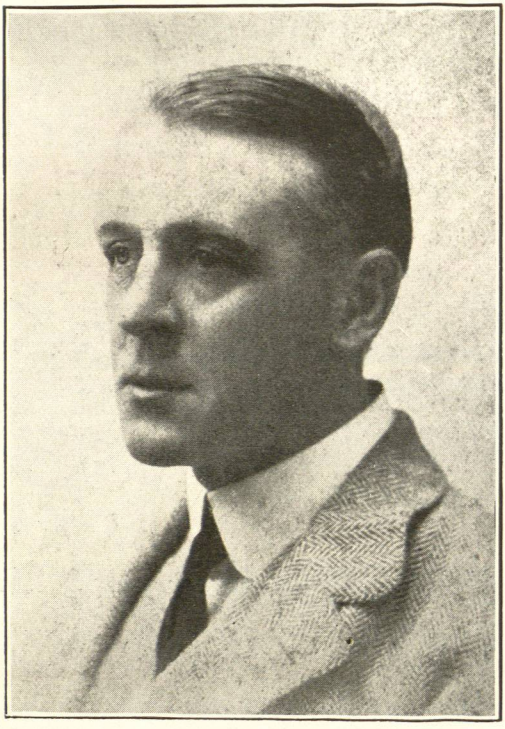
The Jam Saheb's Tribute to Lord Willingdon.

The Bombay University Hall presented a scene of great brilliancy on the 15th December 1918, the occasion being the farewell banquet given in honour of Lord Willingdon by the Princes, Chiefs and Nobles of the Bombay Presidency. It was by far the most notable and the most significant of the many functions arranged in honour of Lord Willingdon. It was notable because of the large number of distinguished persons who took part in it, but still more so because this was the first occasion on which a banquet of this nature had been offered to a departing Governor. It was this circumstance that made the function so deeply significant symbolising as it did not merely the personal goodwill and friendship of the host towards the illustrious guest but closer ties of relationship and mutual understanding between the Presidency and the States that had been formed during the administration of Lord Willingdon. This is a view of the event that could have hardly failed to occur to any observer beyond the superficial aspect of the gay, multi-coloured scene in the University Hall, a scene in itself to be long remembered even by those who have grown accustomed to the rich colouring and graceful harmonies of an Indian throng on a State occasion. The immense social work which Lord Willingdon was able to perform in the Presidency influenced most powerfully the lives of even the Indian Princes whose anxiety to recognise it in a suitable manner was responsible for the brilliant function. His Highness the Maharaja Jam Saheb in an eloquent speech voiced the feelings of the Princes of Kathiawar and Gujarat who exhibited a striking unanimity of opinion regarding His Excellency's career. The Jam Saheb's statement evoked great applause when he said that when the history of India's progress was written all those forces that made for liberal advance of which they were witnessing but a first dawn would be laid open to the public gaze. The notable national service which

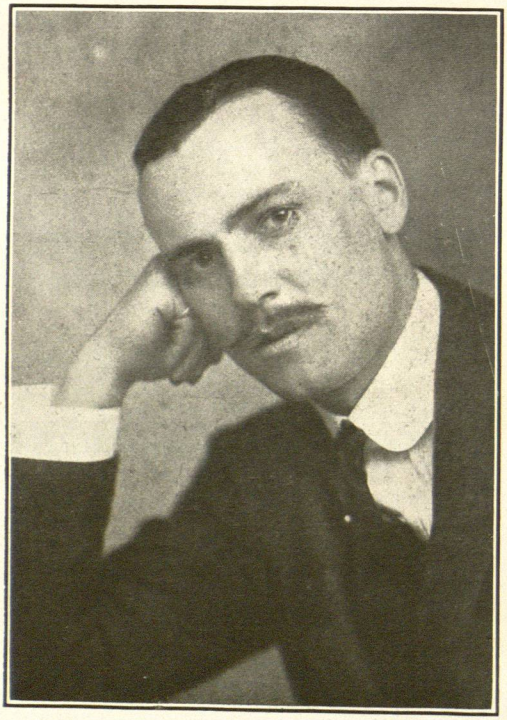
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LORD READING,
Viceroy and Governor-General of India,
1921-25.



LORD CHELMSFORD,
Viceroy and Governor-General of India,
1916-1921.



LORD LLOYD,
an ex-Governor of Bombay (1918-23) and
now the High Commissioner in Egypt.

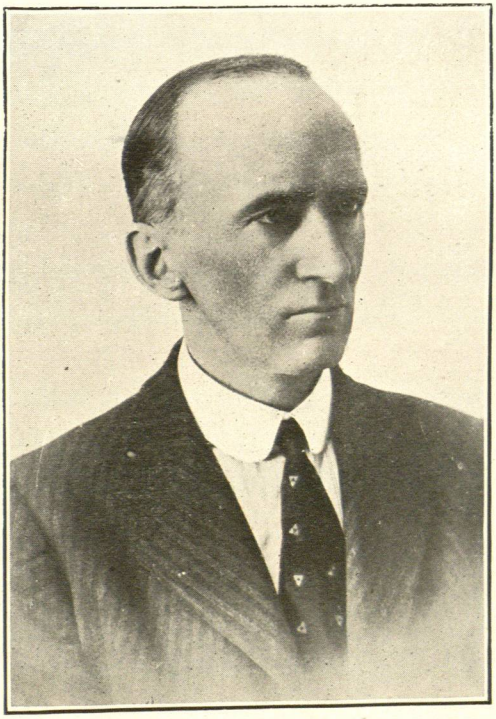
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LORD WILLINGDON,
Governor of Bombay (1913-1918).



LORD SYDENHAM,
Governor of Bombay (1903-07).



THE HON. Mr. C. C. WATSON, C.S.I.,
Acting Political Secretary to the Government of India who, as the First Agent to the Governor-General in Western India States, proved himself to be popular and able Officer.

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His Excellency had performed to the Empire at large and to India in particular would be a wonderful revelation even to those who had been admirers of His Lordship's high qualities of liberal statesmanship and of abiding love and affection for India.

In the course of his speech, the Jam Saheb said : " This gathering will rank as a unique function for never have the Ruling Princes and the Chiefs of the Presidency done themselves the honour of entertaining in the past any departing Governor to a farewell banquet in Bombay. That such a departure has occurred this time is neither due to an accident or caprice. It is but the spontaneous expression of the very high esteem and affectionate regard in which Your Excellency is held by the Ruling Princes and Chiefs in this Presidency to whom and to whose States Your Excellency has ever been a true friend and well-wisher, in a fact perfect representative of the Crown. Human beings are often charged with a weakness which shuns the setting and salutes the rising sun. The present function receives a special significance from the fact that this weakness has failed to touch us this time and we meet here to-day to do honour to Your Excellency when none of us can have any favours to expect or any honours to receive. It is a fair test therefore of the genuineness and warmth of our feelings and unanimity of purpose which has brought about this concourse of the Princes and Chiefs of the Presidency. I know of no dissentient voice amongst us excepting perhaps that of one person who has put himself behind the journalistic screen and adopted Bolshevism without of course the courage of an open avowal and has thus exhibited the ignoble art which an archer of the Mahabharat fame practised behind the semi-female imbecile on the historic fields of Panit. But my difficulty is of a different cast. I am charged with the duty of expressing the gratitude that the ruling houses of Kathiawar, some present here and others absent through various reasons, feel for Your Excellency. That is an almost impossible task. My difficulty is not lightened by the innumerable eulogies so deservedly appearing in the leading papers in the Presidency at the present moment which

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notwithstanding the high water mark of appreciation in which their criticism is uniformly pitched do nothing more than bear justice to the brilliant career of our beloved Governor and his equally beloved gracious consort. They have taken out all that idea of saying from my mouth and my complaint is the strongest on this score against my esteemed friend Sir Stanley Reed whose review of His Excellency's statesmanship has only appeared yesterday. It is a faithful and happy record of what a Governor of Bombay could achieve in various domains of public and social life at a time of unprecedented stress and storm and even beyond the scheduled functions and duties laid down by the statutes for the executive head of a Presidency. Before proceeding further I request the opportunity of reading extracts from two letters which I have received and which exhibit a striking unanimity of opinion regarding His Excellency's career—one is from a brother Prince, the Thakore Saheb of Dhrol and the other is from the Hon. Sir Dinshah Edulji Wacha, a veteran leader of public opinion in British India.

The outstanding feature of Your Excellency's Governorship was the introduction and infusion of a different spirit and a different treatment of which the Indian States had the full benefit. You relied more on sympathy than on strict discipline, more on friendship than on authority and this was what the ruling Princes and chiefs have appreciated most and co-operation with Your Excellency in the times of stress and storm through which we have passed was at once a pleasure and a duty. Although you were a good friend Your Excellency made us feel that you were not a kindly friend to what was not straightforward and honest or what was mean-spirited or slavish. But my Lord I am not going to deliver an oration on the administrative success which you have earned and which perhaps none occupying the high position Your Excellency has so nobly borne for five and a half years. I will not presume to undertake such a task but I will say one thing when the history of India's progress is written that all those forces that make for the liberal advance of which we are witnessing but the dawn to-day would be laid open to the public gaze. The

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national service which Your Excellency has performed to the Empire at large and to India in particular will be a wonderful revelation even to those who have been admirers of Your Lordship's high qualities and liberal statesmanship and of your deep love and affection for India. My Lord, you have earned an enduring and important place as an architect of India's destinies along with Lord Hardinge and Lord Chelmsford and no statue on the maidans of Bombay or elsewhere in the Presidency will be an adequate replica of affection and gratitude which are engraved in the hearts of millions of this Presidency. But His Excellency's work has lain deeper. The magnificent superstructure is always an inspiring spectacle. The imperial edifice well proportioned and showing graceful lines will evoke admiration and reflect the greatest credit on the craft of the distinguished gilders whose labours have contributed to the achievement. But that is not enough. Your Excellency's principal efforts have been at the foundations. You have done for bringing together our two races what may I presume to say few have attempted and fewer still have yet succeeded in doing. That spirit of co-operation and mutual goodwill which is at the root of all consolidation imperial or social Your Excellency brought out with you when you landed in Bombay in 1913. In my humble opinion Your Excellency was very fortunate indeed in the two companions which accompanied you then, co-operation and Lady Willingdon. With these two assets to which all of us present would regard as of priceless worth, Your Lordship's success as an administrator was more than assured. Perhaps Your Excellency will pardon my quoting a passage from a recent speech at the Orient Club wherein you alluded to the secret of your wonderful success. Your Excellency said : ' I have passed through many moments of trial and anxiety but with it all I assure you that my time here has been to me a liberal education, for I have learnt that trust begets trust, that confidence begets confidence, that sympathy begets sympathy, the three qualities which I am convinced are absolutely necessary in the mutual relations of our two races who are working here together for the advancement of this country '. Of course these qualities innate and natural beyond degree are a striking instance. Some time ago

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when Your Excellency visited the Hindu cremation ground in Bombay during the recent invasion of influenza to see that the last rites described by religion were performed satisfactorily and that the thousands of dead struck by that awful disease received proper cremation. These and similar kindnesses and fearless acts have left indelible marks on the minds of myriads of poor people whose lot has always received the utmost sympathy from both your Excellencies.

LADY WILLINGDON.

Regarding Lady Willingdon's work what can we say ? Her presence here has been an inspiration at once ennobling, always electric and abundant. Her name stands connected with myriads of acts of charity, benevolence and relief. She has organised the resources of the Presidency for the relief of the wounded and distressed and for the comfort of soldiers fighting far away in a manner that can never be sufficiently acknowledged or sufficiently described. Her activities have been a marvel of resourceful, energetic and beneficent leadership in all that spells succour and sympathy in distress. She has enlisted her splendid abilities on the side of Indian manhood and a mother in her labour has been the subject of her special attention. The maternity hospitals and measures for training *dais* which owe their existence to a direct initiative from Her Excellency are an enduring monument of a noble character and she has added to her numerous laurels by erecting a pavilion at her own expense for purdah ladies at the Willingdon Sports Club so that such ladies might enjoy the benefits of social amenities and intercourse. Nothing that makes for improving the condition of her sex escapes her vigilant eye and her sympathies are active, ready and generous. Amidst heavy sorrow Her Excellency set an example of service and self-sacrifice which women everywhere of every class and every race and creed were not slow to recognise, and we are only eager to imitate what she has done in elevating the character and in improving the lot of women in every part of the Presidency and even outside it. She has merited our affection and our love and we may assure Her Excellency that she leaves behind her a name that will be revered and remembered till memory lasts and tradition

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Lady Lloyd.



Lady Willingdon.

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endures. I cannot resist the temptation of informing you, ladies and gentlemen, that the magnificent services rendered by both Their Excellencies during the prosecution of the war now brought to so glorious a conclusion have evoked an enthusiastic response from the armies of Mesopotamia who received abundant mark of Her Excellency's solicitude and regard—the wounded in the matter of speedy and adequate relief and the fighting man in various comforts that soften the rigours of warfare in a distant land. The Commander-in-Chief of the Mesopotamian armies has written to say that all ranks from the highest to the lowest were contributing to a fund which would enable them to present Her Excellency with two portraits to be painted by an eminent artist of Their Excellencies' selection in order to mark their grateful and loving appreciation of all that they had done for the armies."

FAMINE FUND—A FITTING MEMORIAL.

India wants the best men and women that could be sent to fill the highest posts in the governance and hence Great Britain can spare sons like Lord Willingdon and daughters like Lady Willingdon for the great mission of her beneficent empire. The bonds that unite us all will be knit closer and will remain indissoluble. My Lord, it is impossible to refer to the kindnesses that I have received at Your Lordship's hands and if I attempt to couple with my personal obligations those of my brothers present here the recital will be unending and inadequate. But as I am speaking on behalf of Kathiawar I would be failing in my duty were I to omit a grateful reference to the dynastic honours which some of us have received at Your Excellency's recommendation and that the strong support that Your Excellency's Government gave us so that our izzat is enhanced and our position is improved among our compeers in other parts of India. Speaking generally it will suffice for me to say that no Governor in the past had made so many personal friends among the members of my Order as Your Excellency has made and may I be permitted to tell you that Your Excellency is carrying away our goodwill and gratitude in a measure that must give Your Excellency, I hope, some satisfaction for the noble work, namely, that of knitting infinitely closer the bonds that bind us to the Empire and the

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Crown. I have one more duty to perform and I have done. Your Excellency's speech at the famine meeting in the Town Hall has supplied us with a suggestion which we have decided to adopt for the benefit of poor subjects. Some of us intend to maintain an imperial fund in our States, to be associated with Your Excellency's honoured name which will receive annual contributions and will supply a ready help to the poor and the needy in times of famine so that the name of Willingdon may bring relief to thousands of people and be held in grateful remembrance by the poor people for whom Your Excellencies have so nobly toiled. I am desired to make the following announcement: His Highness the Maharaja of Dhrangadhra Rs. 1 lakh per annum and more if found necessary, His Highness the Raja Saheb of Wankaner Rs. 15,000 per annum, the Thakore Saheb of Limbdi Rs. 15,000 per annum, the Thakore Saheb of Rajkot Rs. 20,000 per annum, the Thakore Saheb of Muli Rs. 10,000, Pithadia Rs. 3,000 and Jamnagar State Rs. 1 lakh per annum and more if found necessary. As the Secretary of this function I wish to convey our best thanks to the University authorities for so kindly lending us their beautiful hall for the function. It is also my pleasant privilege to offer our united thanks to the distinguished guests and high British officers who have done us great honour of coming here from long distances and lending grace and dignity to this function by their presence. Our obligations are indeed due to His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda for so readily acceding to my request and coming here all the way from Baroda at great inconvenience in the midst of other engagements. I am grateful to Captain MacIntosh for his labours in my absence in respect to getting the hall ready and to Their Excellencies for lending us their beautiful band to-night. Before asking you, ladies and gentlemen, to honour enthusiastically the toast of the evening I would like to offer Your Excellencies on behalf of my brother princes and chiefs and all assembled here our best thanks for a safe voyage and a very happy time at home and early return to fresh labours in the sister Presidency where we all hope the career of Their Excellencies will be still more brilliant.

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H. H. The Maharaja of Bikaner and his two sons on a Shooting Expedition in Jamnagar.

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IV

IMPERIAL WAR CABINET.

Representation of India's Ruling Princes.

Among the gallant race of Rathore Rajputs, there is no more gallant or more chivalrous soldier, statesman, sportsman and administrator than H. H. Maharaja Gangasinhji Bahadur of Bikaner, who is well known throughout India not only as one of her foremost ruling princes but as one holding an unsurpassed record of high public service to India and to the Empire of which India forms a part, and one who by his sagacious rule and personal character has worthily upheld the honour of the Order to which he belongs. His Highness of Bikaner has no warmer admirer or more genuine friend than His Highness of Jamnagar, and the latter demonstrated his admiration and friendship for the renowned ruler of Bikaner when he was selected by the Government of India to assist in the deliberations of the Imperial War Cabinet and the Imperial War Conference in February, 1917. As is recorded in the Administration Report of the Jamnagar State, it was a proud moment in the life of the Jam Saheb to see the realisation of some of his aspirations, as also the vindication of his staunch and unbending faith in British character and statesmanship. A great step forward was taken by the Imperial Government in giving India her proper place in the inner Councils of the Empire, and what could be more pleasing to the Jam Saheb than the fact that a Prince of the capacity and patriotism of the Maharaja of Bikaner, for whom "His Highness cherishes feelings of affection, admiration and friendship," should be asked and persuaded to undertake the responsible and delicate task of representing the Order of India's Ruling Aristocracy in the Imperial Cabinet and Conference in London at a most momentous period in the History of the Empire. A banquet organised by the Jam Saheb was given in Bombay on the 7th February in honour of the Maharaja on behalf of the Ruling Princes of India, many of whom came there from long distances to indicate and emphasise by their presence their approval of the selection, as well as their

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appreciation of the action of Government whereby they obtained direct representation in Empire affairs. In fact, it was a unique symposium of Ruling Princes and Chiefs—a sort of miniature Durbar gathered spontaneously to do honour to their representative, and, in so doing, mark their appreciation of the wise decree of His Imperial Majesty's Government, which invited "the Wisdom of the East" to the assistance of the Empire in the hour of its need. This remarkable stroke of statesmanship on the part of England, giving India her proper place in the inner Councils of the Empire, greatly appealed to the imagination of the Princes and people of India and fortified their determination to fight the war to a finish. His Highness the Jam Saheb in an admirable speech pointed out in terms of glowing oratory the fine qualities of the Maharaja of Bikaner, which he said fitted him to the great responsibility which devolved upon him as one of the chosen representatives of India in the Imperial War Conference. He regarded the selection as the most suitable one and of supreme moment to the members of his Order. The Maharaja Saheb of Bikaner, as the Jam Saheb pointed out, had the unique distinction of having fought for his Sovereign on three Continents—Asia, Europe and Africa. He was a skilled administrator of great ability, a born soldier and a true patriot, and a sagacious and wise ruler of wide and varied experience. His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala regarded the event as an important landmark in the history of India, inasmuch as His Majesty's Government had recognised India's claim to a place in the wider federation of the Empire and they could not be sufficiently grateful to the Imperial Government for the proper position given to the Princes of India in this arrangement. This was a unique honour bestowed upon the whole Order of the Princes of India, as the honour was the first of its kind since the establishment of British rule and suzerainty in this vast dominion. That India should be asked to participate in a conference of this character was, it would be generally conceded, a great step forward in the realisation of the just aspirations of the Princes and people of India. The Indian Princes were fully alive to the sacred

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responsibility which has thus devolved upon them as constituents of the great British Empire ; when the time came for holding the Imperial Conference His Majesty's Government and British statesmen would give India a proper place, and it was not possible to conceive that the destinies of a third of India which the Princes represented were likely to be ignored. His Highness the Maharaja of Alwar regarded it as a fine stroke of statesmanship on the part of the British Government and hoped that the same sentiment of confederacy and goodwill which had prompted the British people might also be conveyed to the representatives of the sister dominions assembled at the War Conference. Lord Willingdon, then Governor of Bombay, who was present at the banquet as a guest, congratulated the Maharaja of Bikaner in regard to the great position and the great mission that he had been asked to undertake for the Ruling Princes of India. It was a historic occasion, he said, and one of unique interest—unique from the fact that they were celebrating the fact that India had been honoured in the Councils of the British Empire, and unique also because for the first time in the history a Ruling Prince had been invited to give expression to the views of his brother Princes, which indicated the influence and importance of the ancient ruling families of India. The Maharaja of Bikaner, speaking in reply, recalled the gracious solicitude and sympathy which His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor so unmistakeably manifested for his Indian peoples. He referred to the amelioration of the condition and status of the people, the political advancement of the moral and material development of India under the aegis of the Crown, and proceded to say : "And most of all we may indeed be proud when we regard the sacrifices in blood or treasure that have been cheerfully made by the Princes in this colossal struggle, when our countrymen fought shoulder to shoulder with our English and colonial brothers for God, King and Country, and in the acts of freedom and humanity without any idea of reward or recompense but glad firmly to grasp the hand of comradeship and friendship extended to them by their brethren of Great and Greater Britain, for whether we come from the

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territories of British India or those of the Indian States we are all Indians who are entirely united in loyalty and attachment to our King-Emperor, in our affection for our Mother Country and in our deep and genuine solicitude for our brethren of all creeds and communities throughout India. And I know I am voicing the feelings and sentiments of Your Highnesses when I further state that we of the Indian States—who yield to no one in the whole of the British Empire in steadfast loyalty and devotion to the Person and Throne of the King-Emperor—happily find it quite consistent to be one and at the same time—in the best and the truest sense of the term—staunch loyalists and imperialists as well as true patriots of our Mother Country, deeply sympathising with all the legitimate aspirations of our brother Indians in British India, just as much as we feel sure our brethren in British India sympathise with the legitimate aspirations of the Princes and people of Indian States and our desire to see maintained unimpaired our dignity, our privileges and high position." That speech of the Ruling Prince, and especially of the talented ruler of Bikaner, was a sign of good omen, full of bright promise for the future of the States, the country and the Empire, because for the first time Great Britain and the British Dominions began to realise and understand India at their true worth. The Maharaja expressed the hope and aspiration uppermost in the minds of everybody when he said that Great Britain and the British nation, who were " aware of the tremendous sacrifices we were still making in the cause of justice and humanity," would not forget the claims and aspirations of India to enable her to work out her destiny under Britain's guidance. The speeches furnished one more example of the goodwill of the Indian Princes towards India, and their sympathy with her sons in their aspirations for their advancement.

The Jam Saheb went to Bombay to receive the Maharaja Saheb at the end of May, 1917, and congratulated the latter on his safe return with the laurels of a successful mediation between his Mother Country and Imperial Britain fresh on his brow ; nothing could surpass the warmth of His Highness' memories of the splendid British hospitality and the generous reception of his views and opinions by all classes of the great British nation.

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V

BOMBAY GOVERNMENT AND KATHIAWAR STATES.

Plighted Word and Guarantee Maintained.

The Princes and Chiefs of the Bombay Presidency entertained Sir George and Lady Lloyd to a farewell banquet on 4th December 1923 in the University Hall, Bombay. Sir George Lloyd will be remembered in India as a highly gifted Governor whose great ambition was to create a greater Bombay and a more prosperous Presidency. The Hall and the garden grounds of the University were brilliantly illuminated and, with the illuminations and decorations, combined with the effect of the picturesque dresses of the Indian Princes, there was an indescribable scene of dazzling colour. The whole of the nobility of the Presidency was represented and the gathering was as unique as it was large, 250 covers being laid for the guests. The arrangements for the banquet were made by His Highness the Maharaja of Kolhapur and were on a lavish scale. The guests were received by the Maharaja of Kolhapur, Maharaja Jam Saheb, Maharaja Saheb of Dhrangadhra, Raja Saheb of Rajpipla, Raja Saheb of Devgadh Baria and the Rana of Porbandar. His Highness the Maharaja of Kolhapur and His Highness Maharaja Jam Saheb paid glowing and eloquent tributes to the work of Sir George Lloyd which marked him out as a great statesman and administrator. They referred to the great works of public benefit inaugurated by him which would remain as permanent memorials of his administration. They also testified to the fact that there had been no unnecessary interference on his part with their internal affairs and that the retiring Governor had preserved most scrupulously the 'izzat' and prestige of the members of their Order. They also referred to the most humane work performed by Lady Lloyd in whom the women and children of India found a generous, sincere and benevolent friend.

The event was invested with special interest as this was the occasion on which Sir George Lloyd, in the name of the Bombay Government, said farewell to the rulers of some of the States which were transferred from the Political

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Department of Bombay to the Government of India in accordance with the recommendations made in the Montagu-Chelmsford Report on Indian reforms. The Jam Saheb came into direct conflict with the head of the Government of Bombay as the latter were against the transfer. The Jam Saheb was convinced that the change was necessary in consequence of altered conditions on the political horizon of British India and he believed that it would lead to a better understanding between the States and the Government of India. Sir George Lloyd, in spite of the difference, held the Jam Saheb in great esteem and admiration. while the Maharaja of Kolhapur openly complimented the Jam Saheb on his valiant endeavours to raise the status of the States and said: "In H. H. the Jam Saheb we recognise one who has done much to maintain the high traditions of our Order and who by his labours for the Empire has lately added to the great reputation which he enjoys in Europe as well as in India."

The speeches of the Jam Saheb and Sir George Lloyd were conceived in admirable spirit as they were important and authoritative pronouncements explaining the great changes which were imminent and they have been reproduced in this book.

H. H. THE JAM SAHEB.

Sympathy with Indian Aspirations.

His Highness the Maharaja Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, who was received most enthusiastically, said: "Your Excellencies, Your Highnesses, Ladies and Gentlemen,

"I consider it a privilege nay an honour to enjoy again the confidence of my brother Princes who have invited me to-night to propose on their united behalf the toast of His Excellency the Governor and that of Lady Lloyd for your acceptance. I call it a privilege, because it is the second time that this pleasant duty is entrusted to me by my Order. Exactly five years ago, I had the honour of addressing a similar gathering in this beautiful hall, when we bade a most cordial farewell to His Excellency's noble predecessor, Lord

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Willingdon and his charming consort. I greatly appreciate and treasure the repeated confidence of my brother Princes, though I cannot help feeling that the honour and the privilege of my present position belong to those among us who have taken a prominent part in organising this happy function.

" It seems but yesterday when we greeted Your Excellency on your arrival in Bombay five years ago : events have moved with such breathless rapidity since then. After the war, a different class of problems pushed themselves into the front and claimed attention. Bombay has been singularly fortunate in having at the helm of affairs, Chiefs peculiarly gifted for these differing conditions. During the war, it had Lord Willingdon, whose inspiring and warm-hearted personality won the confidence and co-operation of the people and the Princes in the task of equipping resources for the ultimate triumph, and in the equally absorbing period of reconstruction that followed a virile leader with great business capacity and acumen was needed. Your Excellency brought to your high office these distinctions in abundance : a strong touch at once threw into activity a recumbent body—I am referring to the services—they felt the touch, were galvanised into life and got up. We were delighted. I admit in some way it was rather a selfish delight. But the services often shook us and pinched us and made us—at times at any rate—unnecessarily uncomfortable. It was their turn to shake at the touch of a real master.

A Justified Tribute.

" My point is that an able and strong Governor was needed, who could, in these days of turmoil and struggle, surround his charge with an atmosphere of peace and tranquility without severing touch with upward progress, which is characteristic of the age we live in. Your Excellency's work justifies the tribute that must be paid to your sagacious handling of delicate and difficult situations that arose during Your Excellency's term of office. Your Excellency's cool judgment if I may be permitted to say so, held in equipoise a delicate balance, when order was set against disorder, and Bombay's fair

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name was spared scenes of bloodshed and horror, similar to those that occurred elsewhere in 1919. I well remember the encomiums that were passed in the House of Commons on this subject by the then Secretary of State for India.

"Perhaps, sections in British India might dispute my claim to refer to Your Excellency's services so far as they relate to British India and not to the Indian States. I have no desire either to travel beyond my sphere or to placate any party or section. But regarding British India, I hold the position of an interested observer, in full sympathy with new aspirations and ideas, and optimistic as to the future of this great country. Ladies and Gentlemen, you will permit me to observe that clash of opinions and views inevitably occurs when a new order is being evolved. I regard it to be a healthy sign. We must not forget that we are living in extraordinary times, when an epoch is being linked to an epoch. We all know that science is achieving miracles and that the future of humanity is pregnant with immediate and untold possibilities. Humanity is taking a step forward and the 'travail' is bound to be enormous.

RELATIONS WITH THE STATES.

"In times such as these, the task of administration could never be easy or pleasant, nor could judgment on those who are charged with it be unanimous one way or the other. Opinions must differ, but Your Excellency's solid achievements stand out in prominent relief, and are sure to command recognition as worthy of Your Excellency's exceptional talent, foresight and restless activity. It will suffice for me to mention here only two of these: the great development of this noble city consisting of the reclamation scheme and the housing of the poor, and the now famous Sukkur barrage project, which is going to give to Sindh the greatest irrigation works in the world. So much has already been justly said and written on these matters that I will not further lengthen my speech and tire you

"Your Excellency, you have been a friend and well wisher of the States and of their interests. You have paid Kathiawar particularly a great

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compliment by visiting it on three occasions during your tenure of office. I will not dilate too much on this aspect of Your Excellency's partiality for us, because that would be exciting the jealousy of my brother Princes from other parts of the Presidency. I know how much I enjoyed your first official visit to my capital. It was the most successful function that has taken place in my State.

"Our associations with Your Excellency's Government have been on the whole happy; there may have been cases of individual disappointments here and there, but we recognise that it is not easy or possible to satisfy everybody. Some of us are going to be transferred to the Central Government leaving others to follow at a later date. I wish it had been possible for all of us to have been transferred jointly with your help, assistance and goodwill. Our eagerness to see the accomplishment of this change is due, not so much to any real or fancied discontent with the condition of our relations with this Presidency, but to the advantages of participation in wider policies of the Government of India in association with all the important States in India, no matter where they are situated. The benefits of this closer union are, to my mind, obvious, and may I add and say, mutual. I am sure this circumstance I mean this political severance, will never interfere with or diminish our respect and regard for this Presidency and for His Imperial Majesty's Representative in Western India.

LADY LLOYD, THE COMFORTER.

"Your Excellency, I would refer here, with your permission, to a matter which is personal. We have differed in principle on this question, but let me say this candidly; these differences, dictated as they are by the different view-points we occupy—Your Excellency, as the Head of this Presidency and a zealous guardian of its greatness and its glory, and I as a working member of my Order, striving my humble best to advance its welfare according to my lights; these differences have not prevented Your Excellency from recommending me to His Majesty for the highest Indian honour within the gift of the Crown,

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and I take this opportunity of tendering my warmest thanks to Your Excellency for your chivalry and breadth of view.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, no reference to His Excellency's great work in this Presidency would or could be complete without a prominent place being assigned in it to the noble part played by Her Excellency Lady Lloyd during her stay in our midst. Possessing all the grace and charm we have learnt to associate with the noble family of the Lascelles, her womanly instinct seized at once the weak spot in our social fabric and with all the energy and fire which the partners in full with her distinguished husband though less perceptible on the surface, she threw herself in the task of improving the lot of the Indian Baby and the Indian Woman; and may I assure her that she will long be remembered in this country with feelings of affection and respect for her eminent and successful work in this connection.

"I have referred to that side of her beneficient activities which is open to the public eye. May I raise the veil a little on the other side and tell you, ladies and gentlemen, what a great solace she has been to many a visitor high or low, official or non-official, who went away charmed by her sweet and gracious manner after partaking of her splendid hospitality at Government House and fully forgetting the severe half hour the visitor had, with His Excellency earlier in the day; all acerbity removed and rough corners rounded off. Please do not mistake my words. I do not compare the lovely sitting room of His Excellency to a lion's den, nor do I wish to convey the impression that I was ever in that predicament myself. But were I so situated, I could never have wished for a better comforter than Her Excellency Lady Lloyd.

A Farewell Wish.

"I have done. We bid farewell to Your Excellencies and express a hope that you Sir may enjoy improved health after your strenuous work in a strenuous and exciting era amongst us and a happy and bright career in years to come giving fuller scope to your undoubted abilities, and further successes and distinctions in the service of the Imperial Crown. We also hope that

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some day Your Excellencies may revisit us in this country and continue and strengthen those cordial relations and friendships which Your Excellencies have established and formed with many members of our Order, and the other friends in British India and see the results and benefits to the people of India, of the works you have inaugurated now.

" Ladies and Gentlemen, I now ask you to drink to the health of His Excellency the Governor; and with this toast it gives me much pleasure to couple and associate the name of Her Excellency Lady Lloyd."

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

Pleasant Memories.

H. E. the Governor, who was received with prolonged cheers, said : " Your Highness, Ruling Princes and Chiefs of the Bombay Presidency, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I hardly know how to reply to the many very kind things which Their Highnesses the Maharaja of Kolhapur and the Maharaja of Nawanagar have said of me in proposing this toast. Let me at the outset, on behalf of myself and of Lady Lloyd, assure you that there is no aspect of our five years' sojourn in India on which we shall look back with greater pleasure, with more delightful memories than on our intercourse with the Ruling Princes and Chiefs of the Bombay Presidency. The Union of Old world Romance, of antique chivalry, of all that goes with high descent and pride of race, with realization of the needs of modern culture and of political progress, are nowhere more brilliantly exemplified than in the States of which Your Highnesses are the rulers and administrators. I wish on behalf of myself and Her Excellency to thank you for the many examples of fine courtesy, of lavish hospitality, which we have experienced during our residence among you.

Changes Imminent.

" And yet, Your Highnesses when I look back on these five years of pleasant intercourse, when I remember how often you and I have discussed affairs of great moment concerning the welfare not alone of your individual

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States, but also of this great Presidency of which for so many years you have formed an integral part, a feeling of sorrow steals over me when I consider that this is perhaps the last time, the last occasion, on which you the ruling Princes and Chiefs of the Bombay Presidency, will meet, as a body, the Governor of Bombay. As you know, great changes are imminent, and it may be that many who are gathered here to-night may no longer be able when my successor demits his office to describe themselves as you have to-night as the Ruling Princes and Chiefs of the Bombay Presidency. Your Highnesses, I am a Celt, and it is a characteristic of the Celts to live largely in the past ; to cherish old memories ; to view the present in the light of what others may consider a dead romance ; and I cannot view without regret the shattering of a geat historical tradition. Others (and I do not blame them because they believe that sentiment, that tradition, that historical feeling must yield to the cold logic of constitutional theory) may accept without a pang such a break with the past : but I cannot forget the long years which have so well and truly builded that solid fabric of the Bombay Presidency, British districts and Indian States intermingled and interdependent.

Two Centuries Ago.

" Well nigh two centuries ago, the Government of Bombay made the first entry on the treaty map of India as it stands to-day when it entered into an alliance with the State of Janjira to combat the pirate power of Angria. I am sure that we all regret the premature death of His late Highness, but we have here with us to-night His Highness the Sar Desai—almost as old an ally of the British Power. Nor can I forget that it was the Government of Bombay which intervened with decisive action when the Peshwa—the usurping servant of His Highness of Kolhapur's ancestors—strove to reduce the State of Kolhapur to the same condition as they had imposed on the other portion of the Empire of Shivaji. I see the Government of the Bombay Presidency as the rightful successor of the Peshwas rule, no longer however in constant conflict but in peaceful and honourable alliance with the descendant

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of the great Maratha Prince. And still incorporated with both stand the descendants of the councillors and Generals of Maratha Prince and Brahman Minister. How different are the present times from those in which Parusuram Bhau, the great Patwardhan General, drew up his forces against the Army of Kolhapur. I can see in my mind's eye the hosts drawn up in battle array, the elephants with their silver howdahs, the Bodyguard with their glittering chain armour gathered round the Maharajah, the serried ranks of the fierce Maratha horsemen. Suddenly the news of battle joined reaches the Peshwas General and he quits his quite recreation in his tent to fight his last fight. Parusuram Bhau no longer quits the mimic war of chess to meet his death in the stricken field, and if the Pant Pratinidhi—despite his years—rides out at the head of his forces, it is to escort with the princes and sirdars of the Dekhan the progress of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to raise a memorial to the warriors of Maharashtra.

A Long Connection.

" Further north I see still joined with our Presidency the houses of Rajpipla, and Bariya, renowned in the songs of the Bards ; Chota Udaipur, whose ancestor so recently as 1858 dared in the face of Tatia Topi's rebel horde to emulate the noble self-immolation of his Rajput ancestors. You remember no doubt the story of how Tatia Topi, the organiser of the horrible massacre of Cawnpore, flying before the hot-foot pursuit of the avenging British troops, came to Chota Udaipur with a strong army. He demanded admission, but the Raja, true to the traditions of his Rajput blood and careless of the weak defences of his town defied him and swore that rather than admit the rebel he would perish with his Ranis in the old heroic way. Tatia was held outside the town and the delay was sufficient for the pursuing forces to fall upon and annihilate his army.

" Need I mention Idar, whose name will live for ever linked with that of Sir Partab Singh, the very mirror and ornament of chivalry. I think on how long and how closely these and others, whom only the lack of time forbids

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me to mention, have been connected with this Presidency : of the periods of minority and administration during which the officers of this Presidency have given of their best for the advancement of the States : of the way in which the States and the Bombay Government have co-operated in difficulties : of the close comradeship engendered by the Great War : and I feel that this long connection should not be lightly severed. There are still great opportunities—as His Highness of Khairpur is so well showing in the work of the great Barrage—for co-operation with the Government of the Presidency, which I am now so reluctantly leaving, in the advancement of the fame, the prospects, the prosperity of Western India, and I hope it may be long before those opportunities are diminished.

WORK IN KATHIAWAR.

" This much to those States which for a short time will remain with us, but what shall I say to the others who (many of them I know reluctantly) are about to leave us. Has the Bombay Presidency done nothing for them ? Perhaps some of Your Highnesses in Kathiawar may remember that vivid metaphor with which the House of Savoy described the process by which it absorved the States of Italy. It ate them ' like the leaves of an artichoke,' and need I remind Your Highnesses that this process of absorption in Kathiawar had well begun when the Government of Bombay on its own initiative intervened to impose upon the expanding power of the Gaekwar and the Maratha Empire the terms of the Walker Settlement, that settlement in virtue of which not only Your Highnesses the major Princes, but also the pettiest shareholders in Kathiawar have held your lands inviolable for over 100 years. How firmly, through all that time, the Bombay Government has kept its plighted word is known to all.

" PACTUM SERVA."

" Long after the Bombay Government had stilled the voice of war in Kathiawar and the Northern Agencies, the Rajput States of Northern India were undergoing that long agony of which you may read in the annals of

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H. H. The Maharaja Sir Gangasingji Bahadur of Bikaner, the gallant soldier statesman of Rajputana, who had the unique honour of being elected the Chancellor of the Indian Princes' Chamber four times in succession. He rendered brilliant services to the Empire. He was one of the distinguished delegates on the Peace Conference.

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Rajasthan. Never since then has any one been able to claim that the guarantee of the Bombay Government has been violated. No one can say in this Presidency that the insistent march of stronger forces, which was stayed when the British Government warned Scindia and Holkar and the robber lord Amir Khan that the Rajput Princes of Upper India were under its protection,—no one can say that that insistent march has been allowed to be resumed. There has been no mediatisation in *this* Presidency. The Government which has consistently refused to allow the smallest guaranteed tribute payer to be absorbed into his parent State has equally consistently refused to listen to any attempts to resuscitate a suzerainty which might conflict with the terms of the Walker Settlement. *Pactum serva* has been our motto for great and small. And what has been the result? Peace, order, prosperity; a reputation for decent Government and orderly administration, equal if not superior to those of any other States in India: these, by virtue of wise counsel and friendly advice, have been to you the fruits of more than a century of intimate connection with the Government of Bombay.

CLOSE OF AN OLD SONG.

"But the die is cast, the old order is changed, and to-night we listen to the dying close of an old song. And I know that Your Highnesses will recall as you listen that, closely connected as you have been with the Government of Bombay, you have found a ready source of counsel, of advice, of ready help in difficulties. Your problems have been our problems. The changing political difficulties within our borders have been mirrored in yours, and the pitiless, cloudless sky which has spelt famine for our districts has cast no drop of refreshing rain on yours. It is within our borders, in the busy markets, in the feverish exchanges of our city, that your citizens have amassed the wealth which has helped to build up the prosperity of your States; and when the peace of your dominions has been threatened by agitators, when you have been afflicted with fraternal quarrels, you have found in the capital of the Presidency to which you belong by nature and by race a sympathetic

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hearing, a ready understanding, and a proper appreciation of the importance of your difficulties. Long standing ties such as these are not severed without loss, and when we leave old homes we part with something fine in ourselves also.

HISTORIC FRIENDSHIPS.

"The Bombay Presidency will suffer a serious grief when it is deserted by its old friends. We are not callous or irresponsible to the claims of old fidelities as some would believe, and I know that we shall not console ourselves easily for, nor recover easily from, the severance of these historic friendships. And what of Your Highnesses? In the space of a few days I shall have handed over my official responsibilities here, and it may be urged that I shall then have only an academic interest in your Highnesses' future. But the years of toil are not so easily forgotten: deep interest and sympathy once engendered do not die even in a lifetime, and greater still than these is the memory to me of Your Highnesses' many kindnesses and the privilege of your intimate friendship. And if there are insistent voices which tell me that it is a far cry to Delhi; that the winds of Simla, even if they spangle and uplift, bestow an embrace that is cold and bitter compared with that of our softer and more intimate Western breezes: if I often remember that the names of Your Highnesses' friends and foes, which are so well known to us here, will stir no responsible echoes there—amid all these considerations, can you wonder that I am deeply anxious—even afraid sometimes—for the future of those who have lived under our roof so long that we regard ourselves and them as brothers of one house.

"But Your Highnesses, though I and my Government have regretted these changes, I am not so narrow or dogmatic as not to recognise that there are two points of view in this as in all other matters and, the change decided on, I have only one desire, that it may form as highly auspicious and as successful as any reform may well be. I can only say that the policy decided on, if it lay with me, I for one would do all that lay in my power to make that policy as successful as it could be made.

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"To Your Highness of Kolhapur, whom I have watched in the early years of your difficult rule and whose success I have watched with admiration and pleasure, I can only offer my thanks for the many courtesies I have received from Your Highness and my warm congratulations.

A Tribute to Jam Saheb.

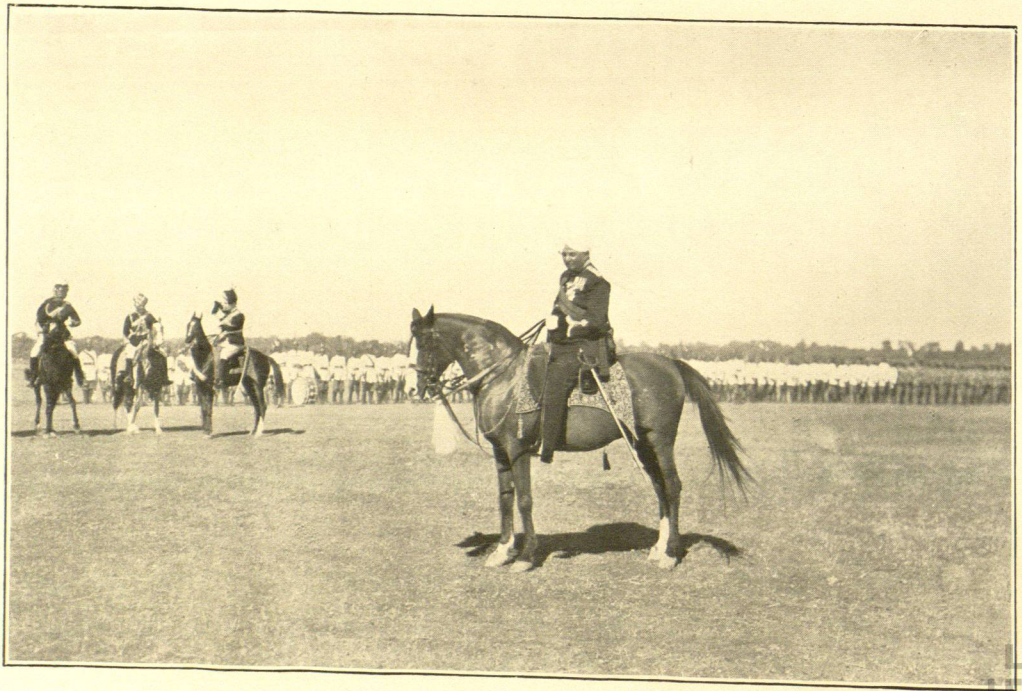
"To Your Highness of Nawanagar I cannot sufficiently express myself by thanks. We have differed in one great question of policy, but I can only say that that difference of opinion has never done anything but to cement my admiration, respect and warm regard, and if I may say so, affection for Your Highness. It is a lesson which has still to be common in Indian public life that men may differ on the biggest questions of public policy, feel deeply upon them and yet preserve in daily life their friendship and esteem for one another unimpaired.

"But it is vain after all to try and read the future further; for the die is cast, Your Highnesses, as I have said, and to some of you I am afraid I must bid, in the name of the Bombay Government, a long farewell. Your Highness, I again thank you and all your brother Princes and Chiefs who during the last five years have been so friendly, so kind to myself and Lady Lloyd, for this your crowning hospitality: and express once more my earnest wish that the great traditions which have marked the relationship between this Government and the ruling houses of the Bombay Presidency may well continue for the welfare of your subjects and the greater glory and concern of Your Highnesses, also of the British Empire."

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Two Sportsmen: His Highness The Maharaja of Patiala and His Highness The Jam Saheb.



His Highness The Jam Saheb inspecting the State Infantry.

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THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

THE JAM SAHEB'S SERVICES TO THE EMPIRE

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The League of Nations—The Jam Saheb's Services to the Empire.

In 1920 H. H. the Jam Saheb was asked at a very short notice to undertake the representation of the Ruling Princes on the Indian delegation to the assembly of the League of Nations, the other delegates from India being the late Sir William Meyer and Sir Ali Imam. The League at that time was in its infancy and had scarcely begun to feel its feet, and—from the start of his mission, which he undertook at no small inconvenience, to the end of it, which was precipitated by an attack of bronchitis—the Jam Saheb found himself at a disadvantage. But his temperament, his ability to give and take democratically in democratic debate, and his determination to make the best of the very poor conditions in which he was called upon to serve, made him an ideal man for the work, and, as will presently be shown, he did his work with such marked ability that in the two following years he was again called upon to represent his Order at Geneva, with the result that those Princes who have followed in his footsteps have been able to reap the fruits of his very considerable labours in their behalf.

It was the duty of His Highness—as he rightly conceived it—in 1920 not only to contribute what he could to the work of the Assembly and the Committees but to endeavour to spread a knowledge of India's individual importance and interest and to obtain for India her due position as an individual entity, though at the same time a loyal part of the British Empire. The two Committees with which he was directly concerned were those dealing with

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the work of the Secretariat and the finances of the League, and with the thorny problem of admissions into the League. In the Assembly he spoke on combating typhus and cholera in Eastern Europe, undertaking to appeal to the Princes for financial help and offering to give a donation on behalf of his own State—an action which was very well received and which did much to vindicate the position of India. It was his intention also to speak on the question of Mandates, but in this, owing to his absence when the question came up, he could not succeed. His view on this subject was that the future of the League depended upon mutual trust between the Nations, and that India could safely leave her nationals to the generosity and justice of her brother members of the British Empire with the assurance that within the Empire they could not find treatment inferior to that which they had received under German rule.

In committee work he mostly devoted himself to the organisation and finances of the League. The Secretariat had become overgrown and costly, and a long inquiry into its working was necessary. It had been born in the optimistic and rosy atmosphere of the Paris Peace Conference, which had covered all its subsequent secluded life, and no precautions had been taken to provide any form of external financial control analogous to that exercised by the Treasury. Again there was the International Labour Bureau which claimed to be financially autonomous. But finally the committee was able to establish the sovereign authority of the Assembly on all finance within the League, largely owing to the Jam Saheb's repeated demands for rigid control of all accounts.

In 1922 H. H. the Jam Saheb, owing to the inability of H. H. the Maharaja of Bikaner to accept the invitation to represent the Princes, again went to Geneva to attend the third Assembly. The

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occasion was one of particular importance because at this Assembly India won her case to be adjudged one of the eight members of " chief industrial importance " and therefore entitled to a nominee on the governing body of the International Labour Bureau. This was a point which H. H. the Jam Saheb had stressed in committee, and on social and other occasions he had used his great powers of persuasion to demonstrate to many of the delegates the absurdity of excluding India.

Considerable progress was made this year in dealing with the Opium and Drugs traffic, and the League gave thereby an excellent example of its ability to secure results far superior to those obtainable by pre-League methods. The Jam Saheb was not concerned with this question in committee, but in the Assembly he spoke on the established legitimate use of opium in India, explaining the extent of the sacrifice made by India not only in respect of revenue but also on the part of innumerable cultivators; he was at pains also to make it clear that Indians are not an opium-smoking people, though the tendency is to lump India and China together as " opium countries." Another speech by the Jam Saheb was on intellectual co-operation, in which he pleaded for the reconstruction of moral and intellectual values as being the only sure and safe way to a new and better world. The work, he said, was vital. The very essence of Bolshevist attack on the existing order was an attack on intellect: its special instrument of death, its very symbol, was a hammer that beats out the brain. And he concluded by saying that none had fought harder for economy than India, but it was not economy to starve the work of intellectual co-operation.

On questions which concern the British Empire as a whole the Indian delegation to Geneva naturally supports a policy agreed

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upon with the British delegation ; but it sometimes occurs that, on matters where no Imperial interest is at stake, the Indian delegates adopt an independent attitude. It was because of this understanding that the Jam Saheb was able to make a speech of considerable importance on the subject of Indian minorities in South Africa. He appealed to the South African delegates to influence their Government in favour of satisfactory settlements of the problems of Indians in South Africa, feeling that " the atmosphere of sympathy and good feeling with which this great Assembly cannot fail to endow such an appeal, will give that appeal a vivid human power such as it could not obtain elsewhere. . . I should feel false to my fellow-countrymen in India, and also to my fellow-countrymen in South Africa, were I to neglect this unique opportunity of summoning to the assistance of their aspirations the spiritual power and the spiritual blessing of your sympathy." It was in that spirit that His Highness reminded the delegates from South Africa " who are such sincere and shining protagonists of the League of Nations, that other virtues besides charity may well begin at home." Outside the Assembly, which believed in one truth and one justice there had often been two justices—one for the West and one for the East. " It is," said the Jam Saheb, " for the League of Nations to engraft its own conception, the far higher, the far better conception, upon the universal practice of mankind. What is our ideal ? What is our purpose ? What is the very reason of our being ? Let us have catholic justice and we shall have catholic peace."

It often happens that the more a man does for his country, the more he is asked to do, and on that principle the Jam Saheb was once again asked, in 1923, to go to Geneva. On that occasion the League was occupied with such questions of outstanding

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importance as the dispute between Italy and Greece, reduction of armaments, and the Treaty of Mutual Assistance. India was directly interested in the discussions on the traffic in opium and drugs and in the allocation of expenses. As to Opium, some progress was made but the situation was somewhat obscured owing to some delegates taking up an attitude which was not justified by a knowledge of what the position in India actually was. India was represented on the committee dealing with this subject by Lord Hardinge with Mr. John Campbell as his expert assistant. In the Assembly the Jam Saheb read a speech for Mr. Hasan Imam, who was unwell, and spoke on the subject himself. On that occasion the Jam Saheb's speech was short but very much to the point. He said : " The Government of India will co-operate fully with the League of Nations in its efforts to further this great cause internationally. As regards internal administration within India, the Government has set its face against, and has done its best to eliminate, in a commonsense manner, all forms of deleterious addiction. It requests all nations to give it their confidence in this matter, and particularly to recognise that India cannot regard as illegitimate the use of opium as a home-made medicine, which is general throughout India. India will not allow the deleterious use of opium for addiction purposes in India so far as stringent laws and efficient administration can prevent it. The internal administration of opium questions in India is in the hands of Indian Ministers, and is controlled by elected assemblies. I may further add that opium is a Government monopoly, and, speaking on behalf of the Indian States, autonomous or otherwise (such, for instance, as my own) could not export it without the permission of the Government of India, and could only export it through their agents."

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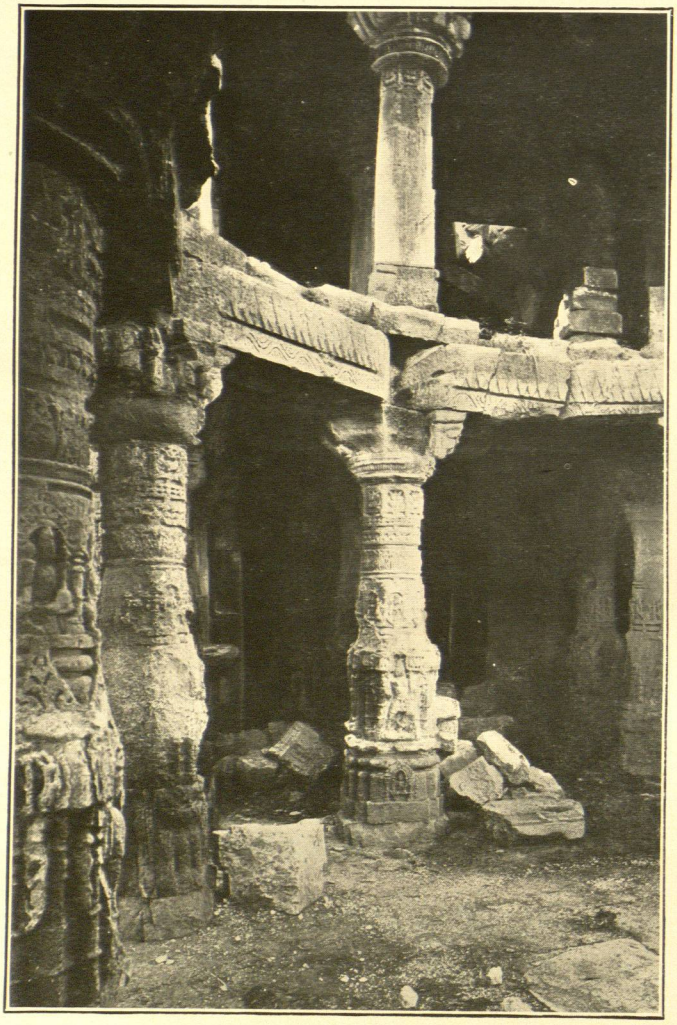
His Highness also spoke in the Assembly on the Italo-Greek dispute—the first international trouble of serious magnitude that had come before the League—arising out of the murder of Italian officers in Albania and the subsequent bombardment and occupation of Corfu. His Highness on this occasion spoke of the competence of the League to insist—with the " brotherly insistence of friendship and equally inspired by principle "—on the peaceful settlement of disputes between its members ; and he spoke of the League as the citadel of a new age, " if so be that we choose to make it such." " Unless the strong nations, the big brothers, set the example of forbearance, unless they show in their own bodies a willingness to sacrifice their pride of power, then the League of Nations will be a sham ; then our hopes will fade—must fade—and the light on the horizon will die and the familiar and accusing darkness willr eturn. Nations, no less than men, cannot serve both the God of righteousness and the mammon of pride. India declares that she takes her stand by the new order so far as lies in her power and that she accepts the principles and practice of the Covenant without reservation."

In Committee the Jam Saheb was kept busy, not only as a member of the Finance Committee of the Assembly which is responsible for the audited accounts, the budget and all matters of internal finances, but as chairman of the Committee which deals with the reports and the work of the technical organisations of the League. The latter Committee had to deal *inter alia* with the report on the reconstruction of Austria, an historic achievement which did much to establish the League in the eyes of Europe as a very potent and beneficent reality, and with reports on health organisation and the work of the financial and economic commis-

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sions. All this technical work had to be performed at high speed and meant many long days of arduous work. In addition to this the Jam Saheb once again found opportunities for entertaining nearly all the delegates at dinner or luncheon, and for thus promoting friendship and understanding between them; and in developing this very important social-diplomatic side of the League there cannot be the least doubt that the Jam Saheb rendered a great service, not only to India but to the Empire.

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The ruins of an ancient Temple at Ghoomli.

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THEIR EXCELLENCIES LORD AND LADY IRWIN IN KATHIAWAR, 1927.

LORD IRWIN, A GREAT VICEROY.

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Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Irwin in Kathiawar, 1927—Lord Irwin, A Great Viceroy.

"I come to you, not only to be the future Governor-General of India appointed by the King-Emperor and entrusted with the guidance of his Government in India, but as His Majesty's future Viceroy also. I therefore come charged with that spirit of sympathy and trust, and with that ardent desire to promote the welfare of India and the happiness of her people with which His Majesty's feelings towards India has always been instinct." In these words uttered on the day he set foot on Indian soil in 1926, Lord Irwin delivered himself of his intentions towards India and those who have followed the progress of his Government must have been struck with the earnest endeavour he has made to carry out his intentions. Though Lord Irwin is a Conservative there has now been a gradual appreciation of the fact that His Majesty the King-Emperor has sent to this country as his vice-regent of the best at his command. It was Disraeli who once said "The only use of power is social service," and those who have read "Our Opportunity" and have studied the sympathetic policy pursued by Lord Irwin in India must have been convinced of the great benevolent purpose to which he has been wisely directing his power and energy.

Though Lord Irwin came to India as a stranger, the honoured name of Wood was writ large in the history of India. The services of his illustrious grandfather, Sir Charles Wood, afterwards Viscount Halifax, as President of the Board of Control and later on

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as Secretary of State for India, have been of the highest value, and have earned him a secure place amongst the distinguished statesmen who have built up this great Empire.

This ancestral association with India, and particularly Indian States which were given the right of adoption mainly through Lord Halifax, has made Lord Irwin a friend of India and the States ; and, as he confessed at Porbandar, in his case the memory of his grandfather is reinforced by a natural bias in favour of ancient and honourable institutions. When the appointment was announced in November 1925, it was pointed out by the well-known London correspondent of the *Times of India* that no better appointment could have been made for India and for Britain. The Hon. Edward Wood, for that was the name of Lord Irwin, was regarded amongst the most distinguished and respected men in English public life, with rare abilities, wide experience and a rich knowledge of affairs. His special subjects in the Government at home were education and agriculture —both of primary importance to India. It was also recognised that it would have been difficult to choose a finer Christian gentleman. Lord Irwin is all that is meant when one speaks of an upright man. A sincere Christian, he was known to have tried to carry his Christianity into every single thing he touched. He was one of those rare characters of whom it may be said that he never thought a mean thought, much less did a mean thing. A man of great personal charm he had never made an enemy and had hosts of friends and, as Sir Stanley Reed, the late versatile and talented editor of the *Times of India* pointed out, he knew of no living Englishman more worthy of the trust, the confidence, and respect of the people of India, and he welcomed the appointment as indeed an ideal one, remarking that the choice of Mr. Wood was a demonstration of the

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fact that in the eyes of the Government the best was only good enough for India. His greatest qualification was, however, said to be that he was not too much of a politician, and that the cast of his mind was towards statesmanship rather than politics though he occupied a front rank in English politics. He had intimate connection with India through his grandfather, Sir Charles Wood, whose name is revered in India. It was the good fortune of the writer of this sketch to move a resolution in the Bombay Municipal Corporation to present an address of welcome to Lord Irwin on the occasion of his arrival in India and at that time he cited the opinion of a well known Canadian gentleman who occupied a high position and who had written to a Parsi friend about the new Viceroy. He wrote: "Indian press reports—in fact press reports from all sources—indicate the universal approval which has followed the British Prime Minister's selection of the new Viceroy for India. It was my good fortune to work with Major the Hon. Edward Wood for upwards of a year during the latter part of the war and I formed the very highest opinion of his capacity, integrity and general high character. When I was associated with him first we had war problems on our hands but since the war first as President of the Board of Education and secondly as President of the Board of Agriculture, I have found him display the same qualities in his consideration of Canadian matters, as he did in the earlier years of my work with him and I feel confident therefore that you and all others who have India's welfare at heart will be blessed with a brilliant titular head."

Though the Viceroy was a stranger to India, it was possible to gain a glimpse of his character and of his views from his writings which Indians would do well to read, study and digest. His ideal of politics was as liberal as it was practical. In a book published

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by the Viceroy jointly with the late Governor of Bombay Sir George (now Lord) Lloyd, whose brilliant administration has left a permanent mark on the Presidency, it was clearly laid down " the business of politics, concerned as it is with the promotion of the well-being of a nation and the happiness of its free citizens, is the noblest task to which any man can set his hand." This then was his political ideal. Healthy nationalism, according to his views, depended upon principles of justice, liberty and fair dealing between weak and strong. Referring to the importance of industry the joint authors of " The Great Opportunity " had stated their conviction that " there never was a time at which there existed a greater need for the wise employment of every penny of capital at our command in the reconstruction of our industries, buildings and machinery, and in the development of new resources hitherto neglected or inadequately explored." This passage gave a key to his industrial policy. The Viceroy had defined the relations of employers and employees in the following words : " All that we wish to press is that employers and employees both stand to gain from any scheme, which gives to each a direct stake in the industry on which both alike depend." But his views on the housing problem not only gave the readers an insight into his character but also his great sympathy for the labouring and middle class people. There was a significant passage in the book which showed his policy in regard to this great problem.

" Inquiry and experience combine to prove," say the eminent authors, " that by nothing is the health of the England of the future more vitally affected for good or ill than by housing. Good houses mean the possibility of home life, happiness, and health ; bad houses spell squalor, drink, disease, immorality and crime ; and in the end demand hospitals, prisons and asylums in which one seeks to

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hide away the human derelicts of society that are largely result of our own neglect." He recognised as a statesman that the character and physique of the people depended upon the provision of cheap and sanitary houses. According to him an energetic housing policy was the condition precedent to a successful attack upon the forces of ill-health and crime. He had given great importance to the development of agriculture and education, emphasised the necessity of providing cheap food, pointed out the evils of ignorance, and placed before the public the ideals of self-sacrifice and service. One could study the character of the new Viceroy from a study of " The Great Opportunity " and the study encouraged one to the belief that Lord Irwin would not only be a successful and sympathetic administrator, but that he would do his best to advance political, social, agricultural and economic interests of India. From all accounts the present writer pointed out in the Bombay Municipal Corporation, the new Viceroy was the right sort of person, and within a short time a Royal Commission on reforms would be appointed and humanly speaking that would be during the time of the Viceroy ; it would therefore be in his time that a definite shape would be given to the new constitution of the country. It was therefore the duty of Indians to welcome him to show their goodwill towards him and to assure him that India was not a thorn in the side of the Imperial Government but was the brightest jewel in the British Crown.

Twenty months have passed since Lord Irwin assumed the office of the Viceroy and Governor-General in India and during that period he has won the affection and esteem of Indians and the Swarajists, who refused to meet Lord Reading even at a social gathering, have discovered that, as Carlyle said, great men, taken in any way, are profitable company. The entertainment given by the Hon.

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Mr. Patel, President of the Indian Legislative Assembly (who, as the President of the Bombay Municipal Corporation, refused to meet Lord Reading), to Lord and Lady Irwin on the occasion of their visit to Ahmedabad to inspect the area affected by the disastrous flood in August last is a testimony—if any testimony were required—to the Viceroy's popularity.

During the twenty months he has fulfilled the promise he made when he landed at the Apollo Bunder, Bombay, in April 1926 that it would be his duty and his pleasure to spare no efforts for the relief of anxieties and the understanding of those aspirations which animated the members of the Corporation of the second city in the Empire. He has kept his mind open to the free impact of Indian thought and it is no secret that it was due to his advocacy that the appointment of the Statutory Commission has been announced two years in advance of the due date. That is a conclusive proof of his anxiety for the progress of India. It now remains for India to show her gratitude towards one of the greatest Viceroys of India and place her case for constitutional advancement in a sober yet firm manner.

It is idle to say that the progress of India towards self-government is delayed by an unsympathetic Government. It is for Indians by their co-operation to show that the charge levelled against Indians themselves for delaying further progress cannot be substantiated.

The spirit of non-co-operation, the spirit of boycott cannot be in the interests of India. India cannot stand alone outside the Empire even for a single day. While all the nations are armed to the teeth, India cannot exist without the protecting hand of a mighty power like Great Britain. It must be generations before she will be able to take care of herself against military and naval invasion,

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which is sure to happen, if the protecting arm of the British is removed. It is British institutions, British history and British education that have been responsible for the growth of nationalism in India, and His Majesty the King-Emperor has been the only centre of unity and the pole-star of our hopes and ambitions.

But it has come with intense pain on well-wishers of India that communalism and not nationalism has become the battle cry alike of the Hindu Sabha and its Sangathan movement as of the Mahomedans and their Tanzim movement. The growth of intensified communalism has led to religious riots of a most ominous character. Indian leaders have failed to exercise any influence upon the masses. In fact they have found in disturbance an excuse for putting forward their aggressive claims. During the Viceroy's visit to Indian States, the rulers were proud to refer to the fact that there was no communal strife in their States and that happy condition was attributed to the fact that they had not to depend upon the vote of an Assembly elected by an illiterate electorate, whom it fails to represent. Lord Irwin's term of office has been characterised by an almost laborious craving for peace and unity in the country. To the unbiassed student he appears to be

" A kingly flower of knights, a sunflower
That shone against the sunlight like sun."

This is an age of progress and progress cannot be secured without peace in the country. Every one recognises that we are in the midst of world transition when new ideals are fighting for expression, when institutions of yesterday become old and out of date. In the midst of these shifting sands the people of Kathiawar are happy to see the dawn of a new era of peaceful progress for which the initiative has come from the rulers. In a speech delivered by Lord Irwin at

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Porbandar he said : " No man can to-day foretell with certainty in what precise fashion as time goes on British India and the States are likely to be enabled best to take their appropriate part in working together for the good of this great country. That such closer collaboration will be the result of powerful forces which know no territorial or political boundaries I can hardly doubt, and I feel no less sure that in this regard the States have both a great opportunity and a great responsibility which must impel rulers to be true to themselves and those ideals of good government of which they must all be aware. Good communications, cheap and expeditious justice, public health, education, all that can be included in unselfish devotion to their people's interests. If these are present no State can be in danger, for the greatest security to any ruler lies in the love and contentment of his people." And again at Junagadh, the Viceroy said : " The position of rulers in these days is not easy ; and, if it is to be held with credit in the eyes of the world, it demands considerable personal attention and self-sacrifice. All power should rightly be accompanied by a sense of responsibilities."

This writer has closely followed the career of Lord Irwin and he has come to the conclusion that he has tried to approach the ideal of good government as expressed by him as nearly as possible and he has made his earnest efforts to see that power is accompanied by a sense of its responsibilities. It was the realisation of this ideal that led to the abandonment of prosecution against Pandit Malaviya for disobeying the orders of a Calcutta magistrate forbidding the Pandit to enter the capital of Bengal.

Lord Irwin's visit to Kathiawar was most opportune and appropriate. Since his arrival in India he has been preaching the gospel of peace and he has been earnestly endeavouring to restore

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harmonious relations between Hindus and Moslems. The message of " peace on earth and goodwill to men " which he has been carrying with him was chiselled on the Girnar rock three centuries before Christ delivered it under another sky. It was in this province that Buddhists and Jains issued stern and uncompromising commands against the taking of animal life and inculcated toleration and sympathy with the beliefs and practice of others. In spite of the medley of creeds that exist in the province, there is mutual toleration everywhere, and here Hindu rulers support mosques and Moslem rulers support Hindu temples. The people of Kathiawar are indeed at peace—at peace with their rulers, at peace with all the world. The controversy about music before mosques and the killing of cows has not been raised in this province, where the Prince is the pivot upon which the whole State turns.

Paradoxical as it may seem, communal trouble in India has increased since Mr. Gandhi appeared on the scene as a peace-maker. If Lord Irwin grasps one fact—that in the solution of communal trouble Indian Princes can play an effective part, and if he secures the help of Princes of the stamp of Bikaner and Jamnagar, his visit to Kathiawar will not have been in vain.

The Viceroy's visit to Kathiawar within the second year of his tenure of office, for the purpose of realising at first hand the interest and importance of the States in the Province, gave him an opportunity of acquiring knowledge and of viewing local questions in truer perspective and this must be of value to the States as well as to the Viceroy. Short though the visit was, the Viceroy, as he remarked in his speech at Rajkot, saw enough to realise the importance and to understand the position given by common consent to the Kathiawar States as among the vanguard of the progressive States

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of India. The Viceroy's pronouncement about the constitutional position in regard to the future relations of the States with the Government of British India, which to him seemed the political puzzle of utmost difficulty, has excited a lively discussion among the Princes ; and the Viceroy's assurance that " Your rights, dignities and privileges under your treaties and sanads have been frequently reaffirmed, and I am certain that no British Government will fail to maintain them, nor even, apart from them, would any change affecting your position be likely to be proposed without the fullest possible consideration being given to your views and sentiments " came with a welcome relief to the Princes whose burning loyalty to His Majesty the King-Emperor is only equalled by their desire to serve the best interests of the Empire.

Lady Irwin shares the ideals and the spirit of service which is characteristic of Lord Irwin and by her sympathy with the womanhood of India she has been able to win the hearts of the people in Indian States.

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KATHIAWAR

A LAND OF LEGEND AND HISTORY

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KATHIAWAR—A LAND OF LEGEND AND HISTORY

(Reproduced from The Times of India, 21st November 1927.)

In view of the visit of Lord Irwin to Jamnagar, a special article giving a brief sketch of the wonderful history of Kathiawar—a land of legend and romance and religious sanctity—was published in the *Times of India*. It is said that the history of Kathiawar is the history of India in miniature. The early history of the province, and to some extent that of all the States, is interwoven with the revered name of Krishna, the illustrious ancestor of the Jam Saheb, who ruled at Dwarka, more than three thousand years ago. As that history has an abiding and ennobling influence on the country as a whole even to this day and has been a perennial source of inspiration, the article is reproduced below. It will help readers to contrast the present with the past and to draw upon the lessons of history in regard to the solution of those stern problems that confront the administrators in Indian States as well as British India.

His Highness Maharaja Jam Saheb was the first to welcome Their Excellencies on their setting their feet on the soil of Kathiawar. The visit recalled the wonderful romance which clusters round the historic land of Kathiawar.

Although Kathiawar is a Province of great renown and religious sanctity and has inspired the great Hindu epic, it has not been much before the public gaze on account of the difficulty of access, and now that the Province has come under the Government of India and has been fortunate enough in attracting the atten-

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tion of the Viceroy, a brief sketch of the historic province may be outlined. On one side, bounded by the Gulf of Cutch, and, on the other, by the Gulf of Cambay, the almost rectangular peninsula of Kathiawar juts out into the Arabian Sea. A strange land it is in truth a land of old conquests, feuds, and alliances, the very number of its component States being proof of the vicissitudes through which it has passed since that far-off day when the Kathis swept down from the North-Western passes and wrested dominion from the holders of the soil. The very name of Saurashtra, the sea-board of the Kathis land, evokes strange memories and stranger tales of struggle, trafficking in human and inanimate freight in those dim days when dense forest clothed the greater portion of the Peninsula and pre-historic cities of the Western littoral watched the traders of the ancient world sail down from the horizon to barter within their walls.

The Syria of India.

The Peninsula has played an important part in the annals of hoary Saurashtra, the "Syria of India"; its imperishable romance of chivalry and love of martial ardour have always appealed to the people; and it has received further importance from the fact that it is an important seat of the Jain faith which has evoked such wondrous monuments of art. The Jain temples at Shatrunjaya and Girnar with their wealth of ornament and imaginative decoration are regarded as places of great sanctity and this fact alone invests Kathiawar with special interest. Hither came the Chudasmas from Sind, the Jethwas from Cutch, the Jhalas and the Rathor tribes of Vadhel and Vaja, and Gohils; a Rajput tribe of supreme antiquity who are said to have once ruled at Perim—all eager

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for a home in the sacred land which the death of the semi-divine Krishna, the ancestor of the Jam Saheb, the presence of the moon-temple on the margin of the sea and the fact that the most illustrious representative of the mighty Mauryas, had sent his missionaries to the historic land to carve his gospel of philanthropy upon the imperishable stone, had hallowed for all time. Yet the highly fascinating history of this Syria of India is a sealed book even to those who have casually visited it.

The Story of Krishna.

The early history of Kathiawar and therefore to some extent that of all the States comprised in it is closely bound up with the highly romantic story of chivalry of Krishna, the deified hero of Mahabharat, who once doubtless a warrior endowed with human passions and failings has in the course of countless centuries attained divinity and now holds a place in the hearts of the people from which the greater Gods, Shiva and Vishnu can never oust him. Go to Dwarka and ask the priests, and people, aye even the little children paddling in the dust of the roads, what they know of Krishna the brave, Krishna the beautiful and well beloved. And then you will hear the long story of the wicked Kansa, the Giant Despair of this Hindu version of Jack the Giant-Killer, who sought to slay Krishna as he had in truth slain his brethren in terror of a curse voiced from the very heavens; and of how Vasudeva who lived in those days as one of the great Serpent Kings of India, bore him in safety to the hut of the herdsman Nanda, thereby saving his life and ensuring the ultimate doom of Kansa. It was during his youth at Gokul that Krishna gave proof of his amorous propensities. The story

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of the Gopis or milkmaids is as popular in its own way as the legend of Rama and Sita; or the splendid epic of the Pandavas. Dwarka indeed was the city which Krishna in his full manhood founded for his own people, the Jadvas of Mathura, who had been sorely persecuted by Jarasandh of Magadha, the father of Kansa's two wives. It was near Dwarka that he slew the human bear Jambuwan, who figures so largely in the animal myths ; and it was at Prabhas Patan or Somnath that the Bhil launched the deadly arrow that wrought the death of this great protagonist of popular Hindu legend. The pipal tree beneath which he fell became a sanctioned spot and thither do the pious repair to perform the Shraddha or anniversary ceremony of the semi-divine hero, while the Gopi Talao, in which the milk-maids buried themselves grief-stricken, still yields the Gopichandana or sacred yellow clay with which the Vaishnava paints upon his forehead the three-pronged symbol of the Preserver.

So Krishna disappears from human eyes only to live for ever in human hearts ; and many a thoughtful scholar, musing upon the details of his story, the massacre of the children at his birth for the purpose of encompassing his death by his dreaded relation, because of his end at the hands of Krishna having been prognosticated ; his early days in the herdsmen's shed where he had been concealed and his life saved, his splendid message to Arjuna in the Bhagwad Gita and his violent death and reunion with the Supreme have detected a similarity between him and the man-God of Christian countries, and have sought for an explanation of the famous Black Virgin and child of Italy in the stereotyped presentment of Devaki and the infant Krishna. Palestine is not the only country in the world rendered sacrosanct through having been the scene of the life struggle of Incarnate Divinity.

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Asoka and His Deeds.

After Krishna's death the mists close darkly around Kathiawar nor part again until Asoka the Maurya steps upon the stage. There is no more wonderful figure in the early history of India than that of the great Buddhist Emperor, who, albeit the grandson of Chandragupta, the man of blood and iron, was himself the very embodiment of human charity. Think of his tender regard for animal life, of his animal hospitals which survive to-day in many a Pinjrapol; think of his tree planting for man's benefit; and of his collecting healing herbs at fixed points for the cure of the sick—the prototype in truth of the modern medical dispensary. At the most sacred spots in his vast empire he engraved in the living stone the spirit of his philanthropic rule, so that for centuries after he himself had become "the dream of a shadow," the voice echoed from the Himalayas and Afghanistan to Girnar, the sacred hill of Junagdh teaching the smaller rulers of posterity the secrets of Rajdharma or Royalty's true duties. From the hands of the Maurya Saurashtra passed into the keeping of the Western Kshatrapas, who were originally vassals of the Graeco-Bactrian rulers of the Indus Valley. A powerful race these Kshatrapas; and among them none more powerful than Nahpana, the founder of their line, whose coins have been discovered in later years at Junagadh and Nasik. Look for a moment on the effigy on these coins. The fine brow, the aquilline nose, the firm chin all bespeak the latent strength of the man who, guarded by his family symbols, the Arrow and the Thunderbolt, set up his throne in Kathiawar and spread his red right hand across the Deccan and Gujarat. Yet in the fullness of time (A.D. 400) the Kshatrapas passed away and were succeeded by the Guptas, the last of whom Sikanda Gupta drove his chisel into the rock at

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Junagadh, ere he yielded to the peacock banner of the sun-descended Valabhis.

A Period of Anarchy.

The rule of the Valabhis marked the close of the peaceful childhood of Kathiawar and when their capital fell in 765 A.D. anarchy and ruin shook the kingdom to its very foundation. There then commenced a series of invasions and vicissitudes which has left Kathiawar to-day a veritable theatre of strange races. Mark the actors as they pass across the stage of ancient Saurashtra. Here are the Kathis, singular men of Parthian descent, who win their foothold at the sword's point and intermarrying with other invaders lend their name to the whole of the Peninsula. Chief among them march the Babrias and Valas and behind them press the Rajput Chudasmas, and the Jethvas from Sind and the Gohils from Panur. It is battle, intrigue, rapine and hot land-hunger until at last about 1000 A.D. what time in another part of the world the Normans were beginning to cast hungry eyes upon the island possessions of the Saxons, the warring tribes—Jethvas, Chavdas, Gohils, Valas, Kolis and others—settle down dividing the hills and forests of Kathiawar between them. But the respite was short and many a year of bitter warfare was decreed in the peninsula. The invasion of Mahmud of Ghuzni who desecrated and carried off the gates of Somnath, the moon temple, the desolation wrought by Alla-ud-din Khilji and Mahmud Taghlak did not subdue their spirit. They were watching for an opportunity for their emancipation from Mahomedan rule.

Stern Masters.

After the decay of the Gujarat Sultanate and the death of Aurangzeb, the ancient Chiefs of Kathiawar rose to a man buckled

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on their harness and let slip the dogs of war. Porbandar, Rajkot, Nawanagar, Sihor, Dhrangadhra, all of them sallied forth to carve out new possessions for themselves and their posterity; and anarchy and rapine once more wasted the province. But of a truth their punishment was swift and sure. They had reckoned not the Marathas, "the imperial banditti" and gauged not the measure of their power until Pilaji Gaekwar took Baroda in 1725. By 1753 they were once more laid low beneath the heel of a stranger and were enrolled as the merest vassals and tributaries of a race which by its manifold and profligate actions proved a far sterner master than the Emperors of Delhi. The Moghal from his peacock throne may have chastised them with whips; the Marathas scourged them with scorpions; but could they have known it the long night of tribulation was far spent, the day was close at hand. In 1820 the British Government assumed the paramountcy. The ancient land of Kathiawar at length had peace and it has remained unbroken over a century, thanks to Col. Walker's settlement which relieved the province from the exactions of the Marathas.

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H. E. THE VICEROY

RECEPTION AT JAMNAGAR

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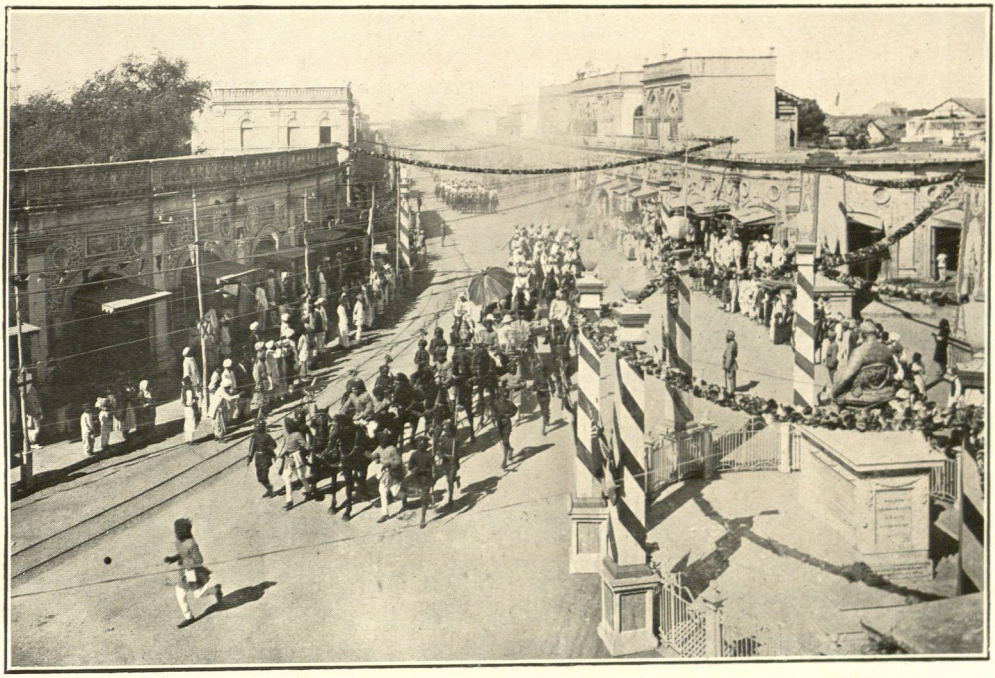


The Jam Saheb receives Their Excellencies on their landing at Rozi Bunder.

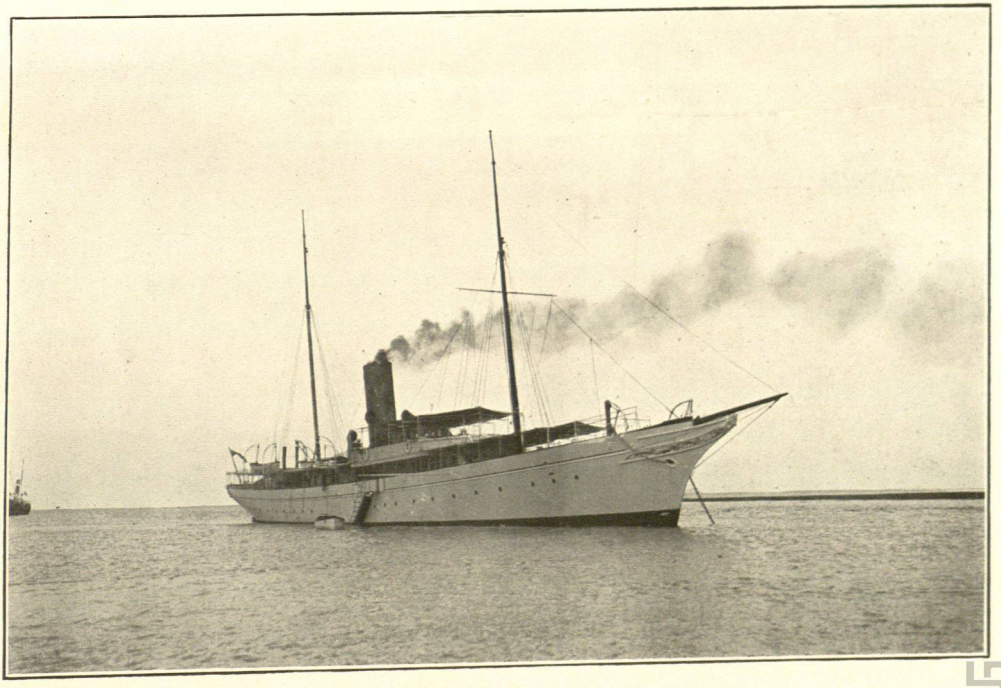


His Excellency the Viceroy and the Jam Saheb driving in a silver carriage in State Procession.

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Their Excellencies driving in State Procession through the city.



The "Star of India." This Yacht which was luxuriously fitted up was specially brought out by His Highness to convey Their Excellencies from Cutch to Jamnagar.

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H. E. the Viceroy—Reception at Jamnagar.

His Highness The Maharaja Jam Saheb cut short his holiday in Europe and returned to Jamnagar in the last week of September 1927 in order personally to direct and supervise the arrangements for giving a fitting welcome to the representative of the Crown in India. His Highness had a very busy time and was constantly on the move visiting the Camp at Samana and the various places in Jamnagar which received prominence during the visit such as the Vibha Wilas Palace where Their Excellencies resided during their stay in Jamnagar; Rozi Bunder where they disembarked from Cutch and were publicly received by His Highness in a specially erected pavilion; the Badminton Camp which accommodated the other guests; Bedi Bunder which at present is the principal centre of attraction with its efficient equipment for handling goods and cargoes, its perfect system of transport, both railway and road and its system of labour.

The Vibha Wilas Palace was put in perfect condition with its wide front smiling with kept lawns and flower beds in full bloom of variegated colours and the sparkling waters of the Ranmal Tank which was full to overflowing owing to good monsoon rains, reflecting the ripple and laughter of the caressing sunshine of early winter and forming a charming background to the south. The Palace and the Man Wilas wing on its right accommodated Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Irwin and their staff as also the Agent to the Governor-General in the States of Western India.

Scheme of Decoration.

Huge triumphal arches were erected at the Bedeshwar Junction on the Bedi Road, the approaches to the Railway Station, the three main entrances of the Vibha Wilas Palace and the gates

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of the Bhavendra Wilas Palace where His Highness the Maharaja Jam Saheb was in residence.

A large number of streets were lined with flag-staffs, each bearing a shield with flags and linked with festoons. Several streets were arrayed with typical Indian columns twenty feet high designed in various styles and draped with festoons and bunting in different shades making the continuity of the decoration. This chain was broken at important cross roads and prominent features by magnificent pylons in pairs each about twenty-eight feet high, and five feet six inches at base, and each bearing a painting from rural life and mythical heroes. Each pylon terminated at the top with a crown, glowing in red light representing the ruby.

The Willingdon Crescent was lavishly lighted and decorated with festoons and bunting in primrose and light blue. In the centre stood a stately looking pylon towering above the rest and adorned with a full-sized portrait of His Majesty the King-Emperor. The base bore a painting of a huge lion as the guard of the Empire.

The Samana Camp—a most marvellous achievement—was situated about 30 miles from Jamnagar. It was sumptuously fitted and formed a little township under canvas, so perfect were all its appointments. Clean new tents, with requisite furniture; well laid out roads and lawns, hot and cold water pipes and perfect sanitary arrangements were there. The equipment of the drawing room and the banqueting hall represented the last word in point of comfort and convenience. All details for the reception and entertainment of the large number of guests were under the direction of Mr. Hirabhai M. Mehta, private and general secretary, but it may be said that everything was off His Highness' bat.

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The Samana Camp, where Their Excellencies stayed during the shooting excursion at Jamnagar, was transformed into a beautiful city of tents and turned into a veritable fairy-land for the comfort of their Excellencies.



The Gate of the Samana Camp.

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Progressive Policy of Jamnagar Durbar—Foundation stone Laid of New Hospital—Viceroy's Tribute to Jam Saheb's Solicitude for his Subjects.

His Excellency The Viceroy laid the foundation stone of the new hospital, named after himself, at Jamnagar on 17th November 1927.

In inviting Lord Irwin to perform the ceremony the Jam Saheb drew a graphic picture of the development of medical institutions in the State and the difficulties in the way of extending medical relief to his subjects that had to be overcome.

His Excellency after laying the stone paid a tribute to the Jam Saheb and declared that the hospital would stand a memorial of the Jam Saheb's solicitude for the welfare of his subjects.

In the course of his speech His Highness said :

" I am grateful to Your Excellency for kindly acceding to my request and undertaking to perform the auspicious ceremony of laying the first stone of the hospital building, which, when finished, will typify the response of the Durbar to the growing popularity of the Western system of medicine and surgery among my subjects of Jamnagar. The history of the Medical Department has been one of striking expanse since I came to the ' gadi ' in 1907. I inherited a system which was struggling to be popular in the midst of general apathy and ignorance. We had old methods of cure, which consisted of untested herbs, branding with hot needles and nails and superstitious vows and offerings. Barbers and itinerant priests shared the skill of surgery and cauterizing was freely resorted to when fever developed into delirium and windows were barred to light and air by special blinds and curtains.

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" I am doing nothing but justice to the conditions prevailing a generation ago, in presenting this picture of local treatment and cure of diseases. But perhaps this is an under-estimate. In my days—that is very recently—I tried to establish a sanitarium and a school in the hill station at Killeshwar. I admit that the hamlets clustering round that place contain a population of cattle owners and Rabaris, with a nomadic habit difficult to cure or correct. In my frequent visits to and prolonged residence at Killeshwar, I had noticed the ravages of malaria and utter illiteracy among the people, and I therefore started a small hospital and a school with their apparent approval and consent. Our ways of ministering these benevolent and civilizing agencies were, I may assure Your Excellency, most gentle and persuasive. But the reward of these labours was most striking in its negative aspect : the population of the hamlet at Killeshwar evaporated and to-day no one is left there either to benefit by these agencies or to thank the Darbar for their benevolent concern.

New Dispensaries.

" In 1907, I took up the task of improving the medical institutions. We added six more dispensaries in districts and enlarged the accommodation in the hospitals in the towns. The old hospital building in Jamnagar was constructed in 1891. New wards were added and the operation theatre was entirely renovated and up-to-date instruments and a septic furniture were provided. We had Dr. Dadabhai—an early graduate of the Medical College at Bombay—as our Chief Medical Officer. After many years of loyal services well performed, he retired owing to old age. Age and weakness have prevented him from being present at this

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His Excellency laying the foundation-stone of the New Hospital named after him.



Indian Princes who took part in welcoming the Viceroy to Jamnagar. From left to right

(1) H. H. The Thakore Saheb of Limbdi.
(2) Darbar Saheb of Jusdan.
(3) H. H. The Raj Saheb of Wankaner.
(4) H. H. The Rana Saheb of Danta
(5) H. H. The Maharaja of Dholpur.
(6) Raja Dhunragirji of Hyderabad.
(7) H. H. The Maharaja of Dhrangadhra.
(8) Raoji Saheb of Pol.

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function, but he is still with us. He handed over charge to Khan Bahadur Dr. Kallianwalla of the Bombay Medical Service, the loan of whose services, I was fortunate to secure from the Bombay Government. He is also with us—I am sorry to say, not in the prime of vigour and health; but as my personal physician, he is still available with his wonderful skill and experience.

"Ill-health compelled him to retire from the charge of the department last year. I appointed Dr. Vakil in his place: his career, full of promise and hope, was cut short by a tragic fate, within a week of his appointment. He succumbed to septic poisoning contracted while conducting an operation in the hospital. I am now in search of a qualified surgeon and hope to secure the services of a competent man by the time the new hospital is finished and ready for its mission of charity and relief.

ADDITION TO HOSPITAL.

"The Dispensary to the north was an addition made to the hospital in 1916, as a gift from our liberal-minded citizens and well-known philanthropist the late Abdul Kareem Jamal. It partially relieved the congestion in the old hospital due to many out-door patients crowding daily on the verandahs of the hospital; this was insanitary and a source of trouble and annoyance to the in-patients.

"The demand has far outgrown even these additional arrangements. A special department dealing with eye and dental diseases was opened in 1923 and placed under well qualified men. Dr. Kapasi, our eye surgeon, is a D.O.M.S. of the London University and is doing excellent work here. He is a subject of this State and has preferred serving in the land of his birth to lucrative practice and money making outside. Special wards designed to serve the needs of well-to-do patients are a great necessity at present.

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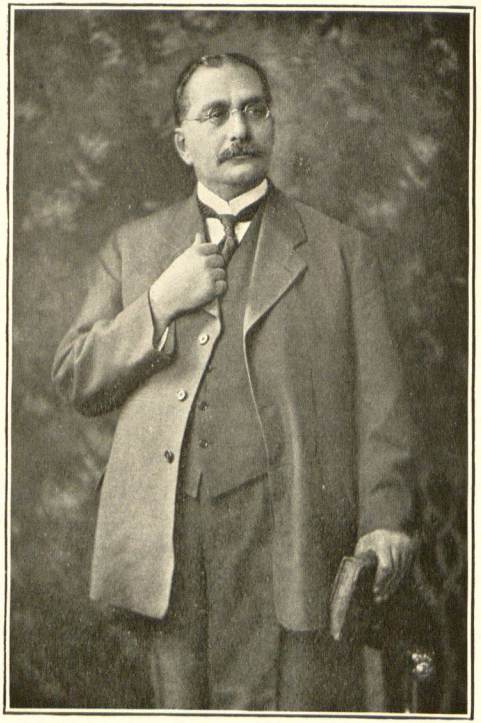
Further, eight travelling dispensaries are being started, under fully qualified staff to carry medical relief to all villages in the State, and this measure is bound to strengthen the faith of the people in the western methods of medicine, and to create demand for more beds in the Central Hospital. In order to meet this demand, an extension is urgently called for, and the present ceremony will usher into existence a new hospital which will provide about 56 beds and many rooms for the use of doctors and nurses.

Cost of Three Lakhs.

" The building has a ground floor and an upper floor. On the ground floor, 28 beds are provided for, besides a consulting room and a dispensary : on the upper floor a further arrangement for 28 beds is made and an operation theatre and rooms for nurses and doctors are also provided. The building is estimated to cost about three lakhs of rupees. When completed it will release several rooms in the old hospital, which will be utilised for X-ray and ultra-violet and electrotherapeutic department as well as a radium department which are badly needed at present, in order to bring the institution upto the mark in all respects. About 45 beds will be retained in the old hospital, and some of these will be segregated and assigned for the treatment of tubercular and ophthalmic cases.

" It is indeed very kind of Your Excellency to have consented to perform the ceremony this morning. Our obligations are even greater for the fact that Your Excellency had graciously permitted the association of your honoured name with the building that will rise in this place. I now request Your Excellency to perform the auspicious ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new hospital. Under Your Excellency's blessings may it grow up

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Dr. Kalianiwala, who recently retired from the post of the Chief Medical Officer of the State.



Captain Geoffrey Bernard Clarke, A. D. C. to the Jam Saheb.

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and prosper and assuage the sufferings of many who will seek its precincts."

His Excellency's Reply—Memorial of Solicitude for Welfare of Subjects.

His Excellency in laying the foundation stone paid a warm tribute to the Jam Saheb on his sympathetic care of his people and wished success to the new institutions when completed. After performing the ceremony His Excellency delivered the following speech :—

" We all offer you our congratulations Your Highness on this occasion which typifies, as you have said, the progressive policy of the Durbar and which also testifies to the sympathetic care which Your Highness has always shown for all classes of your subjects. I accepted with great pleasure Your Highness' invitation to perform this ceremony, and I must thank you for the compliment you have paid me by naming the hospital after me. When I look back, as I often shall, in years to come on my visit to Jamnagar I shall never fail to think of the building that is to bear by name and of the part it will then be playing in alleviating sickness and suffering in Your Highness' State.

A Long-Felt Want.

" Your Highness has given us a graphic description of the evolution of medical and surgical practice in Jamnagar. It shows clearly the many difficulties you must have had to surmount in the way of old-fashioned and deeply rooted prejudice, though I dare-say there are some of us here to-day who might confess to a certain fellow-feeling with the desire of some of Your Highness' villagers to vanish into thin air on the arrival of the doctor. But the picture

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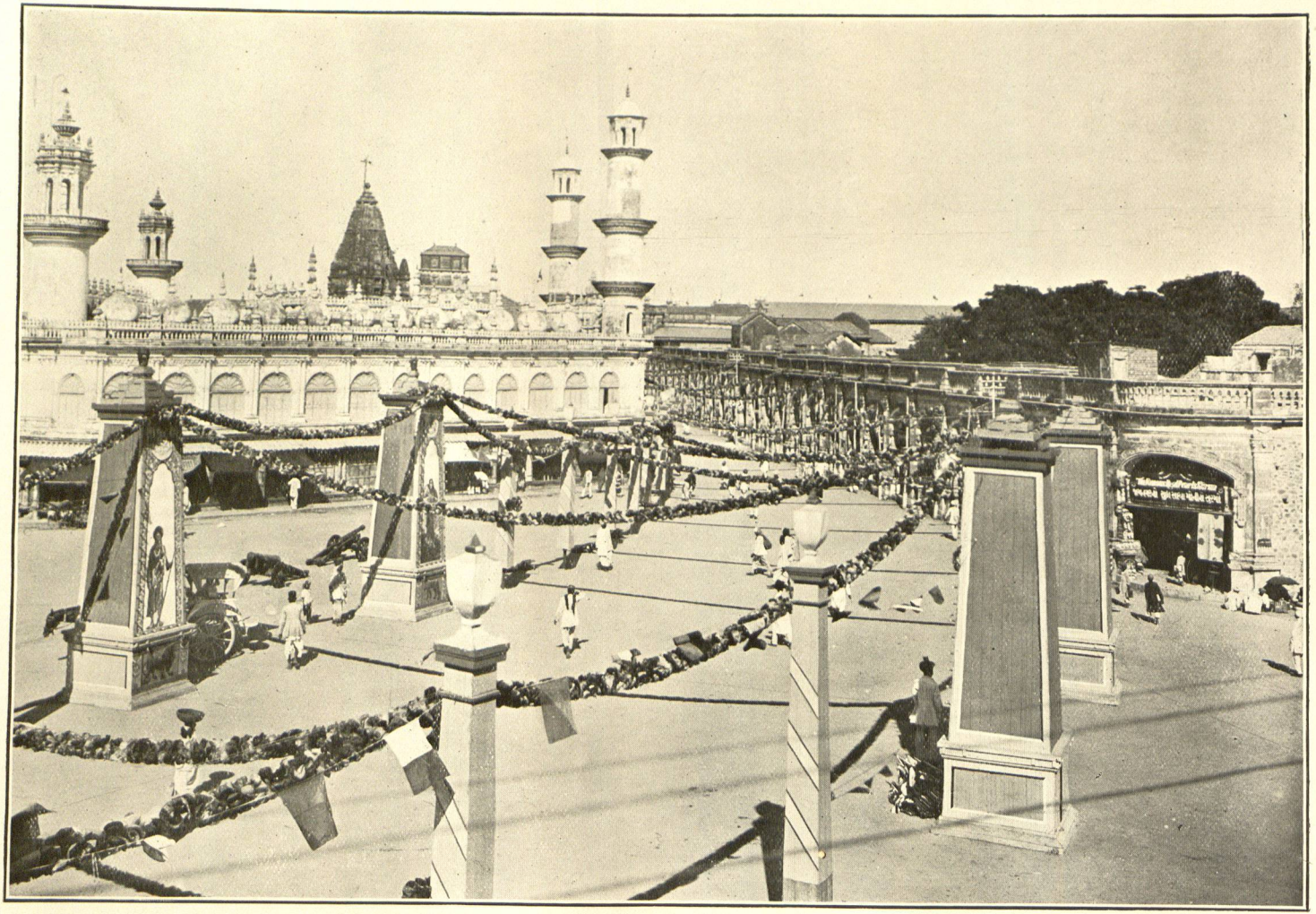
you have drawn sufficiently proves what a long-felt want this hospital will fill, and I trust that its construction will proceed with all the speed for which Your Highness' other building operations have been conspicuous.

WELL EQUIPPED HOSPITAL.

"You are building an expensive and modern hospital, well equipped, well found. Given an efficient staff, it must succeed. I have sometimes seen cases where the first promise of institutions such as this has failed of fulfilment through the inadequacy of the staff to run them. I feel little anxiety, however, that Your Highness will permit such a thing to happen, or, if I may transpose a familiar saying, give the tools reason to complain of the workmen. I know what a deep personal interest you take in this institution, and that is enough to assure its success. It has been a great privilege to me to lay the first stone of the building. May those who receive succour within its walls remember with gratitude the name of Your Highness to whom it owes its rise."

The building has been designed by Messrs. Mistry and Bhedwar. His Excellency was shown the plans by Mr. Jamsetji Mistry, who in response to His Excellency's inquiry said that the building will be completed in one year.

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The Berthon Square which was tastefully decorated on the occasion of the Viceroy's visit.

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Need for Safeguarding the Position of States—The Jam Saheb's Speech at Jamnagar Banquet—Viceroy's Statesmanlike Effort to find a Solution.

At a banquet given in honour of Lord Irwin's visit to Jamnagar, the Jam Saheb described the position of Indian States and emphasised the need for safeguarding their interests in the future constitution of India so as to maintain their existence as political entities distinct from and independent of the rest of India.

"Your Excellency's keen interest," said the Jam Saheb, "in our problems, and your statesmanlike efforts hearten us in the hope that the result will ensure for us a dignified place in the Federated India of the future"

The Badminton Hall, Jamnagar, presented a brilliant scene on (Friday, 18th November 1927) night when a State banquet in honour of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Irwin was given by His Highness the Jam Saheb. The hall was brilliantly illuminated. Chairs of solid gold were provided for Lord and Lady Irwin while there were innumerable silver chairs for the other distinguished guests. Covers were laid for a hundred guests. The table decorations were pink roses and the magnificent gold dinner service was much admired as also the fine portraits on the walls—the Jam Saheb's collection of valuable modern artists' work is probably unrivalled in India.

Banquet Speech.

In proposing the health of the illustrious guests Lord and Lady Irwin, the Jam Saheb expressed Kathiawar's gratitude for the Viceroy's visit, which he characterised as an earnest of His

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Excellency's regard for the Province and proceeded to state :—

"It needs no prophetic vision, to say that the world is passing through a very critical period, and India shares, to the very full, all the anxieties of a transition stage, rendered particularly acute by the communal troubles that are agitating the public mind, and putting great obstacles in the peaceful solution of those pre-eminent problems to the adjustment of which Great Britain has laid her hand since the close of the World War. At this period, it is India's good fortune that a statesman of Your Excellency's sterling abilities and talents, and may I say noble character, is at the helm of affairs, so that she lacks nothing in the most sincere and skilful piloting that is possible in the troubled waters through which she is wading her difficult path to her destined position within the Empire. While history is being written in letters indelible and fateful, we pray Almightly God to inspire and guide Your Excellency's Counsels, and to portion out happiness and health, in full measure, to Your Excellency and Lady Irwin so that India may have the fullest benefit of your illustrious association with her affairs.

"I take this opportunity of respectfully congratulating Your Excellency on the very telling and generous appeal recently made by Your Excellency to the leaders of Indian thought for the eradication of communal hatred, and dissension—an appeal which no one can read without being moved. I feel sure that it will receive a warm response from those to whom it is addressed, and will help in removing this blot from the fair name of India.

LONGER VISITS WANTED.

"We have another prayer to make on this occasion. Your Excellency will know, at first hand, several States in Kathiawar,

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in the course of ten days which is assigned for this visit : it is a crowded programme, and does not give sufficient time for a close acquaintance with the States, and their affairs. It is a selfish wish—but, it is an earnest wish on my part, that another change may be made in this practice, allotting individual States a longer period of the honour of Your Lordship's visit, so that we may have better and ampler opportunities for the entertainment of Your Excellencies, and for better knowledge of our people, our affairs, our hopes and aspirations.

" Your Excellency's inspiring speeches, delivered during the first year of your arrival in India, amply testify to the interest Your Excellency is taking in our affairs, and of the prominent place Your Excellency has given to the problem of the States in the scheme of Reforms, which is on the anvil, and is engaging the best brains in England and India just at present. Our position in the new India that is being evolved needs to be thoroughly safeguarded, and, whatever form the future constitution will assume, our existence as political entities, distinct from, and independent of, the neighbouring parts of British India, will demand an adjustment, which, while recognising and meeting modern conditions, will not ignore history and traditions, and will fully uphold our dynastic prestige, prerogatives, and treaty rights. No one can shut his eyes to modern conditions—conditions symbolised by the wireless and the airship.

" The Princes are, I hope, credited with the full significance of the changing times : and this I can assert, with knowledge, that they have full sympathy with the aspirations of their countrymen beyond their frontiers. Such a feeling can—and in fact does—co-exist with the natural instinct of self-preservation : we

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have no desire to interfere in the affairs of British India and do not wish that there should be outside interference in our domestic affairs; but there exists a common platform for co-operation in matters of Imperial and mutual concern. These aspects, of our inter-relation with British India, and our position, *vis à vis* the Paramount Power, in the new India that is forming, present an array of problems, which though baffling in their diversity, are certainly not beyond the ken of true statesmanship. We are indeed grateful that Your Excellency has been devoting anxious thought to these supreme matters, and I express a fervent hope that, before Your Excellency lays down the reins of your Exalted Office, a workable synthesis, of the most essential principles, will be outlined under Your Lordship's able guidance; so that the future can be envisaged, with a measure of confidence, by the Order of the Ruling Princes of India.

AUSPICIOUS BEGINNING.

"The Conference convened, by Your Excellency, at Simla in May last marks an auspicious beginning of those labours which are inevitable under the circumstances, and are even insistent. May they result in a settlement which will vouchsafe to the State the integrity of their position, and ensure for them, a dignified place, in the Federated India of the Future. Your Excellency's keen interest in our problems, and your statesmanlike efforts to find a solution hearten us in this hope; they have already lightened our burden of anxiety, and filled us with a cheerful anticipation.

"With Your Excellency's permission I would here strike a personal note, and refer to my humble association with Your Excellency as a co-worker at Geneva in 1923, where I came to understand and admire those qualities of simplicity and openness of

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A TYPICAL SCENE IN JAMNAGAR.



Hindu women carrying water-pots lined the route from Rozi Bunder on the occasion of the Viceroy's arrival.



Hindu women drawing water from a well and carrying it to their homes for domestic use.

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heart, which have already endeared yourself to millions in India. That early association was revived and grew stronger in Simla, where I had the honour of experiencing Your Excellency's kind hospitality in May last. The graceful ways of Viceregal Lodge and the simple dignity and warmth of reception with which we were greeted there touched and charmed all the guests and enhanced our regard and respect for His Imperial Majesty's Vicegerent in India. May I permit myself a further personal allusion? I can say—just as the Maharajah Saheb of Bikaner said on a similar occasion—that my presence here to-night has something to do with the fact that Your Excellency's grandfather Viscount Halifax was the sponsor, along with the then Viceroy, of that measure of Imperial Grace, which recognised adoption among the Ruling Princes, and led to the distribution of Sanads of Adoption in 1862. One of the recipients of these Sanads was my revered uncle, the late Jam Shri Vibhaji who exercised it in my favour in 1880. Your Excellency thus inherits a solid interest in the States and their continuity within the Empire, and this, I regard, as a very auspicious asset at the present moment, when the position of the Indian States, in the future policy, is under consideration.

Niggardly Nature.

"Coming to my own State, we have nothing of especial interests to show to Your Excellencies: Nature is niggardly in her bounties on this side. No high mountains or perennial rivers break the monotony of our soil which lacks the fertility of Gujarat, or even the quality of neighbouring tracts under Gondal and Junagadh. Our water-sheds send out small rivers into the sea, where they discharge a moderate overflow in monsoon months and present a dry aspect for more than half the year. Our average rainfall is

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about twenty-two inches and we were in the throes of a dry cycle until about two seasons ago. Since 1907 I have had ten bad years including four famines. Thus there is no scope for big irrigation schemes in my State, but I have not neglected to do what little is possible in this direction."

His Highness then described the wonderful progress of the State during 20 years of his eventful rule in the domain of agriculture. Public works including roads and railways, irrigation and medical relief; and recounted benevolent measures of far-reaching results to the agriculturists undertaken by the State, and proceeded to state :—" The farmer class has been receiving constant attention from my Government. The holdings are measured and assessed on a light scale, and the levy in kind is exchanged for a fixed payment; this transformation ended in 1917. In 1918 an Act was passed, with the specific object of giving legal relief, to indebted cultivators, by providing a special judicial machinery, at once cheap and expeditious. In 1919, all tenants were given the right of free and unfettered disposition of their occupancy rights, by will, sale, mortgage, or gift; they were permitted to adopt an heir and widow's succession and collateral succession to the seventh degree were recognised.

Scientific Education.

" Having put the farmer in a secure position with a sympathetic legislation for his relief and famine funds for his help in times of distress, I am now initiating measures for his scientific education. Four students, three of whom are my nephews, are being trained in Europe and America, in important branches of agriculture. On their return, active steps will be taken for the improve-

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ment of manure, and methods of cultivation; it is a matter of common knowledge, that the farmer is, by nature, cautious and conservative and what is necessary is, in my opinion, mass education in the primary stage specially directed to train his mind. My educational department is instructed to prepare a series of agricultural readers for use in rural schools, and I hope that a successful way will be found to liberalise scientific knowledge of improved agriculture, among the farmer class. Similar books are also being prepared dealing with Trade, Commerce, Industry and Moral and Religious welfare in both primary and secondary schools.

"I was faced with a serious situation in my capital, which had given refuge to plague, for a number of years and Jamnagar was a constant sufferer from cholera and malarial fevers. The congestion in the heart of the town was very great, and the conditions were altogether insanitary. I took in hand a programme of town improvement in 1914—at that time a very unpopular measure—I am now able to say that the work is progressing very well and now highly appreciated by my subjects. It has resulted in reducing the mortality of the town from 35 per thousand to 22 and has banished plague and cholera from our midst. The cost of the improvements so far achieved has been about fifteen lakhs.

New Railway Lines.

"I inherited a system of 52 miles of Railway; I have added 66 miles already and am looking forward to carrying the line from Salaya to Bhanwad *via* Khambhalia—another 44 miles—from our own finances for which we have recently received sanction from Your Excellency's Government. During the last seven years, my State has spent about forty lakhs of rupees on the development of our

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railways. I will not take more of Your Excellency's time with a recital of our affairs : I could not resist the temptation of touching on some of our activities and bringing to Your Excellency's notice, the principal direction which these activities have taken.

POLITICAL PROGRESS.

" We have tried to move with the times in Jamnagar. I established an Advisory Council some years ago, in which leaders of my people are invited to deliberate and advise on matters of public or general interest. If it be the desire of my subjects to progress on the lines of British India, they will not find me behind hand in an enthusiastic response to their aspirations. I shall be prepared to grant them in the administration, a share adequate to their capacities. Should such a measure find favour with Your Excellency, it will hearten and embolden me in taking steps for initiating it in right earnest.

" Before concluding I may allude to the late War ; the memories of the trial, the strain and the horrors which attended its terrible progress, for four disastrous years are happily fading away. I will make a passing mention of our share in the great effort that the Empire put forth, not because it needs any repetition at this day but because it fills a bright page in our history and of which we are justly proud. In our history of about 400 years no event is calculated to afford my people and my House more satisfaction than the humble services we were jointly privileged to perform in the cause of justice and humanity and under the banner of our beloved King-Emperor. We did what little we could,—my subjects and I—hand-in-hand. May I say that the efforts were not unworthy of our resources limited as they were ; whereas in the zeal and loyalty which were at the back of our efforts we were second to none in the whole of India."

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Tribute to Lady Irwin.

After detailing the splended services of the State and its people during the war, the Jam Saheb made a graceful reference to Her Excellency Lady Irwin and said : " I am grateful for the honour of your visit to my State. Your Excellency has already earned great popularity in India by your noble leadership in those activities which directly affect Indian womanhood : and what is more necessary at present, than ceaseless endeavours, for the uplift of our women : —as mothers and girls they need, the best the West can teach and impart, and it is their good fortune that Your Excellency has espoused their cause in right earnest."

The Jam Saheb, continuing, said : " Notwithstanding our secluded position and absence of nature's gifts, of a striking kind, I make bold, to request Your Excellencies, to renew your honoured visit to my State—I hope, not fettered, by conditions of a crowded programme, before the close of Your Excellency's tenure of office. In our own spheres and in our policies we are bound to have differences—genuine differences—with the representatives of Your Excellency's Government. But whatever those differences and whatever their gravity,— and however sore and stricken, we may feel, in consequence at times—the Viceroy may always rely on our individual and collective loyalty to His Imperial Majesty and the Empire—our solidarity, as faithful allies of the British Crown, under all conditions. It has been my endeavour to avoid references to controversial topics during this visit. There should be no work and no worry while we are being honoured with Your Excellency's gracious and esteemed company. If we have, in any small way, succeeded in entertaining Your Excellencies and making your stay enjoyable in our midst, my people and I will be more than happy."

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MR. WATSON'S SERVICES.

The Jam Saheb then paid an eloquent tribute to an able and versatile officer the Hon. Mr. Watson, Agent to the Governor-General in States of Western India who, he said, "By a career of great sympathy, directness of purpose and high sense of justice, has enhanced his popularity and won a place in the hearts of the Princes and Chiefs of this Agency. The Province has seen peace and tranquillity in his time. His decisions are marked by deep understanding and impartiality: I wish him all success in the wider sphere of work to which he is called and where he succeeds another personal friend—high in my esteem and regard, Sir John Thompson,—I rejoice in the thought that those gifts and talents which earned him such high regard and admiration in our midst, will now have, for their exercise, an ampler field of usefulness, which, in fact embraces all the States in India."

"I must express my grateful thanks to my brother Princes and Chiefs who have graced this auspicious occasion by their presence and have enabled me to give a fitting welcome to Their Excellencies in my Capital. I ask you now to drink to the health of His Excellency Lord Irwin, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, and it gives me much pleasure to couple with this toast the name of Her Excellency Lady Irwin, whose personal charm and kindness to all who are privileged to know her have won our deep respect and admiration."

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His Excellency the Viceroy taking aim.

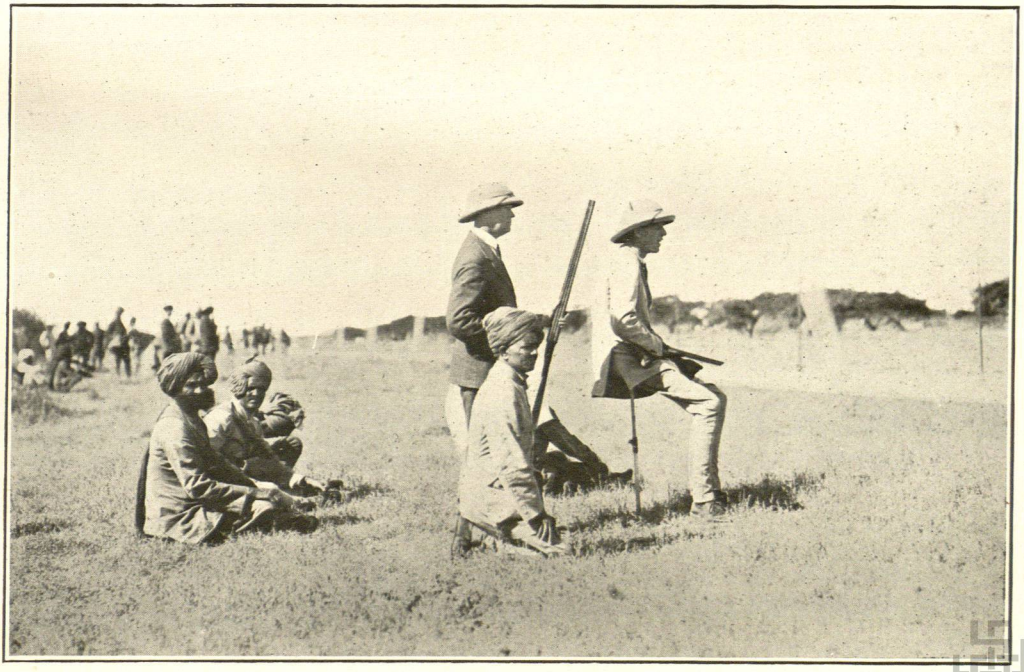


His Excellency the Viceroy and the Jam Saheb examining the paws of a panther.

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The Viceroy inspecting the bag at Rozi.



His Excellency the Viceroy resting after a partridge shoot.

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Problems of Indian States—Viceroy's Reply.

H. E. The Viceroy, delivered the following speech at the banquet :—Your Highness, ladies and gentlemen,—I am grateful for the kind and eloquent terms, in which Your Highness has voiced Jamnagar's welcome to Lady Irwin and to myself this evening. We are delighted that it has been possible to visit the States of Western India thus early in my Viceroyalty and obtain the knowledge and sense of reality that can only come from personal contact and experience. As Your Highness has recalled, our first acquaintance began in Geneva some years ago when I in common with the several delegates of the Nations of the world listened with admiration to the speech, with which you delighted the Assembly. I had of course long before that worshipped from afar a name that used to appear with almost monotonous regularity at the head of the Sussex batting averages.

Since my arrival in India I have had other opportunities of observing and appreciating the acute intellect, wide and sober statesmanship and social charm that distinguish His Highness the Maharaja Jam Saheb. It has, therefore, been with feelings of keen anticipation that I have looked forward to visiting Nawanagar and observing so famous and forceful a personality in his own State and among his own people. My visit has been, alas, a brief one, but even within it I have been able to see something of the energy and enthusiasm for the development of the State and the progress and well-being of the people, which mark Your Highness' administration.

Agricultural Policy.

I have listened with great interest to the detailed account of these many activities and improvements given by you this evening.

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I congratulate Your Highness upon them very warmly. Your agricultural policy appears to me to be wholly admirable both in your encouragement of wells and other facilities, for the irrigation of which I saw something yesterday and in granting a tenancy right to your farmers. No measure is more important than this, for without it no agriculturist will trouble to improve his holdings I confess I am surprised to understand that this enlightened policy is the exception rather than the rule in Kathiawar. I trust that those who have not yet followed Your Highness' lead in this matter may speedily do so. I was particularly pleased as you took us out to camp to be able to observe the quality of so much of the farming, the cleanliness of the land and the crops upon it. It struck me as being as good as any farming I have seen in India and I feel certain that this is also largely due to Your Highness' interest and encouragement.

I have been much impressed also by the success of Your Highness' experiments in town improvement and planning which have transformed cramped and insanitary houses and narrow lanes into the fine buildings and the wide thoroughfares, through which we drove two days ago. In olden times a ruler, dissatisfied with his surroundings, would transport the whole population to a new site and a city, selected and built by himself. These are less spacious days and the complications of modern civilisation have in some ways accentuated the saying of Adam Smith that of all baggage man is the most difficult to move. So Your Highness has had to face and has successfully solved the far more difficult problem of adapting an ancient city to the needs of new conditions and ideas.

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Welfare of Subjects.

You have your reward in the improved health of your people to which also your generous policy in extending medical relief must have contributed in all branches of your State administration. I find the qualities, which my previous acquaintance with Your Highness has led me to expect. I am sure that the people of Nawanagar must also recognise and appreciate Your Highness' efforts for their welfare and that your rule is broadbased on their esteem and affection. I am glad to learn that Your Highness has by constituting an Advisory Council given them opportunities of expressing their needs and sentiments. Each ruler must decide for himself, having regard to local conditions, how and when it is right to associate his people more closely with himself in the burdens of Government. A strong central authority must always be maintained in the interests of the people themselves, but when this is secured it can generally be said that the more freely they can express their wishes and aspirations the better the final justification for all rule is the happiness and contentment of the governed, and an identity of understanding between a ruler and those committed to his charge must be the secret of all successful, personal rulers. That secret I feel little doubt, you have been fortunate enough to discover, for without such contact and mutual understanding the most benevolent ruler may often be in danger of mistaking the necessities of those whom he governs.

Two Vital Questions.

Your Highness has touched on two questions, which are of present and vital interest to the wider world of all India and all the Indian States the exacerbation of communal feeling between Hindus and Moslems, and the future relations of the States and

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British India. You are fortunate in having no communal trouble in Nawanagar and you share this happy position with most of the Indian States. It may be that, as suggested by His Highness of Alwar on a recent occasion religious animosities are accentuated by struggles for political power and influence in the State's patronage does not depend on numbers and votes and you may be reaping some advantage from these conditions. Whatever be the causes in British India, the present widespread cancer of communal strife and bitterness is fraught with grave danger to the body politic. It is axiomatic that a compromise of tolerance and readiness to abide by the law are the essential preliminaries to the success in all democratic Governments and it is accordingly the first duty of every patriotic Indian, whether Hindu or Moslem, to strive his utmost to root out this great and growing evil, to counteract the preachings of intolerance and fanaticism and to imbue a more reasonable spirit among the masses of his co-religionists.

FUTURE OF INDIAN STATES.

The problem of the future relations of your States with British India, where the conditions of rule are slowly but surely changing, is not an easy one. You desire, and naturally, both to retain the internal autonomy secured to you by your engagements and treaties and at the same time to have a voice in the questions which, owing to the growing complexity of modern conditions, must necessarily affect India as a whole. Although at first sight these two positions may appear difficult of reconciliation, I trust that time and a full examination, in consultation with all parties concerned, will lead us to the discovery of the true solution. I believe that I can rely on the wisdom of far-sighted rulers like Your Highness, who can appreciate the best interests not only of your States but of

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India as a whole to use your influence with your brother Princes towards this end.

I thank Your Highness for the kind things you have said about Lady Irwin. It is true that she is keenly interested in all that tends to the welfare of Indian womanhood and she rejoices to think that she has the sympathy and support of Your Highness, whose liberal and progressive views on the subject are well-known. From us both, as from all Your Highness' guests, the warmest acknowledgments are due for the cordiality of our welcome and the most charming arrangements made for our comfort and entertainment.

I appreciate the courtesy which has avoided reference to matters of controversy between the Nawanagar Durbar and my Government. Differences must sometimes occur, but with goodwill on both sides they should seldom be incapable of being brought to a just and reasonable settlement. The generous instinct which has prompted Your Highness to leave these matters on one side during our visit, is one with the sportsmanship, which has always distinguished you. It made the name of Ranji a household word to generations of cricketers and it still assures Your Highness an affectionate welcome wherever sportsmen are gathered together. Whether you are catching sea trout on the west coast of Ireland or shooting partridges on the west coast of India your chief pleasure lies, I know, in offering good sport to your guests and we shall not soon forget our wonderful shoot at Rozi.

A Pleasant Memory.

It will remain among our happiest Indian memories. I need not say that it would be a great pleasure to visit Nawanagar again and see more of Your Highness and the accomplishments of

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your administration, but you know well how many claims there are upon time. India with Burma is a mighty continent and five years are all too short to fulfil one's desires. I thank Your Highness again for the truly delightful time you have given us. My one regret is that my visit should have been the occasion for a mishap to Your Highness' yacht, the "Star of India," a mishap for which there should have been no occasion but for your generous solicitude for our comfort. The event has shown what I believe Astronomy teaches that even the best regulated stars are liable to meet unexpected bodies in their appointed course, but for the future we shall wish her the more firmly such a dispensation of prosperity as may compensate her and you for this unkind stroke of fortune.

But, you will perhaps derive a measure of consolation from the fact that the untoward incident has attached you to the company of distinguished rulers who through history in the persons of the Egyptian Pharaoh or King Canute of England and now yourself have had perforce to recognise the supremacy of the stormy seas, relentless times and the shifting sands. Ladies and gentlemen, I now ask you to join me in drinking long life, good health and prosperity to our distinguished and generous host, His Highness the Maharaja Jam Sahib of Nawanagar.

After dinner there was a splendid display of fireworks on the lake near the Vibha Villas palace which was witnessed by the entire city while all the palaces and main buildings were outlined in dazzling little electric lights and the lawns and terrace were decorated with thousands of coloured chirags. The Viceroy and Lady Irwin both had a short drive through the illuminated city and then returned to the station where the Maharaja and his principal State

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TWO EMINENT INDIAN ADMINISTRATORS AND STATESMEN.



Mr. Mirza Ismail, the talented Dewan of Mysore, who has been recognised as one of the ablest administrators India has produced. "Efficiency and honesty" are his watchwords.



Sir Prabhashanker D. Pattani is the able Administrator of Bhavnagar, one of the most progressive States in India, who, as member of the Executive Council of H. E. the Governor of Bombay and as a member of the India Council, served India with credit and distinction.

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officials had gathered to bid them farewell. Both Lord and Lady Irwin expressed their regret that their visit had been such a short one and warmly thanked His Highness for all his perfect arrangements for their comfort. There was much cheering as the train receded slowly to the strains of " Auld Lang Syne."

The guests will not readily forget the Princely Hospitality of the Jam Saheb—a Hospitality only equalled by the perfection of general arrangements on which His Highness had bestowed careful attention for weeks.

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Viceroy at Rajkot—Problems of the Indian States.

His Excellency the Viceroy, in replying to the speech made by Nawab Sahib Mohbatkanji of Junagadh at the banquet given in honour of Their Excellencies at the Connaught Hall, Rajkot, on November 22nd, said :—Nawab Sahib, Your Highnesses, Chiefs and Talukdars,ladies and gentlemen,—On behalf of Lady Irwin and myself, I thank you very warmly for your cordial welcome to us this evening and the kind terms, in which our healths have been proposed. It has been a great pleasure to us to have the opportunity of visiting the Western India Agency within the second year of my Viceroyalty and of realising at first hand the interest and importance of the States in political relations with my Agent. What I have seen and learned can now be of value to me during the greater portion of my tenure of office. Even a brief visit can be effective in enabling one to view local questions in a truer perspective. For many years you were connected with the Bombay Government and your aspirations and difficulties were not so directly known as they are now in charge of the Viceroy and the Imperial Government. But certainly since I assumed office in April last year I have not been allowed to forget Kathiawar and some at least of your problems have been insistent in their claims on my attention.

Claims of Rajkot.

It is not surprising, therefore, that I have seized an early occasion of coming to see for myself a group of States, presenting such a variety of interesting aspects. You have rightly, Nawab Sahib, laid stress on the many claims of your province to be visited by the Viceroy. I have heard of the ancient and honourable history of

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His Highness Nawab Saheb Mohbat Khanji, K.C.S.I., of Junagadh, the premier State in Kathiawar, who, as the Viceroy in proposing His Highness' health remarked, takes special care in the welfare of the agriculturists recognising that they are a vital factor in the country's prosperity.

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your ruling houses and of the steadfast loyalty to the British Crown and friendly co-operation with its officers, which have marked your relations with the British Government during over 100 years. Your fine traditions will be an incentive to future progress and I am assured that in all times, whether good or evil, His Majesty the King-Emperor can count on the devotion of all the Princes and Chiefs of the States of Western India. Other States may call to the artist, the sportsman and the antiquarian by the beauty of their scenery, the wild density of their hills and jungles, their ruined cities and historic past. While you have these also you can more fully justify your invitation by your modern and progressive administration and your intimate association with problems of vital and present interest to India as a whole.

Rapid Development.

As a great cotton-growing country you are closely linked with one of India's most important industries. Your wide plains have favoured the rapid development of an extensive system of railways ; your merchants and traders have been for generations in touch with the life and energy of the great ports of Bombay and Karachi. It is not, therefore, remarkable if your administrations reflect and respond to modern ideas more fully than where these conditions are non-existent. It is possible that these conditions, while making your problems more vivid, also make them more troublesome to the Government of India and the Political Secretary will bear me out when I say that the Western India States Agency occupies quite its full share of the time of the Central Secretariat. This is partly inevitable and due to the complexity of interests involved in the many interlacing jurisdictions that mark this province.

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I am glad to understand from my Agent that the States as a whole have responded to my predecessor's appeal for compromise and arbitration, but there still appears to be a residium of cases which are not amenable to such settlement. I trust that they will grow fewer as time passes and that the future Viceroys may enjoy the charming friendship of the cultured princes of Kathiawar without the painful necessity of giving constant decisions, residium that cannot satisfy one at least of the contending parties. I would have wished that my time among you had been longer, so that I could have visited more of your States ; Bhavnagar, for whose administration during the minority of the young Maharaja we are responsible, Dhrangadhra with its new industries, Morvi and Gondal, the pioneers of railway and other enterprises, Palitana with its hill, of which I have heard almost too much and many others.

A Progressive Prince.

In these days a Viceroy's time is greatly occupied and it is impossible for him to visit all the places he would wish. I have, however, seen enough to realise your importance and to understand the position given to you by common repute as among the vanguard of the progressing princes of India. I know well that in all your endeavours to maintain the high standard of your administration you have had a whole-hearted supporter in the late Agent to the Governor-General, Mr. Watson, and that you will continue to have a firm friend and wise adviser in Mr. Kealy. It has been a great pleasure to me throughout my recent tour to find on all sides evidences of the mutual friendship and esteem, which exist between my new Political Secretary and the Princes of the Western India States. Such feelings will not fail to be of the greatest assistance to him in the responsible duties which now devolve upon him.

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Along with all other thoughtful members of your order you are now anxious and deeply concerned about the question of your constitutional position in regard to and your future relations with the Government of British India. It is a political puzzle of the utmost difficulty and one to which I do not attempt here and now to give any final answer. I would only say that in my view the more your administrations approximate to the standards of efficiency demanded by the enlightened public opinion elsewhere the easier it will be to find a just and permanent solution. Your rights, dignities and priviliges under your treaties and sanads have been frequently reaffirmed and I am certain that no British Government will fail to maintain them nor even apart from them would any change, affecting your position, be likely to be proposed without the fullest possible consideration being given to your views and sentiments. In my conversations, however, on this general question with many of the Princes I have become aware of a strong body of opinion in favour of a nearly exploration of some of the more technical ground by which it is surrounded. Whatever may be found to be the ultimate solution of the wider problem of the States, viewed in relation to development in British India there is, I think, a force in the contention of many of the princes order that there are meanwhile certain practical questions which may profitably be examined without delay.

Committee to Inquire.

It has, therefore, been decided by the Secretary of State to appoint a small expert committee firstly, to report upon the relationship between the Paramount Power and the States, with particular reference to the rights and obligations, arising from the treaties,

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engagements and sanads and usage, sufferance and other causes and, secondly, to inquire into the financial and economic relations between British India and the States and to make any recommendations that they may consider desirable or necessary for their more satisfactory adjustment. The personnel, I trust, will be announced shortly and it is hoped that the committee will assemble in India in order to commence its inquiry in the near future. I have little doubt that it will command the confidence of the States and meet with all the assistance it may require at the hands of the members of Your Highness' order.

I, of course, share the regret felt by all of you that it has recently been found necessary to reimpose a customs line at Viramgam. Such a line must, I recognise, in some ways be an inconvenience. The disadvantages are, however, being reduced to a minimum by the successful efforts that are being made to work in co-operation with the States. The circumstances, which have led to the measure, are involved and difficult and I and my Government have to guard the interests of British India, while doing justice to the best of our judgment to the legitimate claims of the maritime States.

Effect of Direct Relations.

I am glad to be told that your experience has justified the transfer of your States to direct relations with the Government of India and its officers. The change was made before I reached India and I find it difficult to realise the conditions, in which so large and important a group of States did not share in the common policy and methods of the Political Department directly under the Viceroy. All systems have their drawbacks, but it is my hope that you will continue to be satisfied with the present arrangements and will find at

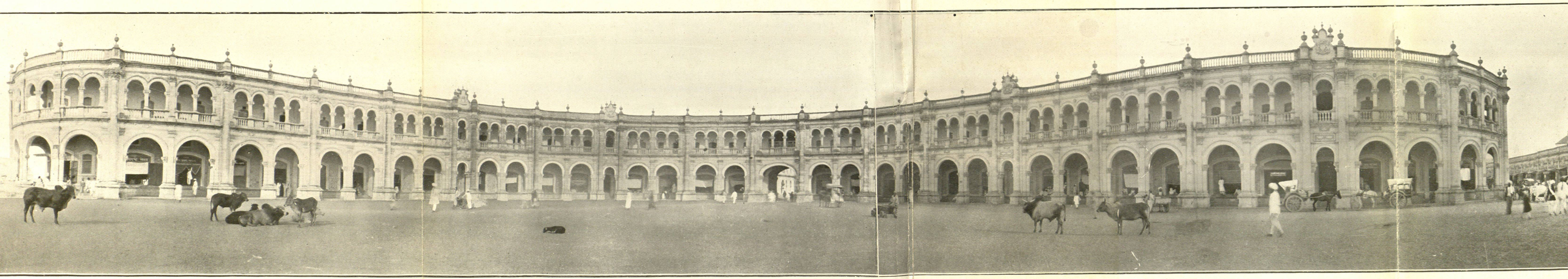
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the hands of the Viceroy and his officers not less sympathy, consideration and attention than you had from the Government of Bombay.

I hope to meet many of you again at the Chamber of Princes in Delhi and at Simla if ever you travel to that overcrowded mountain top. I thank you once more for the kind things you have said about Lady Irwin and myself. We shall both cherish the most pleasant recollections of our visit to Kathiawar and of your welcome to us this evening.

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