SPEECHES

BY

LORD HARDINGE OF PENSHURST

VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TO

SPEECHES

BY LORD HARDINGE OF PENSHURST.

SUBJECT.		PAGE.
A		
ADDRESS.	Bombay Municipal Corporation—	19
	Bombay Chamber of Commerce—	23
	Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau—	29
	Bombay Presidency Moslem League—	33
	Anglo-Indian Empire League—	35
	Calcutta Municipal Corporation—	38
	Taluqdars of Oudh—	41, 230
	Imperial League—	42
	British Indian Association—	44
	Bengal Landholders' Association—	52
	Anglo-Indian Association—	54
	Bengal National Chamber of Commerce—	57
	Indian National Congress—	61
	Indian Association—	65
	Lahore Municipal—	85
	Moslem League, Lahore	88
	Sikh Community, Lahore	92
	Hindu Sabha, Lahore	96
	Punjab Chiefs' Association—	105
	Quetta Municipal—	111
	Karachi Municipal—	122
	Karachi Chamber of Commerce—	127
	Mahommedan Community of Sind—	133
	Sind Hindu Sabha—	138
	Simla Municipal—	154
	Naraingunge Chamber of Commerce—	188
	Dacca Municipal—	191
	Landholders' Association, Eastern Bengal—	194
	Dacca People's Association—	195
	Eastern Bengal Saraswat Samaj—	197
	Benares Municipal—	215
	Lucknow Municipal—	224
	Ex-Royal Family of Oudh—	227
	Peshawar Municipal—	269
	Kohat Municipal—	272

SUBJECT.	PAGE.
ADDRESS—*contd.*	
Rawalpindi and Murree Municipal— .	290
Lyallpur District Board— . . .	304
Ajmer Municipal—	330
Of welcome at Tonk	364
Nagpur Municipal—	402
Jubbulpore Municipal— . . .	429
Delhi Municipal—	434
Imperial Legislative Council, Delhi .	438
From Citizens of Delhi . . .	465
AJMER MUNICIPAL ADDRESS [See "Address."]	
Reception of Tazimi Istimrardars at— .	334
Laying foundation stone of King Edward Memorial,—	335
Prize distribution, Mayo College,— . .	340
ANGLO-INDIAN Empire League address [See "Address"]	
Association address. [See "Address."]	
ASIATIC. Annual meeting of, Society of Bengal .	68
B	
BANQUET. County of Kent—	1
State, Hyderabad	164
,, Delhi	175
,, Benares	218
,, Patiala	264
,, Srinagar	295
,, Indore	316
,, Udaipur	324
,, Jaipur	355
,, Bikaner	376
,, Bhopal	393
,, Bharatpur	431
BENARES MUNICIPAL ADDRESS. [See "Address."]	
State Banquet at—. [See "Banquet."]	
BENGAL LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION ADDRESS. [See "Address."]	
NATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ADDRESS. [See "Address."]	
Asiatic Society of—. [See "Asiatic."]	
BHARATPUR. Banquet at—. [See "Banquet."]	
BHOPAL STATE BANQUET. [See "Banquet."]	
Visit to Alexandra High School,— .	388
Opening of Hamidia Library,— . .	391
Laying foundation stone of, Military School	401

SUBJECT.	PAGE.
BIKANER. Opening of Public Park at— State Banquet. [See "Banquet."]	367
BOMBAY Municipal address. [See "Address."]	
Chamber of Commerce address. [See "Address."]	
Presidency Moslem League address. [See "Address."]	
BRAITHWAITE, GENERAL. Lecture by, at Simla	278
BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION. Address from—. [See "Address."]	
BUDGET DEBATE	77, 252

C

CALCUTTA Municipal Corporation address. [See "Address."]	
King's Durbar: deputation from—. [See "Durbar."]	
Club Dinner. [See "Dinner."]	
University. [See "University."]	
CAWNPORE. Laying foundation stone of, King Edward Memorial	168
CENTRAL PROVINCES Commission Dinner. [See "Dinner."]	
CHENAB CANAL. Opening of Upper—	275
CHIEFS' CONFERENCE, Delhi	458
COUNCIL. Imperial Legislative—	60
Seditious Meetings Law	70
Retirement of Mr. J. M. Macpherson	156
Address from British Representatives to King	158
Tribute to late Sir John Jenkins	234

D

DACCA Municipal address. [See "Address."]	
People's Association address. [See "Address."]	
University at—. [See "University."]	
DALY COLLEGE, INDORE. Opening of new buildings	309
DANE, SIR L. Farewell Dinner to—	464
DELHI. Laying foundation stone of, King Edward Memorial	172
State Banquet. [See "Banquet."]	
Laying foundation stone of new Capital at—	176

SUBJECT.	PAGE.
DELHI—*contd.*	
Chiefs' Conference	458
Municipal address. [See "Address."]	
Durbar in Diwan-i-Am	439
Address from Legislative Council	438
First meeting of Imperial Legislative Council	453
Address from Citizens of—. [See "Address."]	
DHAR, HOSPITAL AT Laying foundation stone of—	320
DHARAMPORE. Opening of King Edward Sanatorium at —	149
Laying foundation stone of, Hardinge Hospital	158
DINNER. Harrow Association—	11
Sind Club, Karachi	147
Annual Mining and Geological Institute—	179
Calcutta Club—	236
Central Provinces Commission—	404
Farewell, to Sir L Dane	464
Farewell, to Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson	467
DURBAR, KING'S. Deputation from Calcutta Corporation	48
At Lahore	98
At Quetta	116
In Diwan-i-Am, Delhi	439
E	
EASTERN BENGAL Landholders' Association address. [See "Address."]	
Saraswat Samaj address. [See "Address."]	
Provincial Mahommedan Association and Moslem League address. [See "Address."]	
F	
FOUNDATION STONE. Laying, of Hardinge Hospital, Dharampore	158
Laying, King Edward Memorial, Cawnpore	168
Laying, of new Capital	176
King Edward Memorial, Ajmer	335
Bhopal Military School	401
Laying, of Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur	410
FRASER, SIR ANDREW. Unveiling statue of—	239

SUBJECT.	PAGE.
H	
HARDINGE BRIDGE, KARACHI. Opening of— .	144
HOSPITAL, Dharampore. [See "Dharampore."]	
HARROW ASSOCIATION DINNER. [See "Dinner."]	
HINDU SABHA. Punjab, address. [See "Address."]	
Sind, address [See "Address"]	
HOSPITAL AT DHAR. Laying foundation stone of—	320
HYDERABAD STATE BANQUET. [See "Banquet."]	
I	
IMPERIAL LEAGUE. Address from—. [See "Address"]	
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. First meeting of—	60
Retirement of Mr. J. M. Macpherson	156
Address from British Representatives to King ..	158
Tribute to late Sir John Jenkins .	234
Meeting of enlarged, at Simla .	286
Address from, at Delhi . .	438
First meeting of, at Delhi . .	453
INDIAN Merchants' Chamber and Bureau address. [See "Address."]	
National Congress address. [See "Address."]	
Association address. [See "Address."]	
VETERANS. Reception of, at Lahore . .	104
INDORE. New buildings, Daly College. Opening of—	309
STATE BANQUET. [See "Banquet."]	
J	
JAIPUR. Opening of King Edward Memorial at— .	352
STATE BANQUET. [See "Banquet."]	
JENKINS, THE LATE SIR JOHN. Tribute to— . .	234
JUBBULPORE Municipal address. [See "Address."]	

SUBJECT.	PAGE.
K	
KARACHI Municipal address [See "Address."]	
Chamber of Commerce address. [See "Address"]	
Sind Club Dinner	147
Opening of Hardinge Bridge,— . .	144
KENT. County of, Banquet. [See "Banquet."]	
KING EDWARD Sanatorium, Dharampore. [See "Dharampore."]	
Memorial, Cawnpore. [See "Cawnpore."]	
Memorial, Delhi. [See "Delhi."]	
Memorial, Lyallpur. [See "Lyallpur."]	
Memorial at Ajmer. [See "Ajmer."]	
Memorial at Jaipur. [See "Jaipur."]	
KING'S Durbar at Delhi	48
Address from Representatives of British India to—	158
KOHAT Municipal address. [See "Address."]	
L	
LAHORE. Durbar at—	98
Municipal address. [See "Address."]	
Reception of Indian Veterans at— . .	104
LECTURE by General Braithwaite at Simla . .	278
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. [See "Imperial Legislative Council."]	
LUCKNOW Municipal address [See "Address."]	
LYALLPUR. Address from District Board, and unveiling King Edward Memorial .	304
M	
MACPHERSON, MR. J. M. Retirement of— . .	156
MAHOMMEDAN COMMUNITY OF SIND. Address from—. [See "Address."]	
MAYO COLLEGE, AJMER. Prize distribution .	340
MINING AND GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE Annual Dinner. [See "Dinner"]	
MOSLEM LEAGUE, PUNJAB, address. [See "Address."]	
BOMBAY PRESIDENCY address. [See "Address."]	
MURREE MUNICIPAL address. [See "Address."]	

SUBJECT.	PAGE.
N	
NAGPUR. Laying foundation stone of new Legislative Council Hall,—	410
MUNICIPAL address. [See "Address."]	
NARAINGUNGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. Address from—. [See "Address."]	
O	
OUDH, EX-ROYAL FAMILY OF. Address from—. [See "Address."]	
P	
PARK. Opening of public, Bikaner . . .	367
PATIALA. State Banquet at—. [See "Banquet"]	
PESHAWAR MUNICIPAL address. [See "Address."]	
PRIZE DISTRIBUTION, Mayo College, Ajmer . .	340
PUNJAB CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION address. [See "Address."]	
Q	
QUETTA MUNICIPAL address. [See "Address."]	
Durbar at—	116
R	
RAWALPINDI MUNICIPAL address. [See "Address."]	
S	
SANATORIUM. King Edward, Dharampore. [See "Dharampore."]	

Subject.	Page.
SEDITIOUS Meetings Law . . .	70
SIKH community address. [See "Address."]	
SIMLA Municipal address. [See "Address."]	
SRINAGAR State Banquet. [See "Banquet."]	
STATUE. Unveiling of Sir Andrew Fraser's— . .	239
T	
TALUQDARS of Oudh. Address from—. [See "Address."]	
TONK. Address of welcome at—. [See "Address."]	
U	
UDAIPUR. State Banquet at—. [See "Banquet."]	
UNIVERSITY at Dacca	203
Convocation of Calcutta— . .	242
W	
WILSON, Sir Guy Fleetwood. Farewell Dinner to	467

SPEECHES BY

LORD HARDINGE OF PENSHURST

I.—SPEECHES MADE IN ENGLAND.

1910.

BANQUET BY THE COUNTY OF KENT.

[Lord Hardinge of Penshurst was entertained to a banquet by the County of Kent on the night of the 20th October on his appointment as Governor-General and Viceroy of India. The chair was occupied by Lord Camden, Lord Lieutenant of Kent, and among those present were, in addition to the guest of the evening, Lord Cromer, Lord G. Hamilton, Lord Darnley, Lord Hardinge, Lord Goschen, Sir W. Hart Dyke, Lord Weardale, the Dean of Canterbury, the Dean of Rochester, Major-General Sir R. Talbot, Lord Stanhope, Lord Falmouth, Lord Harris, Lord Northbourne, Lord H. Nevill, Colonel F. S. W. Cornwallis, Admiral Rice, Lord Errington, Lord Cranley, Sir Eric Barrington, Sir W. E. Garstin, Sir W. Allchin, Mr. L. Hardy, M.P., Mr. N. Craig, M.P., Mr. Foote-Mitchell, M.P., Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., Mr. G. Wheler, M.P., Major-General Sir W. Leigh Pemberton, K.C.B., Brigadier-General the Hon. E. Montagu Stuart Wortley, Mr. S. Forde Ridley, M.P., General Sir T. E. Gordon, Sir W. Barrington, Sir C. Cartwright, Sir A. Wollaston, Captain Spender Clay, M.P., Mr. J. Astor, Mr. R. Hardinge, Mr. Rose Innes, M.P., Colonel Warde, M.P., Sir Marcus Samuel, Sir R. West, Sir Fortescue Flannery, Sir J. Furley, Sir H. Lennard, Colonel Sir J. R. Dunlop-Smith, Sir G. S. 20th Oct. 1910.

Banquet by the County of Kent.

Mackenzie, Mr. R. Norton (High Sheriff), Sir T. Jackson, Sir F. Lely, Sir S. Edgerley, and the Mayors of Bromley, Rochester, Faversham, Maidstone, Margate, Ramsgate, and Gillingham, and the Deputy Mayor of Tunbridge Wells.

Letters of regret at inability to attend were read from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Cranbrook, Lord Dartmouth, and Lord Milner, who expressed appreciation of Lord Hardinge's public services in the past and confidence in his achieving greater distinction in the high office which he was now called upon to fill.

In proposing the loyal toasts the Chairman expressed the sympathy of the gathering with Her Majesty the Queen in the illness of Prince Francis of Teck, and the expression of a hope that the invalid would have a speedy recovery.

Lord Harris, in proposing "Our Guest," commented on the fact that this was a notable and unique gathering. They congratulated their guest on the great distinction that he had won, and as Kentish men they felt pride that one of her sons had been thus preferred. They were all satisfied that the new Viceroy would fill his high post with dignity and that his conduct in India would be as straight as his batting in the cricket field had been. (*Laughter and cheers.*) Lord Hardinge was the first Kentish Viceroy of India, and he thought that India was fortunate in obtaining the services of one possessing such wide experience in international affairs and of the systems of government, Oriental as well as Western, to fill the honourable and onerous post of Governor-General of India. (*Cheers.*) The task of this country was to harmonize the divisions in India, and he asked for sympathy towards the great masses of rural India far removed from the reach of scientific medical aid. Lord Hardinge would be dependent for long on the little band of British officials, but on his courage and devotion depended the orderliness of India in its progressive development. (*Cheers.*)

An address, contained in an album with 1,500 signatures, including the Archbishop of Canterbury down to the humblest parishioner and member of the County Cricket Eleven, was as follows:—

My Lord,—We the undersigned men of Kent and Kentish men gladly accept the opportunity you have given us of offering to Your Lordship our hearty congratulations on your appointment to the High and Responsible Office of Governor-General and Viceroy of India.

The great experience that Your Lordship has acquired in your distinguished career in the service of the State should be an assur-

Banquet by the County of Kent.

ance to our fellow-subjects of British India that you will approach the duties which you are about to undertake with a wide knowledge of Imperial affairs and a calm and statesmanlike impartiality; whilst from peoples who still entertain a respect for heredity, the family connection with India, which you can proudly claim, by reason of the Governor-Generalship of your distinguished ancestor, Viscount Hardinge, will certainly ensure you a kindly welcome.

We pray that under God's providence, Your Lordship may be spared for the full term of your office, that it may bring to the many millions who will be placed under your charge, the blessings of peace, internal and external prosperity, and contentment: that the domestic life of Lady Hardinge, Your Lordship and your family may be free from all anxiety; and that you may return happy in the consciousness that you have done good service to your King and country, as well as to that particular part of His Majesty's Empire of which you will have been the Warden. Of this Your Lordship may be assured that the loyal County of Kent will remain true to you in its confidence that you will be actuated by an earnest desire to do the right; and will look forward to welcoming you on your return and to congratulating both Your Lordship and itself that one of its sons has deserved well of the Empire. (*Cheers.*)

Lord Hardinge of Penshurst, who was cordially received, said:—]

My Lords and Gentlemen,—It is difficult for me to find words adequately to express to you my heartfelt gratitude for the great honour that you have paid me in inviting me to be present this evening at this most distinguished and representative gathering of the County of Kent. I am also very appreciative of the very friendly and flattering references that have been made to my humble services in the past. I cannot help feeling, however, that Lord Harris has been too generous in the bestowal of his praise, since I can only lay claim to having always tried, like the rest of us here, to "play the game," whether in the cricket field or in the wider field of the public service. (*Cheers.*) I am most profoundly touched by the very exceptional compliment that has been paid to me in the address that I have received, which, with its enormous array of names, has assumed such a

Banquet by the County of Kent.

charming form as that of an album containing views of our beloved county, a picture of our victorious Cricket Eleven, and reproductions of other interesting objects connected with Kent. My attention has been drawn to the fact that among the long list of signatures is that of a lady of Burstead, who is over 101 years of age, and who has signed her name with her own hand. Although I have not the honour of the lady's acquaintance, I should like to express to her on behalf of us all our congratulations and hope that she may still have many years of health and happiness before her. (*Cheers.*)

I thank you all most cordially, as well as all those who have signed the address and who unfortunately are unable to be here to-night, for the congratulations contained in it and for the good wishes expressed on behalf of Lady Hardinge and myself. I can only assure you that this charming album will always be regarded by me and my family as a unique and priceless treasure, and that when lying on my table at Calcutta or Simla it will serve as a perpetual encouragement to me to prove myself worthy of my county in the fulfilment of my duties, with the certain knowledge that in so doing I shall have the full sympathy and support of you all. (*Cheers.*) It has always been to me a source of regret that, owing to my duties abroad in the Diplomatic Service, I have seen during the last 30 years so little of my county and of my friends in the county, but, although in the course of my wanderings I have had many temporary homes in distant lands, I have never felt that any one of them could compete in my love and affection for the home of my childhood and youth, with its wooded slopes and smiling hop gardens and orchards that are so familiar to all of us Kentish men and men of Kent. (*Cheers.*) My thoughts have, however, always been with you, and among many other notable and recent events connected

Banquet by the County of Kent.

with our county I have watched with the utmost pride and pleasure the triumphant progress of our cricket team from one championship to another, and in these days when people talk of the decadence of our race I have hugged to myself the conviction that, wherever else decadence may be found, it is not to be found in the County of Kent, and that the sons of Kent are still worthy, as they ever have been, of the proud motto of their county—"Invicta." (*Cheers.*)

Now that I am about to take up the great task that has been confided to me in our Indian Empire, it is a great satisfaction to realize how the traditions of my family and the surroundings of my childhood have all these years been quietly preparing me for my new duties, and have inspired me with a sympathy and interest in India and all that is connected with India that otherwise might have been lukewarm. Surrounded as I have been during my youth by Indian works of art brought home by my grandfather and by my father, by books on India, and by pictures containing views of India and the ordinary episodes of Indian life, I cannot help feeling that much that I shall see for the first time when I reach India will be familiar to me, at least in imagination, and that the dazzling snow-tops of the Himalayas and the glowing sunsets on the Ganges will not be entirely strange or new. (*Hear, hear.*) It has been said, and with perhaps some truth, that it is unfortunate that I have had no previous experience in India. I confess that I myself would like to feel that I had greater knowledge of the internal affairs of India than I now possess; but, on the other hand, it may be urged with equal and perhaps even greater force that I go to India with a mind absolutely free from bias or prejudice that might otherwise have influenced me in considering and dealing with the vast and intricate social and political problems that

Banquet by the County of Kent.

must necessarily confront me from the very day that I set foot for the first time on Indian soil. (*Cheers.*) Again, although I have still to look forward to acquiring a thorough knowledge of the internal situation in India, I think I may say truthfully and without exaggeration that during the last 15 years of my work in the Diplomatic Service and Foreign Office few people have been so favoured as I have been in being brought into close contact with the weightiest issues upon which the external relations of India with her coterminous neighbours depend and which affect not merely the external policy of India alone, but the policy of Imperial unity as a whole.

It was in 1896 that I was sent by Lord Salisbury to Persia, and it was there that I fully realized for the first time the senseless rivalry that actuated British and Russian foreign policy in Persia and Central Asia, by which not only were the political and material interests of two Great Powers, and also of India, adversely affected, but the commercial and political developments of the countries which formed the object of this rivalry were at the same time seriously impeded. It was after 18 months spent in Teheran that I was moved on to St. Petersburg, and it did not take long for me to acquire there the absolute conviction that the intrigues and counter-intrigues of British and Russian agents in Persia and Central Asia constituted in reality a serious menace to European peace, and at the same time entailed on Indian revenues heavy military expenditure in defensive and precautionary measures. Although this is happily now past history, which I truly believe will never repeat itself, I think I may say without a breach of confidence that during the closing years of last century and the opening years of the present, although our relations with Russia were what in diplomatic language is called correct,

Banquet by the County of Kent.

they could only by a stretch of the imagination have been described as friendly. The Russian menace was always before us, and the possibility of a Russian invasion of India the perpetual bugbear of our military authorities both in Pall Mall and Calcutta. I have grave doubts as to whether such projects were ever seriously contemplated in those days by the Russian Government, but the mere mention of them was quite sufficient to work up the people and Press of both countries to fever heat in angry polemics and active opposition to each other in Asia. (*Cheers.*) It should not be forgotten that the long succession of Afghan wars, and lastly, the expedition to Lhassa, with the immense and useless expenditure of life and treasure that they entailed, were largely due to antagonism to Russia and to the fear of Russian aggression. It was, if I may venture without presumption to say so, a masterstroke of policy on the part of Lord Lansdowne, when Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to have first initiated negotiations with the Russian Government to put an end to this situation of veiled hostility fraught with danger to Great Britain and Russia and to the Indian Empire. Unfortunately, Lord Lansdowne's efforts bore no immediate fruit, owing to the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese War during the course of which the negotiations remained necessarily in abeyance. The postponement was happily only temporary, for almost immediately after the conclusion of the war and the accession of the present Government to office Sir E. Grey, my late chief, for whom I entertain feelings of the greatest respect and affection (*cheers*), at once reopened negotiations with the Russian Government, and within 18 months brought them to a satisfactory conclusion. (*Cheers.*) The Convention that was then concluded has already withstood the test of trial, and has substituted relations of friendship and confidence

Banquet by the County of Kent.

where hostility and distrust had hitherto prevailed. It has been observed by both parties to it with the utmost loyalty, and has happily resulted in the mutual co-operation of the two Powers for the maintenance of peace in Asia. The advantage to India of this peaceful development is incalculable, since the Russian menace has been dispelled and the bogey of a Russian invasion has been laid, thus giving greater opportunity and freedom to those entrusted with administration in India to consider many social problems affecting the welfare and development of the Indian people. (*Cheers.*) It is only right that I should here add that this successful issue was largely promoted by the beneficent influence of our great and deeply-regretted Sovereign King Edward VII (*cheers*), and by the Emperor of Russia, who, to my personal knowledge, has always been a strong advocate of friendly and peaceful relations between his country and our own.

I have referred to this matter at some length, not only to point out the inestimable value to India of the Convention concluded with Russia three years ago, which, I think, has never been fully appreciated in India, but to give at the same time one example out of many of how closely diplomacy is connected with all of the numerous questions affecting the external relations of the Indian Empire. (*Cheers.*)

As for internal conditions in India, I can, as I have already said, only lay claim to a superficial knowledge of them; but there are certain obvious principles which it must be the duty of every responsible administrator to follow. Mr. Montagu, the Under-Secretary of State for India, in his very able speech on the Indian Budget, wound up by quoting an extract of a letter from the great Sir R. Peel to my grandfather on his appointment

Banquet by the County of Kent.

to the post of Governor-General of India, and in his concluding remarks proffered advice to me in the same sense. You will, I am sure, pardon me if I repeat this short and interesting quotation:—"If," wrote Sir R. Peel, "you can keep peace, reduce expenses, extend commerce, and strengthen our hold on India by confidence in our justice and kindness and wisdom, you will be received here on your return with acclamations a thousand times louder and a welcome infinitely more cordial than if you had a dozen victories to boast of." (*Cheers.*) These were wise words and as true and applicable now as they were when written more than 60 years ago. I have laid them to heart, but had Sir Robert lived now during this period of transition in India when some of the old landmarks are being removed to give a wider scope to the intelligence and intellectual ability of our Indian fellow-subjects, he would, I think, have given some additional advice, possibly on the following lines—that the new Viceroy should watch over with the utmost care and vigilance and do his utmost to consolidate the beneficent and far-reaching scheme of reforms introduced by Lord Morley and Lord Minto (*cheers*) for associating the people of India more closely with the management of their own affairs. He might also have added that the Viceroy should strain every nerve to conciliate all races, classes, and creeds. My Lords and Gentlemen, it will be my humble duty honestly to endeavour to follow the precepts so clearly laid down by Sir R. Peel and those that I have had the temerity to suggest as likely additions had that eminent statesman lived in our day, and in pursuing this course I shall be fortified by the profound sympathy and regard that I entertain and have always entertained for our Indian fellow-subjects and by my earnest desire to contribute at least something to their material welfare and development. (*Cheers.*)

Banquet by the County of Kent.

Lord Minto's administration will always be memorable as a landmark in the era of reform, and he will bequeath to me a new *régime* already in force though still young in development. It will be my task to foster this young plant with tender care, and at the same time to see that the word government is synonymous with peace, order, and security. (*Cheers.*) To achieve these objects I shall rely upon the helpful co-operation of all classes in India, but especially on the Legislative Councils and that great and distinguished body the Civil Service of India, and I am convinced that that co-operation will be freely and loyally given. There is no one who realizes more clearly than I do the difficulties of the task before me and the heavy burden of responsibility that I must assume, nor is there anybody more conscious of his own limitations than I am; but, confident in the sympathy and support that I expect and have the right to expect from all classes and all parties whether in Great Britain or in India, I trust that at the conclusion of my term of five years of office we may be able to look back upon a period of peace, contentment, and material progress, and that, following the example of our victorious cricket eleven, it may be the verdict of our county that I have kept my wicket up and have carried out my bat to the honour and credit of the distinguished county of which I have the good fortune and happiness to be one of its most humble sons. (*Laughter and cheers.*) I thank you again most cordially and from the bottom of my heart for the great and exceptional honour that you have paid me this day. (*Cheers.*)

[Lord G. Hamilton (Mayor of Deal) proposed "Our County," which was responded to by Sir W. Hart Dyke, and the Dean of Canterbury proposed the health of the Chairman, which was briefly acknowledged. The proceedings then closed.]

DINNER BY THE HARROW ASSOCIATION.

[There was a large gathering at the Savoy Hotel on 24th October at a dinner given by the Harrow Association to Lord Hardinge of Penshurst on his appointment as Viceroy of India. The Master of Trinity presided, and among those present were Lord Crewe, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord George Hamilton, Lord Claud Hamilton, M.P., Mr. Justice Channell, Mr. Justice Ridley, the Headmaster of Harrow, Lord Stradbroke, Lord Ronaldshay, M.P., Lord Knutsford, Sir John Kennaway, Lord Lichfield, Viscount Hardinge, Lord Lilford, Lord Desborough, Sir T. F. Buxton, Lieutenant-General Sir W. H. Mackinnon, General Sir Richard Harrison, Lieutenant-General Sir L. J. Oliphant, Lieutenant-General Sir H. L. Smith-Dorrien, and Major-General A. E. Codrington. 24th Oct. 1910.

Following the toast of "John Lyon, our Founder," which was drunk in silence, the Archbishop of Canterbury proposed the toast of "Our School." He said that the Home Secretary was a Harrovian, they had a Harrovian presiding over the Colonial Office, and they thought hopefully of the two great Dominions of Canada and India, presided over respectively by Lord Grey and Lord Hardinge. That proved how England placed confidence in Harrovians. (*Cheers.*)

The Headmaster of Harrow responded.

The toast of "Our Guest" was proposed by the Chairman and the Earl of Crewe. The latter said that he had heard no adverse criticism of Lord Hardinge's appointment. If there were any he could conceive it taking this form—that Lord Hardinge's experience had been purely diplomatic and not administrative. They who know him were convinced that he possessed in the fullest measure the qualities that went to make a great administrator. The causes of the unrest in India were numerous, complex, and obscure. Something to relieve it had, he hoped, been done during the administration now closed, but it was not possible that legislative enactments, however ably conceived and loyally administered, could in a moment assuage deep-seated unrest of that kind.

Lord Hardinge of Penshurst, who was received with cheers, said :—]

My Lords and Gentlemen,—I thank you all most warmly for the very kind and cordial manner in which you have received the toast of my health, and I am very grateful for the all too flattering terms in which reference has been made to me and my humble services by the

Dinner by the Harrow Association.

Master of Trinity and the Secretary of State for the Colonies. It is a source of real gratification to me that we have in the chair on this occasion our friend Dr. Butler, my former Headmaster, whose family has brought so much honour and distinction to Harrow, and that my health should have been proposed by Lord Crewe, a school and college friend and a prominent member of the Government under whom I have served during the past five years. It is to me a combination full of happy reminiscences and of hopeful encouragement for the future. (*Cheers.*) After listening to the eloquent speeches that we have heard this evening I trust that my friends assembled here to-night will be indulgent in their criticisms of my rhetorical efforts. During the 30 years that I have spent in diplomacy I have endeavoured to act up to the best traditions of the Service, and to hold my tongue, which is one of the first maxims impressed upon the young men who enter the portals of the Foreign Office for the first time, and which is sometimes not quite so easy to follow as it sounds. In any case, however indiscreet I may have been in private conversation with my personal friends, my worst enemy could never accuse me of any predisposition to yield to temptation to make speeches in public, and, were it not for the insistent and generous hospitality of my friends at this juncture, I think that I might still have succeeded in evading any obligations in this respect until I leave these shores. I fully realize, however, that from the moment that I reach the shores of India it will frequently be my duty to break forth in speech, a prospect that is a little alarming to a person of a would-be retiring disposition, who has always had a feeling of intense compassion for Secretaries of State and Parliamentary Under-Secretaries, who from their places in Parliament have to explain and sometimes to condone the actions and shortcomings of

Dinner by the Harrow Association.

their permanent and subordinate officials like myself. There are, however, so many new experiences, new duties, and new responsibilities that will greet me in India that I sometimes feel almost dazed at the prospect, and begin to think that after all speech-making may prove to be only a lesser evil.

Among the many compliments that I have received upon my appointment as Viceroy of India, and upon my approaching departure from these shores, there are none that I have valued more highly than the Godspeed given to me by my county a few nights ago and this foregathering here to-night of my Harrow schoolfellows and friends. It seems to me that the one is the complement of the other, for although to one's native county and home must be attributed the first impressions of childhood and youth, it is to school and college life that one owes those more lasting impressions of duty and fearless responsibility that are so helpful, I may almost say necessary, to the fulfilment of the duties of public life. (*Cheers.*)

During the last few weeks my thoughts have naturally turned to India and to some matters relating to India which have their connexions in England itself. Amongst these I have thought a good deal of the position of Indian students in this country, and a short time ago I had an interesting conversation with an Indian gentleman of great ability who has made it his business to be in touch with some of the large number of Indian students who are working in our Universities, hospitals, and law schools; and the account he gave me was not very encouraging, and provided me with food for serious reflection. Most of these young students are young men of good family in India, often sent at considerable sacrifice by their parents, who are some of the most loyal of our fellow-subjects in India, in order that their sons

Dinner by the Harrow Association.

may obtain a good education in England and associate with English gentlemen of good repute and of social position. Unfortunately, whether the fault be with the English or the Indian students, or with their masters and teachers, I hear that they mix rarely together in our Universities and law schools, and that the Indian students are exposed to evil influences and temptations that can only be resisted successfully by a strong moral sense of right and duty. I have heard of regrettable instances of attempts at seditions and disloyal propaganda amongst the students, but I trust that the poison has not sunk deep. It should, I think, be the duty of every one to do all in their power to assist and protect the Indian students from all pernicious influences, whether at the Universities or elsewhere, and at the same time to make their lives happy in this country while in pursuit of their studies. (*Cheers.*) It should be always remembered that these young men when they return to India, whatever their sentiments may be, will be the flower of the educated minority in that country, and will be in a position by their ability and learning to exercise influence on many, whether for right or wrong.

I only wish that a leaf could be taken from the practice at Harrow School, where only two months ago I witnessed an incident which I am told is an every-day occurrence. I am so fortunate as to have a boy at Harrow, and I went there to see him and to watch a cricket match. As is expected of parents on such occasions, I took my son to have a large and heavy tea at the Harrow tea-shop, where I saw numerous other boys, in groups of two and three, sitting at small tables and enjoying themselves. Presently I noticed an Indian boy enter with two other boys and, sitting down together at a small table, order tea for themselves. I could not help noticing the friendly *camaraderie* that existed

Dinner by the Harrow Association.

between the three boys, who were evidently on the best of terms together. I asked my son whether Indian boys were at any disadvantage at Harrow in comparison with other boys, and he assured me that not the slightest difference is made, and that Indian boys are treated by other boys as being on a footing of perfect equality with them. This is as it should be, and were it so elsewhere I cannot help feeling that the life of an Indian student in England might be made happier than it now is. I know that Lord Morley has made efforts during the last few years to improve the position of the Indian students, but there is still much that might be done, which must necessarily be left to private initiative and to the good feeling of their English fellow-students. I have ventured to refer to this question to-night as I regard it as one of Imperial concern to the future of our Empire, and I believe that a little kindness shown to these young men would repay itself a thousandfold by the spread in India of a warmer spirit of loyalty and devotion to the Empire. (*Cheers.*)

I have already referred to the impressions of duty and responsibility that are acquired during school and college life, of which the value cannot be unduly exaggerated. I think it will not be disputed when I say that it is upon the highest conception by the British nation of their duty and responsibility towards India that the whole structure of British administration in India has been founded ever since the affairs of the East India Company were taken over by the British Government. We have in the past and present endeavoured to govern India for the benefit of India and our Indian fellow-subjects, and we are doing a work in Asia such as has never been attempted by any other nation. (*Cheers.*) We have recognized our duty and responsibility towards India by our efforts to promote the progress and to improve

the material condition of the people, while maintaining the *Pax Britannica*, without undue interference with their religions and prejudices. It can never be said of the British Government, as was said by Canning of the Dutch, that they were fond of giving too little and asking too much. We have given India of our best, and all that we ask for in return is loyalty and progress. (*Cheers.*) I see no reason to doubt the loyalty of the great masses in India, and there can be no question whatever as to the progressive development of the Indian people. The recent reforms introduced by Lord Morley are conclusive proof of intellectual progress in India, and should have a pacifying and conciliatory effect.

One hears and reads in the Press a good deal on the subject of unrest in India. Although there have been dastardly crimes during the last two or three years that seem so entirely foreign to the nature and natural temperament of our Indian fellow-subjects, it is difficult to imagine that such wicked crimes, of which the origin is still somewhat obscure, could be more than the benighted action of a misguided few, for the recent and spontaneous outburst of loyalty and devotion to the Crown on the death of our great and deeply-regretted King was striking evidence of the intense loyalty of the vast majority of the Indian people. (*Cheers.*) I may be wrong, but I am full of hope that the unrest in India will disappear under the influence of sympathy and kindness combined with firmness, and that it will give place to a period of calm and of prosperous commercial and agricultural expansion. (*Cheers.*)

In a few days' time I shall be leaving these shores for a nominal term of five years in India. I imagine that the period of the hardest work of my life is before me. Whether it be possible during such a period for a man to make any permanent impression may be a

Dinner by the Harrow Association.

question open to discussion, but I cannot help thinking that a limitation of the term of office of Viceroy was a wise provision, for there must also be a limit to the powers of endurance of the continual strain that is inevitable and inherent to the office. I hope that it is not unnatural that I should feel some diffidence as to my ability to fulfil adequately the duties and responsibilities that have been confided to me and to grapple with the stupendous problems that will confront me at every turn, but I think that I can have no higher ideal than to endeavour to follow in the footsteps of my distinguished Harrovian predecessors, amongst whom occur the illustrious names of Hastings, Wellesley, and Dalhousie. (*Cheers.*) It would be presumptuous on my part to imagine for an instant that I could ever aspire to distinction such as theirs, but, although I cannot hope to add anything to the lustre of our Alma Mater, it will be my honest endeavour to do nothing to detract from it, and always to be true to the honour of Harrow, our great and dearly cherished school, with the certain knowledge that I can absolutely rely on the sympathy and confidence of my Harrow school-fellows and friends. (*Cheers.*) My Lords and Gentlemen, I thank you again most warmly for your great kindness and encouragement on what will ever be to me a memorable evening. (*Loud cheers.*)

SPEECHES BY

LORD HARDINGE OF PENSHURST.

II.—SPEECHES MADE IN INDIA.

1910.

BOMBAY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

[Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Hardinge accompanied by the Hon'ble Diamond Hardinge, Mr. J. H. DuBoulay, C.I.E., Private Secretary, and the rest of the staff arrived in Bombay Harbour on the morning of the 18th November in the P. & O. S.S. "Persia." 18th Nov. 1910.

The occasion was a memorable one. Immense crowds hurried out to welcome the new Viceroy. Their Excellencies landed at 8 A.M. under a Royal Salute of 31 guns fired by H.M.S. "Hyacinth." Immediately on stepping out of the launch Lord and Lady Hardinge were met by the Governor of Bombay and Lady Clarke who conducted them to a beautifully erected Shamiana.

A brilliant gathering of officers of the Public Services and Indian Notabilities and Foreign Consuls was in attendance. The Viceroy-elect was introduced to all officials, military and naval officers, present, as also members of Council, Chamber of Commerce, and Municipal Councillors. The guard-of-honour was next inspected, when Lord Hardinge was conducted to a specially erected dais, where the Municipal address was presented and which was as follows :—

May it please Your Lordship,—We, the President and Members of the Municipal Corporation of the City of Bombay, are gratified

Bombay Municipal Corporation.

that at the moment of Your Lordship's arrival upon Indian shores, we are granted the opportunity of offering to Your Lordship this address of welcome and respectful greeting. The natural pleasure which the City of Bombay feels in welcoming a new Viceroy is enhanced in this instance by the fact that Your Lordship, like the experienced nobleman from whose hands you are receiving the charge of this great continent, has a hereditary connection with India which is augury both of a natural aptitude for statesmanship and of a personal sympathy with its peoples. Nearly seventy years have passed since Your Lordship's ancestor, Sir Henry Hardinge, penned his famous letter to the greatest of English Queens, declaring that in order to reward native talent and render it practically useful to the State he had evolved a scheme whereby the most meritorious students would be appointed to fill the public offices which fell vacant throughout Bengal; and but three years later, after a severe struggle with the Sikh power, he was able to report that peace had been finally established beyond the North-West Frontier and throughout India. The peerage which Her Majesty Queen Victoria conferred upon Your Lordship's ancestor in 1846 was a well-deserved reward for the skill and courage with which he effected internal peace and strove to set the people of India upon the path of advancement.

At this juncture when India is passing through an epoch of immense change, social, political and economical, and when much has to be effected towards composing differences of opinion, reconciling discordant elements and consolidating the universal sentiment of loyalty to the Crown, we rejoice to think that India will have at the helm of affairs a statesman whose instinct for governing, inherited from his great ancestor, has been firmly established by active work and manifold experience in the field of international diplomacy. The prospect of war within the boundaries of India no longer darkens the horizon, and the victories which it rests with Your Lordship to achieve are those of peace. But in recalling the statesmanlike actions of Sir Henry Hardinge and the record of Your Lordship's public life we feel convinced that the victories under arms of your ancestor's *régime* will find their complement in the constitutional achievements of Your Lordships's administration, to the permanent benefit of India and the honour of the family to which Your Lordship belongs.

We hesitate to trouble Your Lordship at this moment with any lengthy disquisition upon the needs of this City. But we cannot forbear to bring to Your Lordship's notice the manifold signs of

Bombay Municipal Corporation.

urban advancement and expansion, which are the direct outcome of the legislative creation of a City Improvement Trust, and to express a hope that the Government of India will place the Local Government in a position to render greater financial assistance to that body. Otherwise it may be difficult to carry to completion the comprehensive and most salutary schemes of improvement which it is pledged to introduce. The duration of Municipal Loans for works of public utility is another subject upon which we respectfully consider that the Government of India might follow a more liberal policy, and particularly so at this juncture when important drainage-schemes and water-works, which will necessitate the floating of large loans, are under consideration. Apart from these two points which we submit for Your Lordship's sympathetic consideration, we can only express a hope that the advance which this great City in common with the rest of India has made during the last few years will continue under Your Lordship's administration and that the progress of Bombay will hereafter be adjudged by the verdict of posterity one of the salient features of Your Lordship's tenure of office.

In conclusion we desire to offer a most cordial welcome to Lady Hardinge, and to give expression to our belief that she, like the wives of former Viceroys, will find an abiding place in the affections of the women of India.

Lord Hardinge replied as follows :—]

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Municipal Corporation of Bombay,—I thank you very warmly for the address that you have presented, and for the kindly welcome you have extended to me on setting foot for the first time upon the shores of India.

I am grateful for the appreciative references made to my grandfather's services in India, and in assuming the burden and responsibilities of the great office that has been confided to me, I take courage from his example. Much as he desired peace, it was his fate and misfortune to be involved in an internal war, but he nevertheless succeeded during the course of his administration in contributing to the material advancement of the people of India.

Bombay Municipal Corporation.

Times have changed since the appointment of an Indian student to be a Deputy Magistrate was regarded as a remarkable concession and innovation, but the present and the future are rife with problems of a more complex and more difficult character than those of the past. It shall be my aim to face them with courage and sympathy, and to maintain the policy initiated by Lord Minto who has so calmly and steadily met the difficulties of the past five years, and is so soon to bid you goodbye.

With the City of Bombay I have an older and even closer link than through my grandfather, for I am told that in the Cathedral of your City, there is a monument which according to the inscription it bears was "erected by the public spirit of Bombay to consecrate the memory of Captain George Nicholas Hardinge of the Royal Navy," who fell for British India in the moment of victory after a three days' combat, and the capture off the coast of Ceylon, of a large French Frigate, which had been the terror of the Indian Seas. This was my great-uncle, and the Naval engagement took place 102 years ago.

Mr. President and Gentlemen, you will not expect me to make any pronouncement at the present moment upon the two questions of great though local importance, upon which you have touched in your address. It is not unlikely that they may come before me in the future, in which case you may rest assured that your views, and your wishes will receive my earnest and careful consideration. I share your hope that your great and beautiful City may continue to advance in the path of progress and prosperity, and there is every reason to be hopeful for the future when we look back upon the past. Two and-a-half centuries ago, Bombay was described by one writer as only "a poor little Island," but even in those

Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

times one of the greatest of your Governors, who must have been imbued with a prophetic instinct, spoke of it as "a City which by God's assistance is intended to be built," and you have now another Governor like him to whom you can confidently turn for help and guidance in all matters affecting the prosperity and progressive development of Bombay the Beautiful.

On behalf of Lady Hardinge I thank you for your words of cordial welcome, and I can confidently assure you that it will be a source of happiness to her to do what she can in her own proper sphere to contribute to the welfare and needs of the women of India.

In expressing to you once more my warm appreciation of your address, allow me to thank you, Mr. President and Gentlemen, for the beautiful casket in which it is enclosed.

[Shortly after Their Excellencies accompanied by Sir George and Lady Clarke drove to Government House in State, the streets being thronged with spectators who cheered Lord Hardinge heartily.]

ADDRESS FROM THE BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

[On the morning of the 18th November the Bombay Chamber of Commerce presented an address of welcome to Lord Hardinge. 18th Nov. 1910.

The Hon'ble Mr. Monteath, Chairman of the Corporation, headed the deputation and read the address which was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—On your first arrival in India, at this, the Western Capital, we, the members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, desire to offer you a most cordial welcome to the country, and at the same time beg to tender our sincere congratulations on your appointment as Viceroy and Governor-General of India by His Most Gracious Majesty our King-Emperor.

Your many and distinguished services inspire us with confidence in looking forward to your administrative rule in India, as we feel sure that your experience and wide knowledge of the world will

Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

enable you to deal successfully with the numerous and varied problems of this great Empire.

Of the natural beauties of the Port of Bombay we leave Your Excellency to judge from your first impressions on entering our Harbour. But, as representing Commerce, we would desire to impress upon you the significance of such a port, and the vast influence it has on the general welfare of the country through the enormous volume of trade it handles. Owing to modern facilities of communication, India is now a world market, and the demand from Foreign Countries for its food grains, oil seeds, cotton and minerals, continues to increase and is reflected by the trade returns of the port.

It is not, however, only as a port that Bombay claims its position, but also a large industrial centre, the principal industry being the manufacture of cotton goods and yarns. Conditions of late have unfortunately been very adverse to the cotton textile industry, owing to the high prices of cotton due to the shortage of the American crops and to absence of demand for cotton goods. In addition to this set-back in the cotton textile industry, Bombay is suffering from the increasing scarcity and dearness of coolie labour. Whether this scarcity can be remedied is a question which, we think, might with advantage be officially inquired into.

The ravages of plague in past years, and the results of unfavourable seasons have also been much felt throughout this Presidency, but with the advent of the last two favourable monsoons prospects have brightened and the general prosperity of both the City and Presidency has materially increased.

This recent prosperity, which has been general throughout India, has undoubtedly helped to ameliorate conditions and to cause contentment throughout the land, and we are pleased to think that Your Excellency arrives here at a time when discontent and unrest have to some extent been allayed. That this is so is undoubtedly due, in a large measure, to the firm manner in which disorder and sedition have recently been dealt with, and as the development of the country is impossible without the confidence of the people in Government to maintain law and order, we hope Your Excellency may carry on the policy which has already achieved such excellent results.

Legitimate political aspirations have been encouraged by the enlargement of the Councils, and the success which this measure has attained is especially welcome.

Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

In commerce, stability and continuity of policy are essential. In this connection we are grateful for the steps Government have recently taken to endeavour to improve conditions in matters of Finance and Exchange. But more is needed, and we would take this opportunity of calling Your Excellency's attention to the necessity of a strong Gold Standard Reserve. This Chamber has frequently expressed itself on this subject, and we would again press the point that the Reserve should, as opportunity offers, be materially increased in amount and that a fair proportion should be held in actual gold in this country. We realize the influences which are against such a policy. But, we would respectfully submit that in such matters, which affect India so vitally, Indian interests should be deemed paramount and should be unfettered by Home influences. We trust Your Excellency will give this matter your very careful consideration.

In the increase and development of our trade much has been done by the extension and improvement of internal communications in India, but much still remains to be done. This Chamber has always exercised considerable interest in the advancement of such trade facilities. Five years ago, when presenting a similar address to His Excellency Lord Minto on his arrival in India, we dwelt on the importance of extension of commercial railways. We, at that time, referred to the proposed construction of the Nagda-Muttra line, which as stated by us was desired to give Bombay shorter and more direct communication with Northern India. Last year, when again addressing His Excellency Lord Minto, we had the honour of recording our satisfaction on the practical completion of that portion of the line, but we pressed the question of the extension from Muttra to Aligarh. This scheme is one to which we would ask Your Excellency's special attention, as it is most important that direct communication on our own metals should be permitted with the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway. Bombay draws considerable cotton and other supplies from the districts affected, and we therefore venture to suggest that the contention that this extension to Aligarh would be an invasion of an area served by another line is not justifiable. Direct connection would save time and money, and avoid burdensome delays and blocks, with consequent detention of wagons, owing to transfer over Foreign Railways.

In regard to Railway matters, this Chamber welcomes the terms recently announced by the Government of India for Branch Lines, as it is felt they will be a direct stimulus in the extension of these feeder lines which are so necessary for the development of the

Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

country. At the same time we would lay before Your Excellency our earnest recommendation that in all such commercial matters it is advisable that the opinions of public bodies should be obtained before legislation is passed, as, on submission of our suggestions, it has sometimes been our unfortunate experience to learn that the question cannot be reopened.

We have dwelt on the Railway policy, as it is to the development of areas from which we can draw our supplies, and the improvement of communication with these areas that we look for a return for the large amounts being expended by the Bombay Port Trustees on the New Alexandra Docks, now under construction. His Majesty the King-Emperor, during his tour in India as Prince of Wales, laid the foundation-stone of these new docks. They were commenced during the Viceroyalty of Lord Curzon and were inspected last year by His Excellency Lord Minto, and we look forward to their completion during the period of Your Excellency's rule in India. The Alexandra Docks, costing with the contingent reclamation schemes about Rs. 550 lacs, will be capable of accommodating the largest vessels, and will form undoubtedly a powerful asset in the trade development of a large portion of India.

We feel sure that in our commercial and industrial life we may look forward to Your Excellency's sympathetic and active interest, and we can assure Your Excellency that the commercial community will always be ready and eager to co-operate with Government in matters dealing with the development of the trade and resources of the country.

The establishment of the Department of Commerce and Industry has assisted us in our relationship with Government by furthering commercial interests, and we acknowledge with satisfaction the opportunities frequently afforded us of expressing our opinions and feelings to the representatives of Government, when the heads of departments periodically pay us visits on tour.

In conclusion, we desire to express our sincere hope that Your Excellency's term of office may be a happy one in the realization of peace and progress to the country, that harvests may be plentiful, and that with resulting prosperity the increasing revenues may encourage you to effect further development of the resources of India and, if possible, the reduction of taxation.

Lord Hardinge replied as follows :—]

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce,—It is a great pleasure to me to

Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

receive you here this morning, and the address that you have presented, while still under the vivid impression created on arriving for the first time in the Port of Bombay, the great gate of entry into India, with all its natural beauties, and its docks and quays teeming with shipping and active commercial life and enterprise. The impression is one that I shall not easily forget.

The complexity of Indian Administration is well illustrated by the address to which I have just listened, and in the few remarks that I shall make, it would be presumptuous for me, at so early a stage, to pretend to any special knowledge or authority.

To take at random one of the subjects to which you refer—the scarcity of unskilled labour, and its dearness—I can fully understand what a serious effect this must have upon the margin of profit of any business enterprise, but if you look at the other side of the shield and consider the steady increase of the cost of living, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that unless there had been some corresponding increase in their wages, the condition of the labouring population must necessarily have become pitiable.

Your testimony to the general prosperity, not only of this City, but of India as a whole, is, I need hardly say, most welcome to me; and your reference to the ravages of plague gives me the opportunity of congratulating you upon the present diminution of that terrible scourge. May it please God to continue this mercy to your City, and to deliver India from so great a tribulation.

I have already said elsewhere that I intend to maintain the policy of Lord Minto's Government, and I anticipate with confidence that the enlargement of the Councils, and the increase of their powers will give a

Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

clearer voice and greater weight to the views of the various communities of this great country than is furnished by the occasional presentation of a formal address.

In your observations upon the gold standard reserve and railway development you have touched upon difficult questions, which have formed the subject of much discussion in the past, and are likely to engage the anxious consideration of Government in the future. I can assure you that any opinions which the commercial community may feel called upon to express in furtherance of their solution, whether by the voice of their representatives in Council, or otherwise, shall receive sympathetic attention. I note your appreciation of the increasing tendency of Government to take you into their confidence in matters affecting your welfare.

My experience in foreign countries has brought me to realise the importance of commerce as affecting political questions: its problems have occupied my attention not only abroad, but throughout the period of my service in the Foreign Office, and I have always attached to them a special importance. You may rest assured of my sympathetic and active interest in all matters affecting your commercial and industrial life, and I shall rely at the same time upon your helpful co-operation in all matters affecting the development of the trade and resources of this great Empire.

In conclusion let me thank you, Gentlemen, for your congratulations, and for the compliments you have paid me. I appreciate the trouble that you—busy men as you are—have taken in coming here to present to me this address; and I thank you warmly for the cordiality of your welcome.

ADDRESS FROM THE INDIAN MERCHANTS' CHAMBER AND BUREAU.

[The above Chamber presented their address of welcome to Lord Hardinge on the 18th November. The address which was read by the Hon'ble Mr. Manomohandas Ramjee was as follows :— 18th Nov 1910.

We, the President and members of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau, a body representing the large mercantile interests of the Indian community of Bombay, embrace the present occasion to approach Your Lordship and offer our cordial welcome on your appointment by Our Most Gracious Sovereign to the exalted office of Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

2. Bearer as Your Lordship is of a great historic name, widely known in the annals of England and India alike for conspicuous valour and farsighted statesmanship, we crave leave to recall for a moment the vast commercial and industrial progress the country has been able to make under the wise and benign sway of our rulers since your illustrious ancestor, midst the cheers and applause of a grateful people, departed the shores of India sixty-two years ago, after filling with consummate ability and marked sympathy for a period of four years the great trust which you are now called upon to discharge. In so recalling the fact of that progress we cannot forget that he was the first Governor-General of India to settle the broad lines of the policy of construction of Railways and Irrigation works which has since been so successfully carried out with the greatest economic benefit to the country at large.

3. To-day we have as many as 31,490 miles of Railway and 16½ million acres of irrigated area. The total foreign trade of India has, during the interval, risen from 34 to 345 crores or ten times as much. Bombay's share which was 13 crores has now come to 127 crores or nearly ten times more. Such has been the remarkable growth of trade.

4. But the progress is not only to be noticed in the expansion of commerce, both home and foreign. It is equally to be witnessed in what are now recognised as the staple industries of the country. At the date of the retirement of your distinguished grandfather, there was not a single cotton or jute or ginning factory. Neither was there a single coal mine opened for purposes of commerce. Indeed the economic development of the country in indigenous industries, what we now call Swadeshi, was hardly begun. To-day there are as many as 232 cotton mills and 1,000 ginning factories, 52 jute mills, besides a number of coal mines whose aggregate production equals 13 million tons. There are also 200 rice mills, 105 saw mills,

Address from the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau.

35 flour mills, not to mention many other small factories for a variety of commercial purposes. These in all give employment to a million people. Joint-stock enterprise too by way of assurance companies and other monetary concerns has greatly multiplied, having a capital of nearly 60 crores. But though the progress is marked it must be readily admitted that India is still at the dawn of her economic development and that the capital, indigenous or foreign, is only microscopic when compared to that of the advanced and wealthiest countries of the world.

5. Your Lordship will thus assume the reins of your high office at a time when the commercial and industrial development has made an excellent beginning. The monsoon just over has been a satisfactory one which means plenty and prosperity to millions of the poorest agriculturists while spelling better trade, though the cotton industry, owing to the dearness of the raw staple, is still in a depressed condition. Despite the deplorable excesses of a hare-brained minority against which the vast mass of sober Indians has displayed its greatest abhorrence, peaceful progress is at present manifest in every part of the Empire. It is to be devoutly hoped that under Your Lordship's wise and sympathetic administration progress will be further stimulated—both materially and morally. Moreover, we of the mercantile community have fair hopes of Indian commerce being emancipated from the bonds and chains by which it is still somewhat fettered.

6. Of course, that commerce and industry is not without its grievances and we take the opportunity to make a slight reference to them. Our Chamber has in the past brought such matters as required redress to the notice of the governing authorities, and we trust that Your Lordship, in Council, will pay to our representations the same patient and sympathetic consideration as hitherto. At present both the European and the Indian mercantile communities have been greatly exercised at the artificial restraints, bordering on hardship and inconvenience, placed by the Railway Companies in the matter of what are known as "Risk Notes." It seems that the Railways have adopted rules which are not only one-sided but threaten repudiation on their part of their obligations and liabilities as common carriers. It is a crying grievance which demands an early redress. In the matter of the contemplated revision of the Indian Companies' Act our Chamber has respectfully urged on the central authority the eminent advisability of protecting the interests of creditors, specially smaller creditors and depositors, who more or less have greatly suffered in the past and are liable to suffer in

Address from the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau.

the future. Clandestine mortgages are made in which the prior rights and claims of such creditors to the assets of certain class of joint-stock companies are absolutely ignored and the existing law is insufficient to check the dishonesty of fraudulent management. There is the grievance touching the recent enhancement of rates for passenger traffic the justice and expediency of which is open to criticism. Economy in Railway expenditure is a prime necessity and we are of belief that with such economy a reduction of the fares is quite possible and practical. The un-English like attitude and conduct of the Transvaal Government is another matter on which the mercantile community along with the whole of India is extremely sore. This Chamber had wired on the subject sometime ago to Lords Morley and Ampthill and we are aware that the Government of India is most sympathetic and anxious to alleviate the present intolerable position of British Indians in South Africa. We earnestly hope that Your Lordship's friendly diplomacy may be the means of bringing a satisfactory termination to this long-pending problem.

7. In conclusion, we earnestly pray that with peace and plenty in the land Your Lordship may be able to find adequate leisure from the care and routine of office work, to devote some time to the removal of obstacles which still hamper commerce and industry, the more extensive development of feeder lines by private enterprise, the fostering of new industries, of course with self-help, without which the economic regeneration is not possible, the advancement of technical education in its higher branches, the establishment of degrees of commerce in our Universities and the founding of professorships in Economics, better sanitation which is in itself no mean economic asset, the completion at a quicker pace of those large Irrigation works now taken in hand and others recommended by the Irrigation Commission, and lastly the readjustment of existing taxation on a sound and equitable basis side by side with a reasonable curtailment of public expenditure which is now outrunning the revenue.

8. We wish Your Lordship and Lady Hardinge the best of health during your stay in this country and Your Lordship great success in your administration as was the case with your illustrious ancestor.

Lord Hardinge replied as follows :—]

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau,—The very kindly references you have made to my grandfather's career

cannot but strike gratefully upon my ear; but when he set his hand to the work that lay before him he can have hardly foreseen the immense development that the next 60 years held in store: and if he was actuated by sentiments similar to those with which I have followed his footsteps to India, he would have been particularly gratified to know of the birth and rapid growth of indigenous enterprise.

It is sometimes alleged that the people of this country look too much to Government and too little to themselves for the initiation of improvements and the development of resources, but the figures you have quoted show that this is hardly accurate in the region of commercial enterprise, except in so far as the peace and security afforded by a stable Government have made it possible.

Government should clearly do what it can to foster indigenous progress, but I am glad to hear that you recognize that economic regeneration must largely come from within, and that Government can do little to help those who are not ready to help themselves.

I gather from another address which I have received to-day that Government have recently announced a more liberal policy for the extension of feeder railway lines by private enterprise, and I trust that the creation of a new portfolio for education may, among other advantages, lead to progress in technical education of all kinds.

I do not feel competent to express opinions upon the various items of the extensive programme you have laid before me until I have had time to learn something of India, to study the questions involved, and to consult my colleagues; but I feel confident that I should have their hearty concurrence and support in saying that the Government of India have done and will do all that in them lies to secure an alleviation of the disabilities under

which your fellow-countrymen and our fellow-subjects labour in some of the Colonies.

I feel that I have been fortunate in the moment of my arrival upon your shores. The season is prosperous, political asperities are somewhat abated, and all sane men are united in deploring revolutionary crime. No man can foretell the future, but the auguries are propitious, and if India will extend to me the same kindly feelings which I have for her, I shall go forward on my way in hope and confidence.

Let me, in conclusion, thank you heartily, Mr. President and Gentlemen, for the cordial welcome which you have extended to me, and for your good wishes to Lady Hardinge and myself.

ADDRESS FROM THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY MOSLEM LEAGUE.

[The above League presented an address of welcome to Lord Hardinge on 18th November. It was read by the Hon'ble Mr. Raffiuddin Ahmad and was as follows :— 18th Nov. 1910.

Your Excellency,—We, the President and members of the Bombay Presidency Moslem League deeply appreciate the privilege of approaching you on your arrival in India with a brief statement of our hopes and aspirations. None learnt with greater satisfaction than His Majesty's loyal Indian Moslem subjects of the appointment as Viceroy and Governor-General in India of an administrator well versed in the broad outline of Asiatic politics and who has won renown in the field of foreign policy. Convinced as we are that the peaceful development of this country can be assured only under the ægis of the Imperial Crown, we desire to assure you of our unquenchable attachment to His Majesty's Throne and Person and of our confidence in the wisdom and justice of Your Excellency's administration.

We are fully conscious of the opportunities opened out to Indian Moslems by the representation on a communal basis guaranteed to them in the enlarged Imperial and Provincial Councils. We recognise that these privileges carry corresponding obligations, that it

Address from the Bombay Presidency Moslem League.

now lies with us to rise to the full height of our opportunities. We think Your Excellency will find a new spirit animating the Indian Moslems—a spirit of progress and confidence. Recognising that the best training ground in affairs is local self-government, we are desirous of taking a fuller part in the work of the Municipalities and Local Boards, and of securing reasonable representation thereon.

Your Excellency, we have through our representatives in the Councils, opportunities of making our desires and aspirations known to the Imperial and Provincial Governments. We are confident that we shall receive from Your Excellency the sympathetic attention to our requests always accorded to us by the head of the Bombay Government, His Excellency Sir George Clarke. We venture to hope that if occasion arise Your Excellency will extend to the Moslem League the opportunity afforded to us to-day—the opportunity of presenting the desires of the Indian Mahomedans as a whole. We ask you to believe that we have no separatist policy, no purely selfish designs; but we are convinced that the full development of this country can be secured only by the incorporation in local bodies and, qualifications being equal, in the public services, of the admirable principles embodied in the Reform Scheme.

Lord Hardinge replied as follows :—]

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Bombay Presidency Moslem League,—I thank you warmly for your address and the friendly terms in which it is couched.

I am hardly qualified on this the first day of my sojourn in India to discuss with you the propriety of extending the principle of communal representation, but I do most heartily welcome the note of confidence and hope which is struck by your address.

Your aspirations have been very fully recognised in the recent enlargement of the Councils; your community has received special treatment, and I am glad to hear that you appreciate the obligations which those privileges carry. I trust that it will ever be your aim, while promoting the interests of your own community, to avoid anything which may tend to emphasize those sectarian differences which must exist but need not be accentuated.

Address of Welcome from the Anglo-Indian Empire League.

I shall always be ready to lend a sympathetic ear to any expression of Mahomedan views and feelings, but you must remember that a spirit of self-restraint will add greatly to your influence; and that special privileges to one class are synonymous with corresponding disabilities to others.

I have listened with the greatest pleasure to the loyal sentiments which you have expressed in such well-chosen language, and I feel confident that His Majesty will be gratified to hear of the feelings of devotion which animate his Moslem subjects.

For my own part I thank you for the kindly terms in which you have referred to my appointment. It is my fervent hope that my tenure of office may be marked not only by peace without the borders but by concord within.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE ANGLO-INDIAN EMPIRE LEAGUE.

[His Excellency Lord Hardinge received an address of welcome from the above League on the 18th November. 18th Nov. 1910.

The deputation was headed by Mr. E. Minehan in the unavoidable absence of Mr. J. H. Abbott. With the address was presented a handsome silver casket of Dacca design mounted on an ebony stand and suitably inscribed. Mr. Minehan read the address to His Lordship, which was in the following terms :—

We, the members of the "Anglo-Indian Empire League," descendants of the early pioneers who helped to establish British Rule in India, now forming a considerable portion of His Imperial Majesty's subjects, deem it our duty to welcome Your Excellency to India by an expression of our loyalty and allegiance to the Throne Your Excellency represents. At a time when from every part of the Indian Empire Your Excellency will be receiving sentiments of a similar nature, and most of them from much more important sections of His Majesty's subjects and from influential bodies corporate, our welcome may appear insignificant, nay at first sight almost presumptuous, but we trust that notwithstanding this Your

Address of Welcome from the Anglo-Indian Empire League.

Excellency will be pleased to receive and accept our loyal welcome and good wishes for your future welfare and usefulness as an exponent of British justice and friendliness to those millions of His Majesty's subjects whom you are called upon to rule.

Some of our members have had the privilege of serving in East Africa under your brilliant cousin, Sir Arthur Hardinge, now His Majesty's Minister at Brussels, when he had to carry his life in his hands, and all noticed that his chief charm, in fact that his success, lay in his capacity for sympathy and kindliness towards all classes, creeds and colours with whom he came in contact, and Your Excellency's assurance that your chief reliance in ruling India would be placed in kindness and sympathy has filled our hearts with relief and hopes for brighter and more perfect days for India. Your Excellency's noble grandfather proved his knowledge of statesmanship and won Indian's grateful heart by only making choice of such weapons. We all feel what a proud privilege it is when a Sovereign chooses one to rule in his name over millions of his fellow-men; but we deem it a still prouder one to rule over millions of human hearts—not subjugating their wills, but winning the willing devotion of all those who consider it a privilege to serve you.

As to the land of India, the land of our birth, that mystic and mysterious land which has been the charm and wonder of so many generations of poets and philosophers, historians and explorers; a land which has produced so much of all that is good, and which has suffered so much, may your kindness and sympathy heal its wounds and hearten us all up so that looking forward towards the light, we shall forget the shadows we have passed and are still passing through. We shall not on this occasion place before Your Excellency the many and grave disabilities under which our community labours, but in the near future, when Your Excellency will have grasped the complex problems that await solution, we shall beg leave to approach you with a statement of our legitimate wants.

Your Excellency's mind has been broadened by travel and intimate contact with men and things, cities and Governments, which we feel sure will ensure you the whole-hearted confidence of all classes and creeds, as well as a hearty welcome from all of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor's subjects. In Your Excellency's hands will be the happiness and prosperity of millions of His Majesty's subjects, and we of the "Anglo-Indian Empire League," pray that great Victoria's Proclamation, which has been endorsed by her son and grandson, will be your guiding star, and that kindness and sympathy will ever be your watchwords, till out

Address of Welcome from the Anglo-Indian Empire League.

of chaos and mistrust, you lead the nation into a harbour of rest and peace.

We beg once more to give Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge a most loyal and sincere welcome to India.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen of the Anglo-Indian Empire League,—I confess to a little difficulty in finding suitable words in which to acknowledge the address which you have just presented to me.

You have made exceedingly kind references to my grandfather, to my cousin, and to myself, for which I tender you my most grateful thanks: but there runs through your sentences a note of despondency which seems to indicate that you feel yourselves to be labouring, if I may quote your own words "under many and grave disabilities."

You have not told me what they are, doubtless because you wisely anticipated that I should hardly be in a position to deal out of hand with grievances which have not yielded to treatment at the hands of the long line of my predecessors.

I will content myself with saying that I shall always be ready to listen to any reasonable complaint, from whatsoever section of the Community it may come—but I would remind you that self-help is worth a thousand times more than all the help you can get from Government or any one else, and that the more you lean upon others the less will you be able to hold your own in the ever-increasing intensity of the struggle for existence. You may however count at all times upon my sympathetic interest.

I am glad to receive your expression of loyalty and allegiance to His Majesty, and I thank you most heartily for the welcome you have extended to Lady Hardinge and myself.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

26th Nov. 1910.

[His Excellency Lord Hardinge accompanied by Lady Hardinge, the Hon'ble Diamond Hardinge, Mr. J. H. DuBoulay, C.I.E., and staff arrived in Calcutta by special train at the Howrah terminus on the morning of the 21st November. After being received by various officials and guards-of-honour, Their Excellencies drove in State to Government House. The buildings were gaily decorated and the streets were thronged with cheering crowds. The escort was formed by the Viceroy's Bodyguard, Calcutta Light Horse, the Hussars, Native Cavalry and batteries of artillery.

On arrival at Government House Their Excellencies were met on the steps by Lord and Lady Minto and a vast gathering was present.

Lord Hardinge took over charge of the Viceroyalty from Lord Minto on the afternoon of the 23rd November. His Excellency received the address of welcome from the Corporation on Saturday, the 26th idem.

This was Lord Hardinge's first public speech in Calcutta. The ceremony took place in the Throne Room at Government House and there was a large attendance of Commissioners, practically every member of the Corporation being present. The address, which was enclosed in a richly ornamented casket, was read by the Hon'ble Mr. Maddox, the Chairman, and was as follows :—

More than sixty years have elapsed since Your Excellency's distinguished ancestor, Viscount Hardinge of Lahore, left India after his glorious and successful Viceroyalty, and many changes have taken place in this City since those days. There was then no element of popular representation in its Government. Its population has nearly trebled and the number of houses has more than trebled; it has been drained and provided with a good filtered water system in place of the tanks fed with river water by aqueducts which then formed the only means of supply. Some conception of the improvements effected in this respect may be gathered from the fact that the quantity of water pumped daily for all purposes was then only two million gallons, whereas it is now 46 millions. Indeed, in every branch of municipal activity and development the City has advanced by giant strides, and has amply justified the progressive development of local self-government.

It is peculiarly appropriate to refer to the vast improvements which have been made in Calcutta since the time of Your Excellency's illustrious ancestor in view of the fact that the first year

Address of Welcome from the Calcutta Municipal Corporation.

of your Viceroyalty will see the inauguration of a further measure for the development of the City in the formation of the Calcutta Improvement Trust. It is confidently hoped that the schemes contemplated in this legislation, which have taken over ten years to formulate, will place Calcutta in the foremost rank among the capital cities of the world, and its citizens look to Your Excellency's sympathetic co-operation to aid in the achievement of this end.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Corporation of Calcutta,—I thank you very sincerely for the cordial welcome that you have so kindly extended to Lady Hardinge and myself on behalf of the citizens of this capital, amongst whom we look forward with pleasure to the prospect of residing. I feel confident that Lady Hardinge will win her own way to the hearts of your wives and daughters; and it is my hope that, in doing my duty according to my lights in the responsible office to which I have been called, I may be able to retain those friendly feelings towards me with which your address is inspired.

I have always taken pride in my hereditary connection with India, but I should have been less than human had I not been deeply stirred by the kindly references to my grandfather's services which have so constantly been made since I landed on your shores, and I pray that I may be given strength, courage and wisdom to hand on untarnished the name he left behind.

I have seen something of your busy streets, I have heard of your great industries and teeming population, and I can conceive no more searching test of the efficiency of local self-government than the administration of this vast and ever-increasing city.

You would not thank me for flattering words spoken without knowledge, but it is no small task that you have in hand; and if you are able to bring to it a high ideal and single-minded devotion to the welfare of the community you represent, allowing no selfish motive over to

Address of Welcome from the Calcutta Municipal Corporation.

influence your actions, then indeed you are fulfilling a high standard of citizenship.

I am glad to hear of the proposed formation of an Improvement Trust for the development of the City, but some years must necessarily elapse before its operations can show any tangible results; let us hope that they may eventually lead to the planning and reconstruction of a town with noble thoroughfares and breathing spaces where even the poorest shall be housed in decent and sanitary conditions.

I ardently share your desire for a period of greater security and tranquillity, and I have the utmost confidence in the happy results to be derived from the scheme of reforms recently initiated by my predecessor. That there should be no disagreement in our Councils is not to be expected and hardly to be desired, but the more ample powers with which the recent reforms have endowed them should tend to increase their sense of responsibility, and I believe that, with full and free discussion and with the display of a reasonable and conciliatory spirit, we shall be enabled to happily co-operate for India's good. I hope that when His Majesty comes to India a year hence he will be able to spare time to visit this capital, and that we may be able to show to our Emperor a peaceful, prosperous and united India, while I know that India will be stirred to the depths of her heart, and nowhere more than in Calcutta, with a sense of intense and loyal devotion to his Throne and Person.

I am very glad, Gentlemen, to have had this opportunity of meeting you and of making your acquaintance, and I thank you very heartily for the kindness of your words of welcome to Lady Hardinge and myself.

I thank you most warmly for the beautiful casket in which the address has been enclosed.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE TALUQDARS OF OUDH.

[The Taluqdars of Oudh presented an address of welcome on the 26th November. The Maharaja of Balrampur, who headed the deputation, read the address which was as follows :— 26th Nov. 1910.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Taluqdars of Oudh, beg leave to offer our cordial welcome to Your Excellency on the assumption of the Viceroyalty of India.

Your Excellency's experience of statesmanship in Europe makes us confident that Your Excellency will grapple successfully with the various difficult problems, political and social, which Your Excellency will be called upon to solve.

We trust that Your Excellency's rule will be as successful as that of your illustrious ancestor, the first Viscount Hardinge who ruled this country more than 60 years ago.

We consider it our duty to acknowledge to Your Excellency the manifold blessings we enjoy under British rule.

We hope our rights and privileges will continue to be respected during Your Excellency's rule as they have hitherto been by Your Excellency's predecessors in the past.

We beg to assure Your Excellency that the Taluqdars of Oudh are at all times and on all occasions prepared to give their loyal and hearty support to all measures of the Government necessary for the maintenance of peace and order in this country and aiming at promoting the material prosperity of the people placed under Your Excellency's care.

We would conclude by again tendering to Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge our humble service and hearty welcome.

His Excellency the Viceroy in reply spoke as follows :—]

Taluqdars of Oudh,—I do not propose to-day to do more than thank you very heartily, as well for Lady Hardinge as myself, for the very kind terms in which you have expressed your welcome to us. It is your practice thus to come forward as each succeeding Viceroy takes up his honourable task, and your custom is a pleasant and a friendly one, for you represent the great landholders and a most influential class in a very important part of India. It rejoices me therefore to receive your assurance of support and co-operation, and you may rest

in confidence that your rights and privileges will always be regarded by me with the respect to which they are entitled.

You as great landholders have cares and responsibilities of your own, and I feel sure that as you recognise the blessings you enjoy, and the recognition which Government have always accorded to your position in the past, so you will extend to your subordinate proprietors and occupants a similar measure of sympathetic consideration.

I am glad, Gentlemen, to have had this opportunity of making your acquaintance. I hope that it may become closer and ripen into friendship, and that I may have opportunities in the future of seeing you in your own country and on your own estates.

In expressing my warm appreciation of your kindly reference to my grandfather, I desire to thank you, Gentlemen, once more for your hearty welcome.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE IMPERIAL LEAGUE

2nd Dec. 1910. [The above League presented an address to the Viceroy, on Friday, the 2nd December. The Maharajadhiraja of Burdwan, President of the League, headed the deputation and read the address which said :—

We, the members of the Imperial League, venture to approach Your Lordship to offer you a cordial welcome and our respectful congratulations on your assumption of the exalted office of Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

Your Lordship is the bearer of a name illustrious in the annals of British India, while your own brilliant achievements in the domain of diplomacy have deservedly spread your fame to the remotest corners of the Empire.

Your Lordship assumes charge of the administration of India at a time when the country is passing through an important political crisis which, thanks to the careful handling of our much-esteemed late Viceroy, Lord Minto, has to a very great extent been tided

Address of Welcome from the Imperial League.

over, and men of moderate views and sound judgment have begun to realise and appreciate the advantages of the Recent Reformed Councils and the privileges granted to Indians. This League was ushered into existence at a time when there was a good deal of unrest and political discontent in the country, and when the anarchical movement, which came to all law-abiding Indians as a painful surprise, was at its height. We are glad to think, Your Excellency, that things are looking much brighter and we fervently hope and heartily wish that Your Lordship's *régime* may be one of continued peace and progress. We take this opportunity to humbly offer our deep feelings of loyalty and devotion to the Crown and to give assurance to Your Lordship of our fullest support at all times in the cause of law and order.

Your Lordship's vast and varied experience of men and institutions in various countries and in different stages of progress and development will, we are confident, stand you in good stead in solving the problems of Indian administration, which are becoming more and more complex every day; and from what has been known of Your Lordship's kindly sympathies and just and generous instincts in dealing with alien nationalities, we cherish the conviction that in Your Lordship's hands the stability of the beneficent sway of our beloved Sovereign and the well-being of the myriad millions of His Majesty's Indian subjects will be perfectly safe.

His Excellency in reply spoke as follows :—]

Maharaja and Gentlemen of the Imperial League,—Yours is an Association that has only recently come into existence and the occasion of your birth was to be found at a moment of dangerous unrest. You are young as a Society, but I am very glad to have this opportunity of meeting you and of telling you how much importance attaches in my opinion to that spirit which has inspired so large a number of gentlemen of influence and position to band themselves together in times of trouble and declare themselves openly on the side of Government. I do not know how far you have been able to accomplish anything in the short time, less than a year I believe, since you were organised, but I feel confident that you will not confine your efforts to presenting addresses to arriving and departing Viceroys, and I recognise that

much of your power for good must lie in the influence you are able to bring to bear, each in your own circle. Influence so exercised has a value which it is difficult to appraise too highly.

Thanks to the sagacity and firmness of my predecessor, the outlook is much happier now than in the troubled times which brought your League into existence, and there is every reason to expect that it will continue to improve, and while Government must steadily and firmly take the necessary measures for the maintenance of peace and internal order and for the protection of the great loyal majority, they will count upon the members of your Society and upon all those who entertain similar loyal sentiments to let the world know that they take their stand on the side of law and order, and thus strengthen the hands of those in authority.

I thank you warmly, Gentlemen, for your kindly reference to my grandfather. I appreciate highly the sentiments of loyalty to which you have given expression, and I am grateful to you for the trouble you have taken in coming here to-day and the kindness of the welcome you have extended to me.

At the same time I wish to thank you very warmly for the beautiful casket in which you have enclosed the address which you have presented to me.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

2nd Dec. 1910. [The above Association presented its address shortly after the Imperial League. In the absence of the Maharaja of Darbhanga, the Vice-President, Raja Peary Mohan Mookerjee, read the address which was as follows :—

We, the members of the British Indian Association, venture to approach Your Lordship to respectfully offer you a cordial welcome to this City.

Address of Welcome from the British Indian Association.

Though a stranger to India, Your Lordship is not a stranger to the system of British Indian administration or to the manners and customs, the institutions and the aspirations of the nations of the Orient. Indeed, we consider it specially fortunate for India that its destinies should have been committed to the keeping of one who had been privileged for many years to be in close personal touch with the delicate problems affecting the external relations of this country. The high distinction which Your Lordship had achieved as a diplomatist in Turkey and Persia as well as in France, Germany and Russia, coupled with the close and confidential relationship which had subsisted between our late beloved Sovereign and yourself, inspires us with the hope that the noble traditions of British rule in India will be maintained untarnished by you.

When sixty-six years ago, that great soldier, your illustrious ancestor, the first Viscount Hardinge, came out to India to replace his brother-in-law, Lord Ellenborough, as Governor-General, the work of conquest was still going on and the sword of the soldier was actively employed in extending the boundaries of British territory in India. But, notwithstanding the distraction and excitement of one of the most sanguinary campaigns fought on the soil of India, the noble Viscount was able to signalize his term of office by the introduction of various reforms in the domain of internal administration. In grateful appreciation of his Education policy and his recommendation for the appointment of qualified Indians to offices of trust and responsibility in the public service, an address, signed by five hundred Indians, was presented to His Lordship and we recall with gratitude the fact that it was solely due to his initiative that Sunday labour was for the first time forbidden throughout British India.

During the past fifty years, India has enjoyed profound peace and made rapid strides in the path of progress and prosperity. Generations of British statesmen and Anglo-Indian administrators have laboured unceasingly, and not unsuccessfully, to promote the welfare and advancement of the people, and the effect of their enlightened policy and generous measures has been to gradually train our fellow-countrymen to exercise, through their representatives, a potent voice in the management of public affairs.

We are confident that the progressive character of British rule will be fully vindicated during Your Lordship's Viceroyalty and we gratefully welcome Your Lordship's declaration at the Farewell Banquet, given at the Savoy Hotel, that you have always entertained "profound sympathy and regard" for the people of India

Address of Welcome from the British Indian Association.

and will "watch over with the utmost vigilance" and do your "utmost to consolidate the beneficent and far-reaching reforms" initiated by Lords Morley and Minto.

My Lord, it has been the traditional policy of the British administration in this country to govern the people in consonance with their feelings and sentiments, and consequently it has been our privilege, during the past fifty years, to loyally co-operate with the Government in all matters calculated to promote the welfare of the people and to place, from time to time as occasions arise, our humble views and suggestions, setting forth the wants and wishes of the Indian community, for the consideration of Government. We hope that Your Lordship will be pleased to continue to us in the future the privilege which we have so long enjoyed in the past, and we are confident that in solving the complex problems of Indian administration, Your Lordship will kindly bear in mind that in the representative of their August Sovereign the people of India have their natural protector and guardian.

In conclusion we beg leave to respectfully convey to Your Excellency our assurances of unswerving loyalty and attachment to the Throne and Person of our beloved Sovereign and readiness to loyally support Your Excellency's Government in all matters affecting the happiness and prosperity of the people.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Maharaja and Gentlemen of the British Indian Association,—Your kindly remarks upon my past career are couched in somewhat too flattering terms, but it is true enough that in its course I have become acquainted with many countries and different nationalities, and though my home is in the West, I am not altogether a stranger to the East. India is not among the countries I have visited in the past, but you are by no means the first who have reminded me of my old family connection with her, and you will hardly be surprised when I tell you that the tradition handed down from father to son has secured a warm corner in my heart for your country almost as far back as I can remember.

My grandfather had something to do with the sowing of those first seeds of education which as time goes on

Address of Welcome from the British Indian Association.

yield an ever-increasing harvest and have been so potent a factor in the development of modern India. And I value highly your appreciative reference to his services, but neither he nor any of his successors could have secured real and permanent progress for India without the hearty co-operation of a loyal body of Government servants in this country, and it has given me a special pleasure to notice that you do not overlook the labours of those who have borne the burden and heat of the day through so many generations. You may rest assured that, so long as I have the honour to hold my present high office, it will be my constant endeavour to maintain and perpetuate the highest traditions of British rule in India.

You have quoted a speech I made in England, and I do not propose to repeat it to-day, but I will tell you that I shall always be ready to listen to representations that you or any other responsible body may desire to make to Government and to give your suggestions my very attentive consideration.

The occasions on which I was called upon to be in attendance upon His late Majesty placed me in a position to know the keen and affectionate interest he always took in all that concerned the welfare of India and her people, and you may rest assured that our present Emperor has inherited the same feelings. It has been my privilege to learn from His Majesty's own lips how near India is to his heart, and he has given incontrovertible testimony of his sentiments towards her by his announced determination to come and see you in person at no distant date.

Gentlemen, I gratefully accept your assurances of loyalty to his Person and Throne and of your support to myself and my colleagues, and I thank you for the welcome you have given me to your city.

At the same time I wish to thank you for the very beautiful casket in which your address is enclosed.

KING'S DURBAR.

DEPUTATION FROM CALCUTTA CORPORATION.

16th Dec. 1910.

[Since the announcement that His Majesty King George had decided to hold a Durbar at Delhi in January 1912, much discussion had taken place in the public Press as to the fitness of holding the Durbar at Delhi and not Calcutta, which it was urged had prior claim as the Capital City. The Calcutta Corporation took the matter up and decided to address the Viceroy. His Excellency consented to receive a deputation which waited on the Viceroy at Government House on the 16th December. The Hon'ble Mr. Maddox read the following representation :—

Your Excellency,—The present deputation have been appointed by the Corporation of Calcutta to approach Your Excellency with a request that the Coronation Durbar of Their Majesties the King-Emperor and Queen-Empress of India may be held here in January 1912 instead of at Delhi.

The news of Their Majesties' proposed visit to India has been received with great rejoicings and enthusiasm throughout the length and breadth of India, as this is the first time that an English monarch is to be crowned here in person as India's Emperor. The coronation ceremony will produce a profound and permanent impression upon the people of this country and will evoke feelings of enthusiastic loyalty to the Throne and Person of the Sovereign. The announcement, however, that the Durbar is to be held at Delhi has been received with mingled feelings by the people of Bengal and specially by the inhabitants of Calcutta. We are not aware whether His Majesty has already given his most gracious consideration to the claims of Calcutta or whether Delhi has been finally decided upon as the place where the ceremony is to be held, but if a final decision has not yet been made by His Majesty, the Corporation of Calcutta would respectfully submit that His Majesty's choice should fall on this city as being the most suitable place for such a unique function.

Calcutta is the seat of the Imperial and of a Provincial Government and has been the capital of British India since its very foundation. It is the largest and wealthiest city in India, the Queen of the East and the second city in the Empire. It is the centre of the intelligence, culture, public spirit and the commerce of India, all of which owe their growth and development to British rule. It is associated also with the rise, growth and establishment of the British

King's Durbar: Deputation from Calcutta Corporation.

power in the East, and if the Emperor is to be crowned in India, the Corporation cannot believe that the ceremony could more fittingly be performed elsewhere. The fact that two Governments will be in residence at the time of the ceremony may, they submit, be also taken into consideration. There are several large and open spaces within the town where a Durbar worthy of the occasion might be held and places in the vicinity where a large concourse of people could be housed temporarily and for short periods. The resources of Calcutta for housing and catering large numbers are greater than those of any other city in India, and in the matter of sanitation and municipal amenities generally, Calcutta is far ahead of any other city in the East.

Delhi has already had the honour of being the place where two Durbars have been held within living memory and the Corporation submit that it might give way to Calcutta on the present occasion. Besides this, they desire to point out that Delhi did not become the capital of the Moghuls till their empire was almost tottering to its fall. Akbar in the zenith of his power ruled at Agra and the transfer of the Moghul Capital to Delhi is associated with Aurangzeb in whose time the Moghul Empire began to show signs of decay. As a city it is small as compared with Calcutta though it has large plains outside its precincts, but Calcutta has its Maidan on the banks of the river, the maidan at Ballygunge and large gardens such as the Tivoli garden, Mullick's garden, the Belgachia garden and other gardens as well as the Military centres of Barrackpore and Dum Dum at no great distance. These places will, it is submitted, afford space for the ceremony and for the accommodation of troops and of the retinue of the Indian Chiefs. Besides this, also many Indian Princes already have their own houses in Calcutta and come here at intervals to meet His Excellency the Viceroy and to transact business with the Government of India. Again, Calcutta is certainly more accessible from Burma, Assam, Madras, the Eastern portion of the Upper Provinces, the Central Provinces and the Berar, whereas only Bombay, the Punjab and the western portion of the Upper Provinces are nearer to Delhi.

Lastly, the climate of Calcutta at the time when the Durbar will be held is temperate, whereas the winter in Delhi is very severe and it is a fact that during the last Durbar a great deal of suffering was caused by the inclement weather. They respectfully urge that this point is deserving of some consideration. In these circumstances, unless matters have progressed so far that it is too late to reconsider

King's Durbar: Deputation from Calcutta Corporation.

the decision, the Corporation of Calcutta submit to Your Excellency their request that the claims of Calcutta as the site of the Coronation Durbar may be urged before His Majesty.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—It was only a few days ago that I had the pleasure of receiving an address of welcome from the Corporation of Calcutta, and I did not then anticipate that I should so soon receive a deputation from the same body of a more business-like character.

When I noticed in the papers the other day that a discussion had been raised in the Corporation in regard to the place where His Majesty should hold his Durbar when he comes to India in 1912, I could not help feeling some regret. If I had been aware beforehand that such a discussion was likely to arise, I would have endeavoured to make known to those interested what I am now about to say.

The question is clearly one for His Majesty's own decision, and the communications which I have received show that he has already decided in favour of Delhi. I do not think that any advantage will accrue from discussing with you the various considerations which you have urged in favour of the selection of Calcutta. It is only natural that His Majesty's loyal subjects in this city should desire that the Durbar should take place here, and I feel confident that almost every other great city in India would have the same loyal desire, and if they thought they could produce equally good arguments in their favour, they would be anxious that they should be made known in the proper quarter. But when His Majesty has made public his wishes in the matter, I do not think it would be fitting on my part to advise him to

King's Durbar: Deputation from Calcutta Corporation.

reconsider his determination. And I feel confident that you would not wish to press me to do so.

All this I should like to have said to you before the matter was discussed in the Corporation, but as such an important body as you represent has passed a unanimous resolution that this deputation should be instructed to represent the matter to me, I decided, after some consideration, that it would be more courteous on my part to receive it than to write and say, as I was tempted to do, that such a representation could serve no useful purpose.

I hope, Gentlemen, that you will understand and accept the position which I have now explained to you, and while I cannot hold out to you any hope that I will advise His Majesty to reconsider his decision, I feel confident that he will be pleased to hear of your loyal and hearty wishes in the matter, and I trust that you will in some degree be reconciled to this unfavourable reply by the possibility of Their Majesties spending some days in Calcutta after the Durbar and before their return to England, which, although I am not authorised to say so at present, I have every reason to believe to be Their Majesties' intention. It appears to me hardly necessary to point out that spontaneous action on their part in visiting Calcutta will be a far greater compliment to this great City on the part of Their Majesties than an official visit required merely for the holding of a Coronation Durbar.

I thank you for the courteous tone of your representations and for the loyal spirit with which they are inspired.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE BENGAL LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION.

16th Dec. 1910. [The above Association presented an address of welcome on the 16th December. The Maharaja of Cossimbazar read the address which was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—The Bengal Landholders' Association, which represents the interests of the landed classes of both the provinces of Bengal, begs to approach Your Excellency with this address on the occasion of your assumption of the exalted office of Viceroy and Governor-General of India, and humbly wishes you welcome.

Eastern problems are now getting more complex and Indian interests are beginning to cover a larger field; and we feel sure that your rich and varied experience in different courts of the world will help to develop and raise the status of this great country which has been rightly described as the centre of British influence in Asia.

We have passed through anxious times but are glad to be able to say that better conditions now prevail throughout the length and breadth of this country. Hardly any trace remains of the unrest of which one has heard so much. We are full of hope from your reputation as a statesman that your administration of this country will bring us greater contentment and prosperity. The recent legislative reforms have brought our people into closer association with the Government and you will find us responsive to sympathy and consideration.

Your Excellency is the bearer of a historic name, the descendant of a great Viceroy of India, the first Viscount Hardinge, whose memory is associated in our minds not so much with the campaigns in which he was victorious, but with the reforms in the internal administration of the country, based upon a policy of trust and confidence in the people placed under his charge, which won for him great renown and the country peace.

Bound as you are with India by hereditary ties Your Excellency will, we are confident, maintain the traditions of your great ancestor.

We beg humbly to associate the name of Her Excellency Lady Hardinge in this address of welcome. We earnestly pray that Your Excellencies may have long life and that your sojourn in this country may be full of happiness.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Bengal Land-

Address of Welcome from the Bengal Landholders' Association.

holders' Association,—It is only a few days ago that I replied to an address from the British Indian Association, and I am not perfectly clear how you are differentiated from that Society, unless it be that you number within your ranks a larger proportion of zemindars from Eastern Bengal.

In any case it is a pleasure to me to receive you here to-day, and I thank you warmly for your address. I notice with appreciation that in the address which you have presented, you have not attempted to elicit my opinion upon any contentious questions.

Your friendly reference to the work that my grandfather did in India calls attention to the increasing rapidity with which this country is moving forward to take her place alongside other great progressive countries of the world. But when you contemplate its enormous area, its vast population, and its divergent conditions—when you remember the contrasts between helpless ignorance and extreme intellectual activity—when you take into consideration the strong, and I fear sometimes antagonistic, religious feeling to be found within your borders—you will readily admit that the problem of Indian administration is one of no ordinary complexity.

I am however surrounded by wise counsellors, both European and Indian, and I can count upon the co-operation of able administrators and loyal services—and I can promise that no effort will be spared on my own part to fulfil the great trust that has been laid upon me.

And I feel confident that with your help, Gentlemen, and that of others of your class all over India, and with the greater wisdom we may obtain from our larger Councils, we may look forward to an era of progress and prosperity, and it is my most earnest hope that it may also be a period of peace and happiness.

Address of Welcome from the Anglo-Indian Association.

I thank you heartily for the welcome you have given me and for the kind thought that inspired you to associate with mine the name of Lady Hardinge.

At the same time I wish to thank you all for the beautiful casket in which your address is enclosed.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE ANGLO-INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

21st Dec. 1910.

[His Excellency the Viceroy received an address of welcome from the above Association on the 21st December.

The address, which was read by the Hon'ble Mr. Madge, the President of the Association, was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the undersigned President, Vice-Presidents, and other Councillors of the Anglo-Indian Association, representing the Domiciled Community of India of both mixed and unmixed descent, desire to offer Your Excellency a warm welcome on your assumption of the office of Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

Though we do not formally represent all the established and recognised Anglo-Indian Associations in existence, nor claim to be their sole official mouthpiece, yet, as the oldest of all these Societies, and working in harmonious co-operation with them all, we should be losing a great opportunity if we failed, on Your Excellency's first setting foot in the Capital, to offer you the hearty congratulations and welcome greetings of the whole Domiciled Community in India.

We have much in common with the permanent Indian, as well as with the temporary British and European, inhabitants of the country, but enjoy the peculiar advantage of an unbroken continuity of residence in the country and of thus maintaining the great British traditions we have inherited, and of commending them to our Indian fellow-countrymen.

Though we have suffered hardships, some of which have been removed, while others still linger in our lot, we have no desire to give any place to them in our present greeting: the less so that, in the inspiriting speech delivered by Your Excellency before leaving England, you declared your determination to deal fairly with all races and classes in this country; and we are content to rest in the assurance of the fulfilment of this promise.

Address of Welcome from the Anglo-Indian Association.

We have recently expressed our deep and lasting thankfulness to Your Excellency's noble predecessor for the betterment of the political status of our Community by the appointment of one of our number to the honourable office of Additional Member of the Viceregal Legislative Council. Without interpreting this encouraging experience into over-hopeful expectations, we may trust that, if our chosen representatives should be so fortunate as to succeed in winning Your Excellency's approval in the new official relations created for them, the consideration, to which we owe this improvement in our position and prospects, may prove the best answer to any unfounded fears of our unfitness as a class or race to hold responsible official positions in this land of our birth.

We clearly and fully realise that the future of many of us lies largely in our own hands, and that, here as elsewhere, opportunity being given, character and capacity, asserting themselves in self-help, will make their own way in the world. But there are exceptional circumstances connected with some sections of our community, either reduced to extremities not always owing to their own faults or denied opportunities which have been laid open to others, that might entitle them to special treatment, alike in the interests of the Government and of the country as in their own, and we humbly and earnestly hope that the problem of their rehabilitation may, consistently with other grave demands on the State, receive their due share of attention, at a time when the national importance of a somewhat similar problem has received wide recognition in Great Britain.

We hope and expect that Your Excellency's connection with this great Dependency of the Crown will add fresh laurels to those which your past devotion to the interests of the British Empire in foreign countries has already wreathed round Your Excellency's brow, and we earnestly pray that Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge may enjoy health and happiness during the whole period of your stay amongst us.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Anglo-Indian Association,—In thanking you warmly for the trouble you have taken in coming here to-day to present to me this address, let me take the opportunity of expressing my gratitude that you have not asked me to deal with any difficult problems in my reply.

Address of Welcome from the Anglo-Indian Association.

You represent a considerable section of the inhabitants of the great country over whose destinies I have been called upon to preside, and a section which has always been distinguished by its loyalty, and I am glad to think that like so many other groups of individuals you had the wisdom to associate together for the furtherance of your common progress and happiness and that you now represent the oldest of existing Associations. It is my desire that amongst the conflicting interests of so many communities the views of each and all may be duly weighed before decisions are taken which may affect the welfare of the whole or part, and it is by means of combinations on the lines of your Association that the real interests of the body of individuals whom you represent can be sifted, focussed and given expression.

My predecessor gave you a representative in his Legislative Council, who has effectively voiced the views of your Association and of the Anglo-Indian community. He thus gave evidence of the earnest desire of Government to give a ready and sympathetic hearing to your legitimate prayers and representations and I have every reason to believe that your chosen representative will prove himself thoroughly worthy of the trust that has been confided to him and of the responsible official position that he holds. While I wish to associate myself as fully as possible with your observation that character, capacity and self-help will make their own way in the world, I can assure you that I shall listen attentively to any representations that you may make of exceptional treatment and I am hopeful that you will on your part refrain from demanding special advantages over your neighbours.

I thank you once more, Gentlemen, for your cordial welcome and I am grateful for the good wishes which you have expressed to Lady Hardinge and myself.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE BENGAL NATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

[His Excellency the Viceroy received an address of welcome from the above Society, on the 28th December, which was as follows :— 28th Dec. 1910.

My Lord,—We, the Members of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, beg leave, on the assumption by Your Excellency of the exalted office of Viceroy and Governor-General of India, to approach and respectfully offer you and Lady Hardinge our most loyal and cordial welcome.

We take this opportunity to give expression to the liveliest feelings of joy that have been evoked in our minds by the announcement of the intention of His Most Gracious Majesty, the King-Emperor, to visit India next year. This kind concession will be deeply appreciated and hailed with gratitude as an act of special grace by His Majesty's loyal and devoted subjects throughout the length and breadth of India.

Your presence amidst us recalls to our minds the several acts of statesmanship and sympathy which marked the administration of your illustrious grandfather, the Marquis of Hardinge; amongst which may be mentioned the irrigation and railway projects and the noble resolution he issued immediately after his assumption of the Government, by which he so graciously threw open the doors of public service to the people of the country qualified by education. We are gratified to trace in the great reforms initiated by your noble predecessor, the Right Hon'ble the Earl of Minto, a continuity of that kind and sympathetic policy. Your Excellency's recent utterances, expressing "profound sympathy" for the people and declaring your noble determination to do your "utmost to consolidate the beneficent and far-reaching reforms" initiated by your noble predecessor, gladden our hearts. We are happy to find you willing, as you are pre-eminently capable, to guide the aspirations that now stir the bosoms of the people of this country to fruitful issues.

It must be a matter for sincere satisfaction to Your Excellency, as it is of no small pride to us, that our countrymen, admitted to high offices and larger rights and privileges, have proved their efficiency and discharged their duties with credit to themselves and honour to the country, thereby laying just claims for fresh bounty and further concessions.

With the security of life and property insured by the strong but benign and beneficent British Administration, the commerce of the

Address of Welcome from the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce.

country has advanced by rapid strides; and the importance Your Excellency has been pleased to express as attaching to commerce in its relation to politics, rouses in us fond expectations that, under your fostering care, commerce and industry of the country will be further developed.

The period of administration of your noble predecessor was to our misfortune chequered by troublous and anxious times. We fondly hope the trouble is over, and that nothing will arise to distract you from devoting your attention to the moral and material advancement of the millions of people entrusted to Your Excellency's care.

May the period of Your Excellency's administration be one of unbroken prosperity and contentment to the people of the country, and may the Bountiful Father shower His choicest blessing on you and Lady Hardinge and your family, is our prayer.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Gentlemen of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce,—It has given me very great pleasure to receive you here to-day and to listen to the cordial address which you have presented to me. The happy language in which you have referred to His Majesty's approaching visit to this country only helps to strengthen the conviction that I have entertained ever since His Majesty first told me of his earnest desire to come back to India, that his presence among us will serve to prove the depth and the strength of that strong current of loyalty and, I think I may safely add, affection for his Throne and Person, which flows steadily on, though sometimes lost sight of in the turmoil of rival interests or political unrest.

I thank you for the kind words you have used about my grandfather. You have rightly observed that the reforms initiated by my predecessor are in a sense a continuation of my grandfather's policy, and while I pretend to no greater wisdom than them or than the many Viceroys who have taken their part in preparing the way

Address of Welcome from the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce.

for the great forward step which has recently been taken in the history of British India, I assure you that I realise very fully that that step is and should be a real one, and I have very great confidence that our enlarged and more responsible Councils will by the wisdom and dignity of their proceedings show that it has been a right one.

I can speak the more frankly to you, Gentlemen, because I feel that you represent some of the most substantial interests of the community and the most sober sense of this ancient Presidency. I say this in no spirit of idle flattery, and I think that my words are justified by a reference to your Chairman's speech of two years ago, when sane opinions were not so frequently to be met with, at any rate in public, as they are, I am thankful to believe, at the present moment.

You are constantly consulted by Government on questions affecting not only the commercial community but also the general welfare of the people. You have given useful and valuable advice, you have shown a spirit of loyalty, and your influence has always been on the side of law and order. I believe that you maintain cordial relations with your friends of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and I am told that you strive to maintain a high standard of business integrity.

So I repeat with all sincerity that I am glad to have had this opportunity of meeting you, and I thank you very warmly for the friendly terms of your address, for the heartiness of your welcome, and for the good wishes which you have expressed as well for me as for Lady Hardinge and my family.

I thank you at the same time for the beautiful casket in which your address is enclosed.

MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3rd Jan. 1911.

[At a meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council to transact ordinary business, His Excellency the Viceroy, who presided over the Council for the first time after taking up the reins of Government, addressed the members as follows :—]

Your Honour and Gentlemen,—As this is the first occasion on which I have been called to preside over this Council, I should like to say how much I appreciate the honour and how deeply I feel the heavy responsibility that it entails.

It is to me a source of sincere satisfaction that I am called upon to preside over the Reformed Legislative Council, of which the merit is, I believe, largely due to the wisdom of my predecessor, Lord Minto. The extension of the elective system, the increase in the number of our Members, and the enhancement of our powers lend weight and interest to our deliberations, upon the result of which depend the happiness and welfare of so many millions of our fellow-subjects. It is the duty of this Council to discuss subjects that are generally complex and sometimes contentious. It would be neither natural nor desirable that these questions should not provoke disagreement amongst us, but I hope and believe that a frank expression of opinion may assist us to understand each other and to appreciate one another's point of view. At the same time I trust that our deliberations may be animated by a spirit of mutual concession, and I am confident that I may count upon you, Gentlemen, to assist me in maintaining the high standard of dignity and courtesy that has hitherto characterised the proceedings of this Council and that is worthy of the high traditions of this Assembly.

DEPUTATION AND ADDRESS FROM THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

[His Excellency the Viceroy received an address from the Indian National Congress on the morning of the 5th January. The deputation consisted of the following gentlemen :— 5th Jan. 1911.

1. Sir William Wedderburn, Bart.	President of the Congress.
2. Dr. Rash Behary Ghose, C.S.I., C.I.E. (Calcutta).	Ex-President of the Congress and ex-Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council.
3. Babu Surendranath Banerjee (Calcutta).	Ex-President of the Congress and ex-Member of the Bengal Legislative Council.
4. Mr. D. E. Wacha (Bombay) .	Ex-President of the Congress and Joint General Secretary of the Congress.
5. Hon'ble Mr. G. K. Gokhale, C.I.E. (Bombay).	Ex-President of the Congress and Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council.
6. Hon'ble Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya (Allahabad).	Ex-President of the Congress and Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council.
7. Hon'ble Nawab Syed Mahamud (Madras).	Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council.
8. Hon'ble Mr. N. Subba Row (Madras).	Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council.
9. Hon'ble Mr. M. A. Jinnah (Bombay).	Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council.
10. Hon'ble Babu Bhupendranath Bose (Calcutta).	Member of the Bengal and Viceroy's Legislative Councils.
11. Hon'ble Mr. Mazrul Haque (Bankipore, Behar).	Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council.
12. Hon'ble Babu Ganga Prasad Varma (Lucknow).	Member of the Legislative Council, United Provinces.
13. Lala Harkishen Lal (Lahore) .	Ex-Member of the Punjab Legislative Council.
14. Dr. H. S. Gour (Raipur, Central Provinces).	Bar.-at-Law.
15 Hon'ble Rao Bahadur R. N. Mudholkar (Amraoti, Berar).	Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council.
16. Mr. D. A. Khare (Bombay) .	Ex-Member of the Bombay Legislative Council and Joint General Secretary of the Congress.

Deputation and Address from the Indian National Congress.

Sir William Wedderburn, the President, read the address, which was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the President and members of a deputation, appointed at the 25th session of the Indian National Congress, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with an expression of our deep and heartfelt loyalty to His Majesty the King-Emperor, and an assurance of our earnest desire to co-operate with the Government in promoting the welfare of the country.

We wish to express at the outset our grateful appreciation of the measures of reform carried out in accordance with the gracious declaration of the late King-Emperor made on the occasion of the jubilee of the proclamation of 1858. The expansion of the Legislative Councils on a wider representative basis gives the Indian people a larger opportunity than they had before of being associated with the Government in the administration of the country; while the appointment of Indians to the Executive Council of the Viceroy and of Local Governments, as also to the Council of the Secretary of State, shows the determination of His Majesty's Government to obliterate distinctions of race in filling some of the highest offices of executive responsibility. These measures have done much to bring about a better understanding between the Government and the people, and we venture to express on this occasion our confident hope that the regulations in connection with the Councils which have evoked criticism will be modified in the light of experience.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity so graciously accorded to us to draw Your Excellency's attention to certain broad questions affecting the welfare of the masses of the people. Foremost among these comes the need of education. We rejoice to know how favourably the Government is disposed in this matter and we would urge a liberal increase in the expenditure on all branches of education—elementary, technical and higher education—but specially on the first of these branches as being the first step towards promoting the well-being of the masses. The poverty of a large portion of the agricultural population and their inability to withstand the attacks of famine and disease, is a constant source of grave anxiety; and in order to prepare the way for practical measures for a gradual improvement of their condition, we would earnestly recommend the economic village inquiry approved by the Congress and prayed for by the Indian Famine Union in a memorial signed by representatives of all the influential classes in England. We trust also that Your Excellency will view with favour the proposal to separate

Deputation and Address from the Indian National Congress.

Executive and Judicial functions of public servants. This reform has long been recommended by the Congress, has had the support of many eminent personages who have held some of the highest judicial and executive offices in India, and has been recognized by the Government as calculated to improve the efficiency of the administration of justice.

The Resolutions of the Congress will, as usual, be duly forwarded to Your Excellency in Council. They deal with many important Imperial and some pressing Provincial questions, which we feel assured will receive Your Excellency's careful consideration. Before concluding, we beg to tender to Your Excellency a most hearty welcome on your assuming the high office to which you have been called. We look forward to a period of peace, progress, and prosperity for India under the guidance of one who was a trusted friend of our beloved King-Emperor, Edward the Peacemaker, whose loss we shall never cease to deplore.

In reply His Excellency spoke as follows :—]

I have received with satisfaction the expression of deep and heartfelt loyalty to His Majesty the King-Emperor on the part of your deputation from the Indian National Congress, and the assurance of your earnest desire to co-operate with the Government in promoting the welfare of the country.

To any student of the history of this country during the past 100 years it must be clearly evident that it has been the aim of England to promote the material welfare and happiness of the Indian people, and the prosperity and progress that are visible on all sides at the present day are indisputable proofs that this policy has been attended by a considerable measure of success. To the material advancement of the Indian people has now been added a large measure of political concession in the expansion of the Legislative Councils on a wider representative basis and in the appointment of Indians to the Executive Council of the Viceroy and of Local Governments, as also to the Council of the Secretary of State, thus giving them a larger share in the management of public affairs.

Deputation and Address from the Indian National Congress.

These reforms are still in their infancy and require careful consolidation. It will be my constant endeavour to maintain a jealous watch over them and to see that the object for which they were instituted is attained.

In the body of your address you refer to various broad questions affecting the welfare of the masses of the people which, I can assure you, the Government of India have entirely at heart. The realisation of some of these proposals would entail a very considerable increase to the normal expenditure of the Government and would in all probability require new sources of revenue to meet it. The educational problem is one however that the Government of India have taken in hand and the creation of a separate Department to deal with education may be regarded as an earnest of their intentions. I notice that a large number of those present here to-day are Members of my Legislative Council or of Provincial Councils, through whose intermediary these and other questions such as those enumerated by the Congress can be brought in due course before the Provincial and Imperial Legislative Councils. I am confident that in such case they will receive in Council the most careful consideration, the aim of the Government of India being to promote the material welfare and moral development of the Indian people and to mete out even-handed justice to all races, classes and creeds.

I am pleased to see here your President, Sir William Wedderburn, whose efforts to conciliate the existing differences between Hindus and Mussulmans have my entire sympathy, and my best wishes for their complete success.

I thank you for the cordial welcome that you have extended to me on assuming the high office that has been confided to me by our King-Emperor, and I warmly reciprocate your desire that my term of office may be

Address of Welcome from the Indian Association.

marked as a period of peace, progress and prosperity for India.

At the same time I wish to thank you for the lovely casket in which your address is enclosed.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

[His Excellency the Viceroy received an address of welcome from the above Association on Friday, the 13th January, in the Throne Room at Government House. 13th Jan. 1911.

Babu Surendra Nath Banerji, President of the Association, after being introduced read the address which was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Indian Association, desire to approach Your Excellency with this humble address on the occasion of your assumption of the high office of Viceroy of India.

As loyal subjects of His Majesty the King-Emperor and as humble representatives of our countrymen, it is our privilege to accord Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge a respectful welcome and to assure you of the universal sense of gratification amidst which Your Excellency enters upon the duties of your exalted office. Your Excellency does not come to us as a stranger, unacquainted with our people and their traditions. For looking back over a period of over sixty years we recall to mind your illustrious ancestor who was Governor-General of India and who, great as he was in war, was still greater in peace. The memory of his beneficent administration still lingers in our traditions, in the noble works of irrigation which he inaugurated, in the development of a liberal policy which secured the wider employment of Indians in the higher ranks of the public service and in the establishment of schools of learning, some of which known as Hardinge Schools were till lately scattered over different parts of Bengal. We rely upon Your Excellency to make us happy and prosperous and diffuse the blessings of contentment throughout the length and breadth of this great continent, by the justice, the wisdom and the beneficence of Your Excellency's rule.

In Your Excellency's reply to the address of the Bombay Corporation, Your Excellency was pleased to observe that "the times have changed" and "the present and the future are rife with problems of a more complex and difficult character than those of the

Address of Welcome from the Indian Association.

past." We desire to express our deep gratitude to Your Excellency for the recognition of the great transformation in Indian ideals and aspirations which have taken place and to which such eloquent testimony was borne by your distinguished predecessor. Your Excellency has left the Indian public in no doubt as to how Your Excellency will deal with the complex problems that face the Government of India by reason of this change. "The Viceroy," Your Excellency observed at the Kent banquet, "should strain every nerve to conciliate all races, classes and creeds." In the prosecution of this policy of conciliation which was emphatically endorsed by the Government of Lord Minto in their circular letter of March last, we desire to assure Your Excellency of the earnest and enthusiastic support of all that constitutes the popular element in Indian life and society. We deplore the acts of lawlessness and violence which have cast a shadow over the history of this Province and have come as a painful surprise to all lovers of peaceful and constitutional progress. But the situation is improving; and at such a time, we venture respectfully to submit, the steady pursuit of a policy of conciliation such as Your Excellency was graciously pleased to recommend in the speech to which we have referred would materially strengthen those forces that make for popular contentment and satisfaction.

We desire to assure Your Excellency of our unflinching loyalty and devotion to the Throne and the Person of His Majesty. We hold fast to the belief, which with us is a rooted conviction, that the realization of the destinies of this great and ancient land is indissolubly bound up with the permanence of British rule which is at once the guarantee of order and of stable progress which has found such a notable expression in the Reform Scheme.

We note with gratitude Your Excellency's declaration that you will watch over with the utmost care and vigilance and do your best to consolidate the beneficent scheme of reform with which the names of Lord Minto and Lord Morley will for ever be associated, and which seeks to associate the people more closely with the management of their own affairs. We may be permitted to express the earnest hope that the Regulations which were experimental in their character may be revised upon lines which will secure the enthusiastic co-operation of all sections of the community in furthering the objects of the Reform Scheme.

The Indian public have learnt with feelings of the deepest gratitude that His Majesty intends to hold a Coronation Durbar at Delhi some time in December or in January next. It is a beneficent

Address of Welcome from the Indian Association.

departure which will have a far-reaching effect in strengthening the loyalty of the people of India to the British Crown. It will call forth throughout our vast and multitudinous populations an outburst of gratitude unparalleled in our annals; and to the educated community the visit will appear as the symbol and the seal of a policy of conciliation and of liberal evolution which has formed the most glorious tradition of British rule in India.

It is our fervent hope and prayer that the blessing of Almighty Providence may rest upon those arduous labours which lie before Your Excellency in the government of this vast Empire, that Your Excellency's rule may leave its beneficent marks upon the annals of Indian progress, and that when the time comes for Your Excellency to lay down the reins of your exalted office, it may be amid the grateful acclaim of a happy, prosperous, and contented people.

His Excellency made the following reply :]

Gentlemen,—I am glad that the remarks that I have made on one or two previous occasions have given you satisfaction, for they were the sincere expression of the sentiments with which I have undertaken the responsible office I hold. It is my desire to secure the co-operation of the thoughtful men of the various communities of this great country, and while your condemnation of lawlessness and violence justifies me in the confidence that I shall have your support in putting down any recrudescence of disorder that may occur, it is a source of satisfaction to me to feel that I shall equally have your support in my endeavours to conciliate all races, classes, and creeds. I trust that my attitude towards your aspirations and ideals may continue to commend itself to you, and that the blessings of contentment and prosperity may be diffused throughout the land.

I welcome very heartily your expressions of loyalty and devotion to the Throne and Person of His Majesty, and the general approval which you evince of the reform scheme of Lord Minto and Lord Morley. I am not in a

position to make any promise regarding the revision of the Regulations, but I would remind you that it has already been announced in the Imperial Legislative Council that the Government of India are consulting the Local Governments regarding them, and, when their views have all been received, the subject will receive most careful and anxious attention at the hands of myself and my Government.

It is a source of deep satisfaction to me to listen to the universal chorus of joy at the announcement of His Majesty's promised visit to this country, but I take this opportunity of stating that the exact date has not yet been fixed. The Durbar will probably be either about the middle of December or the middle of January, but more than that I am not yet in a position to say.

I thank you, Gentlemen, for the kindly wishes you have expressed, for the appreciative remarks that you have made about my grandfather's work in India, and for the cordial tone of good-will and readiness to help me in my difficult task, which marks the tenor of your address.

At the same time I wish to thank you all for the very beautiful casket in which your address is enclosed.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BENGAL.

1st Feb. 1911.

[The annual meeting of the Society was held on the night of the 1st February. There was a large attendance of Members. In the absence of the President, Dr. Ashutosh Mookerjee, the Vice-President, presided. Addresses were read by the Vice-President, and Dr. Thibaut, Registrar of the Calcutta University, read a paper on Indian Astronomy and Mathematics.

His Excellency the Viceroy made the following speech :—]

I have listened with great interest to Dr. Thibaut's very able and instructive lecture on Indian Astronomy for which we are all greatly indebted to him. It revives

Annual Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

memories of by-gone days that I spent at Cambridge University as an Undergraduate when working for the Mathematical Tripos of which Astronomy formed one of the most important subjects. Astronomy is always a most interesting science when an object of recreation, but I confess that my interest in that subject was for many years marred by its unfortunate connection with the Mathematical Tripos.

It is a great pleasure to me to be here to-night and to realise what a thriving Society this is.

I am very glad to hear that there is a steady increase in your membership which has already surpassed the number of 500, and which shows the growth of interest in your proceedings. The range of subjects covered by the work of your Society is almost bewildering, and as regards your library it seems to me that your members have been trying to vindicate the truth of King Solomon's saying that "of making many books there is no end."

The Society is to be congratulated upon its co-operation with the Royal Society in its endeavour to make the results of the industry of so many learned and devoted students accessible to all, and to prevent the loss of much valuable and scientific material.

The work that is being carried on in the collection and translation of many ancient Sanscrit, Persian and Arabic manuscripts is to my mind one of the utmost importance, since it should conduce to a far greater knowledge of Oriental history and literature. It is interesting to hear that the Thibetan library is now of such importance as to require a special Thibetan Lama for its supervision.

I think we all owe a debt of gratitude to those pioneers who more than a century and a quarter ago laid the foundation of this Society, and in particular to Sir William Jones who conceived the idea of co-operation for

research and who is so worthily represented here to-day by his learned successor.

I cannot resist a feeling of pride that the conception of this Society, its organisation and its earliest labours were due to the initiative of my fellow-countrymen, but at the same time it is a source of pleasure and congratulation to us all that so many Indian names figure amongst the list of your workers and contributors.

While touching on the membership of this Society I may say that I have always had a filial respect for my grandfather, who was Governor-General, and my respect for him has been enhanced by the fact that I have only recently learnt that he was possessed of sufficient effrontery or sufficient learning, I hope the latter, to have accepted the post of President of your Society, and to have held it during the term of his administration.

In concluding these few remarks I should like to wish you a successful future, and in the terms of the watchword of your Society an ever-increasing "love of knowledge and zeal for its promotion."

Gentlemen, I thank you very warmly for your courtesy in inviting me to be present here to-night.

SEDITIOUS MEETINGS LAW.

20th March 1911.

[A meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber, Government House, on Monday the 20th March. His Excellency Lord Hardinge presided and nearly all the Hon'ble Members attended. The two galleries for visitors were full, quite a number of ladies being present.

The Hon'ble Mr. Jenkins presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the prevention of public meetings likely to promote sedition or to cause a disturbance of public tranquillity. He said that the only change of importance which was made by Select Committee was in clause 1, sub-clause (2). It was represented that many of the provinces were not homogeneous and consisted of parts in which

Seditious Meetings Law.

sometimes there were very wide differences of race and of religion. It was, therefore, thought proper that Government should be enabled to extend the operations of the Act to any part of a province. He thought it would be generally admitted that the amendment was a proper one. The other amendments were of no great importance. In clause 4, sub-clause (2), police officers who might be directed to attend public meetings had been limited to police officers not below the rank of Head Constable. In clause 8 it had been proposed that offences under the Act should be triable only by a Presidency Magistrate or a Magistrate of the First Class or a Sub-Divisional Magistrate.

The Select Committee's Report had been signed by all the members subject to the following memorandum signed by Mr. Gokhale, Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu, Mr. Haque and Mr. Mudholkur :—

"We regret the decision of the Government to re-enact this legislation and place it permanently on the Statute Book of this country. The only justification for such measures is the prevalence of an exceptional state of things, and happily that justification no longer exists. The highest authorities have freely admitted that a vast improvement has taken place in the general situation of the country, and in our opinion the best policy to pursue at this juncture is to let things return to their normal condition as quietly as possible. We recognise that some of the most objectionable features of the Act of 1907 have been removed from the present Bill, but it is proposed now to make this measure permanent and we find ourselves unable to assent to this measure."

SELECT COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

"We, the undersigned Members of the Select Committee to which the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the prevention of public meetings likely to promote sedition or to cause a disturbance of public tranquillity was referred, have considered the Bill and have now the honour to submit this our report, with the Bill as amended by us annexed thereto. The amendments which we have suggested are explained below.

"2. Clause 1, sub-clause (2).—At present a notification under this sub-clause must extend to a whole province. We have inserted the words 'or parts of Provinces)' in order to enable the Government of India to limit future notifications to such parts of provinces as they may think fit.

Seditious Meetings Law.

"3. Clause 4, sub-clause (2).—We have inserted words limiting the police officers who may be deputed to attend meetings to such as are not below the rank of Head Constable.

"4. Clause 8 is new. We think that offences against the proposed Act should be triable only by a Presidency Magistrate or a Magistrate of the first class or Sub-Divisional Magistrate.

"5. The addition of a clause limiting the duration of the proposed Act was suggested by certain of our number, but as a majority of us were unable to accept this suggestion, it has not been adopted.

"6. The publication ordered by the Council has been made as follows :—Gazette of India, in English, 18th March 1911.

"7. We think that the Bill has not been so altered as to require re-publication and we recommend that it be passed as now amended —(Signed) J. L. Jenkins, Syed Ali Imam, B. C. Mahtab, M. Haque, Syed Shamsul Huda, M. B. Dadabhoy, Partab Singh, Abdul Majid, J. Andrew, H. O. Quin, F. A. T. Phillips, J. M. Holms, A. Earle, H. S. P. Davies, and H. LeMesurier,—The 18th March 1911."

The Hon'ble Mr. Jenkins moved His Excellency the President to suspend the Rules of Business to admit of the Report being taken into consideration.

His Excellency the President declared the Rules of Business suspended.

The Hon'ble Mr. Jenkins moved that the Report be taken into consideration.

Several Hon'ble Members spoke at length.

His Excellency the Viceroy closed the Debate with the following speech :—]

It will probably be within the memory of Hon'ble Members that my predecessor, Lord Minto, in a speech made in Council in Simla in August last, gave his reason for the temporary re-enactment of the Seditious Meetings Act for a period of six months only, that he did not wish to commit his successor to a policy of which he had not sufficient opportunity of judging and of which he might possibly not approve.

I feel, therefore, that in view of the fact that I have been brought personally into the discussion of this very

Seditious Meetings Law.

important question, that it is incumbent upon me, on this occasion, to say a few words on the subject. In the first place let me say that I am grateful to Lord Minto for his consideration in having given me an opportunity to take stock of the whole state of affairs and to submit to your consideration a new Act more in accordance with the actual situation and without some of the more stringent provisions of the previous Act. I do not want to discuss the origin of the Act of 1907, except to express my absolute conviction that the Government of India would never have passed a measure of that kind without having duly weighed the heavy responsibility that they incurred, and without the knowledge that the provisions of the ordinary law were inadequate to meet the very grave and serious situation that had developed in certain provinces at that time.

That the Act has had a beneficial and restraining influence is a fact which no amount of argument can disprove, and the very material improvement that has taken place in the general internal situation is undoubtedly largely due to the restraining influence of that measure. I am far from ignoring the views and opinions of Hon'ble Members who have spoken against the Bill with great moderation and with the dignity that is customary to them. I am confident that their scruples are absolutely conscientious, and that they are just as keen and anxious as the Government of India for the maintenance of order and tranquillity, and for the dissemination of sentiments of loyalty throughout this great Empire. We differ only as to the best method of arriving at that result. It is, however, a source of intense satisfaction to me to be able to associate myself with the views of Hon'ble Members as to the improved situation and political temper of India, of which, I maintain, there can be absolutely no doubt whatever.

Seditious Meetings Law.

In spite of recent instances of crime in Calcutta, which all sane men must regard with absolute abhorrence, there has been, I am glad to say, a revulsion of feeling against political violence and crimes to which it so often leads. Thoughtful people have realised that, thanks to the reformed Councils, opportunities are presented for the redress of grievances and for the prosecution of demands by constitutional methods, and that inflammatory speeches and writings are not likely to further, but rather to retard, the progress that we all desire. But to accept as a conclusion from this that sedition and political crime have entirely disappeared would be to live in a fool's paradise, and to close one's eyes to the actual facts of the situation. Were the vigilance of Government to be relaxed for one single instant, there is very little doubt that sedition and political crime would once more spring into life and would thwart at least for a time that healthy evolution of political life and material progress that it is the desire and the duty of Government to promote.

The Seditious Meetings Act of 1907, whatever its blemishes may be, need have had no terrors for the law-abiding citizen. It is an Act that is limited in its operation. It is a purely preventive measure designed to restrict inflammatory oratory on the part of irresponsible members of the community. It would, I should have thought, have met with the warm approval of all those who wish to see the educated youth of India grow up into useful and law-abiding members of the community instead of being exposed to incitement to become seditious agitators and possibly political criminals.

We have unfortunately in Eastern Bengal a striking example of the development into ordinary criminals of young men of the middle class who during the last three or four years have been engaged in what has euphemistically been called political dacoities, thus showing

Seditious Meetings Law.

the moral deterioration and degradation that have taken place owing to the spread of sedition and illegitimate political agitation. In any case whatever the objection of some Hon'ble Members may be to the Act in question, they should remember that through its agency the youth of India during the past three-and-a-half years have been protected from the evil effects of sedition preached from the platform.

It was with the greatest satisfaction that I learnt that amongst others the student class of Calcutta, an intensely human and sympathetic body, since the restrictions placed on seditious writings and speech, have shaken off all predilections for teachings of that kind and have diverted their attention to the more wholesome and normal interests of manly games and exercises. This is only one instance out of many, but I should remind Hon'ble Members that it is the primary duty of Government to extend the fullest protection to all members of the community, and especially to the rising generation, and I may add that no effort will be spared by Government in so doing.

One of my first acts on assuming the reins of office in this country was to consider very carefully this question upon which I had an absolutely open mind, and to invite the opinions of the Local Governments as to whether in their view the Act should be re-enacted, or whether it should be allowed to lapse. The complete unanimity of the replies that I have received from the Local Governments, the views of several Indians of marked ability and knowledge, who impressed upon me the danger to public tranquillity were the Act allowed to lapse and no other law to take its place, and the views which I myself have formed during the few months that I have been in this country have convinced me of the absolute necessity of a weapon to be in existence to meet special situations,

although it need not necessarily be in evidence. With this view my Government entirely concur.

No self-respecting Government with the knowledge of the situation which occurred in 1907 would expose itself to the risk of allowing a similar situation to recur without having the means at hand to meet it. Nor would it willingly surrender a weapon that has already proved its usefulness as a preventive and restraining force. It is not to anybody's interest, except perhaps to that of the criminal classes, that the law should be weighed in the balance and found wanting.

The new Act that is before you is, as you are aware, intended to be of a permanent character, and with that object in view, the clauses to which special objections have been taken in the past have either been modified or expunged. It is with regret that I have been unable to accept the suggestion of a time-limit for the Act, but I cannot help feeling that a revival of agitation on this subject is very detrimental to the best interests of the State. The new Act, as it stands, is the very minimum required to make it effective. But, should it be found in practice that it is wanting in the required force, then legislation will become necessary to give it.

It is, however, my earnest hope and desire that the new Act may never be put to the test and that before very long it may come to be regarded as an obsolete measure in the Statute Book.

The present Act was, as Hon'ble Members are well aware, extended by my predecessor's Government to the whole of India. Now in order to show my trust and confidence in the people of India, I do not intend that the new Act when passed shall be extended to any part of India until the necessity arises—a contingency that I trust may never occur. It depends therefore on the people

of India whether the new Act is to remain a dead-letter or not.

In the meantime I adjure Hon'ble Members of my Legislative Council to rally to the side of Government in passing an Act which will not only restrict sedition and crime, but which will at the same time protect your sons and the sons of your friends and relations from pernicious and disloyal teachings that can only end in sadness and disaster. (*Applause.*)

[The motion was then put and carried.]

BUDGET DEBATE, 1911-12.

[The Annual Budget Debate took place at a full meeting of the Legislative Council on Monday the 27th March. Several Members spoke and His Excellency, in closing the Debate, addressed the Council as follows :—] 27th March 1911.

With the close of this discussion we come to a fitting termination of what has been a busy and useful session. The debates on the Budget, both at this stage and when the figures were under detailed scrutiny three weeks ago, have been practical and suggestive; and my Government are indebted to a number of Hon'ble Members for advice and criticism of much value which, even where we cannot act upon them at the moment, will receive our careful consideration. Into the details of the financial arrangements embodied in the Budget, it would be superfluous for me to enter. I gather that they meet with the general approval of the Council; and I can only add the hope that the coming year will fulfil our expectations, that prosperity will grow, that there will be a good monsoon and that India will be spared the too oft recurring sadness of pestilence and famine.

Budget Debate, 1911-12.

In their broad features our finances seem to me to reflect with much fidelity the general condition of the country. The financial position, like our political position, has greatly improved since the gloomy days of 1908. We have obtained a breathing-space, which should enable us to look into the future and prepare ourselves for what it may bring. That it will bring problems of much complexity, no one of us can doubt. The sacrifices, for example, which we are making for the reformation of China will impose a heavy burden on the Indian Exchequer, and no small hardship upon many of our own people and several of the Feudatory States. But there are other difficulties ahead of us, the effect of which it is less easy to gauge. There are the very pressing claims of education, of the public health, of medical relief, of industrial development, and of many other social needs which must necessarily increase with the growing political sense of India. All these will cast liabilities on the public purse, impossible to estimate in advance, but certainly heavy and increasing. As in the realm of politics, so also in our finances, I have every confidence that we shall solve the problems and surmount the difficulties that the future has in store for us. But they warn us of the need for caution in our financial methods and sobriety in our public expenditure.

In most of the recent criticisms on our financial position, I have been struck by a certain note of impatience. In the business world, our trade is described as moving more slowly than it should, our industries as not expanding rapidly enough, and our organisation of capital in India as needlessly backward. In this Council the same note has been sounded. There seems to be a feeling that we are old-fashioned in our ideas about debt, that we make too much perhaps of our opium losses; and we are urged to spend more rapidly on education, to give

Budget Debate, 1911-12.

more abundantly to the provinces, and so forth. In all this there is much with which I can sympathize. Impatience, when it means a striving after the more speedy attainment of high ideals, is admirable. But there is a form of impatience in national finance which has its dangers. For the progress of a country must rest on a solid basis of national credit; and we could not do a greater disservice to the advance of India in education or industry or social well-being than by doing anything which would weaken our credit or shake public confidence in our financial methods or embarrass our solvency in the future.

From this point of view I think that our financial conservatism is fully justified. I do not think it is overdone, or that anyone can accuse us of standing still. Our normal revenues are steadily growing; our exchange is stable; our operations on the money market have been successful; and we have given, in our grants of nearly one million sterling for education and sanitation, a more imposing contribution to those services than in any previous year of our history. Turn to our commerce and it tells the same tale; for the value of our external trade in the current year is now approaching £375 millions sterling,—by far the highest figure on record. Our position on all sides is thus one of much strength.

It is no time, however, for indiscriminate optimism. Apart from the special financial problems to which I have referred, apart also from the varying fortunes of the seasons on which our prosperity so largely depends, we see all round us unmistakable signs of the economic changes which now have India in their grip. To some of these signs the Hon'ble the Finance Member has alluded;—the growing employment of gold, the release of hoarded rupees, the enlarged use of our paper currency. Others are visible in the growth of joint-stock

Budget Debate, 1911-12.

banking, and the rapid spread of co-operative credit societies. We have entered upon a period of economic unrest and transition; and if our Indian finance is to come through in safety, our watch-words must be caution and economy. Caution we have shown, and I trust we shall continue to show. Economy is ever present to my mind; and I cordially endorse the undertaking that has been given by my Government to examine the whole question of our departmental expenditure, both civil and military, with a view to restraining its growth as well as to actual reductions wherever practicable. Retrenchment is not always an agreeable task; and it is difficult to reconcile with some of our ideals of administration. But in the present circumstances of India, public economy is the clearest of necessities; and I am confident that its fruits will justify the sacrifices that it may entail.

On this subject I have only a few more words to say. They relate to the permanent financial settlements which, with the approval of His Majesty's Government, we have now concluded with the provinces. That measure has attracted a certain amount of natural and very temperate criticism, although I gather that most of the provinces recognise the substantial liberality which animated it. I wish, however, to put the matter to the Council in the light of what I have just been saying. If caution and economy are necessary in Imperial finance, they are equally imperative in the management of that portion of the public funds which is under provincial control. But how the provinces are to help us effectively in the careful administration of our finances, I cannot see unless their share of responsibility is definitely and permanently fixed. I regret that some of the provinces should find the arrangement less favourable to them than they had hoped. I doubt if complete equality of treatment

Budget Debate, 1911-12.

would ever be attainable, and I can only give the assurance that my Government has done its best to remove all substantial grievances. Besides being an essential step towards the greater stability of Indian finance, the permanent settlements confer a large measure of true decentralization; and I feel sure that I may now call on the provinces, as our partners in the work of good government, to co-operate with us in that economy without which true efficiency is impossible.

Although it cannot be said that the matter to which I now wish to refer is dependent on the budget at present under discussion, I would like to touch on the subject of the accommodation provided for the Supreme Legislative Council, upon which a question was put some time ago by an Hon'ble Member.

It has always appeared to me that the accommodation provided for this Council is entirely inadequate and should be on a much more important and dignified scale. I sympathise entirely with the desire of the Hon'ble Mr. Sinha that a properly equipped Library attached to the Council Chamber should be furnished to Hon'ble Members where they could have access to books of reference and other books of utility in debate. There should also be Committee rooms where groups could meet and confer with each other, which would be very difficult to do here. Further it seems to me utterly impracticable and absurd that during the session of the Council the work of the Government of India should be practically at a standstill and paralysed by the fact that the Secretaries of Government have to be present in Council even when the affairs of their own Department are not under discussion. This defect could easily be remedied if in another Council building each Secretary were provided with a small room where he could, when not required in the Council Chamber, continue to transact the business

Budget Debate, 1911-12.

of his Department and yet be available at a moment's notice for his duty as Member of the Legislative Council. I do not dilate upon the discomfort of this Council Chamber, especially during some days of this month when the temperature was exceptionally high. I think we have all borne our burden and the heat of the day with fortitude and resignation, but I do not know whether these will be constant qualities in the future. I greatly regret that the limitations of Government House prevent me from offering better accommodation to the Council, but although Government House is a very fine and stately building I had, during the visit of the German Crown Prince, to lodge many of his suite in tents, and when Their Majesties do me the honour of coming to Government House next winter, I shall have to put the overflow under canvas in the garden and possibly on the Maidan. I think therefore that Members of Council should consider whether the time has not arrived to discuss the question of finding a suitable site and of building a new Council Hall more in accordance with the needs and dignity of the Supreme Legislative Council. To do so would of course cost money, and it is with some hesitation that I make this suggestion with the watchful eye of the Cerberus of the Finance Department upon me and with the prediction ringing in my ears of a shrinking revenue in the future. I feel, however, that it is not merely a question of comfort, but of efficiency that is at stake, and if such views as I have just outlined meet with the approval of Hon'ble Members, I hope that at the next meeting of Council they will favour the Government and Council with an expression of their opinions. In the meantime I hope that it is not necessary for me to say that so long as I live in Government House, I shall always esteem it a great honour for my Legislative Council to meet under my roof.

Budget Debate, 1911-12.

There is one other subject upon which I should like to say a few words before Hon'ble Members leave Calcutta. The King-Emperor proposes, as you are all aware, to hold a great Durbar at Delhi in December next, and it has been a great pleasure to listen to the words said here by Hon'ble Members to-day and to record the wave, I might say the tidal wave, of enthusiasm that has swept the country from end to end on the receipt of the news in India. I can picture to myself the striking warmth and cordiality of the reception that the King-Emperor and the Queen will receive from all classes on their arrival in this country, and I may add that it is the desire of our King-Emperor to see as many as possible of His Majesty's Indian subjects. With this object in view, arrangements are being made at Delhi, so that opportunities may be given to all to see Their Majesties. It will, I think, be no indiscretion on my part to state that according to present arrangements Their Majesties hope to arrive at Bombay on the 2nd December, and in Delhi on the 7th December, when the State Entry will be made. Owing to the lack of space at the Railway Station, those taking part in the reception there will necessarily be few in number, but it is proposed that Their Majesties shall be received by the Representatives of British India at a position to be selected on the Ridge of Delhi where ample space will be secured. I am leaving to-morrow night for Delhi on purpose to supervise these arrangements and to select a suitable spot. The date of the actual Durbar has been fixed for the 12th and every preparation is being made for a Coronation ceremony worthy of our King-Emperor and in accordance with the dignity of the Sovereign of this great Empire. I may mention that I am endeavouring to arrange that the actual crowning ceremony may be witnessed by about 100,000 of our fellow-subjects, of whom the vast

majority will be Indians. Amongst other incidents of interest that will take place will be a review of troops, a reception by His Majesty of Indian officers of British-Indian regiments, and a fête for the people, who will also be given the opportunity of seeing their Emperor and King. I am in hope that Their Majesties will arrive in Calcutta before the New Year—on the 30th December.

I have ventured to detain you longer than I intended as I wish to take Hon'ble Members of my Council into my confidence, and to give you some idea of the preparations now being made to afford Their Majesties a fitting welcome on the great and auspicious occasion that is before us.

I should like to add one word of thanks to the Hon'ble Mr. Daddabhoy for his sympathetic reference to the accident and illness of Lord Crewe. From information I have received his illness was a case of overwork due to the conscientious manner in which he threw himself into the work of the India Office, of which no detail was too trivial to engage his serious attention. I share the hopes of the Hon'ble Member and of all here that this distinguished and liberal-minded statesman, who is one of my best and oldest friends, may soon be restored to health and to his duties at the India Office.

In conclusion, I thank you all for your valuable co-operation in the legislative work of this session, and I now declare the Council adjourned *sine die*.

ADDRESSES OF WELCOME AT LAHORE.

1st April 1911. [His Excellency the Viceroy left Calcutta on the 28th March on his first spring tour. On the way to Lahore His Excellency paid a visit to the battlefields of Mudki and Ferozeshah where a presentation of a beautiful book of photographs of reminiscences of

Address from Lahore Municipality.

the battles was made to the Viceroy. In accepting the presentation His Excellency spoke a few words of thanks.

His Excellency arrived at Lahore on Friday afternoon, the 31st March, and was accorded a brilliant reception, being received by the Lieutenant-Governor, State officials and Ruling Chiefs of the Punjab.

On Saturday afternoon, the 1st April, the Viceroy proceeded to the Senate House where a special Convocation of the Punjab University conferred the degree of Doctor of Literature upon him.

At the close of the Convocation addresses were presented by the Lahore Municipality, the Punjab Moslem League, the Sikh Community and the Hindu Sabha. After each address had been read and replied to, the members of the various deputations were introduced to the Viceroy.

ADDRESS FROM LAHORE MUNICIPALITY.

The address from the Lahore Municipality, after heartily welcoming Their Excellencies to the capital of the Province, said :—

Lahore must have specially interesting associations for Your Excellency on account of the connection with the place of your illustrious grandfather, the first Viscount Hardinge of Lahore and King's Newton. It was almost exactly sixty-five years ago when in March 1846, after the victories of Mudki, Ferozeshah, Aliwal and Sobraon, the treaty of Lahore was signed. Since then the aspect of the place has changed much for the better, and to-day we are proud of our city and the position which it holds as the capital of the fighting Province of India, the loyalty of whose people to the Crown has since that time been proverbial, especially in the dark days of the Mutiny.

We remember that it was the first Lord Hardinge who laid the foundation of the extension of education in the country and who was the first Viceroy to recognise the importance of the expansion of railways. In both directions Lahore has followed the lead then given, for in point of schools and colleges it has a larger number of students than many other important educational centres in India, and it is the headquarters of one of the largest railway administrations in the world. We venture to express the hope that during Your Excellency's time of office the coping stone may be placed on

Address from Lahore Municipality.

the educational edifice, the foundation-stone of which was laid by your grandfather by bringing primary education within the reach of all and by providing adequately for technical industrial education.

We are grateful for the generous help which has continually been afforded by Government in the improvement and beautifying of our city, and in this connection we would especially mention the Park on the open ground near the Fort which is now in process of formation and which will bear the name of Your Excellency's predecessor, Lord Minto. We are confident that in the future too we shall continue to receive similar favours from Government. Much has been done to improve the amenities of the place, but much still remains to be done, especially in the direction of an efficient drainage system and in the improvement of the water-supply. These schemes will involve very heavy expenditure, but the Committee hopes to be able to meet it from its own resources helped by a generous Government.

We are proud to think that our city will have such a splendid monument to the memory of our late revered King-Emperor Edward VII, the Peacemaker, whose untimely death we all deplore, in the enlarged Hospital, Medical College, and Bacteriological Institute to which Your Excellency's Government has recently so generously contributed, and we feel a lively satisfaction at the thought of the approaching visit of our Gracious King George V, to this country and to this Province for the purpose of being crowned Emperor of India. The announcement of this event, which will be unique in the history of England and of this country, has evoked feelings of unbounded enthusiasm and loyalty throughout the length and breadth of the Indian Empire.

In conclusion, we would thank Your Excellencies for the honour you have done our city by this visit, and we venture to hope that you will carry away pleasant recollections of it.

In reply the Viceroy said :—]

Gentlemen of the Municipality of Lahore,—I am to have other opportunities of speaking while I am in your city, but it has given me particular pleasure to receive this address from you who represent the capital of the Province, and not any particular section but all classes of the com-

Address from Lahore Municipality.

munity. The connection of my grandfather with your city, of which he bore the name, gives it a particular interest for me and it is natural that I should have included it in the first tour I have made since my arrival in India. Since those days you have made and are making wonderful progress. Lahore is, as you point out, now a great educational centre; you hold up before me a somewhat lofty ideal in this matter; the coping stone implies an educational edifice that can be built according to plan, but education is of its nature a palace in the plans of which there can be no finality. Each new step forward in the progress of civilisation opens out new vistas of knowledge, and there is no subject in the world about which opinions differ so completely and ideas undergo such continual change as that of education. Of its importance there is no room for any doubt, and my Government will do all they can to foster its development and ensure its growth along healthy lines. (*Applause.*)

Of the amenities and beauties of your city I have seen something and hope to see more: you will not expect me to deal with your problems of drainage and water-supply, and your Lieutenant-Governor would not thank me were I to make any promise on behalf of the Punjab Government, but I feel confident that any proposals you may submit to him will receive his close and sympathetic attention.

I must congratulate the Punjab upon the hearty response it has made to the appeal for funds fitly to commemorate our late King-Emperor. It was my happy lot to be from time to time close to His Majesty's person, and to learn something of that kindliness of heart which turned his thoughts so constantly towards the alleviation of human suffering. I feel confident that you could have selected no memorial which would have pleased him more, and I congratulate you, Gentlemen, on the medical improvements which it will secure for your city.

(*Applause.*) The day is not far distant when we shall welcome among us his son and successor, His Majesty King George V, almost on the threshold of his reign, and a universal prayer will go up in many tongues that he may live long to rule our destinies in peace and happiness.

I have been deeply touched by the enthusiastic reception that I have met with at Convocation from the University students of Lahore, which I understand is partly due to the interest that I am taking in the lot of their fellow-students in Calcutta. I never intended that the visit I paid one morning to several students' messes should become known to the public, any more than it was known at the time to the students themselves, but I wanted to see with my own eyes and to verify personally what I had heard as to the unsatisfactory conditions under which they live, of which I obtained on that occasion ample ocular proof. I am glad to say that the Government of India have since been able to allocate 12 or 13 lakhs to providing new hostel accommodation in Calcutta and the mofussil, but much more is still needed to provide an adequate number of hostels for the thousands of students in Calcutta. (*Loud applause.*) The past has had its triumphs, the present may have its successes, but it is on the horizon of the future that our watchful eyes should be fixed, and it is for that reason that the future and needs of the students and youth of this country will always receive from me sympathetic consideration and attention. (*Applause.*)

Lady Hardinge joins me in thanking you heartily, Gentlemen, for your kindly welcome, and for your address, as well as for the beatutiful casket in which it is enclosed.

MOSLEM LEAGUE ADDRESS.

[The Punjab Moslem League, in the course of their address, referred to Lord Hardinge's hereditary association with the Punjab, and went on to assure His Excellency of the unchanging loyalty and

Moslem League Address.

devotion of the Moslem community to the British Throne, and of their readiness to incur any sacrifice to support its stability and permanence. The address continued :—

In common with the rest of His Majesty's Indian subjects, the Moslem community is deeply grateful to Government for the high political privileges conferred on the peoples of India in connection with the great scheme of reforms recently introduced in this country. Your Excellency's noble predecessor, in order to safeguard the vital interests of the Moslem community, granted to the Indian Mussalmans the valued right of separate representation on the Imperial and Provincial Legislative Councils : and we rejoice to find that Your Excellency's Government has, on a recent occasion, confirmed the pledge then given to us. This generous declaration, we beg to assure Your Excellency, has won for Your Excellency's Government the unbounded gratitude of the entire Moslem community, and has given signal and conclusive proof of that continuity of British policy and the inviolable character of British pledges which constitute the bed rock on which the solid foundation of the glorious Empire of Great Britain is laid.

We venture, on this occasion, to express once more our deep abhorrence of the anarchical propaganda which has, in recent years, cast so hideous a blot on the fair fame of the Indian peoples. And in view of the recrudescence of anarchist crime, as manifested by the recent outrages in Calcutta, we deem it our bounden duty to declare our emphatic condemnation of the nefarious movement of which these outrageous crimes are the result. At the same time, we rejoice at the improvement which is visible in the political situation, and regard these spasmodic outbursts as merely the result of mental aberration in certain limited circles, and trust that the Government will consistently and steadily pursue that strong and generous policy which has brought about that improvement.

We beg to avail ourselves of this opportunity to assure Your Excellency that the Indian Mussalmans are fully awakened to the needs of the moment, and are doing all that lies in their power not only to adapt themselves to modern conditions but also to utilise all the multifarious means which an enlightened Government has placed within their reach to enable them to take their proper place among the various communities inhabiting the vast territories of the British Indian Empire. Responding to the trumpet call of their great leader, the late Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, they realized years ago that on the acquisition of modern arts and sciences depended their national regeneration. That conviction, on their part,

Moslem League Address.

has been signally evidenced by the marvellous enthusiasm and unanimity with which the movement for the foundation of a Mahomedan University has been taken up by all ranks of Mussalmans throughout the length and breadth of this country. In our own province the establishment of Islamiya High Schools in several of the larger districts, and a Central Islamiya High School and an Arts College, teaching up to the M.A. Standard, at Lahore, demonstrates conclusively the earnestness with which the community has set to work to provide for its educational needs.

We deem it inappropriate on an occasion like this, when offering to Your Excellency a cordial welcome on this Your Excellency's first visit to the capital of this Province, to set forth in detail the various needs of our community, or to mention the disadvantages under which we are at present labouring. With Your Excellency's permission we postpone their submission through proper channels to a more appropriate occasion.

The address concluded by cordially welcoming the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge to the Punjab, and expressed the hope that His Excellency's rule would bring manifold blessings to India and added lustre to a name already illustrious.

The Viceroy in reply said :—]

Gentlemen of the Punjab Moslem League,—I thank you very heartily for the cordial welcome which you have extended to me on the occasion of this my first visit to Lahore. It is my business to treat the different provinces of India with the strictest impartiality, but I do not think anyone will blame me if I confess to a special attraction to the Punjab, which occupied so much of the attention and activity of my grandfather during his Indian career, and of which the history has been familiar to me since my earliest childhood. Out of those sanguinary struggles into which he was plunged, much against his will, was born this fair addition to the sisterhood of Indian provinces and he would have rejoiced if he could have foreseen how bright a future lay before a land so torn at that time by dissension and strife.

I cannot attempt to cover the vast progress in every direction that has taken place since those days, but I pro-

Moslem League Address.

pose to say a few words on the subject of education. When British administration first began there were Arabic and Sanskrit and Gurmukhi schools of a religious character; but the most genuine educational institutions in the country were Persian schools, where the teachers were almost exclusively Mahomedans, but the pupils included more Hindus than Mahomedans. These schools formed the foundation of the Government vernacular school system. The Department of Public Instruction in the Punjab was organised in 1856, and there were at that time 34 schools maintained from public funds, besides a dozen mission schools. You have now 4,351 public institutions, including 17 colleges, besides 2,882 private institutions; and your scholars number nearly 3½ lakhs. This is an advance of which there is no cause to be ashamed, but the goal is still far distant when every boy and girl, and every young man and maiden, shall have an education in what is best calculated to qualify them for their own part in life and for the good of the community as a whole. That is an ideal we must all put before us, but we shall have to struggle towards it through many difficulties, through constant experiment and not a few disappointments. Meantime Government have shown how much importance they attach to this matter by the creation of a special Department of Education and by the apportionment of a special grant of over 90 lakhs for educational purposes in the Budget of this year. The Imperial Legislative Council has displayed its keen interest in frequent discussions of the subject, and you Moslems of the Punjab have shown what you think about education by your corporate action in founding your Islamiya College and its linked schools, to which I wish all success, and by your spirited response to the appeal for a Moslem University so recently carried through the length and breadth of India under the brilliant leadership of His Highness the Aga Khan.

Address from the Sikh Community.

I have listened with pleasure to your appreciation of the schemes of reforms so recently introduced, and note your quickness to appreciate the confirmation by my Government in the Legislative Council of the pledges that have been given to you. You may rest assured that pledges once given by Government will not be broken. (*Applause.*) Whether or when you may yourselves come forward to say that you no longer require the privilege of separate representation, I cannot say—but if such a day comes, it will be evidence of a spirit of mutual toleration and enlightened progress which could not but be a happy augury for the peace and welfare of your motherland. (*Applause.*) At the same time it must be a source of satisfaction to you, as it is to me, to find that Mahomedans have in recent years, by their merit and ability, secured distinction in the public service.

I thank you, Moslems of the Punjab, for the unwavering fidelity which you have always displayed during the restless times of recent years, and for that steadfast loyalty to the Throne and Person of His Majesty of which you have given so many proofs in the past. We shall shortly see our King-Emperor face to face, and I am sure that the Mahomedan community will take no backward part in giving him a warm and heartfelt welcome. (*Applause.*) In conclusion I thank you cordially for the good wishes that you have expressed for the success of my administration, and for the welcome that you have extended to Lady Hardinge and myself, and I thank you for the address you have presented to me and the handsome casket in which it is enclosed.

ADDRESS FROM THE SIKH COMMUNITY.

[The address from the members and sympathisers of the Chief Khalsa Diwan welcomed the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge to the Punjab, and referred to the fact that the Sikh community supplied "soldiery unsurpassed for its valour and unstinting loyalty to the

Address from the Sikh Community.

Crown. Our achievements on the battlefield, both when arrayed on the opposite side before 1848, when Your Excellency's illustrious ancestor was in the field, and under the British flag ever since, in India and abroad, all over the British world, have won for us unalloyed praise and recognition from His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor down to every authority that has come in contact with us." After a reference to the Saraghari incident, the address proceeded :—

It was the idea of maintaining and propagating loyalty of this type which, coupled with the desire to ameliorate the general condition of the Sikhs, led to the foundation in 1902 of the Chief Khalsa Diwan, and occupies a prominent place in its Articles of Association. Soon after the Central Khalsa Orphanage was started at Amritsar, which is sheltering, feeding and imparting technical and religious education to over one hundred boys and girls, and is being maintained at an average cost of Rs. 1,000 per mensem. Besides the work of social reform, specially in the matter of preventing extravagance at marriages and other festive occasions, the Diwan, with a view to give greater impetus to the spread of education, has started the Sikh Educational Conference, which has already had three very successful annual sessions and is helping over three dozen Sikh educational institutions, scattered all over the Province, with grants-in-aid and stipends to Sikh students averaging Rs. 12,000 per annum. Female education is also receiving adequate attention, and we have several girls' schools now, the prominent place among which is held by the Sikh Kanya Maha Vidyalaya at Ferozepore, which teaches up to the Middle Standard in English, and which we hope to see as a High School ere long. The Diwan also contributed the handsome amount of over Rs. 15,000 to the Khalsa College for its buildings. But we cannot help bringing to Your Lordship's notice that our masses are very poor and we have practically no middle class which is the backbone of every movement for the material advancement of a community or nation. It was mainly the munificence of our Sikh Ruling Chiefs which, backed by the moral and material aid and patronage of the benign Government, has been instrumental in founding and maintaining our premier Sikh educational institution—the Khalsa College. We have thus not been able to make long strides and thereby keep pace with other sister communities of India in the race of all-round progress under the benign ægis of *Pax Britannica.* Notwithstanding these disadvantages and drawbacks we have striven to gain some of the lost ground during the short existence of the Diwan as described above.

Address from the Sikh Community.

The opening of the Canal Colonies has done something to ameliorate the financial condition of the community, and the knowledge of agriculture on improved Western lines, for the spread of which Government has now taken practical steps, is looked upon with hopeful eyes by us to whom it is likely to be most beneficial. Sikhs are therefore very much indebted to the local and Your Excellency's Government for those boons, which chiefly concern our community.

Your Excellency, so far we have done all that the lesson of self-help requires of us and the means at our disposal permit. Our future mundane progress, especially in education, depends in no small a degree on the encouragement we receive from time to time at the hands of our benign Government. All over India the chief impetus for the spread of education has so far been Government service. The Government has been pleased to afford special facilities to minorities in getting them their proper share in the administration of the country and this has encouraged those minorities to make marvellous progress in education. Ours is also a minority and politically a very important minority. We ruled this Province immediately before the advent of the British Government, when we held the most lucrative and the most responsible posts in the administration. But quite the reverse is the case now. We are very inadequately represented, both in the Imperial and Provincial Councils. We hold not a single post in the various Indian and other higher services such as the listed appointments in the Indian Finance Department, the Imperial Educational Service, and such others. Even in the Provincial service of our own Province, such as the Provincial Civil Service, the Police, the Post Office, we have a very inadequate share. Thus, in the Civil Department, we lag behind our sister communities a good deal, though Sikhs of high education and character are now forthcoming in sufficiently large numbers. The opening of high military careers for Indian soldiers is, we believe, already engaging the attention of Your Lordship's Government, and we therefore need not say anything in that direction just at present; but we confidently hope that the Sikh community, which is an important minority and forms the bulwark of the defence of the British Empire on which the sun never sets, will receive that attention and consideration at Your Excellency's hands which it deserves. It is fervently hoped that Your Lordship's Government will in the circumstances brought to Your Excellency's kind notice be pleased to extend increased patronage to the Sikh community whose "destiny is closely bound up with the British."

Address from the Sikh Community.

The Viceroy in reply said :—]

Gentlemen of the Sikh Community,—It is a great pleasure to me to receive this address from you, and I thank you very heartily for your kind words of welcome. You belong to a race whose name stands for the manly virtues of courage and loyalty, not only in your home between your five rivers, but throughout the whole civilised world. Of your courage, as you remind me, my grandfather had experience that was not always pleasant, but since 1848 his successors have found it allied to a devoted loyalty which has rung as true as steel and stood the test of many a hard-fought fight. (*Applause.*) If I understand you aright, you urge that you should obtain a greater proportion of appointments in the civil administration, in order that education among you may receive a stimulus. It is true that Sikhs have not won a large share of posts in the civil departments, but this is because until recently you have been backward in education. You are now making great efforts to make up lee-way, and I am assured by His Honour Sir Louis Dane that, when qualified men are available, Government will only be too ready to give them their fair share of appointments. The interest you are taking in female education is a particularly favourable omen of healthy progress. (*Applause.*)

You remark that the chief impetus for the spread of education has so far been Government service, and I fear that there is a good deal of truth in that, but it is not right that it should be so. The object of education should never be limited to so narrow a field; if all the world were Government servants, who would till the fields? And speaking to you, who are mostly an agricultural community, I would say that the educated agriculturist is probably the better man than the uneducated, and I would draw your attention to the value of an agricultural education and the facilities offered by the great Agricultural College

opened less than two years ago at Lyallpur. Some of the most striking features of the Punjab are its great irrigation works, converting arid wastes into a prosperous countryside, the opening of canal colonies, and the liberal policy which Government have pursued in their administration. From this point of view the Punjab is an object-lesson to the whole world of what engineering skill, combined with capital, can perform, and I am glad to think that such staunch and tried friends as yourselves should have secured so full a share of these benefits.

The happy language in which you refer, Gentlemen, to the approaching visit of His Most Gracious Majesty, adds one more to the innumerable testimonies I have received of the deep feelings of loyalty and devotion with which his decision to come and hold his own Durbar in India is regarded, and I have no doubt as to the cordial welcome awaiting the King-Emperor and Queen on their arrival. (*Applause.*) Let me thank you once more, Gentlemen of the Sikh Community, for the very kind welcome which you have extended to Lady Hardinge and myself. I thank you warmly for your address and for the handsome casket in which it is enclosed.

ADDRESS FROM THE HINDU SABHA.

[The address of the Punjab Hindu Sabha, on behalf of the Hindu residents of the Punjab, welcomed His Excellency to the Province, and expressed sentiments of steadfast and loyal devotion to the British Crown and Throne. It continued :—

Your Excellency's arrival in India happily synchronises with a period of peace and prosperity, in which this Province shares. The announcement that His Majesty the King-Emperor intends to hold a Durbar next winter at Delhi, at which His Majesty will be crowned Emperor of India, has been received in the Punjab with the most profound and grateful satisfaction, specially on account of the unprecedented honour that will be conferred thereby on this Province. We respectfully assure Your Excellency that the steadfast loyalty of the Punjab will be well rewarded by the coronation of the

Address from the Hindu Sabha.

Emperor of India in the most ancient city of the Punjab, associated for centuries with imperial memories and imperial traditions.

In view of the fact that this is Your Excellency's first visit to this historical city and the Punjab we do not think it proper, on this occasion, to occupy Your Excellency's attention and time, specially so soon after Your Excellency's assumption of office, with a reference to the particular grievances of the Hindus of the Punjab.

In replying to the welcome address presented by the Bombay Moslem League in November last Your Excellency was pleased to observe, "special privileges to one class are synonymous with corresponding disabilities to others." This statesmanlike pronouncement has been received with gratification by Hindus throughout the whole country. It is our sincere and firm hope that the principle laid down by Your Excellency will be carried out under your rule, and the Hindus will have reason to be deeply grateful to Your Excellency.

The Viceroy in his reply to this address said :—]

Gentlemen of the Punjab Hindu Sabha,—Please accept my warmest thanks for the cordial welcome which you have extended to Lady Hardinge and myself on behalf of the Hindu inhabitants of the Punjab on this the occasion of our first visit to your Province. I am sorry to think that there are matters about which you, as a community, feel aggrieved, and no one can blame you if you put forward your views about them at the proper time. I can assure you that Government will lend a sympathetic ear to what you may have to say, and I can only hope that if you do not get all you want you will at least give Government credit for attempting to reconcile conflicting interests in a spirit of fairness and impartiality. But I am very grateful to you for not seizing the present opportunity, and I thank you for the courteous and considerate spirit which has taught you to recognise that the time I have been in India has been too short to permit of my fully grasping all the bearings of the difficult problems with which the administration of this great country is surrounded.

Durbar at Lahore.

The remark which you have quoted from my speech to the Bombay Moslem League contains an elemental truth in relation to politics which I do not think anyone would care to deny, and it is a truth which I earnestly hope all will recollect—whether they be Hindu, Mahomedan, Sikh, Parsee, Anglo-Indian, or whatever their race and religion —in the endeavour they should all be making to become better and happier men, and better and more useful citizens. (*Applause.*)

In well-chosen words you have given me another message of loyal devotion and of joyful anticipation to send to the King-Emperor in regard to his approaching visit to your shores, and I well know that India will sink all differences of opinion in uniting to give His Majesty a loyal and hearty welcome. (*Applause.*) I thank you again, Gentlemen of the Punjab Hindu Sabha, for the kind words with which you have received Lady Hardinge and myself. I thank you warmly for your address and for the handsome casket in which it is enclosed. (*Applause.*)

DURBAR AT LAHORE.

3rd April 1911

[On Monday afternoon His Excellency the Viceroy held a Durbar in the Shish Mahal, in Lahore Fort, on the spot where his grandfather signed the Treaty of Lahore, and where in 1849 the annexation of the Punjab to the British Crown was formally announced. The Durbar was attended by the Chiefs of Patiala, Jind, Nabha, Kapurthala, Faridkot, and Chamba, and by a large number of Sardars and Indian and European gentlemen, there being about 1,200 persons present within the Shish Mahal. The scene was a striking and picturesque one. The courtyard in front of the Shish Mahal had been largely covered in with a wide-spreading shamiana, the fountains played in the centre, and the brilliant robes of the Durbaris formed a picture of ever-varying colour. Even in ancient times the Hall of Mirrors can rarely have witnessed a scene of more brilliant colouring or more striking contrasts. The Viceregal chair of state was placed in the centre of the Shish Mahal; behind

Durbar at Lahore.

were seats for Lady Hardinge, Lady Dane, and the other ladies of the Viceregal party; on His Excellency's right were the seats for the Chiefs and their retainers, while on the left were the seats for officials, the Lieutenant-Governor, the Honourable Sir Arthur Reid and the Judges of the Chief Court, and General Pearson occupying the front row, with the members of the Legislative Council and the chief civil and military officials behind. The Chiefs arrived in the following order, and were received by a guard-of-honour of 50 rank and file of Indian Infantry, who presented arms on their arrival, the salutes to which each chief is entitled being fired as they entered the Durbar Hall:—His Highness the Raja of Chamba, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., with the heir-apparent and seven attendants; His Highness the Raja of Faridkot, with Kanwar Shib Indar Singh and seven attendants; His Highness the Raja of Kapurthala, with the heir-apparent and three younger sons, and seven attendants; His Highness the Raja of Nabha with eight attendants; His Highness the Raja of Jind with seven attendants; and His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala with Kunwar Sir Ranbir Singh, K.C.S.I., and nine attendants.

Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge drove from Government House in a State carriage, escorted by a troop of the Punjab Light Horse under Lieutenant-Colonel Grey and two squadrons of the 37th Lancers, under Major Talbot with Mr. Glascock, Superintendent of Police, and Mr. Halland, Assistant Superintendent in attendance. The route followed was by the Mall, Anarkhali Bazar and Circular Road. Anarkhali Bazar was gaily decorated with bunting and streamers and triumphal arches in honour of Their Excellencies, and was thronged with a dense crowd as the procession went past at a rapid pace.

When the chiefs and gentlemen attending the Durbar had taken their seats His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General entered the Durbar Hall, accompanied by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab and the officers of the Viceroy's and Lieutenant-Governor's personal staffs, the procession being headed and closed by the Viceregal *chobdars*. As His Excellency entered the hall a salute of 31 guns was fired, the guard-of-honour (consisting of 100 rank and file of the South Lancashire Regiment with colours and band) presented arms, and the band played the National Anthem. All present in the Durbar Hall rose to their feet and remained standing until His Excellency had taken his seat.

When all were seated Mr. L. W. Reynolds, I.C.S., Deputy Foreign Secretary, asked permission of His Excellency to declare

Durbar at Lahore.

the Durbar open and the Chiefs, Sardars and Indian gentlemen were then introduced to His Excellency. The Maharaja of Patiala and the Rajas of Jind, Nabha and Kapurthala with their attendants were introduced by the Deputy Foreign Secretary; the Rajas of Faridkot and Chamba with their attendants, and the Durbaris were introduced by the Honourable Mr. M. W. Fenton, Chief Secretary to the Government of the Punjab. The Chiefs, Sardars, and other Durbaris on introduction each presented his proper *nazzar*, which the Viceroy touched and remitted. When this ceremony was over His Excellency presented *sanads* to those gentlemen on whom titles had been conferred on the 24th June 1910 and 1st January 1911.

His Excellency then addressed the Durbar as follows :—]

Your Highnesses, Chiefs, Sardars and Gentlemen of the Punjab,—As I look round upon this noble gathering, representative of the aristocracy of so many races,—my thoughts are irresistibly turned to the history of your province, and I find its pages red with the blood of myriads of brave men, and golden with the glory of great deeds.

Many present here to-day must have heard from the lips of your fathers and grandfathers of that great warrior king, Ranjit Singh, the Lion of the Punjab, with whose memory is so closely associated this Shish Mahal—his reception room—within which we are met together. A born soldier he remained, while life lasted, true and loyal to his English friends and allies, and it may not be beyond the memory of some of you, Chiefs of the Punjab, that it was that very friendship and loyalty to the English which prevented him from attacking your ancestors when they came under English protection a hundred years ago. If these memories make the hearts of some of you beat faster, you will have some sympathy with me. For me, too, the Punjab has its historical associations, and I too have heard from the lips of my father and uncle of brave deeds and noble deaths. I have just come from visiting those battlefields where such great issues were put to the touch that my grandfather for the moment merged the Governor-

Durbar at Lahore.

General in the soldier and took his share of danger and hardship on the battlefield with the rest.

My grandfather was a soldier by profession, but he came out to India as a man of peace, and I do not believe that any Governor-General before or since came out to India with a firmer intention of avoiding war if that could be done with honour. War was thrust upon him whether he liked it or not, and, however much he regretted it at the time, I cannot but think that his heart would have been glad within him if he could have foreseen that the heat of those conflicts was the furnace in which was welded that strong sentiment of friendship and mutual respect that has ever since been so firm a bond of union between the foes of those days. On seeing the sites of those Homeric struggles, drenched with the blood of Sikh and British soldiers, now green and flourishing with growing crops and thriving villages, I felt that such a bond of union has been forged between Sikhs and British that nothing can loosen or destroy, and that here at least the prophecy has been realised of one of the ancient Hebrew prophets who said—"They shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

In later times the Punjab has been a tower of strength to the Empire. Your fighting races have filled the ranks of the Army, and Your Highnesses now maintain forces for Imperial service, who have fought with distinction shoulder to shoulder with His Majesty's forces in not a few tough campaigns. These contributions of Imperial Service Troops and Your Highnesses' well-known loyalty and hatred of sedition are striking evidence of the community and solidarity of your interests with those of the Paramount Power.

We live now in piping times of peace, and it is my earnest hope, and shall be my strong endeavour, that they

Durbar at Lahore.

may long continue. It would have rejoiced my grandfather to see this Punjab, which he had known in such a welter of bloodshed and disorder, become so fair a province. He would not have disdained the triumphs of peace, indeed he held them at a far higher value than those of war; and they are all around you.

Education being a matter to which my grandfather paid particular interest during the course of his administration in India, its spread and progress in this province would have been a joy to him could he have foreseen that Lahore is becoming a vast educational centre with its five Arts Colleges and its Medical and Veterinary Colleges. It is interesting to note that medical and veterinary education are a speciality in the Punjab, and I hope that the extension of the Medical College and the chief hospitals in Lahore as a memorial to our late and great King-Emperor will give an additional impetus in this direction. The commercial and industrial progress of your province is also truly remarkable. The Punjab has now nearly 300 factories, over 4,000 miles of railway, and some 7,000,000 acres of irrigated land, and in the busy brain of your Lieutenant-Governor I have reason to know that there are schemes for extending still further these and other material benefits. But peace and prosperity have their own dangers and their own battle-fields. One of them is the ever persistent fight with disease. Irrigation brings in its train the danger of malaria, and the mitigation of this evil and the stay of its ravages constitute a problem of which Government have yet to find a fully satisfactory solution.

And to you, Chiefs of the Punjab, I would say one word in conclusion. Whatever are the problems and responsibilities of British India, you have each of you your full share in them. Times have changed and are still changing. We all live under a glare of criticism which was unknown to our fathers, but, apart from that,

the scenes among which my grandfather spent some of duty and principle than sufficed for the rough-and-ready days of old. This is not an age when principalities can be carved out with the sword, or when glory is to be won by holding your own against a hostile invador. But you live among dangers of a more subtle nature. The battle you have to fight is against the temptation to live a life of ease and luxury. I ask you one and all to resist those temptations with all your might; you have in trust the well-being and happiness of thousands of your subjects: let it be your ideal to leave them happier and better and more prosperous than you found them, and let it be your ambition to hand down to posterity a name that shall ever be loved and reverenced by those that come after. I know that I can count upon your loyalty; you have given many proofs of it, to some of which I have referred, and I rejoice to think that we shall all at no distant date have the opportunity of rendering homage in person to our Sovereign Lord His Majesty the King-Emperor. (*Applause.*)

[A translation of the Viceroy's speech having been read by the Mir Munshi to the Punjab Government, the Durbar was closed, and His Excellency left the hall under a salute of 31 guns. The Ruling Chiefs followed in order, with ceremonies similar to those observed on their entrance except that no salutes were fired.

THE ELEPHANT PROCESSION.

The elephant procession through the picturesque streets of the city was a fitting close to a ceremony which recalled the day of old with their bizarre splendour. The procession was formed at the Hazuribagh Gate of the Fort. The Viceroy and Lady Hardinge rode on the last elephant, and were preceded by the elephants of the Ruling Chiefs and of the Lieutenant-Governor and Lady Dane. In the rear came the Viceroy's cavalry escort of Punjab Light Horse and 37th Lancers. Immediately behind Their Excellencies' elephant rode Lieutenant-Colonel Grey, Major Talbot and Messrs. Glascock and Halland. The string of splendidly caparisoned elephants, with their ornate howdahs, made a striking cavalcade to which the narrow streets of the city added an appropriately picturesque setting. Every coign of vantage in the streets through

Reception of Indian Veterans at Lahore.

which the procession passed was filled with sightseers, shop-fronts, windows and roofs being alike thronged. At intervals along the route bodies of school children were drawn up, and their greeting of Their Excellencies was especially demonstrative. On the Fort road was drawn up a small detachment of veteran Native officers of the Indian Army, bedecked with war medals. Their Excellencies were frequently received with cheers and hand-clapping, and rose leaves were thrown over their elephant from the upper stories of many houses. Throughout his passage through the city His Excellency was continually engaged in acknowledging the greetings of the crowds. The streets were brightly decorated with flags and streamers. The Fort Road was lined with men of the 28th Punjabis and detachments of the South Lancashire Regiment were drawn up wherever there was an open space. The route followed by the procession was by the Fort Road into the city, past the waterworks and reservoir, and the Kashmiri, Dubbi and Delhi Gate Bazars, and through the Delhi Gate. On emerging from the Delhi Gate to the junction of the Landa Bazar and Circular Road the procession halted. Their Excellencies then dismounted from their elephant, and returned to Government House by motor car.]

RECEPTION OF INDIAN VETERANS AT LAHORE.

4th April 1911.

[One of the most striking and picturesque incidents of Lord Hardinge's visit to Lahore was his reception of a large number of retired native officers of the Indian Army on Tuesday morning. The gardens at Government House presented an animated and military appearance when these veterans, upwards of 500 in number, attended for inspection by His Excellency. Almost every regiment recruited in the Punjab must have had its representatives present. Almost everyone bore on his breast the medals of at least one hard fought campaign, many having four or five medals each and some even more. Quite a number carried the red and white ribboned medal which showed them to be Indian Mutiny veterans. It was a picturesque sight as the Viceroy passed down the lines of mostly grey-bearded men in their different coloured uniforms, touching the hilts of their swords and saying a few words to a number of them. Afterwards the lines were closed, and His Excellency addressed them as follows :—]

Indian Officers,—It gives me great pleasure to see you assembled here from all parts of the Punjab. As I told

Address of Welcome from Punjab Chiefs' Association.

you in the Durbar yesterday, my grandfather was a soldier, and though I myself am a man of peace I come from a family of soldiers and sailors, and therefore, apart from my personal regard for distinguished soldiers, I inherit a love for the army. I need hardly say that the manner in which all creeds and castes have, when required, vied with each other in laying down their lives in the service of their Sovereign is a source of the greatest satisfaction to the King-Emperor. I wish His Majesty could be here to-day to see this fine parade of retired officers who show, by the display of orders and medals which they wear, that they have fought gallantly in war and served meritoriously and loyally in peace. I can but hope that your sons and sons' sons will follow in your steps and show that the martial spirit of the Punjab is still alive and at the service of the King-Emperor in peace or war. I thank you all for giving me, a new Viceroy, this opportunity of seeing with my eyes that of which I have always heard and read so much from my earliest childhood, *viz.*, the Sardars of the splendid Punjab fighting races.

[The speech was translated into Hindustani, and then on the call of a retired officer of Gurkhas three cheers were given for His Excellency. One white-bearded veteran, with a long row of medals, declared to the Viceroy as he left the ground, "We came here a parcel of old bones, but the sight of Your Excellency has put new life into us and we should like to fight for the flag once more."]

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM PUNJAB CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION.

[On Tuesday afternoon, the 4th April, the members of the Punjab Chiefs' Association invited a large number of European and Indian guests to meet Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge in the charming gardens at Shalimar. A pleasant cool breeze tempered the warmth of the sun, and the beautiful gardens, refreshed by the recent rain, were looking their best. They presented a wonderful scene of glowing colour. On either side of the 4th April 1911.

Address of Welcome from Punjab Chiefs' Association.

straight watercourse leading from the entrance gate to the Baradari were lines of palms and flowering plants, and the fountains sparkled bravely in the sunlight. Stalwart soldiers of the Patiala and Kapurthala Imperial Service Troops stood sentinel along the flagged pathways, the former brilliant in their scarlet uniform and the latter very smart and soldier-like in spotless blue and silver. The Kapurthala State band played throughout the afternoon alternately with the Patiala pipers, and the music contributed greatly to the enjoyment of the guests. His Excellency the Viceroy complimented His Highness of Kapurthala on the excellence of his band. The spacious Baradari was draped in pale blue and white, its floor spread with cloth of gold, the decorations having been carried out under the personal supervision of the Honourable Sardar Partap Singh, Honorary Secretary. All the state chairs, *masnads*, and gold embroidered carpets, etc., were lent for the occasion by Their Highnesses the Maharaja of Patiala and the Raja of Kapurthala. Shortly after 4-30 the guests began to arrive, and by the time His Excellency's motor reached the entrance several hundred Europeans and Indians were waiting to welcome him. Their Excellencies, who were accompanied by the Lieutenant-Governor and Lady Dane, with Miss Sandford, the Misses Dane, Miss Bayley, and the Personal Staffs of the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor, were met at the gateway by Nawab Fattch Ali Khan, C.I.E., President of the Association, Nawab Bahram Khan Mazari, C.I.E., Raja Narindar Chand, C.S.I., of Nadaun, the Honourable Sirdar Bahadur Sirdar Sundar Singh, Majithia, and the Honourable Sardar Partap Singh, C.S.I., of Kapurthala (Founder and Honorary Secretary of the Association), and conducted to the Baradari, where several of the Chiefs were introduced. Amongst the members of the Association present were: The Raja of Kuttehar, C.S.I., Major Raja Jai Chand of Lumbagraon, Sirdar Budhan Singh, C.S.I., of Malaudh, Sirdar Jiwan Singh, C.S.I., Shahid, of Shazadpur, the Honourable Malik Mubarriz Khan, Tiwana, Khan Bahadur Makhdum Hassan Bakhsh, Multan, the Honourable Lieutenant Malik Umar Hyat Khan, C.I.E., Tiwana, and Sirdar Duljit Singh, of Kapurthala. The members of the Association then gathered in front of the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge and the Honourable Sardar Partap Singh of Kapurthala, Honorary Secretary of the Association, read the following address :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Punjab Chiefs' Association, beg to approach Your Excellency with

Address of Welcome from Punjab Chiefs' Association.

this address of welcome to the capital of the Punjab. We may be permitted to state at the outset that Your Excellency is all the more welcome on account of Your Excellency's hereditary associations with this Land of the Five Rivers. Hereditary associations appeal with special force to Oriental minds, particularly to those of aristocratic classes. Amidst us Your Excellency will not fail to notice descendants of some of the members composing the Lahore Durbar of the Sikh Government, with which Your Excellency's august grandfather, over three score years ago, concluded the Lahore Treaty, the terms of which we have always regarded as most lenient and considerate.

We are now in an age when the seeds of peace and reform sown by Your Excellency's grandfather are bearing fruit. How delighted we feel in greeting so distinguished a successor as Your Excellency of those British statesmen who have, from time to time, conferred the blessings of peace on the people of this vast continent. We are daily observing the fulfilment of the line of policy foreshadowed in Your Excellency's golden words uttered in England on the eve of your departure for India to fill the exalted position of the representative of the Crown. India of to-day, however, is not India of 30 years back. Western education and contact with Western civilization have called into existence public spirit and public opinion, a necessary result of the education imparted to the people. It ought to be the province of the aristocracy to guide public opinion in such a manner that all public measures may receive the fullest measure of independent criticism, but not the criticism which is prompted by malice and has for its aim the fostering of disloyalty. It should be our duty in future, as indeed it has been hitherto during the short period of the existence of our Association, to help in the constructive work of improving the administration and removing obstacles in the way of its smooth working. We trust that in matters of administration we shall be able to co-operate in furthering the policy of Government.

It is a matter of no small consolation to us to witness the extinction and extirpation of sedition and the anarchist propaganda which have been promoted in some parts of India by mischievous people who are enemies of peace and order, and we are confident that ere long those atrocious misdeeds will be nothing more than matter for history. Law, order and propriety will reign supreme with perfect serenity in the restored atmosphere. It is no flattery to say that Your Excellency's masterly grasp of the situation in the country, and the sound judgment and wise tact employed by Your

Address of Welcome from Punjab Chiefs' Association.

Excellency in its administration, will be recorded by future historians in the most glowing terms. The golden words of advice given to the deputation of the Allahabad Congress, the encouragement given towards bringing about better feelings of amity between Hindus and Mahomedans, who unfortunately quarrel over trifles, the fruition of the Legislative reform scheme inaugurated by Lord Minto, and similar actions of Your Excellency, we may safely assert, have so inspired the people with implicit confidence in Your Excellency's good-will towards the people that even the most hostile critics and unscrupulous maligners are being disarmed, and, it is to be hoped, are now realising their mistakes.

Speaking of ourselves, it is to be remarked that ours is an Association of recent growth, and consequently our organization needs much improvement in order to be more effective and useful for the achievement of the objects for which it is constituted. We have, however, made a humble beginning to ameliorate our condition and improve our capacity for public good, and without vain pedantry, we may be permitted to take some portion of the credit of improving relations between the rulers and the ruled. With more favourable opportunities we hope to show signs of development along all the lines of reform which we have chosen for ourselves. Progress on a modest scale has already been made in the direction of curtailing our expenditure on ceremonies, in educating our sons so as to be equipped for public life, and in removing social evils which have hitherto hampered our progress, and we hope marked advancement will be noticeable before many years pass. In the realization of this hope the sympathetic and beneficent interest taken in us by the Government is no small factor.

Since the announcement of our Gracious Emperor's resolve to hold personally a Coronation Durbar at Delhi, the heart of every one of us has been filled with joy, not to say ecstasy. Words cannot describe the feelings of an Oriental excited within the innermost recesses of his heart by the sight of his Sovereign. The approaching Coronation assemblage will be a unique spectacle of which the history of the world does not furnish a parallel. We all look forward with prayer for the auspicious day when all Indian subjects will have the good fortune to see the Sovereign seated on a throne crowned not vicariously but in person, with Her Gracious Majesty the Queen by his side. We Orientals are at times accused of the superstitious regard in which we hold our Kings, but with all the influences of Western civilization, though the days of deification of Kings are passed, the reverence due to the sacred person of

Address of Welcome from Punjab Chiefs' Association.

the King still survives in all its fervour and enthusiasm. We shall witness such universal rejoicings in the country on this occasion as to lead to the inference that each and all of His Majesty's subjects, prince and peasant, will regard themselves a unit of the vast British Empire, the like of which the world has not yet seen, and will glory in its triumph and share in its perils; a faithful conception of true citizenship will be thus realized. We have already trespassed too much upon Your Excellency's precious time. We again most cordially welcome Your Excellency in this capital of one of the most important provinces of the country, which is aptly called the spear-head of the Empire and which is so justly and sympathetically administered by Your Excellency's lieutenant.

Before we conclude we beg also to cordially welcome Her Excellency Lady Hardinge to our province, who we hope has found a vast field for the display of her interest in and sympathy for the womanhood of India, whose amelioration has been the object at heart with Her Excellency's predecessors in the exalted position of Vicereine of India. It is a matter of great gratification to observe that Her Excellency has already evinced her interest in the welfare of women of India, and we hope women of our province will equally share her solicitous interest. In conclusion we beg to offer our humble services whenever needed in the maintenance of law and order. We gratefully thank Your Excellencies for condescending to honour us by your gracious presence in the garden party.

His Excellency the Viceroy in reply said :—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you very warmly for the address in which you have just accorded to me so hearty a welcome. You tell me that hereditary associations appeal with special force to Oriental minds, but I doubt whether that is a characteristic peculiar to the East, and speaking for myself I can only say that, ever since I first learnt that destiny was to lead my steps to India, I have been looking forward to the time when I should see with my own eyes the scenes among which my grandfather spent some of the most stirring days of his eventful life, and make acquaintance with the province where he exchanged with his brave and gallant foes such hearty buffets, and finally made of them such firm friends that England can never

forget the help they sent in later days of storm and stress. It is a great pleasure to me to think that amongst you here are descendants of some of the members composing the Lahore Durbar of the Sikh Government, and that our relations to-day are those of true friendship and peace.

I value the kindly words in which you refer to my conduct of affairs during the short time I have been in India, and I sincerely trust that, when I come to lay down the burden of this great office, they may still stand justified. But as you have truly observed public spirit and public opinion are rapidly developing; interests, which till now have had no voice, are beginning to make themselves felt, and the business of guiding the ship of State becomes each day more difficult. It is no small consolation to think that I can count for understanding and support upon your Association, Gentlemen, and upon others of the same character throughout India, to co-operate in the furtherance of the policy of Government.

But I take it that your first object, as members of the aristocracy of the Punjab, is to make yourselves more fit to take your proper places in this strenuous world. In this you have my warmest sympathy, and I heartily wish your movement success. You will have difficulties to surmount and prejudices to overcome, but now that you have realised that there is no choice but to march forward in the path of progress I feel confident that the spirit of your fathers which is in you will help you to overcome all obstacles. I think you have done wisely to form this Association, and I congratulate you on the selection of so energetic and capable a secretary as Sardar Partap Singh.

I was very happy to listen to the words in which you referred to the approaching Coronation Durbar, and I shall not fail to inform His Most Gracious Majesty of the feelings of profound devotion and loyalty which his approaching visit has called into utterance. In conclu-

sion, Gentlemen, let me tell you how much I have enjoyed the opportunity of meeting you in these beautiful gardens, and how greatly I appreciate your kindness in organising this entertainment in my honour. At the same time I wish to thank you very warmly for the welcome you have extended to Lady Hardinge and myself, and for the beautiful casket in which your address is enclosed.

[At the close of His Excellency's reply the guests dispersed about the grounds, and about 7 o'clock the Viceregal party bade farewell to their hosts and returned to Government House.

The Viceroy left by special train at 10.30 the same evening for Quetta, His Excellency's departure being private.]

ADDRESS FROM QUETTA MUNICIPALITY.

[The Viceroy arrived at Quetta on the morning of the 6th April and was received at the Railway Station by Colonel Archer, the Agent to the Governor-General, and introduced to a number of people who were present on the platform to receive him. 6th April 1911.

Having inspected the guard-of-honour and the cavalry escort of the 23rd Cavalry (F.F.) under Major Hawes, the Viceroy before getting into his carriage received an address in a silver casket from the Municipality of Quetta which was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the representatives of all classes and communities of Quetta, beg to tender to Your Excellency, on behalf not merely of our fellow-townsmen but of all the many peoples of Baluchistan, a most loyal and cordial welcome on the occasion of Your Excellency's visit to the capital of this Province. To us it is a matter of no small pride that Your Excellency has honoured this distant outpost of the Empire with your presence so early in your Viceroyalty. We regard it as an earnest that the commercial and political needs of the frontier will never fail to enlist the sympathy and powerful advocacy of so wise and experienced a statesman.

Great as have been the changes in India since the days when its destinies were in the hands of your illustrious grandfather, nowhere have they been greater than on this frontier. Baluchistan was then the prey to civil war, torn by warring factions, harried by marauding tribes. Not till the year 1875 did a happier era dawn for

Address from Quetta Municipality.

Baluchistan with the advent of Sir Robert Sandeman. For nigh on seventeen years he laboured unceasingly to reduce chaos to order and to bring peace and prosperity to the country. The success which crowned his labours is writ large in history, and his name will long live—beloved and honoured—a household word throughout the land.

From the day when Sandeman first came among us, Baluchistan has never looked back. It has gone forward in the path of prosperity under the guidance of rulers who have held fast to that just, firm and conciliatory policy which will ever be associated with the name of Sandeman. Quetta, once a cluster of mud hovels sheltering under a dilapidated fort, is now a flourishing centre of commerce and one of the largest cantonments in India. Where once was a stony waste dotted here and there by a few stunted trees there now stands a populous settlement laid out with broad avenues and spacious roads and graced by gardens and orchards which we are glad Your Excellency will see in all the beauty and freshness of early spring.

The development of Quetta is symbolical of the wider and even more significant development of the province at large. The tribesman has forsaken the sword for the ploughshare, and peace reigns where once there was tribal strife. Mountain tracks have been converted into highroads; railways have been driven through the heart of the country, bringing it into communication with the principal marts of India; schools and hospitals have been opened in the remotest corners of the Province, and the blessings of peace and civilization have been brought to the homes of the people.

The change which has come so swiftly over Baluchistan could only have been possible under the vivifying and beneficent influence of British administration. To the older among us, who have witnessed anarchy receding before the resistless tide of civilization, the transformation has been wonderful indeed. To Your Excellency Baluchistan may well seem bleak and bare and backward after the rich provinces and fertile plains of India. And indeed great though our progress has been, much remains to be accomplished. That the development of our country will steadily advance during Your Excellency's Viceroyalty, we have a lively assurance in Your Excellency's presence among us to-day. On our pressing need for the spread of education we will only touch in order to take the opportunity of expressing our gratitude to Your Excellency for the recent grant of half a lakh of rupees towards the rebuilding of the Sandeman High School. May we hope that the Government of India will be

Address from Quetta Municipality.

able in the near future to carry out their expressed intention of relieving the Municipal Funds of the charge of the Town Police, and so place the Municipality in a position to contribute adequately towards the raising of an edifice worthy of the capital of the Province? Until recently Baluchistan appeared to offer little scope for modern irrigation, but large projects have now been framed which hold out the hope that our arid wastes may in time be converted into one of the granaries of India. Our mining industries too contain, in germ, the promise of great future importance. We possess one of the few sources of the world's supply of a valuable mineral, chromite, and the industry connected with it only awaits for its development a short but much desired extension of the railway from Khanai to Hindubagh. The exploitation of this and the other minerals of the Province, the extension of trade with Persia and Afghanistan, the application of scientific methods to fruit-culture and stock-breeding: in these and many other directions we look forward with confidence to an ever-growing development of Baluchistan's resources. It would be idle to dwell further on the many schemes we have at heart; they have an advocate far more eloquent in Your Excellency's Foreign Secretary, at whose recent departure from Quetta we drew consolation from the thought that he would be not altogether lost to Baluchistan.

Youngest of the Provinces of the Indian Empire, we yield to none in devoted loyalty to the beloved person of our Emperor. But five years back we had the exalted honour and high privilege of bidding His Majesty and his gracious Consort a humble but heartfelt welcome to our town, and our hearts have been touched afresh with feelings of deep loyalty by His Majesty's gracious condescension in vouchsafing to return to these shores to be crowned Emperor of India.

Once more we bid Your Excellency a cordial welcome to Baluchistan and its capital. That Your Excellency will find pleasure in your visit is our earnest wish. No less earnest is our hope that Your Excellency will one day revisit our town, accompanied by Lady Hardinge, whose inability to be present on this occasion is a deep disappointment to us all.

His Excellency replied to the address as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I am very grateful for the cordial address of welcome that you have presented to me upon my arrival in your city, not only on behalf of your fellow-

Address from Quetta Municipality.

townsmen of Quetta, but on behalf of the many peoples in Baluchistan. It is a great pleasure to me that I have been able during the first tour I have made in India to visit your province, the youngest province of India that I am called upon to govern. I can truly say that it is a pleasure to which I have greatly looked forward, as this is not by any means the first time that your commercial interests and fortunes have been objects of my solicitude and concern. I may mention that fifteen years ago, when I was in charge of the British Legation in Persia, the opening and development of the Nushki route for trade between Baluchistan and Meshed, which was at that time being built and successfully pushed by Captain Webb Warr, its first pioneer, was one of the commercial projects that I had most at heart, and the progress that has since been made in the commercial development of that route has been a source of keen satisfaction to me.

I am well aware of the pre-eminent services to this province and India as a whole of that great but simple man, Sir Robert Sandeman, whose name will be immortalised in the annals of India as a great administrator and a messenger of peace to a troubled and war-worn people. The wonderful progress and material development of Baluchistan, with its accompanying civilisation during the period of a little more than 30 years, are monuments to his memory of a far more striking and enduring nature than any that can be built by human hands. To those who believe in a future state it is a pleasant thought that the knowledge of the progress of your country may be his great reward. I agree with your statement that although much has been accomplished there remains yet much to be done. But you may rest assured that during my term of administration in this country I will endeavour to watch over your interests with fostering care, and the fact that I hope to have always at my side that very distinguished officer, Colonel Sir Henry McMahon, who during

Address from Quetta Municipality.

the period of his office in Quetta has, I believe, won the respect, regard, and admiration of all, should be a guarantee that your interests will be neither forgotten nor ignored.

As regards the schemes you mention in your address, you have my heartiest wish for their complete success. I trust that some of them will be initiated as private enterprises and with private capital; and although it is not possible for me to give pledges as to the future, you may rest assured that any scheme in which the co-operation of the Government is desired, or necessary, will receive very careful consideration when put before me. There are two points you mention in your address in connection with the town police and a railway extension from Khanai to Hindubagh. In reply I have much pleasure in stating for your information that the Government of India have decided to relieve the municipality of the cost of the police from the 1st of April last, and that the importance of connecting Hindubagh with the railway station is thoroughly appreciated and although it is impossible to make any definite pronouncement at present as to when it will be possible to undertake this scheme, there is every reason to hope that it may not be unduly delayed.

I thank you warmly for your expressions of loyalty and devotion to the person of our Emperor, and I will not fail to transmit them to His Majesty on behalf of his loyal subjects of Baluchistan. The fact that our Emperor is coming to India on his own initiative to hold his own Durbar is a convincing proof of the remarkable interest that His Majesty takes in his Empire and subjects of India. I am confident that His Majesty will receive the most respectful and cordial welcome from all.

I share your regrets that I am alone, and without the presence of Lady Hardinge, for whom the fatigue of so long a journey is too great after being so short a time in

Durbar at Quetta.

India; but I am grateful to you all for the extreme cordiality of your welcome, and I hope that, if time and opportunity permit, she may be able to make good this omission on a future occasion.

DURBAR AT QUETTA.

7th April 1911 [His Excellency the Viceroy held a public Durbar in the Sandeman Memorial Hall for the reception of the Chiefs, Sardars and other Indian gentlemen of Baluchistan. A large number of civil and military officers were invited to be present. Amongst those present were the Agent to the Governor-General and Chief Commissioner of Baluchistan, His Highness the Khan of Kelat, General Sclater, Commanding the Quetta Division, the Jam of Las Bela, Sir Henry McMahon, Foreign Secretary, General Braithwaite, Commandant, Staff College, and many others. After the Chiefs and high officials had been received according to their rank, and shown to their places, the playing of the National Anthem by the band of the guard-of-honour of the Royal Irish Fusiliers outside the Hall indicated the Viceroy's arrival.

A procession of the staffs and officials was formed and preceded His Excellency through the Hall to his chair on the dais. On his right sat the Khan of Kelat, the Jam of Las Bela, and the Khan's brother. On his left Colonel Archer, Sir Henry McMahon, and General Sclater were seated. On the carpet in front were the Sardars and other Durbaris, while behind the Viceroy were the European civil and military officers.

After the usual presentations had been made by the Political Agents, His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General delivered an address to the Chiefs, Sardars, and Gentlemen assembled in the Durbar, a translation of which was afterwards read in Urdu by an Indian official of the Agency.

His Excellency's address was as follows:—]

Your Highness, Sardars and Maliks of Baluchistan,—The history and growth of this frontier province of Baluchistan is well known to me. I have studied it with interest and it is therefore a source of pleasure to me to be able so early in my Viceroyalty to visit this country, and make the personal acquaintance of its chiefs and

Durbar at Quetta.

leading men whom I see assembled before me in this Durbar to-day. It is now scarcely 35 years ago that these territories now known as Baluchistan came under the control of the British Government. Many of you here to-day must remember the day when this country was convulsed with internecine strife, when tribe raided tribe and fortunate was the man who could reap what he had sown. Unable to live at peace among yourselves, you were unable to live at peace with your neighbours, and it was due to the trouble you gave to those on your borders that the British Government had to intervene in your country. When I look round at the Quetta of to-day, and see the progress which has been made in this Province; when I see peacefully assembled here the men and the sons of the men who so few years ago, would have been unable to meet each other except in conflict, I cannot help being impressed with the great changes which have come about in your country. While to me it is a source of deep gratification to think that these beneficent changes are due to the civilizing effect of British administration and control, it must be no less a matter of congratulation and thankfulness to you yourselves, to see the change which has thereby come about in your lives, your security and your prosperity. It is now nearly five years ago that my predecessor, Lord Minto, visited Quetta, and in reviewing the history of Baluchistan during that period I am rejoiced to find that it has been one of steady advancement in civilization and material progress; that your reputation for loyalty has been fully maintained, and that these past five years have been characterised throughout by conditions of continuous peace and tranquillity. It is a record of which you, the Chiefs and headmen of this province, have just reason to be proud; a record which must be as pleasant for you who have enjoyed the material benefits of it to look back upon, as it is pleasant now for me to acknowledge and applaud. When I consider that

Durbar at Quetta.

this is a frontier province, composed of races and clans of a martial and warlike character whose reputation for peace and good order in the past was far from being of the best, I cannot help thinking that the system of administration inaugurated by your first ruler, Sir Robert Sandeman, and carried on by his distinguished successors, is one which suits the needs and requirements both of the Government and the Chiefs and people alike. If I understand this system aright, it is one which, while enabling you to retain that freedom which is the natural heritage of the dwellers of this country of lofty mountains and highland plateaus, confers upon you by the wholesome discipline of your own ancient customs and laws enforced under the firm but benevolent control of your British administrators, all the benefits of peace, order and prosperity. Such being the case, I would enjoin you to ensure, as far as you yourselves are concerned, that no departures be made from that system if such can possibly be avoided, except for reasons of the most strong and convincing order. But Your Highness, Sardars and Maliks, I owe it to my position of Viceroy not merely to afford myself the pleasure of giving you that meed of praise which the good state of Baluchistan justifies, but to address to you, the chiefs and representatives of the various clans and races who occupy this country, a few words of advice and admonition regarding your conduct in the future. In the first place I am glad to be able to congratulate Your Highness the Khan of Kelat on the continued progress in the administration of your *niabats* under the able and energetic management of your Political Adviser, Khan Bahadur Kazi Jalal-ud-din Khan, C.I.E., in whose hands the revenues of these *niabats* have trebled themselves in the last few years. I further congratulate Your Highness on the steady advance in the peace and prosperity of the distant but important district of Mekran, under the management of

Durbar at Quetta.

your Nazim, Nawab Mehrulla. With the increased resources at your disposal, it is my confident hope that Your Highness will be enabled to take such steps for the improved welfare of your subjects as may be necessary for the fulfilment of that obligation which rests on all chiefs secured from internal and external danger by British protection, to show liberality and enlightenment of administration. It is an obligation which I feel sure Your Highness will loyally carry out. I am glad to see to-day the Jam of Las Bela present and restored to health. I trust that on his return to his State he will continue to show that active interest in the administration of his State which characterised his rule before ill-health necessitated his taking a temporary rest. You, Baluch and Brahui Sardars of the Baluchistan tribes, who like your fathers before you, have rendered good and loyal services to the Government and who now to-day enjoy a position of considerable privilege in matters of self-government and revenue, I urge you to continue to merit those privileges by abstention from dissension among yourselves, and by administering your tribes with justice, impartiality and firmness according to your ancient laws and customs. You, Sardars and Maliks of the administered districts, deserve very great praise for your loyal assistance to Government and for the peace and good order you have maintained of recent years. Such crime as has occurred in your territories has, I understand, been largely the work of bad characters or outlaws who have come from across the border. I am glad to say that the arrangements recently made in concert with His Majesty the Amir are likely to diminish such troubles in the future. You yourselves, however, have important duties to perform in order to assist in preventing them altogether You desire to manage your own internal affairs according to your own tribal custom as administered by your own jirgas. I am also desirous of continuing that system;

Durbar at Quetta.

but you cannot always continue to enjoy the privileges of the system without fulfilling its obligations. The most important of these obligations is that of tribal responsibility. I refer especially to the responsibility of arresting offenders, or tracking them to the limits of another tribe, on whom a similar responsibility thus falls. This rule must be enforced if you wish to retain your privileges, whether the offenders come from across the border or not. With these few admonitions I again express to you all, the Chiefs, Sardars and Maliks of Baluchistan, my high appreciation of your good services, loyalty and good conduct. I take this opportunity of recording also my appreciation of the able services you have so recently rendered my Government in the census operations. I learn that on this occasion the census extended for the first time to the whole of Baluchistan, with the exception of the small area of Kharan. The successful carrying out of these operations over this wide country of 1,320,000 square miles is a matter which reflects very great credit on all concerned.

Before concluding, I would like to say a few words on the general prospects of progress in this country. Much has been done in many ways of late years in the direction of improving the material prosperity of the province. In this extensive province of yours, which in area is about 1-14th of the Indian dominions, the recent census has shown that the population is comparatively very small. This would prove that there is a wide scope for further development of the latent resources of the country, both in order to increase the prosperity of its present population and to enable the country to support a much larger population. I know that my officers in Baluchistan are alive to the importance of encouraging the development of local resources; and I am glad to learn that with this object in view there are novel irrigation schemes in progress or under consideration for increasing the area under

Durbar at Quetta.

cultivation. It is to the increase of irrigation, the extension of cultivation, and the improvement of agricultural methods that your attention should more especially be directed.

In this connection I understand that my Government is assisting you to develop the fruit-growing industry, which in this favoured climate of Baluchistan should in the near future tend greatly to increase your prosperity. In this and all other matters tending to the welfare and progress of this country, I assure you of my own personal interest and co-operation. There is one point on which I feel that I owe you some reparation. I have taken from you to be my Foreign Secretary a high official who during the past few years has, I know, won your confidence, respect, and I think I may say affection. I am sure it is a pleasure to you all to see him here again with me to-day. Well, you have at least the consolation of knowing that your best interests will always have a warm advocate at my side in the person of Sir Henry McMahon. It has given me much pleasure to meet you all here to-day, and the acquaintance now made will I trust be further increased and cemented during my term of Viceroyalty.

Many of you I hope to meet again shortly at the coming assembly at Delhi, when, as you know, His Gracious Majesty King George, Emperor of India, has expressed his intention of holding an Imperial Durbar to make known his coronation to all his Indian subjects. Baluchistan will, I hope, be adequately represented on that auspicious occasion and I look forward to the pleasure of seeing you at Delhi.

[With the Viceroy's permission Colonel Archer declared the Durbar closed, and His Excellency, escorted by an escort of the 23rd Cavalry (F.F.), returned to the Residency.]

ADDRESSES OF WELCOME FROM KARACHI MUNICIPALITY, KARACHI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MAHOMEDAN COMMUNITY OF SIND AND SIND HINDU SABHA.

12th April 1911.

[His Excellency the Viceroy arrived at Karachi on the morning of the 12th April and was received with a Royal salute by a guard-of-honour of the York and Lancaster Regiment, and was met by Mr. Younghusband, the Commissioner of Sind, and General Payne, Commanding the Karachi Brigade. After inspecting the guard-of-honour, and when the civil and military gentlemen assembled on the platform had been presented to him, His Excellency received and replied to a Municipal address in the station hall, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion with flags and bunting. A number of ladies were accommodated with raised seats. Outside the station was drawn up a guard-of-honour of the Karachi Artillery Volunteers, which the Viceroy inspected before getting into his carriage, in which he was accompanied by Mr. Younghusband and Colonel Maxwell.

The streets from the station to Government House were lined with troops, and gaily decorated with Venetian masts and flags, and the flowers in the gardens being now at their best the town presented a most festive appearance. Arrived at Government House His Excellency inspected the guard-of-honour of the Sind Volunteers and the escort of the 6th Cavalry under Major Hodgkinson.

Half-an-hour later he received and replied to addresses from the Karachi Chamber of Commerce, the Mahomedan Association and the Hindu Sabha in the Reception Hall at Government House.

ADDRESS FROM THE KARACHI MUNICIPALITY.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the President and Councillors of the Municipality of Karachi on behalf of the public of the city, respectfully offer Your Excellency a most hearty and cordial welcome to the modern capital of Sind.

Our gratification is enhanced by our knowledge that, owing to the geographical situation of Karachi, it must obviously be a matter of difficulty for Your Excellency to spare the time required to visit our city, and we feel it a great honour that so soon after assuming your high office, Your Excellency should have determined to make the long and tedious journey involved.

A decade has passed since we last had an opportunity of welcoming the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, and this period, we are pleased to be able to record, has been one of considerable

Address from the Karachi Municipality.

progress, as is evinced by the statistics of trade, the rapid development of the City and Port, and an increase of nearly 40,000 in the population as ascertained at the census taken last month.

Owing to the expansion of the Town proper, and the creation of new suburban townships within our limits, heavier responsibilities have naturally devolved upon Municipal resources, and these have been, and are being, met to the best of our ability.

For the improvement of the more crowded quarters of the Old Town and Runchore Lines special schemes were prepared, and are being steadily carried out, for the widening of narrow streets and lanes, and the provision of much needed breathing spaces. To meet the cost of the Runchore Line Improvement Scheme, the Municipality raised a loan of two lakhs of rupees, but the cost of the works in the Old Town has been met year by year from Municipal revenues, and the expenditure has now reached nearly 2¼ lakhs of rupees.

The extension of the town is undoubtedly retarded by the existence of the Arsenal, Artillery Barracks and Parade Ground between the Town proper and the Civil Lines, and we trust that should proposals for the removal of the military buildings, etc., to some other locality take concrete form Your Excellency's Government will place the site thus made available at the disposal of the Municipality on terms which will enable them to deal with it to the best advantage.

To meet the sanitary requirements of the city we have since 1905 extended the Shone Drainage System to all quarters of the city proper, at a cost of about 11 lakhs of rupees, 5½ lakhs of which sum was raised by loan and the balance by special taxation. The sewage is used to fertilize a farm situated some 2½ miles from the city. This method of disposal has so far proved in every way satisfactory, and we are glad to say that the farm has been officially recognized as the best conducted and most successful work of its kind in India. So far the Shone System has not been extended to the Civil Lines, and to other outlying quarters of Karachi, because owing to the great distances from residence to residence the cost would be prohibitive. However as those quarters are not thickly populated there is no difficulty at present in ensuring effective conservancy arrangements, and by the time the population has increased sufficiently to make the extension of the Shone System advisable we hope to be in a position to meet the demand.

Karachi is particularly fortunate in possessing not only an excellent water-supply as to quality, but a fairly efficient means of

Address from the Karachi Municipality.

distribution. Of late years, however, complaints have been made that the quantity obtainable in many quarters is insufficient, and recognizing that the increasing demands of a rapidly rising city must be met, the Municipality have prepared plans, which have been approved by Government, for improving both the supply and the distribution system, and have obtained the sanction of Your Excellency's Government to raise a loan of 8 lakhs of rupees to carry out these works. A portion of this loan has been raised, and we propose to offer the balance to the public shortly.

We would draw Your Excellency's particular attention to the fact that since the introduction of the water-supply in 1882 Karachi has been practically free from the recurring epidemics of cholera with which the city was previously afflicted. Nowadays when cholera breaks out it is practically confined to those outlying quarters that still altogether, or to a large extent, depend on wells for their water-supply. Consequently we are hopeful that with the gradual extension of the area of the pipe supply cholera will become merely a painful memory of the past.

Karachi, as the modern capital and seat of Government of the Province, is naturally the centre of education. The D. J. Sind College, the Sind Madrassah-tul-Islam, the Grammar School, St. Patrick School and other Institutions affording higher and secondary education are aided by the Municipality and we have recently resolved to increase our grants to all such institutions. As regards primary education our expenditure is constantly increasing and we have now 62 Municipal and Aided Primary Schools—of which 39 are for boys and 23 for girls—on which in round figures we spend Rs. 64,800 per annum at the present day. Although much has been done, much remains to be done, and we are hopeful that a representation lately made to Government for an increased grant-in-aid based on our present expenditure instead of that of 1902-03 may be successful. We can however assure Your Excellency that we are fully alive to our responsibilities in respect of education and endeavour to foster it as far as possible.

The lighting of the town has been greatly improved in the past ten years and the ordinary dim oil lamps have been to a marked extent superseded by Kitson lamps. We much regret that up to the present time circumstances have prevented the general introduction of electric lighting in Karachi, but the outlay involved is at present beyond the power of the Municipality to incur, and although preliminary negotiations have more than once been opened, the conditions obtaining have so far failed to attract private capital.

Address from the Karachi Municipality.

In conjunction with the Karachi Port Trust we have recently carried out a most useful and important work in the diversion of the main branch of the Lyari river, a stream which though dry for a greater part of the year, at times descends with extraordinary velocity and volume. This diversion will enable the Municipality to more effectively improve the most crowded quarters of the Indian town, and at the same time will put a stop to the serious nuisance, not to say danger, resulting from the flooding of these quarters at times of heavy rainfall.

We deeply regret that again this year the scourge of plague has appeared in an epidemic form, in spite of everything that has been, and is being, done to check its virulence. Human efforts having proved so far of little avail, we can only hope that the disease will eventually disappear naturally.

During the year 1910 the Corporation was reconstituted, the total number of councillors being increased from 34 to 36 and of elected councillors from 18 to 24. We have also been given the privilege of selecting our President by a two-thirds majority of the whole number of councillors. We trust that time will show that the Municipality is not undeserving of the privileges accorded to it, for which we are grateful to Your Excellency's Government, and that we may in due time be found worthy of a still more complete form of self-government.

In conclusion we beg to assure Your Excellency of our fullest confidence that all matters connected with the welfare and development of this city which may come before Your Excellency's Government, will receive the most careful and sympathetic consideration at your hands and we beg, as in duty bound, to subscribe ourselves, Your Excellency's most humble servants.

The Viceroy in reply said :—]

Gentlemen of the Municipality of Karachi,—I thank you heartily for the very kind welcome that you have extended to me. It is undoubtedly a fact that your city, though it holds the important position of one of the principal ports of India, is not altogether conveniently situated from the point of view of a Viceregal visit, and it is precisely the fact that it has not been visited by a Viceroy for so long that made me determine that it should be included in this my first tour. I must confess that the way has been rather long and very hot, but I am very glad

Address from the Karachi Municipality.

I came and the warmth of the welcome I am receiving, coupled with the opportunity I am having of making personal acquaintance with your people and your interests, far more than compensate for the trivial discomforts of the journey. Figures which have been put before me show that the responsibilities of your municipality have grown with the advancing prosperity of your trade and your port.

Your income and expenditure, like your population, have greatly increased during the past ten years, and I am much pleased to know that you, Gentlemen, have equally risen to your responsibilities. I have nothing but praise to bestow upon the improvements you have made and are making in the more crowded quarters of the town. And I congratulate you very heartily upon the success which has attended your heavy expenditure upon drainage and water-supply. It is easy enough to realise the necessity for a plentiful supply of good water and for proper drainage, but it is not always so easy to devise sound and economical plans to meet these needs, and you have reason to be proud that you have not only devised them, but carried them into effect and are able to say without exaggeration that they have been successful. I trust that equally happy results may attend the extensions to the water-supply which you are about to take in hand. I congratulate you, too, upon the improvements you have effected in the lighting of the town and upon your successful co-operation with the Port Trust for the diversion of the main branch of the Lyari river. I do not remember to have seen any papers about the removal of the military buildings to which you refer, and I am sure you will recognise that military considerations and military finance cannot be lightly set on one side, but I will undertake to look into the matter and see how it stands. It would be premature to say anything about the disposal of the land unless and until the removal of the buildings is on general grounds decided to be desirable.

Address from the Karachi Chamber of Commerce.

Education occupies a position of such increasing importance at the present time that it is only right that the capital city of Sind should take a prominent place in connection with it. You have numerous institutions, and I am glad to hear that you are increasing your contributions to them, but whether you can establish a claim to a greater assistance from Government I must leave to the ripe judgment of your Commissioner and your Governor. I am much concerned to hear of your sufferings from plague. Money has in the past been spent like water in attempting to battle with it and men of science are continuously engaged in its study, but though we have learnt a good deal about it, we must sadly confess that we have so far learned a great many things it is no use doing, but have made but few discoveries as to what we ought to do in order to battle successfully with the disease, and inoculation seems to be still the most efficient protection yet devised for each individual. I am glad that the efficiency of your administration has enabled your Government to trust the people of Karachi with wider elective powers, and I understand that your president, though actually nominated by the Commissioner because no one secured two-thirds of your votes, is the person who would have been chosen under a system of unrestricted selection. I am grateful, Gentlemen, for the expression of confidence in my Government to which you have given expression, and I thank you once more warmly for your cordial words of welcome, and I thank you for your address as well as this beautiful work of art in which it is enclosed.

ADDRESS FROM THE KARACHI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

[*May it please Your Excellency*,—On behalf of the Members of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce, we beg to tender to Your Excellency a most cordial welcome on the occasion of this your first visit to the Province of Sind.

Address from the Karachi Chamber of Commerce.

It is a matter of much gratification to us that Your Excellency has been able, so early in the period of your Viceroyalty, to arrange personally to inspect the most western port of the Continent of India. The very great natural advantages which Karachi enjoys,—its propinquity on the one hand to the wheat lands of the Punjab and the great capitals of Northern India, and on the other hand to the chief markets and political centres of the Continent of Europe (whether the route taken be by sea or by land), cannot fail to arrest Your Excellency's attention.

Your Excellency is no doubt aware of the rapid growth of the trade of Karachi, the total exports and imports having practically quadrupled in the last twenty years. Moreover there is every reason to expect that this pace will be maintained in the immediate future. Not only have large portions of our hinterland away to the east and to the north-west yet to be opened up and methodically developed, but the vast irrigation projects which Government have now in hand or under contemplation both in Sind and the Punjab must before long add very materially to the volume of trade that will pass through this Port.

In this connection the Chamber are eagerly looking forward to an early commencement of the great projects for adding to the area of irrigated lands in Sind. The Chamber understand that some of these schemes have been under consideration for very many years. The assured water-supply, the excellent nature of the soil, and the short distance which separates the irrigable lands from the sea-board, make the prospect of additional irrigation in Sind an exceptionally bright one. The Chamber hope therefore that a decision with regard to the construction of a barrage at Sukkur will be soon arrived at, and that the new canals will be taken in hand at the earliest possible moment.

The Chamber have received with regret the decision of Your Excellency's Government that the time is not yet ripe for constructing the small remaining link that separates Rajputana's railways from their natural base at Karachi. To connect some 3,000 miles of metre gauge systems directly with the sea-board only requires, approximately, a further 100 miles of railway. The necessity for the construction of this extension is recognised on all hands, and in view of the rapidity with which the town and port of Karachi are now being developed, the Chamber beg that Your Excellency's Government will reserve an appropriate site for the metre gauge terminus in Karachi whilst this can still be done without prohibitive outlay.

Address from the Karachi Chamber of Commerce.

The question of linking India with Europe by means of a trans-Persian Railway is now engaging the attention of European financiers. The Chamber notice that the proposal has taken the form of connecting the Russian Railways of the Caucasus with the Indian Railway system at Nushki. We would respectfully submit for Your Excellency's consideration that the best route for such a line of communication would be by way of Bam, Southern Baluchistan (*i.e.*, Panjgur) and Karachi. The route would have the advantage of tapping fertile country and moreover would find its terminus in a rising commercial seaport.

The approach to the Port of Karachi by sea from the South at present lacks the light that is absolutely essential if a serious risk to incoming steamers is to be minimised. During the last few years, no less than five large steamers have run ashore on the Sind Coast near to Karachi, one of which, the S.S. *Nithsdale*, became a total wreck. The Chamber fear that further mishaps may occur unless a lighthouse or light-ship be placed in the neighbourhood of the Hajamrao mouth of the Indus. Representations have been made to the Government of Bombay to this effect. We beg that Your Excellency's Government will regard this matter as one of extreme urgency.

On the subject of India's Gold Standard Reserve, the Chamber are strongly of opinion that the interests of this Dependency would best be served by the retention of a substantial portion of the Reserve, in gold, in India. The Chamber think that this end could best be accomplished by defining the nature, objects and management of the Gold Standard Reserve by Statute. We respectfully beg therefore that Your Excellency's Government will give this most important question their early consideration.

With regard to purely local matters, the only subject to which the Chamber desire to refer, is the provision of adequate Law Courts and public offices on one central site in Karachi. The disposition and capacity of the present buildings are much the same as they were thirty years ago: and whilst they might have been convenient and adequate at the time they were built, the growth of Karachi and of the needs of commerce make a reconstruction and concentration a matter of immediate importance. The Chamber have been pressing this subject on the attention of Government for some years past but without any result. A suitable site has now become available on the Bunder Road by the removal of the Old Jail, and the Chamber beg that Government will recognise the

Address from the Karachi Chamber of Commerce.

advantage to Karachi of a concentration of its Government Departments by building new Law Courts and public offices on the Old Jail site and so contributing to the efficiency and beauty of the city.

We beg, as in duty bound, to subscribe ourselves, on behalf of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce.

The Viceroy in reply said :—]

Gentlemen of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce,—It is a great pleasure to me to have been able to come and see with my own eyes thus early in my career in India a city which means so much to the Indian Empire as Karachi. No one will dispute that a personal knowledge of local surroundings, even though it be a slight one, is worth a great many volumes of notes in dealing with local problems, and it will be a great advantage to me, not only to have seen your city and port, but to have met you, Gentlemen of the Chamber of Commerce, and to have heard from your own lips what you have to say about some of the big questions in which you are interested. I am afraid you will find the Government of India cannot always give you what you want, but you may rest assured that we attach very great weight to your views on the various questions that arise concerning the commerce and industry of the country. The growth of your prosperity and importance is truly amazing, and I see from figures that have been supplied to me that the value of your trade has almost trebled in the last ten years from 14⅓ to nearly 43 crores of rupees. A little less than a quarter of this is due to your coasting trade, another quarter represents your foreign imports, while your foreign exports constitute almost exactly half the total amount, and I have no doubt that the money that has been spent upon irrigation in the Punjab and in Sind is largely responsible for this increase of prosperity. The subject of the great projects for adding to the area of irrigated lands in Sind has for

Address from the Karachi Chamber of Commerce.

some time past been engaging the attention of the Government of India. Speaking broadly, the proposal is to divide the Indus in Sind into three reaches, with three weirs—near Mithankote, at Sukkur, and probably somewhere near Kotri, with the necessary canals taking out above them. Of these three large systems, the central, that at Sukkur, has been held to be the most important, and it has therefore received consideration first. An estimate for the barrage across the Indus and for a portion of the canal work has recently been received from the Government of Bombay and is now under examination. I fully appreciate the importance of these Sind projects. It is most desirable that the Indus river should be so harnessed that full advantage should be taken of its supplies both to improve the precarious nature of the present inundation canals and in order that fresh areas may be brought under command, but it will be understood that with schemes of such magnitude, involving the expenditure of crores of rupees, it is essential that the estimates should receive the most careful consideration, and I can only say at the present time that I hope to be shortly in a position to address the Secretary of State with regard to the first of the Sind projects, that at Sukkur, which has been specially mentioned in your Chamber's address. A Viceroy has to deal with many questions, some of great complexity and some of world-wide importance, but among them all there are few so fascinating as these great irrigational schemes, and I shall always use my utmost endeavours to push them forward whenever I can.

I am aware, Gentlemen, of the very strong views you hold in regard to the extension of the metre gauge system to Karachi. The question whether the necessity has yet arisen is one about which it is possible to say a good deal on both sides. You will not expect me to justify in detail the decision that has been given, but the Government of Bombay, the Railway Board and the Department

of Commerce and Industry concurred in it so unanimously that no other answer was possible. It has long been admitted that the break of gauges ought to be eliminated when the traffic justifies it, and the point you have taken about the reservation of an appropriate site for a metre gauge terminus is deserving of close consideration. I understand that you have made a representation about it to the Bombay Government, and I will take an early opportunity of informing myself how the matter stands. It is impossible to say at present whether or when the proposed trans-Persian line will become a realisable project. The present situation in the South of Persia is not one which offers much encouragement to capitalists to finance such schemes, but the question of the construction of this line has been under the serious consideration of the Government of India and the claims of Karachi as a terminus of a line passing through Southern Baluchistan have not been lost sight of.

I understand that your address was drafted before the 17th March, when the question of lighthouses was dealt with in the Legislative Council of Bombay. From the answer there given you will have learnt that other reasons than the absence of lights have existed to account for the wrecks to which you refer, and that His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief has gone so far as to say that a lighthouse at the Hajamrao mouth would be a mistake. It would be difficult in the face of so high an authority for the Government of India to approve of this scheme. But I understand that the Honourable Member for Commerce and Industry, who has recently been among you, discussed the question with you in some detail, and I should prefer not to commit myself about it until I have learnt the upshot of those discussions and until I have had an opportunity of considering the report on the subject, now on its way from the Government of Bombay to the Government of India.

Address from the Mahomedan Community of Sind.

You have referred to the question of the retention of a substantial portion of the gold standard reserve in gold in India. It is a complicated matter of great importance, and I have to thank you for bringing the subject to my notice. I find that it has been under the most anxious consideration more than once between the Government of India and the Secretary of State, without whose concurrence it would be obviously impossible to make any change in the existing arrangements. But I shall be glad to convey the opinion to which you have just given expression to Lord Morley.

The disposition and capacity of your Government buildings is a matter in which you naturally take a very special interest, but it is not one in which the Government of India can help you much, except by sympathetic consideration of any schemes which may require their sanction. The Government of Bombay are primarily concerned, and I understand that orders have actually been given for the preparation of plans and estimates for some part of the scheme, and I feel assured that a capable Government will do whatever may be right and possible for the removal of the inconvenience of which you complain. I will not detain you longer, Gentlemen, except to thank you heartily for the welcome which you have extended to me, for the address you have presented, and for the handsome casket in which you have placed it.

ADDRESS FROM THE MAHOMEDAN COMMUNITY OF SIND.

[*May it please Your Excellency*,—On behalf of the Mahomedan community of Sind, we the members of the Sind Mahomedan Association beg to offer Your Excellency a most cordial welcome to its Capital.

It is a source of great pride and honour to us that Your Excellency has so soon after assuming charge of your high and illustrious office undertaken to visit this remote province, which our

Address from the Mahomedan Community of Sind.

community holds in loving veneration because of its historic associations, being the cradle of Islam in India and the birth-place of Akbar the Great, universally recognized as the most enlightened Mahomedan Emperor of India.

These old associations which we have ventured to mention are moreover not unmingled with pathos, because as Your Excellency is well aware, owing doubtless to our community having lagged behind in the race of education, we have under British rule unfortunately been unable to receive that share in the public service of this our native province, which the numerical strength and importance of our community naturally entitle us to. But we are happy to assure Your Excellency that a great awakening has taken place to the need of education, and we have of late years put forth strenuous efforts to recover, as far as possible, lost ground; and in this connection we feel bound to acknowledge with gratitude the sympathetic encouragement we have invariably received at the hands of the Local Government. As an earnest of the success which has attended these efforts, we beg leave to mention that our principal educational institution, the Sind Madrassah-tul-Islam, Karachi, which will ever remain a monument of the great work of the late Khan Bahadur A. D. Hussonally Bey Effendi, the first and the ablest President of our association, continues to do excellent work in passing out a steadily increasing number of students. During the first decade of its establishment from 1885 to 1894, 48 students passed the Matriculation and/or Public Service Examinations: during the next ten years from 1895 to 1904 this number increased to 59; and during the last six years from 1905 to 1910, 128 students have been successful at these examinations. In the matter of higher education we regret our progress has not been as rapid as we should have wished. Nevertheless taking the same year 1885 as the starting point, whereas we had in that year 2 graduates in arts and 1 graduate in law, our community can now reckon 27 graduates in arts and 6 graduates in law, besides 1 Licentiate of Civil Engineering, 1 Licentiate of Medicine and Surgery, 2 Licentiates of Agriculture, 5 Veterinary Surgeons and 7 Barristers-at-Law. We have ventured to enter into these details in order to respectfully bring to Your Excellency's notice that the advocacy of our claim for a more extended employment in Government service has not been unattended with a corresponding effort on our part to improve our position. We are conscious that the educational progress hitherto made is not at all commensurate with the needs of our

Address from the Mahomedan Community of Sind.

community and that much remains to be accomplished, but we beg respectfully to submit that our advancement is naturally dependent in a great measure on the material encouragement Government can afford us by conferring suitable appointments on Mahomedans educationally qualified. While we have to express our gratitude to the Local Government for their recognition of our claims to a greater share in the Government service, we nevertheless respectfully urge the necessity for a fuller and more extensive support of these claims, not only with the object of removing the present inequality of distribution, in itself an object of great importance, but also to strengthen our hands in the diffusion of education. We therefore most respectfully and earnestly pray that Your Excellency will be pleased to adopt such measures as to Your Excellency appear proper to ensure the admission of qualified Mahomedans into Government service at a more rapid rate than at present, until the unequal distribution which now prevails is removed and our community receives its legitimate share.

Before leaving the subject of education to which we have referred, we may with legitimate pride allude to the projected Moslem University at Aligarh, which we are confident will before long be a *fait accompli*. Its establishment will give a great impetus to the cause of Mahomedan education, and Sind will not fail to take the fullest advantage of it. We may also mention that to meet the cost of the education of our community it is contemplated to introduce in the Council of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay a Cess Bill which provides for a self-imposed tax on Mahomedan Zamindars, and we hope the same will receive sympathetic consideration from Your Excellency.

We are deeply grateful to the Government of India and the Secretary of State for having taken a great step forward in giving the people of the country a larger share in its administration by enlarging and reforming the Imperial and Provincial Councils and according recognition to the just claims of our community for special representation thereon.

Sind being an agricultural province, and the bulk of our community engaged in agriculture, our prosperity and progress are bound together with projects for bringing larger tracts of land under cultivation and the provision of increased facilities therefor. In this connection we are looking forward with anxious expectation to the scheme for constructing a barrage across the Indus near Sukkur,

Address from the Mahomedan Community of Sind.

which we are confident will receive from Your Excellency's Government very careful consideration.

The happy news of the approaching auspicious visit of His Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor of India accompanied by His Royal Consort has filled our hearts with joy, and we are looking forward with pleasurable anticipations to the celebration of the Coronation Durbar at Delhi in the month of December, an event unique in the history of British India.

In conclusion we beg to assure Your Excellency of our unflinching loyalty to the Person and Throne of His Majesty the King-Emperor of India and to state with pride that our community has always held strictly aloof from movements calculated to disturb the peace and tranquillity of the country.

The Viceroy in reply said :—]

Gentlemen of the Mahomedan Community of Sind,—I offer you my grateful thanks for the address of welcome which you have just presented to me, and if it is a source of gratification to you that I should have taken so early an opportunity of visiting your province, I can assure you that it is no less a pleasure than a profit to me to see with my own eyes something of every portion of this vast Empire, and to make personal acquaintance with the different communities who have, for the time being, been entrusted to my charge. Though a formal interchange of speeches such as this cannot afford so intimate a mutual acquaintance as is to be desired, I am glad of the opportunity that it affords to you of setting before me the needs and aspirations of your community to which I am ready to lend a sympathetic ear. It is in my brief experience of India a surprise to me what a wide horizon is occupied by the aspiration after better education. It has forced itself into prominence alike in the Council Chamber at Calcutta and in the addresses I have lately received in the Punjab. It figures largely in the daily press, and here I find it again in the address which you have presented to me. I cannot regard it as anything but a healthy sign,

Address from the Mahomedan Community of Sind.

for it means that all sections of the community are alive to the necessity of keeping abreast of the times and equipping themselves and their sons as efficiently as possible to take their proper place in the social organisation of the community. You are aware that Government are anxious to do all they can to foster these aspirations, and I feel that a very grave responsibility rests upon me to see that the efforts now being made are wisely directed, not only because I am the head of the Government of India, but also because I owe it to my grandfather's memory to endeavour, so far as in me lies, to shape to the best end a policy in the initiation of which he took so keen an interest. You know that a Member for Education has recently been appointed, but you will hardly expect him to evolve a cut-and-dried scheme at short notice. There is much to consider and much to discuss. We have arrived at a critical point where any mistake may be far-reaching, so that caution is essential and some delay unavoidable before attempting changes in our existing system. My Government have, however, set aside a very large sum for educational purposes during the current year. I congratulate you, Gentlemen, on the success and efficiency of the Madrassah-tul-Islam, which I am looking forward to visiting; and I do not think you could give any more striking guarantee of your earnestness in the cause than is contained in your proposal to tax yourselves in order to meet the cost of the better education of your community. If it comes before me it shall have most sympathetic consideration at my hands. But do not be misled into thinking that Government service is the best refuge or the best stimulus for education. Surely your own improvement is its own reward, and if you can produce men of character, ability and energy, qualities such as ensure success in the ordinary walks of life, you need not doubt that you will get your full share of Government posts, for you must know yourselves that your Commissioner is only too willing

and anxious that your community should be properly represented in the public service of this province. The question is therefore one of which the solution remains in your own hands, and I trust that as time goes on I shall see your community rise equal to the occasion. I have dealt elsewhere with the other subjects to which you have referred and there only remains the pleasant task of thanking you again for the cordial welcome you have given me, and expressing to you the pleasure with which I have listened to your words of loyal devotion and of happy anticipation at Their Majesties' not far distant visit to these shores.

[His Excellency concluded with an expression of thanks for the beautiful casket in which the address was enclosed.]

ADDRESS FROM THE SIND HINDU SABHA.

[*May it please Your Excellency*,—We, the President and Members of a deputation of the Sind Hindu Sabha, an association representing the Hindus of Sind, beg to offer to Your Excellency a hearty welcome to this Province. That Your Excellency should so soon after the assumption of your office visit Karachi is an indication of Your Excellency's recognition of the importance of this port, whose exceptional position as the outlet for the voluminous trade of Northern India marks it out as one of the few largest in India.

2. This Province joins with the rest of India in expressing her sense of joy at the decision of His Majesty the King-Emperor George V to grace this country with his presence at the end of this year for holding a Coronation Durbar at Delhi. The inhabitants of Sind fervently hope that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to honour this Province by taking his departure on his return journey from this port of Karachi. The important position occupied by this port justifies its aspiration to get an opportunity of demonstrating its loyalty and devotion to the Person of our beloved Sovereign. We humbly crave Your Excellency's support in securing us this honour.

3. We take this opportunity of expressing our heartfelt gratitude for the recent introduction of reforms in the constitution of the

Address from the Sind Hindu Sabha.

Imperial and Provincial Legislative Councils with the object of associating the children of the soil with the government of the country. These reforms are, we trust, an earnest of a yet larger measure of self-government. We are further gladdened by Your Excellency's assurance, on your landing in this country, of your determination to pursue the progressive and liberal policy of Lord Morley and Lord Minto. At the same time, we feel it our duty to bring it to Your Excellency's notice, that the regulations stand in need of material alterations so as to admit to franchise advanced and educated sections of the people.

4. Karachi being the nearest Indian port to Europe, direct postal communication between Karachi and Aden is calculated to bring immense commercial advantage to the whole of Northern India and Bengal by shortening the time for Overland Mails. We trust Your Excellency will be pleased to give the matter your earnest consideration to enable this port to fulfil the vast destiny which lies before it.

5. A direct railway route between Sind and Bombay *viâ* Cutch, reducing the journey to about twenty-four hours, will not only be a great boon to Sind by bringing her nearer to the capital of the Presidency, but will also open up the trade capabilities of the whole area traversed including Cutch. It is to be hoped that, on being convinced by Your Excellency's Government of the material benefit to his own province and revenues, His Highness the Rao of Cutch may be induced to modify his present attitude by permitting the proposed railway to pass through his territory.

6. The whole mercantile community of this Province, European and Indian, are of opinion that the extension of the Jodhpur-Bikaner metre gauge railway system from Hyderabad, where it now stops short, to Karachi—the land terminus for export by sea—will tend to remove a handicap from trade. It will not only result in a saving of time and the cost of handling goods in transhipment from the narrow to the broad gauge at Hyderabad—an undoubted advantage to commerce, but will also afford a great convenience to passengers travelling through.

7. The conversion of the Decennial Settlement of Land Revenue now prevailing in Sind to Thirty Years Settlement has been frequently pressed upon the attention of Government. Extension of the present term has been recommended by the most renowned Commissioners and other Revenue officers. An extended term of settlement is calculated to improve cultivation by ensuring the

Address from the Sind Hindu Sabha.

cultivator against too frequent revisions of settlement. Your Excellency will be conferring a lasting benefit upon the agricultural population of this Province by granting them Thirty Years Settlement.

8. The country has been long advocating the separation of Judicial from Executive functions. The experiment of a separate magistracy initiated in Eastern Bengal has proved so far successful that, as the latest advices from England show, its extension is seriously contemplated. In Sind the institution of Resident Magistrates contains the germ of this reform; but the amalgamation of that institution with the service of Mukhtiarkars blocks the way to a fair trial of the experiment. If Your Excellency's Government could see their way to the expansion of the Resident Magistrates' service so that it may be self-contained and independent of the Mukhtiarkars' service in the matter of transfers and promotions, a substantial stride will have been made towards this reform.

9. The reconstitution of the highest Court of Justice in Sind by raising the number of judges from one to three has been a move in the right direction. The increase in work has, however, necessitated the augmentation of this number to four, for which the sanction of Your Excellency's Government is required by the Amended Sind Courts Act. It will be in consonance with the general policy of Government of admitting Indians to a larger share in the administration of their country to allot one of the four seats to Indians. These improvements will largely add to the prestige and strength of the Judicial Commissioner's Court.

10. In conclusion we pray to Almighty God that Your Excellency's rule may prove a blessing to this land. And wishing Her Excellency Lady Hardinge unfailing health to assist you in the performance of the duties of your high office.

We beg to subscribe ourselves Your Excellency's most humble servants.

The Viceroy in reply said :—]

Gentlemen of the Sind Hindu Sabha,—The major portion of your address is devoted to matters of business, with which I will attempt to deal in due order, but before I proceed to do so let me offer you my best thanks for the kind welcome which you have extended to me. I have heard with satisfaction your expression of gratitude for the introduction of the reforms with which the Government of Lord Minto will always be associated. I do not

Address from the Sind Hindu Sabha.

suppose the regulations are perfect, and even if they were perfect I am quite certain they would not give satisfaction to everyone. Such as they are, they have been in force for only a very short time, almost too short to speak with authority as to their working, but they are now under examination by the Local Governments. If it should be shown that there are any matters in which improvement seems possible, with due regard to pledges given and the various interests concerned, Government will not be backward in taking the necessary action. I should, however, like to take this opportunity of saying what a high opinion I have formed of my Legislative Council, as at present constituted. A great many questions have been asked and answered: in this way or by resolution our attention has been drawn to a large number of subjects of very great importance. Government have looked at them from fresh points of view, and have, when possible, been glad to meet half-way the views of Honourable Members in some matters, and to explain publicly why they could not do so in others. The debates have been marked by good sense, moderation, and above all by tolerance; and in this country where so many creeds and races jostle one another at close quarters, tolerance is a most desirable and important virtue.

The question of direct postal communication between Aden and Karachi is one of very lively interest. It has in the past been the subject of frequent representations by the Chamber of Commerce and the Municipality of Karachi, and you now take it up as a matter that concerns not only this city, but Sind and the whole of Northern India and Bengal. Lord Curzon dealt with this matter very fully when he was here ten years ago. He found that, desirable as such a connection would be, it was estimated to cost the prohibitive sum of 15 lakhs of rupees per annum, and I think that the Honourable Financial Member would find my Legislative Council in a

Address from the Sind Hindu Sabha.

very critical frame of mind if he proposed to divert to such a purpose money so urgently wanted in many other directions. Your remarks do not show that you have examined the matter from this point of view. But if you desire to have the question re-examined I promise you that any well considered recommendation you may make shall have the careful consideration of Government.

Your next subject is that of railways. I have grave doubts whether it would be possible to justify a direct railway route between Bombay and Sind as a profitable concern from a commercial point of view, and I may tell you that the result of a very careful survey made some years ago showed that it would not even repay its working expenses. As regards the route I have a suspicion that His Highness the Rao of Cutch would prefer that you should leave him to decide for himself whether a through railway would be good for his State; and when the question was under examination it was decided that a route running to the north of Cutch would be preferable. But though I recognise that there would be advantages in a direct through communication with Bombay, I am afraid I cannot in view of the unfavourable results of the survey I have mentioned, hold out any hopes that such a line is likely to be undertaken at any rate in the near future. I will not weary you by repeating here what I have already said to the Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the extension of the metre gauge system to Karachi.

As far as I have been able to ascertain, the question of the duration of settlements has never been under the consideration of the Government of India in particular relation to Sind. Mr. Younghusband tells me that the Bombay Government fully realise the advantages of a longer term than ten years, and that there is a steady tendency in that direction. Some of your ten years' settle-

Address from the Sind Hindu Sabha.

ments have been allowed to continue without revision after the expiry of the period fixed, and in some of your most recent settlements the period has been for 15 instead of 10 years. In the present fluctuating conditions of Sind it is impossible to see clearly ahead for a long term of years, and I believe I am right in saying that your cultivators not infrequently secure a reduction of rates after ten years when it appears that the expectations of irrigational facilities upon which the settlement was based have not been fulfilled. I am afraid then I cannot promise you any immediate or sudden change of policy in this matter. The institution of Resident Magistrates had nothing in its inception to do with the large and thorny question of the separation of judicial from executive functions. They were created with a view to improve the revenue establishment, and it was decided as a matter of administrative convenience to grade them with *mukhtiarkars*. It is very doubtful whether equally good results would be obtained by restricting officers who may be appointed as Magistrates only to magisterial duties for the whole of their service, and debarring them from all chances of promotion in the higher executive grades of the public service. Some experience of administrative work, and the knowledge which it brings of the customs of the people and the relations between different classes, are of the highest value to a magistrate. On the other hand, a knowledge of magisterial procedure is of great use to an administrative officer. Lastly, Gentlemen, I do not think I can usefully enter into the subject of the augmentation of the strength of the Judicial Commissioner's Court until the matter has been threshed out more thoroughly. Your Commissioner tells me that no representation on the subject has ever been made to him, and while the number of sessions cases increased, I learn that the number of civil suits instituted was actually fewer in 1910 than in 1909.

Opening of the Hardinge Bridge, Karachi.

When the draft of your address was shown to me my attention was at once caught by the natural wish to which you have given expression that His Most Gracious Majesty might be pleased to take his departure from India by way of Karachi. I was aware that His Majesty already had other arrangements in contemplation, but I thought it right to lay before him the request that you have made and ascertain his pleasure. I am afraid that I must disappoint you, for much as His Majesty appreciates your loyal desire in this matter he is sorry that he cannot conveniently arrange to embark at Karachi on his return journey. And I am confident that the spirit which moved you to make the request will enable you to accept this decision with cheerfulness. I am sorry that I have not been able to be more responsive to the wishes you have expressed on various topics; but I am glad that you should have spoken out freely what you have in your hearts, and I am confident that you would prefer that I should endeavour to give you a frank and honest reply rather than hold out to you hopes which I might afterwards find it difficult to fulfil; but I thank you very warmly for the address you have presented to me, for your loyal expressions towards His Majesty's Throne and Person, and for your cordial welcome to myself.

OPENING OF THE HARDINGE BRIDGE, KARACHI.

12th April 1911. [The opening of the Hardinge Bridge by His Excellency the Viceroy on the evening of the 12th April was a unique and interesting ceremony. Sitting accommodation was arranged by the Port Trust for nearly a thousand spectators. The Viceroy, accompanied by the Commissioner in Sind, and their respective staffs, left Government House at 5-45 o'clock and proceeded to the overbridge by Kachery and Bunder Roads, escorted by a squadron of King Edward's Own Cavalry. The Viceroy was met on arrival by Mr. H. C. Mules, M.V.O., Chairman of the Port Trust, who presented the Trustees to His Excellency. After inspecting the guard-of-honour furnished

Opening of the Hardinge Bridge, Karachi.

by the 129th (D.C.O.) Baluchis, His Excellency proceeded to the barrier below the handsome triumphal arch which was erected over the centre of the overbridge.

Before requesting His Excellency to perform the opening ceremony Mr. Mules, Chairman of the Port Trust, expressed the grateful thanks of the Trustees for the high honour His Excellency had conferred on the Port of Karachi in consenting to open the bridge and allowing it to bear his illustrious name. He then gave a bird's-eye view of the present position of the Trust as compared with that of ten years ago. In 1901 the harbour had accommodation for 10 steamers at the wharves and 11 at moorings. There was no safe haven for harbour craft. The Manora lighthouse contained an obsolete and inefficient light. The available space in the import and export yards was inadequate, and the harbour appliances inferior and deficient. The average revenue was 8½ lakhs, and expenditure 10 lakhs. In 1911-12, the Port had two miles of wharfage, giving berths for 17 steamers, an excellent bulk oil pier, affording in emergency 186 births. In the stream were moorings for 17 steamers, and the harbour can accommodate any vessel that can pass through the Suez Canal. A boat basin is being constructed for harbour craft and the Manora lighthouse has now the finest flashing light east of Suez. New and spacious export and import yards are being reclaimed, together with a shipyard.

The Port Trust craft has been brought up-to-date at a cost of 18½ lakhs of rupees, enabling the Trust successfully to salve two large merchant steamers which went ashore several miles from Karachi. The budgeted revenue for 1911-12 is 86½ lakhs and expenditure 83½ lakhs. The reserve fund is 21½ lakhs, the loan debt 186¼ lakhs. Without interfering with import discharge the Trust is prepared to deal with an export trade over the wharves of 15,000 tons *per diem*, and is preparing for further augmentation of trade consequent on the irrigation works in progress in the Punjab and contemplated in Sind.

The bridge constituted one of the most essential links in the chain of works undertaken by the Trust serving the new import and export yards, and the Kiamari wharfage, and proving of enormous convenience to the public. Its total length is 1,540 ft. with a roadway of 56 ft. and a 7 ft. pavement on each side. Six lines of rail will pass beneath the bridge. The total cost has been 5½ lakhs. The bridge was designed during the term of office of the late Chief Engineer, Mr. Edward Jackson, and carried out under his able supervision. The present Chief Engineer is Mr. Graham Lynn.

Opening of the Hardinge Bridge, Karachi.

The bridge has only just reached completion, and the opening ceremony was a real and not a formal one. Renewing the Trustees' expression of thanks, Mr. Mules asked His Excellency to accept from the Trust as a souvenir of the occasion a silver casket containing a key of the bridge, and to perform the ceremony of opening and naming it. The silver casket is surmounted by a sitting camel handsomely caparisoned, forming a block of solid silver.

The Viceroy in reply said :—]

This morning I had occasion to congratulate your Chamber of Commerce upon the enormous development of trade that has taken place in Karachi during the past ten years, and your Municipality upon the manner in which it has risen to its responsibilities in dealing with your growing city. But it seems to me that both your Chamber of Commerce and your Municipality owe a debt of gratitude to your Port Trust. Unless that body had foreseen the great increase of trade and laid their plans with foresight and prudence to meet it, your Port would have been choked, your prosperity throttled, and your growth stunted. The figures with which you, Sir, have so eloquently illustrated the progress of the Port bear testimony to the transformation that this little fishing village of seventy years ago has undergone, but underneath those figures lies a record of intelligent anticipation, of skilful planning, and of hard and unremitting work, of which you and those who have been associated with you from first to last have good reason to be proud. I congratulate Mr. Graham Lynn, the Chief Engineer, upon the successful completion of his task. I feel that you have done me an honour in asking me to unlock this little barrier and open this bridge, which forms one of the most essential links in the chain of works, and I am proud that my name should be associated with it. Wishing your port and your trade and your city an ever increasing measure of prosperity, I declare this bridge to be open and name it the Hardinge Bridge.

DINNER AT THE SIND CLUB, KARACHI.

[During the Viceroy's stay at Karachi, the members of the Sind Club entertained His Excellency to dinner on the night of the 18th April. 18th April 1911.

His Excellency, in reply to the toast of his health, made the following speech :—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you very warmly for the manner in which you have responded to the toast of my health.

Before addressing to you a few words I should like to say parenthetically that had Solomon been Viceroy of India in the 20th Century he would not have written that of the making of books but of the making of speeches there is no end. I am not complaining but it may interest you to know that although I have made only a brief tour of about a fortnight, I believe that this is the 20th time that I have addressed an audience.

You may perhaps appreciate the effort it has cost me when I tell you that I belonged for 30 years to a service where any loquacity or tendency to loquacity would have been sternly and summarily suppressed, and where the person who suffered from what would have been regarded as an infirmity would have been speedily relegated to a distant and less congenial sphere of activity.

Apart however from public speeches I have had a very pleasant and enjoyable journey, during the course of which I have come into contact with new interests and different races and creeds which it has been useful to me to see and know. My only regret is that my reception as Viceroy should entail so much labour to those who prepare it and that my presence should be a tax on the hospitality of those who offer it.

I know that I have no claim upon your kindness, but that my presence here to-night is due to a spontaneous exhibition of good-will towards me as representative of His Majesty which I may say that I appreciate very warmly.

Dinner at the Sind Club, Karachi.

When I look round me to-night and see so many Englishmen assembled, who are engaged in official, commerical, industrial, or other pursuits, and when I think of what they have done in this thriving city of Karachi, I am filled with confidence in the future of my race in this country. Times may grow harder and competition keener when our Indian fellow-subjects have realised the future that lies in store for them in the development of the natural resources of this country, but I have no fear that my countrymen will not be able to hold their own in trade in India, just as everywhere else. I naturally have very little knowledge of the British community in Karachi, but during the few months that I have spent at Calcutta I have been much impressed by the energy and go-ahead character of the British community, whose young men not only pursue their business with concentration, but occupy the most prominent places in all manly sports and games, and should there be a row in the town and hard knocks going a-begging, they leave their desks and donning their uniforms as volunteers keep order for two or three days at a time. These fellow-countrymen of ours have come under my personal observation, but I am convinced in my own mind that they are not exceptional cases and that others are to be found with similar manly characteristics in all great centres and particularly in Karachi.

Gentlemen, it is upon you all and upon your young men that we must lean for support to justify our rule and to maintain the honour of our race, and I know that in times of stress and difficulty that support will not be withheld.

The few months that I have been in India have shown me how strenuous must be the life of a Viceroy and how many pitfalls meet him on every side, but I only hope that in my honest endeavour to do what is right and wise and

Opening of King Edward Sanatorium at Dharampore.

just I shall always be able to feel that I have at my back the warm support and sympathy of my fellow-countrymen of which my presence here to-night as your guest is to me a very happy sign and omen.

I crave your permission to conclude these few remarks, and while thanking you again for the kind manner in which you have drunk the toast of my health, to assure you that I shall always carry away a friendly recollection of Karachi, where I have found so much energy and enterprise combined with so much good-fellowship and hospitality.

OPENING OF KING EDWARD SANATORIUM AT DHARAMPORE.

[On his way to Simla, at the conclusion of his spring tour, His Excellency the Viceroy arived at Dharampore on the morning of the 29th April, in order to open the King Edward Sanatorium. The urgent need of such beneficent institutions is beyond doubt in India, and the province of the Punjab is exceptionally fortunate in having attracted the philanthropy of Mr. Malabari, who is famous for his selfless charities and sympathy with the poor and sick. The people of this province cannot be too grateful to that generous Parsi for bringing money from other provinces for the good of the sufferers from this cruel scourge. The home is open to all, and even distant provinces benefit by its establishment in the lovely pine-covered hills of the Himalayas. In spite of the splendid aid given by His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala the Sanatorium stands in need of help from the public, and it is hoped that this help will be ungrudgingly offered. 20th April 1911.

The small station of Dharampore was *en fête* in honour of its illustrious visitors, and His Highness the Maharaja spared no effort to accord a reception worthy of his traditional hospitality to the representative of the King-Emperor. Lieutenant-Colonel James, I.M.S., Medical Adviser of the State, ably supported by Qasi Suleman, deserves great credit for the success of the ceremony, which passed off without any hitch. His Highness the Maharaja, accompanied by Mr. Atkins, the Political Agent, the Honourable Kour Sir Ranbir Singh and the Honourable Nawab Zulfiqar Ali Khan, Chief Minister, Sirdar Jagindra Singh, Home Minister, Major Mistri,

Opening of King Edward Sanatorium at Dharampore.

Household Minister, and the Foreign Minister, received Their Excellencies at the entrance to the Sanatorium at 9-30 A.M. As His Excellency's motor approached the place the guard-of-honour presented arms and the band played the National Anthem. After presenting his Ministers to Their Excellencies, His Highness the Maharaja conducted the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge to the sumptuously furnished durbar tent imported from Patiala for this occasion. It was one of the largest tents in the State, and its erection even in the plains is a matter of difficulty, to pitch it on the side of a steep hill therefore must have presented the greatest difficulty. When all present had taken their seats the Maharaja rose and said :—

"*Your Excellency*,—On behalf of the Consumptives' Home Society, which administers this Sanatorium named after our late revered King-Emperor, I beg to offer Your Excellency a cordial welcome to Dharampore. Dharampore, the home of charity as the name implies, happens to be in the Patiala territory; and it has been my pride and privilege to offer some of the best sites to the founders of the Society. The Society has levelled the sites, laid out roads and gardens, and built a number of blocks of buildings as well as separate cottages, open to God's own light and air, all for the use of consumptive patients. The need for such a sanatorium is proved by the fact that before house accommodation was ready, applications poured in from all parts of India, and the Society had to accommodate the sufferers in tents and wooden huts. The number of persons who came from June 1909 to December 1910 was 81, and 46 of them left cured or very much improved by their stay at the sanatorium.

"The history of the sanatorium is briefly this :—In April 1907, two friends opened a public account with the Postal Savings Bank at Bombay, in the name of the 'Consumptives' Sanatorium Fund' with Rs. 7,700 as nucleus. An appeal was addressed the next year to the public for a consumptives' home in a Himalayan pine forest. In response to the appeal, the founders received a number of subscriptions and donations; the four most prominent subscribers are :—His Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior, Rs. 25,000; the Trustees to N. M. Wadia Charitable Fund, Rs. 20,000; His Highness the Tikka Sahib of Nabha, Rs. 2,000; His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner, Rs. 3,000 (1st instalment). The Society is deeply grateful for this aid. Altogether about Rs. 65,000 were thus given, of which nearly Rs. 50,000 have already been spent. I have, however, offered to give a lakh of rupees to place the sanatorium on a better footing.

Opening of King Edward Sanatorium at Dharampore.

"I am also making over to the Society another good site for a preventorium, where young persons of both sexes, specially students, will be given shelter at the first approach of consumption and sent back to their homes in re-established health. On a third hill I propose to build a fully equipped and up-to-date small hospital with a laboratory, and place it in the charge of a qualified medical officer, who will attend to the needs of both the sanatorium and the hospital, which, however, will be kept separate from each other. This hospital, with Your Excellency's permission, I propose to name after the first Lord Hardinge, between whom and my ancestor existed a strong bond of friendship. Your Excellency's appointment as Viceroy is peculiarly welcome to us Sikhs, who expect to find in you the friendly support and encouragement which we stand greatly in need of. There is also something peculiarly appropriate in Your Excellency's visit to Dharampore, for which we cannot feel too grateful.

"I have now the honour to request Your Excellency formally to open the King Edward Sanatorium, the first and best of its kind in India, so near to a railway station, and free from dust, standing on a high hill, covered with a beautiful pine forest enriching its ever fresh invigorating air, the glorious views of the snows, and the sunlight beating straight upon it. The Society had the good fortune last year to obtain special permission from His Majesty the King-Emperor to name the sanatorium after his late beloved father. We thank Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge for the trouble taken this day, and feel confident that our institution will soon prove worthy of the great cause it is meant to serve, and the equally great name with which it is associated."

The address, which was handsomely illuminated, was presented to Lord Hardinge in a beautiful silver casket.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is considerably more than a year ago since the first patient was admitted to this institution, and to some it may seem rather a work of supererogation that I should come here after the lapse of so many months to declare it open.

The only answer I can find to that criticism is that an institution so full of service to suffering humanity is worthy of the little trouble and attention implied by an

Opening of King Edward Sanatorium at Dharampore.

opening ceremony, that I, at any rate, could not possibly have opened it before, and that it would have been an offence against common sense to have postponed making use of it until it could be opened with due form.

It is a little ceremony that I perform with particular pleasure for more than one reason. It is a privilege to be associated, in however small a degree, with any effort that is made to reduce the sum of suffering in the world, and this particular institution, so happily set in peaceful and beautiful surroundings, will, it may be hoped, in a long career of usefulness, save many a poor soul from suffering and death. Its name has been very happily chosen, for I had the honour of knowing his late Majesty King Edward well enough to be aware how, amid all the cares of State, he ever had close to his heart the alleviation of sickness and the mitigation of pain.

Your Highness, I have heard with the greatest pleasure the list of generous donations which you have mentioned, but among them all your own liberality is conspicuous, and as this asylum has received so much from you already both in the free gift of sites and the promise of support and of a hospital for the bad cases, so I hope it may always receive your fostering care in the future. This beneficence entitles you to the thanks of all to whom philanthropy is more than a mere word and is a happy omen for the welfare and happiness of your subjects.

This sanatorium is to be congratulated in having as its Superintendent Mr. Muzumdar, who throughout a long career of public usefulness as a Government servant was ever ready to help those around him and now devotes his honourable retirement to so worthy a cause, and all praise is due to Drs. Bannerji, Ganguli and Patke who give their services gratuitously, as well as to those whose support and subscriptions have enabled so happy an idea to be brought to fruition.

Opening of King Edward Sanatorium at Dharampore.

I am not certain whether one of these gentlemen is always present, but I venture to emphasise the supreme importance of proper medical supervision in an institution of this character, so that not only the patients may have the best treatment available, but also that reliable observations may be recorded, not only for the benefit of the patients themselves, but for the increase of scientific knowledge of the disease and its treatment, and last but not least that every sanitary precaution may be taken, more especially in regard to the sputum of the patients, lest it may be said that this sanatorium is a danger and source of infection to its neighbourhood.

I believe that patients come here to be treated from all parts of India and thus testify to the great need which exists for a consumptive home; the only pity is that many of them come when the disease has so far advanced that a cure is difficult, and sometimes impossible. I hope that those who return to their homes restored to health and strength will make widely known the benefits they have received, and urge those who are in need of similar treatment to betake themselves to this happy home at the earliest possible stages of the disease.

Gentlemen, I now declare this the King Edward Sanatorium to be open and I wish it a long career of usefulness.

[At the conclusion of the reply the Maharaja took Their Excellencies to the Sanatorium, where the patients were seated in chairs in front of the room. Lady Hardinge evinced keen sympathy with the patients, and graciously shook hands with the female sufferers, who appeared highly delighted and cheered by this act of touching sympathy on the part of Her Excellency. His Excellency also conversed with each of the sufferers and expressed his pleasure at the scrupulously neat and clean state of the home. The finishing ceremony of the visit was the breakfast to which His Highness the Maharaja had invited a number of European and Indian guests to meet his honoured guests. The interior of the spacious tent was

Address of Welcome from the Simla Municipality.

covered with costly brocades of delicate texture, and the harmonious blending of soft and delicate colours was much admired. Immediately after the breakfast Their Excellencies and party left for Simla.]

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE SIMLA MUNICIPALITY.

3rd May 1911. [In the afternoon of the 3rd May, the members of the Simla Municipal Committee, *viz.*, Mr. Kettlewell, President, Major Seton, Mr. Jai Lal, Captain Hodgson, Mr. Astbury and Mir Mohamed Khan, Members, and Major Sanford, Secretary, attended at Viceregal Lodge to present an address of welcome to His Excellency Lord Hardinge. The Viceroy, attended by Mr. DuBoulay, Private Secretary, and Captain Tod, Aide-de-Camp, received the Committee in the ball room, where Mr. Kettlewell read the following address :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the President and members of the Municipal Committee, beg to offer Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge, on behalf of the citizens of Simla, a loyal and hearty welcome to this place, the summer headquarters of Your Excellency's Government. Your Excellency's assumption of office has been marked by an increase of material prosperity extending to the whole of this vast Empire. We see in this a happy augury of benefits to accrue from Your Excellency's rule, no less than we are impelled to regard the distinguished services in India of your illustrious grandfather as an earnest of a successful administration by Your Excellency. Your Excellency's first visit to Simla falls at a time when the improvements designed and promoted by your predecessor are about to bear fruit. We trust that the good results of those improvements will be apparent during Your Excellency's tenure of office, and we rest assured that our endeavours to render the conditions of life in Simla more pleasant for those whose lot it is to spend a great part of their lives in this place will in the future, as in the past, have the help and sympathy of Your Excellency's Government. We rejoice to learn that Her Excellency Lady Hardinge has undertaken the duty of presiding over the National Association for providing medical aid to the women of India, and we are confident that in her hands the noble and philanthropic work inaugurated by the Marchioness of Dufferin will progress with increasing benefit to the people of this country. Above all things we pray that Your Excellency may be preserved in health and strength

Address of Welcome from the Simla Municipality.

to rule over this Empire and that Your Excellency's term of office may be a time of peace and prosperity.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen of the Simla Municipality,—It is exceedingly kind of you to have come forward on my first arrival at Simla with this address of welcome couched in such kindly language, and my sense of gratitude is deepened by the fact that your words are truly words of welcome, and do not ask me, as addresses of welcome sometimes do, to solve in a sentence problems which have defied the best efforts of my predecessors, or to deal with difficult questions. Important interests are at variance. I cannot grumble when such matters are put before me, for in the brief visits which alone a Viceroy can pay to the different parts of India, it is only right that different sections of the community should unburthen their minds and direct his attention to the projects which interest them, and the grievances which make them sore, and the practice adds to his opportunities of knowing the wants of the people over whose destinies he is called to preside. That however does not detract from his pleasure at receiving an address like yours which asks for nothing and complains of nothing, and may, I hope, be taken to imply that you are on the whole fairly happy and contented. I trust that India may be happy and my administration successful, but this time alone can show, and my brief experience has been enough to satisfy me that the next few years will be very strenuous, and the shade of my grandfather would rise to reproach me if I did not use every power that in me lies in an earnest endeavour to set forward my great charge in the path of progress and prosperity, peace and happiness. This Municipality of Simla, under whose auspices so many reside, is entitled to its due share of my attention, and my sympathy and interest will always be at your service in your efforts to increase the amenities of life among those

pleasant and glorious hills. On Lady Hardinge you can always rely for the warmest sympathy and support in any movement which has for its aim the relief of suffering, especially among the women of India, and I speak for her as well as for myself when I thank you once more very warmly for the good-will and kindly feeling which you have just expressed on this occasion of our first coming to live among you.

[The members of the committee were introduced to His Excellency, and the deputation then withdrew.]

RETIREMENT OF MR. J. M. MACPHERSON, C.S.I., SECRETARY TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

22nd Sept. 1911.

[At the last meeting of the Legislative Council, held in Simla, His Excellency the Viceroy took the opportunity of saying a few words in connection with Mr. Macpherson's retirement.

His Excellency the President said :—]

Before adjourning the proceedings of the Legislative Council to-day I wish to say a few words. In the first place I should like to express, on my own behalf, and on behalf of the Government of India, and I think I may say on behalf of all Members of Council, our keen regret that this is the last occasion on which as a Council we shall be able to profit by the assistance and advice of our friend Mr. Macpherson, the Legislative Secretary.

Mr. Macpherson has had a very long, useful and distinguished career. It may not be within the knowledge of some of the Members of my Council that Mr. Macpherson has served for 34 years in the Legislative Department under no less than 8 Viceroys and 9 Law Members, and has taken a prominent share in the preparation of all the laws and amendments that have been passed by the Legislative Council during that period. He has seen the Council grow from a small body of less than

Retirement of Mr. J. M. Macpherson.

20 Members, amongst whom the non-official element was practically a negligible quantity, to its present membership of about 70, of which nearly one-half are non-official Members.

Since his appointment as Secretary, he has enjoyed the confidence of five successive Law Members; he has been the principal draftsman of the Government of India ever since his appointment in 1896, and I think without exaggeration we may say that the Indian Statute Book in its present form is largely the handiwork of Mr. Macpherson. His exceptional knowledge and experience were of the utmost usefulness to the Government of India in the preparation of the constitution of the new Council, and I think I can say authoritatively that he enjoyed the complete confidence and trust of the late and present Law Members. And now at the end of a long, useful and distinguished career, Mr. Macpherson is entitled to his well-earned repose, and I think that I may say on behalf of all Members here that he will carry away with him in his honourable retirement our warmest and most cordial wishes for his continued health and happiness. I can assure him that he will not be forgotten, and although we may sometimes miss the familiar kindly presence of one whom we have all known so well, I am confident that in Mr. Vincent, a gentleman of exceptional attainments and of a distinguished legal career, we shall have a worthy successor, who will strain every nerve to maintain the high traditions of his office and of the Legislative Department of the Government of India.

ADDRESS TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING-EMPEROR.

[His Excellency the President, at the last meeting of the Council held at Simla, made the following announcement :—]

I have one more subject that I wish to mention to-day. In winding up the Budget Debate on the 27th March last I told you that Their Imperial Majesties, the King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress, would be received by the representatives of British India on the Ridge at Delhi. Since making that announcement the King-Emperor has been graciously pleased to signify his consent to receiving an Address from the Members of my Legislative Council as the accredited representatives of British India on the Ridge at Delhi on the occasion of the State entry. I trust, therefore, that my Legislative Council will be in full strength on that occasion in the special places that will be reserved for them on the Ridge. As I shall be in personal attendance on His Imperial Majesty, the King-Emperor, on that occasion, the Address will be presented by the Honourable the Vice-President of the Legislative Council. A draft of the proposed Address will be submitted for His Imperial Majesty's approval, and I hope that all Honourable Members of my Council will sign the Address as soon as possible after their arrival at Delhi and before the morning of the State entry of Their Imperial Majesties.

I have nothing more to say to-day, except that I now adjourn the Council *sine die*.

LAYING FOUNDATION STONE OF THE HARDINGE HOSPITAL AT DHARAMPORE.

3rd Oct 1911.

[The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Hardinge Hospital at Dharampore was performed by His Excellency the Viceroy on the morning of the 3rd October. His Excellency, accompanied by Sir Henry MacMahon, Foreign Secretary, and Colonel

Laying Foundation Stone of the Hardinge Hospital at Dharampore.

Maxwell, Military Secretary, was received by His Highness the Maharaja, Mr. Atkins, Political Agent, Phulkian States and Bhawalpur, the Hon'ble Nawab Zulfiqar Ali Khan, Chief Minister, Colonel C. H. James, Medical Adviser, and other State officials. The Hon'ble Surgeon-General C. P. Lukis, Director-General, I.M.S., was also present at the ceremony. His Highness the Maharaja read the following address :—

Your Excellency,—I have long contemplated building a general hospital at Dharampore which is surrounded by villages belonging to the Patiala State.

It is not considered advisable to have a hospital actually at the King Edward Sanatorium in the same place, because of the depressing effects such an institution has on early cases of consumption, and these are the ones which are most suitable generally for the Sanatorium treatment. In spite of all the precautions taken to the contrary many advanced cases of consumption have, and still, come to the Sanatorium. Such cases can be best treated in a hospital, and therefore, at present, it is difficult to deal with them at Dharampore.

It has long been my idea, approved by my principal Medical Adviser, Colonel James, to build an up-to-date, fully equipped hospital at Dharampore, which should thus meet both needs—general treatment of diseases for the surrounding districts, and special arrangements for treating advanced cases of consumption.

It has been proved that, with ordinary precautions which are taken in every well-regulated hospital, advanced cases of consumption can be treated unattended with danger to other patients or the staff.

A great deal of trouble has been taken to select the best possible site, which is a few minutes' walk from the Sanatorium.

I have sanctioned about Rs. 60,000 for the building of the hospital. Besides this the services of a fully qualified Assistant Surgeon have been given to the Hospital.

The Doctor is at present undergoing a special course of bacteriological training at Kasauli. The Hospital will have a full staff.

The main building will consist of—

1. An Out-patient department and dispensary room.
2. In-door Wards.
3. There will be a large Operating Room with ample arrangements for lighting both during the day and the night with an Anesthetizing Room attached.

Laying Foundation Stone of the Hardinge Hospital at Dharampore.

4. There will be bacteriological and chemical analysis rooms fully equipped for spectrum, blood and urine examination, the carrying out of opsionic index estimations and other necessary work in connection with phthisis treatment.

The present plan contains only eight male and four female wards, but many cottages of the most approved pattern will be erected as the need for them arises.

The main building is planned on the pavilion system, that is to say, every room will open on two sides into large verandahs, where patients will be kept whenever the weather permits.

Some of the special features of building as proposed are :—

(*a*) Ample light and air everywhere.

(*b*) The roofs to be tiled with patent asbestos tiles of a red colour, which, besides giving a bright, cheerful appearance, are non-conductors of heat, and thus the rooms will be warm in winter and cool in summer.

(*c*) The walls to be of stone with cement plaster on the inside, all corners to be rounded off and all edges, where dust can collect, avoided where possible.

(*d*) The floors to be either of concrete or stone; marble and glass tiling will be used for the Operating Room.

(*e*) Heating in winter will be by Hot Water Radiators which, besides giving temperature which can be easily regulated, will be more economical and certainly more cleanly than fire-places.

(*f*) It is proposed to light the building with one of the latest modifications of gas.

Besides the main buildings there will be the following detached ones :—

1. Assistant Surgeon's quarters with a small garden.
2. Quarters for the Sub-Assistant Surgeon.
3. Quarters for two Compounders, one Dai, one Cook, two Ward Coolies, one Bhisti, and one Chowkidar.
4. Cook House.
5. Mortuary—burning and burial grounds.
6. House for hot-water system.

It may interest Your Excellency to know that the promoters of the King Edward Sanatorium have, under Your Excellency's advice,

Laying Foundation Stone of the Hardinge Hospital at Dharampore.

secured the services of a thoroughly competent Medical Officer from Bombay, who is to supervise the work of the Hardinge Hospital also.

I may also add that the founder of the Sanatorium, to whom we are indebted for this, the first institution of its kind in the East, is arranging for a Preventorium on a parallel hill, which will prove a blessing to thousands of students and other young people.

And now I have the honour to request Your Excellency to lay the foundation stone of the Hardinge Hospital, intended to preserve the memory, in a humble way, of Your Excellency's renowned grandfather whose name is well-remembered by the Sikhs. It is well that the grandson of the hero of the Sikh War should be thus associated with our humble enterprise as a benefactor of the Sikh Community.

I thank Your Excellency cordially for honouring us with your presence and co-operation.

A silver trowel was presented to His Excellency, who declared the foundation to be well and truly laid.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Your Highness and Gentlemen,—Six months ago I had the pleasure of declaring open the King Edward Sanatorium, and when I was asked whether I would come again to lay the foundation stone of this hospital, I readily welcomed the chance of showing once more my sympathy with this—the pioneer institution of its character in India—the more readily in that its founders have so closely engaged my filial interest by associating with it the name of my grandfather, who also in his time was so closely connected with the Patiala State.

There is, however, something a little melancholy about the building which is to be reared upon this stone, for, however complete it may be in its arrangements, however scientific its appliances, we have to realise that it is intended for advanced cases, such as it is inexpedient to admit to the King Edward Sanatorium, and we can only hope that, as our knowledge of the disease advances, the

Laying Foundation Stone of the Hardinge Hospital at Dharampore.

tender care and attention which they will receive within its walls may serve to snatch many a despairing victim from the jaws of death.

But however melancholy be the need for such a hospital, there cannot be any doubt that the need of it as a complement to the Sanatorium is urgent. One of the advantages of both is the protection of the public from infection; but while the Sanatorium holds out the most cheering hope of cure to its inmates, the hospital is intended for the more desperate cases, and I need not emphasise the evils which would result, if through close association slight and primary cases were subjected to renewed infection from the more hopeless types.

In conclusion I want to say a few words about the management of the Sanatorium to which this hospital is to be an adjunct.

First, as regards admission.—It must be remembered that Sanatorium treatment is not a panacea for all consumptives, and as fatigue has a most deleterious effect upon patients suffering from this disease, the journey here, in this country of long distances, should not be undertaken unless some responsible man has certified beforehand that the case is really suitable for admission.

Secondly.—Fresh air and pine trees do not in themselves make a Sanatorium, and one of the most important factors in the treatment lies in the strictest regulation of every hour of the day for each individual patient. The Medical Officer should therefore have full powers of control, and the patients should give him their absolute confidence and implicit obedience.

Thirdly.—I cannot help thinking that it would be very desirable that an investigation should be made into the question whether the tuberculin treatment, which has

Laying Foundation Stone of the Hardinge Hospital at Dharampore.

already secured a solid foundation in Europe for the cure of tuberculosis, might not advantageously be combined with the ordinary Sanatorium treatment for the cure of consumption. This is a suggestion that I venture to offer for your consideration.

I am much gratified to learn that since my last visit you have engaged a full-time Medical Officer, and I am sure you will forgive me for the few words of advice and caution I have used when I remind you that, apart from its philanthropic aspect, which all must applaud, this is the first Sanatorium for consumptives in India, its progress will be watched with eager interest, and its success or failure may have consequences reaching far beyond the poor souls who shall hereafter bless its existence, and far beyond that little circle of kind hearts to whom it owes its foundation.

I wish at the same time to express my warm approval of the generous initiative taken by the Maharaja of Patiala in providing a general hospital, and my hearty appreciation of the substantial financial assistance that His Highness has contributed to the scheme. I am glad to note that the new hospital is to be thoroughly up to date and equipped with the latest of modern appliances. I am also glad to know that there is to be a full hospital staff. The fact that the hospital will bear the name of my grandfather and of my family will be an additional reason for my continued interest in it, and I shall look forward to seeing the hospital before long in full working order, and I trust that it may obtain the reputation of being the most perfect and model hospital of its kind in India.

STATE BANQUET AT HYDERABAD.

17th Oct. 1911. [His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by his personal staff, left Simla on the 13th October on his autumn tour and proceeded first to Hyderabad in order to make the acquaintance of the new Nizam.

On the night of the 17th His Highness entertained the Viceroy and a large number of guests at a State Banquet.

In proposing the Viceroy's health His Highness said :—

"*Your Excellency, My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—When I succeeded my late lamented father, almost the first thing I did was to write to Your Excellency to renew His Highness's invitation of January last and ask for an opportunity of welcoming Your Lordship to my capital. His late Highness attached very great importance to the Ruler of this State being personally acquainted with His Imperial Majesty's distinguished representative in India, and he was fortunate enough to receive here no less than six Viceroys. As I resolved to follow closely in the footsteps of my father, I naturally desired that I should make Your Excellency's personal acquaintance as early as possible. In this desire, however, I am afraid that I thought more of my own pleasure than of Your Excellency's convenience. I thank you most sincerely for so promptly responding to my invitation and honouring Hyderabad with a visit, in spite of the numerous claims on Your Lordship's time and the great pressure of work in connection with the Durbar at Delhi.

"On behalf of my people and myself I welcome Your Excellency most heartily, and I trust that Your Lordship will carry away with you pleasant recollections of your stay here, which is unfortunately so short. My pleasure at this moment would have been considerably enhanced had Her Excellency Lady Hardinge been able to grace the occasion with her presence. I am, however, glad to say that this pleasure is only deferred, and I look forward to the privilege of making Her Ladyship's acquaintance at Delhi.

"I am at the threshold of my career as Ruler of Hyderabad, and therefore at present all that I am able to say is that it is my highest ambition to be in all respects, both to the Government of India and to my own people, what my late father was,—a faithful friend on the one hand, and a benevolent ruler on the other. I confidently trust that His Imperial Majesty, as well as the people of my own country, will reciprocate my sentiments in the same spirit in which I entertain them.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I have now the great pleasure of proposing to you the health of my distinguished friend and honoured

State Banquet at Hyderabad.

guest,—His Excellency Lord Hardinge, and I couple with his name the name of Her Excellency Lady Hardinge of Penshurst. May every success and happiness always attend them."

The Viceroy replied as follows :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I thank you very cordially for the kind manner in which you have received the toast of my health with which His Highness was so good as to couple the name of Lady Hardinge. I can truly say that it was a matter of sincere regret to my wife that she was unable to accompany me on this occasion to Hyderabad. I hope, however, that during my tenure of office as Viceroy it may be my privilege to receive another invitation from His Highness to visit Hyderabad and that she may be able on that occasion to come with me.

Your Highness, I thank you for your cordial welcome. The circumstances which have led to my visit to Hyderabad at this juncture must fill the hearts of all present here with sadness and melancholy. The sudden and unforeseen loss of Your Highness's father in the prime of his life came upon India with a great shock, and though I did not myself have the honour and privilege of his personal acquaintance, I felt that by his unexpected death a pillar of the fabric of the State had been abruptly removed, for it is no mere idle flattery to say that the late Nizam left behind him a reputation for liberality, loyalty and sagacious statesmanship which has not been advertised or published abroad, but is a matter of common knowledge to those who came into personal contact with him, and especially so to all who have been concerned with the Government of India.

In these circumstances I felt that I should like to take the earliest possible occasion of visiting Hyderabad, not only as a mark of respect to the late Nizam, but also to

State Banquet at Hyderabad.

pay Your Highness my earnest and sincere condolences in the loss that has befallen you, and to stretch out to you the hand of friendship and support on the threshold of the great task that lies before you in administering to the peace and contentment of the 13 millions of people whose destiny has now fallen under your control.

Gladly, therefore, did I welcome the kind invitation which Your Highness extended to me, and my only regret is that my stay in this great and interesting city must be short, but it is my hope that the opportunities I have had, and shall have, of personal association with Your Highness may form the basis of a friendship between us, which will not only prove a lasting source of pleasure to us both, but may furnish a bond of mutual affection and esteem the strength of which shall be apparent in all future relations between your State and the Imperial Government of India.

This is not an occasion on which I could have any desire or inclination to thrust advice upon Your Highness, and I will only say that I have read the speech you made at your installation Durbar with much interest and pleasure. You said you would follow in your father's footsteps, and in doing so you will do wisely and well; but you must remember that the world does not stand still, and that the business of Government requires constant and strenuous effort; and that, without the personal interest such as only the Ruler of the State can show, there is always the danger of abuses creeping into the administration. You will be wise to look into things for yourself, to be easily accessible, to be ready to hear all sides, to choose your advisers with the greatest care, and when you are satisfied with your choice, to give them your fullest confidence and support.

I am glad to think that those whose wisdom and guidance won the approbation of your father meet with

State Banquet at Hyderabad.

your own approval, and it is to me a happy augury that you should have decided to extend your trust and confidence for the present to the well-tried Councillors whose qualities have been so well tested in the past. And I need hardly remind Your Highness that, whenever occasion or difficulties may arise, you will always have at your hand, in the post of Resident, one of my most trusted officers, to whom you may always turn for help with complete assurance that you will receive from him wise and sympathetic advice.

Your Highness will forgive me for reminding you that, in the exalted position to which you have been called, your own character and personality are of far-reaching importance. You will have great temptations to face, and I pray that God may give you grace and strength to overcome them. Be active in your habits, and thus preserve health of body and mind; that when your time comes, as it must come to us all, to pass on your burden to another, the future historian may be able to record a life devoted to duty and to the welfare and contentment of the millions of subjects entrusted to your care.

I shall look forward with pleasure to meeting you again in a few short weeks at the Durbar of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor, and I trust that that happy and auspicious occasion may provide one more link in the chain of mutual confidence and loyalty which has now for so many years bound together Your Highness's family and the Royal House of England.

And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my pleasant task to propose the health of His Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad, and in doing so I wish prosperity to the State of Hyderabad and a happy and successful reign to its Ruler.

LAYING OF FOUNDATION STONE OF THE KING EDWARD MEMORIAL AT CAWNPORE.

17th Nov. 1911. [His Excellency the Viceroy visited Cawnpore, on the 17th November, and spent a busy day in the programme of which the laying of the foundation stone of the King Edward Memorial was the most important event.

After visiting several places of interest His Excellency proceeded to the scene of the memorial. For this memorial, it is desired to raise two lakhs, of which Rs. 1,50,000 has already been subscribed. The memorial will take the form of an imposing building including a hall, theatre, library and other rooms. On the arrival of Their Excellencies, whose carriage was drawn by a R. F. A. team, a guard-of-honour of the Cawnpore Squadron of the Light Horse was drawn up outside the gates, whilst inside were a guard-of-honour of the Gordon Highlanders under Captain Huggins, which Lord Hardinge inspected. The foundation stone laying ceremony was simple and direct. Their Excellencies took their seats on a specially erected dais and the municipal address was presented to the Viceroy. It was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—On behalf of the citizens of Cawnpore, we beg to tender you a very hearty welcome on the occasion of your first visit to our town. Recognizing as we do the many and varied calls which your exalted office imposes upon you, we feel deeply indebted to you for your kindness in consenting to perform the ceremony. It is a source of the greatest pleasure to us that Her Excellency Lady Hardinge should also be present this afternoon to grace our proceedings. The building which will arise from the foundation laid to-day is designed to perpetuate the august memory of our beloved Sovereign Edward VII. That memory will long be cherished in the hearts of all his peoples. Foremost among his many claims to grateful recollections, not only among his subjects but throughout the nations of the civilized world, will ever stand out the great work which has earned for him the glorious title of Peacemaker. In that work Your Excellency was closely associated as His Majesty's trusted confidant. There is special significance in your presence here to-day to lay the first stone of our tribute to his memory. The form which this memorial should take has been the subject of much earnest thought. The civil life of one of the leading industrial centres of the Indian Empire requires a hall for use on occasions of State Ceremonies and public meetings, a hall round which the activities and energies of the modern city may be concentrated. A large portion of the building

Laying of Foundation Stone of the King Edward Memorial at Cawnpore.

will be set apart for a public library, where facilities for education of the best type—self-education—will be placed before the citizens and where the accumulated learning of the nations of the world will be available to all.

We can devise no more fitting vehicle to give expression to the feelings that have prompted this memorial than the building which will provide for all the higher individual and corporate needs of our citizens. The site selected is most suitable and the most central which our city affords. It possesses, moreover, for all of us associations of deep significance. In this park, close at hand, stands the statue of Queen Victoria of revered memory. Side by side these two memorials will supply abiding evidence of the spontaneous loyalty of the citizens of Cawnpore and of the deep devotion to the two Sovereigns who successfully dedicated their lives to the welfare of their peoples. They will serve to hand down from one generation to another those strong feelings of love and gratitude which led to their erection, for this memorial is the result of no official exhortations. It owes its origin solely to the spontaneous desire of the citizens of Cawnpore to find expression for the deep loyalty which they entertained towards the late King, loyalty far transcending the traditional respect and veneration with which for centuries past the monarch has been invariably regarded by the people of India. King Edward's personal force of character, his unprecedented influence in the councils of Nations, his ceaseless labours in the cause of peace, his unflagging zeal and self-sacrificing devotion to his peoples, his keen interest in India, have evoked feelings of intense personal loyalty among all, from the highest to the lowest among men and women of all creeds, castes and classes. This is the origin and this the meaning of our memorial, and this is the message which it will hand down to our children's children. We now humbly request Your Excellency to lay the foundation stone, and in conclusion we venture to express the hope that when the building is completed, we may have another opportunity of welcoming Your Excellency in our midst on the occasion of the opening ceremony.

In reply the Viceroy said :—]

Gentlemen,—First let me warmly thank you for your kind expression of welcome to Lady Hardinge and myself on this our first visit to your city. When I heard

Laying of Foundation Stone of the King Edward Memorial at Cawnpore.

that you wished me to take the opportunity of laying this foundation stone I very gladly assented, for while I should have been pleased enough to enter into any of your civic interests, this particular ceremony deals with a matter in which my heart was already in unison with yours long before I set foot in India. I felt moreover that it was a solemn duty for me to perform the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of a building to the memory of a great Sovereign, who from his exalted position had condescended to honour me, his humble servant, with his confidence and friendship, and of whom I can never think without a tinge of sadness and regret. I can add but little to the eloquent language in which you have referred to the quality which made the late King so great a power for good in the world, but that little is a knowledge acquired by my own observations of his great sagacity, sympathy and never failing kindness and an experience gained at first hand of the charm and power of his personality. He was indeed a worthy successor to the great Queen Victoria, and it is fitting that memorials to them both should stand in such close proximity. I think the world would be astonished if it knew how many schemes are constantly submitted for my blessing. Some of them I cannot approve, and others, while they must command the sympathy of all earnest-minded men, are hopelessly impracticable from a financial point of view. But here your scheme is not only wholly praiseworthy but its future is practically assured, for I learn that you have no anxiety about the provision of funds, and this is all the more satisfactory in the face of your statement that its initiation and execution are a spontaneous expression of the feelings of the citizens of Cawnpore. I am also glad to think that this historic city should have its own special memorial to King Edward the Peacemaker.

Laying of Foundation Stone of the King Edward Memorial at Cawnpore.

I hope that this hall, when completed, may prove worthy of him in whose memory it is erected, and that in its use as a place of ceremonial or debate, petty and personal feelings may slink away abashed before a spirit which will tolerate no motive meaner than that of the common good and will be satisfied with none but the highest ideals; and if sometimes it be used for less serious purposes, I hope they may prove not only a source of healthy amusement but at the same time instructive and profitable. Among you gentlemen who are present here to-day are those who have contributed most largely to this memorial, and I should like to congratulate you on the spirit which has animated you and the happy results which have attended your efforts; and I believe that I shall only be giving utterance to the feelings of you all in expressing regret that your late Collector, Mr. Crawford, has passed away and is no longer here to take part in this ceremony, for I am told that he was keenly interested in this memorial and did much to further its success. And now that I am about to lay this foundation stone, I thank you for the wish expressed in the last sentence of your address, and I reciprocate the hope that with God's blessing we may all be present here at the completion and the opening of the building.

[His Excellency laid the stone with a handsome gold trowel made by Messrs. Cooke and Kelvey, Calcutta. The handle was of ivory, surmounted by a royal crown. On the blade were the arms of Great Britain and beneath a suitable inscription.

Lord Hardinge declared the stone well and truly laid, and the ceremony, which was largely attended, came to a close. The Viceregal party were entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Allen and subsequently left for Delhi, the departure as well as the arrival being private.]

UNVEILING THE KING EDWARD MEMORIAL AT DELHI.

7th Dec. 1911. [In the afternoon of the 7th December His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor performed the ceremony of unveiling the memorial tablet of the All-India King Edward Memorial. This was witnessed by an enormous throng of people. The site of the statue is an open piece of ground between the Fort near the Delhi Gate and the Jama Masjid. The ground had been closed with railing and gardens laid out, and its situation enabled it to be viewed from a large area of the maidan all round. Some of this ground rises in slopes, and it was a wonderful sight to see the thousands and thousands of people on the stands and covering the roofs of the houses and the great mosque. Seats had been arranged in blocks and were occupied by a distinguished throng of Europeans and Indians, all the high officials now in Delhi being present. The pedestal of the statue of red Agra sandstone had already been erected and the act of the King to-day was to unveil the memorial tablet which will be in the pedestal. A high platform covered with white cloth had been erected around the pedestal with broad steps leading up to it.

On the base of the pedestal on each side were men from each of the regiments of which the late King-Emperor was Colonel, with their colours, and beneath, facing the entrance to the ground, which is in Elgin Road, were the heralds and trumpeters. The drive from the gates was lined with a guard-of-honour, consisting of a hundred men each from the Naval Contingent, from the Royal Marine Artillery, the Gordons, and the 2nd Gurkha Rifles. The Viceroy and Lady Hardinge arrived shortly before half-past three, and were received by the committee, who included the Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle, Mr. Justice Mookerjee and the Hon'ble Mr. C. W. Graham. Their Majesties were timed in the programme to leave the Royal Camp at 2-55 P.M., but it was much later when they started, and it was about 3-45 when they arrived at the gates, having come down by the Lothian and Elgin Roads. Large crowds lined the route and seemed delighted to find that on this occasion there was no difficulty in identifying the King, who rode with Her Majesty in an open State carriage, the golden umbrellas showing the progress of the procession to those standing in the enclosure as it came winding down Lothian Road. The escort consisted of a squadron of British Cavalry in front and a carriage escort of two non-commissioned officers, standard-bearer, and four British Cavalrymen immediately in the rear of the Royal carriage. The carriages containing the Royal suite (including the Marquis of Crewe, the Duchess of Devonshire, and the Earl of Durham) followed, and a

Unveiling the King Edward Memorial at Delhi.

squadron of Indian Cavalry brought up the rear of the procession. On alighting Their Majesties were received by the Viceroy, who presented to them the members of the committee, and a procession was then formed to walk to the shamiana which had been erected on the lawn opposite the pedestal, the Memorial committee walking first. Hearty cheers were raised by the occupants of the enclosure as the King and the Queen entered the shamiana.

The ceremony was brief and simple. Lord Hardinge on behalf of the committee presented His Majesty with the following address, which he first read aloud. A beautiful silver replica of the statue was presented with the address :—]

May it please Your Imperial Majesty,—On behalf of the Committee of the All-India Memorial to your illustrious and greatly beloved father, the King-Emperor Edward the Seventh, I have the honour to ask Your Imperial Majesty to place in position the memorial stone of a statue to his memory to which subscriptions have been contributed by thousands and thousands of Your Imperial Majesty's loyal and devoted subjects in India, rich and poor sharing the privilege of testifying to the love and reverence with which the name of their illustrious ruler will ever be cherished. In the statue that is to adorn this pedestal will be enshrined a lasting pledge of the gratitude of the many millions of your Indian people for the peace, justice, and prosperity that prevailed during the late King-Emperor's all too short but strenuous reign, which brought him, in the glorious victories of peace, the reward of high endeavour and of duty unflinchingly fulfilled. In this city of ancient historic memories and heroic achievements the statue of our great and revered King-Emperor will stand not only as a splendid sentinel guarding the records of the great dynasties of the past and of the loyal devotion to your Throne of the countless races and peoples of Your Majesty's great Empire in India, but it will remain as a lasting symbol of the love of England and her rulers for

Unveiling the King Edward Memorial at Delhi.

India and her peoples and a guarantee of their power and desire to lead India forward on the path of noble aims and high aspirations.

And now in asking Your Imperial Majesty to place the stone in position we entrust this noble memorial of a most noble Sovereign to the homage of posterity and to the loyal keeping of Your Imperial Majesty's Indian subjects.

HIS MAJESTY'S SPEECH.

[His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor in reply to the address said :—]

The address which you have just read has touched my heart and awakened memories of what we all, and I most of all, owe to my dead father, the late King-Emperor. He was the first of my house to visit India, and it was by his command that I came six short years ago to this great and wonderful land. Alas, little did we then think how soon we should have to mourn his loss. You tell me that this memorial represents the contributions not only of a few who may have had the privilege of personal acquaintance with my father, but of thousands of his and my people in India. I am glad to know that the deep and abiding concern which he felt for India has met with so warm a response from the hearts of her children. I rejoice to think that this statue will stand a noble monument on a beautiful and historic site to remind generations yet unborn of your loyal affection, and of his sympathy and trust—sentiments which, please God, always will be traditional between India and the members of my house.

[Lord Hardinge conducted the King up the steps to the platform where the memorial tablet was suspended. From here the figure of the King-Emperor, standing, as he was, on an elevation of some twenty feet, was visible to the vast crowds who were watching the ceremony, and a murmur of exclamation was heard, followed by cheers from those around the pedestal, which His Majesty graciously acknowledged. As His Majesty performed the ceremony of un-

State Banquet at Delhi.

veiling the tablet the guard-of-honour and the men lining the plinth presented arms, the band played the National Anthem, the spectators cheered, and a salute of a hundred and one guns was fired from the Fort. As soon as the reverberating echoes of the last gun had died away, the procession was reformed and Their Majesties returned to their carriage and drove off amid renewed cheering.

Then followed a little incident that passed unnoticed by many people. When the ceremony was over Lord Hardinge advanced to the pedestal and laid on the steps of the Memorial a beautiful wreath of white roses bearing the inscription "To his memory from his devoted servant,—Hardinge of Penshurst.]

STATE BANQUET AT DELHI.

[In the evening of the 12th December Their Imperial Majesties gave a State Banquet in the King's Camp, at which the Governor-General and Lady Hardinge and most of the principal recipients of honours on the occasion of the Durbar were present. 12th Dec. 1911.

His Excellency the Governor-General, in proposing the Royal Toast at the State Dinner, said :—]

Your Excellencies, Your Highnesses, Ladies and Gentlemen,—With His Imperial Majesty's gracious permission, it is my proud privilege, on this unique occasion in the history of India, to have the honour of proposing the health of Their Imperial Majesties, our King-Emperor and Queen-Empress. Many conquering hosts have in bygone centuries swept over this land, some leaving devastation behind them, while others established famous dynasties of which many historic monuments happily still remain in testimony of their splendour and magnificence, and not a few of the finest of these in Delhi itself. Still, whatever may be the past historic memories of Delhi, none can vie with that of the scene which we have all witnessed to-day when our noble King-Emperor, in company with His Most Gracious Consort the Queen-Empress, received the public homage of all the great Ruling Chiefs and representatives of all classes and from every part of India. Surely no such vast and notable assemblage has ever

gathered in India before, nor has any announcement made by a Sovereign ever appealed so deeply to the sentiments of all classes as that made by your Imperial Majesty to your loyal and devoted Indian subjects at the Durbar to-day. Delhi, with all its teeming wealth of historic incidents, once more becomes the capital of the Indian Empire, and on this the first official celebration in your Majesties' newly appointed capital, we all, with true loyalty and devotion, thankfully accept a decision of which the true imports and profound significance could not have come home to the millions of the Indian people had it fallen from any lips but your Imperial Majesty's own—a decision which the Government of India believe at the same time to be essential to the better government and greater prosperity of the Indian Empire. I now propose the health of Their Imperial Majesties the King-Emperor and Queen-Empress.

[After the banquet the King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress gave a reception in the Durbar tents at which some two thousand guests were present.]

LAYING FOUNDATION STONES OF THE NEW CAPITAL OF INDIA, DELHI.

15th Dec. 1911.

[On the 15th December Their Imperial Majesties laid the foundation stones of the new Delhi. The site selected was in the Government of India camp in the Avenue on the east side of the main Pavilion, where the tents of the Members of Council were situated.

Two stones had been placed in position with the date on them, in gilt lettering, but without further inscription, which will be added later.

Invitations were issued to the heads of Local Governments and administrations, and the Ruling Chiefs, as well as the provincial representatives who did homage at the Durbar.

Shortly before ten o'clock Their Excellencies the Governor-General and Lady Hardinge arrived, and almost immediately after Their Majesties arrived, the King on horseback in military uniform, and the Queen in the State carriage,

Laying Foundation Stones of the New Capital of India, Delhi.

The ceremony was very brief. As soon as Their Majesties had taken their places under the shamiana, Lord Hardinge standing opposite delivered the following speech :—]

May it please Your Imperial Majesties,—By graciously consenting to lay the first stones of the Imperial capital to be established at Delhi, Your Imperial Majesties will set a seal upon the announcement made by His Imperial Majesty on the day of the Coronation Durbar, a day which will ever be memorable in the history of India, partly owing to the splendour with which it was celebrated, but much more on account of the fervent demonstrations of loyalty which it evoked. Many capitals have been inaugurated in the neighbourhood of Delhi, some of which are so ancient that their origin is lost in the mists of antiquity, but none has ever arisen under happier auspices than those which attended the ceremony which Your Imperial Majesties are about to perform, and assuredly none ever held promise of greater permanence or of a prosperous and glorious future. The decision to remove the capital of the Government of India from Calcutta was not reached without mature and anxious consideration. Proposals of a similar nature had been fully discussed as long ago as 1868, and ample materials were on record for the formation of our just opinion upon all debateable points. No great change, however beneficial, can be carried out without some sacrifice, without some injury to personal interests, or some offence to local sentiment: yet if I may be permitted to speak as Your Imperial Majesties' Governor-General on behalf of myself and my colleagues in Council, I desire to say that we are confident that there have been few changes so important which have been so much to the advantage of the many and so little injurious to the interest of the few, that the injury which the few may anticipate will be merely temporary and within no long time will be greatly out-

Laying Foundation Stones of the New Capital of India, Delhi.

weighed by the benefits which will issue, and that Your Imperial Majesty's decision, taken constitutionally upon the advice of your Imperial Majesties' Ministers, will, with the concomitant changes which are necessarily involved, result in a vast and progressive improvement of the government of the Indian Empire, will put an end to the strife and dissension, and will usher in an era of general peace and contentment. We are convinced that the decision could have been taken and announced in no way which would have been provocative of so little discord and debate, or so well calculated to enlist the enthusiastic and loyal support of all classes of Your Imperial Majesty's faithful subjects. We sincerely trust the noble city which under God's Providence we hope to rear around the spot where these stones are laid will be worthy of the occasion to which it owes its birth. The stones themselves will for ever remain a monument of Your Imperial Majesties' gracious presence at this ancient seat of civilisation and Empire and of the momentous decision which was declared and published to Your Imperial Majesties' loyal subjects at this place.

[At the close of his speech Lord Hardinge announced that the Maharaja of Gwalior had undertaken to provide a statue of the King-Emperor to be set up in the Imperial capital of India in commemoration of the Royal visit and of the transfer of the capital to Delhi.

His Imperial Majesty then spoke as follows :—]

It is a matter of supreme satisfaction to the Queen-Empress and myself that it has been possible for us, before leaving Delhi, to lay the First Stones of the Imperial Capital which will arise from where we now stand.

This is the first step to give material effect to the important announcement which it was my pleasure to make on that magnificent and to us deeply impressive occasion of my Coronation Durbar three days ago,

Annual Dinner of the Mining and Geological Institute of India.

I earnestly hope that the anticipation of the beneficial and far-reaching results from the great changes now to be effected may be amply fulfilled, securing to India improved administration and to its People increased happiness and prosperity.

I trust that the planning and designing of the Public Buildings to be erected will be considered with the greatest deliberation and care, so that the new creation may be in every way worthy of this ancient and beautiful City.

May God's blessing rest upon the work which is so happily inaugurated to-day.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE MINING AND GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF INDIA.

[His Excellency the Viceroy was present at the above dinner which was held at the Volunteer Headquarters at Calcutta, on the 26th January. Among those present were :— 26th Jan. 1912.

Mr. G. F. Adams, President, being in the chair. His Honour Sir William Duke, Mr. T. H. Ward, Sir T. R. Wynne, the Hon'ble Mr. W. H. Clark, Sir F. Upcott, Mr S. Heslop, Mr. F. Owen, Sir William Dring, Sir Frederick Dumayne, Mr. F. Rawson, Mr. W. A. Lee, Mr. R. E. Enthoven, Mr. R. H. A. Gresson, Mr. W. Wanklyn, Lieutenant-Colonel F. Hughes, Mr. G. C. Godfrey, Mr. C. J. Elton, Mr. A. Topping, and Mr. H. H. Reynolds (Honorary Secretary). The Vice-Chairmen were Sir Thomas Holland, Mr. R. G. M. Bathgate, Mr. H. G. Graves, and Mr. H. H. Haydon.

The Chairman gave the loyal toasts, and subsequently proposed "His Excellency the Viceroy." In doing so, he said :—

"*Your Excellency, Your Honour, and Gentlemen,*—I am in a few moments going to ask you to drink to the toast of the Viceroy. Ever since the inception of this Institute we have had every reason to feel grateful for, we have had every reason to feel honoured by, the kind encouragement which we have received from those who rule over and control the destinies of both the province of Bengal and the entire Empire, and by their recognition of the professions of the Geologist and the Mining Engineer, as shown by their presence among us at these our annual gatherings.

Annual Dinner of the Mining and Geological Institute of India.

"It will be within the memory of most of us that Sir Andrew Fraser when Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal attended our inaugural meeting at Asansole six years ago—he was as enthusiastic that day as any one of us—and he was our guest once again also at an annual dinner here in Calcutta. Our first anniversary was marked by the acceptance of our invitation by His Excellency Lord Minto, and again you will remember from the speech he gave us that his own mining experience was at any rate a varied one. Sir Edward Baker also was kind enough to be our guest upon one occasion. And there are many others, set in high authority, who always have been ready to come here and by doing so to show their appreciation of our aims and our efforts.

"But I must confess, Gentlemen, that on this occasion we hardly dared hope that our invitation to His Excellency could be accepted. It is hardly necessary for me to point out how strenuous his life has been for the last few months, but perhaps we may not all realise that what has been a time of pleasure and of happiness to hundreds—to thousands—of people has been a time of not only very hard work but very anxious work for him. So we sent out our invitation rather in fear and trembling, quite feeling that the answer might very well be that surely we must recognise that His Excellency must now have some rest, and that under the circumstances was not our invitation rather a glaring example of man's inhumanity to man.

"But that was not the answer. His Excellency is here. And in coming here he pays a compliment not only to the Mining and Geological Institute of India but to the whole of the mining industry in India. For the Institute and the Industry must, and do, walk ever hand in hand. It is an ever-growing and an ever-expanding industry. Local tides may ebb and flow, temporary eddies may form and recede, but I am convinced that the main trend of the current is steadily on the flood, and when you come to consider, in the case of so many of you to how much of the growth, to how much of the general prosperity of the industry has contributed your professional skill, and not only that, but the exacting labour and the devotion to duty to which I am only too proud to be able to stand up here to-night to testify, I think you should look upon this evening with pleasure and with pride, for mine management is no light task, I can assure you, Your Excellency, Your Honour and Gentlemen who are here our guests to-night.

"And, in addition to those of you who are here, you who are generally able to attend these annual meetings, you whose lives and

Annual Dinner of the Mining and Geological Institute of India.

lines are cast for the most part in pleasant places, we must not forget that there are many others, scattered up and down the length and breadth of India, living often in more or less inaccessible jungles, leading often very lonely and colourless lives, who are doing yeoman service for the industry and upholding the best traditions of our callings. They, just as much as you, will be pleased and gratified at His Excellency's presence here to-night.

"I have said that mine management was no light task. This is true in every country in the world, but in every country there are difficulties peculiar to and inseparable from the country, and the coal mine manager in Bengal has his. As I pointed out once upon another occasion, the great thickness of the seams, the class of labour available for working them, and the fact that he is so far removed from the great workshops of the world, all go to make up those difficulties, but perhaps the greatest of them all arises from the low calibre of his non-commissioned ranks. Although the progress of scientific mining is increasing in India by leaps and bounds, the good subordinate official is very hard to find. A distinguished publicist has stated recently that there is no use introducing technical education into India, because there is no work for the technically trained. I can only speak of what I know, and I do know this, that there is work for him in the coal mines of Bengal. A mine manager advertises for a clerk, he gets fifty applications and he must be touched by the pitiful appeals which accompany some of them. He advertises for a mining surveyor or a mining overseer, on a very much higher pay. Does he get three applications from men who know their work? We have a large army of subordinate officials now employed in the collieries—they will be so employed probably for the rest of their lives—and both we and they are handicapped by their want of knowledge. The trade will not admit of any large increase in European supervision, and is there any reason why it should, if the right man can be found and trained in the country?

"Whatever we may be, Gentlemen, we are not, as members of this Institute, politicians, but we are nevertheless alive to details connected with material changes of administration, as far as they affect the mining industry, and I should like to point out that the present boundary line between Bengal and Chota Nagpur cleaves the Raniganj coal-field, so that the greater part of it will be according to existing divisions in Bengal and the lesser, but by no means an unimportant, part of it will be in Bihar.

"I have endeavoured to express our pleasure at His Excellency's joining us here to-night in our reply. I know that I am expressing

Annual Dinner of the Mining and Geological Institute of India.

the wishes of every member, when I say how pleased we should be if he could find time some day, I won't say to join us in our work, but to come to the coal-fields and see our work.

"If the Institute stands to-night to His Excellency for the industry, for what does His Excellency stand to-night to us? He stands to us for the representative of the King-Emperor, he stands to us for the representative of the Government of the land in which we live and in which we labour, and his being here to-night should stand to us for every encouragement to place at the disposal of the Institute the best of our skill and the best of our knowledge, so that the Institute in its turn may be a real and live factor in the advancement of the mining industries of this great country."

In reply to the toast His Excellency delivered the following speech :—]

Mr. President and Gentlemen,—I greatly appreciate the cordial way in which you have drunk the toast of my health and the kind expressions in which you, Sir, have couched your welcome to me here to-night. It is perfectly true that the preparations for His Imperial Majesty's visit to Delhi and Calcutta involved a severe strain upon myself and upon all those who had responsibilities in connection with it, but when I look back upon that visit and all that it has meant to India both now and for the future, when I recall the enthusiasm and devotion that it evoked from all classes of His Majesty's subjects, and when I consider the harmony and kindliness of feeling aroused among all sections of the community, I feel more than amply repaid for all the efforts which I and those who worked with me have made to ensure the complete success of such a gigantic undertaking as the recent Durbar, and of the other arrangements connected with the visit of Their Majesties to this country.

As I daresay some of you may know, there were not a few people in England who advocated the opinion that the King's visit to India should be concluded with the visit to Delhi. This was never my idea, as from the very day that I was offered the appointment of Viceroy

Annual Dinner of the Mining and Geological Institute of India.

of India, on which occasion the King mentioned to me his project of visiting his Indian Empire, I maintained that the visit would not be complete without a visit to Calcutta. This view I held throughout; and although I was always confident that the King would have an excellent reception in Calcutta, I never conceived that it could possibly be quite as enthusiastic as it proved to be. The Indian people are, I believe, absolutely loyal to the core. Loyalty to the King is with them, as it appears to me, instinctive. The presence of their Sovereign in their midst inspires them with instinctive feelings of profound loyalty and veneration. With no race is that more so than with the Bengalis who, though often stirred by sentiment, are warmly appreciative of sympathetic treatment at the hands of all, but more especially so at the hands of their Sovereign. During those wonderful nine days that our King-Emperor and Queen-Empress were in our midst it cannot be denied that the enthusiasm of the people increased daily and had reached a climax at the moment of their departure that I can only describe as prodigious. It was more than that; it was magnificent. I have been in many big capitals on State occasions and have never witnessed any enthusiasm comparable to what I saw in Calcutta. The personal sovereignty of the King-Emperor was invested with a new significance in the eyes of Indians, and I cannot help feeling that the Royal visit has infused a new spirit of confidence and hope in the minds of all the people of Calcutta and Bengal that will bear fruit a thousand-fold, and while heralding the dawn of a new era of peace and progress has already dispersed the clouds of suspicion and unrest that have darkened the horizon during the past few years.

I confess I should be glad, as you have suggested, of a little rest, but I was particularly anxious to accept your

Annual Dinner of the Mining and Geological Institute of India.

hospitable invitation, not only because I half promised to do so last year, but also because I wished to show by my presence here to-night what great importance I attach to the position of the mining industry in the general development of India.

I do not wish to trouble you in an after-dinner speech with an indigestible mass of statistics, but I will give you a few figures to illustrate my meaning. In the past 20 years the output of coal has increased from 2 million to 12 million tons; of gold from 110,000 to 600,000 ounces; of petroleum from 5 million to 215 million gallons, and the export of manganese from practically nothing to 800,000 tons. Lead and silver are coming into prominence in the Northern Shan States, and wolfram is attracting a good deal of attention in Lower Burma, where it was first discovered in 1907 by those handmaids of the mining industry—the geological experts. In the same 20 years the value of the combined output of the more prominent minerals has risen from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $7\frac{3}{4}$ million pounds sterling.

Nor has the advance been confined to the amount won: the methods of winning are steadily improving. Kolar, whence comes almost all the gold, stands, both in its universal employment of electric power and in the depth of its shafts, for all that is most advanced in mining in the East. Some of the workings there, reaching as they do a vertical depth of over 4,000 feet, are amongst the deepest in the world, and constitute, I am told, a record in deep mining in the tropics. While in Bengal the introduction of coal-cutting machinery and screening plant, and the commencement of electric installations, bear testimony that Indian coal-mining also aspires to the realisation of the economic ideal.

Concurrently with mechanical advance, the condition of the Indian collier is being improved. Insanitary *bastis* and an impure water-supply are giving place to model

Annual Dinner of the Mining and Geological Institute of India.

dwellings, septic tanks and filtered water, and the truth is being realised that money spent in improving the health and comfort of the collier finds its return in increased efficiency. One of the pioneers of this movement is, I am told, the retiring President of this Institute—Sir Percy Ashton. I regret that he is not present here to-night that I might congratulate him on his strenuous endeavours to improve the conditions of life of the colliery worker.

You have remarked, Sir, that you are far removed from the workshops of the world, but that is a deficiency which, I hope, will soon begin to disappear. The Barakar Iron Works and the newly opened Tata Iron and Steel Works are the signs of fresh industrial development. They are pioneer industries, and the road which they are hewing out should lead India to take her place at last among the great manufacturing countries of the world. I wish them most cordially every success.

I understand that a question to which the mining industry of India attach special importance at the present moment is the need for a more adequate supply of subordinate employés, such as mining surveyors and overseers. To meet this demand the Government of India have at present a small committee touring in India, consisting of the Principals of the Roorkee and Bombay Technical Colleges, whose instructions are to consult with business men interested in the mining industry, among others, with a view to securing that the colleges shall so model their course of instruction in future that suitable candidates may be forthcoming to meet a real and effective demand for skilled employés in any industrial undertaking of importance.

Another question of importance is the revision of the rules for the grant of mining concessions which is now in hand. It is hoped by the revision to modify in certain

Annual Dinner of the Mining and Geological Institute of India.

particulars the present control exercised by the State so as to meet more fully the requirements of the public. Further, additional responsibility will, if possible, be conferred on Local Governments, so that questions on which official orders are indispensable may be dealt with locally, and therefore more promptly than hitherto.

The President of this Institute has in his speech alluded to the division of the Bengal coal-fields owing to the recent administrative changes, but he has very kindly and tactfully not pressed me for a reply. I may mention, however, that I have received within the last two or three days a memorial from the leading coal companies praying for the incorporation into Bengal of all the coal-fields. I need hardly say that this memorial will be carefully examined by the Government of India, but from a study of the map it may be observed that the old boundaries of the new province of Bihar, Chota Nagpur and Orissa will include all the coal-fields except the Raniganj fields, of which a small portion only lies in Chota Nagpur. Now it seems to me only right that I should take this opportunity of stating that the Government of India are of opinion that there should be no change in the existing boundaries of the divisions of the province of Bengal, of the province of Bihar and Orissa and of the province of Assam, and that the case of the district of Manbhum was, even before the receipt of the memorial, carefully considered and decided. From the information that I have so far received, I am given to understand that the district of Manbhum belongs ethnologically and administratively to Chota Nagpur and is subject to the Chota Nagpur Rent Act. At the same time the coal industry is moving westwards in such a way that in no case could it ever be kept only in the hands of the Bengal Government, since it is conceivable that in process of time a wedge might be driven in dividing Bihar from Orissa

and penetrating even into the Central Provinces. In order to meet the requirements of the owners of coal-fields whose property may be partly in one province and partly in another, it seems that there should be a single law for the whole area, similar rules for the whole district, and a close similarity between the interpretation placed on rules and orders affecting the management of the mines in both provinces. Of these requirements the first is safeguarded by the fact that the Indian Mines Act is one for all India. It will be the aim of the Government of India to impress on the two Governments concerned the desirability of keeping the rules for both areas in close conformity, and to facilitate the application of them to properties lying in both provinces. The third requisite, a close similarity in interpretation of rules and orders, may be expected, inasmuch as the inspecting staff working under the two Governments is likely for some time to be the same in both provinces.

Before I sit down, Gentlemen, let me say one word of appreciation of the work which your Institute is doing. It was established with the object of promoting the study of all branches of mining methods and mineral occurrences in India, with a view to disseminating information for facilitating the economic development of the mineral industries in the country. You now number 307 members, including representatives of every mineral industry in India, and, among the advantages which you secure, may be reckoned the fact that you constitute a centre for the collection and tabulation of information and knowledge, of which much must have been lost in the past. I am told that you have done much to facilitate the interchange of ideas, and that your friendly gatherings have contributed to the removal of mutual jealousies, so that your members have had opportunities of benefiting by one another's successes and avoiding one another's

Address from Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce.

mistakes to the advantage of the mining industries, and to the establishment of a bond of mutual respect and *esprit de corps* among the Mining Engineers working in India. These are results which must gladden the hearts of your founder, Mr. W. H. Pickering, and your first President, Sir Thomas Holland; and, in thanking you once more for the kind hospitality and friendly feeling you have shown to me this evening, I congratulate your Institute upon the success which has attended its footsteps and wish it the most prosperous future.

ADDRESS FROM NARAYANGANJ CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

29th Jan. 1912.

[His Excellency the Viceroy left Calcutta on the 28th January for a short visit to Dacca. On the way His Excellency stopped at Narayanganj to receive an address from the Chamber of Commerce. The address, which was read by Mr. Nicoll, the Chairman, was as follows :—

We, the members of the Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce, desire to offer to Your Excellency a loyal and respectful welcome to this town, which is the principal centre of the jute industry in those of its branches which include the cultivation of the crop and the preparation of the fibre for export to the manufacturing centres in India and Europe. Jute, as Your Excellency knows, ranks second in importance in the list of Indian exports, and in one way or another provides employment for a vast number of the people of Bengal: the value of that part of the crop which annually passes through Narayanganj alone is about five million pounds. We venture to think that an industry of such importance has large claims on the consideration and encouragement of Government; and as representatives of one of its sections, we respectfully hope that we may regard Your Excellency's visit to the jute districts as an earnest that our representations in matters touching the interest of the trade will always meet with the most sympathetic treatment at the hands of Government. Those of us who have been longest engaged in the jute trade here can only recall two other occasions in which residents of the jute districts have been privileged to welcome a Viceroy in their midst, the occasions when Lord Dufferin and Lord Curzon came amongst us. As loyal subjects of His Imperial Majesty the King, whose visit to India has been a cause of the most lively satis-

Address from Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce.

faction to every class of those who are privileged to owe him allegiance, we are proud to have this opportunity of tendering our respectful greetings to His Majesty's representative, and now that distances are being shortened by modern methods we trust that we are not unduly optimistic in hoping that this corner of the King's Dominions may in the future have more frequent opportunities of enjoying the privilege which is ours to-day.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen of the Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce, —I thank you cordially for the address of welcome which you have presented to me. In it you have referred to the importance of the jute industry and its claims to the consideration and encouragement of Government. I assure you that these claims have been, and will be, carefully considered. Some years ago, in the interest of the jute industry, we appointed a fibre expert at the Agricultural Farm at Dacca. It was anticipated that the work of this specialist would lead to improvements in the quality of the raw product and the methods of cultivation. I am not sure that those interested in the industry have made as much use of our expert as we hoped at the time of creating the appointment. I trust that, in their reasonable efforts to increase the quantity of jute produced for the market, the necessity of aiming at superior quality has not been overlooked.

The Government of India have recently received a memorial in which certain important firms dealing in jute manufactures have asked for the creation of a Government Jute Department. The memorial will be sympathetically considered, with the assistance of the advice of the Local Government. Without desiring in any way to prejudge the question involved, I would like you to consider whether the creation of such a Department, which we are asked to place in charge of a business man, really falls within the legitimate sphere of Government, and whether the objects

Address from Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce.

aimed at cannot be more satisfactorily attained by the concerted efforts of merchants interested in the trade. We have had in the past some experience of special regulation of a trade in raw produce in the Cotton Frauds Department, in Bombay. Such experience is not entirely favourable to the prospects of a jute department such as we have been asked to contemplate. It might be wise to consider whether the true function of Government in connection with your industry is not more properly the employment of the existing machinery of Government, so far as is consistent with its other duties, to assist your industry in all its stages. Thus, we endeavour to supply annually statistical forecasts of the jute production. I am aware that these forecasts fall far short of the accuracy that is desirable. But the available materials for estimating areas and outturn in the case of the localities in which jute is grown are undoubtedly defective. The causes of these defects are not such as to require the creation of a special department in order to provide a remedy.

The manufacturing industry in Calcutta is at present considering the desirability of more united action in the interests of the jute trade. I commend to your consideration the subject of greater co-operation in the growth and preparation of the fibre, if you earnestly desire improvement. The Government of India will always be ready to consider sympathetically a demand for any assistance that they are asked to lend in order to further such measures as you may devise in the course of joint action directed towards the improvement of your great and flourishing industry. The direction and control of these measures should, however, preferably remain with the capable men of business who are engaged in this industry.

Once again I thank you, Gentlemen, for your courtesy in coming forward to meet me with an address of welcome

Address from Dacca Municipality and District Board.

at this centre of an industry which means so much to the prosperity of Bengal, and I cannot tell you what a pleasure it is to me to have this opportunity of meeting you and of discussing these matters.

ADDRESS FROM DACCA MUNICIPALITY AND DISTRICT BOARD.

[On arrival at Government House, Dacca, in the evening of the 29th January, His Excellency the Viceroy was presented with an address by the Dacca Municipality and District Board. 29th Jan. 1912.

The address was read by the Hon'ble Nawab Khwaja Muhammad Yusuf and was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Commissioners of the Dacca Municipality, and the members of the District Board, on our own behalf and on behalf of the inhabitants of Dacca City and District, beg to offer Your Excellency a cordial and hearty welcome on Your Excellency's kind visit to this old and historic City, which was made the Capital of Bengal during the reign of the Emperor Jehangir, and was called "Jehangir Nagar" after him, and enjoyed this honour for many years.

In recent years again it was made the Government Head-Quarters of the newly created Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

Our City has been the centre of culture and learning in this part of Bengal and has under the fostering care of Government achieved marked progress in sanitation, education and general development since it was made the Capital of this Province. With the aid of Government some improvements have been completed, and other large projects are still in hand.

The drainage scheme was to be taken up next year, and the improvement of the Mitford Hospital, the better lighting of the streets, the widening of the roads and the opening up of congested and insanitary quarters also engaged the attention of the Government.

Your Excellency's visit to our City offers to us an appropriate occasion for the respectful expression of our earnest hope that the removal of the Government Head-Quarters from Dacca may not interfere with these improvements, and that a practical connection of the Governor and his Council with our City may maintain these, and also ensure a steady progress in future.

Address from Dacca Municipality and District Board.

Now that it is proposed to make Dacca the Second Capital of the Bengal Presidency, we pray for the consideration by Your Excellency's Government of a scheme for connecting Dacca with Goalundo by a system of railway.

We also beg most respectfully to draw the attention of Your Excellency to the serious state of the water communications of the City and District at present. These are vitally important both as regards sanitation and as regards transport, and we earnestly hope that Your Excellency's Government will take this matter into consideration and substantially aid the local bodies in finding a remedy.

We pray that Your Excellency's administration will be a record of happiness, prosperity and contentment of the people of the Empire committed to Your Excellency's charge, especially after the recent visit of Their Imperial Majesties to our country which evoked such feeling of loyalty, and in conclusion again desire to express our feeling of gratitude on Your Excellency's kind visit to our City.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you very warmly indeed for the hearty welcome you have given me on my arrival in your ancient City, which was famous and renowned some three centuries ago when the Governor of Eastern Bengal made Dacca his Capital that he might the more conveniently repel invasion from Assam on the one hand and piratical incursion on the other. For the past six years you have once more been the Capital of Eastern Bengal, for less material reasons. The pirates have ceased from troubling and Assam has become no longer a foe to be dreaded, but a sister province to be cared for and nurtured like yourselves.

History has to a certain extent repeated itself, and this time after a briefer interval you are called upon to surrender your Governor in a cause which has many earnest advocates, but like all great questions must of necessity give rise to considerable diversity of opinion. It is true that your reunion with Bengal Proper may mean that you will not see so much of the Head of the Province

Address from Dacca Municipality and District Board.

as you have done in recent years, but I do not think there is any occasion for you to lament that the glory is departed. I know that a very marked advance has been made in the Dacca Division of recent years in every direction, while the town of Dacca itself owes an especial debt of gratitude to your late Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Lancelot Hare, who was connected with it in one capacity or another for practically the whole of his service. But, as you say yourselves, your City has long been a centre of culture and learning; and if I have correctly judged the character of your new Governor, I feel confident that it will be his special care to see that education receives every encouragement in this part of Bengal, and that those schemes of which you speak—of drainage, of hospital improvement and sanitary progress—shall not be set back owing to the administrative changes so shortly to be brought into operation.

I feel that I should be more than rash if I said anything definite either about a railway connection between Dacca and Goalundo or about the improvement of your water communications. I think you will readily agree that railways built for the convenience of the public should be able to pay their own way, and the initial difficulty of any such project would be its enormous cost, while as regards your waterways you are doubtless acquainted with the difficulties of dealing on a large scale with your tidal rivers, and are aware that any hasty and ill-considered measures might easily do more harm than good. But a Waterways Committee has recently been constituted to examine the whole question and advise the Government; and if any practicable scheme is eventually evolved and submitted to the Government of India, I can assure you that it shall receive the most attentive consideration at their hands, for they do most earnestly desire that your Province shall in no way suffer from the changes that are

being made, and shall have no cause to assert that those changes have been to their detriment.

Gentlemen, I thank you once more for your kindly expressions, and I rejoice with you at the happy spirit of mutual goodwill and devoted loyalty which has been evoked by the recent visit of Their Gracious Majesties to this Empire of theirs—so far away in distance, but so very near their hearts in thought.

ADDRESSES FROM LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN BENGAL, DACCA PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION, EASTERN BENGAL SARASWAT SAMAJ AND PROVINCIAL MAHOMEDAN ASSOCIATION AND MOSLEM LEAGUE.

30th Jan. 1912. [His Excellency the Viceroy received addresses from the above Associations, on the 30th January, at the Curzon Hall, Dacca. These were as follows :—

LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Eastern Bengal Landholders' Association, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with this respectful and cordial address of welcome on this occasion of Your Excellency's kind visit to this ancient and historic City of Dacca. The recent visit to India of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor has evoked a feeling of loyalty and attachment to the Throne hitherto unrealised by the Indian people, and we deem it a high privilege in having the opportunity, and in being permitted, to pay our respectful and devoted homage and offer our firm allegiance to our beloved Sovereign King-Emperor George V through Your Excellency, his illustrious representative, in whose august presence we have the honour to stand. We presume to take this opportunity in laying before Your Excellency our earnest prayer, that when reconsidering the regulations regarding the election of members of the Provincial Legislative Council Your Excellency may be pleased to allow each division of the province to elect one member for the Provincial Council, and to modify the standard of qualification in

Addresses from Landholders' Association of Eastern Bengal, Dacca People's Association, Eastern Bengal Saraswat Samaj and Provincial Mahomedan Association and Moslem League.

such a way as to enable a larger number of our class to take part in the elections both as voters and candidates. Your Excellency, in your memorable and most statesmanlike despatch, has assigned to the City of Dacca the position of a second Capital of Bengal, and we trust that the sanitary and other improvements which are so necessary to befit it to hold its high position will be undertaken as soon as practicable. We beg leave to bring to Your Excellency's kind notice that the people of these parts of the Province have felt a great inconvenience for the want of an easy means of communication with Calcutta, and we venture to hope that Your Excellency will be pleased to give your serious attention to the proposal of a State Railway from Dacca to Aricha, opposite Goalundo, *viâ* Manickgunge, which will not only remove a great want, but is likely to facilitate trade and commerce. In conclusion we respectfully trust that Your Excellency's administration will be to the lasting benefit of the millions of His Majesty's subjects who inhabit this vast country.

DACCA PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Dacca People's Association, beg respectfully to accord to Your Excellency a warm and grateful welcome on Your Excellency's visit to this City.

We beg leave to submit that this Association was established in the year 1872, and represents different sections and classes of the community of this district, and had the privilege of welcoming in this City three of Your Excellency's predecessors in the exalted office.

Your Excellency has placed the people of Bengal under a deep debt of gratitude by bringing about the annulment of the Partition of Bengal, and the reunion of the Bengali-speaking people under a Governor in Council. This welcome message, which was announced at the Durbar at Delhi by His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor in person, has strengthened the bonds of attachment of the people of this country to the British Throne and the person of their beloved Sovereign. And we venture earnestly to hope that in the territorial redistribution Your Excellency will be pleased to include every district or part of a district, mostly inhabited by the Bengali-speaking population, under the administration of the Governor in Council.

Addresses from Landholders' Association of Eastern Bengal, Dacca People's Association, Eastern Bengal Saraswat Samaj and Provincial Mahomedan Association and Moslem League.

We hope and trust that the position and importance of Dacca will be secure, as Your Excellency has graciously been pleased to recommend, in the memorable despatch, that Dacca should be the second Capital of the Province, and that it should be the residence of the Governor for an appreciable time in the year. We are, therefore, confident that the most urgent schemes for the improvement of this City, such as a complete system of drainage, widening of the streets, better lighting of the public thoroughfares, and opening out of the congested areas will, in due time, engage the attention of Government.

We believe that the Engineering College is proposed to be removed from Sibpur, and the present Agricultural Institution at Sabour, and the Police Training and Reformatory Schools of Bhagalpur and Hazaribagh will be outside the limits of the Presidency of Bengal. We therefore humbly pray that in view of the capacity of this City for further extension, and the fact that the vast area already acquired by Government may otherwise be left unutilised, the Engineering College may be removed to, and an Agricultural as also a Police Training Institution and a Reformatory School may be established in, this City.

We further pray that following the precedent of Lucknow, some heads of departments, with their offices, may be located here, such as the offices of the Postmaster-General, and those of the Inspectors-General of Civil Hospitals, Prisons, Registration, Excise, and the like.

The people of this part of the country are earnestly anxious to be brought into closer touch with Calcutta, it being the principal seat of the Government, of the highest judicial Tribunal, of the University, and of trade and commerce. We therefore earnestly pray that this City may be connected by a railway. Manickgunge, with Aricha opposite Goalundo, with an efficient steamer ferry between Calcutta, will thus be within 8 hours' journey from Dacca, instead of 18 hours as now.

With Your Excellency's permission we venture to suggest that Your Excellency may be pleased to provide in the regulations for the election of Members to the Councils, sufficient scope for admission of the educated class of the country, irrespective of any property qualification, and to discard the principle of racial distinction in the matter of representation; at all events to prevent any section of the community from enjoying any special privilege of double representation of a communal election, and a general election with others,

Addresses from Landholders' Association of Eastern Bengal, Dacca People's Association, Eastern Bengal Saraswat Samaj and Provincial Mahomedan Association and Moslem League.

A force of punitive police has been quartered in the Sub-division of Munshiganj in this district. Without entering into the question of the necessity of the measure, we venture to approach Your Excellency with the prayer that Your Excellency may be pleased to consider as to the desirability of the further continuance of the said force, the location of which has been causing much hardship to the people of the area.

There is a growing apprehension that all the Courts of Justice in this City may be removed to the Secretariat Buildings at Ramna. We deem it our duty to submit to Your Excellency that such a step will cause great inconvenience to the litigant public and the legal profession.

We beg to submit that the earnest the people of India have received of Your Excellency's sympathetic and kindly rule over them, and the ennobling prospect of an autonomous provincial Government that Your Excellency has been pleased to hold out to us, assure us that Your Excellency's administration will be an uninterrupted course of peace, prosperity, and contentment for our people.

In conclusion we pray that Divine Providence may vouchsafe to Your Excellency strength and power to complete the noble work of peaceful and steady progress, and that when the time comes for Your Excellency to lay down the reins of your exalted office, it may be amid the acclamations of a grateful people.

EASTERN BENGAL SARASWAT SAMAJ.

May it please Your Excellency,—May Divine blessing attend thee, foremost among the wise and the intelligent, the most efficient in statecraft, ever affectionately disposed towards the people, who art the Viceroy of the Paramount Ruler of the land, disseminating peace and prosperity, and vitalising, as it were, the mighty fabric of the Indian Empire.

Thou hast achieved pre-eminent fame by the protection of the honest, patronage of men of letters, respect for honest public opinion, liberal grants of money for the advancement of learning and culture, and by the support and encouragement of indigenous arts and industries.

It has fallen to thy lot, even at the commencement of the epoch-making administration, to receive on Indian soil the visit of our gracious, peace-loving, and beloved Emperor, who by his munificent

Addresses from Landholders' Association of Eastern Bengal, Dacca People's Association, Eastern Bengal Saraswat Samaj and Provincial Mahomedan Association and Moslem League.

Imperial grant for the advancement of learning has given a lasting impetus to the cause of education and has secured for himself the sincerest and the most heartfelt affection of the people.

It was by thy advice that His Imperial Majesty has been graciously pleased to signalise his auspicious advent by making a generous annual grant of fifty lakhs of rupees for promoting the cause of popular education; and that he has shown his generous appreciation of Oriental scholarship by offering literary pensions. It is a happy augury that thou shouldst have thought of visiting this part of the country so quickly after the departure of our gracious King-Emperor, and we hail thy visit with delight and with the liveliest anticipations of abiding good to the country.

It is, indeed, our great good fortune that we, the members of the Saraswat Samaj, ever the most loyal subjects of the Crown, have had the opportunity of rejoicing at the sight of thy noble countenance, the Ruler of India from the Himalayas to the Indian Ocean, and we accord to thee a most cordial and enthusiastic welcome. This assembly of Pandits, the Eastern Bengal and Assam Saraswat Samaj, has been in existence for the last thirty-four years; and in the land of Bengal no literary association can boast of enjoying a longer or a more useful period of existence.

This assembly has for its mission the revival of the Sanskrit Sastras, the encouragement of the preceptors and their pupils, holding annual convocations for conferring titles and granting stipends to successful students and their teachers, the instilling of new light and thought and the discussion of questions as to the rightful conduct of loyal citizens; and its influence has permeated Hindu Society through and through.

For thirty-four long years has this assembly been humbly doing the work of the improvement of Sanskrit learning, and various centres for the diffusion of Sanskrit learning under its auspices have been established in Assam, Eastern and Western Bengal.

It has ever been the aspiration of this assembly that the tone of Hindu Society may be improved along with the culture of the Sastras. Loyalty to the Throne and unflinching devotion to the Person of the Sovereign have always been among the ruling principles of the Samaj.

The Sastras of the Hindus lay down that the Sovereign is the shadow of God on earth. Therefore are our people ever loyal to him in thought, speech and action.

Addresses from Landholders' Association of Eastern Bengal, Dacca People's Association, Eastern Bengal Saraswat Samaj and Provincial Mahomedan Association and Moslem League.

It counts amongst its constituents over a thousand of the votaries of Sanskrit learning hailing from all parts of these Provinces; and hosts of candidates are passing through its portals every year. It has had the honour and privilege of receiving the patronage of successive Governors of this Province and of their eminent advisers. That this assembly may continue to receive adequate support from the Ruler of the Province is our earnest desire, and it is fervently hoped that the scheme for the consolidation of the Samaj will have fruition in the near future.

Thy grandfather of illustrious memory and undying fame granted large sums of money for the education of the people, and bountiful has been the harvest reaped by the grateful people of this country. Thou, the ornament of the family, hast now been ruling the land as Viceroy of His Gracious Majesty. Verily our eye has been amply rewarded by the sight of thee. Ever devoted are we to the golden Throne which shimmers with the dazzling reflections of the radiance of the Imperial Crown of India. Fondly do we welcome thee, O renowned Ruler. Deign to accept this our humble tribute of welcome.

In feeble and halting accents though it be, we convey to thee our love and goodwill flowing from our grateful hearts, and pray to the Almighty that He may shower His choicest blessing on thee and grant thee length of years and a peaceful, prosperous and beneficent reign.

His Excellency replied to these four addresses as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—The four addresses which have just been presented to me represent interests of considerable diversity; and though they each indicate different points of view, there is one sentiment common to them, and that is their welcome to me. For your kind words I am most grateful and give you hearty thanks. Where interests are at variance, as they must be all the world over, it is humanly impossible for a Governor-General to do that which shall be pleasing to all, and I am sure that there is not one among you who would respect him or be pleased with him if he made promises which he would not or could not fulfil, but I take the meaning of your welcome to be that you do at any rate trust me to do the thing which I

Addresses from Landholders' Association of Eastern Bengal, Dacca People's Association, Eastern Bengal Saraswat Samaj and Provincial Mahomedan Association and Moslem League.

think right and fair, and your greeting heartens me to go forward with a good courage. It is a great pleasure and privilege for me to come among you in this way, to meet you face to face and hear from your own lips that which you have to say. For in that way I can the more readily learn something about this portion of this vast Empire, and get into more intimate touch with your aspirations and desires.

Gentlemen of the Eastern Bengal Landholders' Association,—The principal points with which you deal in your address are the improvement of Dacca and of its communications. These are matters to which I have already referred in my reply to the address from the Municipal and District Boards, and I do not think I can add anything to what I said yesterday on these topics. The only other prayer you make concerns the regulations for the election of Members of the Provincial Legislative Council. You desire that in the new arrangement each division shall continue as at present to elect one Member for the Provincial Council; and though I can make no absolute promise on this score, I can assure you that your prayer seems to me eminently reasonable and shall receive the fullest attention when the regulations are under consideration, and I have every hope that it will be possible to meet it.

I have more doubt about your further desire that the franchise may be lowered. The object of the particular regulation is to secure due representation in the Councils of the Empire of those great landholding interests with which are associated the prosperity and some of the most ancient traditions and glories of your country. To lower the franchise must inevitably lead to the loss of some of the present power and influence of the landed interests in

Addresses from Landholders' Association of Eastern Bengal, Dacca People's Association, Eastern Bengal Saraswat Samaj and Provincial Mahomedan Association and Moslem League.

the Councils; and though the exact amount of weight their voice is entitled to is a question open to infinite argument, I doubt whether any drastic change in the existing arrangement will commend itself to my Government.

Members of the Dacca People's Association,—I note with pleasure your expressions of gratitude at the administrative changes which have lately been announced, but you will have gathered from a speech I made a few days ago in Calcutta that it is not the present intention of the Government of India to split up existing districts, or to interfere with the boundaries which were recognised before the partition. Your new Governor is a man of broad sympathies who will give a ready ear to your prayers, and to him I shall commend the special care of the Eastern Districts of his new Province, but I do not think it would be proper for me to prejudge for him the various questions of provincial interest which you have raised, and I should prefer therefore not to commit myself regarding the establishment of various institutions at Dacca or the retention there of the headquarters of some of your high officers. Similar considerations apply to the further matters you have alluded to in regard to the posting of additional police at Munshiganj and the location of your District Courts. I can imagine no more unpleasant duty for a Local Government than to be forced to post additional police in a particular area for the protection of law-abiding people. I know that such action is always taken with great reluctance.

You have been considerate in not troubling me with an argumentative disquisition in the case of Munshiganj, and I am grateful for that consideration; but if you feel that you can satisfy Sir Charles Bayley that the necessity for special measures for the protection of the law-abiding

people of Munshiganj has disappeared, I know that he will be only too ready to meet you.

His Honour tells me that no scheme for the removal of the Courts has been formulated. All such questions are matters of public convenience, and it is quite right and proper that, if you feel strongly on the subject, you should make your wishes known, in order that the Local Government may not be ignorant of the convenience of that section of the public which you represent.

The only other question you have raised with which I have not already dealt concerns the regulations for the election of Members to the Legislative Councils. You reiterate views which find constant expression in a large section of the Press—for the Press is of its nature the voice of the educated classes. There is no danger therefore that Government will be ignorant of that body of opinion to which you give expression, and when the regulations come under further consideration that opinion will receive the consideration which is its due. I can, however, give you no undertaking in this matter, there being other opinions to listen to and other interests to consider, and whatever decisions may be taken, you must realise that pledges once given by Government will not be broken.

Pandits of the Saraswat Samaj,—The Sanskrit language in its hoary antiquity cherishes gems of morality and philosophy which are a precious heirloom to all generations, and I am glad to meet you who make its elevating literature your study. It lends itself to beauty and poetry of expression, and the flattering picture which you have drawn of me owes something of its outline to the natural tendencies of the language, but beneath these words I recognise a spirit of real kindliness of feeling for which I can only warmly thank you, and hope that I may some

day deserve some of your praise. I bid you go on and prosper in your high and self-imposed task.

Gentlemen of the Provincial Mahomedan Association and the Moslem League,—I have already given you my cordial thanks for coming here to present me with an address of welcome, and as I shall have a further opportunity of meeting some of the leading members of the community, I will not add to these already protracted remarks. But I will now conclude them by thanking you all, Gentlemen, once more for your kindly welcome and for the prayers and good wishes to which you have given utterance that I may have strength and wisdom to administer my great trust. The last words of our great King-Emperor as he left our shores was a prayer for harmony. I know that that message came from the fulness of his heart; and if when I leave India I could feel that during my tenure of office there had been some softening of mutual animosities, I should go with a light heart and a glad spirit.

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY AT DACCA.

[A deputation on the proposal to establish a University at Dacca waited on His Excellency the Viceroy at Government House in the afternoon of February 16th. 16th Feb. 1912.

It was headed by Dr. Rash Behari Ghose and consisted of the following members:—Raja Peary Mohan Mukerjee, the Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu, Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee, Babu Ambica Charan Majumdar (Faridpur), Mr. A. Rasul (Tipperah), Babu Kisory Mohun Chowdhury (Rajshahi), Babu Dwarkanath Chakravarti (Mymensingh), Babu Sarat Chandra Chakravarti (Dacca), and Babu Jatra Mohan Sen (Chittagong). The address was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We desire on behalf of our countrymen to convey to Your Excellency on this the first opportunity that we have after the announcement of the Royal Boons, our deep sense of gratitude for the modification of the Partition of

Proposed University at Dacca.

Bengal which we owe to Your Excellency's initiative. This Royal Boon has redressed a great national grievance and has spread the blessings of peace and contentment throughout the Province. We are all animated by an earnest desire to foster and perpetuate the happy state of things which has been inaugurated in Bengal by this crowning act of Royal beneficence. We therefore feel it our duty to approach Your Excellency with this humble representation regarding the proposal to establish a new University at Dacca which has filled the public mind with alarm and apprehension. It is feared that the creation of a separate University at Dacca will be in the nature of an internal partition—a break-up of the national life of the people now happily reunited. The country earnestly desires quiet and rest, and we venture to make our submission to Your Excellency in the firm belief that Your Excellency is as anxious as we are to avoid the introduction of measures which will destroy the harmony so happily brought about by the gracious announcements of His Imperial Majesty.

We are confident—so just and sympathetic has been Your Excellency's attitude—that we have only to state the objections that we have to offer to this proposal and to acquaint Your Excellency with the state of public feeling in regard to it, to ensure for our views that careful consideration which Your Excellency is always pleased to extend to the genuine expression of public opinion.

The first and foremost objection taken against the creation of a separate University at Dacca is that it will reproduce, probably in a more acute form, the evils which many of us apprehended would arise and which actually did arise from the partition of the Province. The Universities of India have separate territorial jurisdictions, and students who matriculate in one University or belong to it cannot enter another, except under conditions which render such admission extremely difficult, if not impossible. It is true that the Governor-General in Council defines these territorial limits, but having regard to the circumstance that the governing bodies, the regulations, the ideals, the standards and the tests are different, even if any territorial limitations were not imposed, the bar thus created would remain in force for all practical purposes. This exclusion would go down to the school stage, and the inevitable result would be that the youth of the two parts of the Province would be prevented from association in the most plastic period of life when common pursuits give rise to bonds of union which exert all through life an abiding and beneficent influence. This separation would be accentuated in later life when appointments to the public service would be open,

Proposed University at Dacca.

as we apprehend, only to graduates of the University having local jurisdiction, thus creating a new line of division contrary to the magnanimous policy embodied in the annulment of the partition. The appointment of a special officer in charge of education in East Bengal with the likely creation of a separate educational cadre would widen the division, and there would be a general feeling that the heavy sacrifices which Bengal has had to make for the revocation of the partition have been unavailing in putting an end to the evils which it had brought into existence. In this connection we may be permitted to refer to what is a matter of common knowledge that the relations of the officials in East Bengal, including the educational authorities, with the private schools and colleges under their charge, were never very cordial, and but for the intervention of the Calcutta University, ratified by the authority of the Government of India, many of these institutions would have ceased to exist, and the situation in Eastern Bengal would have been much graver than it actually was.

A University at Dacca cannot possibly possess the broader intellectual life that obtains in Calcutta, which has been the seat of the Imperial Government for more than 150 years, which is one of the greatest centres of commercial and intellectual activity in the East, and where the High Court, the Government offices, commerce and industry must necessarily continue to attract the best minds of the country. It is difficult to conceive how a Senate and the various Faculties of the University at Dacca might be constituted. They must necessarily lack men of the calibre and standing who guide the affairs of the Calcutta University, and a difference is bound to arise in educational ideals and standards which must be detrimental to the intellectual growth of the people.

There has been an impression, not unnaturally arising out of the circumstances under which the announcement of a separate University at Dacca was made, that it is intended principally to benefit the Mahomedan population in East Bengal. We are in the fullest sympathy with every effort that may be made for the spread of education among the Mahomedan community in Bengal, but the fact cannot be overlooked that the vast majority of the Moslem population in East Bengal are agriculturists on whom a University would hardly confer any appreciable benefit; what is wanted is a large expansion of primary schools, the establishment of a larger number of secondary schools and the addition of colleges, where necessary. The whole province will welcome the grant of special facilities for the spread of education among the Mahomedans in

Proposed University at Dacca.

the shape of endowments and a more liberal award of scholarships. We are not aware if the new University at Dacca is proposed to be a residential and teaching University. One such University embracing the area covered by the divisions of Eastern Bengal and Assam, intersected by great rivers, will, it is feared, be an impracticable ideal.

We may take this occasion to point out that the creation of a new University must result in the diversion of funds from far more pressing educational needs in other directions, such as the expansion of medical education, the establishment of a comprehensive system of technical instruction, the strengthening of the Engineering College and the introduction of a widespread system of primary education all over the country. We respectfully venture to urge that, in comparison to needs like these, the creation of a new University at Dacca may be viewed as a luxury.

It has been stated that the University of Calcutta has become an unwieldy institution by reason of the area within its jurisdiction. The University itself has never made any such complaint, and with the creation of separate Universities in Bihar and Burma, the congestion, if any, in the University of Calcutta will be relieved. The large numbers who present themselves for examination for our degrees have been cited in favour of a new University; but if a comparison is instituted with the University of London, on whose model the Indian Universities have been established, it will appear that our numbers are nearly the same as those of the London University. It is indisputable that in many branches of knowledge the degrees of the London University are held in higher esteem than the degrees of any other University in the United Kingdom.

As regards the surroundings of Calcutta, we desire to point out that there is a steady improvement perceptible, that they really are not so bad as some would imagine, and further it cannot be said that those of Dacca are better. In a large town the question of its surroundings is always a matter of anxious consideration to the educationist, and his efforts are directed to minimise them by the establishment of hostels and the enforcement of discipline. Nor is the fact to be overlooked that Calcutta is the centre of the intellectual life of the Province and of the many movements for the social, moral and spiritual advancement of the people, which cannot fail to exercise a healthy influence upon the life of the student community. The atmosphere of Calcutta holds in it the precious germs of inspiration which to the student community are of priceless value. We may be permitted to point out that, even if these evils were such as

Proposed University at Dacca.

they are sometimes thought to be, they may be met, not by the creation of a separate University, but by the establishment of colleges in the mofussil and the extension of the residential system.

As regards the question of the inadequate representation of East Bengal on the Senate or the Syndicate of the Calcutta University, we desire respectfully to point out that, if this is a real complaint, it can be easily remedied by administrative arrangements and does not call for the creation of a separate University.

We do not think we should further encroach upon Your Excellency's patience on this occasion. It is impossible to compress into the compass of a representation like ours all the objections that may be justly urged against the creation of a new University at Dacca. The greatest and most keenly felt amongst them would be the division that it must introduce into the corporate life of the community. Our people feel that it would re-establish some of those conditions which have been to them a source of such great trouble and anxiety during the last seven years. Momentous changes have been recently announced, the full consequences of some of which to the Bengali people it is not yet possible to realise. Your Excellency has noticed the feeling of alarm which the announcement of a separate University at Dacca has created in the public mind, and we respectfully venture to urge that the present is an inopportune moment to start a scheme which would have such far-reaching effects on the life of the people and would disturb the tranquillity which Your Lordship has restored to the country. There is a growing and visible desire among the Hindu and Moslem populations of Bengal to live in the old and long-standing relations of mutual amity and concord which recent events had tended to upset. Having regard to all these circumstances, we pray that Your Excellency may be pleased to reconsider the matter, or at any rate not to arrive at a definite decision until Lord Carmichael, upon whom will devolve the task of working the University at Dacca, has had an opportunity of examining for himself the question in all its bearings.

In conclusion we desire to thank Your Excellency for permitting us to approach you with this representation in which we have endeavoured to voice as briefly as we could the views and sentiments of our countrymen, and we feel assured that Your Excellency will be graciously pleased to extend to it a generous and sympathetic consideration.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I have received with pleasure the references in your representation to the memorable

Proposed University at Dacca.

announcements made by the King-Emperor at Delhi, and I gladly accept your assurances of your earnest desire to foster and to perpetuate the happy state of things inaugurated by His Imperial Majesty. You rightly attribute to me a desire to promote harmony, and I am hopeful that the pronouncement that I am about to make will conduce to that end.

You are anxious lest the constitution of a University at Dacca and the appointment of a special officer for education in Eastern Bengal should be in the nature of an internal partition and widen the division between the reunited provinces. In regard to the statement that the University of Calcutta has become an unwieldy institution, you urge that the University itself has never made any complaint on this score; that, with the creation of separate Universities in Bihar and Burma, the congestion, if any, in the Calcutta University will be relieved; that the surroundings of Calcutta are not so bad as some would imagine; and that the large numbers who are examined by the Calcutta University are not very different from the numbers examined by the London University; that the remedy for such evils as may exist will be met, not by the creation of a separate University, but by the establishment of colleges in the mufassil, the extension of the residential system and the foundation of special institutions and facilities, where necessary, for the Moslem population in Eastern Bengal.

I may say at once that no proposals which could possibly lead to the internal partition or division of Bengal would meet with any support from the Government of India. Any such measures would be opposed to the policy embodied in the announcement of His Imperial Majesty and to the views of the Government of India. The constitution of a University at Dacca and the appointment of a special education officer at Dacca rest solely

Proposed University at Dacca.

on grounds of educational policy both general and local, which are already appreciated by a considerable section of the public and which I hope that you will appreciate after you have heard what the views and intentions of the Government of India are.

I am proud to be Chancellor of the Calcutta University, I appreciate highly the excellent work which that University has done in the past, and I am confident that it will continue to maintain its high traditions; but I cannot believe that an examining University will satisfy any longer the needs of advancing India. Many thoughtful educationists, including the Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University, have drawn attention to the need of University teaching and to the development of the associations of teaching and residential Universities. The movement for the establishment of Universities at Aligarh and Benares rests upon the widespread demand for a residential and teaching system. Before the arrangements announced by His Imperial Majesty were considered, the Government of India, who, I need not tell you, take the greatest interest in the advance of education in India, had included in their educational programme the constitution of teaching and residential Universities, including a University at Dacca. They were and are convinced that the more such Universities are multiplied and distributed over India, the better it will be for the cause of Indian education and for the development of the moral character no less than of the intellectual ability of the students.

The Calcutta University controls 52 colleges with 13,375 students, has a jurisdiction extending over both Bengals, Assam, Bihar, Orissa, Chota Nagpur and Burma, examines some 9,000 candidates for matriculation alone, and is responsible for the higher education of a population of more than a hundred millions. In the

Proposed University at Dacca.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland there are no less than 17 Universities for the needs of a population of 45 millions, *i.e.*, one University for about every 2½ millions. I do not wish to attach too much importance to a mere numerical comparison between Universities in England and in India, but even allowing the variety of conditions, the difference of figures is remarkable. The Oxford, Cambridge and Edinburgh University each possesses a total of between 3 and 4 thousand students; the Glasgow University has between 2 to 3 thousand; Manchester 1,550, the University of Wales 1,700; other English Universities appear to have less than 1,000. The inadequacy of the then existing systems to meet local circumstances and the severe strain imposed by increasing numbers upon the Calcutta University were urged so long ago as 1886 as reasons for the establishment of a University at Allahabad. The argument of numbers is far stronger to-day. Can it seriously be contended that it is compatible with educational progress to face the steadily increasing burdens on the Calcutta University in a spirit of inaction? How can the huge numbers continue to be examined satisfactorily and how can the distant colleges continue to be adequately inspected? Are we to be content for ever to have one University for the re-united province in the teeth of experience in other countries? I cannot believe it. The most noteworthy fact in the recent history of the English University development is the gradual abandonment of the federal University, of the University which examines, but does not teach. The London University was itself reorganised in 1898 and a Royal Commission is now sitting to consider its further reorganisation. I cannot understand how anybody can pretend that the constitution of one, or even two or more Universities in a single province can possibly lead to an internal partition or division any more than the

Proposed University at Dacca.

existence of Universities in most of the large towns of Europe, or the contemplated Hindu and Mahomedan Universities, which many of you support, lead to partition or division. There is no compulsion upon parents to send their children to any particular college in any particular jurisdiction. The relations between neighbouring Universities are clearly susceptible of administrative adjustment.

I share the view of those thoughtful Indian gentlemen who see in the creation of new Universities the greatest of boons which the Government can give India, namely, the diffusion of higher education. It is a striking compliment to the intelligence and educational progress of Bengal that the Government of India should have proposed to create in Bengal the first teaching and residential University of its kind in India, and the Government of India are confident that after mature reflection their proposal will be regarded in this light and as a distinct advance on the present educational system. During the 5 years preceding the constitution of the Allahabad University, the number of students increased by 37 per cent.; in the five years following that event it increased by 172 per cent. in the territories within its jurisdiction.

I must assume that you are not less interested than the Government of India in improving the surroundings of student life in Calcutta. In regard to this matter, I speak with some personal knowledge, and I do not speak alone. I need not quote *in extenso* the well-known account of the lives led by the students in Calcutta which was published by Dr. Garfield Williams and has never been seriously challenged. I will take one passage only. "There is practically no University social life," says Dr. Garfield Williams. "Most colleges have a few ill-attended societies exercising quite a minimum of influence. The Calcutta University Institute appeals obviously only

Proposed University at Dacca.

to the very few. Believe me, you cannot exaggerate the significance of the absence of this social side in a University's life." "The places where the students live huddled together," says Dr. Indu Madhub Mullick, who has special professional experience among Indian students, "are most hurtful to their constitutions. The houses are dirty, dingy, ill-ventilated and crowded; they are often most objectionable. In a case of sickness which is of an infectious nature, such as small-pox, chicken-pox, measles, cholera and typhoid, they have no place in which to be segregated, but lie in the same place as others, some of whom they actually infect, etc." I will quote an even higher authority—that of the Vice-Chancellor himself. These are the words of Sir Ashutosh Mukherjee in his last address to Convocation. "That the situation is fraught with the gravest danger cannot be questioned for a moment. The residences now provided are in many instances so unsatisfactory, the arrangements for superintendence of so rudimentary a character and the lack of intimate association between teachers and students so generally the rule, that the present system, if continued, cannot reasonably be expected to foster the conception of true academic life among our students. The surroundings in which many of our students live, and the obvious dangers to which they are so often exposed, are calculated in many cases to effect the complete ruin of the students not merely from the moral and the physical, but also from the intellectual standpoint." My own observation, I am sorry to say, fully confirms the wider experience of these gentlemen, and I ask you, Gentlemen, and I ask the parents of Bengal, are you satisfied that your sons should be brought up in such surroundings? Whatever your reply and theirs may be, mine is that I am not satisfied, and I resent the fact that many intelligent and refined young men should be brought up in such

Proposed University at Dacca.

unhealthy and squalid surroundings. It is the solemn duty of the Government of India to spare no effort to remedy this state of affairs, and these are reasons which have led the Government to think that experiments should be made upon new lines.

On grounds of general policy, then, the Government of India have for some time been convinced of the necessity of creating new Universities in India and Universities of the teaching and residential kind. There was a special reason for the announcement of their decision when I met certain Mahomedan gentlemen at Dacca. As you are aware, Gentlemen, the province of Eastern Bengal was before the partition very backward in education. Since 1906 it has made great strides forward. In that year there were 1,698 collegiate students in Eastern Bengal and Assam and the expenditure on collegiate education was Rs. 1,54,358. To-day with the same number of institutions the corresponding figures are 2,560 students and Rs. 3,83,619. Nor has the improvement been confined to colleges. Educational courses and schemes were framed with reference to local conditions. From 1905 to 1910-11 the number of pupils in public institutions rose from 699,051 to 936,653 and the expenditure from provincial revenues rose from Rs. 11,06,510 to Rs. 22,05,339, while the local expenditure direct and indirect rose from Rs. 47,81,833 to Rs. 73,05,260. These results were deeply appreciated by the people of Eastern Bengal and Assam; and when I visited Dacca I found a widespread apprehension, particularly among the Mahomedans, who form the majority of the population, lest the attention which the partition of Bengal secured for the Eastern provinces should be relaxed, and that there might be a set-back in educational progress. It was to allay this not unreasonable apprehension that I stated to a deputation of Mahomedan gentlemen that the Government of India

Proposed University at Dacca.

were so much impressed with the necessity of promoting education in a province which had made such good progress during the past few years that we had decided to recommend to the Secretary of State the constitution of a University at Dacca and the appointment of a special officer for education in Eastern Bengal. The fact that this statement was made to a deputation of Mahomedan gentlemen does not, I need hardly say, mean that the University will be a Mahomedan University. The intention was that it should be a University open to all—a teaching and a residential University. It may, as you suggest, be necessary to give special facilities to Mahomedans. The inadequate arrangement for the collegiate instruction of Mahomedans was emphasised by the Vice-Chancellor in his address to Convocation in 1909. I can only say that any proposal to this end which the new Governor of Bengal may make will receive the sympathetic consideration of the Government of India.

The questions of the scope of the Dacca University and of the position of the special educational officer are among the many which will be left over for the new Governor of Bengal to consider and advise, and I cannot imagine that the creation of a separate educational cadre for Eastern Bengal would commend itself to Lord Carmichael. In due course that Government will make their recommendations to the Government of India. But I may say at once that it never was the intention of the Government of India that there should be a line of cleavage in the educational department of the new province as between the two Bengals.

There is one passage in your address which I frankly tell you that I regret, because I think it may be susceptible of misunderstanding. I refer to the suggestion that the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam was unsympathetic in its treatment of private schools and colleges.

Address from Municipal and District Boards of Benares.

I wish bye-gones to be bye-gones, and I regret that this suggestion should have been made. I need only point out that when the new province was formed not a single private college was in receipt of Government aid, while Government was spending less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in aiding private institutions. In 1910 there were four aided colleges, and Government spent over $3\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs in aiding private institutions. I cannot withhold my tribute of admiration for the work done by the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam in the teeth of great difficulties.

I have only again to thank you. I wish to impress upon you the greatness of the work in which we are called on to co-operate. I am hopeful that the large issues of educational policy on which the future of India so greatly depends will be viewed with a wide outlook and apart from personal or political interests, and in asking for your help and co-operation in this great task I feel sure that my appeal will not be in vain.

ADDRESS FROM MUNICIPAL AND DISTRICT BOARDS OF BENARES.

[His Excellency the Viceroy left Calcutta in the afternoon of the 16th February for a short visit to Benares and Lucknow. On his arrival at Benares the Municipal and District Boards presented the following address :— 17th Feb. 1912.

May it please Your Excellency,—We the members of the Benares Municipal and District Boards on behalf of the inhabitants of this town and district beg humbly to offer our most cordial welcome to Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge on the occasion of your first visit to Benares.

2. Our City is the oldest and most sacred in India, but we do not need to rest on the glories of the past only; for to-day our city is one of the largest in the Indian Empire, and in sanitation and education we claim to be abreast of any other in these provinces.

3. We trust that you will find time to see the beautiful river front where our city overlooks the sacred Ganges. Outside the city,

Address from Municipal and District Boards of Benares.

you will find the remains of Sarnath, with its Asoka Pillar, now more than 2,000 years old. Wherever you go, we can assure you that Your Excellencies will meet a cordial welcome.

4. We would offer Your Excellency our congratulations on the happy celebrations that have attended the Royal visit to India. No one could have anticipated that the visit would be such a complete and overwhelming success as it has been. Their Majesties have managed to draw all hearts to their persons, so that what was but a distant abstraction has become a personal attachment.

5. To yourself it must be a source of great satisfaction to feel that the political atmosphere has cleared so much during your first year of rule. We offer you our heartiest congratulations on the happy and propitious beginning that you have made, and trust that you may enjoy an unbroken time of success and usefulness during your Viceroyalty.

His Excellency in reply spoke as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—There was a time when I feared it might be necessary for Lady Hardinge and myself to forego the pleasure of seeing your sacred city, and I was very glad indeed when I found that after all it would be possible for us to pay you a visit—although a very brief one.

There is no other place in the world that means so much to Hindus, and the pious devotion of the countless thousands of pilgrims to whom holy Kashi has represented the goal of their spiritual aspirations, and the prayers of the untold myriads more who would, but could not, make the great pilgrimage, lend to your city an atmosphere of solemnity and sanctity.

Upon you, Members of the Municipality, the steady stream of humanity coming and going through your gates throws a heavy responsibility; you have faced it in the past with considerable success. Not only were you among the first to recognise the necessity for a plentiful provision of good water, but you were quick to see that a good water-supply must go hand-in-hand with a proper drainage system; and though you have received assistance from

Address from Municipal and District Boards of Benares.

the Local Government, you have supplemented it by finding from your own resources a large portion of the expenditure required for these great works.

You have had your reward in your freedom of late from serious epidemics, and you have thereby rendered a service not only to yourselves and your fellow-citizens, but also to the rest of India. But your task is no light one, and it needs all the sagacity and foresight which you can exercise, and even as I speak I grieve to know that parts of your city are lying in the clutches of plague—that dread scourge which has cost India so many lives and so many tears. If you can continue to carry out your duties in such a way that the healthiness and amenities of your Municipality are steadily improved, you will have good cause to be proud of the results of your labours.

Benares is, as you truly remark, well abreast of the times in matters educational, and I regret that I shall not have time to visit more than one or two of your important Institutions.

I am looking forward greatly to visiting them as well as some of the many places of interest in which your city abounds, and I thank you for the assurance which you have given me of a welcome wherever I go.

I thank you, too, Gentlemen of the Municipal and District Boards, for the kind expressions which you have used in connection with the recent visit of Their Imperial Majesties to India and with the present peaceful outlook, and I am very grateful for the cordial words in which you have couched your welcome to Lady Hardinge and myself.

STATE BANQUET AT BENARES.

17th Feb. 1912. [The Maharaja of Benares entertained Their Excellencies and a number of guests at a State Banquet on the night of the 17th February. In proposing the Viceroy's health His Highness made the following speech :—

"*Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—It is with a feeling of great, but I venture to hope pardonable, pride that I rise to enjoy my most valued privilege of proposing the health of the illustrious guests of this evening, Lord and Lady Hardinge of Penshurst. Although the actual stay of His Excellency in India has scarcely been of a year's duration, still I can, without the least fear of contradiction, say that he has already made his mark upon the administration of this vast dependency.

"Long before his appointment to the Indian Viceroyalty was announced, his name and fame were household words in India. The wonderful mastery of the diplomatic art which His Excellency displayed in the negotiations between England and Russia, resulting in the conclusion of the Anglo-Russian agreement, by which the mutual distrust of the Indians and Russians gave place to confidential and friendly relations to the incalculable benefits of both nations, established his first and foremost claim to our gratitude and affection. And this affection developed into love and attachment when it became known that Lord Hardinge was a personal and trusted friend of our Sovereign, Edward of blessed memory, who was the real father of his people. When the actual announcement of His Excellency's appointment was made and it became generally known that he was the personal choice of His Majesty, the people were overpowered with joy and the announcement was simply hailed with acclamation. We Indians who prize family considerations above all things else, and who believe so very firmly in the principle of heredity, were not slow to remember the days of the early forties of the last century when the great grandfather of our Viceroy held the reins of the Indian Government in his hands. They were reminded of that illustrious soldier statesman, Sir Henry Hardinge, who, during the very brief period of three years and a half, made an indelible mark upon the history of this country. He knew how to conquer and how to rule. It was a wonder how during that short period he subjugated the indomitable Sikhs and then instead of leaving bitterness behind, as is usually the case after wars, succeeded, by his wise and benevolent policy, in converting those enemies into staunch friends and in bringing peace and prosperity to the land of the five rivers.

State Banquet at Benares.

"Full of confidence and implicit reliance we welcomed His Excellency as our Viceroy and Governor-General in November 1910, and during the few short months that have since elapsed we have had our highest expectations fully realised. Who is there in India who does not know how the Indian horizon in November, 1910, was still full of mist and gloom, with patches of dark clouds unmistakably looming here and there, although the most wise and beneficent rule of Lord Minto (whom India will ever remember with sincerest gratitude) had dispersed them considerably? It was really nothing short of a wonder that during the brief space of a year the clouds and mists have practically vanished, restoring its usual calms and sunshine to the Indian continent. The most striking feature of His Excellency's rule has been its thoroughness and its full and complete sympathy with the legitimate aspirations of the people of this land. The great political and administrative changes brought about by His Excellency in December last have elicited praise and admiration from people of all shades of opinion and are universally recognised as great strokes of statesmanship. No one in India can, I think, remember an instance when such far-reaching reforms were carried out with such thoroughness and with so little ado, and at the same time were so very universally approved. Nobleness of conception and strength of conviction coupled with firmness of decision and boldness of execution, and above all a strong determination to do justice mingled with the faculty of hitting the proper moment for doing things, are qualities which characterise the work of Lord Hardinge in India—qualities which very rarely, if ever, are found combined in any statesman, and each of which is sufficient to make a man great. To such a Viceroy and to his illustrious consort, who has already shown her unmistakable and unbounded sympathy with the women of India in taking practical measures to assuage their suffering, it is now my proud privilege to offer my heartiest welcome to our hoary city as the first Ruling Chief of the State of Benares after an interval of more than a century. My family, which came into power almost simultaneously with the establishment of the British authority in Northern India, has always prided itself on its unshakeable fidelity and staunch attachment to the British Throne. Even when the British power was in its infancy and had gained a very feeble footing in those parts of India, and when the dominating Nawab Vazirs of Oudh were trying their best to prevent the newcomers gaining ground, my ancestor, Balwant Singh, in defiance of all sorts of threats and cajoleries, chose to throw in his lot with the East India Company. From that day down to the present my forefathers, in spite of various vicissitudes of fortune, stuck to their liege

State Banquet at Benares.

lord, and the unshakeable fidelity and practical loyalty displayed by them during trying periods, and more especially in the dark days of the Indian Mutiny, constitute the brightest records of my house and we prize them as our most valuable heirloom. It is needless for me to relate here how and under what circumstances this family lost its ruling powers in the closing years of the 18th century, which loss was so very keenly felt by my forefathers. But they lived in hopes and knew that their Sovereign would one day do them justice.

"The confidence was not misplaced. To-day I stand before you a tangible proof of British justice, having been invested with the lost powers of my family under an instrument bearing the signature of His Excellency Lord Hardinge which will ever keep green in the grateful remembrance of me and of my posterity the revered name of His Excellency. The very great confidence which the Government of India has thus been pleased to place in me makes me extremely alive to the sense of my responsibility. It will be my constant endeavour and the height of my ambition to be able to show to the Government that the confidence reposed in me was not misplaced. The State of Benares having been brought into being some ten months back, it is rather too early for me to show any conspicuous result of my administration, but I assure Your Excellency that it is and shall always be my earnest endeavour to place the needs of my subjects before my own, and it may not be long before I may succeed in showing the good results of my administration.

"The very great and material help which I was fortunate in receiving at the hands of our most popular Lieutenant-Governor, Sir John Hewett (the record of whose administration is destined to be the brightest page in the annals of the history of these Provinces) made my way smooth and gave my administration that easy start which prevented the people from feeling in the least the strain of transition. The valuable advice which it pleased His Honour to offer me from time to time, the almost paternal care which he has all along shown in the welfare of the State, his ever readiness to place at my disposal the services of trained Government officers, the very liberal way in which he interpreted and applied the various terms of the agreement—each and all have placed me under an everlasting debt of gratitude. I would also be wanting in my duty if I were not to express at this place the deep sense of gratefulness which I feel towards Mr. Lovett, the first Political Agent of Benares, without whose ripe experience and sound practical knowledge of affairs it would have been an impossible task for me to organise the

State Banquet at Benares.

State. If any success has attended my endeavours in the administration so far it is mostly due to his ready help and to his valuable advice. Nor should I omit to make mention of the great assistance which I am just now receiving at the hands of our present Political Agent, Mr. Molony, whose exceptionally practical knowledge of industrial and agricultural affairs and whose unbounded sympathy with all measures tended to improve the condition of the people are certain to help me in bringing about those beneficial reforms which I have taken in hand for bettering the condition of my tenantry and subjects. Some of these measures, such as for instance the granting of universal occupancy rights to my tenants, the establishment of agricultural banks and of itinerary hospitals, the formation of village sanitary boards, the establishment of small co-operative factories at various centres, the founding of elementary schools, the construction of canals, wells, bunds, roads, etc., are already taking shape under his guiding advice, and I hope will be established facts before long.

"It is, and I assure His Excellency shall always be, my earnest endeavour to prove myself worthy of the trust the Government has been pleased to repose in me, and it will be my sole ambition to see that the Government always receives good reports of my administration.

"*Ladies and Gentlemen*, we had eagerly expected to assemble at this place a week earlier to welcome our Viceroy and his illustrious consort, Lady Hardinge, but unfortunately for us the very serious illness of Lord Alington, Her Excellency's brother, compelled our Viceroy to cancel his visit to Benares and Lucknow. With what sincere regret and sorrow we all heard this news and how sincerely we prayed for the speedy recovery of Lord Alington! God heard us and Lord Alington is now sufficiently recovered to enable Their Excellencies to grant us the honour of receiving them here to-day. This little incident has not been without its moral. It has made us personally familiar with and brought us in personal touch with those highest qualities of head and heart which have justly made the name of Lord Hardinge revered and loved in India. It has further shown to us his highest sense of duty and his greatest consideration for the feelings of others. As soon as he found out that it was possible for him to spare a few days he chose to utilize that period in fulfilling his previous engagements at Benares and Lucknow, without in the least caring for the discomforts and strain which the rush of events and want of time were likely to cause him. When he was informed that Friday, the 16th, which was the day originally fixed for the arrival, was a fasting day of Hindus and was likely to cause inconvenience to them, His Excellency, in gracious

State Banquet at Benares.

deference to their feelings, deferred his arrival at Benares for a day, and in order not to disappoint any one expressed a wish to have all the fixtures of the two days in Benares being compressed in one day without the least consideration for His Excellency's personal comfort. Can there be a more noble instance of self-sacrifice for the sake of others? We assure His Excellency that this graciousness of his will always remain in the grateful memory of the citizens of Benares.

"*Ladies and Gentlemen*, I am afraid I have taken too much advantage of your indulgence and shall not keep you long. I am exceedingly touched and feel overwhelmingly honoured by the graciousness with which it pleased His Excellency to accept my humble invitation to visit Benares and partake of my poor hospitality. I would now ask you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to drink to the health and prosperity of our most gracious and deservedly popular Viceroy and Lady Hardinge of Penshurst. May we long enjoy the blessings of his beneficent rule."

His Excellency in reply said :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I thank Your Highness most heartily for the flattering terms in which you have proposed my health, and you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for the cordiality with which you have received the toast. It was with great regret that, owing to the illness of Lady Hardinge's brother, we had to postpone our journey, but I am glad that my brother-in-law's health has so far improved as to enable us to visit Your Highness in Benares, and the warmth of our reception here in these historic surroundings has made us appreciate to the full how much we should have missed had we been unable to fulfil our engagement. It is a source of great gratification to me to know that Your Highness, in common I believe with the Rulers and people of India in general, approves the administrative changes which were announced by His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor at the recent Durbar at Delhi. This is not the occasion to discuss the merits of those changes or the objects with which they were devised. But whatever may be their result—and I confidently believe that they will prove to

State Banquet at Benares.

be for the great and permanent benefit of the Indian people—we may claim at least the credit of having recommended them to His Majesty's Government with a view solely to the benefit of the people whose interests are in our charge, and it is my firm determination to continue, through good and evil report, to further those interests with all the power that I can command.

During the brief period that has elapsed since the Benares family domains were converted into a regular State, Your Highness has, I am glad to know, shown yourself fully worthy of the confidence bestowed on you by His Majesty's Government, and I feel sure that by continued attention to the needs of your subjects, and with the assistance of the Political Agent, you will do your utmost to retain that confidence. If I may add a word of advice to Your Highness on this subject, I would suggest that in considering schemes for the development of your State and the advancement of the welfare of your people, you should be careful to temper enthusiasm with caution and insist on the exercise of wise economy. I would also impress on Your Highness, if I may do so without offence, the desirability of educating your son and heir (whom I am glad to see here to-night) in the details of State management so as to fit him for the honourable and responsible position to which he will ultimately succeed.

And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would ask you to join me in drinking the health of our distinguished host. I have enjoyed the privilege of His Highness's friendship for a few months only, but even during that brief time I have learnt to appreciate highly his generosity, his steadfast loyalty and his zeal for the public good, and it is in recognition of these qualities that I ask you all to drink to the long life and prosperity of His Highness the Maharaja of Benares.

ADDRESS FROM LUCKNOW MUNICIPALITY.

19th Feb. 1912. [His Excellency the Viceroy accompanied by his personal staff arrived at Lucknow on the morning of the 19th February.

The Chor Bagh station was gaily decorated and His Excellency received an enthusiastic reception, and on alighting from the train was presented with an address of welcome from the Municipality, which was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—On behalf of the citizens of Lucknow we, the members of the Municipal Board of Lucknow, beg to offer Your Excellency a most respectful and hearty welcome on this your first visit to our city.

We venture to avail ourselves of this opportunity to convey to Your Excellency our heartfelt joy at the brilliant success of the great Durbar at Delhi, and to express to Your Excellency our deep gratitude for the inauguration of a policy which, we are sanguine, will form a new era in the annals of our country. The masterly despatch of Your Excellency's Government advocating the transfer of the Imperial seat to Delhi and enunciating important principles for the future administration of the country has deeply touched the hearts of the people all over the land. We are delighted at the transfer of the capital because we feel that this wise and statesmanlike step will give a new life to the people of these Provinces, and the presence of the representative of their Most Gracious Sovereign so close to them will materially benefit them.

Since the visit of Your Excellency's predecessor, Lord Minto, three years ago, Lucknow has made steady progress in the many important works for the advancement of education and improvement of sanitation that were then being commenced. The drainage of the most important portion of the town has been completed, congested areas are being opened up, new roads are being made, parks and markets have been added and new schools have been opened. We are grateful to the Local Government for its generous help in the shape of special grants for the improvement of our city. We cannot allow this opportunity to pass without mentioning the willing co-operation of the people of this city in making the improvement schemes a success. The Aminabad Park, the cloth market and the grain market, the latter two of which are still under construction, are instances of such co-operation.

In selecting Lucknow as the place where the memorial of His Imperial Majesty's visit to the United Provinces as Prince of Wales was to be erected great honour was done to our city. The King George's Medical College, which has just been opened by His

Address from Lucknow Municipality.

Honour Sir John Hewett, K.C.S.I., is an important addition to the buildings and memorials of the past that adorn her.

Facility of communication will be materially increased by the completion in the near future of the new bridge over the Gumti close to the big Imambara. We are also fortunate in obtaining the benefit of the liberality of the Local Government in connection with the scheme of constructing a weir on the river which is likely to largely enhance the beauty of the town.

We may assure Your Excellency that humble as our efforts have been in the past it is our earnest desire to make Lucknow worthy of its past traditions.

In conclusion, we beg once again to offer to Your Excellency a most cordial welcome to Lucknow and to express our hope that Your Excellency, during your administration, will continue to take an abiding interest in the welfare of the ancient and historic capital of Oudh.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you very warmly for the welcome you have extended to me upon my first visit to your city. It is a visit to which I have looked forward with the greatest possible pleasure, and I was keenly disappointed when I found it necessary to postpone it owing to the anxious illness of a member of my family. His steady progress towards recovery has enabled me to fulfil this engagement, but I regret that it was not possible for Lady Hardinge to prolong her absence from her brother's side, and she is very sad that she cannot be with me here to-day to share your welcome and to make your acquaintance, and to see with her own eyes this famous city, so rich in old associations, so full of living interests, and so pleasant to look upon.

The feelings of joy and gratification to which you have given expression in regard to His Imperial Majesty's Durbar at Delhi are, I have reason to know, common to the whole of this wide Empire, and I do not think that anyone who was present at that great ceremony can have come away without a deep and lasting impression of its

Address from Lucknow Municipality.

solemn significance. The devotion and loyalty of the immense gathering of the Princes and people of India to His Imperial Majesty were patent to all who had eyes to see, and were most fittingly expressed in the message which it was my privilege to send from them to the people of England on the day of His Majesty's safe return to his own country.

Perhaps it is not so widely appreciated how greatly touched Their Imperial Majesties were by the welcome which they received in India. In his public utterances he told his people something of his feelings, and both of them in conversation out here and in letters written on their way home, have spoken to me of India and of the people of India in terms of the greatest warmth and affection.

You have yourselves only recently received an illustration of the King-Emperor's personal interest in your well-being in the commands that he was pleased to issue that your Medical College and Hospital should be called after his own name, and that the women's portion of them shall be named after Her Majesty. I congratulate you, citizens of Lucknow, upon the happy choice you made of a memorial of their earlier visit, and upon the public spirit and hearty co-operation which has enabled you to bring it to so successful an issue. That spirit of striving together for the common good is deserving of the most hearty commendation, and its fruit is apparent in the long list of improvements which you have recently effected or are now effecting—whether in perfecting your drainage schemes, laying out parks, improving your markets, adding to your schools, developing your communications, or enhancing the beauty and healthfulness of your city by town-planning schemes. I was particularly pleased to hear how successful has been the scheme for the Amina-

bad Park, where you have not only swept away an insanitary area but have created in its place an attractive and healthy open space, and have accomplished this at an expenditure of little more than Rs. 5,000. This is true efficiency, and I offer my congratulations to the Hon'ble Mr. Ganga Prasad Varma, your senior Vice-Chairman, to whom, I am told, the credit is largely due.

I will not detain you longer, Gentlemen, except to tell you again what a pleasure it is to me to come and visit your city, to express my gratitude for the kind reception you have given me, and to bid you go on and prosper in the course of civic progress in which you are so happily set.

ADDRESS FROM THE EX-ROYAL FAMILY OF OUDH.

[While at Lucknow a deputation from the ex-Royal Family of Oudh waited on the Viceroy and presented the following address :— 19th Feb. 1912.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Oudh ex-Royal Family Association, beg leave to offer our most cordial welcome to Your Excellency on the happy occasion of Your Excellency's first visit to this historic city. We owe to the British Government a heavy debt of obligation for the special consideration and respect it has shown to us ever since the annexation of Oudh, and for a promise made to us by His Excellency Lord Canning in the course of a speech on the occasion of a special Durbar held in Lucknow on the 24th of October, 1859, which we have always looked upon as a genuine charter of our honour and security. We crave leave to quote a short extract of His Excellency's speech, which is as follows: "I am glad to have this occasion of receiving, with respect due to their rank and position, the members of the Royal Family of Oudh, and of assuring them of the desire of the Government to extend to them its protection and consideration from this time forward. In return for that protection I look to their setting before the people of the city of Lucknow an example of order, loyalty, and obedience in all things to the authority of the Queen."

We are further proud that we as a class have always maintained a genuine and abiding loyalty to the British Throne, and otherwise

Address from the ex-Royal Family of Oudh.

fulfilled the moral obligation which was rightly cast upon us by His Excellency Lord Canning. Some of us still cherish, most lovingly and gratefully, the memory of the visit to this city about 1844 A.D. of Your Excellency's illustrious grandfather, the first Viscount Hardinge, the then Governor-General of India, than whom, in the words of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, no Sovereign ever possessed a more honest and faithful counsellor, or a more loyal, fearless, and devoted servant. Among the numerous benefits which His Excellency conferred upon this country during a short tenure of his office, the one which is still appreciated by every section of the Indian community was the particular interest which he took in providing for every possible facility to the people of India for the education of their children and affording every reasonable encouragement by holding out to them a fair prospect of employment in the public service.

We have every reason to be assured that Your Excellency's rule will be as memorable and successful as that of your illustrious ancestor, and we take this opportunity of expressing our heartfelt gratitude to Your Excellency's Government, for the special consideration shown to our family by sanctioning the grant of scholarships of Rs. 150 a month to the young students of our family whose parents cannot unfortunately afford to meet the increasing cost of their education; and we earnestly hope that should this grant prove inadequate, it will be enhanced. In the same connection, may we also be permitted to give expression to our gratitude to the Hon'ble Sir John Prescott Hewett, G.C.S.I., K.C.S.I., C.I.E., our popular Lieutenant-Governor, for the patronage he has extended to us generally whenever solicited, and for the particular favour he showed us by recommending to Your Excellency's Government for the grant of these scholarships.

Lastly, we beg to assure Your Excellency that we are second to none in our genuine and sincere loyalty to the British Throne, to which we are most deeply grateful for the countless blessings which we enjoy under it, and that the ties of loyalty and affection which bind India to the British Throne have been considerably strengthened by the recent visit of Their Imperial Majesties, which has marked a new era in our national life. In conclusion we again beg to tender to Your Excellency a hearty welcome.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Gentlemen,—I am very pleased to have this opportunity of meeting you and making your acquaintance,

Address from the ex-Royal Family of Oudh.

The address which you have just presented to me has given me considerable pleasure in the assurance which it contains that the promises made by Lord Canning more than half a century ago have been faithfully redeemed, and you on your part have, I am glad to know, consistently fulfilled your part of the bargain by setting an example of loyalty and good conduct.

The Association which you have formed is yet in its infancy, and I am not quite sure what led to its constitution, but, if I am right in inferring from some of your remarks that one of its principal aims is the proper education of some of the cadets of your family, it has my most hearty sympathy. These are not times in which it will suffice for a man to sit with folded hands and boast of ancient lineage: the days are past when a long line of ancestors was of more repute than personal worth and personal character; and I rejoice to note your appreciation of the assistance which Government has given you towards bringing up the younger members of your family to be useful members of the community. The policy of Government in this direction has not been without its fruit, and some of your sons are worthily serving the Government with which you have so strong a bond of mutual protection and friendship.

This is the line along which I should like to see your Association working, and if there is anything in blue blood or family tradition, let it inspire you with the ambition to be, not idlers or dreamers, a burden upon the community, but strong and steadfast men, respecting yourselves and respected of others and taking your proper place as leaders of the people, in virtue of your own good qualities and character, and to the credit of the family to which you have the honour to belong. You cannot do this unless you are able to hold your own in the rough and tumble of the world about you, and the first essential is education.

Address from the Taluqdars of Oudh.

You have spoken in appreciative terms of the sympathy of Sir John Hewett, whom we are all so sorry to be losing after his long and distinguished career in India, and I can assure you that Government will always be ready to foster and assist any efforts you may make in the direction I have indicated.

I thank you, Gentlemen, for your cordial expressions of loyalty and for your friendly words of welcome; and I thank you especially for the kindly references you have made to my grandfather's work in India.

ADDRESS FROM THE TALUQDARS OF OUDH.

19th Feb. 1912. [On the night of the 19th February the Taluqdars of Oudh gave a Fête in honour of the Viceroy at the Kaiserbagh and Baradari, which had been especially and beautifully illuminated for the occasion. A large number of people were present. On arrival at the Baradari His Excellency was met by the members of the Taluqdars' Association and the Maharaja of Balrampur read the following address :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Taluqdars of Oudh, beg to offer Your Excellency our respectful and cordial welcome to the capital of Oudh. We further beg to thank Your Excellency for graciously accepting our humble invitation to this evening's entertainment and being present in our midst in this memorable hall. We are extremely sorry that Their Imperial Majesties the King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress were not able for want of time to include on this occasion a visit to Lucknow in their programme, and therefore the Taluqdars of Oudh did not get an opportunity to do homage collectively to Their Majesties.

Your Excellency's visit to our province following so soon after the great Coronation Durbar—an event rendered unique in the history of this country by the presence of Their Majesties the King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress—has afforded us the opportunity of expressing to the representative of our Gracious Sovereign our humble appreciation of the boons conferred by His Imperial Majesty on the people of India. The Royal visit has left a permanent and abiding mark on the political and social conditions of the Indian people. The kindness and sympathetic interest shown by Their

Address from the Taluqdars of Oudh.

Imperial Majesties to every class of people have left such a deep and lasting impression on the public mind that Their Majesties will be remembered lovingly and gratefully by the people of India for many years.

The very important announcement of the change of the capital of the Indian Empire from Calcutta to Delhi made by His Imperial Majesty has given us great satisfaction. The change will be beneficial and advantageous to the public interest of India, and we believe good will result from it. The removal of the seat of the Central Government to Delhi will bring that Government in greater and closer touch with the majority of the Ruling Chiefs as also with us the people of Oudh, and will facilitate to a very high degree inter-communication between the Imperial and the Provincial Governments and their peoples. It was owing to Your Excellency's personal supervision and unremitting care that the great Durbar at Delhi and Their Imperial Majesties' visit to India have been brought to a successful termination, and as a mark of high appreciation of your eminent services in this connection Your Excellency has been the recipient from His Imperial Majesty of the chain of the Victorian Order, a very high and special honour. We crave leave to offer our heartiest congratulation to Your Excellency on this high distinction. We are proud that the organisation of the great Durbar was the outcome of the untiring personal exertions and undivided attention of our Lieutenant-Governor His Honour Sir John Hewett, G.C.S.I., whose rule of the United Provinces has been productive of highly beneficial results in every direction and will long be held in special and grateful remembrance.

Only a little over a year has passed since the assumption of the government of this vast country by Your Excellency, but we rejoice to say that during this short period the people have enjoyed the blessings of peace and prosperity. We have every hope that your administration will be marked by the most sympathetic care for our interests. Since the introduction of British rule in the province of Oudh its people have been enjoying the benefits of a settled government and its concomitants—moral and material progress,—and to this fact combined with the sympathetic rule of the Lieutenant-Governor of these Provinces, as well as, we hope, to our own humble efforts and unswerving loyalty, is due the absence of the political agitations which have disturbed other Provinces of India. The Taluqdars of Oudh are highly grateful to the British Government that their rights have always been respected, their privileges maintained, and laws enacted to settle their rights and to preserve

Address from the Taluqdars of Oudh.

their estates in their families, and they are sure that your Government will be graciously pleased to continue the same treatment in future also.

We beg to assure Your Excellency that as in the past so in the future we shall ever remain devoted to the British Throne and will be second to none in our loyalty and attachment to the Person of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor. In conclusion we again tender our hearty welcome to Your Excellency and express our earnest hope that on the occasion of your next visit you will be accompanied by Lady Hardinge. We are very sorry that Her Excellency has not been able to be present to-day. We fervently pray that Your Excellency's rule over this vast country may be fraught with happiness to the people placed under Your Excellency's care.

His Excellency the Viceroy in reply said :—]

Taluqdars of Oudh,—I cannot tell you with what great pleasure I have listened to the address which you have just presented to me. Throughout this Indian Empire there is, I have every reason to believe, a spirit of confidence and trust in British administration and of loyalty to His Gracious Majesty's Throne and Person, but there is no part of India where that spirit is more deeply rooted than here, and there is no body of men who have given greater proof of its existence among them than you who represent the aristocracy of this Province. I need not tell you then how glad I am to have this opportunity of meeting you and making your acquaintance. You have truly said that the recent visit of Their Imperial Majesties has left a permanent and abiding mark upon the political and social conditions of the people of India, and I am grateful for your congratulations upon the very great honour conferred upon myself and for your kindly references to my own part in the labours which made their visit so great a success. That it was a success I do not think that the most captious critic would deny, and I know that Their Imperial Majesties themselves were pleased beyond measure at those few crowded days they spent among their people in India and left our shores with

feelings of sadness and regret. Much of that success was due to the indefatigable exertions of your Lieutenant-Governor and the band of chosen men who worked with him and under him for the organisation of the Delhi Durbar and its attendant ceremonies.

To them and to those in Calcutta and Bombay and elsewhere, who worked so strenuously, we all owe a debt of gratitude that they should have made it possible to give our Sovereign Lord the King-Emperor a welcome worthy of India. In your address you have referred to the benefits of a settled government and to the sympathetic rule of your present Lieutenant-Governor, and I feel sure that you must all lament with me that India is in a few short months to lose the benefit of his ripe experience and mature judgment. Sir John Hewett can look back through a long vista of years devoted to this country, which have brought in their train grave responsibilities worthily fulfilled, and when he leaves us, full of years and honour and friends, we shall unite in wishing him a hearty godspeed.

The British Government have always been careful to respect your rights and maintain your privileges, and they have had their reward in your steadfast loyalty—which has shone out with undiminished brightness when the political sky has been cloudy, as it has in some of the years not so far gone by. The clouds have nearly gone, and the horizon is bright with hope which bids fair for the advance of India along the path of enlightened progress; but whatever the future may betide, whether it be sunshine or storm, I feel sure that the old tradition of loyalty and good faith, which has so long been a bond between yourselves and Government, may be relied upon as one of the strongest assets of British Rule in India.

I cannot conclude without thanking you most heartily for your kind reception. I only regret that Lady

Hardinge, owing to the illness of her brother, could not be with me to share with me the pleasure of this visit and of this magnificent entertainment which you have provided for our enjoyment.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE SIR J. L. JENKINS.

23rd Feb. 1912. [At a meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council held on the 23rd February to transact ordinary business His Excellency the Viceroy addressed the Members as follows :—]

Since the last occasion on which the Council met in this place, and while the hearts of all were still beating with the joy and enthusiasm created by the visit of Their Imperial Majesties to Calcutta, a sudden reminder reached us of the inexorable character of the laws of nature, and death unexpectedly deprived India and the Government of India of one of their most valued and trusted servants. It was only two days before Their Imperial Majesties left Calcutta for Bombay that Sir John Jenkins was present at the meeting of my Executive Council, apparently in the best of health, and yet a week later he had breathed his last. There are probably many here who knew Sir John Jenkins much longer than I knew him, some who even knew him better, but all I can say is that no one possibly liked and respected him more than I did. Combined with a magnificent brain and a forceful character, he had great kindness and sympathy of heart, qualities which endeared him to all those who knew and understood him. Petty jealousy and meanness had no place in his character, and it might be said of him as was written by Pope of an eminent English statesman—

> Statesman yet friend to truth! of soul sincere,
> In action faithful, and in honour clear,
> Who broke no promise and served no private end.

Tribute to the late Sir J. L. Jenkins.

After more than 30 years spent in the Presidency of Bombay, during which period he occupied some of the highest posts held by civilians, he was appointed Member for the Home Department of the Viceroy's Executive Council. In that capacity I am able to bear testimony to his Imperial patriotism, to his high sense of loyalty to his colleagues and friends, to his conciliatory attitude in all matters connected with the Home Department, his invariable desire to set wrong right, and his constant wish to forget and to obliterate the memory of all that during the last few years is best forgotten. Quite recently the Secretary of State had appointed him Member of his Council in London, and great as I felt his loss would be to me and to the Government of India, I gladly welcomed the appointment of Sir John Jenkins to London, as I fully realised that, in the ever-changing conditions of this great Empire, his presence and advice would always be in harmony with the legitimate sentiments and aspirations of the people of India. Just as his prospects of happiness and usefulness to India and to England were brightest, death has claimed him; and although it is not for any of us to question the will of Providence, we may with reason give expression to our profound regret at the loss we have all sustained. To me personally he was a most loyal and devoted colleague and friend whose experience and knowledge of India and her people were as extensive as they were priceless. To India, in my opinion, his loss is irreparable. To Lady Jenkins and her family we all, I am sure, pour out our deep and heartfelt sympathy in their bereavement. May she find comfort and consolation in her sore distress, and may the soul of our late colleague and friend rest in peace.

DINNER GIVEN BY THE CALCUTTA CLUB.

1st March 1912.

[On Friday, the 1st March, Mr. S. P. Sinha, President of the Calcutta Club, gave a dinner in honour of His Excellency Lord Hardinge. Covers were laid for 54 guests. His Excellency was supported on his right by the Hon'ble Mr. Ali Imam and on the left by Mr. Sinha. Amongst those who sat down to dinner were the Hon'ble Sir Reginald Craddock, Sir Richard Harington, the Hon'ble Sir Harcourt Butler, Mr. Justice Chitty, Mr. Justice Fletcher, the Hon'ble Sir James Meston, the Hon'ble Surgeon-General Sir Charles P. Lukis, the Hon'ble Mr. F. H. Stewart, Mr. W. R. Gourlay, the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraj of Burdwan, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chowdhury, the Hon'ble Mr. S. L. Maddox, Sir Rajendra Nath Mookerjee, Mr. Justice Stephen, the Hon'ble the Raja of Dighapatia, the Hon'ble Mr. Basu, the Hon'ble Mr. R. T. Greer, and the Hon'ble Mr. Sharafuddin.

Mr. S. P. Sinha, in proposing the health of His Excellency the Viceroy, said that they all knew that at this time of the year His Excellency's engagements were numerous and pressing, and yet he had been induced to give the Club so much of his time because His Excellency always felt the greatest interest in the objects which they had in view in that Club. He could assure His Excellency that the Club was now in a fair way of success. Some five years ago they started the Club with 170 members and at the present moment the strength was 350. They started with practically no capital, but at the next annual meeting which would be held a few days hence, the Secretary would be able to announce Rs. 30,000 invested in Government securities lying to the credit of the Club. The Club owed its existence to the pressing necessity that was felt five years ago; namely, the want felt by the leading members of both the European and Indian communities of a centre in which to meet, the object being the promotion of friendly and more intimate relations between Europeans and Indians. That object His Majesty the King himself had pronounced to be one that was incumbent upon them all.

Lord Minto, the immediate predecessor in office of His Excellency, and Lord Hardinge himself had evinced the keenest sympathy and greatest interest in the objects which the Club had in view. At the farewell dinner which the Club gave to Lord Minto on the eve of his departure from India, he said that the mutual recognition of the objects and the mutual understanding of each other was the great secret of success of the British Government in India. (*Cheers.*) The speaker thought that they were in the happy position of being able to claim that for the Club that day. Although there were differ-

Dinner given by the Calcutta Club.

ences of opinion amongst the members on many subjects, including political subjects, yet it did not prevent them from being good friends in private life. (*Cheers.*) They read every day that on political life in England the leader of one of the great political parties did not hesitate to charge his political opponent with what would ordinarily be considered as dishonesty. (*Cheers.*) They had read that, even in the House of Commons, the Prime Minister of England had been charged with high treason to his King and country. Did anybody take seriously anything of that kind in England? No, and why? Because they knew that Tories and Liberals, Unionists and Radicals alike, according to their best judgment and abilities, were trying to promote the interests of the country and to serve her to the best of their judgment. The speaker believed that it was not impossible to have the same opinion with regard to themselves.

It was not impossible for Indians and Europeans to give credit to each other for working for the common good of the great country that they lived in. (*Cheers.*) He knew that Indians themselves had not always been a happy and united family. They had differences of their own. Notwithstanding that, they remained friends in private life. Speaking for the Indians, he would say that they had nothing but regard and admiration for the great intellectual and moral qualities which had won for the English people the proud position which they occupied in India. All the aims of the Indians were to emulate the English. They always tried and strove to reach that ideal, but at the same time to retain that which was good in their own manners. Surely, therefore, it was impossible for the English people to think of the Indians otherwise than as friends, and it was equally impossible for Indians to think of the Englishmen otherwise than as friends. It was to the recognition of that principle that that Club owed its existence. His Excellency had always sympathised with such objects and had endeavoured in the past to promote the recognition of those objects.

In conclusion, Mr. Sinha said that it was because His Excellency intended to promote this idea that he was in their midst that night. For that they must thank His Excellency most deeply. He therefore asked his friends to drink to the health of His Excellency the Viceroy. (*Cheers.*)

The toast was received with musical honours.

His Excellency, who rose amidst cheers, said:—]

Gentlemen,—It is a very great pleasure to me to meet here to-night so many members of the Calcutta Club,

Dinner given by the Calcutta Club.

which is typical of the harmony and mutual esteem which every Viceroy and every friend of India must wish to see prevail between Englishmen and Indians of all classes, and in every rank of life throughout this great country. (*Cheers.*) It is for that reason that I wish every success and prosperity to the Calcutta Club. It is a further satisfaction to me that I have been honoured by an invitation here to-night, since I do not anticipate that I shall be in a position to accept hospitality at a similar gathering in Calcutta in a year's time from now. Finding myself here in the midst of friends leads me to say a few words on a matter of some delicacy, of which I will in any case endeavour to avoid the controversial aspect. Although I have no sympathy with intemperate language, I frankly admit that I have a genuine sympathy for the sentiments of all those who feel that they, and Calcutta generally, have lost something by the transfer of the Capital to Delhi. I hope and trust that a few years hence they will be able to modify their opinion, that they will realize that there have been compensating advantages and that their loss has not been so great as they now anticipate. Viceroys are also human and have feelings like other people. I confess that I have, during the past three months, had a feeling of deep regret at the prospect of abandoning Calcutta as my official head-quarters. This is the second cold weather that my wife and I have lived amongst you. We have been extremely happy; we have enjoyed the blessings of good health, and we have been so fortunate as to come among friends in Calcutta Ever since my arrival in India I have liked Calcutta, with which city I have many family ties and traditions, since no less than four successive generations of my family have lived at various times in Calcutta since the year 1844. Although I shall be a thousand miles away, my interest in Calcutta and in the future prosperity and development of Calcutta will

Unveiling the statue of Sir Andrew Fraser at Calcutta.

never wane (*hear, hear*); and I feel confident that when the term of my Viceroyalty is completed, I shall be able to look back upon a peaceful and contented Bengal and a prosperous and ever-increasing Calcutta under the fostering care of a very able and popular Governor. (*Cheers.*) I thank you warmly, Gentlemen, for the great hospitality extended to me to-night, and for the very kind manner in which you have received the toast of my health. (*Loud applause.*)

UNVEILING THE STATUE OF SIR ANDREW FRASER AT CALCUTTA.

[His Excellency the Viceroy unveiled in Dalhousie Square, Sir Andrew Fraser's statue in the afternoon of the 5th March. 5th March 1912.

A large and distinguished company assembled, and on the dais where the ceremony was to take place were the Maharajadhiraja of Burdwan, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Sir Andrew Fraser Memorial Fund, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, His Honour Sir William Duke, the Bishop of Calcutta, Sir Reginald Craddock, Sir Harcourt Butler, Sir Robert Carlyle, Sir Rajendra Mukerjee, Mr. Slacke, Sir Cecil Graham, the Hon'ble Mr. Ali Imam, and the Hon'ble Rai Kissori Lal Goswami.

The Black Watch provided a guard-of-honour and the band and pipers of the same regiment also attended.

At 5 o'clock His Excellency, escorted by his Bodyguard, drove up in the state carriage, and was received at the entrance to the square and conducted to the dais by the Maharaja of Burdwan. After the guard-of-honour had saluted, the members of the Executive Committee were introduced to the Viceroy.

The Maharaja of Burdwan said the proposal for a memorial to Sir Andrew Fraser, who was Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal from 1903 to 1908, was inaugurated by the Maharaja of Durbhanga and himself and at a well-attended meeting of European and Indian gentlemen held at the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, an appeal for subscriptions was made. Ultimately rather more than Rs. 39,000 was subscribed, and the Committee decided that the Memorial should take the form of a bronze statue on a stone pedestal and Sir George Frampton, F.S.A., was commissioned to execute it.

Unveiling the statue of Sir Andrew Fraser at Calcutta.

Proceeding, the Maharaja said: "I deem it a great honour in being permitted to take a leading part in this afternoon's function, and it has given me peculiar pleasure as well; for, not only was Sir Andrew Fraser a Chief for whom I had the greatest respect, but a friend for whom I entertained, and will always entertain, a warmth of feeling and regard which no words of mine can adequately express. Sir Andrew Fraser was Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal at a time when the Province was passing through a very critical period in its political history, and the Government and the people were both being somewhat severely tried. It is to be regretted for these reasons that Sir Andrew Fraser's great solicitude for the student classes in Bengal, his zeal and ardent support in all schemes of education and medical relief have rather been lost sight of. In normal times they would have loomed large in the public eye. Be that, however, as it may, his unfailing courtesy to all that came in contact with him, his unassailable attitude towards the betterment of the young men of the Province reading in schools and colleges and his ungrudging help to all projects relating to education and sanitation are things that are undeniable and will always remain to his lasting credit. Even his political opponents could not challenge his sincerity in all such matters. It was a cause of great regret to several of us, including myself, that Sir Andrew Fraser's Ranchi College scheme was not carried out. But I hope that Bihar, whose welfare was always near to the heart of the ex-Lieutenant-Governor, will show its gratitude by including in its programme of national advancement under the new régime this laudable scheme, which for financial reasons Sir Edward Baker's Government thought fit to indefinitely postpone.

"With these few remarks, my Lord, I beg to request Your Excellency to be graciously pleased to unveil the statue of Sir Andrew Fraser."

His Excellency said :—]

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I had not the pleasure of Sir Andrew Fraser's personal acquaintance, but I have tried to find out from some of those who knew him best what sort of a man he was. He served the Indian Government for over 37 years and ended a distinguished career as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. High office in the best of times carries with it enough of care, toil and responsibility, but during Sir Andrew Fraser's Lieutenant-Governorship the

Unveiling the statue of Sir Andrew Fraser at Calcutta.

burden was heavier than usual. It was a time of unrest, both political and industrial, upon which it is no pleasure now to dwell. I believe that few civilians have ever had greater sympathy for the people among whom and for whom they work. He put forth strenuous efforts to develop village government in this province and to resuscitate village institutions: he passed two great agrarian measures—the amendment of the Bengal Tenancy Act and the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act. The appeal of suffering humanity found always a ready response in his heart, and he not only visited practically every hospital in the province, but devoted large grants from the public expenditure to the improvement of the buildings and equipment of medical institutions alike in the mofussil and in the city of Calcutta. Between the services and Sir Andrew there was a bond of mutual respect and goodwill, due to the frequent conferences which he initiated between the high officers of his Government; and I am told that there has seldom been a better understanding than existed in his time between the Secretariat and mofussil officers. One of the most marked characteristics of his administration lay in the intimate relations he established with the Chiefs and Nobles; he made them feel that Government was their friend, anxious to guide and help; and among them he had many personal friends—not least the Maharaja of Burdwan who risked his life to save Sir Andrew's when an attempt upon it was made. To non-officials he was most readily accessible, and he was not only glad to listen but ready to inform; and long before the revised Councils were discussed he was an advocate of the more extended association of non-officials with the administration. This city will remember him as one who had a hand in all good works within its boundaries. In private life he was a God-fearing Christian, who never lost his faith, who never lost his courage, who never lost his temper and never

lost his affection for the people; and even now in his well-earned retirement he devotes his energies and his time to good works and philanthropic efforts. That, Gentlemen, is the man whose statue I shall now unveil and I am proud to have that privilege.

[His Excellency then pressed a lever and unveiled the statue, which is an excellent likeness, showing Sir Andrew Fraser standing. On the pedestal is the inscription: "Sir Andrew Henderson Leith Fraser, K.C.S.I., LL.D., D.Litt., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, 1903-1908."

A salute of 15 guns was fired from the Fort as the statue was unveiled and the guard-of-honour presented arms.

Mr. A. M. Monteath formally proposed a vote of thanks to His Excellency and the playing of the National Anthem concluded the ceremony.]

CONVOCATION OF THE CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.

16th March 1912.

[The annual Convocation of the University of Calcutta for conferring the Degrees of Doctor in the Faculties of Arts and Science, "Honoris Causâ," in commemoration of the visit of Their Imperial Majesties, as well as the ordinary Degrees of the year, was held in the Senate House, College Square, on the afternoon of the 16th March. The huge hall was filled, quite a number of European and Indian ladies attending. Her Excellency Lady Hardinge was present. The interior of the Senate House was tastefully decorated with palms and pretty art-coloured muslin. This year there were no less than 1,469 graduates. There were a number of lady graduates, all of whom were applauded as they came up to receive their respective Degrees. The conferring of the ordinary Degrees took an hour and a half.

Shortly after half-past two His Honour the Rector arrived and was received by the Honourable the Vice-Chancellor, the Members of the Syndicate and the Registrar. At a quarter to three His Excellency the Chancellor arrived. His Excellency was received by the Rector, the Vice-Chancellor, the Members of the Syndicate and the Registrar.

A procession was then formed which entered the hall in the following order: The Registrar, Members of the Syndicate arranged two and two in order of seniority. His Excellency the Chancellor, His Honour the Rector and the Honourable the Vice-Chancellor, *ex*

Convocation of the Calcutta University.

officio Fellows, arranged two and two in order of seniority. Honorary Fellows, arranged two and two in order of seniority. Ordinary Fellows, arranged two and two in order of seniority. Visitors stood up as the procession entered the Hall and remained standing until His Excellency the Chancellor had taken his seat on the dais. The Hon'ble Sir F. W. Duke, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and Rector of the University, and the Hon'ble Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Chief Justice of Bengal, occupied seats on the dais to the right of the Chancellor and to the left of the Vice-Chancellor, respectively. The *ex officio* Fellows, Sir Gooroo Dass Banerjee, ex-Vice-Chancellor, the Hon'ble Babu Debaprasad Sarbadhikari, Representative of the University on the Legislative Council of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and the Deans of the Faculties occupied seats on the dais. Seats were also reserved on the dais for the Hon'ble Maharaja Sir Rameswar Singh, Bahadur, of Darbhanga, and the Hon'ble Maharaja Manindra Chandra Nandy of Cossimbazar, Benefactors of the University. Members of the Syndicate and the recipients of Honorary Degrees occupied the front seats on the platform to the right and left of the dais. Honorary Fellows and the remaining Members of the Senate occupied seats on the platforms to the right and left of the dais in order of seniority.

His Excellency the Chancellor having declared the Convocation open, the Vice-Chancellor presented to His Excellency the Chancellor the following three recipients of Honorary Degrees: Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas Craven Phillot, Doctor of Philosophy; Professor Paul Johannes Brühl, Doctor of Science; and Professor Jagadis Chandra Bose, Doctor of Science.

His Excellency the Chancellor having delivered the diplomas of the Honorary Degrees, the Vice-Chancellor granted the Honorary Degrees of the year and gave an address, at the conclusion of which His Excellency the Viceroy addressed the Convocation as follows:—]

Mr. Vice-Chancellor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Of all the positions which it falls to a Viceroy to fill, there is none that I value more highly than the Chancellorship of the Calcutta University, and that because as Chancellor I come into direct relation with the rising generation on whose sound education the future of India so greatly depends. I am glad by my presence here this afternoon to show the interest which I take in your progress, and

to have this opportunity of addressing a few words to the graduates and students assembled in this hall. It is all the more a satisfaction to me to be present here to-day in view of the possibility that circumstances may prevent me from being present next year at a similar Convocation. I am anxious moreover to declare to you all that, although separated by space and distance, I shall, so long as I remain in this country, proudly value the post that I hold of Chancellor of this University, and that it will be to me a source of pride that I am able to maintain a close connection with the intellectual side of Calcutta. I need hardly say that it will be my constant aim and endeavour to watch over and to assist the intellectual development of this great University and the moral and material welfare of its students. Whatever may be the political changes of the present or of the future, I have absolute confidence in the power of this University to hold its own and to lead the way in the development of higher education to a much higher plane than exists at present either in this or any other University in India.

I should like also to take this opportunity of conveying to the Vice-Chancellor of this University the warm congratulations of us all on the high honour that has been bestowed upon him recently by our King-Emperor, together with an expression of our earnest hope that he may long be spared to enjoy his well-earned and well-merited honour.

Since we met at last Convocation, we have lost some good friends and supporters. I may mention, in particular, the retirement of Mr. Hugh Melville Percival and Mr. Lamb and the lamented death of Mr. John Arthur Cunningham. It will not be easy to fill the place vacated by Mr. Percival. For more than 31 years he was a Professor in the Presidency College, giving of his best in knowledge and care to successive generations

Convocation of the Calcutta University.

of students, while as a syndic and member of variou Boards of Studies, he rendered service of exceptiona value, and brought to bear a judgment which was neve swayed by any other than academic considerations. Mr Lamb, Principal of the Scottish Churches College worked assiduously for the University as a member o the Syndicate and of various Boards of Studies. He wa keenly interested in the moral and intellectual welfar of his students, who valued his sympathy in their difficulties. The early death of Mr. Cunningham ha deprived us of a brilliant and enthusiastic worker, whos ideals and sympathy for Indian students early won hin respect and affection in many quarters. And there ar others too whose loss the University has to mourn, o who have left India never to return. Their places know them no more, but their influence and example live afte them, and inspire those who follow in their footsteps to carry on the great work which they in their time, and according to their opportunity, helped forward.

Were I asked, Gentlemen, in what direction the currents of opinion and activity in our Universities are setting at the present time, I should reply unhesitatingly that they are converging on the fuller realisation of the idea of teaching and residential Universities. In saying this I would not wish to imply in any way failure on the part of this University in its task of coping with the provision of adequate facilities for the entire body of students under its jurisdiction, but, with Sir Ashutosh Mookerjee, I would say that both the teaching in the colleges and the residential arrangements are capable of very great development and improvement, especially upon the lines which he has indicated in the very interesting and instructive speech to which we have just listened. We are not blind to the good work which the existing Universities have done in their day; we are justly proud of their achievements. But we cannot be

insensible to the change that has come through the atmosphere. Distance has been reduced by improved communications; centres of population have grown up pulsing and throbbing with new aspiration; some appearances to the contrary notwithstanding, the old dividing barriers are breaking down. We feel the need for greater union and closer co-operation. We want to develop an identity and a character of our own. The modern Universities of Europe have well been described as the nurseries and workshops of intellectual life. We want all that this description implies in India at the present time.

The Universities Act of 1904 has prepared the way. That measure was keenly debated at the time, but few thoughtful people are insensible to its beneficent character now. It imposed as an obligation the systematic inspection of colleges, and it facilitated the creation of University professors and lecturers for the cultivation of higher studies. Indirectly also, it foreshadowed the beginnings of a residential system. It is difficult to exaggerate the importance of inspection. By maintaining continuity of standard on the one hand and disclosing the needs of the colleges on the other, it draws together the Universities and the colleges and invigorates them both. The future historian of India will assuredly ascribe to the Universities Act a strong dynamic and vitalising influence on our system of higher education.

Under the able and effective guidance of our Vice-Chancellor, Sir Ashutosh Mookerjee, whose reappointment has, I know, given widespread satisfaction and on whose expert assistance we shall rely in the forthcoming revision of the Regulations,—under his guidance the Calcutta University has made considerable progress in the directions indicated by the Act. For inspection we have a whole-time salaried officer, and we have been able

Convocation of the Calcutta University.

to associate with him professors of different colleges, to whom we owe a great debt of gratitude for the invaluable services which they have rendered without remuneration and often at much personal inconvenience. There has been marked improvement, especially in the teaching of science, thanks largely to the liberal grants made by the Government of India to the University and to colleges. The colleges are, however, still deficient in accommodation, equipment, apparatus and libraries. All these are deserving and important objects on which expenditure must increase in the near future if we are to maintain a rising standard of education. The proper housing of the students has also received consideration. This is a matter in which I am personally much interested. I have lately made public reference to the subject and I need not repeat here my observations. Last year the Government of India made liberal grants for this object, and this year also further liberal provision has been made. The cost of land is a serious difficulty in Calcutta, but some progress has already been achieved. Again the University has commenced to teach, although at present on a modest scale.

In the University Law College which the Senate determined to establish in 1908, and which was opened in June 1909, we have a teaching faculty of law. The college has now a whole-time principal and a staff of 22 professors. The Vice-Chancellor himself presides at Moot Courts. The college will shortly be located in the new University buildings which we owe to the munificence of the Maharaja of Darbhanga. Here the students will have access to a fine law library, and the University library will be housed in the same building. I think that we have every reason to congratulate ourselves on the striking success which the University Law College has achieved hitherto. Then we have the Minto Professor of Economics, who is a whole-time University

professor. We have also maintained lecturers on Comparative Philology, Sanskrit, Pali, English and Mathematics for the benefit of M.A. students. In other branches, such as History, Philosophy and Economics, we have been assisted in our efforts by distinguished professors of affiliated colleges, who, in addition to their regular work, have voluntarily undertaken to impart instruction to M.A. students. During the last four years also the University has from time to time appointed Readers on special subjects to foster investigation of important branches of learning amongst our advanced students. One of these Readers, Mr. Sen, has embodied his lectures on the history of Bengali language and literature from the earliest times to the middle of the 19th century, in a volume of considerable merit, which he is about to supplement by another original contribution to the history of one of the most important vernaculars in this country. May I express the hope that this example will be followed elsewhere, and that critical schools may be established for the vernacular languages of India which have not as yet received the attention that they deserve. During the last year also, the University has published the Readership lectures delivered by Professor Schuster and Dr. Walker, which have been acclaimed in Europe as works of great value and merit.

I cannot, however, regard the present facilities for higher studies as at all sufficient, when not a few students who wish to take the degree of Master of Arts have to be turned away for want of accommodation. That our students are capable of higher work I have no doubt. I am informed that three Research Studentships on the Premchand foundation have recently been awarded for theses on Mathematics, Chemistry and Indian Antiquities, all of which were pronounced by the examiners to evince special merit. The awards which have been made

of the Coates Memorial Prize and the Darbhanga Memorial Scholarship indicate that there are capable men, able and willing in the medical faculty to carry on research work. In addition to this, the large number of essays submitted for the Griffith Memorial Prize makes it patent that many of our graduates are engaged in advanced study and research work. It is very important that we should turn out good M.A.'s in sufficient numbers. Otherwise it will be difficult to find capable lecturers for our colleges, or to provide adequately for research.

Impressed by these considerations, which are not peculiar to the Calcutta University, and remembering the stirring words which His Imperial Majesty addressed to the members of our Senate, the Government of India have decided to make a solid advance in the direction of teaching and residential Universities. They have allotted a recurring grant of 3 lakhs a year, of which the Calcutta University will receive Rs. 65,000 a year, for the appointment of University Professors and Lecturers in special subjects and for the encouragement in other ways of higher studies and research.

They have allotted non-recurring grants amounting to 16 lakhs of rupees, of which the Calcutta University will receive 4 lakhs, for the provision of University buildings, libraries and equipment. In addition a special grant of 10 lakhs of rupees has been reserved for hostel accommodation in Calcutta, which will be non-collegiate in character. Another sum of 10 lakhs of rupees has been allotted for the development of accommodation in Dacca and the buildings required for the new University in that place. I hope that the liberality of Government will be supplemented by private liberality, and that before many years have passed efficient teaching Universities will take the place of the examining and federal Universities which we have to-day. I also

Convocation of the Calcutta University.

hope, as I have already said, that teaching and residential Universities may be multiplied throughout India, for I believe that they will do great things for the improvement of higher education.

I trust that I have said enough to convince you how closely at heart the Government of India have the development of the Indian Universities on modern and sound lines. We have also drawn up a scheme for the creation of an Oriental Research Institute at Delhi, which will, it is hoped, give new life to the critical study of Orientalia and train up a class of teachers who will carry to the highest point possible the study of Indian antiquities and the classical languages of India. At the same time we are considering measures for the preservation and encouragement of the indigenous learning of the country. In time, I hope that it will be possible to develop very considerably the Oriental faculties in Universities, but the opinion of the distinguished Orientalists who came to Simla last year was almost unanimous that a commencement should be made, in the first instance, with a Central Research Institute, and this, indeed, is supported by experience in other countries.

In his address to Convocation last year the Vice-Chancellor impressed upon us the need for better preparation of our students in the secondary English schools. This is a matter which has long engaged the attention of the Government of India. It is obvious that, if our students come up to college inadequately trained, an undue burden is thrown upon the colleges, and progress is retarded at any rate for the first two years of the college course. Definite schemes of improvement are already under consideration and a recurring grant of six lakhs a year has been allotted from Imperial revenues for the improvement of education in aided secondary schools. I hope earnestly that funds may be hereafter available to push forward this most necessary reform.

Convocation of the Calcutta University.

When we have our higher studies provided for and our students better prepared in the schools, housed in comfort and decency and in sanitary surroundings, under conditions of discipline and with helpful guidance at hand, we may look forward to the future with some assurance and stout of heart.

I sometimes notice in the press and on the platform statements indicative of impatience at the rate of progress or at the selection of the particular line of advance that has been chosen at any moment. I can only assure you that we have in view a policy which embraces every branch of education, technical education, primary education, female education, and which, as schemes mature and funds become available, we desire to carry through in consultation with Local Governments. I would ask you to be patient for a while. It is not possible to accomplish everything at once, but I think you will agree that we have made a substantial beginning this year.

Before I conclude I am glad to be able to announce that Babu Anathnath Deb, a scion of a well-known family in Calcutta, has just given the University a sum of Rs. 30,000, the interest of which is to be devoted to a research prize in law and two gold medals for the best Bengali poem and the best Bengali essay written by lady graduates of the University. On behalf of the University I thank him, and I trust that others will follow his enlightened example.

It only remains for me to address a few words to those who have received their degrees to-day, amongst whom I am glad to notice no fewer than 13 ladies. Remember that your education does not end with a degree. Your education hitherto has only been preparatory for the larger and sterner education of life and contact with your fellow-men. It is my earnest desire that you may

be useful and loyal citizens, leading prosperous and happy lives.

And to you students, who are working for your future degrees, I would say be assiduous in your studies, remembering always that it is not by brilliant flashes but by sustained effort that success in life is attained. Lead healthy, vigorous lives, seeking after the best and highest ideals and eschewing all that is decadent and corrupt. Let the message of hope left by our King-Emperor inspire you to make greater efforts in the future for your own intellectual, moral and physical improvement, never forgetting the debt of duty that you owe to your own country. In this way you will fit yourselves for the high responsibilities of citizenship, which is the corner-stone of the great edifice upon which this Empire is based.

My concluding words to you are—Be true to your God, true to your Emperor, true to your country, and true to yourselves. Follow these precepts and have no fear for the future of your country or of yourselves.

DEBATE ON THE BUDGET, 1912-13.

25th March 1912. [The Debate on the Budget took place at the meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council held in the Council Chamber, Government House, Calcutta, on Monday, the 25th March. There were very few absentees among non-official Members, and the attendance of visitors was very large, quite a number of ladies being present. In closing the meeting and the session which was the last that would be held in Calcutta, His Excellency the Viceroy, who presided, made the following important speech :—]

Following the example of some Hon'ble Members I should like, as Head of the Government, to associate myself with the views of those who have expressed appreciation of Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson and Sir J. Meston. I share the hope that Sir Guy will return invigorated by his stay abroad and restored to health, so that he may be able to complete his full term of service. As regards

Debate on the Budget, 1912-13.

Sir J. Meston, although it has been a great pleasure to me to appoint him to so high and important a post, Hon'ble Members can well understand, I am sure, what a loss he will be to me and the Government of India as Secretary in the Finance Department. I need not go into the question of his great but unassuming ability, but I am confident that his work and services will be to the great advantage of India in whatever position he is employed.

There is only one point in other matters to which I would like to draw attention, and that is that, although I am determined to permit no measure in connection with the Dacca University that might be interpreted as a measure of partition, and although Mr. Basu has given expression to my own personal views, we have yet to know the views of the new Governor of Bengal on questions of detail, and still more those of the Secretary of State.

We have now come to the end of another year, a year of historic memory, but it is the financial features of the year which have the first claim upon our thoughts. In the Budget I see a gratifying picture of India's economic strength. Famine came very near our doors in the autumn of last year; but its heavy hand has been withdrawn from all but a few afflicted tracts in Bombay. Plague still scourges a patient and much-enduring people in parts of the country; but the measures for repelling it are steadily growing in knowledge and efficiency and—what is worth even more—in cordiality of co-operation between our officers and those whom they endeavour to help. And so we have reached another milestone, and we pass onwards into the coming year, under the hand of Providence, in confidence and hope.

The Finance Member, in opening his Budget, reviewed the progress of the last three years. I also have

been tempted by his example to indulge in retrospect; but I have been looking a little further back than he has done. I have been looking back to the days when our Indian revenues were clouded by two great shadows—the fall in exchange and the fear of invasion from our North-West Frontier. The era of our modern finance began about twelve years ago. It was an era of prosperity, high surpluses and reforming activity; but it was dominated by these two great evils. Our exchange troubles, it is true, passed away in 1899, and I trust that, under skilful guidance, they will not return. Their consequences, however, remained in the high taxation that had been imposed to meet them; in the pinching of our administration; and in the poverty of the Provincial Governments. All this had to be put to rights. Moderation had to be restored to our taxes. Money had to be furnished for our more backward departments, particularly for the improvement of the police. The finances of Local Governments had to be placed on a sounder and more stable basis. To these objects the energies of my predecessors were bent and much of their surplus revenues were dedicated. Meanwhile a heavy toll was being taken on our revenues by the other incubus which I have mentioned. The defence of our frontier and the preparation of our Army for war formed the second outstanding feature of the period that I am reviewing. Lord Kitchener matured his scheme for the reorganization and redistribution of our military strength, and large sums of money were devoted to it for a series of years. Looking then at the position broadly, we see how two great cycles of expenditure filled the rich years between the famine of 1899 and the crisis of 1907. The sequels of our currency troubles provided one: our military anxieties provided the other. The two overlapped, and between them they swallowed up the fruits of our prosperity.

Debate on the Budget, 1912-13.

The situation has now entirely changed; the dark shadows that lay over us have passed away. Our taxation has been lightened. The resources of Local Governments have been strengthened. Exchange is stable; and however much opinions may differ on points of detail, I believe that the basis of our currency policy is secured in public confidence. So also with our military dispositions. The momentous change that the Russian Agreement brought into our relations with our great Asiatic neighbour removed the menace on our frontier, and the rapid growth of our Army expenditure has now been checked and curtailed. At first these improvements were obscured by the financial collapse of 1907 and our slow recovery from its effects. But with care and economy, our finances are restored to health; the sky is clear so far as human eye can judge, and we are ready for our next advance. On what lines shall we proceed? For what goal shall we strive?

To that question my answer is clear and unhesitating. We have secured the defence of the country. We have removed our great handicap in international trade. It is now our duty to turn all our energies to the uplifting of our people. To that task we are giving freely in the Budget which you have discussed to-day. Is it too much to hope that it will be the dominant policy of the coming years? The Finance Member told the Council of the hopes that rose in my mind when first I took charge of my high office. By those hopes I still abide, and in them I am more than ever confirmed. It is only by the spread of knowledge and by the resolute struggle against avoidable disease and death that India can rise among the nations. It is with this ideal that I sincerely trust our finances will remain in touch. The path will not always be smooth; funds cannot always be available, or enthusiasm always fervid. But we have made a beginning and we cannot now turn back.

Debate on the Budget, 1912-13.

I will not say more on the subject of finance, but before this Council adjourns and its Members return to their homes, there are some other matters upon which I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to say a few words to the Members of my Legislative Council.

When closing the Budget debate last year I dwelt on the approaching visit of Their Imperial Majesties the King-Emperor and Queen-Empress to India and the measures that we were already taking to ensure the success of their visit. Since then Their Imperial Majesties have come, and after a happy time, full of mutual esteem and affection towards their Indian subjects, have returned to their English home. I will not dwell here upon the splendid pageants of the Coronation Durbar or the cordial reception granted to Their Majesties in Bombay and Calcutta, but I will only say that the expression I used last year, *viz.*, a tidal wave of enthusiasm, was a very inadequate description of the stream of loyal enthusiasm and respectful reverence which broke through every restraint and flooded the country and all classes of the population with joy and gladness at the presence of Their Majesties amongst them. It was only one more proof of the undeniable fact that this vast Empire will yield to none in its loyalty and homage to the Throne.

The past year may well be described as an *annus mirabilis*, and owing to the beneficent administrative changes announced by the King-Emperor at Delhi, it will leave a lasting mark upon the history of India. We are confident that the beneficial results of those changes will eventually exceed all expectation, will introduce an era of peace and contentment, and will be to the advantage of better government and more efficient administration.

In five days' time the three new provinces will come into existence with complete full powers, with the excep-

Debate on the Budget, 1912-13.

tion of the province of Bihar and Orissa which will have to wait a few weeks, in accordance with law, for the creation of an Executive Council. All I wish to say to the three reconstituted provinces is—"Go forward and prosper, and justify the policy of the Government of India by the maintenance of peace and order within your boundaries." The tranquillity that happily prevails in Bengal as compared with the situation of the past few years, and even of a year ago, is already a striking and undeniable proof of the wisdom of the policy of the Government of India.

As regards the transfer of the capital to Delhi, we fully realise the heavy responsibility entailed in the creation of a new Imperial City that shall be worthy of this Empire and which shall meet the requirements of a great capital, with a careful, but not too parsimonious, supervision of the expenditure required to achieve a really satisfactory result. The creation of this new city is a matter in which I am taking, and shall continue to take, a very keen personal interest, and I have been in correspondence with Lord Crewe to send here as soon as possible the best sanitary engineer, town-planner, architect and landscape gardener that he can find to draw up plans for the new city. These will leave England in a few days' time. When acceptable plans have been prepared, the moment will arrive to call in architects to provide suitable designs and estimates for the new Government buildings, and these will require very careful selection and supervision. My own personal inclination is towards an Oriental style of architecture which should be in unison with local surroundings and with climatic conditions.

I am well aware that criticisms have been levelled at the Government of India for having cited a fixed sum as the probable cost of the new capital, and that certain people have mentioned ten to fourteen millions as more

likely to be expended than the more modest sum of four millions named by Government. I do not know upon what basis these estimates have been framed, but I can only regard them as exaggerated and fantastic. A little thought as to what land, Government buildings, roads, drainage, water-supply, etc., will at the outest be required for the new city would convince any unbiassed person that the cost will approximate far more nearly to the Government estimate than to these exaggerated figures. For example, when I was in Delhi a few days ago, I saw what appeared to me a desirable site, and I made enquiry into the cost of acquiring a space of 30 square miles embracing this area. I found that it would cost, roughly speaking, 30 to 35 lakhs. Now irresponsible critics have probably not taken into account the cheapness of land at Delhi, which after all is a well-known fact, although most of the land in question is covered with rich and luxuriant crops. Lime, bricks and splendid stone, the same as that used by the Moghal Emperors, are to be found absolutely on the spot, while the Mekrana marble quarries are only 200 miles distant on a direct line of railway. These facts naturally conduce to reduce expenditure, but they again have been probably ignored by our amiable critics. Then again I know that the Government buildings and civil station at Dacca cost under 70 lakhs; I know also that the estimated expenditure on a handsome scale for Government buildings and civil station at Bankipore is under a crore. Are we wrong therefore in considering that we can do the same at new Delhi on a much more magnificent scale for six crores? Government have of course no intention of themselves building private residences, shops, business premises, etc. On the other hand, they hope to obtain a good return for land sold to private individuals on reasonable terms for building leases. I therefore do not at all regret that the Government of

Debate on the Budget, 1912-13.

India mentioned a fixed sum of 4 million sterling, *i.e.*, six crores, as a probable cost of Delhi, which amount I have good reason to believe will, with proper care and supervision, be in the end but little, if at all, exceeded by the time that the city is built. I hope that these facts may reassure people in India and serve to correct irresponsible statements made by interested persons.

We all know the adage that Rome was not built in a day; and however hard we may work, it will take some years before the new city can be completed. In the meantime we are making arrangements for the temporary accommodation of the Government of India at Delhi during next cold weather and for the meeting there of this Council. Although I fear that owing to the fortune of war in the approaching electoral campaign some familiar friends and faces may be absent when we meet next year at Delhi, I trust that nobody of my Council will take too seriously to heart the grave forebodings of certain organs of the press in which Delhi is described as being afflicted with the ten plagues of Egypt. I bid those who are timid to be stout of heart, to realise that, in spite of these blood-curdling stories, the death rate of Delhi is no more than that of Lucknow, and to remember that Delhi is one of the towns of Northern India where the increase of population has during the last 20 years been both steady and progressive.

I should now like to turn your thoughts for a few minutes to external affairs in which the interests of a very large and influential section of the community are sentimentally, though indirectly, affected. I do not wish to touch on the question of the war between Turkey and Italy beyond expressing our profound regret that hostilities should be in progress between two countries so friendly disposed towards Great Britain, and to add that I happen to know that His Majesty's Government have, in conjunction with other Powers, already taken

steps to mediate with a view to securing an honourable peace. When, however, it appeared that there was a likelihood of hostilities being extended by the Italian naval forces to Jeddah and Yambo, I immediately drew the attention of His Majesty's Government to the very serious anxiety that would be created by an attack upon the ports leading to the holy cities of Islam, and by an interference with the pilgrim traffic to those ports. Representations were at once made to the Italian Government by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and satisfactory assurances were obtained.

Having already mentioned the friendly disposition of Turkey towards Great Britain, I should like to inform the Members of my Council of a significant incident which occurred only a few days ago, and of which I only learnt yesterday. The King received on March 21st a Special Mission from the Sultan of Turkey, consisting of the Turkish Ambassador, the Councillor and two Secretaries of the Turkish Embassy, and Reshid Bey (*Conseiller legiste* of the Sublime Porte), who presented to His Majesty an autograph letter from the Sultan, and also the Order of the Hamedan-al-Osman and the Order of the Imtiaz conferred on the King as a fresh proof of the Sultan's desire to strengthen the friendly relations and cordial ties now existing between the two Empires, and as a special mark of His Imperial Majesty's sincere friendship towards the King. The point is that the almost unprecedented distinction of the simultaneous conferment of these two Orders by the Sultan on His Majesty the King-Emperor is a striking act of confidence and goodwill which I am sure will be appreciated by the Mahomedans of India.

In Persia the situation during the last two years has been as unsatisfactory as possible, in so far as British and Indian interests are concerned. In the south of Persia anarchy reigns supreme, the Persian Government

having neither power nor authority, while order in the Gulf ports is maintained solely by the presence of the British East Indian Squadron in the Persian Gulf. British and Indian trade interests have suffered severe losses, many caravans having been robbed and the muleteers killed by tribesmen, so that no caravans can now proceed in safety along the main trade routes. Within only the last few days 150 Indian troops have had to be landed at Lingah to protect the Consulate and British and Indian lives and property from the threatened attack of 2,400 tribesmen. Six months ago, owing to an attack made upon the British Consulate at Shiraz, which I may add was very bravely repulsed by a small handful of Indian troops acting as Consular guards, it was decided to strengthen the escorts at Bushire, Shiraz and Ispahan, and four squadrons of the Central India Horse were sent to Persia for distribution between these towns and for the protection of British and Indian life and property. Shortly afterwards when the British Consul at Shiraz was proceeding with a caravan with specie belonging to the Imperial Bank of Persia escorted by half a squadron of the Central India Horse, they were attacked by the very men who were employed by the Persian Government as road guards, and they lost a few men killed and wounded, amongst the latter being the British Consul. The ordinary course under such circumstances would be to demand from the Persian Government the punishment of the offenders and reparation. Such a course under existing circumstances is not likely to produce much result, and the only alternative course would be to take the law into one's own hands and to send a punitive expedition. To act on such lines there would in my opinion be serious objections, since it might involve us in a situation in Southern Persia from which it might be difficult to extricate ourselves and which might eventually lead to

the partition of Persia. Such a policy is entirely opposed to the views of the Government of India, whose hope and desire are that the integrity and independence of Persia may remain unimpaired. In view, however, of the necessity of looking after our own interests, we propose, with the approval of the Secretary of State, to instruct our Resident at Bushire to open negotiations with the tribes for the punishment of those who led the attack upon our convoys and for the proper guarding and security of the British and Indian caravans passing along the main trade routes of the south. This explanation of our policy will, I trust, dispel the fears of those who have imagined that we had leanings towards the partition of Persia with Russia. We have, I maintain, acted with much patience under circumstances of grave provocation, and our one hope is that we may yet see peace and order restored in Southern Persia in the near future.

There are, I know, certain critics who declaim against the Anglo-Russian Agreement in connection with Persia, and ask of what use it can be in view of the presence of Russian troops in Northern Persia. To those critics I would reply that the fundamental basis of the Anglo-Russian Agreement is the independence and integrity of Persia; and so long as we are a signatory to that agreement, we are able to exercise a moral influence on our co-signatory, where we could not use material pressure. Russian troops have not entered Teheran and within the last few weeks they have been withdrawn from Kasvin. It is my own conviction that, were this agreement not in force, the partition of Persia would already be an accomplished fact.

Nearer home and actually on our north-east borders we have had to send a small punitive expedition against some tribes of Abors, who last spring murdered Mr. Williamson, an able young official, and his party under circumstances of great treachery. The remains of

Debate on the Budget, 1912-13.

Mr. Williamson have been partly recovered and some of those implicated in his murder have been captured. Advantage was taken of the presence of the expedition to survey a considerable tract of country which was absolutely unknown. The expedition having achieved its object is now returning home.

Although the Government of India have been so fortunate as not to be engaged in any tribal war on the North-West Frontier during the past few years, we have quite recently been nearly in conflict with the Mahsuds. This tribe has during the past year suffered terribly from famine; and in order to give them employment and to save them from being driven by hunger to become a nuisance to their neighbours, we obtained authority from the Secretary of State to commence work on a proposed railway from Pezu to Tonk. Upon this line 2,500 Mahsuds have for some time been employed. A certain section of the tribe that was hostile has tried to create trouble and has destroyed one of our roads. This caused some unrest on the frontier necessitating the moving up of troops to meet all eventualities. Happily the Mahsuds employed on the railway realised the advantages of their situation, drove off their follow-tribesmen and repaired the road. I think we may congratulate ourselves that this small railway, of which the construction will be profitable in the future, has saved us from a tribal war on the frontier.

Now turning to affairs nearer home, and in particular to the work of my Legislative Council during the past session, I think that I may say with some pride and satisfaction that the debates that have taken place have reached a higher standard of statesmanship and efficiency than has ever been previously attained. They have taken place with a self-restraint and a mutual courtesy and good-fellowship that might well be a model to all legislative bodies. Many resolutions of various kinds have

been brought forward by non-official members and their views have been set forth with explicit clearness and much force. The fact that a large majority of these resolutions have been negatived by Government is no reason for regarding these discussions as sterile or a waste of time. On the contrary, I regard them as most beneficial, since not only do they present an opportunity for the Government to hear the views of Hon'ble Members from every part of the country and thereby to acquire much useful local information, but they enable the Government to explain clearly their own views and to give publicity to their reasons for not acceding to them. Government must clearly be a moderating influence and restraining force advancing steadily on the path of reform and development with every care for the varied interests of the millions entrusted to their care. If all the resolutions that were proposed were accepted and became law to-morrow, they would assuredly give place to others, probably of a more advanced type, and with progress at this rate India would soon be in the melting pot. Consequently I see every advantage in the discussions that have taken place in this Council. They are in my opinion extremely educative, and will, I am sure, bear fruit in due season.

With these few words I wish you all a happy return to your homes, and I declare this session closed.

STATE BANQUET AT PATIALA.

29th March 1912.

[His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by Her Excellency Lady Hardinge and staff, left Calcutta on the 27th March, 1912, on His Excellency's spring tour and arrived at Patiala on the 29th idem. His Highness the Maharaja entertained Their Excellencies and a large number of guests at a State Banquet on the night of the 29th, at which His Highness proposed the Viceroy's health in the following terms :—

"*Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen*,—It is with feelings of great pride and pleasure that I rise to propose the health of Their

State Banquet at Patiala.

Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge. I ask you to allow me the indulgence of a few minutes to express my thanks to His Excellency the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge, who have kindly found time amidst their multifarious engagements to honour me by their visit. I can assure you, Ladies and Gentlemen, that I consider it a great honour, and I believe I am giving expression to the feelings of the Ruling Chiefs in particular and public in general when I say that during his short rule His Excellency has won our hearts; whilst the great solicitude of Lady Hardinge for her Indian sisters is sure to quicken the pulse of future generations.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, the personal element has always played a dominant part in the administration of our Indian Empire, and I cannot refrain on this occasion from saying that His Excellency, by his personal interest in the well-being of Ruling Chiefs, has won their love and esteem, who, while feeling proud of the indissoluble ties which connect them with the Throne of England, are gratefully conscious that in the present Viceroy they have found a friend and guide. I can, therefore, say without fear of contradiction that His Excellency's name shall be cherished for ever by the noble families of India.

"The Coronation Durbar at Delhi which His Majesty the King-Emperor was pleased to hold, his kind and gracious manners and his personal sympathy has kindled in our hearts feelings of loyalty and devotion to the British Crown on the one hand, and on the other strengthened the belief that our privileges and rights shall receive every consideration from His Majesty's Government.

"It may interest you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to know that it was at Ludhiana in 1846 that my great-grandfather Maharaja Narindar Singh Sahib Bahadur had the pleasure of meeting Lord Hardinge, who was pleased as a token of his esteem to increase the salute of Patiala Durbar from 11 to 15 guns. Later on, in 1847, he was pleased to visit Patiala, and as a mark of his favour increased the salute from 15 to 17 guns. I can assure you, Ladies and Gentlemen, that I have found in His Excellency the Viceroy a real friend, and it shall be my endeavour to win the approbation of His Excellency the Viceroy, whose interest in the Sikh people is unquestioned. I was glad this morning to show His Excellency the Viceroy my troops, which I endeavour to maintain always in a state of efficiency, ready for any occasion that may arise when they may be of service to His Majesty the King-Emperor and the British Empire. With us Sikhs loyalty and devotion form first principles of our creed.

State Banquet at Patiala.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I feel all the more grateful for the kind thought of Her Excellency Lady Hardinge in honouring my Capital by her visit, and now I offer Your Excellencies a hearty welcome to Patiala, and hope that this visit will be sufficiently pleasant to induce Your Excellency to honour my State by another visit before too long.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to rise and drink to the health of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge, whose rule is sure to be memorable in the annals of India for the great events that have already taken place at Delhi."

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have to thank you very cordially for the hearty way in which you have responded to the toast of my health and that of Lady Hardinge.

I need not take you through the long history of the connection between the house of Patiala and the British Government, which began more than a century ago, when Raja Sahib Singh asked to be taken under protection against the encroachments of the then Government of Lahore,—a connection to which this State owes no small portion of its importance, its wealth and its territorries, and from which the British Government have derived support, both moral and material, in many a crisis. In 1814 Patiala troops were serving with General Ochterlony during the Nepal War. His Highness has himself referred in kindly terms to the friendship between his family and my own which began more than 60 years ago, when my grandfather was Governor-General and His Highness's great-grandfather, as the ruler of Patiala, had thrown in his lot with the British arms during the brief but sanguinary struggle of the 1st Sikh War. And again later, in 1857, the services of Maharaja Narindar Singh were so conspicuous that the Commissioner wrote: "His support at such a crisis was worth a brigade of English troops to us and served more to tranquillise the people than a hundred official disclaimers could have done." That was the

man who was my grandfather's friend, and you can realise with what pleasurable anticipation I looked forward to meeting his great-grandson and renewing the traditional friendship of our families. I am confident that the same friendship and loyalty that existed between my grandfather and Maharaja Narindar Singh will be extended by the present Maharaja to me and the Government of India. I have watched with keen sympathy His Highness's career, and I cannot but warmly applaud the sagacity with which he has selected as his Ministers two men of high ideals and unchallenged probity on whose advice he can rely with absolute confidence amid the many pitfalls which beset a ruler's path. His Highness may rest assured that he can always count on my warm sympathy and keen interest in his future.

I need not remind some of those present here to-day that on no less than four occasions during the past half century Patiala has offered her troops for active service, and twice they actually went to the front and there maintained exemplary discipline and proved themselves to be excellent soldiers. From what I saw this morning of the very high standard of discipline and efficiency that His Highness's troops have attained, in particular his splendid regiments of Imperial Service troops, I am convinced that if ever called upon, they will render in the future even more brilliant and loyal service than in the past.

Times are changing in these days, I think I may say they are changing rapidly, education is spreading a new spirit among the peoples of India, and bringing in its train, I hope, loftier ideals and higher aspirations; but there is no doubt that here and there and from time to time this development has given unhappy birth to a certain restlessness and discontent which on occasion may take a form hostile to the Paramount Power, and I might almost say to all government, and may require to be dealt with

State Banquet at Patiala.

with a firm hand; but whatever the future may bring forth, —whether it be peaceful progress or agitation or war, I feel confident that, as in the past so in the future, the British Government will ever find Patiala at their right hand ready to support and assist, by its example, by its co-operation and, if necessary, which God forbid, with its troops.

His Highness's great-grandfather was distinguished no less for the liberality of his administration than for his loyalty in the field, and I cannot refrain from mentioning the occasion on which he abolished transit duties in his State at the suggestion of my grandfather's Government and refused to accept any compensation; sacrificing, as my grandfather phrased it, "a present and apparent gain for future permanent good, for the welfare of his subjects and for the advancement of the interests of commerce." It was then that my grandfather recommended the increase of his salute to 17 guns which Your Highness now enjoys, and I cannot do better than use to Your Highness the very words which my grandfather used to your great-grandfather: "It is my earnest wish that Your Highness may long live to extend to your subjects the blessings of good government and to your contemporaries the advantage of your generous example. I feel confident that however long your life may be spared you will steadily persevere in that liberal course of policy which in your youth and in the commencement of your rule you have had the wisdom to adopt."

In thanking His Highness for the attentive care he has bestowed upon our every comfort and the princely hospitality with which he has entertained us during our visit that we are thoroughly enjoying, I ask you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to drink to the long life and happiness of His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala.

ADDRESS FROM PESHAWAR MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE AND DISTRICT BOARD.

[His Excellency the Viceroy arrived at Peshawar on the 2nd April 1912, and after being received at the station by the Chief Commissioner and principal officers drove to the Victoria Memorial Hall where the above address was presented and was as follows :— 2nd April 1912.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Peshawar District Board and the Municipal Committee of Peshawar, beg to offer Your Excellency a loyal and hearty welcome to the capital of the North-West Frontier Province. We deem ourselves fortunate that Your Excellency has found leisure amid your many duties to acquire a personal knowledge of Peshawar and its surroundings and we gratefully appreciate this proof of Your Excellency's interest in our welfare. It is an auspicious circumstance that Your Excellency's visit should coincide with the prospect of a bounteous harvest and with a period of peace and security on the border.

We wish first of all to express to Your Excellency our grateful thanks to His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor for the transfer of the capital of the Indian Empire from Calcutta to Delhi. It has given great satisfaction to us all that the centre of British rule will no longer be in the distant city of Calcutta, but in the central city of Delhi, the ancient and historic capital of India. We regard this command of His Imperial Majesty as a crowning proof of his concern for the welfare of all classes and creeds of his subjects in his Indian Empire.

We also express our gratitude for Your Excellency's beneficent measures for the spread of education, and more especially for the grant by Your Excellency's Government of the sum of 50 lakhs of rupees for this purpose. We in this Province are not behind the rest of India in our desire for advancement in the civilizing influences of the arts and sciences, and we gratefully look to share in the benefit conferred on the people of India by Your Excellency's Government. To show that we do not expect Government to do everything for us and are ready to help ourselves, we would mention that many of us have ourselves recently subscribed large sums of money in furtherance of an educational project.

We desire further to thank Your Excellency for the special grant to this Province of the sum of 2½ lakhs of rupees for sanitary improvements. By the grace of God we have hitherto escaped from the scourge of plague which has wrought such havoc in other Provinces, but there is much to be done in combating the annual recurrence of malarial fever, spasmodic outbreaks of cholera and

Address from Peshawar Municipal Committee and District Board.

other diseases that mar the peace and happiness of our homes, and we gratefully acknowledge Your Excellency's assistance for the amelioration of these conditions.

The residents of Peshawar city desire to thank Your Excellency for the relief afforded to them in the matter of charges for the Police. The city of Peshawar, being situated close to the border of a turbulent country, is continually exposed to danger from thieves and other criminals, and we are grateful to Your Excellency for undertaking the burden of the cost of protection which we were no longer able to bear ourselves without detriment to the other needs of Municipal Administration.

We are glad to assure Your Excellency that the unfortunate ill-feeling which broke out between Hindus and Mahomedans two years ago, culminating in serious rioting, has now completely subsided and the two communities were able, during the past month, to celebrate their simultaneous religious anniversaries in peace and harmony.

Finally we thank Your Excellency for your kind attention to our humble address, and wish that Your Excellency and Her Excellency Lady Hardinge may have an enjoyable and successful tour on the North-West Frontier.

His Excellency in reply spoke as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—First let me thank you warmly for the cordial welcome which you have extended to me. I am not sure that I am entitled to any large measure of gratitude, for amid the arduous and unceasing duties which press upon a Viceroy during the greater part of the year, it is with feelings of pleasurable anticipation that I plan these tours which bring me into close contact with the people, whose interests are my constant care in offices far remote; and while it is a recurring delight to make a living acquaintance with the localities and the people whose names I know so well on paper, you can realise what a tremendous advantage it is to me to have seen them with my own eyes, to have heard them with my own ears, and to have entered and made my own their very atmosphere.

It was with a sense of profound regret that I heard of

Address from Peshawar Municipal Committee and District Board.

the serious fire that has occurred within the last few days in Peshawar, which, I understand, was more extensive than any that has occurred for some time. I grieve for the homeless and the losses that they have sustained, and I trust that every possible effort will be made to mitigate their sufferings and to place them once more in a position to earn their livelihood and to rebuild their homes.

You have referred with approval to the fact that the transfer of the Head-Quarters of the Government of India to Delhi will bring us into nearer relation with your Province, and I cannot forget that this frontier has many memories clustering round that city which form a firm bond of union and affection between yourselves and the British Empire—for it was to that ancient city that you sent forth your sons to help us at a time when the pages of our Indian history were touched with a gloom which throw into bright relief the many golden deeds then done of bravery and loyalty and self-devotion. I shall not say more of the circumstances of our change of Head-Quarters, except that I am glad that it has been so well received throughout India. It is true that the change has not been well received in Calcutta, but I believe that in time its advantages to the Indian Empire as a whole will be recognised there. I myself have left my English and Indian friends in Calcutta with many regrets, and I can sympathise with those who at the first blush have felt that something has been taken from them.

I am keenly interested in the advance of education and sanitation; and if when I come to lay down the reins of office I can feel that a real step has been taken in advance along these lines during my stay in India, it will be to me a source of immense gratification. You have referred to the recurring grant of 50 lakhs recently announced by His Imperial Majesty for this purpose; but Government cannot do everything, and it is cheering to find that here

you have realised this and on your own account have raised so large a sum as 8¼ lakhs for the establishment of a school and college; we have shown our appreciation of your spirit by adding to your own collections an Imperial contribution of 2 lakhs.

I believe that the peace of this border has only once been broken—and that by a brief expedition—since the constitution of this Province, and our relations with the frontier tribes are now most friendly. I congratulate you that within the border you should have been able to settle your internal differences so amicably and to celebrate simultaneously your festivals in harmony and good temper.

With peace without and harmony within and a good harvest to enjoy and sound views upon sanitation and education, I have no advice to give you; I can only wish you a continuance of these blessings and express to you the gratitude of Lady Hardinge and myself for your good wishes.

ADDRESS FROM KOHAT MUNICIPALITY AND DISTRICT BOARD.

10th April 1912.

[During His Excellency the Viceroy's visit to Kohat the Municipality presented an address of welcome which His Excellency received at a garden party given by the Deputy Commissioner. It was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Municipal Committee and District Board of Kohat, in the name of the inhabitants of the City and District, beg most respectfully to welcome Your Excellency to this remote but we venture to think not unknown frontier station, and rejoice that Your Excellency's visit should occur in a year already made so memorable by the solemnities of the Coronation of Their Imperial Majesties the King-Emperor and Queen-Empress and signalised by the deep significance of the utterances pronounced by His Imperial Majesty at the never-to-be-forgotten ceremony of the Coronation Durbar at Delhi.

Address from Kohat Municipality and District Board.

We recall with pride the special associations of the inhabitants of the Frontier with that ancient Capital and the part played by the regiments recruited from this Province at a time when elsewhere loyalty to the British Crown appeared to be temporarily obscured.

It is a special gratification, therefore, apart from its historical importance, that we realize that Delhi is to be restored to its former glory and to take its place as the seat of the Imperial Government. We venture to think that the change about to be made cannot fail to centralise public opinion and to create greater interest in the affairs of Government, while the veneration with which both Hindus and Mussalmans regard the ancient city of Delhi is a sentimental consideration of no small political value.

We beg to take this opportunity of acknowledging the unfailing solicitude of the Government of India for the interests of the people as shown by the liberal remissions of revenue which it was our good fortune to receive after the reassessment of this district. Such magnanimity is convincing proof of the watchfulness with which the Imperial Government regards the welfare of its humblest subjects and of that justice which we have always received at the hands of our rulers.

We also beg to express our deep gratitude to Your Excellency that you have been pleased to allot generous grants to further the causes of education and sanitation. It is with regret that we have to admit the backward condition of education in this Province as compared with other parts of India, and we beg to assure Your Excellency that we are alive to the benefits of educational development and we deeply appreciate the efforts made by Government to extend and improve the primary schools.

The water-supply of the Kohat city is a matter of anxiety to us, as, while we are not prepared to meet an epidemic, we have not the funds to carry our plans into effect, but, thanks to Your Excellency's generous grant announced in the recent budget, we may now hope that our city, of which we are proud, will surely compare favourably with others on the point of sanitation.

In conclusion we hope that your present visit to Kohat may prove of interest to Your Excellency and that we may hope to receive a similar honour from Your Excellency in some future year.

The Viceroy in replying to the address spoke as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I have listened to your words of welcome with the greatest possible pleasure. You have summed up the situation with felicitous exactitude when you

Address from Kohat Municipality and District Board.

describe this frontier station as remote, but not unknown, and there can be few towns of similar size of which the name has been more familiar to a long succession of Viceroys, including myself. It is only natural therefore that I should have looked forward to this visit with the keenest interest.

In spite of your proximity to the frontier, your history for the past half century has been comparatively peaceful, and you are justified in your references to the assistance rendered at the time of the Mutiny, for Sir George Roos-Keppel has given me a list of no less than 7 regiments which it was possible to send to Delhi from here—thanks to the loyalty of the Chiefs and Khans of the Kohat District.

You are in the happy position of having no grievances to lay before me, and I need not tell you that I greatly appreciate the gratitude you have expressed for such benefits as Government have been able to secure for you in the matters of education, sanitation and land revenue assessment, and I feel confident that, under the benevolent supervision of your present Chief Commissioner, you can count upon equally considerate treatment for the future.

You tell me that you are backward in education, but there is a stirring of the bones all over India, and here too in the Frontier Province I have seen signs that the spirit of life is coming into them. You who live here are hard of muscle and virile of temperament. It is for you to see that you are not left behind in the onward march of India's millions towards the light and culture which education alone can bring.

I thank you heartily for your good wishes and your kind welcome; and if I should ever have the opportunity to visit you again, I can assure you that nothing could give me keener pleasure.

OPENING OF THE UPPER CHENAB CANAL.

[The ceremony of opening the Upper Chenab Canal was performed by His Excellency Lord Hardinge at Marala on Friday morning the 12th April. The Viceroy was received on arrival from Kohat at a quarter to seven o'clock by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab and the Canal and Civil Staff. Among those present on the station platform besides His Honour were the Hon'ble Sir R. Carlyle, the Hon'ble Mr. W. B. Gordon, General Leader, Commanding the Rawalpindi Division, Mr. W. E. T. Bennett, Chief Engineer, Punjab Irrigation Works, the Hon'ble Mr. W. Humphrey, Sir Henry Butt and Major Bayley. The Lieutenant-Governor had arrived from Lahore overnight, and a heavy train filled with visitors reached Marala from the Punjab capital earlier in the morning. The whole party then proceeded to a large shamiana erected near the regulating house on the top of the guy bund in the angle between the Chenab River and the canal cutting, which takes off at right angles. In the shamiana were assembled a large number of visitors. Lord Hardinge sat on a raised dais, with His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir on his right hand and His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on his left. Others present included Sir R. Carlyle, the Bishop of Lahore, the Hon'ble Mr. W. Barron, the Hon'ble Mr. Fenton, the Hon'ble Mr. Diack, the Hon'ble Mr. Scratchley, the Hon'ble Mr. Tollinton and Mr. W. Ives, the Superintending Engineer. 12th April 1912.

A short history of the canal was read by Mr. W. E. T. Bennett, the Chief Engineer, and *khillats* were presented by the Viceroy to a few Indian officials who have rendered conspicuous service in connection with the construction of the canal. Lord Hardinge then spoke as follows :—]

Your Honour and Gentlemen,—I have listened with much interest to the description which has just been given us of the inception and design of the great Triple Project, the first instalment of which it is my privilege to open to-day. It is, I understand, to Sir James Wilson that we are indebted for the first inception of the idea to turn the surplus waters of the Jhelum and Chenab rivers across country to the Lower Bari Doab. But there were serious defects in the plan that he suggested, and it is to Sir John Benton, who has so lately left us and whose absence from this ceremony we all sincerely regret, that we owe not

only the scheme in its present form but also the prompt preparation of the project and the skilful designs of the work; while to Messrs. Mullaly, Bennett and Ives is due the chief credit for the actual construction, in the face of many difficulties, of that portion of the scheme which is now to come into operation. Nor must I omit honourable mention of the name of Mr. Ashford who has designed and constructed the iron work of the head-works, many features of which, and especially the shutters, are novel. To Your Honour and to all these officers I offer my hearty congratulations. It will, I am sure, always be a source of pride and gratification to them and to all who worked with them to have been associated in the design and construction of this great work.

I feel myself peculiarly fortunate in that to me should have fallen the honour of opening the first link in this great system of canals. Irrigation is one of the subjects which has constantly engaged the earnest attention of the Government of India. It is a subject to which Lord Curzon gave his special and unremitting attention, and we should not forget that while the development of this project owes much to the zeal and enthusiasm of Sir John Benton and the band of keen engineers who have laboured upon it, the idea which first gave it birth was thrown into shape by the Irrigation Commission, which was itself the progeny of Lord Curzon's genius.

Gentlemen, I sometimes think that the profession of an engineer is one of the most attractive of all professions. Whatever be the work he is employed upon, he can see it growing under his hands. And while a statesman, a doctor, or a lawyer can seldom be absolutely certain of the effect of the measures he may bring into play, of the remedies he may prescribe, or of the line of argument he may adopt, an engineer can, as a rule, calculate with mathematical accuracy the strength and behaviour of the

materials with which he has to deal and of the forces that may act upon them. I think, too, that the charm of his work must be greatly enhanced when it comes to the construction of an irrigational work like that which we are to open to-day. For then not only can he watch his creation growing under his hands, but there must also be an intense and peculiar satisfaction in the thought that every effort he makes is a step towards the fulfilment of a project whereby one of the waste places of the earth shall be converted into a garden where man may labour contentedly and count with confidence upon enjoying the fruits of his labour and where the gaunt spectre of famine shall for ever be laid to rest.

But, Gentlemen, even the rose of irrigation has its thorn, and before I proceed to open this canal you will, I trust, pardon me if I venture upon a word of warning. It is, I believe, to a dry and healthy climate and to the difficulties which had to be overcome in the past in winning a livelihood from a soil which depended for its water-supply upon a light and precarious rainfall that you people of the Punjab owe your fine physique and many sturdy and manly qualities. These, believe me, are a priceless heritage. Do not, I pray you, part too readily or too completely from the conditions that have given them to you. Do not, I warn you, allow your lands to become sodden and water-logged, your village sites and homesteads to be rendered damp and unwholesome, and your health and that of your children to be sapped and undermined by a too lavish use of the water which our canals place at your disposal.

With this word of warning I proceed to open the Upper Chenab Canal. May it prove to the people of the districts to be commanded by it a fruitful source of wealth, happiness and prosperity, and an effectual and abiding protection against the evil of drought and famine.

Lecture by General Braithwaite, Commandant, Quetta Staff College, on the interdependence of Strategy and Policy in War.

[Lord Hardinge then proceeded to the actual opening ceremony. He was conducted to the platform on the head regulator, where a short prayer was offered by the Bishop of Lahore as follows :—

"Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth, Who hast created man in Thine own image and appointed him to have dominion over the works of Thy hands, putting all things in subjection under his feet; we bless Thee for Thy fatherly love to us in our creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life, and we thank Thee that Thou hast not left Thyself without witness amongst us, but dost give us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with joy and gladness.

"And at this time especially we thank Thee that Thou hast given to Thy servants, who have been occupied in the great work of this canal, wisdom and strength to accomplish it successfully. We pray Thee to accept this work of our hands, and to let Thy blessing rest henceforward upon it.

"Grant that this canal may both bring much land under the dominion of men, making it serviceable to their needs, that they may receive the fruits of the earth in due season, and also may promote trade and commerce in the land, drawing men together in mutual service and kindly intercourse.

"May the plenty which these waters will bring not be misspent in waste and self-indulgence, but used soberly and honestly as is well pleasing to Thee. Above all we pray that those who use these waters may be led on to long for that living water whereof whosoever drinketh shall never thirst, even the water of Eternal Life which Thou givest in Him through Whom we now offer up to Thee our prayers and praises and seek Thy blessing, even Thy Son our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen."

By turning a small silver handle attached to the travelling winch above the regulating gates the Viceroy let the first water from the Chenab into the canal.]

LECTURE BY GENERAL BRAITHWAITE, COMMANDANT, QUETTA STAFF COLLEGE, ON THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF STRATEGY AND POLICY IN WAR.

26th July 1912. [The above lecture was delivered on Friday, the 26th July, at the Gaiety Theatre. A large number of people was present, including Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge. At

Lecture by General Braithwaite, Commandant, Quetta Staff College, on the interdependence of Strategy and Policy in War.

the conclusion of the lecture His Excellency the Viceroy spoke as follows:—]

I think that we are all deeply indebted to General Braithwaite for his most able and interesting lecture which he has given with so much skill and knowledge. Personally I agree with the principles he has enunciated.

I hope it will not be regarded as presumptuous on my part if I venture to make a few remarks on the interdependence of strategy and policy when I must plead complete ignorance of strategy, although I think that, after 30 years spent in the Diplomatic Service, I may without presumption lay claim to some knowledge of what policy or its absence may mean.

Interdependence of strategy and policy is absolutely necessary for national development, and although it is possible to have a policy without strategy, and strategy without policy, strategy must always be considered as the *ultima ratio* of policy if it is to be pursued to a successful conclusion.

The first postulate for a successful policy is a matured conception of that policy, and a powerful brain to direct it, with an efficient force to back it, adequate to beat down any resistance that may be encountered. The strategist in command of this force must act in close harmony with the brain that directs the policy. In fact, a combination of two masterminds is required, the one at the desk and the other in the field, both making all necessary preparations, foreseeing all possible contingencies, and at the same time working in harmonious unison towards one definite aim. Policy must determine the moment and indicate the object, and strategy must secure its attainment. It is hardly necessary to refer to the campaigns of 1870 and 1904, as cases in point, where in the former the unification of Germany was the goal,

and in the latter the acquisition of Corea by Japan, neither of these aims being attainable except by war, and in each case after long years of careful study and preparation by masterminds, nothing being left to chance. There is however one other consideration which is essential to success, and that is that the cause must be popular and national, and with an object that the people can easily understand and for which they may feel political or religious fervour.

Now, I am not a student of military history, so I am unable to heckle the gallant General on points connected with strategy in the campaigns that he has mentioned, but as I happen to have been in St. Petersburg almost consecutively from 1898 to 1906, and to have been an interested, and at times extremely anxious, spectator of what passed during the Manchurian war and the revolutionary period, I may be able to throw some light that may be of interest to you all in connection with events more generally known.

As I intend to say something about Japan I take this opportunity of expressing our warm sympathy and concur with the Japanese nation in their anxiety caused by the illness of their Emperor, the ally of our King.

It is probably known to most of you here that Japan is a country that is unable to support its dense population, and that room for expansion has long been desired. The only suitable country for expansion in proximity to Japan was Corea, and Japan had long turned envious eyes upon that rich but badly governed and barbarous land.

In the month of December 1901, a little Japanese man, the very able and remarkable statesman, Marquis Ito, arrived unobtrusively and unexpectedly in St. Petersburg. He was charged with a mission from his

Lecture by General Braithwaite, Commandant, Quetta Staff College, on the interdependence of Strategy and Policy in War.

Government to negotiate a treaty with the Russian Government by which Japan was to secure a free hand in Corea, and Russia a free hand in Manchuria. After two or three weeks of fruitless negotiation, Marquis Ito left St. Petersburg for Berlin and London.

That, I venture to say, was a most crucial moment in the national history of Russia. Had the Russian Government been able to foresee the future and to appreciate the relentless tenacity of Japanese policy and the efficiency of Japanese strategy, how gladly would they have accepted the terms then proposed by the Japanese Government. I think they must have had some vague intuition of the mistake they were making, as when Marquis Ito arrived in Berlin he received a telegram begging him to return to St. Petersburg. He being a proud man declined and went to London. In three weeks' time the first Anglo-Japanese Treaty of Alliance of January 1902 was concluded. Many people at that time thought that the British Government had achieved a wonderful stroke of policy, but although I do not wish in any way to depreciate the great value to us of the Japanese alliance the cleverness to my mind was on the side of the Japanese, since it secured for Japan the possibility of dealing single-handed with Russia without the possibility of the intervention of any other Power. From that day forward the two great masterminds of Japan pursued their preparations with relentless activity, until the beginning of the year 1904, when the last new Japanese battleship had left the English dockyards, and Japan was ready for war. The moment for negotiation with Russia and for the rupture of relations was chosen by the Japanese statesman. The first blow was struck by Japan, and the war was successfully carried on until peace was concluded at Portsmouth, the original demand of Japan, *viz.*, a free hand in Corea being thus obtained, together with

half the island of Sakhaline. This was perfection of combination in the interdependence of policy and strategy on the side of Japan, but what do we find on the side of Russia?

As stated by General Braithwaite in 1902 a Committee was formed in St. Petersburg called the Committee of the Far East, while Admiral Alexeriff was appointed Viceroy of the Russian possessions on the Pacific Coast, in command of the Russian military and naval forces and with power to deal directly with the Governments of Japan and Corea. There were thus two Departments in St. Petersburg, *viz.*, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Committee of the Far East under Admiral Alexeriff in diplomatic relations with the Japanese Government, and the command of the military and naval forces was divided between the Ministers of War, Marine and Admiral Alexeriff. Hopeless controversy was the result. I will not go into the question of the Yalu mining and timber concession obtained by the Viceroy and some of his speculative friends, which was undoubtedly the direct provocation of the war, but I will merely mention that negotiations were in progress between the two Governments regarding Corea before the rupture of relations occurred. I often heard it alleged that the Russian Minister and Russian Consuls in Japan, as early as May 1903, had reported to their Government that war was inevitable, and it was even stated that the Emperor of Russia, who was, and always has been, a warm advocate of peace, wrote on the margin of a despatch in which the Russian Minister had warned the Russian Government as to the possibility of an attack on Port Arthur, the words—"This is absolutely absurd." I should mention that General Kuropatkin, Minister of War, visited Japan in 1902, and returned with no illusions as to the military

Lecture by General Braithwaite, Commandant, Quetta Staff College, on the interdependence of Strategy and Policy in War.

efficiency and value of the Japanese Army. But he was almost alone.

On the 6th February 1904, the Japanese Minister after interminable negotiations broke off diplomatic relations with the Russian Government, announcing in following words that his Government reserved to themselves "the right to take such independent action as they may deem best to consolidate and defend their menaced position, as well as to protect their established right and legitimate interests." These were his exact words. Two days later the Japanese fleet attacked the Russian fleet lying at anchor outside Port Arthur and destroyed several warships. This was described at the time as a treacherous attack, but the terms of the Japanese Minister's announcement was, I think, at least tantamount to a declaration of war. So little however did the Russian Government believe in war, even after the rupture of relations, that the Emperor attended a performance at the opera the very evening during which the attack at Port Arthur took place, and had refused to countermand the preparations for a Court Ball until the news of the attack on the Russian fleet had been actually received. It is out of place to review the military operations that took place during the next fifteen months, which resulted in the defeat of the Russian troops on the Yalu, at Kiau Chau, Liaoyang, Mukden, the fall of Port Arthur, and finally the annihilation of the Baltic Fleet in the Corean Straits. To partly account for these defeats, it may be stated that there was as far as one is able to judge no strategy and no definite plan of campaign, while counsels were divided. For example, in June 1904 General Kuropatkin, who was in command in the field, advocated the abandonment of Port Arthur to its fate, while Admiral Alexeriff urged the immediate despatch of an

expedition for its relief. The latter course was adopted and resulted in defeat and failure, in spite of the heroic behaviour of the Russian troops. As everybody knows, the defence of Port Arthur was bravely maintained till January 1905, thanks to the skill and bravery of General Kodratchenko of the Engineers, who, knowing General Stoessel, threatened to shoot him if he surrendered. This statement sounds somewhat melodramatic but it is true and was confirmed to me by a Russian Minister. General Kodratchenko was killed in a casemate by a stray shell, and General Stoessel surrendered immediately afterwards. He was later tried by Court-martial, condemned to be shot, and finally imprisoned in a fortress.

During the progress of the war, the quarrels amongst the Army Commanders were bitter and constant. Some came back from the front, amongst them General Grippenberg, who had the reputation of being one of the ablest Russian Generals. Amongst the higher commands, General Kuropatkin was almost the only General to maintain his command during the whole course of the war. He, however, did not add to his reputation in the field. His former Commander, General Skobeleff, whose Chief of the Staff he was, during the Khiva campaign, said of him that he was the best Chief of the Staff in the world, but he added—"God help the Army that he commands."

In the meantime Russia was convulsed by a revolutionary movement. Assassinations of public men were of almost daily occurrence, and sanguinary conflicts between the soldiers and the people took place all over Russia. The war was very unpopular with the people, who hardly knew where Manchuria was, and certainly did not know what they were fighting for.

Lecture by General Braithwaite, Commandant, Quetta Staff College, on the interdependence of Strategy and Policy in War.

So little direction was there in the policy of the Russian Government that, while most of them were desirous of peace, they could not decide to make peace, and even while negotiations were in progress at Portsmouth, the war party were still in favour of prolonging the war until a victory had been obtained. We can sympathise with the war party in this view. On the other hand, a high Russian military authority told one of the Military Attachés that the relative positions of the two armies were so strong as to constitute almost a stalemate, and that no victory could be anticipated for an indefinite period of time.

My object in reviewing these incidents is to exemplify the necessity of combination by masterminds in policy and strategy and their interdependence in order to carry out a policy to its complete fulfilment. This combination was generally wanting on the side of Russia at that time as compared with Japan, and hence her disasters. Russia has been through her ordeal, her wounds are healed, and according to the latest news she has now joined hands with her former enemy and rival with a view to the maintenance of peace in the Far East. Happily we also are now on the most friendly terms with Russia, and we have similar obligations with Japan. When the three greatest Powers in the Far East will that peace should be maintained, it is difficult to see how it can be disturbed.

I thank you all, Ladies and Gentlemen, for the very kind way in which you have listened to my few observations.

MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

18th Sept. 1912.

[The last meeting of the first term of the enlarged Council was held at Viceregal Lodge, Simla, on the 18th September 1912. His Excellency the Viceroy presided, and after ordinary business had been transacted, closed the meeting with the following speech :—]

As this is the last occasion on which this Council will meet for the transaction of public business, I should like to say a few words before we adjourn to-day. We have now reached the first term of the life of this Council under the scheme of the reformed Councils Act, and in a few months' time a new Council will meet in the Imperial Capital of India. We are able, I am glad to say, to look back with satisfaction upon the work of this Council during the past three years, and to realise how much it has gained in experience and importance during that period. What pleases me in particular is to record the excellent and friendly relations that have prevailed amongst all the Members of this Council, and the mutual respect and esteem felt by all towards each other. The decorum and harmony with which our proceedings are conducted might well be a model to many other Legislatures of which we have heard and read, while the discussions that have taken place have been fruitful and of the highest value to Government as expressions of public opinion and of the various communities represented here. It is therefore a source to me of keen personal regret that the term of this Council is now drawing to a close, and that when the new Council meets at Delhi next January, some familiar friends and faces may have given place to new faces and what will, I hope, be new friends who will, I trust, carry on the high traditions that have been initiated in the hitherto short life of the reformed Legislative Council of the Governor-General. I wish to take this opportunity to thank Hon'ble Members of Council on behalf of myself

Meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council.

and of the Government of India for their valuable co-operation and assistance in the legislative business of Government during the past three years.

This will, I also hope, be the last occasion when my Legislative Council will meet in this room, where, I am bound to acknowledge, the accommodation is unsatisfactory and inadequate. The Council Chamber that is now being added to this house will, I hope, be finished next summer, and will provide better accommodation in a large Council room, a library for Members, Committee rooms, cloak rooms, etc., with a separate approach and entry for Hon'ble Members.

As for the temporary accommodation of this Council at Delhi, I have personally supervised the plans and buildings, and I can promise Hon'ble Members that, although the Council Chamber is only for temporary use and a very strict regard for economy has been maintained in its construction, they will find much more convenient accommodation than I was ever able to afford them in Calcutta. There will also be residential accommodation provided on the Metcalfe Estate for non-official Members if required. I hope that Hon'ble Members may not suffer too much inconvenience and discomfort during the short interval of a few years before the new Capital is completed.

I would like to say a few words generally on the subject of the temporary buildings at Delhi which, I may add, have been admirably designed and carried out by Lieutenant-Colonel Cole and his assistants and the contractors working under him.

With a view to minimising expense, the Government of India have decided to take as small a staff as possible from the Government offices, but sufficient to cope with the more immediate work of the Government of India,

Meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council.

The temporary Secretariats are in close proximity to the Council Chamber. The European clerks will be lodged either in quarters which will be hired for them in the Civil Lines or in tents, according to their desire. The Indian clerks will be provided with small houses, and I may add that I have inspected these houses, and my opinion is that the Indian clerks will find themselves so comfortable that they will not wish to leave them.

In our building operations for temporary Delhi, we have limited ourselves to the strict minimum that was absolutely necessary, but we do not think that the money spent has been wasted or lost. We are confident that when new Delhi has been built, there will still be public purposes for the use of these buildings. We think that, without fear of exaggeration, we may say that the weight of probability is strongly in favour of Government realising almost full value for all their outlay in connection with the temporary works, should they be disposed to part with them, or else receiving its equivalent from the utility of the buildings for their own purposes.

As regards the Government of India, I may say that one and all have decided to accept the most modest accommodation in two hotels that have been leased so as to diminish expenditure as much as possible, while some of them, amongst them being my friend Sir Harcourt Butler, with no doubt a view to further economies as a provision for education, have decided to brave the elements and to live in tents.

I mention all this as I think it may be of interest to Hon'ble Members to know what provision has been made for next cold weather. I fear that for the time being the standard of comfort will not be as high as that of Calcutta or Simla, but I am confident that all will ungrudgingly make some self-sacrifice in the realisation of the national object that we have in view.

Meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council.

As regards the new city of Delhi, you are probably aware that a site near but to the south of the old city has been selected and approved. Several schemes for laying out the new city have been proposed, amongst them being one by an Indian, but no definite decision will be taken until the return of the experts in December. In the meantime estimates and plans for irrigation, building, etc., are being carefully prepared. Conditions have also been published in the Press of British India and of the Native States for an open competition in designs for four different classes of bungalows that will be required. Prizes will be awarded to the successful competitors. I am glad to say that I hear that a considerable number of Indians as well as Europeans have entered for this competition. The question of competition for further buildings is still under consideration.

My attention has been drawn to articles in the Press on the subject of the architecture of the new city. You are aware of my own personal predilections in this matter. Lord Crewe has recently stated his own views on this question in the following quotation that I take from the *Times* :—

" The great cities of India were very various in position and possibility. Bombay, with its fine harbour, suffered as a city from being built on lines like New York, and was thereby cramped as regarded extension. Madras, on the other hand, was a garden city in the fullest sense. It covered a vast extent for the number of its population, and as one drove through its leafy groves it was often hard to make out where the houses were. Calcutta was in some parts more on the lines of European cities. But at Delhi they had a different problem to confront. They knew what the historical associations of Delhi were. To be convenient and suited to the Europeans who had to work there it could not be planned in a manner altogether foreign to Western ideas and Western life; yet, at the same time, it must not be hostile in appearance or in spirit to the ideals of the past. Therefore, when the actual architecture of the new city had to be considered it would be clearly no easy task for the architects engaged

upon it to combine the old and new in a manner which was necessary if a truly satisfactory result was to be achieved."

These were Lord Crewe's own words, and I may add that nothing has so far been settled.

In general, preparations are being actively pushed, so that as soon as the lay-out of the new city has been decided upon, building operations may be carried out with energy and without delay.

I understand that it is the desire and intention of Hon'ble Members of my Council to be present at the State Entry into Delhi and to take part in the ceremony of the handing over of the Delhi Province by the Government of the Punjab to the Government of India. I shall warmly appreciate and welcome the presence of the Members of my Legislative Council, the representatives of the whole of British India, as most fitting and appropriate on such a memorable and historic occasion.

With these few words, I will now take leave of Hon'ble Members, and I declare this Council adjourned.

[His Excellency then shook hands with the Members and bade them good-bye.]

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM RAWALPINDI AND MURREE MUNICIPALITIES.

9th Oct. 1912. [His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by Her Excellency the Lady Hardinge and Staff, left Simla on the 8th of October on his autumn tour. On the following morning the Viceregal party arrived at Rawalpindi, where His Excellency was presented with an address of welcome from the Municipality at the Railway station. Mr. Renouff, the Deputy Commissioner, read the address, which was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—On behalf of all classes in the Rawalpindi District, we, the members of the District Board of Rawalpindi and of the Municipal Committees of Rawalpindi and Murree, beg to offer Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge a

Address of Welcome from Rawalpindi and Murree Municipalities.

sincere and hearty welcome on your arrival at Rawalpindi; and we particularly thank Your Excellency for your kindness in consenting to receive an address from us, at what must be considerable personal inconvenience, during a brief halt on your long journey from Simla to Kashmir.

The Rawalpindi District is one which has derived special benefit from the peace and prosperity which have been established by the British Government. In very remote times, when the ancient cities of Taxila and Mankiala were centres of civilization and religious interest, this tract of country appears to have been settled and prosperous. But for some eight centuries after the year 1000 A.D. the land was devastated by wave after wave of invasion from the North. It is only since annexation that complete security of person and property have been restored.

The agriculture of the Salt Range is entirely dependent on the capricious Indian rainfall, and the soil yields but a scanty return to the unremitting toil of the husbandman. The rich crops of the canal tracts, cotton and sugarcane, are impossible of cultivation. The staples are restricted to the absolute necessaries of existence, and the produce of the land is quite inadequate for the support of the people. Relief is afforded, fortunately, by the presence of large Cantonments in Rawalpindi and the Murree Hills, but the main resource of the population is Government service, and particularly military service. The natural disposition of the people leads them to the profession of arms, and, while we acknowledge our deep gratitude to the British Government for the avenues of employment opened to us in this direction, we venture to refer with pride to the faithful service rendered, as evidenced by the distinguished record of the 110 retired Indian Commissioned Officers, all natives of this District, who have been permitted to attend this morning to greet Your Excellency. The decorations on their breasts tell how worthily they have borne themselves in the campaigns of the last sixty years, and we venture to question if there are many districts in India which can point to such a roll of military honour. We would respectfully tender to Your Excellency the assurance of our unswerving loyalty and devotion to His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor.

We do not think we should be justified in delaying Your Excellency much longer, and, indeed, we have very little to represent. The District Board, with its limited resources in such a poor agricultural tract, finds itself hampered in its desire to develop

Address of Welcome from Rawalpindi and Murree Municipalities.

communications, medical relief and education. It is largely dependent for the expansion of its activities on assistance from the Provincial Government. Three years ago it was unfortunately compelled to close 24 primary schools for want of funds, but it has learnt with satisfaction that special grants are being made available for the opening of new schools. The members of the Board are deeply sensible of the privilege which it is now proposed to confer upon them of participating in the election of members to the Provincial Legislative Council. The city of Rawalpindi, with 47,000 inhabitants, is fortunate in the possession of wide streets and a water supply of splendid quality. A comprehensive but costly drainage scheme will be undertaken in the near future, provided it is possible to secure substantial financial assistance from the Provincial Government. With a large number of excellent secondary and high schools and a well-equipped college, the town is an important educational centre.

The Municipality of Murree is an unfortunate exception to the otherwise prosperous state of the District. In the time of Sir John Lawrence it enjoyed the distinction of being the summer headquarters of the Punjab Government. But, in spite of its beautiful scenery, its healthy situation and its magnificent water supply, it is now in a somewhat decadent condition. In recent summers, great difficulty has been experienced in letting bungalows, owing mainly to the superior attractions of Kashmir. In consequence, vested interests in house property and in business have been seriously affected. The Municipal Committee have learnt recently, with grave concern, of the contemplated transfer of the headquarters of the Northern Army, and they beg that the future of Murree may receive the kind consideration of Your Excellency.

There only remains for us to thank Your Excellency again for the honour you have done us to-day, and to wish you and Lady Hardinge a most pleasant visit to Kashmir and a safe return to British India.

His Excellency in replying said :—]

Gentlemen,—You have expressed your gratitude to me for consenting to receive this address, but I think the thanks are rather due from me to you for your kindness in meeting us with these words of welcome, and both Lady Hardinge and myself are very grateful to you for the friendly greeting you have given us.

Address of Welcome from Rawalpindi and Murree Municipalities.

There was doubtless a time in ancient days when the Punjab was a flourishing country with a fairly dense population, but India has proved a tempting bait to a succession of invaders, and the path of all led them through the country of the five rivers; so that, from the very earliest period recorded in history, the Punjab has been the scene of constant devastation and bloodshed.

But out of evil good may spring, and we have to thank the continual strife of those early days for the tough fibre and the virile characteristics of the population which has furnished, and continues to furnish, the backbone of the Indian Army, and has stood us in such good stead on many a hard-fought field.

The history of the Punjab is, as you know, closely connected with my family through my grandfather, both in peace and war, and I should like to take this opportunity of saying what a very great pleasure it is to me to meet so many distinguished old soldiers here to-day.

The position of an officer in the Indian Army carries with it the hall-mark of strong character, and their service gives them the habit of authority, combined with the sense of discipline, which are so essential in all administration.

I have sometimes felt a sense of disappointment that larger numbers do not in their retirement find a place in the machinery of Government, and it is therefore with the keenest sense of satisfaction that I have learnt that of your two Benches of Honorary Magistrates no less than half are retired military officers, and that of you, gentlemen of the District Board, 20 per cent. have a soldier's career behind you, while I hear of a few others holding honorary positions in the Forest and other Departments.

You have referred to your educational difficulties, and it is indeed a serious matter that you should have

Address of Welcome from Rawalpindi and Murree Municipalities.

found yourselves compelled to curtail the number of your primary schools. The spread of elementary education is a subject in which my Government take the deepest interest, and I am glad to think that the additional funds we have been able to reserve for this purpose will, in taking their course through the main provincial channels, find their way down the district distributaries and help to fertilise the intellectual soil of Rawalpindi.

The Secretary of State has expressed his approval of the proposals we recently sent home regarding the Provincial Legislative Council; I am glad that the privilege, to which you refer, of taking their share in the election of members, has been granted to the District Boards, and I value the expression of your appreciation of this decision.

To you, gentlemen of the Murree Municipal Committee, may I say how sensible I am of your kindness and courtesy in coming down, I fear at no small personal inconvenience, to join in this address of welcome. I am afraid that amid the changes and chances of life the wheel of fortune is not treating you very well just now. I think you realise that the Head-Quarters of a Government or an Army must go where considerations of broad public policy demand; but I daresay it will give you some small consolation to know that no proposal for the transfer of the Head-Quarters of the Northern Army has yet reached my ears; and though I naturally can give no guarantee for the future, you may at least rest assured that such a change will not be lightly made, and is not at the present moment a question of practical politics.

And in conclusion let me once more thank you all most warmly, on behalf of Lady Hardinge and myself, for your very kind welcome, and tell you how great a pleasure it is to us both to have met you in this way at the outset of our tour.

STATE BANQUET, SRINAGAR.

[At Srinagar, on the 12th October, Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge were entertained at a banquet given by His Highness the Maharaja on the occasion of Their Excellencies' visit to Kashmir. At its conclusion His Highness, in proposing the Viceroy's health, said :— 12th Oct. 1912.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is with the feelings of great pride and pleasure that I rise to propose the toast of His Excellency Lord Hardinge coupled with that of Her Excellency Lady Hardinge, and accord Their Excellencies the heartiest welcome to the Valley of Kashmir. Your Excellency's visit to my country is doubly gratifying to me, as not only it does me great honour in affording me an opportunity of knowing as my guests the illustrious representative of our beloved and august Sovereign and his noble Consort, but it also serves to revive personal reminiscences of our ancestors. The history of the British Empire is replete with glowing accounts of the administration of your grandfather as Governor-General of India, but one prominent incident of his time, with which his name will ever be associated in the annals of Kashmir and which I and my successors will constantly recall to our minds with feelings of pride and gratitude, was the conferment by the British Government under our Treaty of 1846 of the Raj of Kashmir upon my grandfather His late Highness the Maharaja Gulab Singh Sahib Bahadur. The descendants on equal degrees as Your Excellency and I are from such ancestors, it is equally edifying to me to be in a position to continue and cultivate our hereditary friendship and to assure Your Excellency that the spirit of unflinching loyalty and steadfast devotion to the Throne, which all along inspired the career of my ancestors, also runs through my veins. Happily India is now passing through an era of unparalleled peace and prosperity under the benign protection of Imperial Government, which Providence has vouchsafed to her in His merciful dispensation. But should any occasion arise, when the Indian States may be expected to render assistance in the defence of the Empire, Kashmir, with all the resources which it can command, will, as it has done in the past, stand foremost in answering the call.

Ready, however, as my House has been always in laying its services at the disposal of the British Empire, it has also not been slow in appreciating and gradually adapting itself in the governance of the affairs of this State to the requirements of the times. Your Excellency is no doubt aware that no means are spared in the

State Banquet, Srinagar.

education of my people, which forms the fundamental principle for their uplift. The establishment of a Technical School in Srinagar has already been taken in hand and will be of good service in this direction. The condition of the ryots has been brought to the level of their brethren in the Indian territories, by fixity of tenure and assessment in consequence of settlement operations which have been extended throughout the State, and so far as possible they have been provided with facilities for irrigation of their land from the canals opened for the purpose. The electric installations at Mohora and Jammu have not only added to the comfort of the people by the supply of energy for lighting and other purposes, but the former by its dredging operations carried out in the Jhelum river is calculated to minimise the risks of devastations by floods, to reclaim uncultivated swamps and to develop other resources of Kashmir. These are only some of the salient improvements introduced in the State, but I hope they will be taken to point out the lines upon which we are moving, and I need hardly assure Your Excellency that I feel the keenest delight in promoting the welfare of my people and consider it a sacred work to apply myself to it. From the time when at the demise of my late lamented father I was entrusted with the government of this State I have done all in my power to advance the interest and promote the welfare of the State subjects, and in my efforts I have always received valuable advice from the representatives of the Viceroy, and I am specially indebted to my esteemed friend the Hon'ble Mr. S. M. Fraser, C.I.E., for his sympathetic interest and valuable advice in matters relating to the efficient administration of my State.

I repeat what I said once before, that the momentous announcement made by His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor at Delhi rehabilitating that ancient city as the capital of the Indian Empire will have a far-reaching effect in consolidating the Empire, and by its central position uniting the various parts of the Empire into closer relationship with Your Excellency's Government. When within a short time Your Excellency enters the new seat of Government, Your Excellency will have the good wishes and felicitations of all India.

It is a great pleasure to me that Your Excellency has very graciously accepted my invitation to visit this country and that Her Excellency Lady Hardinge has been able to accompany Your Excellency. The cause of female medical education and of training of Indian Nurses which Her Excellency has taken up will be a

State Banquet, Srinagar.

veritable boon to India by alleviating suffering and bringing medical aid to the reach of the class to whom it is not available at present.

I now ask you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to drink to the health of Their Excellencies Lord Hardinge of Penshurst, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, and Lady Hardinge.

His Excellency the Viceroy made the following reply :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—In the first place I must express my most cordial thanks, and those of Lady Hardinge, to Your Highness for the friendly sentiments which Your Highness has expressed towards us, the generous hospitality with which you have entertained us, and the extremely kind manner in which you have proposed our health.

It is a source of the greatest satisfaction to me to visit Kashmir, in which I have always had a special personal interest owing to the fact that it was my grandfather, who, as Governor-General of India, concluded the treaty which conferred the State on Your Highness's grandfather, Maharaja Gulab Singh, in 1846. Though I had the pleasure of meeting Your Highness at Calcutta in 1910 soon after my arrival in India, and again at Delhi on the occasion of the Coronation Durbar last year, and at the opening last spring of one of the branches of the Triple Chenab Canal Project, we have had few opportunities of cementing the hereditary friendship of our families. The opportunity has now happily been offered to us in the most favourable circumstances, and it is my hope that we may yet have many more such opportunities during my stay in India.

Though I have so far been able to see only the wayside beauties of Kashmir, I have seen enough to realise that it was with good reason that the Mughal Emperors for so many years made choice of this beautiful valley for their summer head-quarters, and I know that His late Majesty the King-Emperor Edward VII long

State Banquet, Srinagar.

cherished, and Their Imperial Majesties King George and Queen Mary, who visited Jammu before their accession, still cherish, the most happy memories of the beauties of Nature here so bountifully displayed, and of the hospitality shown to them by Your Highness.

I consider myself fortunate to have the privilege of following in their footsteps. Having some acquaintance with the history of the State, my journey along the Jhelum Valley road brought home to me the wonderful progress made by Kashmir since Your Highness succeeded to the *gaddi* some twenty-seven years ago.

At that time Kashmir was connected with the plains of India by a mere mountain track. The construction of a metalled road along the hundred miles of the precipitous river gorges is a work reflecting the greatest credit on Your Highness's administration, both on account of its own magnitude and difficulty, and on account of the benefits that have resulted from its existence to the State and its inhabitants, and to the fortunate visitors from the plains of Hindusthan.

I could not fail to notice at the same time the appearance of happiness and prosperity of Your Highness's subjects that I met, and the large convoys of agricultural produce that was being exported.

On my way up along that road I was shown two other great enterprises undertaken in the more recent years of Your Highness's rule—the electric power station at Mohora, and the great dredging work below Baramulla, which utilises part of the electric power generated from the river to dredge the rocky bed of the Jhelum at its outlet from the valley. Such a feat, I believe, has hitherto been achieved nowhere else, and it may well be a just source of pride to Your Highness and to your State Engineer, Colonel de Lotbiniére.

State Banquet, Srinagar.

I hope that Your Highness is now in sight of the solution of the problem of so lowering and regulating the bed of the Woolar Lake as to render possible, not only the prevention of those floods which from time to time have devastated the valley—and in May this year I was grieved to learn of the loss of life and property due to this cause—but also the reclamation for cultivation of a large area of swampy land; and I trust that this may be done without impairing the cold weather water-supply of the Jhelum, which is of such vital importance to irrigation in the Punjab.

These great works in themselves are evidence of the enterprise of the Ruler, and will serve to perpetuate the name of Maharaja Sir Partap Singh as a benefactor of his people. Such large productive works are evidence of the perspicacity of Your Highness in foreseeing the advantages to be gained from them by a never-ending succession of Your Highness's family on the *gaddi* of Kashmir.

I hope, however, to see the day when still further progress will be made. The time must come when science will surmount the physical difficulties in the way of improved transport communication with the markets of India. When that day arrives and it is possible to export at moderate cost the products of the valley, the unique advantage possessed by this fertile land in the possession of unlimited electric power to work up its raw material must result in developments of the material resources of its people that have hitherto been undreamed of.

It would be superfluous for me to speak of Your Highness's loyalty to the Crown. Loyalty to the British Raj is with Your Highness not only a matter of personal feeling—it is an hereditary tradition—for Maharaja Gulab Sing's relations with the British Government

State Banquet, Srinagar.

are too well known to call for remark, and Maharaja Ranbir Singh, Your Highness's father, sided wholeheartedly with us at the time of the Mutiny. I regret that I have only been able to see a few of Your Highness's Imperial Service Troops, which are a standing monument of the readiness of the Kashmir State to take its place in defence of the northern frontier of India. They did their share in the Hunza Expedition of 1888, and in the Chitral country in 1895, and rendered valuable services which will ever be an honour to their flag.

That they are ready to do so again I well know, and I wish to congratulate Your Highness on the prizes they have won for musketry, on the high standard of signalling they have attained, and on the commendation bestowed upon them by the Inspector-General of Imperial Service Troops.

I am glad to learn that Your Highness has yourself assumed the office of the Commander-in-Chief, as it is proof, if proof were needed, of the interest you take in this important matter.

I am sure that, if trouble should come, as we all hope it never may, the Kashmir Imperial Service Troops would as ever render a good account of themselves.

I had the pleasure of seeing Your Highness decorated by His Imperial Majesty himself last December with the Insignia of the G.C.I.E. The honour was bestowed on you by His Gracious Majesty, partly in recognition of Your Highness's devotion to the Throne, but in no small measure in recognition of Your Highness's solicitude for the welfare of your subjects.

His Imperial Majesty has the happiness and prosperity of all the subjects of his vast Empire continually in his thoughts, as the acts of his daily life show, and he delights to honour those Rulers who study the good of the peoples subject to and dependent on them.

State Banquet, Srinagar.

I am glad that Your Highness marked the visit of Their Imperial Majesties to Delhi by the grant of concessions to your people. It was an act worthy of all praise.

Providence has given Your Highness a land of unparalleled natural wealth, and you have shown that you recognise the obligations that benevolence imposes upon you, by applying a due proportion of your abundant revenues towards the amelioration of your peoples' condition.

Like your father Your Highness is a pious and orthodox Hindu and yet tolerant of others' beliefs, and I respect you for it. The Hindu religion teaches that the Ruler should govern for the good of his people. I have acquainted myself with many of the details of the administration, and I am glad to learn that Your Highness has given a high place to the promotion of health in the minds and bodies of your subjects. You have extended facilities for education in many directions, and I am particularly glad to learn that you have decided to make religion and morals the subjects of special instruction. This I regard as a most important feature in the State's educational system, for the formation of character is the only true education. You have testified to your conviction in the matter of education by sending your heir-presumptive, Raj Kumar Hari Singh, whom I am glad to see here to-night, to be brought up at the Mayo College, under the guidance of a carefully-selected guardian, and I am pleased to learn that he is acquitting himself well, that he bears an excellent character, and that he is achieving success both in school and on the play-ground.

Time does not permit me to enter into the details of the improvements which you are introducing in the

matters of sanitation, irrigation and revenue administration.

In these and many other directions, acting on the advice of the Resident, Mr. Fraser, who, I know, is at all times ready to place his experience and his advice at your disposal, Your Highness is faithfully discharging the trust reposed in you as Ruler of many people, and I, with, I am sure, all those present here to-night, wish Your Highness long life and sustained health to carry on the good work which you have in hand.

I ask you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to join me in drinking most cordially the health of our generous and hospitable host, His Highness the Maharaja Sir Pratap Singh.

VISIT TO THE SRI PRATAP COLLEGE, SRINAGAR.

13th Oct. 1912.

[During his stay at Srinagar His Excellency the Viceroy paid a visit to the above institution. On arrival the Staff and students presented His Excellency with the following address of welcome :—

Your Excellency,—We beg to thank Your Excellency for your kindly condescending to visit this institution. Your Excellency's keen interest in education is well known, and all educationists and students are deeply grateful to Your Excellency for your interest in the welfare of students, not only for their intellectual advancement, but for their healthy and pure social life, as shown by Your Excellency's personal visits to students' boarding hostels.

This College is still in its infancy, but to it belongs the heritage of a glorious past, of learned institutions which once flourished in this ancient land of wisdom,—a land where pilgrims in quest of learning came from the banks of the Ganges and the uplands of Central Asia, a land which gave birth to Kalhana, the first and foremost of historians, and to Charaka, the greatest and oldest of physicians. The torch of learning has again been rekindled by the liberal educational policy of the present Ruler of this country, and it is our best endeavour to make this College worthy of the best tradition of this country and a true Temple for study and research of arts, sciences and literature.

Visit to the Sri Pratap College, Srinagar.

Your Excellency will no doubt be pleased to know that in this College, as in other educational institutions of this State, a place is given to moral training and religious instructions in one's own faith. The teachers are asked to bear in mind that education, which only aims at the training of the intellect without any thought to the formation of character, is not only valueless, but may prove to be a source of peril.

This visit of Your Excellency is a great encouragement to us, and the memory of to-day will be cherished by us and those who succeed us as a red-letter day in the history of this College.

In reply to which the Viceroy said :—]

Dr. Mitra, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I did not come here with the intention of making any speech on this occasion, but I should like to say a few words, and especially to say what a great pleasure I have had in coming here with Lady Hardinge to visit this College.

As stated by Dr. Mitra I take a very great interest in the students, not only in Kashmir but in the whole of India; for it is with them that the future of India and all the prosperity and development of this enormous Empire rest, and it is owing to my anxiety and desire to see its development take place on proper lines that I take the very deepest interest in the education of India.

It has always been my opinion that you cannot have a proper education without having the right social life amongst you, and when I have seen faults in this direction in institutions that I have visited I have drawn the attention of the authorities to them in order that I might be able to do something towards placing, for the future at least, the students of this country in proper and healthy surroundings.

I should like to mention the fact that I was very much touched by the sight of all the school-boys lining the road from the Residency up to here. They gave me a very warm welcome and I was pleased to think that so many students are undergoing a course of education

in the State. Among the mottoes upon their banners my attention was specially attracted by one which occurred with some frequency. It ran, "Loyalty and Learning," and that is a motto which I greatly applaud and commend to the attention of every one of you, for there is nothing like loyalty and there is nothing like learning.

I was glad to hear in the address that in this College, as in other educational institutions of this State, a place is given to moral training and religious instruction in one's own faith. That I consider to be a most important feature, for I do not think that any education is really worth the name unless it is associated with the teaching of religion. Without religion I do not see how character can possibly be formed, and no learning is worth having without character.

That is all I have to say, but before I take my departure I should like to repeat what a very great pleasure it has been to me to come here to-day and to meet you all in your College, to which I wish all success and prosperity.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD OF LYALLPUR AND UNVEILING OF THE KING EDWARD MEMORIAL.

2nd Nov. 1912. [Their Excellencies arrived at Lyallpur on the morning of the 2nd November. At 11 A.M. His Excellency received an address of welcome from the Lyallpur District Board at the King's Gardens which was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the President, Vice-President and Members of the District Board of Lyallpur, desire to express the sense of honour and pleasure which we feel at the privilege of welcoming, on behalf of the people of this district, the representative of the King-Emperor of India.

Address of Welcome from the District Board of Lyallpur and Unveiling of the King Edward Memorial.

A period of thirteen years has elapsed since we welcomed Your Excellency's illustrious predecessor Lord Curzon to Lyallpur, then the centre of a tract known as the Chenab Colony. On that occasion, Lord Curzon in his parting words laid on us three charges: That we should develop the Colony of which we were the parents, that we should live in peace and concord with our neighbours, and that we should set an example of loyal citizenship to other parts of the province.

Loyal subjects we are, and we trust that the monument which Your Excellency will shortly unveil to the revered memory of the late King-Emperor Edward VII may be regarded as some slight expression of our feelings of loyalty.

In common with other districts of the province we have to regret an increased prevalence of crime during recent years, but the increase in this district is mainly accounted for by the rise in the population: the number of crimes of violence is not unduly high.

In 1904 an area of 3,000 square miles was defined as the Lyallpur District, and Your Excellency will be pleased to hear that during the past decade the development of this tract has been very marked. The population has rapidly risen to 857,000. The export of wheat from the district by rail alone during the current year has exceeded 158,000 tons, and an additional line of railway has been found necessary to remove the local produce. The annual revenue derived from the land amounts now to 93 lakhs, a contribution to the finances of the Empire which we believe to be unequalled by any other district of similar area in British India.

Those of us who received grants as tenants of Government have reason to be grateful for more than material prosperity, for, last year, the Government of India conferred on us the power of purchasing proprietary rights at the moderate rate of twelve rupees eight annas per acre. Due advantage has been taken of this generosity and some 13,500 tenants have already acquired these rights in return for a payment to Government of close on 53 lakhs.

We hear that still more ambitious projects are nearing completion which will result in the irrigation of larger tracts to the north and east of our boundaries, and in our receiving hereafter the waters of the Jhelum instead of those of the Chenab. These schemes will no doubt affect us indirectly in many ways, and it is possible even that the supply of water may not be found sufficient to meet all demands. We trust that Your Excellency's Government will duly consider the rapidly increasing population of the district, will take

Address of Welcome from the District Board of Lyallpur and Unveiling of the King Edward Memorial.

proper steps to safeguard our rights, and will ensure that the existing supply of water may not be diminished.

We have now the honour, on behalf of the subscribers to the King Edward Memorial Fund, to ask Your Excellency to unveil the monument which has been erected on this site.

Shortly after the death of the late King-Emperor a public meeting was held at Lyallpur and measures were set in train to perpetuate his memory. In due course a sum of Rs. 1,14,129 was collected. A contribution of Rs. 50,000 was made to the Provincial Memorial Fund, which is being devoted to the founding of a Medical College in Lahore; a small allotment was reserved for the erection of this monument, and in token of the sympathy and interest always shown by the late King-Emperor towards the relief of the sick the entire balance is being spent on the improvement of medical facilities in this district, including the erection of a ward and a dispensary for women at Lyallpur. This memorial is executed in white marble and is intended to serve the purposes of a drinking fountain.

The relief in bronze is the work of Mr. Alfred Turner, the sculptor of the statue of the late Queen-Empress Victoria at Delhi.

In conclusion we should ask Your Excellency to accept for yourself the heartiest welcome and good wishes of the people of the Lyallpur District.

In reply His Excellency said :—]

Gentlemen,—I offer you my warmest thanks for the address of welcome which has just been read to me. Your district, as a district, is young, and even as the centre of the great Chenab Colony you cannot claim a very hoary antiquity. It has been said, "Happy is the nation that has no history"—and the truth of that remark could have no more apt illustration than Lyallpur, for if your annals are free from striking incident, you can boast a record of ever-increasing prosperity which cannot be beaten by any other district in India.

I acknowledge with much appreciation the words of gratitude to which you have given expression for the treatment that has been accorded to you by the Government of India, and indeed I think we have been generous,

Address of Welcome from the District Board of Lyallpur and Unveiling of the King Edward Memorial.

for I hear that the average cash rental of your land is actually more than the Rs. 12-8, for which the proprietary rights have been acquired, and that some of it is changing hands for Rs. 400 per acre.

It has long been my desire to pay a visit to some of the Canal Colonies of the Punjab, the fame of which had reached my ears long before I ever set foot in India, and that ambition was stimulated by my recent visit to Marala, where I opened the first link of the Triple Project. I was then able to form some idea of the splendid engineering achievements which have made these colonies possible, and watched, as it poured into its thirsty channel, the first life-giving streams destined to bring fertility and prosperity to one more tract of barren desolation. If in some respects the engineering progress achieved in India falls behind that of other countries, there is one point in which she stands supreme—the art and practice of irrigation. The irrigated area of India exceeds by many million acres that of any other country in the world. In the Jhelum and Chenab Colonies alone, we have an area which equals half of the total irrigation of Egypt. At Marala, I referred to the great work accomplished by the irrigation engineers of India; but it is peculiarly fitting that I should again express my admiration here, speaking as I do in the presence of men who have benefited so greatly by their efforts, and who have been witnesses of the untiring labour and self-sacrificing devotion which they have brought to this great work. You have sounded a note of some anxiety as to whether projects of this kind may not diminish your existing supply of water, but I can only assure you that no effort will be spared by Government to secure you a supply of water which will be adequate for the needs of the colony.

Address of Welcome from the District Board of Lyallpur and Unveiling of the King Edward Memorial.

I should like to take this opportunity of repeating the warning that I gave at Marala against a careless and extravagant use of water. For recklessness and prodigality in its use will bring sickness to your homes and sourness to your lands, and I am sorry to say that I have heard rumours that our experts at Pusa consider that the quality of Lyallpur wheat is already suffering from excess of water.

You admit the increase of crime within your borders, but are contented to remark that the number of crimes of violence is not unduly high; I will not argue with you as to the exact significance of that little word "unduly." I will only say that a land of plenty like this should be a land of peace, and that you will not be worthy of your good fortune unless you set your faces like a flint against crime and evil-doing, and develop a public opinion which shall make vice, immorality, drunkenness and violence slink ashamed from your midst.

Gentlemen, I turn to the exceedingly pleasant task which you have asked me to perform. I think you know, and I do not attempt to conceal, the great personal affection and devotion which I felt towards His late Most Gracious Majesty King Edward, from whom I received so much kindness, and I feel confident that he would have keenly appreciated the fact that his memory will be kept warm in so many and such distant places by institutions for the better care of the sick.

I greatly applaud therefore the decision which you have taken to devote the greater part of the funds you have raised to the improvement of the medical facilities of this district.

Some portion you have reserved for this fountain, and together with your generous contribution to the Provincial Memorial, these form your tribute of affection and

loyalty to one who was in very truth the father of his people.

I will now proceed to unveil it, and will only say once more before I do so how grateful I feel towards you for the kindness of your welcome, and pray that your district of Lyallpur may continue to flourish as the years roll by in ever-increasing prosperity and contentment.

OPENING OF NEW BUILDINGS AT THE DALY COLLEGE, INDORE.

[Their Excellencies arrived at Indore on the afternoon of the 7th November. At 4-30 P.M. on the 8th, Their Excellencies drove to the Daly College and were received at the entrance by Mr. Hide, the Principal of the College. 8th Nov. 1912.

A procession was drawn up in the vestibule of the College Hall, composed of Ruling Chiefs, and including His Highness the Maharaja Scindia and Her Highness the Nawab Begum of Bhopal, who had both come specially to Indore to be present at the opening ceremony. The procession then preceded the Viceroy through the beautiful and spacious College Hall on to the dais at the further end. Mr. Hide in welcoming the Viceroy to the Daly College said :—

Your Excellency, Mr. O'Dwyer, Your Highnesses, Members of the College Council, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is my privilege to-day to welcome Your Excellency to the Daly College and to express the very great pleasure felt throughout Central India at Your Excellency's kindness in consenting to open the new buildings of the Daly College. These buildings consist of this Main College Building with the two Boarding Houses: The College Temple and the College Mosque: The houses for the English members of the College staff and the Cricket Pavilions. These buildings were designed by Sir Swinton Jacob and have cost more than ten lakhs of rupees. Towards the cost of these buildings the Government of India gave a most generous grant of 4¼ lakhs, but we are proud to say that among the Chiefs of Central India there have been individual subscribers whose gifts have equalled and even exceeded the grant of the Government of India. In fact towards the building and endowment of Daly College each Chief in Central India has

Opening of New Buildings at the Daly College, Indore.

subscribed most liberally in proportion to his resources. I will, with Your Excellency's permission, give a brief narrative of the history of the Daly College, showing how we have reached the position in which we stand to-day.

In 1875 His Excellency Lord Northbrook visited Central India and found that through the influence of the late Sir Henry Daly there was a class for Chiefs at the Indore Residency School, under the management of Mr. Aberigh Mackay, tutor to His Highness the Raja of Rutlam. His Excellency realised the importance of this Chiefs' Class, and in 1876 Mr. Aberigh Mackay was appointed Principal of the Indore Residency Rajkumar College. In 1881 Mr. Aberigh Mackay died in Indore. Mr. Aberigh Mackay is known best as the author of "Twenty-one Days in India," but his chief work lay in what he did for the educational institutions of Central India. That the Chiefs appreciated his work as Principal of the Rajkumar College is proved by the fact that when Sir Henry Daly retired from Central India they erected a new building for the Rajkumar College and named it the Daly College.

In 1885 the building was opened by His Excellency Lord Dufferin. For 18 years the College was conducted according to the system originated by Mr. Aberigh Mackay, and during that time Mr. Johnstone and Mr. Gunion were the best known of the Principals. The success of the College during those years may be judged when I inform Your Excellency that no less than twelve of the portraits on the walls of this Hall represent Old Boys of the College who were under Mr. Johnstone and Mr. Gunion.

In 1903, after a conference on Chiefs' Colleges had been held in Calcutta, His Excellency Lord Curzon considered that the education of the Chiefs of Central India and Rajputana would be more efficient if there were one Chiefs' College at Ajmere for both Central India and Rajputana. It was decided therefore to send the sons of the Chiefs of Central India to the Mayo College at Ajmere and to make the Daly College a school for the sons of Thakurs in Central India.

At the end of 1903 there were therefore only five little boys left at the Daly College. At this time Major Daly—now the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Daly—became the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India. He at once made a general review of educational institutions in Central India, and after taking a census of the Kumars eligible for admission to a Chiefs' College discovered that there were more in Central India than could be accommodated at the Mayo College at Ajmere. On consulting the Chiefs of Central India he found

Opening of New Buildings at the Daly College, Indore.

that all were not only anxious that the best possible arrangements should be made for the education of the Central India Kumars, but were willing to subscribe large sums to that end. Consequently Lord Curzon's Government sanctioned the reforming of a Chiefs' College at Indore, and plans and estimates for a new Daly College were prepared.

In 1905 the foundation stone of the new Daly College was laid. This ceremony was to have been performed by Lord Curzon, but as ill-health prevented His Excellency from coming to Indore, the stone was laid by Major Daly, while Lord Curzon's speech was read by Mr. Fraser, the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India.

From this time the history of the Daly College begins anew. Major Daly decided that, although there were no adequate buildings, the Kumars of Central India should wait no longer for their College. His enthusiasm overcame all difficulties. English Masters (members of the Educational Service) were appointed. The Indian Staff was reorganised. Temporary arrangements were made for the accommodation of the Kumars, and if the Kumars ever felt that these arrangements were inadequate, the frequent visits of Major Daly to their play-grounds made them forget their discomforts.

During the six years that the buildings have taken to erect, the College has had sufficient scholastic and athletic successes to enable it to take its place as a sister institution to the Chiefs' Colleges at Rajkot, Ajmere and Lahore. In 1909 the Daly College sent up its first candidate for the Diploma Examination of Chiefs' Colleges. He passed second among all the candidates. In 1911 three candidates were sent up. They passed first, third and fifth.

On three occasions the Daly College has received visits from or paid visits to other Chiefs' Colleges. On those occasions all cricket, football and tennis matches have been drawn or won by the Daly College. The only defeat to be recorded is one inflicted by the Rajkumar College tent-pegging team.

Now that I have told Your Excellency of what we possess and of what we have done, it is but natural that I should inform Your Excellency of what we hope to possess and of what we hope to do. For the teaching in the College our English Staff (so sadly weakened by the death of Mr. Nicolls last August) needs strengthening, while an improvement in the salaries of the Indian members of the Staff would undoubtedly result in improved class-work. For our present

Opening of New Buildings at the Daly College, Indore.

grounds and buildings we need—and need badly—an efficient water-supply and an efficient system of lighting.

For additional buildings we have, I am glad to say, plenty of space, and we need many new buildings, such as a science laboratory and a gymnasium. I hope, too, to see the Indian Masters of the Daly College living in College houses in a healthy locality near the College.

For our grounds we need tennis courts, a swimming bath, a polo ground and a racquet court. I will not weary Your Excellency by making the list of our requirements complete, but the list I have given leads to what I have to say about our future. The list shows that we want the life of the Daly College to be a very full one, and we want our Kumars to have opportunities such as they could get nowhere else in the world, save at another Chiefs' College; so that after leaving the Daly College and after further training in administration they may be qualified to take a fuller share in the wide public life of Central India.

That is our aim and that I believe was the aim of Sir Henry Daly and Mr. Aberigh Mackay. It was for this end that Lord Curzon and Sir Hugh Daly reformed the Daly College, and now Your Excellency's presence here to-day makes us believe that we have another distinguished name to add to the list of those who have helped our progress and shared our ideals.

In reply His Excellency said :—]

Mr. Hide, Mr. O'Dwyer, Your Highnesses, Ladies and Gentlemen,—In the address that he has just read, the Principal has given us a most interesting account of the history of this Daly College, and of the circumstances which have led up to the present ceremony. He has been pleased to use appreciative and grateful language regarding my own presence here, and the part which I am taking. But I can assure you that, amid the various duties which are imposed upon me during this autumn tour, there are few that I shall find more congenial. For the education of the Chiefs and Nobles of the Native States of India is a matter which has occupied the sympathetic attention of a long succession of Viceroys from Lord Mayo onwards, and I should indeed be want-

ing in a proper sense of my responsibilities if I did not realise the special place filled by the Chiefs' College in the general scheme of educational policy. I feel it therefore a privilege to be allowed to take my part in to-day's proceedings, and I regard them as the symbol of great progress accomplished in an important field of work.

I cannot help thinking that this must be a proud day for Sir Hugh Daly, whose face I am sorry to miss, for it places as it were a crown upon the work so well begun by his father, and it has doubtless been a labour of love to him, and a task of filial piety, to develop the Daly College to the highest possible standard. His enthusiasm was clearly infectious, and I tender my congratulations both to the other Political Officers, who have taken so keen an interest, and to the Chiefs of Central India, who have rendered these buildings possible, not only by their moral support, but also by their most generous contributions.

There is no finality in this world, and I feel confident that these benefactors of the College will continue their interest in its future, and I hope that some of them may be moved by Mr. Hide's recital of the additional requirements already in sight.

I should like to take this opportunity of congratulating the Daly College—staff and students alike—upon the progress they have made and the successes they have won. I am told that there are no less than 70 boys here now—a wonderful contrast to the total of five little boys of 1904; and I make no doubt that, with improved buildings and other facilities, the numbers will continue to grow without sacrifice of quality or efficiency.

For in the past you have had to put up with considerable difficulties. You have had plague in the city, which delayed the erection of your buildings; you have had

insufficient and uncomfortable accommodation and long terms of residence and study without a break, but cheerful good temper and willing co-operation, on the part of masters and boys alike, have carried you through; and here let me say how deeply I regret that to-day's celebrations should be clouded by a tinge of melancholy, when we reflect upon the loss that the College has sustained in the sudden and lamented death of Mr. Nicolls, who was so promising and capable a member of the staff.

There is one way in which Chiefs can co-operate with the Principal and secure the fullest advantage of the money they have spent—the importance of which has not perhaps been fully realised, though in this respect matters are improving—and that is by sending boys from their States to the College when they are young and insisting on their regular attendance.

In Europe boys are learning a second language and have made considerable advance in arithmetic at an age when Indian boys of noble birth have hardly begun to read or write their mother-tongue, and in Europe regularity of attendance is insisted on by parents; and until an improvement is shown in these two respects, it is impossible to reap the full benefit of the instruction that is available. The remedy lies in Your Highnesses' hands.

There is just one other thing that I should like to say before I conclude. Except those who become Ruling Chiefs or the heads of families with estates to manage, I am told that few of the old boys are to be found doing useful public work in the various States in later life. And yet there is plenty of scope for them, for the great group of Central India and Rajputana States needs practical administrators in every department of government, and I cannot but think that, among the young men of good birth and high character sent out into the world

Opening of New Buildings at the Daly College, Indore.

by these Colleges, there should be many with pre-eminent qualifications to do good service. We have heard some talk of a Post Diploma College, and there may be the seed in that idea of a scheme which would render such boys even more fit for useful State employment; but whatever may come of it, Ruling Chiefs would do well by their countries, do well by their nobles, and do well by these Colleges, if they would steadily bear in mind that there is no better stuff for responsible work than is to be found in the class of boys who pass through them; that it would be good policy to employ them when possible, and to support any scheme that may be wisely devised to render them more fit for such employment.

I note that it was Lord Dufferin who opened the first building of Daly College in 1885. He was my first master under whom I served more than 30 years ago, and whose memory I hold in reverence and affection. It is a matter of personal satisfaction to me to follow in his footsteps, and the buildings which it is now my great pleasure to declare open are worthy of the noble purpose for which they are intended. They have been designed by Sir Swinton Jacob, that unrivalled master of Indian architecture, to whom so many parts of India are indebted for beautiful and practical edifices.

It is my earnest wish that the Kunwars who are brought up among these architectural beauties may be influenced by them, and learn from them, and in them, to live lives at once noble and practical.

[Mr. O'Dwyer in a few happy sentences then thanked His Excellency for his presence at the Daly College, and for his interest in the establishment. Their Excellencies were then shown round both the old and the new building by Mr. Hide. The new building is a most imposing erection in white marble, was designed by Sir Swinton Jacob, and is quite one of that distinguished architect's masterpieces. After the ceremony there was a garden party in the college grounds, which was largely attended.]

STATE BANQUET, INDORE.

9th Nov. 1912 [On the 9th November His Highness the Maharaja Holkar entertained Their Excellencies to a State Banquet at the Lal Bagh Palace, and at the conclusion proposed the Viceroy's health in the following terms :—

I rise with feelings of peculiar pleasure to welcome Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge, for although Viceroys have previously visited Indore, this is the first occasion in the annals of the State that His Imperial Majesty's representative in India has actually been a guest under its Ruler's roof.

It is now twelve months since I was invested with ruling powers; during this time I have devoted myself to getting a grasp of the details of administration, a task much facilitated by the progress made in many directions during my minority, and have only been able to make a beginning with a few important reforms, which God willing should produce beneficent results in the fulness of time. Amongst these I may perhaps be allowed to mention my intention to introduce a law regulating the age of marriage for girls, a reform lying very close to my heart, though I fully appreciate the great difficulties I shall have in overcoming the resistance of prejudice and the dead-weight of ancient custom: the examination by a special committee of a comprehensive scheme of education and the opening of Public Libraries in all important centres: the retention of the services of Mr. Lanchester, one of the experts engaged in advising on the planning of the new city of Delhi, to advise on the improvement of my capital, with a view to minimise the ravages of plague and increase its beauty and healthiness: the connected reform of starting a municipality under the guidance of British officers: and finally the very promising experiments made in the introduction of the silk industry.

Unfortunately, although generally favourable, the rains failed in the southern districts of the State for the second year in succession and have caused great hardship to the cultivators, though all that is possible is being done to alleviate their distress.

To turn to a pleasanter subject, all of us are looking forward to December 23rd when once more the ancient city of Delhi will take her place as the Imperial capital, and the famous announcement made at the Durbar by the King-Emperor will become an accomplished fact.

In conclusion I have to thank Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge for your gracious acceptance of my invitation, an acceptance, however, which forms but one more link in a chain of conti

State Banquet, Indore.

nuous kindness and consideration for which any words of mine are but a poor return.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I now call upon you to join me in drinking the health of my esteemed friends His Excellency the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I must begin the few remarks which I am to make to you this evening with an expression of most hearty thanks, on behalf of Lady Hardinge and myself, for the kind way in which Your Highness has proposed our health, and for the very kind manner in which it has been received.

We also wish to acknowledge with gratitude Your Highness's generous entertainment of us, and the care expended on making arrangements for our comfort and enjoyment.

It was my intention last year to come to Indore myself to invest Your Highness with ruling powers, and it was a disappointment to me that, owing to the necessity for my presence at Delhi to supervise the preparations for the Durbar, I was prevented from carrying out this intention. It was, however, with all the greater pleasure that I was able to receive Your Highness at Simla this summer, and that I have been able to accept Your Highness's very kind invitation to come here now to visit this most interesting and progressive State, and to renew and strengthen among your own people my friendship with Your Highness, upon which I lay so much stress and value.

I am glad that the prospects of harvest are generally favourable; although owing to several years of more or less deficient rainfall, rain is still wanted. I am also glad to learn that the condition of the State is in every way prosperous.

I am particularly glad to learn from my Agent in Central India and the Resident that Your Highness has

State Banquet, Indore.

the strength of mind and wisdom, which are not always to be found in youth, to avail yourself freely of the counsels of those to whom maturer years have brought a ripe experience, and that you are faithfully acting on the advice conveyed in my *Kharita*, which was delivered to you on the occasion of your investiture.

Your Highness is to be specially congratulated on the wisdom and foresight with which you have faced the difficulties of the opium situation. The Durbar have reduced the area of cultivation, and have given practical and successful attention to the problem of substituting other crops and industries for poppy cultivation and the opium trade.

In this important matter Your Highness's Durbar have readily fallen in with the policy of Government, and have materially assisted us in the solution of a most difficult and harassing problem, and our most cordial thanks are due to you for your support.

I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my strong approval of Your Highness's sense and sagacity in the friendly attitude you have adopted towards your Rajput nobility. Unity is strength, and Your Highness's position will be made more secure, and also more pleasant, if you continue to rally round you those noble families, who are your natural supporters in time of trouble, and your natural attendants and companions at all times. Let me in this connection venture to offer Your Highness a word of advice. Build up within your own State a body of your own subjects on whom you can rely to serve you. Take them young, educate them, select the best, fit them for high places, and when they are fit confer high places upon them. Give them responsibility, enlist their interest and sympathy in the work of administration, and I confidently predict that you will not regret the step you have taken.

State Banquet, Indore.

I am glad that Your Highness is already interested in the education of your people, and that you have given practical evidence that you realise the importance of giving the best education to your nobility by your recent generous donation of 2½ lakhs of rupees to the Daly College, which I was so pleased to visit yesterday, and of which I have carried away the happiest impressions. The gift was most liberal, and the object entirely worthy.

Your Highness's Imperial Service Troops form a most useful adjunct to the defences of the Empire, and I am glad to learn that they did excellent work at Delhi under the Commandant, Major Lutf Ali Khan, and were specially complimented by the Durbar Committee.

I should like to take this opportunity of congratulating Your Highness upon your intention to take the advice of Mr. Lanchester, one of our Delhi experts, upon the improvement of your capital, with a view to ameliorating its sanitary condition and to diminishing the ravages of plague amongst your subjects.

Your Highness's career is all before you, and I wish to impress upon you the magnificent opportunities that lie to your hand—opportunities that I am sure will not be wasted. Seldom if ever has a young Chief entered on his rule with so well-ordered and prosperous a State, and with so bright a future before him, or with a better preparation for the high duties which Providence has been pleased to call upon him to discharge. Your Highness has received an excellent education at the Mayo College, and has had the advantages of European travel, and the widening influences which this and some slight acquaintance with men of high lineage and position in the great countries of the West should impart.

The finances of your State are completely satisfactory, and every department of the State has been reorganised during your minority by specially selected officers.

Laying the Foundation Stone of the New Hospital at Dhar.

And now that Your Highness has taken over the administration, you have in the Resident, Mr. Wood, and my Agent in Central India, Mr. O'Dwyer—Political Officers of well-known ability—on whose friendship and assistance you may rely, while I need hardly say how ready I and my successors will always be to help you in any way to the best of our power.

I would urge Your Highness to reflect upon these great opportunities. With you, and with you alone, it rests to decide how they shall be used. I am confident from what I know and have seen of Your Highness's high sense of duty and devotion to your State, that now at the outset of your career you have decided that they will be used only for good, and that later on in your life you will be able to look back upon your rule as a task well performed, and that the British Government, your subjects and posterity will be able to revere your name as that of a great, good and just Ruler. It is my earnest wish, and the wish of all present here, that Your Highness will be blessed with long life and much happiness, and with strength and health for the carrying out of your life's work.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to rise and drink to the health of His Highness the Maharaja Tukoji Rao Holkar.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW HOSPITAL AT DHAR.

11th Nov. 1912. [On the afternoon of the 11th November the Viceroy laid the foundation stone of the new Hospital being built by His Highness the Raja of Dhar, His Excellency having motored in from Indore for the ceremony. In welcoming His Excellency to Dhar His Highness the Raja said :—

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is a matter of greatest delight and highest gratification to me and my people to have been given the opportunity of offering Your Excellency a very

Laying the Foundation Stone of the New Hospital at Dhar.

hearty welcome to this ancient and historic city of Dhar, once the seat of learning in India under Raja Bhoj, whose fame had spread far and wide, and whose historical monument is still to be seen in Dhar. It is not the first time that this house of Powars has been honoured with the proud privilege of entertaining the august representative of our beloved King-Emperor in India, inasmuch as two of Your Excellency's illustrious predecessors did us the honour of a visit—I mean the visits of Lord Northbrook in 1875 and of Lord Curzon in 1902; but this visit of Your Excellency is the most unique and will ever remain memorable in the history of Dhar, being that of an illustrious Viceroy under whose régime we, the Chiefs, have had the highest honour of personally paying our humble homage to our beloved Sovereign on the sacred land of Ind, and under whose able statesmanship boons have been conferred on the Princes and people alike, yet unsurpassed in the annals of India—notably the change of Capital, drawing us nearer to the Throne.

It is a source of infinite delight to me that Her Excellency Lady Hardinge has honoured us with her gracious presence, incurring great personal inconvenience.

Recognising as I do the many and varied calls on Your Excellency's precious time, I feel deeply indebted to Your Excellency for kindly accepting my invitation to visit Dhar, and lay the foundation stone of the Edward Memorial Hospital. Immediately after the sad demise of the greatest Peacemaker of the world, King Edward VII, an event which cast a deep gloom all over the world, my people of all castes and creeds spontaneously met together and decided to raise a suitable Memorial to perpetuate the memory of the great and good Sovereign, whose earnest solicitude was the welfare and prosperity of his people, specially of his Indian subjects. The form of the Memorial was to be such as would be useful in mitigating the sufferings of humanity, and consequently it was resolved that an up-to-date Hospital, equipped with all modern appliances and fitted with modern requirements, will be the most suitable form such Memorial should take. Funds were therefore subscribed from which contributions were made to the All-India Memorial at Delhi and to the Central India Memorial at Lahore, the balance being now utilised in raising the local Memorial, the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of which Your Excellency has to perform to-day.

Before requesting Your Excellency to perform the ceremony it is necessary to describe in brief the growth of medical science in my State, which, though physically situated in an out-of-the-way place and consequently having many disadvantages, has not lagged

Laying the Foundation Stone of the New Hospital at Dhar.

behind in the march of civilisation and has been second to none in its unswerving loyalty and warmest devotion to the sacred Person and Throne of our beloved Monarch and the British Raj, to whose ægis it owes its very existence. The first glimpse of a medical institution in Dhar on Western lines is to be found in 1854 when a small charitable dispensary was founded as a branch of the Charitable Hospital at Indore. Though the year 1864 saw the establishment of the State Hospital in Dhar, the old methods of affording medical relief through the Vaids and Hakims continued till 1874, when the Western methods gained popularity, and four dispensaries were opened; by the year 1881 one more dispensary was added, and the next decade saw the addition of four more dispensaries; in the year 1902 the dispensaries at Badnawar, Dharampuri and Kuksi were raised to the status of Hospitals, while at present there are four hospitals and nine dispensaries in the State. The total number of cases annually treated in the hospitals and dispensaries rose from 11,025 in 1881 to 90,734 in 1911. The popularity of this kind of relief is so great that even the feudatories of the State, with varied income, undertake to open dispensaries in their Jagirs and Bhumats, and a scheme drawn up by the Agency Surgeon is before Government which would bring the work of these small institutions on a line with the State medical administration.

The Memorial building will have accommodation for 40 in-door patients, a ward for Purdah ladies, an operating theatre and an isolation ward. The site is conspicuous and the best available in Dhar, being outside the city, and within easy reach of all.

I now request Your Excellency to lay the foundation stone of the Edward Memorial with full confidence that the hands of His late lamented Majesty's worthy confidant, guided by the invisible hands of Providence, will lay it deep not only in the ground, but in the hearts of my people, where the memory of our late beloved Monarch is to remain ever green.

In reply to which His Excellency said :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Though our visit to this historic old city is perforce a very fleeting one, I am extremely glad that it was possible to arrange it, for the name and fame of Dhar are widely known, and I was anxious to visit Your Highness and to see it with my own eyes. Raja Bhoj, to whom you have referred, was a great patron of literature and himself

Laying the Foundation Stone of the New Hospital at Dhar.

an author; and I think if he had lived at the present day, he would probably have claimed an eminent place also as an Irrigation Engineer, for to him is ascribed the gigantic dam which once held up the vast lake near Bhojpur; but that was 900 years ago, and I am sorry to think that Raja Bhoj himself in those stormy times was driven from his throne, and that some centuries later his famous dam was destroyed. Since then Dhar has been through many vicissitudes, and it must be a proud reflection for Your Highness that the confirmation of Dhar to Anand Rao 1st restored the *gaddi* to a race who had been expelled seven centuries before from the government of this country.

As I visit the various States of India and gain acquaintance with the traditions of the different ruling families, I find that the names that stand out in their annals are those of the men who have carved out a heritage for their children, or earned a glorious name on the field of battle in fighting the foes of their country. But there are others, such as Raja Bhoj, who have been even more distinguished in the arts of peace than of war, and in these days when the sword happily reposes in its sheath, distinction can best be won by a beneficent and enlightened administration. It is therefore a very great pleasure to me to know that Your Highness's government is capable, efficient and progressive, and that, as the Ruler of your State, you have secured the affection of your subjects, while the relations existing between yourself and my Political Officers are those of mutual friendship and esteem.

The ceremony which we are gathered here to perform today is an illustration of the interest which Your Highness takes in the welfare of your people, and the history of medical institutions within the State, which Your Highness has given us, proves the steady development that

State Banquet, Udaipur.

has taken place here in the provision of medical facilities during the past sixty years, thanks largely to the princely generosity of Your Highness and of Your Highness's late father, and shows us, too, that the people have responded to this benevolence by their ready resort to the various hospitals and dispensaries which have been placed within their reach. It is a ceremony which I take a particular pride and pleasure in performing, inasmuch as it allows me to take my small part in a scheme designed to mitigate the sufferings of humanity, and, at the same time, it gives me the opportunity of paying one more tribute to the revered memory of that gracious Sovereign in whose name it is to be erected. No man ever had a larger or kinder heart than King Edward for those afflicted with disease and misfortune, and the true appreciation of that feature of his character has raised countless memorials designed for the care and comfort of the sick in every part of his wide dominions; so that the many and varied influences for good that emanated from him have not ceased with his death, but like ripples on the water go on extending in infinite circles, and will be felt like a soothing touch by generations yet unborn. He was my deeply respected master and my friend, and it makes me glad to think that he keeps so warm a place in your hearts as is proved by the liberality that has made possible this hospital, of which I have now much pleasure in laying the foundation stone.

STATE BANQUET, UDAIPUR.

14th Nov. 1912. [His Highness the Maharana gave a State Banquet on the night of the 14th November in honour of the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge.

Their Excellencies arrived by launch up the lake and were carried up on *tonjons* to the entrance of the Palace, where they were received by the Maharaj Kumar in the unavoidable absence of His Highness the Maharana,

State Banquet, Udaipur.

The Maharaj Kumar at the conclusion of the Banquet came in with all the principal Sirdars of the State and proposed the King's health. Afterwards the Resident (Colonel Kaye) read the following speech on behalf of the Maharana :—

About a year ago I had the pleasure of making Your Excellency's acquaintance at Delhi. On that occasion Your Excellency had very little leisure. This year Rajputana has been included in Your Excellency's tour programme and thus I am having the pleasure of receiving Your Excellency at the capital of my State. The pleasure of this meeting is enhanced by the fact that Her Excellency Lady Hardinge has also accompanied Your Excellency to Udaipur.

It gives me great pleasure to allude to the friendly relations which have ever existed between the Government of India and this State and to the great interest taken by that Government in the well-being and prosperity of Mewar, a fact which has lately been emphasized by the conferment on me of the title of G.C.I.E., by His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor, on Your Excellency's recommendation, with the insignia of which high order Your Excellency invested me yesterday. For all this I wish to tender my thanks.

It gives me great pleasure to allude to the fact that since the time of Your Excellency's appointment to the exalted position of Viceroy, India has enjoyed peace, and to the very keen interest which Her Excellency Lady Hardinge also takes in the advancement of the women of India, in furtherance of which Her Excellency has, I am glad to say, taken in hand another scheme for the betterment of the women of India, a scheme which I trust will soon be successfully established.

Now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I request you all to drink to the health of my exalted guests, Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Hardinge.

Colonel Kaye then on behalf of His Highness the Maharana requested all present to drink the health of His Highness's guests, Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge.

In reply the Viceroy said :—]

Maharaj Kunwar Sahib, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I rise in the first place to express my very hearty thanks to His Highness for his kind words of welcome to Lady Hardinge and to myself, as representative of His Imperial Majesty, for the unstinted hospitality which he has

State Banquet, Udaipur.

shown to us, and for the thought and care that has been devoted to our comfort and enjoyment.

I was profoundly concerned when a few days ago I received the first news of His Highness's indisposition, and for some time I was in doubt whether it would not be more convenient to His Highness that I should defer my visit to Udaipur to a later occasion, but the gradual improvement in His Highness's health and his own strongly expressed desire that no alteration should be made in my plans finally decided me to adhere to my original intention.

My visit has been shorn of something of its ceremonial, but what I do most deeply regret is that I have unfortunately been deprived of the opportunity to which I had been looking forward with so much pleasure of renewing and cementing my friendship with His Highness, for whom as the leading Chief in Rajputana I have the highest esteem, by that personal intercourse for which occasions occur far too rarely with Ruling Chiefs in the full and unceasing activity of the life that falls to a Viceroy's lot.

I need not assure His Highness that our stay in Mewar has been from first to last full of interest and the highest enjoyment. The beauties of Nature with which this country is so richly endowed would appeal to the most unappreciative, and the history of the State, and the monuments of Chitor and at Udaipur, must inspire reverence in any one who can venerate brave deeds of heroism and self-sacrifice, performed by gallant men and noble ladies, in the defence of their homes and their honour. The names of Bappa Rawal, the founder of His Highness's dynasty nearly 1,200 years ago, and of Rana Partap, His Highness's illustrious predecessor, are household words throughout India, and are known even among many people who have never come to this great con-

State Banquet, Udaipur.

tinent. They have raised high the name of Mewar, and shed lustre on the Chief who sits upon its *gaddi*.

It is a pleasure and an honour to us to visit as guests the capital of a Ruler with such traditions behind him, and descended from such ancestors, and it is the more so to one who, representing His Imperial Majesty in India, knows that the relations between the Paramount Power and the Maharana of Udaipur have always been those of intimacy and friendship. His Highness's rupees bear the words "Dost-i-London," and these coins bear witness throughout the State to the unity of interest and cordial feeling that has subsisted between the British Crown and the State of Mewar since the British Power first came into relations with it.

No cloud has marred their serenity, and it was a source of satisfaction to all, both English and Indian, that the seal was set to this friendship by the conferment by the King-Emperor on His Highness last year of the unparalleled honour of appointing him Ruling Chief in attendance on His Majesty. It is an old title derived from the ancient days of chivalry, and therefore in consonance with His Highness's martial traditions, for it indicates that His Highness is selected to be at all times ready to place his sword at the King-Emperor's service.

His Highness, to His Imperial Majesty's and his own infinite regret, was prevented by serious illness from taking the prominent place assigned to him by the Royal Favour at the Coronation Durbar, and receiving at His Imperial Majesty's hands the decoration of G.C.I.E., but it must have been a satisfaction to His Majesty, as it was to His Highness the Maharana, to have had the opportunity of renewing the friendship formed on the occasion of King George's visit to Udaipur as Prince of Wales.

State Banquet, Udaipur.

I am gratified to learn that His Highness shows his friendship and good-feeling to the Government of India by extending to my Agent in Rajputana and to the Resident, my representative in Mewar, unfailing courtesy and consideration. I know that they for their part are sincere well-wishers of His Highness, and are at all times ready to assist His Highness in initiating and completing any measure calculated to benefit his Nobles or his humbler subjects.

Last year His Highness marked his devotion to the Crown, and his appreciation of the honours conferred on him by granting certain boons to his Nobles and his people. That action was commendable, not only for the loyal spirit that dictated it, but also for the objects selected as recipients of benevolence, for His Highness showed that he recognises that, just as the power of the British Crown in India finds its surest support in the allegiance of the Feudatory Princes, so the Chiefs in their turn should rely mainly upon the devotion of their Nobles, the Arakan-i-Daulat or "Pillars of the State."

Just as the King-Emperor selects the Princes of India as the recipients of his special favour, so the Chiefs should conciliate and treat with special consideration their hereditary Nobles. The King-Emperor is requited by the loyalty of the Chiefs, and the Chiefs will find in their Nobles a class akin to them in birth and tradition, bound by every tie of interest and allegiance to maintain the political and social fabric of their rule.

I spoke in Central India of the wisdom shown by the Durbars, in whose States opium is grown, in their hearty co-operation with the Government of India in the matter of the opium trade. I must take advantage of this opportunity to thank His Highness for his help in this same direction. He has given practical proof of the identity of the interests of this State with those of the

State Banquet, Udaipur.

Government, and I desire to express our gratitude for his assistance.

I wish also to add a word in appreciation of His Highness's resolve to contribute Imperial Service Troops for Imperial Defence. It was a happy coincidence that the formation of the squadron was set on foot in the year marked by His Imperial Majesty's Coronation and by his visit to India. I am glad to learn that although there are still some deficiencies progress is being made in their equipment and instruction under the guidance of a selected officer; and that the new lines are now ready, and especially that His Highness has decided that the squadron should be recruited entirely from the subjects of the Mewar State. I am confident that with such material they will be of service to you in time of peace, and a credit to the name of Mewar should trouble arise.

His Highness has referred to the scheme which Her Excellency has so much at heart for a women's medical college. She is most grateful to him for his sympathy which will give her courage in pushing it forward, and I should like to associate myself with her in thanking His Highness for his promise of support.

Lastly, let me say that it has been a great pleasure to me, Maharaj Kunwar Sahib, to have made your acquaintance and that of some of His Highness's principal Nobles. Owing to His Highness's unfortunate and deeply regretted indisposition you have on various occasions acted as his representative, thus giving me opportunities of making your better acquaintance, and I shall always look back with pleasure to the happy and friendly relations that have been established between us.

I wish to renew my thanks to His Highness for the opportunity he has given us of visiting his beautiful and renowned capital, and for all his great generosity and kindness to us.

Address from the Ajmer Municipal Committee.

I ask you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to drink to the speedy recovery and long life of Maharana His Highness Sir Fateh Singh, and to the prosperity and continued renown of his famous State.

ADDRESS FROM THE AJMER MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

16th Nov. 1912. [Their Excellencies arrived at Ajmer on the morning of the 16th November, and the following address of welcome from the Ajmer Municipality was read by Mr. Waddington, the Chairman, in the central hall of the railway station :—

We, the members of the Municipal Committee, on behalf of the residents of Ajmer, beg to offer to Your Excellency a most cordial welcome to our ancient city and a heartfelt assurance of our loyal devotion to the illustrious King-Emperor, of whom Your Excellency is the honoured representative in India.

The recent memorable visit of Their Imperial Majesties to this country has brought home to the citizens of Ajmer, as to those of every Indian city, the strength and closeness of the ties which bind us to the Throne, and the personal sympathy which Their Imperial Majesties have so abundantly testified with their Indian subjects of every class and creed.

Many of us enjoyed the privilege of being present at the great assemblage at Delhi in December last, and none of us can ever forget the gracious visit which was paid to our city at the close of the year by Her Imperial Majesty the Queen-Empress, a distinction conferred upon but few cities of the Indian Empire and to which we shall always look back with feelings of the utmost pride and satisfaction.

The restoration of Delhi to its former position as the capital of India, which has been inaugurated under Your Excellency's administration, is welcomed nowhere more heartily than in Ajmer, which was in former times so closely linked with the fortunes of the Imperial House, and enjoyed the special favour of the Imperial Government. The generous interest of the Government of India in recent years has been displayed in the renovation of our ancient buildings and monuments, and the Municipal Committee are still more lately indebted to that Government for their relief from police charges, amounting to over Rs. 22,000 per annum, and for a grant this year of Rs. 1,20,000 for sanitation. This grant we propose to utilize in carrying out an urgently needed improvement in our

Address from the Ajmer Municipal Committee.

conservancy system, which consists in replacing bullock power by a steam tramway, and which it is anticipated will be not only more speedy and effectual, but will in the long run be economical. The inadequacy of our conservancy system is mainly due to the continued increase of the population, which has steadily risen in the last forty years from 35,000 to nearly 90,000, and in a few more years will certainly exceed 100,000 souls. This cause has led also to the insufficiency of our water-supply, in spite of the construction of the Foysagar dam in 1892 by the Municipality and the Budha Pushkar installation carried out by the Railway in 1900. Situated as it is on the watershed of the district, and subject to frequent droughts, Ajmer has constantly suffered from shortage of water, and even in years of good rainfall the present sources would not admit of the extension of the mains to some of the outlying suburbs which are greatly in need of a supply.

In the last few years our Committee has spent Rs. 1,26,171 in prospecting for new sources of water, in making surveys and borings, and in pumping tests. We are glad to say that the trial wells sunk during the last hot weather in the Sagarmati Valley are reported to justify a supplementary scheme of moderate dimensions, which is being laid before Government for consideration. To carry out this scheme our Committee are prepared to tax their resources to the utmost, but if the financial burden proves to be excessive, we look with confidence to the Imperial Government for assistance in safeguarding the water-supply both of the city and the railway, the latter being an important consideration in time of famine.

In this connection we venture to submit that, if the project is approved by Government, our Committee should be reimbursed the cost of the preliminary surveys and experiments, in accordance with the practice which we believe has been usually followed in such cases.

The important matter of the taxation of railway materials and stores in accordance with the octroi schedule in force has occupied the attention of the Municipality for some years. The interests of the railway and of the city are very closely connected, and it is hoped that the negotiations now in progress will result in a settlement satisfactory to both parties. But if a reference to the Imperial Government should prove necessary, we have full confidence that our claim will receive the most careful consideration at Your Excellency's hands.

With the settlement of this long disputed question and the completion of our schemes for conservancy and water-supply we

Address from the Ajmer Municipal Committee.

look forward to a time when we shall be free from pressing financial embarrassments and shall be able to devote more funds to other hardly-less-necessary measures, such as the improvement of roads and lighting, the planning of healthier suburbs and new recreation grounds, and the allotment of more liberal grants to our educational and medical institutions.

Communication with the outer world is a great factor in the prosperity of a city, and this must be our excuse for introducing a topic which does not strictly fall within municipal administration, *viz.*, the question of linking Ajmer by railway with Pushkar, which is one of the most frequented places of pilgrimage for Hindus in India.

We trust that we have not trespassed too long upon Your Excellency's time by this statement of our position and our aspirations. We beg to include in our hearty welcome to Ajmer the name of Her Excellency Lady Hardinge, and we venture to hope that Your Excellencies' brief visit to our historic city may be both pleasant and interesting.

His Excellency in reply said :—]

Gentlemen,—I should like to tender to you my warmest thanks for the kindness of your welcome and the expressions of loyalty and devotion to the Throne to which you have given utterance.

As I find myself for the first time in Ajmer, I cannot but recall some of the incidents of strife and battle, and some of the scenes of Imperial pageantry, which have given to your city a halo of romance, and I look forward with the most pleasurable anticipation to visiting the various shrines and monuments and other antiquarian remains which mark the different stages of its history and fill it with beauty and interest.

The fame of them attracts the footsteps of all who are in sympathy with Indian history and tradition, and all who make a study of Indian antiquities, and you are indeed fortunate to have received so recently among their number so gracious a guest as Her Imperial Majesty the Queen-Empress.

Address from the Ajmer Municipal Committee.

Ajmer has now through a series of years extending over several centuries had a special importance, not only as one of the Royal residences of the Emperors of Delhi, but also as the official centre of Rajputana, and in that character it is, I think, entitled to the special consideration of the Government of India. There is ample testimony, in your address, that it has not been neglected in the past, and I much appreciate the grateful language in which you refer to the assistance and attention you have received at their hands in recent years.

For the future I notice indications of two or three important questions which may or may not demand my careful attention; but if you can settle them without reference to my Government, so much the better; meantime I hope I may have opportunities, during the few days I shall be here, to make some personal acquaintance with the bearings of these knotty problems, and should they come before me officially, I shall be in a position, through my visit, to approach them with more sympathy and a better understanding than is always possible in dealing with questions of which one has nothing but a paper knowledge. The rapid increase of your population is an index of your growth in importance and prosperity, but unavoidably brings with it more serious responsibilities in the matter of sanitation and water-supply; and seeing how you are hemmed in by the Anasagar lake, the Railway, and the Taragarh hills, you have rightly numbered among your future pressing needs the planning of healthy suburbs.

I feel confident that these and other improvements will receive at your hands the earnest attention and careful planning they deserve, and I wish you and your city all success and prosperity for the future.

In conclusion I desire to thank you for including Lady Hardinge in the kind welcome with which you

have greeted us, and to tell you how great a pleasure it is to us both to have been able to visit your city and to meet you here to-day.

RECEPTION OF THE TAZIMI ISTIMRARDARS OF AJMER.

16th Nov. 1912. [At 12-15 P.M. on the 16th November His Excellency received the Tazimi Istimrardars of Ajmer in a body at the Residency, and after they had been presented by the Commissioner, the Viceroy addressed them in the following words :—]

Gentlemen,—I should like to say what a very great pleasure it has been to me to make the acquaintance of you, the Tazimi Istimrardars of Ajmer.

You represent an aristocracy as high as any that can be found in British India, and you still hold in Ajmer a position which your fathers won with their strong right hands in the stormy days of long ago.

Your faithful allegiance to His Imperial Majesty is a matter of common knowledge, and your welfare, in which my Government are so closely interested, has been the care of a long line of Chief Commissioners and is very near the heart of Sir Elliot Colvin.

I am grieved to know that some of your estates are heavily embarrassed; and though I believe that in most cases your debts are due to a succession of those lean years to which this part of India is unfortunately liable, I will not conceal from you that I have also heard that the unfortunate position of a few of you is due to having unnecessarily exceeded your means. To those of you to whom these remarks may apply, I wish to make an earnest appeal. Prodigality can only lead to ruin which will involve not only yourselves, but also your families, and I can imagine no more painful subject for your reflection than the thought that your children, and your

Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Rajputana King Edward Memorial in Ajmer.

children's children, should be doomed to poverty, and misery, and loss of social status, through your own lack of foresight. I am well aware that many of you, and notably Rao Bahadur the Thakur of Bandanwara and the Thakur of Bagasuri, take the keenest interest in the administration of your estates, and manage them with great success; and it is a special pleasure to me to know that as a body you appreciate the value of education; that several of you have been educated at the Mayo College; and that many of you send your sons to your boarding house at that fine institution.

Education will open their minds, and teach them the value of the heritage which has been handed down to them, and it will teach them that high position carries with it great responsibilities, and that they can have no nobler ambition than to be regarded as the father of their people.

I feel sure, Gentlemen, that you will forgive me the few words of counsel I have ventured to make use of on this occasion, and will realise that I have done so in no spirit of fault-finding, but speaking to you as friend to friend, and with the most hearty desire for your happiness and well-being; and before we part company let me repeat that I am very pleased to have had this opportunity of meeting you, and shall always remember with kindly feelings the Istimrardars of Ajmer.

[The speech was afterwards translated into the vernacular by the Residency munshi. *Pan* and *atar* was then presented by the Under-Secretary in the Foreign Office and the reception concluded.]

LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE RAJPUTANA KING EDWARD MEMORIAL IN AJMER.

[On the afternoon of the 16th Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge drove to the site of the building which is being erected as a memorial to His late Majesty King Edward in Ajmer. 16th Nov. 1912.

Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Rajputana King Edward Memorial in Ajmer.

The escort was provided by the Mayo College Cadet Corps under the command of His Highness the Maharaja of Panna.

Their Excellencies on arrival proceeded to the dais under a *shamiana* on which were assembled the Ruling Chiefs present in Ajmer, their political officials, Sir Elliot and Lady Colvin and Miss Colvin, the Officer Commanding at Nasirabad, and the members of the Committee.

When they had taken their seats the Commissioner presented the members of the King Edward Memorial Committee and afterwards Sir Elliot Colvin delivered the following address :—

It is my welcome task this afternoon to ask His Excellency the Viceroy to be so good as to open the Rajputana King Edward Memorial. In doing so I propose to give you in the fewest possible words a description of the circumstances in which the scheme for this Memorial was conceived and carried out. The loyalty of the citizens of Ajmer and their deep sense of loss and sorrow when they heard of the death of their late Sovereign led very quickly to a movement in Ajmer for a Memorial to be set up in this city in memory of His late Majesty, and at the same time a strong feeling was observable in many parts of Rajputana that the whole of Rajputana might well combine to show their grief at the loss they had sustained and their common devotion to the person of the late King-Emperor. This sentiment was first voiced by His Highness the Maharawal of Dungarpur, and it was very soon found that the Chiefs, nobles and people of Rajputana concurred with him in thinking that the Memorial which was to be set up at Ajmer should represent not merely local feeling, but also that which had been evoked in the Native States comprised in Rajputana, and further that Ajmer, as the local centre of the King's authority in this part of India, "the heart of Rajputana" as Colonel Tod called it, was naturally the place at which the Memorial should be erected. At the same time, since many States in Rajputana were intending to set up local Memorials of their own to His late Majesty, it was recognised that the Memorial in Ajmer should be of a comparatively modest character, and the idea which was in favour at first was that it should take the form of a statue. As time progressed, however, it was found that the contributions received were sufficient to justify a more ambitious scheme, and there was a general feeling that a more practical shape might be given to the undertaking. It was, moreover, recognised that a scheme which would secure an amelioration in the conditions of life of any portion of his subjects

Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Rajputana King Edward Memorial in Ajmer.

would be more in consonance with the charity and humanity for which His late Majesty was so distinguished than a Memorial which, though it might be artistic, still served no use for public purposes. The Committee which had been appointed to carry out the wishes of the subscribers decided eventually that the sum which had been collected was sufficient to furnish an adequate and well-equipped resting house for travellers, and they have determined that it should be applied accordingly. I venture to think that in the circumstances before them no decision could have been sounder. Ajmer lies in the centre of the States which compose the great area known as Rajputana, and it is consequently a centre to which travellers have frequent occasion to come. There is a constant stream of visitors coming into Ajmer from all parts of India; but especially from the surrounding Native States; and of course a similar return stream from Ajmer outwards. A handsome resting house for travellers therefore fulfils three objects. It furnishes a convenience to the inhabitants of the State who have subscribed towards the Memorial; it gives to the city of Ajmer a new building which I hope will be as ornamental as it will be useful; and lastly it commemorates the reign of King Edward VII in a way which it is believed would have had the approval and sympathy of His late Majesty. The plans and designs of the building are here, and I hope that after the ceremony is over Your Excellencies will be good enough to inspect them. They are the work of Sir Swinton Jacob of Jaipur, whose skill and architectural taste in Oriental architecture is well-known all over India, and I hope that the building will be as graceful and beautiful as the plans seem to promise.

As regards contributions to the fund there have been innumerable subscribers, and I am well aware that the rupee given by the poor man indicates quite as high a measure of loyalty as the thousand given by the more rich, but the Memorial in the shape it is now taking would not have been possible but for the generous assistance which has been given by some of the Chiefs and communities of Rajputana. And I hope therefore that I may be excused for mentioning some of the most notable.

	Rs.
His Highness the Maharana of Udaipur . .	20,000
The Jodhpur Durbar	20,000
His Highness the Maharaja of Jaipur . . .	5,000
His Highness the Maharao Raja of Bundi .	5,000
His Highness the Maharao of Kotah . . .	5,000

Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Rajputana King Edward Memorial in Ajmer.

	Rs.
His Highness the Maharawal of Dungarpur .	15,000
His Highness the Nawab of Tonk . . .	5,000
His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner . .	4,000
The Bharatpur Durbar	5,000
His Highness the Maharaja of Alwar . . .	2,000
His Highness the Maharao of Sirohi . . .	2,000
The Maharaj Rana of Dholpur	2,000
Rao Raja of Sikar	2,000
Rai Bahadur Seth Nemi Chand	5,000
Rai Bahadur Seth Umed Mal	5,000
Rai Bahadur Seth Champa Lal	2,500

I am particularly glad to see that His Highness Maharaja Sir Pratap Singh, Regent of Jodhpur, is here to-day to represent that State, for the contributions received from the Durbar and the people of Jodhpur have perhaps been the backbone of the whole movement. The Durbar on two different occasions contributed a sum of rupees ten thousand to the Memorial and we also received a large sum, some Rs. 17,000, from the collections made amongst the Thakurs and people of that State. I am also very glad to see that His Highness the Maharawal Ji of Dungarpur is present to-day, for besides giving the large contribution already mentioned he has had much to do with the initiation of the movement and has contributed no less than Rs. 5,700 towards the Memorial. These contributions have enabled us to erect a building which will be, I hope, as conspicuous for its architectural grace as it will be valuable for its public utility.

It only remains for me to express, on behalf of the Chiefs and people of Rajputana, including Ajmer, our gratitude to Their Excellencies for gracing this occasion with their presence and to His Excellency for consenting to preside over the ceremonial to-day.

We are very fortunate in having our Memorial opened by the Viceroy of this great country—a Viceroy who has already in the short time he has been in India won the sympathy and confidence of the Native States, as well as of the people who are directly under his Government—a Viceroy moreover who represented in many lands with such conspicuous success and with so many marks of trust and confidence the Sovereign whose reign this Memorial will commemorate.

I now ask Your Excellency to be good enough to open the Memorial.

Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Rajputana King Edward Memorial in Ajmer.

His Excellency the Viceroy in reply said :—]

Sir Elliot Colvin, Your Highnesses, Ladies and Gentlemen,—In the course of my visits to various parts of India, one of the tasks, which it has most often fallen to my lot to perform, is the laying of the foundation stone, or unveiling, of a Memorial to King Edward VII.

Many of those present must have seen him either in England or when he visited India as Prince of Wales, and some of you, I doubt not, knew him sufficiently well to have come under the spell of his personal charm, and are able to realise the feelings of reverent homage, with which I, who knew him more intimately than most, approach the duty that you have now laid upon me.

It is a noteworthy fact that so large a number of the memorials, which are springing up all over India to his memory, are inspired by the idea of charity; sometimes it is a sanatorium, or hospital, or other form of medical relief, sometimes a fountain, than which in this often hot and thirsty land it is difficult to find a more appropriate symbol of benevolence; and sometimes it is some other scheme with a like motive as here, where you have decided to enshrine his memory in a rest-house, to which travellers of all creeds and classes, and however poor, may betake themselves in comfort and security, until they set out again upon their journeys, invigorated and refreshed.

In this the various communities, who have been moved to perpetuate the memory of his name, have seized with unerring intention, and marked with unmistakable emphasis, the leading characteristic of his nature, for throughout his life King Edward devoted himself with earnest sympathy to the cause of charity, and was ever ready to forward any scheme for the relief of the poor and needy, and for the benefit of all classes of his subjects.

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

You who have subscribed towards the erection of this building have given more than usually ample token of the affection and loyalty that you entertained towards him, for many of you have contributed to the All-India Memorial and many to memorials in your own States, but it was fitting, as you clearly felt, that Rajputana as a whole should have a monument of its own; and this is the official centre of Rajputana, and hither come thousands of Moslem pilgrims to the sacred Dargah Khwaja Sahib, while not far away is the holy Pushkar lake, which is visited by Hindus in even greater numbers.

This rest-house should be a blessing to both alike, and as I lay its foundation stone I shall hope that those who take advantage of its shelter will now and again give a thought of kindness to the memory of the great and good King-Emperor whose name it bears.

[When Lord Hardinge had finished he placed the stone in position and declared it well and truly laid.

On their return to the Residency the Viceroy inspected the escort of the Mayo College Cadet Corps and congratulated the Maharaja of Panna on the smartness of their whole turnout and thanked them for the honour and pleasure it had been to him to be escorted by them.]

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT THE MAYO COLLEGE, AJMER.

18th Nov. 1912.

[Their Excellencies and Staff drove to the main entrance of the Mayo College at 3-30 and were received there by the Chief Commissioner, the Ruling Chiefs present in Ajmer, the members of the College Council, and the Principal and Staff of the College.

The fine hall of the College was crowded with visitors and students past and present of the College. When Their Excellencies had been conducted to their seats, the Principal delivered the following address :—

Your Excellency,—In offering to Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge on behalf of the Mayo College boys and staff a most hearty welcome on the happy occasion of Your Excellencies' first visit, I would ask permission to say a few words first on the past history

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

of the College and then on the year's work for which Your Excellency has so kindly consented to distribute the prizes.

It is a little over 40 years since Colonel Walter, then Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, in his Administration Report for 1868-69, suggested " an Indian Eton " for the young Chiefs and Nobles of Rajputana.

In December 1870 our revered Founder, Lord Mayo, held the Durbar, momentous in our history, at which the Chiefs resolved to found the College with the liberal assistance of the Government of India. In 1875 the College started with 23 pupils.

The foundation stone of the present building was laid by the late Sir Alfred Lyall in 1878, the architect being the late Major Mant, R.E., and it was formally opened by Lord Dufferin in 1885. From the time of Lord Mayo to that of Lord Curzon the College was honoured by the presence of every successive Viceroy at a prize distribution. Your Excellency's distinguished predecessor, Lord Minto, was unfortunately prevented by an outbreak of plague in Ajmer from presiding on a similar occasion, and so it happens that a period of ten years has elapsed since the members of the College had the privilege of welcoming India's Viceroy at a gathering like the present.

Perhaps no gathering in the College history was more important than that of 1902, when Lord Curzon presided and foreshadowed a comprehensive scheme which should give the College a wider field of usefulness. I should like therefore, Sir, with your permission, to recapitulate very briefly the main features of that scheme and the results to which it led.

In the first place the Government of India raised their annual contribution from Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 53,000, thus rendering possible a complete reorganization of the staff, both English and Indian. The Government of India also contributed two lakhs towards the New East Wing, containing 7 class-rooms and excellent Science Laboratories, designed by Sir Swinton Jacob, and formally opened by Sir Elliot Colvin in 1910.

A not less important feature of the reorganization was the revival of the General Council of Chiefs and Political Officers, now enlarged by the nomination of Chiefs from Central India and other provinces, and the creation of the Managing Committee, which controls expenditure and supervises the working of the College. At the same time the curriculum was revised, and a Diploma Examination, common to all the Chiefs' Colleges, was established, creating a wholesome rivalry. This diploma is accepted by the University of

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

Allahabad and others as equivalent to the Matriculation certificate. During the eight years that the examination has been held, 62 boys from the Mayo College have taken their diplomas. The practical enthusiam of Lord Curzon, who may justly be called our second Founder, was warmly responded to by the Chiefs, who on their part have raised the Endowment Fund from Rs. 7,34,000 to Rs. 10,84,000, enabling the staff to be further strengthened and other requirements to be met.

Among the numerous gifts made by individual Chiefs in the last few years, I should like to be allowed to mention the following :—

The spacious Cricket Pavilion and Guest House, presented by His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner.

The equipment of the Chemical and Physical Laboratories by His Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior.

The Sanitarium and Nurses' Quarters, built and fully furnished by His Highness the Maharao of Kotah.

The Squash Racquets Courts, presented by His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda.

The extension of the College Park, by the addition of 52 acres, at a cost of over a lakh, presented by His Highness the late Maharaja of Jodhpur, which has provided new riding and cricket grounds and prevents the encroachment of insanitary buildings. The construction of a new Boarding House for boys from States which have no houses, from funds subscribed by the smaller Rajputana States and some outside the province. This is to be called the Colvin House.

Considerable additions and improvements were made in the other 10 Boarding Houses, which were built and are maintained by different States, with the exception of the Ajmer House, which was built by Government and has been enlarged by the Ajmer Istimrardars. These additions, together with houses built by the Kashmir and Hathwa Durbars in the Park, have fully met the increased demand for accommodation.

I may add that the Chiefs of the General Council have presented their portraits to be hung in the College Hall, together with a portrait of Sir Elliot Colvin. The portraits are now in England for exhibition.

The College Fund, which has been largely increased since 1903 by donations from Chiefs and by fees, has been able to carry out a number of improvements, which include the strengthening of the Indian staff, a water-supply connected with the Foysagar lake, houses for the English staff, and the grounds for various games with which the College is now well equipped.

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

On the educational side I have mentioned the diplomas which have been awarded since 1905. Another important development has been the Post-Diploma Course, which owes its origin to the strong desire for a higher curriculum than the diploma evinced at the Conference of 1904. Its object is to provide something analogous to a University course for young Chiefs and Thakurs, and to enable younger sons and poorer Thakurs to make their own way in the world. The scheme was undertaken by the College Staff and sanctioned as an experimental measure by the Government of India for five years. The fact that there are now 25 students in the three Post-Diploma classes is an indication that the course has justified its existence. The Higher Diploma has been recognized by Government as equivalent to the B.A. degree for purposes of Government service, and the three candidates who obtained diplomas before this year have found suitable employment, one being a Deputy Collector in Sindh, another a Secretary in the Bikaner Durbar offices, and the third Assistant Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja Holkar.

But the addition of Post-Diploma work, concurrently with the growth of the lower classes, has involved too great a strain on the school staff, and for other reasons it is deemed desirable that undergraduates should be distinguished from schoolboys. The General Council accordingly have laid before the Government of India a project for a separate institution for the higher education of Chiefs, in the foundation of which it is hoped that Chiefs from all parts of India will join. In this matter the lead has been taken by His Highness the Maharaja-Regent of Jodhpur, who on behalf of the Jodhpur Durbar has promised a contribution equivalent to 4½ lakhs. Generous donations have also been promised by Their Highnesses the Maharaja of Jaipur, the Maharaja of Bikaner, the Maharao of Kotah, the Maharaja of Bharatpur, the Maharaja of Kishangarh, the Maharao Raja of Bundi, the Maharao of Sirohi, the Maharawal of Dungarpur, and the Maharawal of Partabgarh, amounting in all to some nine lakhs. As regards other parts of India assistance has been promised by His Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior and the Rajā of Sailana in Central India. Her Highness the Begum of Bhopal was one of the first Rulers to evince a warm interest in the project.

Such a University College may be regarded as the apex of a pyramid of which the base has already been formed by the four Chiefs' Colleges, and would be a fitting complement to the scheme of advance marked out by Lord Curzon.

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

Turning to the events of the past year, I may mention that the numbers on the roll at the close of the year were 202, that all the States in Rajputana are represented at the College, and that there are boys from Central India, the United Provinces, Bengal, Madras, Bombay, Nepal, Hyderabad, Baroda and Kashmir.

As to school-work, the diplomas to be awarded claim the first place. The results of the Diploma Examination this year were on the whole better than in any previous year. Out of 25 candidates from all the Chiefs' Colleges 12 appeared from the Mayo College and all passed the examination. A Mayo College boy, Kanwar Bhawanpal Singh of Kotla, headed the list, and was the only candidate to get a diploma with distinction, which he did in English, Sanskrit and Hindi. Other Mayo College boys who distinguished themselves in the examination were Kanwar Onkar Singh of Bagsuri, Ajmer, who was third on the general list, Kanwar Bhan Singh of Sanku, Bikaner, who was fifth, and Kanwar Chiman Singh of Daspan, Marwar, who stood first in all the Colleges in Science and Advanced Mathematics. Maharaj-Kumar Hari Singh of Kashmir, who stood eighth on the general list, also did creditably. Taken altogether, the 12 candidates obtained over 50 per cent. of full marks in all subjects.

Kanwar Bhawanpal Singh is the fortunate winner of Your Excellency's medal for the best scholar in the Diploma Class. Besides other prizes he wins a special prize for an essay on Irrigation, kindly presented by Mr. H. V. Cobb. Kanwar Bhawanpal Singh is proceeding to England to study for the Indian Civil Service examination, and I may mention that we hope to send another boy home next year for the same purpose.

Four Higher Diplomas are to be awarded to the following successful students : Kanwar Bhim Sen of Kunari, Kotah, Thakur Indar Singh of Pilwa, Marwar, Kanwar Fateh Singh of Gamra, Dungarpur, and Kanwar Sukh Singh of Pokaran, Marwar. I hope that like their predecessors they will be able to secure honourable and useful careers either in the State or under Government.

While on the subject of class-work I must say that a further extension of the class-rooms for the largely increased numbers is now the most pressing requirement of the College.

On the athletic side the chief event of the year is the Annual Tournament with the Aitchison College, and this year, after a very close and spirited contest, the Mayo College lost the Patiala Challenge Shield for the first time since it was established in 1908. I may say that I am sure the Mayo College boys do not grudge their old

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

friends of the Aitchison College their well-earned victory, and also that they have every intention of bringing the Shield back next year, if possible. In the athletic events of the tournament the Mayo College were not behindhand, as out of seven events they won the Long Jump, Hundred Yards, Mile and Quarter Mile, and tied in the High Jump. In the College Athletic Sports also there were some good performances, notably that of Sahibzada Muhammad Hayat Khan, who threw the cricket ball 109 yards 2 feet. The 100 yards was done in record time for the College by Kanwar Ramchandra Singh, in 10 $\frac{3}{5}$ sec. and the High Jump by Sahibzada Mustafidullah Khan was also a record.

Your Excellency's medal for the boy best all round at games has been awarded to Kanwar Prithipal Singh of Punna, who was Captain of Cricket, a member of the Football XI, and represented the College at Athletics and Tennis.

The Riding Prizes always lead to a keen competition. A silver cup for the best rider has been kindly presented by Major Barr, and is won by Kanwar Prithi Singh of Bera, Marwar.

The Athletic Sports Championship Cup goes for the third time to Kanwar Ramchandra Singh of Bachandi, Bharatpur.

The Batting Prize goes to Sahibzada Amir Khan of Tonk, the Bowling Prize to Kanwar Raghunath Singh of Jajli, Partabgarh, the Lawn-tennis Cup to Kanwar Akhairaj Singh of Gainta, Kotah, and the Squash Racquets Cup to Maharaj-Kumar Dhairyashi, Rao of Baroda. There are also to be given away by Your Excellency six Challenge Cups for various contests between the Boarding Houses, which always give rise to lively struggles.

But the most notable event of the year was the visit of Her Imperial Majesty the Queen-Empress on the 21st December 1911. Her Majesty manifested her sympathy and interest in the College by visiting not only the class-rooms, but a boy's quarters in one of the houses, and after arriving at the pavilion at Her Majesty's gracious request every boy in the College had the privilege of being presented and of making his obeisance. Portraits of Their Imperial Majesties, their own gift, will henceforth hang in this Hall and will be cherished as memorials of an event which will never be forgotten by those who were fortunate enough to be present.

During Her Majesty's visit to Ajmer the Mounted Squadron had the signal honour of furnishing a carriage escort. The Squadron had a similar honour in 1905, when they escorted Their Imperial Majesties, then Prince and Princess of Wales, during their visit to Jaipur; and they are proud of the distinction which Your

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

Excellency has kindly granted them of furnishing the escort for Your Excellency on a recent occasion.

In this connection I must express my great obligation to Major Barr, who has kindly taken upon himself the training of the boys in riding and the drilling of the escort, in which he has been ably seconded by Captain Macnabb.

The members of my regular staff, both English and Indian, are, I think, well aware of my sense of indebtedness to them for their assiduous labours, which I thus briefly, but not the less warmly, wish to acknowledge. It was a source of much satisfaction not only to the staff and the present generation of boys but to several generations of old boys that the Imperial Government this year has rewarded with the high title of Mahamahopadhaya the long and faithful services, extending over 50 years, of the Head Pandit Shive Narayan, who has come to be generally regarded as a parent rather than as a master. I would also especially notice the services of Sub-Assistant Surgeon Brindaban Chandra Sur, who has devoted himself zealously for 24 years to the hard and responsible duty of tending the sick, often in very serious cases.

The mention of old boys reminds me that we welcome a number of them here to-day, and to none do we extend a warmer welcome, for their presence forms not only a link with the past history of the College, but the surest augury for its future. I trust, Sir, that we may regard that future as hopeful. We are well aware that much yet remains to be done before the education here can be said to approach the ideal which we set before us. In education, as in politics, we know that there is no such thing as finality, that endeavour can never be relaxed, and that new methods must constantly be sought to meet new conditions. The College is yet only some 40 years old, a very short span in comparison with the great sister institutions in England with their long centuries of traditions behind them, traditions of discipline, duty, and a sense of responsibility, with wholesome sustenance both for mind and body. But we hope that the traditions which have begun to grow here in the last 40 years will continue to establish themselves, and will be far more deeply rooted and more flourishing not only "twenty and thirty and forty years on," if I may borrow the words of an English school song familiar to Your Excellency, but in the far more distant future when the foundation of the College will be wrapped in the mists of antiquity.

I beg to thank Your Excellency most heartily on behalf of the College for the practical kindness evinced by Your Excellency's

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

visit. May I mention that the Head Monitor, Kanwar Debi Singh of Pipla, desires to beg the acceptance by Her Excellency Lady Hardinge of a photograph album containing some views of the College and Ajmer. I would now ask Your Excellency to be kind enough to listen to some pieces of recitation which the boys have prepared, and afterwards to distribute the prizes.

A short programme of recitations in English, Sanskrit, Persian, Hindi and Urdu was then given by the students of the College, after which the Viceroy distributed the prizes to the successful students. His Excellency then addressed the assembly as follows :—]

Mr. Waddington, Your Highnesses, Boys of the Mayo College, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I feel that it is a great privilege that has fallen to my lot, that I should form another link in the chain of Viceroys who have presided at your annual prize distribution.

No less than a third of this great country is under the direct control of the Ruling Chiefs of India, and in the two years that have elapsed since I landed at Bombay, it has been my pleasure and privilege to make acquaintance with a large number of them, while there are not a few whom I number among my close personal friends. A Viceroy has many interests, but there is none that touches him more nearly than his relations with these noble houses, many of them with genealogies lost in the mists of antiquity, and many of them with traditions of chivalry and heroism, of which the story stirs the blood and warms the heart, even in these comparatively humdrum days of peace and quiet.

It is a proud thought for England that these ruling families should be so knit together with her in loyalty and friendship, and that they are now the very pillars of her Indian Empire.

But happily it is but seldom in these days that we have to ask them to share with our troops the perils of war in fighting the battles of the Empire. More often we turn to them for counsel or co-operation in certain of

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

the problems that beset us, and I need not tell you how much we valued the presence of some of them on the Committee which so successfully organised the Delhi Durbar. To all of them we look to maintain a high standard of administration, and to regard with a more paternal eye than of old the interests of their subjects, so that, throughout the length and breadth of this vast Peninsula, every man may have his fair chance of dwelling in peace under his own roof, and reaping that which he has sown, without fear of oppression, or injustice, or violence. And if that is our ideal, can you wonder that to me and to my Government the various Chiefs' Colleges, and by no means least among them this Mayo College, are institutions to which we attach the most serious importance, and that their success is to us a matter of absorbing interest. For in them should be learnt those lessons which cultivate the mind and mould the character of men, not one of whom but is destined, by his birth and position, to exercise a wide influence in after-life among his fellow-men; many of whom have already gone forth, and will in due time wield dominion over subjects who can be numbered in hundreds of thousands.

I will even go further and give expression to the impression that has been made upon my mind by my visit and what I have learnt of this College, as also of the Daly College that I visited at Indore, when I say that these Chiefs' Colleges are to my mind a civilising and progressive influence in India, and at the same time a means of disseminating throughout the breadth of this beautiful land, thanks to the example of the principals and masters employed, all that we of the English race regard as most precious in the principles of morality, loyalty and culture. Amongst these I would mention last but not least the formation of character without which learning can be but of secondary value.

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

In the remarks which have just fallen from your Principal there is, I think you will all agree, ground for much satisfaction; and if only Colonel Walter and Lord Mayo, and even Lord Curzon, could be present here to-day, and see the progress that has been made in this College, they would rejoice with me at the success and prosperity which has crowned their suggestions and their far-seeing efforts.

Lord Curzon, whom you, Sir, have happily described as the second Founder of this College, would have been especially pleased to hear of the progress you have made since he applied his vigorous mind to your welfare. When he came here just ten years ago, he remarked somewhat plaintively that, while you had accommodation for 100 boys, there were only 52 on your rolls, but now we have just heard that the numbers at the end of the past year quadrupled that figure; the finances of the College are on a far firmer footing, it has a strong College staff, and is well-equipped with buildings, and boarding-houses, laboratories, and play-grounds.

This immense progress dates from the beginning of 1903, and it is a coincidence, which cannot fail to arrest the attention, that 1903 was the year in which your present Principal, Mr. Waddington, was first appointed to the Mayo College.

I doubt whether a wiser selection was ever made, and you boys, both past and present, no less than the Government of India, owe him a debt of gratitude which it would not be easy to repay. But even Mr. Waddington, with all his industry, wisdom, experience, and tact, could not have effected so much single-handed. Those qualities were essential factors; and he had, it is true, in addition the keen sympathy of Sir Elliot Colvin, and a series of Political Officers, and the loyal co-operation of a capable and energetic staff; but even this co-operation

would not have sufficed, unless there had been something more; and I need only refer again to his own observations to show how much he has been indebted to the warm and enthusiastic support he has received from the Chiefs, not only of Rajputana, though they not unnaturally fill the largest space in the list of benefactors, but also from other parts of India—and this support has come to him and to the College, not only in liberal endowments, but also in the time and care that so many of them have given to their duties on the Council and Managing Committee, and the wise but progressive spirit which they have brought to their deliberations.

They say that gratitude is a lively sense of favours to come, but I am sure that Mr. Waddington and his staff share with me a warmer feeling than that towards those who have done so much to make this College the noble institution that it is, and you will not think the less kindly of him, when he takes this opportunity of mentioning that a further extension of class rooms is badly wanted, or of me, if I express the hope that this seed sown by the wayside may chance to alight on fertile soil, and may hereafter yield the fruit of another generous benefactor.

To you, boys, I should like to say what a delight it is to me to see your happy faces before me, and to think that your boyhood is being given a training which should fit you to face the world with cultivated minds, with clean hands and brave hearts. I congratulate those among you who have gained prizes, but not less do I congratulate those of you who have tried hard and failed—for after all to a courageous spirit the joy is in the battle rather than in the victory, and though a prize is a useful means of getting your aim in the right direction, you must not forget that your true aim should be at a nobler mark —that you should strive to develop to their fullest

Distribution of Prizes at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

capacity every talent that God has given you, whether of body or mind, so that each of you may become a man of strong character, brave and courteous, self-controlled and considerate, an influence for good each in your own world, whether it be great or small.

I rejoice to see here so many old boys, for there is nothing which shows more clearly that a College has got a tradition and spirit of its own, than the loyalty towards it felt by those who have learned to love it in their boyhood, and who come back to it with feelings of pride and affection in after-life. It was on Saturday when one of your old boys was presented to me that I realised what this College must mean to many of you when he told me that he came to the Mayo College at the age of six, spent 14 years in the College and had had seven brothers here. That is a fine record for the College and shows that it is more than a College and almost a home to many boys here.

Your College is only 40 years old, and that is not a very great age compared with some of our English public schools; but it is quite long enough for it to have established an atmosphere and tone of its own; and when I think of some of the distinguished men who have spent part of their boyhood under the shadow of its walls, such as Their Highnesses the Maharaja of Alwar, the Maharao of Kotah, the Maharawal of Dungarpur, the Maharaja Holkar of Indore, the Raja of Dewas, Senior, the Rana of Barwani, also Maharaj Bhairon Singh, Rao Raja Raghunath Singh, Maharaja Kumar Man Singh, and not least the Maharaja of Bikaner, who is now so happily celebrating the Silver Jubilee of his accession, and can show the world such a brilliant record of honest and successful endeavour; when I think of such names as these and many another, I feel that you, boys, have plenty of fine examples to follow, and that, when the

time comes for you to go out into the world, and quit these peaceful College buildings, you will leave them with high purpose and lofty aspirations, determined that in all things and at all times you will worthily uphold the honour and traditions of the Mayo College.

I cannot better conclude than by repeating the words of one of the recitations we have listened to: "Play up, play up and play the game."

[After inspecting the College buildings the Viceregal party drove round the College park and went over one of the boarding houses and then went to the Bikaner Cricket Pavilion, where the Principal and Mrs. Waddington gave a tea party which was attended by a large number of guests.]

OPENING OF THE KING EDWARD SERAI, JAIPUR.

19th Nov. 1912. [Their Excellencies arrived at Jaipur on the morning of the 19th November. In the afternoon Lord and Lady Hardinge drove to the *shamiana* opposite the new King Edward Memorial building accompanied by their staff and escorted by a detachment of Deoli Cavalry while a guard of the Raj Infantry with two colours and band was drawn up outside the *shamiana*. His Highness, accompanied by the Agent to the Governor-General and the Resident, received Their Excellencies and showed them to their seats.

Mr. C. E. Stotherd, M.I.C.E., Superintending Engineer of the State, then read on behalf of His Highness the following account of the memorial which takes the form of a new *serai*:—

Your Excellencies, Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have been asked to read the following short account of the memorial which the people of Jaipur have raised to the memory of our late beloved King-Emperor Edward VII.

When the sad news of the death of His Majesty King Edward VII was announced at a public Durbar held on 10th May 1910, by Colonel Showers, who was then Resident of Jaipur, the news was received with the deepest sorrow and regret by the people of Jaipur. His Majesty's name has been a household word and has been held in loyal and loving remembrance by the people since February 1876, when, as Prince of Wales, His Majesty visited the State and laid the foundation stone of the Albert Hall in the Ramnewas Garden.

Opening of the King Edward Serai, Jaipur.

The memory of His Majesty will long dwell in the hearts of all with profoundest feelings of love and veneration. When the great Emperor passed away, in accordance with the wishes of His Highness the Maharaja and in response to a general desire on the part of all, a public meeting was held in the Palace on the 24th August 1910, presided over by the Minister, Nawab Md. Sir Faiyazali Khan, K.C.I.E., K.C.V.O., C.S.I., at which it was resolved that a fitting memorial should be raised by public subscription to perpetuate the memory of His late Majesty. Sardars, officials, merchants and other persons of all ranks were invited to co-operate and all came forward with subscriptions with a willingness which testified to their loyalty to their departed Sovereign. The total sum subscribed amounted to over fifty-one thousand rupees. It was decided that the best form which the memorial could take would be a *serai* which would be of use and benefit to the general public and in which the better class of Indian travellers of all castes and creeds who annually visit Jaipur in large numbers to see the city and Amber Palaces might find suitable accommodation and rest. The execution of the work was entrusted to Lala Chimmanlal, Superintendent of the Raj Imarat Department.

The building of the first quadrangle is now almost complete, but a clock-tower which is to form an important feature of the building has still to be added, together with several ornamental additions; while the second quadrangle which will consist of a series of kitchens, dining and other rooms for the use of travellers, has still to be taken in hand. Fourteen double rooms and fifteen single rooms are now ready for occupation.

The want of a really good *serai* in the immediate vicinity of the city has long been felt, and it is hoped that the present building will be of the greatest utility to the general public, and serve to keep alive in their memories the great and good King to whose memory it is raised.

We are sincerely grateful to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General for consenting, at the request of His Highness the Maharaja Bahadur, to perform the opening ceremony of this building, which will thus be so happily associated with the name of His Excellency Lord Hardinge.

His Excellency in reply said :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I had the greatest possible pleasure in accepting the invitation

Opening of the King Edward Serai, Jaipur.

of His Highness the Maharaja of Jaipur to perform this ceremony, and I count it a great privilege and honour that I should be associated in this manner with so many of the memorials that are springing up in different parts of India to keep in mind the name of one who so worthily presided over the destiny of the vast dominions entrusted to his care.

That great and good King-Emperor, Edward VII, was, as it were, a beacon by whose light millions of men of many countries, many races and many tongues, East and West, and North and South, were guided and influenced whether they knew it or not. But that a large proportion did know it is proved by these numerous memorials, and they show that he not only influenced the lives of many millions of his subjects, but reigned in their hearts as an object of reverence and affection.

A year ago many of us were present when His Gracious Majesty King George laid the first stone of the All-India Memorial at Delhi, and in the past three weeks I have taken part in three similar ceremonies, and the fact that at Delhi, at Ajmer, and here again in Jaipur, Your Highness and Your Highness's subjects have contributed to the perpetuation of his name bears eloquent testimony to the warmth of devotion with which he was regarded in your State. In that sense of devotion I, who treasure the memory of his personal friendship and kindness, yield to none, and I feel that we are all drawn together in the bonds of a common sympathy in the reverent performance of this ceremony.

I am glad to think that Indian talent has had so large a part in the design and execution of this building, and though it is still unfinished there is enough to show that it is not unworthy of him whose name it bears.

I am happy to know, and King Edward himself would have rejoiced to know, that here in Jaipur his memory

Banquet at Jaipur.

will for ever be associated with a place of rest for weary travellers without distinction of caste or creed.

I declare this the King Edward Serai to be open.

[The Maharaja then requested His Excellency to open the memorial, which he accordingly did with a key in a silver lock which was afterwards presented to him by the Minister.

The new building was then inspected under the guidance of the Superintending Engineer, and afterwards Their Excellencies and party got into their motors and visited the Albert Museum.]

BANQUET AT JAIPUR.

[Owing to the plague in the city the State Banquet did not take place at the Maharaja's Palace as had been arranged, but there was a dinner party instead at the Residency, when His Highness received the guests invited and came into the dining-room as soon as dinner was over. 20th Nov. 1912.

After His Highness, who was accompanied by his Chief Minister and several Sardars, had taken his seat, the Maharaja's Private Secretary read the following speech on behalf of His Highness in proposing the health of Their Excellencies :—

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I cannot describe what real pleasure it gives me to-night to offer to my distinguished guests, Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge, a most cordial welcome to Jaipur. This is not the first time that I have the honour and pleasure of meeting Their Excellencies, as I had the good fortune of making their acquaintance and enjoying their hospitality in March 1911, at Calcutta. This was again renewed at the time of the Durbar in November last. Ever since then it had been my heart's desire that I should some day have the distinguished honour of receiving them in my capital and offering such hospitality as lay in my power. I can hardly express how glad I am that my hopes have to-day been realised.

It is customary on such occasions to make a brief survey of past events, and my conservative instinct forbids me to break through this rule, which to my mind is a healthy one. As I intend to refer to events which are of vital impotrance to the whole of India and marks a new era in the progress of the country, I would first of all touch briefly what concerns my State alone.

When, in 1907, the Jaipur-Sawai-Madhopur State Railway was opened no one had an idea of the possibilities of this short line of

Banquet at Jaipur.

railway, but with the opening of the Nagda-Muttra Railway, to which it is an important feeder line, the earnings of this line have considerably swelled. The Nagda-Muttra Railway has served an important purpose, as it has linked up the trade centres in Jaipur territory not only with Bombay, but with other adjoining provinces. The success that has attended the opening of this railway and the salutary influence the line has exercised on local trade, have emboldened us to launch upon another project, which is of equal importance to my State. I mean the proposed railway through Shekhawatti. This part of my State has no railway connection, and whenever there is a severe famine people have either to migrate with their cattle to adjoining States or suffer extreme hardships—the supply of food-grains from outside being unequal to the demand. Over a hundred miles of this railway have been surveyed, and we now await the sanction of the Imperial Government to start the work.

The Ruling Chiefs of India, I am sure, appreciate highly the enlightened policy of the Imperial Government with regard to railways, and I am personally much indebted to the Government, as when, in 1905, they announced their decision that they will encourage, as far as possible, the investment of the funds of Native States in railways constructed within their territorial limits and to give them the option of constructing or purchasing part of any railway that may pass through their territories, my Durbar took advantage of this decision and offered to contribute rupees eighty-five lakhs towards the capital cost of such portion of the Nagda-Muttra Railway as lies within the Jaipur territory. Lord Minto's Government generously accepted the proposal, and I contributed my first instalment of ten lakhs in June 1910. I regard this as a valuable and unprecedented concession, as this investment will bring in a handsome return to the State. I trust that this liberal policy will be continued, and my Durbar be allowed to contribute the full amount and participate with the Government of India in the profits.

Side by side with railways, irrigation plays an important part in a country like ours, where famines are so common. It is a source of satisfaction to me that in matters of irrigation we are steadily advancing and are trying our best to add to the number of storage reservoirs, from which land could be irrigated even when there is a deficient rainfall. We have recently completed a big *bund*, which has an area of seven square miles and is capable of irrigating fifteen square miles,

Banquet at Jaipur.

From questions of local interest, I now pass on to events of wider political significance, affecting the whole of this vast Indian Empire, the event that stands pre-eminent being the great Imperial Durbar at Delhi, graced by the august presence of our beloved King-Emperor and Queen-Empress.

When His Excellency Lord Minto visited Jaipur in 1909, there were dark clouds hanging over the political horizon of India, and the attempts made to misrepresent the beneficent intentions of the Government and the dastardly crimes committed under the plea of political necessity, were causing serious anxiety not only to the Imperial Government, but to all who have their country's good at heart. But every cloud has its silver lining, and this state of unrest brought out the spirit of enthusiastic devotion and unswerving loyalty to the Paramount Power, and the Ruling Princes with one accord identified themselves with the Supreme Government to guard against anarchy and maintain law and order. The Government of Lord Minto dealt with the situation in a most statesmanlike manner and with a foresight that commanded the admiration of all. While they suppressed lawlessness with a strong hand, they granted to the Indian people a larger share of representation in the Imperial as well as in the Provincial Councils.

The loyal co-operation of the Ruling Chiefs of India at this time of unrest was warmly appreciated and, to quote Lord Minto, did much to shape the policy of the Government in their relation to Native States, and brought to the fore the policy of non-interference in the internal administration of Native States, a policy they have always upheld. This pronouncement of policy by Lord Minto in his famous speech at Udaipur in 1909 received the hearty appreciation of all Ruling Chiefs.

This wise policy of conciliation on one hand and strong determination to maintain law and order on the other served to allay the feeling of unrest in the land.

Then came the announcement of the gracious intention of our King-Emperor to visit India and hold an Imperial Durbar in person in the historic city of Delhi. This announcement was hailed with great enthusiasm by all India, from the highest noble to the humblest peasant in the land.

Now that nearly a year has passed after this great historical Durbar, held by India's Sovereign-Lord, our beloved King-Emperor, the time has come for better realisation and correct appreciation of the far-reaching effects of this event, unprecedented in the annals of British Rule in India. It was for the first time since India came

Banquet at Jaipur.

under the beneficent suzerainty of the British Throne, that the Princes and people of India had the opportunity to pay their respectful and heartfelt homage to their Emperor in person. This historical event stirred throughout the length and breadth of the country a deep and genuine personal attachment to Their Majesties, and the graciousness of His Majesty and the personal charm of manner of the Queen-Empress were important factors in sweeping off all vestige of unrest that might have lurked in dark corners; the feeling of personal loyalty to their Sovereign, which runs in the blood of all true Indians, once more asserted itself. This visit of Their Majesties has done far more than any other past event to cement by a bond of good-will and fellowship the two great countries which it has pleased the Almighty to place under the benign rule of our Great Emperor. The Ruling Chiefs of India are grateful to the Paramount Power for the assurance they have received from time to time, of the regard for their rights and liberties and the respect for their dignities. But in this Imperial Durbar they realised what important and proud position they occupy in the greatest Empire in modern history.

Following closely upon the Delhi Durbar, Her Imperial Majesty visited some of the Rajputana States, and Jaipur had the proud privilege and the distinguished honour of being the first State to receive Her Majesty. I regard this visit of the greatest lady in the world to my capital as a special mark of Royal favour and the highest honour done personally to myself as well as to my State, and it will be ever cherished with grateful remembrance by me and my subjects. To commemorate this visit, I could not think of anything better than a remission of arrears of rent to the amount of rupees fifty lakhs, due from the cultivators, as thus they will associate the visit with a boon which brought happiness to them in its train.

There are, I think, many Indian Princes who can testify to the gracious interest Her Majesty showed in the welfare of the womanhood of India. I was touched by Her Majesty's warmth of heart and the gentle sympathy she evinced in the destitute and the suffering, and so it gave me real pleasure when I learnt of the scheme of Her Excellency Lady Hardinge, for a medical college for women at Delhi, to commemorate Her Imperial Majesty's visit to India. No more fitting memorial to Her Majesty's gracious interest in the welfare of women of India could be thought of. It is a scheme worthy of the noble heart from which it has emanated. I am confident that Her Excellency will earn the everlasting gratitude of the

Banquet at Jaipur.

people of India and that her name will be handed down to posterity, as one of the greatest benefactresses of the women in India. It is an undertaking which, to my mind, should receive the hearty support and co-operation of all who have their country's good at heart. I am very happy to see that many of my brother Chiefs have expressed their cordial approval of the scheme and have come forward with princely donations to make it a success. I think I would be lacking in the discharge of my duty towards my country if I do not join my brother Chiefs and contribute my share towards the fulfilment of this noble undertaking, and as a practical expression of my sympathy with Her Excellency's scheme, I have decided to subscribe three lakhs of rupees to the fund.

Before concluding, I would like to say how thankful I am to Colonel Bayley for the valuable help he has rendered to the Durbar in connection with Their Excellencies' visit, and am specially indebted to Mrs. Bayley, on whom devolved the arduous duties of a hostess and whose untiring efforts have contributed largely to any success that might have attended this visit.

I would not detain you any longer. I am extremely thankful to Their Excellencies for the high honour they have done me by this visit to my capital. I have now the pleasure of requesting you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to raise your glasses and drink the health and prosperity of my illustrious guests, Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Hardinge of Penshurst.

His Excellency responded to the toast in the following words :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—As Your Highness has reminded me, I first made your acquaintance in Calcutta a few months after my arrival in India; Your Highness has referred in terms of pleasure to that meeting, and I can only say that the pleasure was mutual. Ever since then I have known that I have in Your Highness a warm and trusty friend, and I have long looked forward to the opportunity of visiting you in Jaipur.

The chief difficulty that a Viceroy experiences at Jaipur, when responding as a guest of His Highness when his health has been drunk, is in deciding how to begin. He is faced by an *embarras de richesses*. His host's ancestry is of the greatest antiquity and nobility, his predecessors' achievements in the realms of statesmanship, war,

Banquet at Jaipur.

and learning are unsurpassed, his domains are rich, prosperous and extensive, his loyalty to the Crown and the Empire is unequalled, in the present as it was in the past, and his patronage of all progressive movements for the benefit of the Continent, and of India, and of the people of his own State is above praise. History, we all know, repeats itself, and we have an illustrious example of this principle in the life and achievements of the present Maharaja Sir Sawai Madho Singh.

Your Highness's famous ancestors, Raja Man Singh and Mirza Raja Jai Singh I, were generals who distinguished themselves in the service of the Mughal Emperors, and received the highest military rank. Your Highness was honoured with the rank of major-general at the great Durbar of last year. Your subjects are recruited in large numbers for the Rajput regiments of His Imperial Majesty's Indian Army. Your Imperial Service Transport Corps did good service to the Crown in the Chitral and Tirah Expeditions, was by Your Highness's kindness placed wholly at the disposal of the Durbar Committee for the King-Emperor's Camp at Delhi last year, and received a special message of thanks and congratulation for the services rendered. I am confident that, should an emergency call the Corps to the theatre of actual war, it would acquit itself worthily of the martial traditions of the State, and I look forward with great pleasure to inspecting the Corps to-morrow under its well-tried Commandant, Colonel Rai Bahadur Ganpat Rai.

Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II was a patron of Sanskrit and scientific learning, as his great observatory testifies, and Maharaja Ram Singh, Your Highness's predecessor, was prominent in his endeavours to stimulate education, to extend irrigation, and to give to his people the benefits of improved road communications, and the

Banquet at Jaipur.

city of Jaipur a supply of good water, which Your Highness has recently supplemented. In all these matters Your Highness has followed in his footsteps, but has travelled further on the road of progress than he ever did.

The Albert Hall and the well-known School of Arts make it clear that architecture and the arts and crafts receive Your Highness's encouragement, which alone has made it possible for Sir Swinton Jacob to carry on his great work.

The Maharaja's College is a renowned seat of learning, and Your Highness, I am glad to hear, has lately enlarged the house for the accommodation of boys from Jaipur who are under instruction at the Mayo College. Your Highness's patronage of education has been recognised, even in Europe, by the conferment on you by a great British University of the degree of LL.D. The Mayo Hospital was rightly described by Lord Curzon as one of the best equipped in India, and the work of alleviating the sufferings of the sick is carried on there, and in the other hospitals and dispensaries in the State, to the great benefit of your subjects.

Amber, which we visited this afternoon with indescribable interest and pleasure, is a monument of the history of the past glories of the State. Its rugged inaccessibility is characteristic of those times of strife and turbulence. The city of Jaipur is more typical of an age of peace and development, and under Your Highness's guidance new and more gentle monuments, equally beautiful and in keeping with the changed times, are being erected in the form of institutions, designed for the mental and physical improvement of your people. May Your Highness live long to carry on that progress which has always characterised the State! May history continue to repeat itself!

Banquet at Jaipur.

It has, as I have said, been a very great pleasure to me to visit Your Highness in the home of your ancestors —but it is a pleasure that I had very nearly foregone, and as Your Highness is aware I was ready to give it up and should have done so but for your express desire that I should adhere to my original plans. For over this devoted city hangs the Angel of Death, and my heart goes out, as must the hearts of all of you, to those poor people who lie under the affliction of this awful visitation. I need not say that if I had thought that by cancelling my visit I could have saved a single life, not even Your Highness's pressing invitation would have induced me to come; but after taking the best advice at my disposal I decided that, provided those ceremonial functions which involve the presence of a large number of people were dispensed with, my visit would in no way affect the course of the present epidemic.

I greatly regret that this has involved the loss of the opportunity to which I had been looking forward of making the acquaintance of some of your principal Thakurs—they are many of them your kinsmen, and they are the descendants of those warriors who in the old days helped Your Highness's ancestors at risk of life and property, to establish and maintain their rule over the State of Amber. They form an integral part of the fabric of your State, they owe you allegiance and obedience for the lands they hold of you, and it is to Your Highness's true interest to maintain their dignity, and to give them every opportunity of culture and improvement in the institutions formed, and to be formed, at Ajmer and elsewhere for the joint benefit of Rulers and Nobles, and by these means to strengthen them as an important component part of the body politic, for I am confident that, in their enlightenment and strength, Your Highness must find the firmest support to your position.

Banquet at Jaipur.

It behoves you then, as it does every Ruling Chief, to build up and firmly weld the structure of your State, each storey sound and strong, and fit to bear the weight that nature has designed for it.

I am glad to have had the pleasure of meeting your Chief Minister, the Nawab Sir Faiyaz Ali Khan, Your Highness's righthand man and trusted coadjutor, who, I hope, will be spared for many years to administer, with the Council, the affairs of this great State.

Before concluding my remarks I must repeat my congratulations to Your Highness on the double honour paid to you, and to Jaipur, by Their Imperial Majesties last year—I refer to the exalted military rank conferred on Your Highness, and to the visit paid to you by Her Gracious Majesty. It was, I know, a great pleasure to the Queen-Empress to have had the opportunity of renewing her recollections of Jaipur, which Her Majesty first visited as Princess of Wales in 1905.

I wish to congratulate Your Highness on the happy inspiration that prompted you to mark the great events of last year by the generous remission of 50 lakhs of arrears of land revenue. I am sure that no concession to your subjects would be viewed with greater favour by His Imperial Majesty than this, for it shows that Your Highness is thoughtful of the needs of your poorest subjects, and realises that nothing constitutes such a drag on their happiness, and such an obstacle to progress and recovery, as the consciousness of a heavy load of debt difficult, if not impossible, of repayment.

Your Highness was good enough to let Lady Hardinge know beforehand that her scheme for a medical college for women commanded your sympathy and support. The donation which you have just announced will ensure the successful launching of her scheme, and she has asked me to express to Your Highness her deep gratitude

for the princely munificence of your gift. In view of the deep interest that I also take in the welfare of the women of India and in the success of Lady Hardinge's scheme, I wish to associate myself with her expression of warm gratitude to Your Highness.

I am particularly glad to know that Your Highness's relations with my Agent in Rajputana and with the Residents, who have from time to time been sent here as the representatives of the Government of India, have been friendly and intimate. Their chief wish has been to be of service both to Your Highness and to the Government of India, and it is a source of gratification to me to learn that in this they have achieved success.

I will detain you no longer, but I cannot sit down without thanking Your Highness most heartily for the cordial welcome and generous hospitality with which you have received Lady Hardinge and myself. I need hardly say that our visit has been a source of the greatest pleasure to us, and that I am most thankful to have been able to renew my acquaintance with Your Highness under such charming conditions.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to join me in drinking to the health, long life, and happiness of His Highness the Maharaja Sir Sawai Madho Singh Bahadur of Jaipur.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME AT TONK.

21st Nov. 1912. [On the morning of the 21st November His Excellency the Viceroy and a small party motored to Tonk from Jaipur. In welcoming His Excellency to his State His Highness the Nawab said :—

May it please Your Excellency,—It is with feelings of the deepest gratitude and excessive pleasure that I have got an opportunity a second time to offer my hearty welcome to the representative of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor of India, who has very kindly favoured my State by condescending to pay a brief visit to an uninteresting and out-of-the-way place like Tonk.

Address of Welcome at Tonk.

It is really very kind of Your Excellency to have taken the trouble of coming down here in spite of the great inconvenience of the journey by road from Jaipur to Tonk. But the pleasure which I feel to-day is not unmixed with regret because it has not been possible for Her Excellency Lady Hardinge to come to Tonk and honour my capital by her august presence to-day.

Your Excellency is probably aware that my State is now free from all debts. Owing to the amount of debts being enormous, it was not easy to repay them. But with the assistance of the Supreme Government, the timely advice of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana and the Political Agents, to whom I am most thankful, and my enthusiastic endeavours, the debts, of which the payment was hopeless, have been liquidated during the last three years. The existence of the debts caused a great deal of hindrance in the direction of improvements which I had in view since I was installed to the *masnad* of the State. I have now since the liquidation of debts devoted my attention to the improvements above referred to and have much pleasure to inform Your Excellency that the want of the railway communication was badly felt by the people of the State as well as by the travellers for a long time. I have, therefore, sanctioned at present up to Tonk only the construction of the railway line which is calculated to benefit the trade of the State considerably. I further add that the other subdivisions of the State were in need of metalled roads and telegraphic communication, which are of great help to the trade of the State. I have, therefore, commenced the construction of the roads and got telegraph offices opened after correspondence with the Supreme Government.

Besides the trade, the agricultural population have also received my due attention. I have, therefore, pleasure in giving expression on this occasion to the fact that I made a tour in the five subdivisions of my State on the advice of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana and remitted arrears of revenue to the amount of about 16 lakhs and allowed settlement operations to be carried on, because more than 30 years have elapsed since the settlement was last made and the population had considerably increased during the period in some of the subdivisions of the State.

I may mention one more point on which I cannot keep silent, namely, the change of Capital from Calcutta to Delhi. It is calculated to benefit the Chiefs of Rajputana in particular inasmuch as it has made it easier for them to have the pleasure of occasional

Address of Welcome at Tonk.

interviews with Your Excellency. It is the outcome of Government's foresight that the complexities which had recently existed have entirely disappeared with the change of the Capital.

Before closing this short address I feel bound to express once more my personal obligations to Your Excellency for the kindness shown in undertaking the tedious and unpleasant journey to this land of no interest and no charms. In honour of Your Excellency's visit to this place I have pleasure to remit arrears of revenue amounting to about five lakhs of rupees which were outstanding against the cultivators of Tonk Pargana, so that they may feel bound to pray for the long life and prosperity of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor of India and Your Excellency.

In conclusion I would finish this address with a hearty prayer for the long life, health and prosperity of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor of India and the perpetuity of the British Raj in India and elsewhere, under the benign protection of which high and low are enjoying perfect peace, security of life and property and various sorts of comforts and conveniences which were unknown in former reigns.

To which the Viceroy made the following reply :—]

Your Highness,—I greatly appreciate the most kind words with which you have welcomed me to Tonk. But when you refer to the inconveniences of the journey which I have made in order to come here, let me tell you that I feel myself more than amply repaid, for it is a very great pleasure to me to have been able to pay a visit to your picturesque old capital, and to renew acquaintance with Your Highness. You have the distinction of being the only Mahomedan Chief in Rajputana, and there can, I think, be few Chiefs in the whole of India who can rival you in the length of time you have sat upon the *masnad.*

It gives me keen pleasure to know that your State is now free from debt, and I trust that you and your people may long be spared the horrors of another famine, such as that to which the crippling of your finances was largely due. The schemes which Your Highness has in hand for the improvement of communications are an evidence

Opening of the Public Park, Bikaner.

of the interest which you feel in the development of your resources, and it has given me lively satisfaction to hear of the remission of arrears of revenue which Your Highness has recently made, and now again proposes to make in honour of my visit, for they show that Your Highness has at heart the welfare and contentment of your people, and no announcement could have given me greater pleasure on the present occasion.

I have listened with feelings of gratification to your loyal references to His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor, and I am convinced that he will rejoice to know that the change of Capital, which he was pleased to ordain at his recent Durbar, has proved so acceptable to yourself and others of the great ruling families of India.

I am sorry that the journey to Tonk was rather too far for Her Excellency to undertake, and Lady Hardinge commissioned me to tell you how greatly she regretted that she was unable to accompany me upon this interesting expedition to see Your Highness. I have only to thank Your Highness once more for the very warm welcome you have given me to your State and for the extremely friendly and cordial tone of your address.

OPENING OF THE PUBLIC PARK, BIKANER.

[On the afternoon of the 26th November His Excellency the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge motored to the Park gates, where a *shamiana* had been pitched and a guard-of-honour was in attendance. The ceremony began with the following speech from His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner :— 26th Nov. 1912.

Your Excellencies, Your Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen,—To describe, however briefly, how the idea of the Public Park originated, I must carry you back to the times of the Emperor Aurangzeb, who having laid a plot to convert the Rulers of Rajputana to Mahomedanism, summoned the Contingents of the States to join the Imperial Army in a campaign beyond the Indus. The idea was to

Opening of the Public Park, Bikaner.

get the Chiefs and their forces on the other side of the river, where they would have been helpless, and there give them the choice between death and conversion. To any one acquainted with Rajput tradition, there is little doubt what the result would have been. The plot, however, was revealed on the march to the river and the Chiefs, in secret council, made their plans to meet the crisis. This was successful.

The Imperial troops crossed first, but when the boats returned to fetch the State forces, they were seized and wrecked, and it is recorded that the lead which my ancestor, Raja Karan Singhji, took in the attack, was, according to previous stipulation, recognized by his brother Chiefs in the words with which they hailed him, "Jai Jangal Dhar Badshah"—victory to the King of the Jangal. This forms one of the proudest chapters in the history of the House of Bikaner, and up to the present day "Jai Jangal Dhar Badshah" is used as the motto on our Coat-of-Arms, whilst the descendants of the people who gave this information are still residing in the Bikaner State and enjoying special privileges then granted to them.

This incident, of course, caused the serious displeasure of the Emperor and an army was sent to invade Bikaner which, however, was soon recalled; for trouble was brewing in the Deccan and the Emperor Aurangzeb—despite his bigotry needing the services of men of proven valour and prowess, and doubtless recollecting the very valuable services rendered him by them in the decisive battle against Darashikoh at Samogarh in the Agra District—gave a free pardon to Raja Karan Singhji and his two famous warrior sons—Rajkumar Padam Singhji and Rajkumar Kesri Singhji—in appreciation of whose services in the battle just referred to, the Emperor with his own handkerchief had brushed off the dust from their persons as they stood before him hot from the battle—and sent them with the Imperial Army to the Deccan. While there on duty Raja Karan Singhji died at Aurangabad four years later. Subsequently, in a battle near the Tapti river with Jado Rai and Sanwant Rai, Rajkumar Padam Singhji after showing conspicuous bravery fell fighting to the last for the Emperor against enormous odds, but not till he had killed both of his gallant foes, besides many others in the action.

In passing I may remark that Rajkumar Padam Singhji was specially famous as a swordsman, and amongst our most treasured possessions in the armoury is his actual sword of battle. There is a well-known couplet describing those who were particular adepts in

Opening of the Public Park, Bikaner.

wielding different weapons during the days when men were generally proficient in the use of arms:

"Katari Amros ri, Padme ri tarwar
Sel tiharo Rajsi, sarayo sansar,"

i.e., "the dagger of Amar Singh (of Jodhpur), the sword of Padam Singh (of Bikaner) and the lance of Raj Singh (Maharaja of Kishengarh) the world admired."

It was for signal services rendered by my ancestor Raja Karan Singhji that the Emperor granted him some land near Aurangabad in the heart of what are now His Highness the Nizam's dominions, which the Maharajas of Bikaner held for 239 years and where three villages, specially named Karanpura, Padampura and Kesrisinghpura, after the three heroes of Bikaner, were founded by Raja Karan Singhji.

While on the subject of services rendered to the Emperor Aurangzeb by my ancestors, I may add that Raja Karan Singhji's oldest son, Maharaja Anup Singhji, brother of Rajkumar Padam Singhji, took a prominent part in the capture of Golconda and won from the Emperor the hereditary title of Maharaja for these and other services.

The Bikaner State owned this little district known as the *Purejat* right up to the year 1904, when it was ceded by me to the Government of India for cantonment purposes, in exchange for certain cash compensation and two villages which adjoin my border—Babalwas and Rattakhera—over which the Imperial Government transferred us full rights.

These new villages being now incorporated with the rest of the State, it was feared that the historical importance of the Purejat District would be lost sight of in course of time, and with a view to keeping green this precious memory, we decided to erect a suitable and permanent monument in the capital. Round this memorial a small garden was to have been laid out. It was while selecting a suitable site for this memorial that the first idea of a Public Park occurred to me. Gradually the scheme was enlarged, and, thanks to the public spirit of the people of Bikaner, we have been enabled to have this spacious Park covering an area of about 35 acres and estimated to cost Rs. 4,15,000. This has been met entirely by private subscriptions amounting up to date to over Rs. 4,38,000, including a donation of Rs. 30,000 from the State.

The most striking monument in the Park is the big central tower designed by Colonel Sir Swinton Jacob which is constructed of marble and red sandstone and stands 66½ feet high. Round this

Opening of the Public Park, Bikaner.

tower an ornamental water tank has been built, and on the tablets of the tower, in addition to the history of the Purejat, will be inscribed feats of arms of the Bikaner State, its Rulers and men, covering a period of 447 years since the State was founded. On the four sides of this tower, which is called the Kirti Stambh or the Tower of Glory, is to be built immediately a War Memorial, which will record the part which the Bikaner State has had the honour of taking in more recent campaigns under the British Flag, and it is a matter of special gratification to us that we shall be enabled, when this memorial is completed, to inscribe three campaigns to our credit, for on it will be recorded the names of the soldiers of Bikaner who fell in the Mutiny in 1857-59, in China in 1900-01, and in Somaliland in 1903-04. Spaces will be left similarly for future campaigns, in which it is the hope and ambition of all of us here in Bikaner, as soldiers, that we may often have the honour and privilege of fighting for the Emperor and the Empire.

The principal entrance to the Park opposite which we are assembled to-day is, by gracious permission, to be called the Queen-Empress Gate, after the name of Her Imperial Majesty the Queen-Empress Mary. Facing as it does the Fort, where the main thoroughfares from the Palace and the city join, it will ever remind generations to come of the genuine interest which Her Imperial Majesty, with our beloved King-Emperor, takes in the welfare of the Indian Empire. We have already got in Bikaner the King-Emperor George V's Hall—built to commemorate the visit of Their Imperial Majesties as Prince and Princess of Wales to Bikaner in the year 1905—and it is a matter of pride to me that we have thus been enabled to do this little to testify to our unflinching loyalty and deep devotion towards the Sovereign and his gracious Consort and also as a respectful token of my boundless gratitude for the many Royal favours with which Their Imperial Majesties have been pleased to honour me and my State and people.

The thoroughfare leading from the city, to which I have just referred, has been practically entirely re-built within the last six or seven months, and it is to be called the King Edward Memorial Road, in respectful and affectionate memory of a great Sovereign, during whose eventful, yet all too short, reign India made such strides and received so many substantial benefits, political and otherwise.

Towards the close of his Viceroyalty we decided to erect a suitable memorial to Lord Minto, and the Minto Terrace, 634 feet in length, built at a cost of Rs. 50,000, is one of the conspicuous features of the Park. England has given India always of her best, but perhaps

Opening of the Public Park, Bikaner.

no Viceroy in the past has been more popular than Lord Minto. His cool courage and determination—even in the face of personal danger—combined with patience, tact, and a strong sense of justice enabled him to deal wisely and well with a grave political situation. His generous sympathy with the legitimate aspirations of the people was proved by the substantial reforms inaugurated by him and have won for him the affectionate gratitude of every class—while the sympathetic policy which he adopted towards the Protected States and his chivalrous and scrupulous regard for the cherished traditions and for the dignity of the Ruling Princes will ever remain a marked feature of his rule. I and my people have special reasons to acknowledge our indebtedness to him and the Government of India during his Viceroyalty.

The north end of the Terrace runs out into a circle, in the middle of which a statue of His late Highness Maharaja Dungar Singhji is to be placed. Over this statue will be built a marble canopy of Indian design reaching a height of 74 feet, and this edifice will face the main gateway of the Fort. In September last I had the honour of opening the Dungar Memorial College which is the official State Memorial to His late Highness, but it is in response to popular feeling that we decided on this second public memorial. The order for the statue has already been placed in England and the construction of the canopy will be taken in hand after Your Excellency's departure. The statue and the canopy combined are estimated to cost about Rs. 85,000.

The State and the people cannot do too much to show their gratitude for the beneficent reign of His late Highness, for it was his sagacity and high sense of duty that practically inaugurated every reform, and sowed the first seeds of education in Bikaner. Moreover, the income of the State was more than doubled and heavy State debts of old standing paid off, and all this in the short span of the fifteen years of his rule.

The eastern entrance to the Park is called after Lady Minto who demonstrated in unmistakable manner her sympathy for the people of India.

When we were going into the details of the Park, it occurred to me that this was also a suitable opportunity of showing our gratitude to the various gentlemen who have in recent times rendered us special help in different capacities. I accordingly decided to perpetuate their names by memorials which would not only beautify the Park, but preserve their memories for us to bless and cherish.

Opening of the Public Park, Bikaner.

Among these memorials I might mention the large Egerton Tank built of carved sandstone, immediately to the right as we enter the Queen-Empress Gate. It is a token of gratitude to my old tutor and dearest friend, Mr. Brian Egerton, C.I.E., whom I am delighted to welcome to-day. I owe him a debt which this but poorly repays.

Below the Minto Terrace, the central ornamental tank and fountain, the finest in the Park, will bear the name of another old friend, which name also recalls very old and affectionate memories. I refer to His Honour Sir Charles Bayley, K.C.S.I., whom together with Lady Bayley we also most heartily welcome. From 1888-94 he not only as Political Agent and President of the Regency Council did splendid and lasting work, but as my guardian rendered me his debtor for much care and kindness.

Of the many of the Agents to the Governor-General the name of the late Colonel C. K. M. Walter, C.S.I., is already associated with our Walter Nobles' School. He was known and loved throughout Rajputana, and to his devoted care in sickness I owe my life. Some of the memorials in the Park will recall the names of Colonel G. H. Trevor, C.S.I., another most popular Agent to the Governor-General, of whom every Chief in Rajputana was an admirer and friend, Sir Arthur Martindale, K.C.S.I., whose sympathetic help was of special importance to me during the first years of my administration, and Sir Elliot Colvin, K.C.S.I., to whom I am indebted for much friendly advice and help, especially in the times of the political anxiety from 1905-08.

Amongst the other high officers who have been good friends of the Bikaner State and myself, we are putting up memorials to Sir Walter Lawrence, Bart, G.C.I.E.: Sir James Dunlop Smith, K.C.S.I., C.I.E. (I shall never forget his sympathy, help and advice, especially at the outset of my official career, which was of particular importance to the State and myself during the great famine in 1899-1900 when Sir James was Famine Commissioner in Rajputana): Sir Harcourt Butler, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., who was a most popular and sympathetic Foreign Secretary: and to the late Sir Curzon Wyllie, K.C.I.E., C.V.O., an old Rajputana officer.

Then there remain monuments to some of the Bikaner Political Officers, namely, to Colonel H. A. Vincent, Political Agent and latterly Resident of Bikaner from 1896-1901, who was responsible for many important measures during my minority: to Colonel J. Manners-Smith, V.C., C.V.O., C.I.E., who, though here only for a

Opening of the Public Park, Bikaner.

short time in 1901-02, by his encouragement and help, enabled me to have my way in introducing the present system of administration: to Colonel W. Stratton, C.I.E., who was Political Agent here in 1904-05, from whom I received considerable assistance in our attempts to restore order during the political disturbance already referred to: to Colonel K. D. Erskine, C.I.E., a very old friend who received his political training under such able masters as Colonel Walter and Colonel Trevor. I cannot speak too strongly of our sense of gratitude to Colonel Erskine for much valuable assistance in many important matters, and to him is also due a great deal of the credit for the absolute subsidence in 1908 of the political trouble which had, through no fault of the State, kept smouldering since 1904: and to Colonel Windham, the present British Resident, who, though he has been here for only two years, has already won our special gratitude in more ways than one and has given practical demonstration of his sympathy with us and our States. It is a matter of particular gratification to us all in Bikaner that three of the ablest and most popular and sympathetic Political Officers who have ever been accredited to our State should be present here to-day—Sir Charles Bayley, Colonel Erskine and Colonel Windham.

It will be observed that as regards the past these names for obvious reasons are chiefly those of high officers of Government and Political Officers, but for the future we hope that such monuments will also include men of the State who by their work shall prove themselves entitled to a special mark of our respect and gratitude.

Though work was originally begun in March 1910, progress was at first naturally slow, for not only had careful plans and surveys to be prepared, but large clearances to be made, while in addition to other difficulties we were specially hampered by practically a total absence of rainfall last year, whilst this year again, though the other districts of the State were more fortunate, we have had very little rain in Bikaner City itself. To our great regret and disappointment, therefore, it has been impossible to turf the whole of the Park in time. But the work has been commenced from this end of the Park and adequate arrangements are about to be made for a pumping plant to ensure a successful and permanent water-supply, which is available in abundance at a depth of 300 feet. We, however, felt that this was too good an opportunity to miss, and even though the Park cannot be said to be completed, we decided to request Your Excellency to honour us by opening it. I can only ask Your Excellency to take our statement on trust, that by the time you honour us with another visit, as we sincerely hope will be

Opening of the Public Park, Bikaner.

the case before long, Your Excellency will find everything complete and the grass and flowers and shrubs in good condition.

It is our intention to throw the Park open daily to all. The advantages of such a place of public resort and recreation are obvious and I believe the movement is daily gaining more and more popularity with the populace here.

In conclusion, I should like, with Your Excellency's permission, to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the officers of the State who have co-operated with me in all the work and details in connection with this Park and to particularly acknowledge the very liberal spirit which prompted the public to respond to our call for subscriptions, amongst whom the following gentlemen deserve special mention for their munificent donations :—

	Rs.
1. Seth Sampat Ram Doogar	60,000
2. D. B. Seth Sir Kastur Chand Daga, K.C.I.E.	35,000
3. Seth Sanskaran Sawansukha	26,000
4. Seth Paney Chand Singhi	20,000
5. Seth Sada Sukh Kothari	15,000
6. Seth Chunnilal Daga	15,000
7. Seth Chand Mal Dhadha	12,000
8. Seth Jesraj Ganeshmal	12,000
9. Seth Daulat Ram Harakhchand Bhadani .	10,000
10. Seth Bhairun Dan Doogar	10,000

I would now request Your Excellency to be so kind as to declare the Park open.

The Viceroy then rose and said :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I feel sure that the little bit of history which Your Highness has just given us must have stirred the feelings of many here—but those who have dipped into the annals of Rajasthan must know well that their pages teem with similar tales of chivalry and daring, and that, should ever occasion arise, the same old spirit that combines so many qualities of loyalty to friends and reckless courage in the

Opening of the Public Park, Bikaner.

presence of foes, of hot resentment of injury and perhaps a tinge of not unnatural pride, will spring once more into a bright and vigorous flame.

The idea of commemorating the historical associations of the district of Purejat by a monument in your capital is one in which Your Highness must have the sympathy of all who know the value of old traditions and the important influence they bring to bear upon the formation of character. I was very pleased when I was asked by Your Highness to open this Park, and my pleasure was still further enhanced at learning the history of its inception. I congratulate Your Highness on the happy idea of utilising its features as a lasting memorial of those who, in their various walks in life, have contributed to the honourable record of Bikaner or done loyal service for the State. I understand that this is to be a People's Park; and the fact that the people themselves have subscribed almost the whole of the requisite funds shows how greatly the idea has appealed to them. Nothing but advantage can accrue to them from the creation of such a Park, thanks to the initiative and co-operation of Your Highness.

I will now, with Your Highness's permission, declare this Park open, in the hope that, in the dim and distant future when young men, your sons and descendants, walk on its green turf, enjoy its cool shade, and look upon the various memorials with which they are surrounded, they will tell one another how this beautiful Park was made during the rule of the Maharaja Ganga Singh, remind one another that its very existence is a memorial of one of the wisest and best of Bikaner's Rulers, and each in his own way try to emulate his example of devotion to duty and to his country's interests.

[The Viceregal party then moved to the entrance to the Park and the gates were formally opened.]

STATE BANQUET, BIKANER.

30th Nov. 1912. [His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner gave a banquet in honour of Their Excellencies in the Durbar Hall at the Fort on the 30th November. At the conclusion of the dinner, after the toast of the King-Emperor had been honoured, the Maharaja rose and said :—

Your Excellencies, Your Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I beg to offer Your Excellencies the warmest of welcomes to my capital. We much appreciate Your Excellency's honouring Bikaner with a visit and being present at the State festivities, and I hope Your Excellency is already aware of the very genuine pleasure you have given me by accepting my invitation—pleasure which is considerably enhanced by the fact that Her Excellency Lady Hardinge has been able to accompany Your Excellency.

It was my good fortune to make Your Excellency's acquaintance from the very day of your assumption of the office of Viceroy, and in return for the many kindnesses and much hospitality which I have invariably received at the hands of Lady Hardinge and yourself, I rejoice at this opportunity of showing my gratitude and offering what hospitality lies in our power.

The two years since Your Excellency's arrival out here have been very momentous ones for India. The close of Lord Minto's Viceroyalty was marked by a very considerable abatement in the political ferment which caused so much anxiety to all true lovers of India, but it was ordained that during Your Excellency's régime the disquieting symptoms should practically disappear. This is due to no small extent to the unmistakable sympathy which, as in the case of your predecessor, has characterised Your Excellency's rule also and to your strict impartiality and the restoration of general confidence. A salient feature of Your Excellency's Viceroyalty is the ready access that you have accorded to all whether at head-quarters or on tour, and there can be no doubt that this privilege, granted by Your Excellency at no small inconvenience to yourself and at the sacrifice of much valuable time, has been very widely and gratefully appreciated. It is the hope and conviction of Your Excellency's friends and well-wishers—amongst whom I hope I may be counted—that when the time comes, you will be in a position to hand over India to your successor restored to its normal condition of peace and prosperity.

But the crowning event of this period is the ever-memorable visit to India's shores of Their Imperial Majesties the King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress, whose progress might justly be described

State Banquet, Bikaner.

as one triumphal march. During this tour Their Majesties—who had already established themselves in the affections of the people during their previous visit to India in 1905 by their gracious solicitude for the people of India and by the many practical demonstrations of their well-known sympathy, of which our King-Emperor has always been such an ardent advocate—captured the hearts of their millions of subjects wherever they went. The many brilliant and glorious scenes enacted in Delhi and Calcutta will, by universal accord, produce a lasting and beneficial effect and will most materially strengthen the foundations of the Empire and will be of inestimable advantage to India and its people. What Their Imperial Majesties have contributed towards allaying the unrest is not for me to describe. It will be writ large on the pages of history. Personal rule and the personal element count for a great deal in India. The wild outbursts of enthusiasm and deep devotion evinced at Delhi and Calcutta will never be effaced from the memories of those who, like myself, had the honour of being in attendance on His Imperial Majesty and of witnessing them. Happy the country and happy the Empire which can boast of such Sovereigns, and I am proud to think that it is only in a country like India where such scenes of reverential devotion to the King-Emperor can be met with.

As an Indian I also rejoice to think that the Imperial visit, in addition to other lasting and substantial advantages, has been instrumental in dispelling the illusion, where it may have existed, in the minds of ill-informed or ignorant persons, as to the disloyalty of India and its people as a whole. And as one yielding to none in loyalty to the Sovereign, I rejoice no less to think that the occasion has been not without a moral from another point of view. For it has been shown to the world in a manner which admits of no gainsaying that in this country, where the heart of India can be so stirred to its depths by the presence of the Sovereign, where the person of the Emperor is held so sacred and where the members of his Royal Family are so reverenced, republican and socialistic ideas cannot find a foothold or be acceptable to the people of India—for these ideas are clearly opposed to their natural instincts, traditions, and religious precepts.

Indeed the tour undertaken by Their Imperial Majesties on their own initiative in spite of the dismal forebodings and warnings of self-styled prophets could not possibly have been more successful.

The gracious and generous boons and the sagacious and statesmanlike administrative measures sanctioned by His Imperial Majesty and announced at the Imperial Durbar at Delhi cannot

State Banquet, Bikaner.

but be productive of the most momentous results, and I venture to say that of the many beneficial steps then taken none will be more popular than the restoration of the old and Imperial City of Delhi as the Capital of India, which has given special gratification to the Ruling Princes.

Your Excellency, we, the Ruling Chiefs, and the Protected States also, have reason to be grateful that there is at the head of the Indian Government at the present moment a Viceroy like Your Excellency, who has already clearly demonstrated to us his solicitude for our welfare and prosperity and his wish to cultivate and maintain the most friendly and intimate relations with us. And the fact that a very large number of Ruling Chiefs since Your Excellencies' arrival have spent so many days with Your Excellencies under your hospitable roofs in Calcutta and Simla is another proof of this, if proof were needed. Lord Minto and his then Foreign Secretary—Sir Harcourt Butler—were able in their time to do a great deal in many ways for us and our States, and I know there is a general feeling of hope and belief that anything that may yet remain to be done will not be neglected or forgotten by Your Excellency and by my friend, Sir Henry McMahon.

The honourable part which the States have played in the past in co-operating with the Government of India in times of stress or anxiety will always remain one of our most precious heritages, and it is a matter of no less satisfaction to us that we can look back on those periods with pride and clear conscience. For it is not only because we are bound by ties of the deepest loyalty and devotion to the King-Emperor and the British Throne—it is not only because we realise how very closely the interests of the British Government and those of the States are linked together—but because as Indians, and yielding, as we do, to none in our love for the mother-country, we also realise that the future well-being of India as a whole and the prosperity and interests of the Indian people can only be best promoted and secured by the permanence of British Rule, under which the territories of British India as well as those of the States enjoy such inestimable advantages.

Your Excellency is also entitled to our gratitude for the special interest you have evinced in the education of minor Chiefs and in the minority administration of our States. In this connection may I be permitted, as one who is closely associated by family ties and as the senior in age of the Rulers of the Rathore States in Rajputana, to say how indebted we are for the arrangements which Your

State Banquet, Bikaner.

Excellency was pleased to make for the administration of the Jodhpur State during the minority of His Highness the Maharaja. Time has shown that no better arrangements could have been made, and the nomination by Your Excellency of His Highness Sir Pratap Singh as Maharaja Regent of Jodhpur has shown us how wise the appointment was. The difficulties which Sir Pratap Singh has to contend with are great and his task is no easy one, but by his patience, coolness and unselfish devotion to duty His Highness has won the admiration of all of us who, as relations and neighbours, are acquainted with the internal affairs of the State.

As regards the administration of my State, I do not propose taking up time to-night with any lengthy review. I have had the pleasure of presenting Your Excellency with a note recording facts and figures of my fourteen years' actual administration. When Lord Minto paid his official visit here in 1906, I dwelt at some length in my speech on the urgent need for irrigation in the State and the subject has been fully dealt with in my note on this occasion also. Without going over the same ground to-night, may I say that as the Sutlej Canal Project has in the last six years advanced a step further, in that the surveys have been completed, we shall eagerly await the issue in due course of the final orders of the Government of India on this question of such vital importance to us. It has been a great pleasure to me that Your Excellency should have agreed to my suggestion to visit the Secretariat and the Public Offices at my capital. Such a cursory inspection could not, I am aware, have enabled Your Excellency to judge of the standard of work turned out in the various branches of our administration, nor do we lay claim to have reached anywhere near the stage of perfection, but I hope it was sufficient to show Your Excellency that we are trying to do our best for the State and the people, and that our aim is efficiency combined with decentralisation. Your Excellency's whole-hearted interest in education in this country, of which so many indications are already traceable in the educational policy of the Government of India, led me to hope that you would also honour the Dungar Memorial College and the Walter Nobles' School with a visit, to see for yourself our modest endeavours in this connection. I beg to thank Your Excellency most sincerely for visiting the offices and these educational and other institutions as also for honouring the railway branch of our State Administration by opening the Bikaner-Ratangarh Chord Line—for the speedy completion of which great credit is due to Mr. LaTouche, the able Manager of our Railway, and to his staff. All this will be a source

State Banquet, Bikaner.

of great encouragement and stimulus to us in our many undertakings.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to raise your glasses and to join me in drinking a bumper to the health of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge and in wishing them long life, success and every happiness.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—You have happily reminded me that you were among the very first of those whose acquaintance I made upon my assumption of the Viceroyalty; it is an acquaintance which soon ripened into warm friendship; we have met on many occasions since then, and this visit to you in your home is one to which I have long looked forward with feelings of the most pleasurable anticipation.

First let me tender to Your Highness, on behalf of Lady Hardinge and myself, our warmest thanks for the more than generous terms in which you have proposed our healths.

Let me thank you, too, for the eloquent and loyal language in which you have clothed the thoughts we all share regarding Their Gracious and Imperial Majesties' visit, and the relations that subsist between them and the Rulers and people of India.

Your Highness has made the most kindly reference to my own desire to maintain friendly and intimate relations with the Ruling Chiefs; it is a desire which indeed lies very near my heart, and I am proud to number among my close friends not a few of them—not least His Highness Sir Pratap Singh, in whose successful conduct of the Regency at Jodhpur I take the greatest possible interest—and I am very glad to think that my selection of him for that responsible post has given so much satisfaction to the Rathores.

State Banquet, Bikaner.

Ten years ago, when Lord Curzon addressed a smaller gathering than this at Bikaner, His Lordship spoke chiefly in the future tense, dwelling on Your Highness's prospects, and on your unrivalled opportunities of doing good and achieving distinction. He enjoined on you the advisability of remaining a true Indian, while using to the full the advantages of an European and an Indian education, and he said that it was within your power to blend the merits of the West and the East, and to be at the same time a Liberal and a Conservative.

To-day, though I devoutly hope that it is possible for Your Highness to look forward to a long future of useful and distinguished rule, I propose to deal mainly with events of the past as befits the occasion that marks the completion of the first quarter of a century that has elapsed since Your Highness was installed upon the *gaddi.*

If we look back over the years which have intervened since Lord Curzon made that speech, during which Your Highness has exercised full ruling powers, the retrospect is one that must be a source of the highest satisfaction to Your Highness, and to your many friends and well-wishers. We shall see that Your Highness has achieved what Lord Curzon hoped that you might be able to do, and has taken what is good from East and West, from age and youth, from Liberalism and Conservatism, and has used it for the good of your State and of the Empire.

Your Highness has had the perspicacity to grasp that the highest good and the fullest development of your State can be reached, not by isolation, but as a part of the Empire, knit into one whole under the ægis of the Crown of England.

You yourself as Aide-de-Camp to His Imperial Majesty, and by your visits to Europe on the occasion of the Coronations of the late King Edward and His

State Banquet, Bikaner.

present Majesty have had exceptional opportunities of making the acquaintance of persons who guide the affairs of nations, and of those who represent much of what is best in modern Western life. You have mixed freely in the society of many sorts and conditions of men of various nations, and you will forgive me for saying that you have acquired a wideness of outlook and a clearness of judgment of men and things that is exceptional in India, and that has been of the greatest service to your State, to myself, my predecessors, and others concerned with the Government of India.

Your Highness has given practical evidence that you are convinced of the identity of interests between the British Empire and the State of Bikaner, by sending your Imperial Service Troops, the famous Ganga Risala, to China and to Somaliland: and the nature of their services in both countries showed that your men were imbued with the same spirit. Your Highness and Your Highness's troops thus worthily carried on the old tradition of magnificent loyalty which found such brilliant illustration during the Mutiny, and I cannot tell Your Highness with how much interest I have perused the old records of those services which you were kind enough to send for my information. You have given more recent proof of your desire to assist the forces of the Crown by the addition of yet another 500 men, the Sardul Light Infantry, to your Imperial Service Troops; and I should add that it was an honour and a pleasure to me to have the opportunity of inspecting your State forces a few days ago, and I was much impressed with their smartness and efficiency. I should like also on this occasion to bear testimony to the invaluable assistance which Your Highness, in conjunction with His Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior and His Highness the Regent of Jodhpur, by your personal

State Banquet, Bikaner.

exertions and experience, as members of the Coronation Durbar Committee, rendered to me and to my Government in assisting to make that great ceremony the success that it was.

In the field of education Your Highness has shown yourself to be possessed of wide and liberal views. And you yourself have from the first been a whole-hearted supporter and benefactor of the Mayo College, where you were educated, an institution primarily intended for the education of the Rulers and aristocracy of Rajputana as a whole, but now attended by youths from many other parts of this great Continent, and in the success of which I and the Government of India take the greatest possible interest.

To refer to the internal affairs of Your Highness's State, the record has been one of phenomenal progress and development, while violating no reasonable custom or tradition of the people. You have with true statesmanship introduced improvements and reforms without destroying the old-time characteristics of your State.

During the last few days, when inspecting your Public Offices, the Secretariat, the Walter Nobles' School, and the Dungar Memorial College, and when travelling over your railway, and enjoying the beauties and comforts of Lallgarh, I have often wished that the shade of Your Highness's famous ancestor Bikaji, with his bands of hardy followers, could have been at my side and have seen what I saw. His was a genius suited to the needs of his times, and his memory is venerated on this account; and for this reason, though he would have marvelled at what he saw, I am confident that he would also have approved. He would have rejoiced that his illustrious descendant had, in altered conditions and by changed methods, while maintaining all that of old was

State Banquet, Bikaner.

good, devoted his energies to the good of the State which he founded.

The note of your administration, which Your Highness has been good enough to send me, forms most interesting and instructive reading. It speaks of carefully considered improvements in every branch of the administration, and of measures calculated to secure the happiness and good government of your people. I see from it that the revenues of the State have more than doubled during the time of Your Highness's rule; that communications by road have been extended; that the mileage of the railways is approximately ten times what it was. The grant for education has been more than trebled and a Nobles' School and the Dungar Memorial College have been constructed. Coal mines have been worked, a water-supply scheme for the capital has been carried out, the police have been reorganised and crime has decreased to a surprising extent, dacoity being now almost a thing of the past. The judicial system has been reorganised and justice expedited. With great wisdom Your Highness has emphasised the necessity of decentralisation, the delegation of authority and responsibility, and the personal inspection of the work of subordinates, one of the most important points in all systems of Indian administration.

In that note, as in Your Highness's speech, you have made mention of the aspirations of your State in the matter of irrigation with special reference to the Sutlej Canal Project. I can well understand Your Highness's anxiety in this matter, but no papers on the subject have yet been submitted to me, and I must content myself with a promise of sympathetic consideration when it comes before the Government of India.

It would be quite impossible for me to enumerate all the measures of reform adopted during Your Highness's

State Banquet, Bikaner.

administration, but the endeavours that have been made by free money-grants to improve the water-supply and the efforts devoted to encourage the growth of trees caught my attention as particularly appropriate in so thirsty a land as this; and no one can fail to appreciate the amenities which Your Highness has added to your capital in beautiful buildings and fine roads and parks. These are some of the results to which Your Highness can contentedly point, but below them all lies the mainspring of finance to which Your Highness has given so much attention. Finance is the backbone of all administration, and your firm grasp of that fact and the financial reorganisation which you have effected will, I think, prove to be one of the most substantial reforms of all.

I cannot pass over in silence the boons which Your Highness announced at the celebration of the 25th year of your accession. You know my interest in education, and you can guess how pleased I was to see the extension of hostels among the measures to be taken; and the abolition of grain duties of every kind must prove a most welcome concession to all classes of Your Highness's subjects; I will not touch upon all the other headings of your announcement, but I should like to say how pleased I was at your creation of a People's Representative Assembly. Its powers will be not unlike those enjoyed by my Legislative Council; and judging from my own experience, I do not think they will be abused, and I can honestly testify to the great advantage it has been to the Government of India to hear questions affecting the moral and material interests of the people frankly discussed. In my judgment the enlarged Councils have done nothing but good, and have been of great assistance in legislation, and I am confident that Your Highness will have the same experience in Bikaner. I tender to Your Highness my warm congratulations

State Banquet, Bikaner.

upon granting to your people so liberal and progressive a measure.

It is a matter for congratulation that we now hear no more of that incessant strife between the Ruler and his Thakurs, which disfigured the history of Bikaner during the course of the nineteenth century. Your Highness has, I hope, by a policy of firmness and conciliation brought about that permanent harmony between Chief and Nobles that should be the natural relation between them, to their mutual benefit, and the benefit of the State as a whole. And I regard the privileges and honours to members of your aristocracy, which Your Highness was pleased to announce in September, as a happy omen of mutual understanding and good-will.

Last, and not least, I must commend Your Highness, and the Political Officers with whom you have worked, for the excellent relations that have marked your intercourse. Their esteem for Your Highness has often come to my ears, and I am glad that your and their tact and friendliness have made work easy and pleasant for both parties.

I think my audience may be interested if I quote a few words from His Highness's speech on the occasion of a banquet he gave in honour of Lord Elgin in 1896. He said:—

"I stand before you, ladies and gentlemen, but a boy, with all my work and all my trials before me, and it is my most earnest wish that I should prove myself worthy of the position in which I have been placed. I want not only to be Ruler of my people, but their friend, and their best friend too. What I shall look to is this, that a successor of Your Excellency's may at some future date honour me with a visit, and if he should then

State Banquet, Bikaner.

express approval of what I have been doing, I shall indeed be happy."

The promise of those simple, manly and affecting words has been more than fulfilled, and Your Highness on this great occasion must regard with satisfaction the completion of the first stage of your rule.

We all hope that there are many more stages to be travelled in the march, and we know that it is Your Highness's firm intention that they shall be marked by still further measures of improvement and progress.

It has been a great pleasure to us to meet again the Maharaj Kumar, Sri Sardul Singh, whom we had the pleasure of seeing in the performance of his duties as page to His Imperial Majesty at Delhi, and to see that, thanks to his careful upbringing under Your Highness and Colonel Wake, he is being trained in the way that he should go. I can wish him nothing better than that he may follow in his father's footsteps, and continue the noble work which he has carried so far.

My remarks would not be complete without some mention of the excellent sport which has been shown us during our visit to the State. Bikaner has a world-wide reputation in this respect, and it has been as interesting as it has been pleasant to have had opportunities of being present and taking part in your famous sandgrouse shoots, and especially of witnessing Your Highness's mastery of the art of shooting of which I have so often heard.

I must not keep you longer, but cannot conclude without thanking Your Highness most heartily on behalf of all your guests, and especially on behalf of Lady Hardinge and myself, for the extremely pleasant and profitable days we have spent in the Bikaner State, and for the perfection of the arrangements made for our

comfort and enjoyment. Everyone here must feel as I do that this has been a truly memorable occasion, and that it is as much a privilege as a pleasure to have taken part in the celebration of the completion by His Highness of his first 25 years on the *gaddi*. In the years to come, for all of us, these days will ever remain days of pleasant memories and happy recollections.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to drink to the long life and continued happiness of His Highness Colonel Sir Ganga Singh Bahadur, Maharaja of Bikaner, and the ever-increasing prosperity of his State.

VISIT TO THE ALEXANDRA HIGH SCHOOL, BHOPAL.

5th Dec. 1912 [The Viceroy and Lady Hardinge arrived at Bhopal on the morning of the 4th December. The following morning Their Excellencies, accompanied by Her Highness the Begum, visited the Alexandra High School. The Principal in welcoming His Excellency said :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the staff and the students of the Alexandra High School, beg to convey our hearty greetings of welcome to Your Excellency with the utmost deference and respect, and beg to assure you that the distinction of a visit from Your Excellency together with the honour Her Excellency Lady Hardinge has conferred on the school by kindly consenting to present the prizes, calls forth deep feelings of loyalty, pride and gratitude in our hearts. Your Excellency's rule has already given a new impetus to educational reforms in this country, and we cannot but be extremely grateful to Your Excellency for so kindly coming here to-day—an honour which will be treasured for all time by this institution.

A hundred years ago Central India was a prey to internecine dissensions, and all the endeavours of Nawab Sikandar Jahan Begum and Nawab Shah Jahan Begum for the advancement of education in Bhopal failed to convince the people of these parts of their ignorance or to produce in them a desire to dispel it. The first signs of awakening were visible in the form of a desire for oriental learning, but when a High School of more modern type was

Visit to the Alexandra High School, Bhopal.

established the public took little advantage of it. With the accession of our present ruler to the *gaddi* begins a new chapter in the history of education in this State, and the school which has the honour of welcoming Your Excellency and this brilliant assembly to-day is one of the first fruits of Her Highness's endeavours.

Her Highness made it a point of her scheme not only to impart free education, but also to encourage the deserving by granting them liberal stipends. And when even these inducements failed to produce sufficiently desirable results, Her Highness sent her youngest son, Nawabzada Hamidullah Khan, to the school as an example to others. The Nawabzada's example sealed the success of this institution. Her Highness's object in establishing this school was to make modern education popular amongst her subjects, and she has always desired it to be a place where the students, besides gaining ordinary knowledge, might also acquire the manly habits of loyalty, obedience and integrity. The remarkable feature of this school, Your Excellency, is the stress laid on moral and religious instruction.

The increasing number of students and a keener appreciation of education amongst the public are unmistakable indications of the success of Her Highness's endeavours. The people of Bhopal, Your Excellency, were until recently very apathetic in sending their children to school, but now they are only too eager to put them under the entire charge of their tutors, and this alone is clear evidence of the success of the work done during the last few years.

In order to meet the wishes of her people, Her Highness has kindly attached a boarding house to the school, which is under construction at present. As the school is still young, in fact still in its infancy, we can hardly hope to compare with the many grander institutions which have had the good fortune to welcome Your Excellency. Still we venture to urge that the benefits conferred by our secular backed by our religious training, the living example of Her Highness and the wise counsel recently given to us by our noble patron and visitor the Earl of Minto, who opened this school, have gone a long way to make us devoted and sincere, and we believe that the benefits that would accrue to us from to-day's visit will be more marked than those of anywhere else.

To which the Viceroy replied as follows :—]

Your Highness and Staff of the Alexandra High School,—It has been a pleasure to me to listen to the

Visit to the Alexandra High School, Bhopal.

history of this institution, and I desire to thank the staff and students for the hearty welcome they have given to Lady Hardinge and myself.

My predecessor, Lord Minto, a few years ago was pleased to inaugurate this school, and referred to it as one of the many useful institutions bestowed by Her Highness on Bhopal.

I need hardly say that it gives me equal pleasure to hear that, thanks to Her Highness's indomitable energy and supervision, the school, after some ups and downs which were to be expected, is now flourishing, and that its progress is steady.

The fact that Her Highness sent her youngest son to the institution no doubt encouraged others, and it is to be hoped that the upper classes of her subjects will continue to follow her good example, and realising their responsibilities will not fail to give their sons the opportunity of obtaining a sound education, thus giving them equal chances in after-life with the youth of other parts of the Empire, and training up a class fit to take their places in an enlightened and progressive State.

Her Highness's keen interest in true education is so well known, that I am not surprised to hear that special stress is laid in the Alexandra School on moral and religious training. Without this a youth is unfit to start on the battle of life. I also think that the new boarding house provided by Her Highness will be a boon to those students, whose homes are at a distance from Bhopal. To the students I would say, do not forget the lessons of discipline which you learn here, they are more valuable than book-learning and will stand by you all your lives in whatever careers you may adopt.

I wish you all success and prosperity to your school.

OPENING OF THE HAMIDIA LIBRARY, BHOPAL.

[From the Alexandra High School Their Excellencies drove to the Hamidia Library building, which His Excellency had been asked to open. Previous to His Excellency declaring the Library open, Her Highness the Begum read the following address :— 5th Dec. 1912.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,—The very first time that I took a responsible view of the state of education in Bhopal I realised the most important and immediate necessity of directing all efforts to the progress and promotion of education amongst my subjects. I learnt from experience that the tree of knowledge does not bear good fruit without the graft of female education, and hence I have always used every endeavour to make the education of girls popular and useful. I have every reason to hope and believe that my efforts for the firm establishment of female education in Bhopal will, God willing, be successful under the benign shadow of our Government. That the British Government has infused a new life and a new spirit into the educational activities of this country, is obvious to all; the foundations of a new Imperial city of enlightenment and culture have been well and truly laid, and thanks to the endeavours of our rulers and the generosity of many contributors to this cause, hopeful signs of general progress and advancement are visible and augur well for still better results in the future. Can India, Your Excellency, forget to bless for all time the name and memory of the distinguished statesman who first sowed the seeds of education in this country? Your Excellency occupies that distinguished position to-day, and we all hope and pray that your tenure of office may be characterised by remarkable efforts for the promotion of female education in India. I received great assistance, Your Excellency, in the attainment of my object by the example set to the boys of my State by my youngest son, Nawabzada Hamidullah Khan, who instead of going to a Chiefs' College or getting a private education, joined the High School of Bhopal and attended it regularly like an ordinary student. This, I am glad to say, contributed to a most gratifying popularity of modern education amongst the nobles and leading families of my State.

I felt the need of a public library having a collection of valuable old oriental works as well as the useful old and new books of the West, and this building has been constructed for that purpose. The Library will have a reading-room also where the public will be able to read the various newspapers and thus keep itself in touch with the times. Since I have, in the accomplishment of my wishes for the spread of education, derived most valuable help from the

Opening of the Hamidia Library, Bhopal.

example of the school-life of Hamidullah Khan, I propose to give his name to this Library, and now to impart additional reputation and credit to it, I have to beg to Your Excellency to kindly perform the opening ceremony.

In opening the Library the Viceroy said :—]

Your Highness,—I am very much touched by the reference you have made to the work done by my grandfather in India in the cause of education, when its blessings were but little appreciated. His example has inspired me with the desire to follow worthily in his footsteps, and among the manifold cares which occupy my attention, there is none that is nearer my heart than the desire that, during my tenure of office, the basis of primary education may be so widened that elementary knowledge may gradually become the birthright of the poorest in the land. At the same time it is my earnest hope that the profession of schoolmaster may become one of the most honoured of all, and the whole tone of the teaching given may be raised, so that its true end and object may, with greater certainty, be accomplished, and the generations of young men, who year by year go forth into the world and each in turn hold the honour and welfare of India in their hands, may ever be more and more fit, not only to maintain, but to raise the tradition of the various professions and occupations, and while exhibiting a constantly increasing efficiency in the various walks of life, may bear testimony to the value of their early training by the steady development of individual character.

Your Highness has very truly remarked that an educational policy to be successful must include female education; you have doubtless realised that the principal difficulty in its development lies in the conservatism of the people themselves, which varies in strength from province to province and from district to district in its

reluctance to allow the girls of India to participate in that enlightened instruction which, I am glad to say, is slowly but surely passing over the land. There is no question that this reluctance is gradually being overcome, but the progress is slow, and I can only hope that the stimulus of Your Highness's energetic example may accelerate the speed, and that another generation will see almost as many girls at school as boys.

It may seem a little curious that, in coming to open a library, I should have talked so little of books, and so much of education; but after all the association is fairly intimate, and those who reach the highest rungs in the ladder of education would find their powers of progress crippled and their faculties starved if they had no access to the learning gathered by the wise men of their own and other countries, while culture would be a poor thing if it did not stimulate that interest in all that is going on in the greater world, which it is part of the object of this library to foster and satisfy.

I have been much interested to hear of Nawabzada Hamidullah Khan's educational career, and I most cordially congratulate Your Highness upon the breadth of mind and wisdom by which you have been guided in this matter. I trust that his example may give an impetus to the cause of learning in Bhopal which may never lose its force, and I feel that it is a very happy inspiration which has led you to give his name to this institution. I have very great pleasure in declaring this library open. I name it the Hamidia Library, and I wish it a most happy and useful career.

STATE BANQUET, BHOPAL.

[At the termination of the banquet given at the Rahat Manzil, 6th Dec. 1912.
Her Highness the Begum, accompanied by her sons, came into the

State Banquet, Bhopal.

Banquet Hall, and read in vernacular a speech proposing the health of the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge, a translation of which, read by the Political Agent, was as follows :—

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,—With feelings of genuine gratitude and with all the warmth and cordiality of a faithful feudatory towards a kind and benevolent Emperor, I rise to extend a most hearty welcome to the Emperor's distinguished representative in India, to Her Excellency Lady Hardinge and to all the other guests who have done me the honour of accepting my invitation.

The civilised nations of the world, Your Excellency, have always respected traditions, but for us orientals the old traditions have a peculiar force and meaning, and we accord special respect and consideration to him who in addition to his personal qualities inherits the glory of a great ancestry and the traditions of an ancient and historic name. We are all aware of the long and historic association of Your Excellency's house with services rendered to the British Crown in times of stress and difficulty, a fact to which the words inscribed underneath the statue of Sir Robert Hardinge in the Melbourne Cathedral bear eloquent testimony. The brilliant work of the great Lord Hardinge for the Empire is also well known to us; we remember the distinguished part he played in England's wars in Europe; we know he took possession of Napoleon's sword and afterwards when he was appointed Governor-General of these dominions, he fulfilled, and in such a brilliant manner, the high expectations that were entertained of him by the Court of Directors of the East India Company at the time of his appointment. Those were troublous times, Your Excellency, and we have heard from our ancestors how well Lord Hardinge ruled, and how after a salutary show of strength he gave this country the inestimable gifts of peace, good government and prosperity.

There seems a wonderful resemblance between the career of that great soldier-statesman and that of his no less distinguished grandson, whom the revered Queen Victoria and our late Emperor always delighted to honour for his remarkable services, and who, like his grandfather, has now been sent by his Sovereign to represent him in this country. Your Excellency has not been long amongst us, but from the little that we have seen of you, we are all confidently looking forward to the brilliant fulfilment at your hands of the high expectations of the whole Empire. The visit of Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and the Empress to India to

State Banquet, Bhopal.

celebrate their coronation at the Imperial City of Delhi has hitherto been the most important event of Your Excellency's rule. It is an event which in addition to being a matter of personal pride and gratification to Your Excellency, has given new life to India and has brought to her the Imperial Message of "Hope." Your Excellency's rule has thus commenced under the most auspicious circumstances and in the course of a short time we find Your Excellency a beloved ruler of this land walking worthily in the footsteps of your grandfather and eminently deserving of the high praise bestowed on him, by our beloved Queen Victoria of happy memory.

Your Excellency, on the death of my grandfather Nawab Jahangir Mohamed Khan in 1844 it was Lord Hardinge who recognised the installation of my mother Nawab Shah Jehan Begum on the *gaddi* of Bhopal. My mother was then but seven years of age, and Lord Hardinge ordered the appointment of Faujdar Mohamed Khan (an uncle of my grandmother Nawab Sikandar Begum) as the Regent of the State and invited his special attention to good government and to the payment of the loan that had been contracted. Lord Hardinge's *Khanita*, which is in Persian, is preserved in the State archives, and its language strikingly indicates the solicitude of Your Excellency's illustrious ancestor for the welfare and prosperity of my family and my people. Shortly after this arose a knotty question of the claim to Regency, for, dissatisfied with Faujdar Mohamed Khan's appointment, my grandmother Nawab Sikandar Begum pressed her own claim which was eventually regarded favourably by Lord Hardinge's Government. Nawab Sikandar Begum was appointed Regent in 1847 and the happy results that this selection had for the fortunes of this State are well known. Nawab Sikandar Begum was a living embodiment of good government. She paid off the heavy debts and improved the administration, whilst the signal services she rendered, at what has been called a time of "doubt, danger and difficulty," amply demonstrated her faithfulness and devotion to the British Crown.

I am a direct descendant and successor of the famous Nawab Sikandar Begum, while the distinguished guest of this evening is a descendant and successor of the renowned Governor-General who recognised her Regency: the crown of the good and beloved Queen Victoria now graces the forehead of His Imperial Majesty George V, so that you can all well imagine my sentiments at this moment when I rise to do honour to one who is at once the Viceroy of His Majesty the King-Emperor and a descendant of one of the greatest benefactors of my State.

State Banquet, Bhopal.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I will not detain you with a description of the recent improvements in the administration of my State, as these are adequately dealt with in the Annual Administration Reports. I will only make a passing reference to the marked progress effected in the administration of the revenue department by the settlement of 1909. Signs of increasing prosperity are now visible, the revenue demand is most regularly and willingly paid and no amount now remains in arrears as was usually the case under the old arrangement. All these are happy proofs of the soundness of the settlement recently completed, and I hope the State revenue will show a considerable increase when the time for the next settlement comes.

Your Excellency, I spent the greater part of the last year in Europe, and derived considerable benefit from a close study of the culture and civilisation of the European nations. During my absence on the continent Nawab Nasrullah Khan efficiently performed, according to my instructions, the duties I had entrusted to him. I am heartily thankful to Your Excellency for so kindly accepting my recommendation and making him an Honorary Major in the Indian Army. This, I hope, will help to increase his interest in military matters.

The valuable services rendered by my second son, Colonel Obaidullah Khan, in connection with the Imperial Service Troops have always been very highly spoken of, and the encouraging manner in which Your Excellency has now shown your own appreciation is to me and my family a further cause of gratitude to you. Nearly three-fourths of my army now constitutes Imperial Service Troops, but thanks to the wise and economical management of its able Commander-in-Chief, the military expenditure of the State, according to the figures of the latest budget, is less than what it was during the rule of my late mother when a large irregular force swelled the ranks of the State Army.

My youngest son, Nawabzada Hamidullah Khan, is prosecuting his studies at the Aligarh College with great diligence, a fact which encourages me to entertain very high expectations of him as a promising member of my family. I am sure that on the completion of his education the principal object of his life will be to serve his Emperor and his country.

In his speech at the banquet here almost exactly three years ago, Lord Minto had very kindly remarked that I was probably the only lady who had seen active service. I certainly went through the

State Banquet, Bhopal.

trials of active service in the course of my pilgrimage to the Hedjaz and I beg to assure Your Excellency that in time of emergency no only my cavalry and infantry regiments, with their own transpor services, are ready to take the field, but I personally and th members of my house also will consider it an honour and a pleasur to place our services at the disposal of our Emperor and his Gov ernment. In the history of Bhopal the participation of women i actual warfare is not a strange phenomenon. In the year 1812 th women of this city courageously and successfully withstood a onslaught of the investing force till such time as reinforcement arrived.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have trespasse too long upon your time and thank you for the patience with whic you have listened to me. I have now to request you, Ladies an Gentlemen, to drink to the health of my illustrious guests Thei Excellencies Lord and Lady Hardinge.

The Viceroy in acknowledging the toast said :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Your Highness has alluded in flattering and friendly terms to the old connection between the family of the Rulers o Bhopal and my own grandfather, and I most heartily reciprocate the feelings of good-will to which Your Highness has given expression, and it adds immensely to the pleasure of my visit here to know that we are now, in the third generation, renewing an ancestral friendship. My grandfather had the good fortune to be Governor-General of India when the famous Sikandar Begum became Regent in 1847; and when I read the history of those times, I feel that there can have been few incidents in his tenure of office that he could look back upon with greater satisfaction than the part assigned to him in that event.

The Bhopal State under Your Highness's rule has maintained and excelled its previous record of loyalty to the British Crown, and I take leave here to remark that the earnest devotion to the Throne of the leading Mussalman Houses of India going forth to meet, as it does,

State Banquet, Bhopal.

His Imperial Majesty's affectionate solicitude for his Mahomedan subjects, must be to the King-Emperor a source of the liveliest satisfaction.

In the case of Bhopal, friendly relations date from 1778, in which year the British forces marching from Bengal to Bombay received valuable assistance from this State.

In 1813 the connection with the British Power was renewed, and in 1817 a treaty of alliance was concluded against the Pindaris. The words of Malcolm are evidence of the spirit in which that treaty was regarded by the then Ruler of the State. He says that "no obligations were ever more faithfully fulfilled." In the dark days of the Mutiny, which occurred during the rule of Sikandar Begum, no Chief in the length and breadth of India proved a more staunch ally than Her Highness. She kept the peace throughout her own territories, although the Maulvis in the city were preaching *jihad* and her troops were threatening her life. The Agent to the Governor-General at Indore, Colonel Durand, and many others were given refuge and safety. Supplies and troops were sent to the assistance of the British troops as far north as Kalpi. The Begum Sahiba sent a force to quell the revolted troops of the Bhopal Contingent at Sehore, and saved the Government Treasury there. In recognition of these services, Queen Victoria conferred on Her Highness the title of G.C.S.I. and granted to her the Berasia pargana, which now forms part of the State. And if Her Highness was a faithful friend to the British Crown, she was no less a benefactress to her own State and people. She liquidated the State debts, reformed the judiciary, the police and the mints, she abolished the pernicious system of revenue farming and trade monopoly, and showed her solicitude for the welfare of her poorer subjects by personal tours

State Banquet, Bhopal.

of inspection and enquiry into their condition. I think it must always have been a source of keen satisfaction to my grandfather that he had seen Sikandar Begum's elevation to power in Bhopal. It is a source of equal gratification to me that the descendant of Sikandar Begum, whom it is my privilege to meet now in Her Highness's beautiful capital, has followed in the footsteps of her distinguished ancestress, has fully maintained her loyal traditions, and has carried even further her schemes for the amelioration of the condition of her subjects. Your Highness is the proud possessor of the Orders of the G.C.I.E. and the G.C.S.I., and the King-Emperor himself conferred upon you the decoration of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India at Delhi last year. These are tokens of the King-Emperor's friendship and regard for Your Highness, and of his recognition of your work as an administrator. Your Highness's sons, Sahibzadas Nasrullah Khan and Obaidullah Khan, have proved themselves your able coadjutors, and their services have been recognised by the conferment of the rank of Major in His Majesty's Indian Army, and on the King-Emperor's Birthday this year I was glad to announce that Sahibzada Obaidullah Khan was made a Companion of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India.

Your Imperial Service Troops are evidence of the readiness of the Bhopal State to take its part in the defence of the Empire. Lord Kitchener spoke most favourably of their efficiency, and I have no doubt that the additions to their numbers, gratefully accepted by His Majesty's Government last year, will maintain the same high standard. It was, I know, a source of disappointment to Your Highness that the Government of India were unable some years ago to utilise their services in the expedition against the Zakka Khel; but I am sure

State Banquet, Bhopal.

that, should in future the opportunity offer, they would acquit themselves most worthily.

In the matter of internal administration Your Highness's name is as well known as it is for its fidelity to the Crown. Your Highness has devoted to the good of your State and people the results of the wide knowledge acquired in England, and in travel in many countries of Europe and Asia, to the extent of which the interesting book which Your Highness has recently published is speaking testimony. I need not recapitulate the steps that have been taken in recent years to improve the administration, but I must mention two matters of special importance in which Your Highness has set a brilliant example. I refer to the measures you have taken for the improvement of the lot of women, and the interest you have taken in the important question of the higher education of Chiefs and Nobles. It seems sometimes almost to be forgotten that women are the mothers of men—so little has been done for them in some parts of India. The frightful infant mortality that prevails in the land, and the lack of education among women of all classes, are matters of universal knowledge on which I need not expatiate. But they are none the less of the most paramount importance in the life of all the peoples of India. The difficulties that lie in the way of improvement are immense; but Your Highness, as a woman who is also a Ruler, has opportunities which perhaps are given to no one else. That Your Highness has made splendid use of them is shown by the work done in the Lady Lansdowne Hospital, in the Madrassa-i-Sultania and the Victoria Girls' School. Your Highness's pamphlet on the subject of the education of the Rulers and nobility of India shows that Your Highness has given deep consideration to this important subject, and it has done much to stimulate the movement. It is a matter in

Laying the Foundation Stone of the Bhopal Military School.

which I feel the greatest personal interest, and to which I am ready to give all the support in my power.

I need detain you no longer, but I must express my gratitude to Your Highness for the heartiness of your welcome to Lady Hardinge and myself, and for the extremely pleasant and instructive visit to your wonderful State.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have great pleasure in proposing the health of that enlightened and loyal Chief, and generous hostess, Her Highness the Nawab Begum of Bhopal.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE BHOPAL MILITARY SCHOOL.

[At 8 o'clock on the morning of the 7th December His Excellency the Viceroy witnessed a review of the Bhopal Imperial Service Troops, and after the Parade laid the foundation stone of the Hardinge Military School, at which ceremony His Excellency made the following speech :—] 7th Dec. 1912.

Your Highness,—Though I am not a soldier myself, there is a very strong military tradition in my family; my grandfather earned a distinguished name on the field of battle, and I have a son in the Army, who, I hope, may follow in his great-grandfather's footsteps, while my position, in relation to the Indian Army, demands my constant attention to military questions.

Most gladly therefore do I accept the task you have proposed for me.

I understand that the object Your Highness has in view is to provide, firstly, an honourable career for the cadets of noble family in Bhopal, and, secondly, to secure that your troops—of whom you have so much reason to be proud—should be officered, and efficiently officered, by the flower of your subjects. The scheme is one

deserving of every support and sympathy, and under the eye of Your Highness and Colonel Obaidullah Khan I feel sure that it will prove a great success. The most important point in connection with it is that the instructors and resident masters should themselves be men of honourable record and good breeding such as can furnish, not only teachers of the military art, but examples of all that a brave and chivalrous soldier and gentleman should be. A military career is by no manner of means all glory and glitter; the glitter comes through sustained hard work and monotonous drudgery, and glory, if it passes by a soldier's way, can seldom be won unless difficult lessons of self-reliance, self-control, discipline and courage have been well and thoroughly learned before the crisis comes.

In laying this foundation stone, I am very proud to think that this school will bear my grandfather's and my name, and, while I hope that it may prove the greatest possible success for the purposes for which it is intended, I have also little doubt that it will be a very happy home and training ground for many brave young soldiers in years to come.

NAGPUR MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

16th Dec. 1912. [Their Excellencies and party arrived at Nagpur on the morning of the 16th December, and His Excellency the Viceroy, after inspecting the guard-of-honour on the platform, received the following address of welcome from the Nagpur Municipality at the station :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Municipal Committee, Nagpur, crave permission to offer Your Lordship a most hearty and loyal welcome to this old and historic city. Our joy is all the greater as this province has very seldom been similarly honoured.

The condescension of Their Imperial Majesties in visiting Nagpur has rendered the year of unique historic importance in the annals of the province and afforded an occasion for the personal homage

Nagpur Municipal Address.

of thousands of their subjects who would otherwise have had no opportunity of being in the Royal presence. We pray that Your Lordship will be pleased to convey to Their Most Gracious Majesties our sense of deep devotion to the Throne.

His Imperial Majesty's call for greater sympathy in the administration of this vast Empire was followed by the inauguration of important changes in the constitution of the Council of the Empire. The celebration of the Coronation Durbar, the far-reaching administrative changes and the generous measures of public beneficence in connection therewith, will always be associated with Your Excellency's administration in the history of India. We have now reached another mile-stone in the path of progress and we pass onwards under Your Excellency's fostering care and noble guidance with feelings of hope and abiding faith in the benign character of British Rule. We realise that government based on the sure foundation of mutual understanding and appreciation will mould for the best the destiny of India in future.

We are specially grateful to Her Excellency Lady Hardinge, to whom also we beg to offer our heartiest welcome, for having graciously accompanied Your Lordship on this auspicious occasion. This is the first time that our city has been thus honoured, and we all feel proud that Her Excellency's name will be associated with our rejoicings in connection with the jubilee of this administration.

In conclusion we pray that the Almighty may grant Your Excellency health and strength to enable you to administer the government of this vast Empire so that peace, progress and prosperity may prevail throughout the length and breadth of this land.

His Excellency in reply said :—]

Gentlemen,—Permit me to thank you most heartily for the warm words of welcome with which you have greeted me on my arrival in your historic city.

The territories entrusted to a Viceroy's care are so vast, and the distances to be travelled so immense, that it is only by the most methodical arrangement of his tours that he can hope to attain even a slight personal acquaintance with every portion of them, and some are apt to escape even that attention. But when I learned that Nagpur had not been visited officially by any of my immediate predecessors, I determined that I would

pay an early visit to this old capital of the Central Provinces, and see what I could of it and of its people in the brief time at my disposal.

I am well aware of the great progress and development that have been realised by the Central Provinces during the past few years, and knowing well that, under the beneficent care of my friend, Sir Benjamin Robertson, Nagpur would suffer no neglect through my absence, I might have hesitated before turning my steps in this direction; but, if I felt any hesitation, it has been removed by the kindness of your welcome, which has made me feel that I am at home among friends the moment I have set foot within your boundaries.

We have before us to-morrow a ceremony of great importance, and I do not think that you will expect me on the present occasion to do more than to express my pleasure at meeting you; but before I pass on I should like to say that the happy language in which you have referred to His Imperial Majesty's recent visit to India, and to your city, and to his Coronation Durbar, fills me with confidence as to the future; and if words have any meaning at all the message which His Majesty brought us is already ripening in the fruit of a better mutual understanding between all classes, and a brighter outlook for the peoples of this country.

I will not detain you longer except to thank you once again for your cordial welcome, and to assure you that I shall make it my business to see that your expressions of loyal devotion and affectionate recollection of their visit shall be brought to the ears of Their Imperial Majesties.

CENTRAL PROVINCES COMMISSION DINNER.

16th Dec. 1912. [The Central Provinces Commission entertained His Excellency to a dinner on the 16th December, and at its conclusion the Viceroy,

Central Provinces Commission Dinner.

in thanking the members for the opportunity given him to meet them, said :—]

Gentlemen,—The remark that the Civil Service of India is the finest service in the world has been made so often and dinned into my ears with such reiteration that I, who have spent practically the whole of my life in a different service—and one which I firmly believe has no equal—cannot help feeling a tendency to be argumentative on the subject. I have the high honour now to be head of the Indian Civil Service, and you may possibly argue that that ought to obliterate the erroneous impressions conceived in the dim obscurity of any previous career, but the argument loses something of its force when you consider that I also hold an honourable position as the head of the Army in India, the Public Works Department, Police, Medical, and I suppose I may say, albeit with some diffidence, the Ecclesiastical and a host of other services. In mixed company, then, it behoves me to walk warily in ascribing the palm to any particular service, but I can say publicly what I say to you now that the Civil Service of India is a magnificent service and one of the finest in the world. It still holds out a career full of interest and sometimes of excitement and danger, and it draws out the very best qualities that man possesses. A civilian's work is always important and often difficult, and he can aspire to positions of the highest honour and the gravest responsibilities.

I imagine that every one of you who is present here to-night is interested in a great many subjects; but if I could look into your minds and scientifically label your thoughts, there is one label which I should require in an altogether disproportionate quantity, and that label would bear the inscription, "Public Service Commission."

Central Provinces Commission Dinner.

The late Sir William Gilbert once remarked that—

> Every boy and every girl that's born into the world alive,
> Is either a little Liberal or else a little Conservative.

This doggerel rhyme was frequently repeated and often encored; and in spite of the somewhat frivolous connection in which it was made, it has always seemed to me to be full of truth, and I believe I should be right in assuming that a definitely marked proportion of the services in India are of a naturally conservative disposition, and would maintain that no change was either desirable or possible in the best of all possible worlds and the best of all possible services; but from the little platform—sometimes fallaciously described as the cerulean heights—from which I as a hard-working member of the Government of India have had to survey these and many other questions in the past two years, it has been forced upon my attention that there is a large body of men in most services who hold a different view. I do not for a moment suggest that any of them have ever considered their own to be anything but the best possible service, so far as *personnel* is concerned; but the tendency has been to question whether so magnificent a *personnel* has received the appreciation which is its due from a grateful country, and in the word appreciation you will recognise a euphonious syllogism for emoluments. I speak with the utmost seriousness when I say that I fully, freely and frankly recognise that the amenities of service in India have in the past thirty years been greatly reduced. The work is far more severe, there is less sport to be had and less time to spare for it, and an officer touring round his charge is no longer looked upon as a demi-god, whose utterances are oracular and whose word is law; but now he often meets with familiarity, and his decisions are frequently challenged. The days, too, of

Central Provinces Commission Dinner.

the Pagoda tree are past. I have heard of a man who, a little more than 100 years ago, came out to India for two years and amassed what was then considered a modest competence. He was not in the Civil Service; but it seems that he was given a small appointment and arranged that the man who had been doing the work before should continue to do the work and draw the pay, while he himself should be contented with the perquisites. He was a near relation of the then Governor-General and consulted him before making this arrangement; and I have only to add that, in case any of you have it in mind to make similar arrangements now, it would be more discreet on his part to dispense with any consultation with the present Governor-General.

And this great change in the position of the Civil Servant has been accompanied, not only by a fall in the value of the rupee, but by an enormous rise in prices which has had the practical effect of considerably reducing his pay. That is a point of view which I hope will be adequately placed before the Commission by some of the witnesses who will give evidence before it. But you must of course reckon with the fact that other points of view to which some of you may not feel disposed to accord the same ready acceptance will undoubtedly be placed before the Commission with great force and vigour; and it is as much beyond my province as my wit to prophesy what their conclusions will be.

Incidentally let me say that in some other cases that have come before me the real crux of the situation seemed to lie in an uneven flow of promotion. Experienced members of the great Indian services are the very foundation of our Indian Empire, but unlike other foundations they are replaced from time to time, and when they budge not, neither do they stir, the younger members who feel within themselves all the qualities of

Central Provinces Commission Dinner.

good foundations are inclined to grow restive. I have been told that it has even been suggested that, in view of the declining powers of enjoyment in advancing age, the usual scheme of promotion might be usefully reversed in so far as mere salary is concerned, and that the early retirement of senior men would be greatly facilitated if the latest joined were given the pay of Commissioners, Members of Council and the like, gradually decreasing as the years roll by to the remuneration of a supernumerary Assistant Collector, who has not yet got magisterial powers.

Promotion is, I understand, at present far from rapid in the Civil Service of the Central Provinces, and your late Chief Commissioner submitted certain proposals for the regrading of the superior posts in the Commission. The subject is at present under the consideration, and I think I shall commit no indiscretion if I say the not unsympathetic consideration, of the Government of India. But I cannot of course tell you what our final opinion may be, nor what view of the matter may be taken at home.

The Central Provinces has now attained the fiftieth year of its existence as a separate administration, and to-morrow we are to celebrate this auspicious event by the laying of the foundation stone of a Chamber for the Legislative Council which will shortly come into being. With the association of representatives of the people in the government of the province new responsibilities, Gentlemen, will devolve upon you. The old methods of patriarchal government, however well suited they may have been to the state of development which had been attained in days gone by, must gradually give place to a system more in keeping with modern ideas. But I know that I can depend on the officers of the Civil Service to adapt themselves to the new order of things and to

Central Provinces Commission Dinner.

carry on the administration of the country with the same smoothness and efficiency as have excited the admiration of competent observers in the past. You, officers of the Central Provinces Commission, have always had the reputation of keeping in kindly touch with the people with whose interests you are concerned, and these bonds of sympathy will, I am sure, not be relaxed under the conditions which are about to arise.

The Central Provinces Commission includes a proportion of men who do not belong to the Imperial Civil Service, but they work hand in hand and together they form a *corps d'élite* to which any man might well be proud to belong. The administration of these provinces stands as high in reputation as that of any other part of India, and the personal relations which I have had with some of your representatives have left me impressed with the virility and broad common sense which your province has produced. I need not tell you that I am referring to Sir Reginald Craddock, my trusty friend and colleague, whom you all know so well and who did such splendid work here, to Sir Benjamin Robertson, your present Chief Commissioner—so long the guide, philosopher, and friend of the Government of India in the Department of Commerce and Industry, and to Sir Charles Cleveland, who seems to have an infinite capacity for making friends with the worst characters in India and somewhat pathetically complains that the better he does his work the less he is wanted. I am aware that to one of these three a province across your borders lays some claim, but the claim is lost, I will not say in the mists of antiquity, for Sir Benjamin is still a young man, but I think I may fairly say in the comparative obscurity of a junior civilian's early training; and I am sure you will all agree with me that the claim will not hold water.

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur

To him and to you I tender the most warm and hearty thanks for the cordial way in which you have received the toast of my health, for your kindly welcome and for your generous hospitality—and I can only assure you all that it has been the greatest possible pleasure to me to meet and dine with you—the men who bear the burden and heat of the day—without whose loyalty and devotion to duty the Viceroy and the Government of India would be mere empty names.

I drink to the health of the Central Provinces Commission, and I couple my toast with the name of Mr. Hoyle, your Junior Member.

LAYING FOUNDATION STONE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HALL, NAGPUR.

17th Dec. 1912. [His Excellency the Viceroy laid the foundation stone of the new Council Chamber at Nagpur on the 17th December. Their Excellencies drove to the ceremony escorted by the 32nd Lancers and Nagpur Volunteer Mounted Infantry. On arrival Their Excellencies entered the *shamiana* in procession amid a large gathering of the civil and military population of Nagpur. His Excellency being seated, the Chief Secretary of the Chief Commissioner presented the representative members of the local bodies of the Central Provinces and Berar. After the presentation the Hon'ble Mr. Dadabhoy, C.I.E., read the following address of the local bodies of the Central Provinces :—

We present ourselves before you to-day as representatives of the District Councils and Municipal Committees of the Central Provinces. We come from the fertile cotton tracts of Nagpur and Wardha, with their busy manufacturing towns: from the wide-spread plain of Chhattisgarh, with its limitless fields of rice and its broad rivers, shut in by boundless forest uplands: from the valley of the Nerbudda, rich in populous towns and villages and smiling cornfields: and from the jungle-clad plateau of the Satpura, where the plough of the cultivator is ever narrowing the area left for the

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

axe of the Gond and for the wild beasts against which he has to contend.

Your Excellency is no doubt aware of the history of the Central Provinces. How the Rajput ruler gave place to the Gond: and the Gond to the Maratha: how the rival powers of the Marathas and the British drifted inevitably into war: and how when the British were victorious, they assumed the management and protectorate of the infant ruler's kingdom. The story of the province dates from the year 1853, when Lord Dalhousie took over its rule, after the reigning prince had died without an heir. The Mutiny passed by the provinces with but little disturbance to their settled peace save in the north. In Nagpur, Rani Baka Bai's loyalty and good sense enabled the Resident to avert the secret dangers that were threatening British rule. From the storm that raged in the north of India a few fierce waves traversed the Vindhya and Nerbudda territories, to dash themselves in vain against the ramparts of Saugor and the bayonets of the British force in Jubbulpore. With the close of the Mutiny, a new era was to commence. The Saugor and Nerbudda territories, the price of the Maratha defeat at Sitabuldi, were amalgamated with the kingdom that lately belonged to the Raja of Nagpur, and the whole constituted into a new province under a Chief Commissioner with his head-quarters at Nagpur.

With the advent of that great ruler Sir R. Temple, a name never to be forgotten in the Central Provinces, an era of great administrative energy and far-reaching reform was ushered in. The times were not yet ripe for the political education of the inhabitants of the province, but in whatever could conduce to their prosperity and safety, to the efficiency of government and to the wealth of the people, Sir R. Temple's hand was seen. He found the province landlocked, its rich produce separated from the sea by hundreds of miles of difficult country, in crossing which cartmen reckoned the distance, not by miles, but by the number of axles they wore out on the road: he left it with a great trunk line of railway joining the Nerbudda valley with Calcutta: and with Nagpur and Berar directly connected to the sea at Bombay. From a knowledge of the country obtained by tireless journeying over hill and through forest, he devised a scheme of roads which linked up the main centres of provincial commerce with one another and with the railway. His efforts in the cause of education, of security for life and property, of medical treatment for the people, of equal justice for rich and poor, were no less strenuous and successful. But what the landholding classes of the province, many representatives of whom are

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

among us to-day, most especially prize is the remembrance that his was the hand that bestowed the gift of the malguzari tenure, coupled with a moderate and, considering the difficulties of the time, a just and accurate land revenue settlement. It is to this gift that we attribute the increasing wealth and peaceful prosperity of the years that followed his strenuous rule. The cause of education in those early days owed much to the Revd. Stephen Hislop, a member of the Free Church Mission, who, in addition to his work as a teacher, was an explorer and scientist of no mean note.

Under the benign influence of Sir John Morris, a ruler of whose previous service some years had already been spent in the Central Provinces, the country was happy in the possession of a history only of prosperous seasons and ever-extending agriculture. But even prosperity brings its own evils. So long as the demand was for cultivators rather than for land—while there were vast areas of waste still awaiting the plough—relations between landlord and tenant were, in the early days of the British rule over the province, at their very best: and in spite of the unsuitable nature of Act X of 1859, borrowed from a neighbouring province, it proved a sufficient protection for the tenancy. But the coming of railways, the rise in prices and a long succession of prosperous seasons changed this: and it became necessary to make special provision for local circumstances by local land laws. This initiated the long series of tenancy and land legislation, from the necessity of which the changing economic conditions of the province have never since suffered us to be free for long at a time. The first Tenancy Act of the province will be remembered as the work of Mr. W. B. Jones.

It fell to the lot of Sir J. Morris to introduce local self-government into the province. The prescience of Lord Ripon, the great originator of this scheme, will now be denied by no one. Local self-government has given to each district a rallying point, at which the best and most enlightened public opinion has been able to make itself felt in favour of improved conditions in civic and moral life, and an ever-rising standard of educational efficiency. To local self-government and to the help and sympathy of Government officers, and in many cases of devoted and enthusiastic missionaries, in co-operation with the people, we owe our schools and colleges, of which we are justly proud, though we look on them only as an earnest of an ideal towards which we are striving: our water-works, that have driven the terrible scourge of cholera from our cities: our markets, dispensaries, and tree-shaded roads. But the greatest boon which we owe to local self-government is the political training received in

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

these schools of municipal and district administration, a training which has enabled us to accept, with deep gratitude and profound loyalty, but also with a feeling that we are not unworthy of it, the gift of political enfranchisement symbolised by the building which is shortly to arise on this very spot. In speaking of the progress that has been made in the provision of medical relief, we must acknowledge the help of missionary bodies, and we must especially mention the establishment of the National Association for affording medical help to the women of India by Lady Dufferin, an association which has done so much to relieve womanly suffering and trials.

The original series of land revenue settlements began to fall in towards the year 1890 : this necessitated a fresh and more elaborate system of survey and settlement. An efficient land record system leading to the preparation of a more reliable record of rights and to the increased acquaintance of Government officers with rural economics, was elaborated by the organising genius of Mr. (now Sir B.) Fuller, and if there were cases in which landowners thought the enhancements were too severe, we prefer to dwell rather on the prompt and wise liberality with which Government dealt with the revenue demand, when famine conditions had made it impossible for the impoverished ryots and landlords to meet it. This desire to move in the direction of more lenient settlements found advocates among many of the higher officers of Government, who felt that the landed classes deserved more consideration than they had always received in the past. Thanks to Your Excellency's Government, in a resolution that was passed by the Imperial Legislative Council on 23rd January 1912, it was made incumbent on assessing officers to work towards the reduction of future assessments to the half assets principle.

To Sir Antony Macdonnell, now Lord Macdonnell, fell the task of carrying into practice the recommendations of the Public Services Commission. He recognised that a high standard of honour and probity could be maintained among an Indian official cadre, by recruiting its officers from the better educated and more intelligent classes, a tradition which has been maintained ever since. It was in the time of Sir A. Macdonnell that Indians were first raised to the position of Deputy Commissioners of Districts, and he took the first step in the direction of separating the Judicial and Executive by the appointment of officers of high judicial qualifications to relieve Deputy Commissioners of the control of the Civil Courts. Under the same ruler, the political aspirations of the province were for the first time gratified by the election of a representative on the Imperial Legislative Council.

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

So far the history of the province was unmarked by any great disaster : famine and pestilence had passed it by, and it had flourished in a security which had perhaps given rise to too optimistic an estimate of its real wealth and stability. But a time was to come which was to try both the people and their rulers to the utmost. The early nineties were marked by a series of agricultural disasters. Rust destroyed the wheat crops of the north of the province in two successive years. This was followed by a series of droughts, followed by the disastrous year of 1896-97. The death-roll which the dreadful conditions of that year exacted can never, it is hoped, be repeated · for the knowledge of famine administration so dearly purchased was displayed at its very best amid the still more complete crop failure of 1899-1900 : a year when, though the loss of crops was almost complete in every district of the province, not a single life was lost from famine, and hardly a single emaciated person was to be seen in our villages or on our roads. The credit for successfully grappling with this great emergency must lie with Sir D. Ibbetson, who devised at the beginning of the year directions for every detail of famine administration, on lines which have well stood the test of subsequent experience. The liberal famine policy initiated by him was continued by Sir A. Fraser, an officer whose sympathy with the people and knowledge of local conditions peculiarly fitted him for the task of helping the province to recover from the series of disasters into which it had been plunged. The famine of 1899-1900 forms a fitting period to the second epoch of our provincial record. Its subsequent history has been eventful and brilliant.

The rise in prices that set in soon after the beginning of this period laid the foundations of a continuing agricultural prosperity, interrupted only by the scarcity of 1907-08, which the province was able to weather without recourse to famine measures, thanks to the general prosperity of the people, the demand for labour, and to the economical and statesmanlike policy of Sir R. Craddock.

The cotton crop of the west of the province has from the earliest times been the main source of its wealth. In the days of the American Civil War for a brief period this tract reached a pitch of prosperity for which the people were hardly prepared : but at this time were laid the foundations of the extensive industry, which is concerned with the preparation of cotton for the market and its manufacture into yarn and thread. As an example of the success which the Indian representatives of industry can attain, we are proud to point to the Empress Mills, which, under the control of

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

Sir Bezonji Dadabhoy, hold the premier position among cotton mills in India. Recent years have seen a more steady if less striking rise in the value of cotton; with the help of which a great access of material prosperity, not unaccompanied by an advance in intelligence and civilisation, has reached the towns and villages of the western districts. The cultivators of the rice and wheat tracts have shared, though to a less extent, in the benefits of increased prices and the labouring classes have been fortunate enough to find the greater dearness of food more than compensated by a far greater demand for their labour. The pressure, however, has been severely felt by the poorer employés of Government and other offices; and, though much has been done to improve their prospects, their lot is still far less enviable than that of the cultivating, labouring or commercial classes.

In 1903 the great and fertile province of Berar was amalgamated with the Central Provinces, which thereby received a valuable accession of territory with a thriving and enlightened population advanced in agriculture and manufacturing enterprise.

It is during the last ten years, too, that the railway system of the province has made its greatest and most important advance. In the year 1882, the Chhattisgarh State Railway had been pushed eastward to Dongargarh and Raj-Nandgaon: in 1891 the Bengal Nagpur Railway Company, to which the east of the province had been assigned as a sphere of influence, continued the line through to Asansol on the East Indian Railway, and linked it at Bilaspur with a branch to Katni. A line was opened to Saugor in 1889, and from Damoh to Katni in 1899; and a system of narrow gauge railways, primarily designed as a safeguard against famine, was laid out on the Satpura plateau and extended towards Chanda between the years 1900 and 1908. The construction of a broad gauge link between Nagpur and Itarsi, intended to form part of a great north and south connecting line, is now in full swing: and with its completion, and that of the two feeder lines in Berar—the first fruits of private enterprise in railway construction in this part of India—there will be few parts of the province, capable of contributing materially to the commercial wealth of the country, that will not be within easy reach of a railway.

The increased prosperity of the people added to the income of the Government, and both together have resulted in a great outburst of energy in the construction of many useful and ornamental public and private works. Handsome buildings have begun to decorate our cities—the new Secretariat at Nagpur, the new District Civil

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

Courts in many places, High Schools and Colleges, a great extension of the road programme, have been among the fruits of Government expenditure. Commercial enterprise has not been backward in constructing new mills or enlarging old ones. Private citizens have begun to demand residences more in accordance with the rising standard of comfort: no longer content to dwell in crowded streets, liable to the onslaught of plague, they are moving into open suburban areas amid more pleasant surroundings. Municipalities have come forward in seconding their efforts by acquiring building areas and laying out sites. Nagpur owes its new suburb of Craddock Town to this idea.

With this extraordinary demand for labour from so many new sources, it was inevitable that the wages of labour should rise: but causes such as these, though resulting in some temporary inconvenience to employers, are matters for congratulation. Far otherwise is it the case with another cause of the diminution of our labour supply, the dread visitations of plague, an enemy not known in the province before the year 1898. The great towns have suffered severely from this scourge, not only in loss of valuable lives—though this has been very great—but also in the interruption of business and civic life. Even the humblest villages of the countryside have not escaped. Every effort made by Government has been loyally seconded by the Municipalities and District Councils, but so far, unhappily, with but little success. While in no way relaxing our efforts, we feel that it lies in the hands of God alone to remove in His own good time this dreaded scourge from our midst. To labour, it is said, is to pray, and we trust that the unceasing efforts of Government and ourselves to this end may be blessed with success by the Divine Power.

Among the Chief Commissioners who held charge of the province during this later period, we would mention with gratitude Sir Stanley Ismay, whose unremitting labours for the improvement of the administration of justice, as Judicial Commissioner, have laid the foundation of our present Judicial Service. But we recognise that, first and last, there is none to whom the province owes so much as to Sir R. Craddock. There was no important measure initiated or effected during the last decade, in which his hand was not seen: his wide sympathy and keen foresight have watched, helped and safeguarded every step in the progress and development of the province, and it was with no common feelings of regret that we said farewell to him a year ago. It was, however, a consolation to us to know that his mantle was soon to fall on the shoulders of

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

Sir B. Robertson, an officer of profound local experience, and known to and loved by the people of more than one district in the Central Provinces. We have full confidence that in his hands the interests of the province will be fully developed and advanced.

Before bringing this address to a close, we would ask Your Excellency once more to look back on the province as it was in the year 1862, and contrast it with what you see around you to-day. Our cities were mere collections of huts, clustering round the forts or palaces of their late rulers. Though surrounded by pleasant gardens, they had no supply of pure water—their narrow and almost impassable streets invited by their squalor the yearly attacks of cholera. Such trade as they possessed struggled to them over hill and forest, river and swamp, borne by hords of pack bullocks, whose Banjara masters were ever anxiously on the watch for prowling wild beasts or lurking robbers. The cultivated tracts were still interspersed with many patches of forest, the denizens of which were a constant menace to the cultivator's life and cattle. The villager, whose only wealth was in his grain bins, grew up untaught, and lived and died ignorant of all outside his own neighbourhood. He lit his evening oil lamp, when his means admitted of it, with flint and steel, and lay down to rest, often in nightly dread of dacoits. The cotton of his fields was woven into cloth, it is true, on the looms of his own or of some neighbouring village: but only the richest men of the village could afford to dress in such clothes as a small tenant or a labourer will now wear as his holiday attire. We hear much of the artistic products, the romantic forests, the stirring history, of the old times. But, Your Excellency, for the daily life of the poor, cheap light and clothing, and safe and easy travelling, the waving cornfield, the uneventful years of prosperity, are far better: and those we owe to British rule. The iron way that leads passengers or merchandise swiftly and safely to their destination, the wide river tamed and fettered by the engineer, and pouring its life-giving waters through a long line of canal; the roads, winding with sure and easy track over lofty passes, and bridging streams before impassable: our cities, with prosperous streets and markets, and busy mills; our courts, where equal justice is dispensed to all; our political privileges, wherein we see the germs of further gratification of our long-cherished ideals; the concord and co-operation between ruler and ruled—these are what we see around us to-day, these we have reached under the guidance of the British Government and it is for these that we are here to-day to express our thanks to Your Excellency, the representative of that Government in India.

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

The Hon'ble Mr. Mudholkar then read the following address of the local bodies of Berar :—

May it please Your Excellency,—On behalf of the people of Berar, we the members of the Municipal Committees and District Boards of that province, beg to approach Your Excellency on the occasion of this your first visit to the Central Provinces to tender to Your Excellency our dutiful respects and most cordial welcome. Though our sub-province has not, like its sister districts of the Central Provinces, organised a special function like the celebration of their jubilee, the year 1912 is for it also the demi-centenary of the inauguration of some most momentous measures of policy and administrative reforms which have deeply affected and must ever continue to powerfully influence the material prosperity and moral advance of the province. The year 1862-63 is in its history associated with the introduction therein of the noble principles of the Educational Despatch of 1854 by the establishment of Government schools, with the commencement of survey and settlement operations with a view to give greater fixity of land tenure and more permanence in the land revenue demand, and the adoption of important measures for bringing the administration of justice into harmony with that in British Indian districts by the application of British Indian enactments, the systematisation of the judicial machinery and the creation of a local bar. It was also the year which witnessed the beginning of the actual construction of the railway which traverses the length of the province from west to east. The fifty years which have elapsed since then have been for the people of the province the most peaceful and happy period known in historical times. Freed from the danger and anxiety of external aggression and internal turmoil by the establishment of peace and orderly government, it has entered upon the career of prosperity which the far-famed fertility of its soil and the advantages of its situation have marked out as its portion. The process has been stimulated on the one hand by the adoption of a land revenue policy which in spite of drawbacks is enlightened and considerate, and on the other by the improvement of communications and by the promotion of facilities for trade and commerce. Vast stretches of land which had gone out of cultivation or had been always waste were brought under cultivation: depopulated villages became inhabited; and now over 97 per cent. of the cultivable area is under occupation. The general revenue which in the treaty of 1860 was estimated at 32 lakhs of rupees is now 155 lakhs. Though the area is only about 17,000 square miles and the population about 28¼

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

lakhs, the land revenue is equal to that of the 19 districts of the Central Provinces; the number of cotton ginning and pressing factories between a fifth and a fourth of the entire number of factories in the whole of India. There are also spinning and weaving mills, oil extracting and refining mills and a match factory: nearly one-fourth of the cotton grown in India is grown in this province. There has also sprung up a large trade in cereals and seeds.

The moral progress is no less satisfactory. Schools have been established in all the districts, and education—primary, secondary and higher—has received remarkable impetus. The proportion of literate persons, though lower than in the Presidencies of Bombay, Madras or Bengal, is higher than in the United Provinces and the Punjab.

The methods and the machinery of administration are raised to the same standard of efficiency as in British India, and in municipal and local affairs the policy of devolution has been adopted and carried out.

Though the difficulties, inconveniences and hardships in regard to the political and legal status of the people and the system of legislation arising from the peculiar position of the province still remain to be removed, we have every hope that the Government will, before long, find a suitable solution, which, while carefully avoiding any infringement of the solemn engagements entered into with His Highness the Nizam and the assurances given to him, will do adequate justice to the legitimate aspirations of the people. The gracious consideration shown by Your Excellency's illustrious predecessor and the Government of India in appointing in 1910 a resident of Berar as an additional member of the Governor-General's Council, an act for which the people of the province feel the most genuine and profound gratitude, is regarded as a happy augury of a full and complete recognition of its claims.

The great change which came into existence ten years ago has created permanent ties of community of interests and mutual obligations between the British Government and the people of Berar, which for practical purposes are hardly distinguishable from those which exist in the case of dominions held in full sovereignty. The destinies of Berar are as indissolubly linked with those of the British Power as those of the British Indian districts. It is to that power that the people look for their well-being and progress, it is on that power that they rely for their advancement and elevation. On the other hand the interest of the British Government in the prosperity of Berar is as substantial and permanent as in these

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

other provinces. Berarees are, therefore, looking forward with expectant interest to the great constitutional reforms in the Central Provinces which are at present engaging the attention of Government. They fervently hope that placed as the two territories are under one administration, the principles of equality of treatment and assimilation of interest will be observed as far as practicable. While deeply grateful for what has been done, their ardent desire is that the proposed Central Provinces Council should be made both in name and in reality a Council for the combined territories of the Central Provinces and Berar. They believe that it is feasible to do so under the new Council Acts without in any degree detracting from treaty obligations and solemn assurances. They are further equally anxious that along with this a seat in the Imperial Legislative Council should, as during the last three years, be provided for a representative from Berar. The peculiar position of the province, the amount of the revenue raised therein, its present importance and promising future all support the propriety of this prayer.

We beg to tender our acknowledgments to Government for the measures adopted for the promotion of higher education of girls and boys. The Female High School just opened at Amraoti and the Arts College which will soon be established there were urgently-needed institutions and will go to supply a want which has long been felt.

Much has been done for the promotion of education and the improvement of sanitation; but far more remains to be accomplished. We pray that when any unexpected surplus becomes available to Government, as in the years 1911 and 1912, larger amounts will be allotted to the Central Provinces and Berar and the grant for Berar may be specified.

In railway developments and improvements much remains to be done. Railway expenditure in Berar has proved very remunerative. Important branch lines, extonsions and improvements have been from time to time urged upon the attention of Government. And their desirability also has been admitted. We pray that these extensions and improvements which will prove beneficial to Government and the people alike may soon be undertaken.

The year 1912 marks the close of fifty years of incessant work for the establishment of peace and order, and the improvement of the material and moral condition of the people. We expect it to be also the beginning of a new era of reform and progress, of close attachment between the Government and the people, of genuine

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

fellow-feeling, respect and esteem between the races who constitute the British Empire in India and outside.

In conclusion, we beg to express our gratitude to Your Excellency for accepting our address and giving us an opportunity to put forth our desires and aspirations. We venture to entertain the hope that they will meet with a favourable response from Your Excellency's well-known liberal sentiments and the deep sympathy for His Imperial Majesty's Indian subjects which actuates Your Excellency. We pray that the Almighty Lord will in His grace grant a long and happy life to Your Excellency and the noble lady who has been giving such valuable help to Your Excellency in the performance of your multifarious and arduous duties.

His Excellency replied to both addresses in the following terms :—]

Gentlemen,—The remarks I have to make for the most part apply with equal force to the Central Provinces and Berar, and I propose therefore to deal in a single reply with both the addresses that I have had the pleasure of receiving.

It came with a shock of surprise to me to find that it is more than forty years since a Viceroy officially visited Nagpur, when Lord Mayo came to open the Great Indian Peninsula Railway to Jubbulpore, and thence came here by road. Since that time official visits to the Central Provinces have been limited to the distressing necessities of famine relief, and have given a wide berth to this capital. I was not aware of this when I determined to take an early opportunity of coming to see you, but I hold myself particularly fortunate that I should have been able to time my journey for so happy an occasion as the present.

You have asked me to look back on your province as it was in the year 1862, and contrast it with what I see around me to-day; and I have to thank you—and I am sure all present here will join me in thanking you—for the interesting and able reviews which have just been

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur

read and have enabled us to picture vividly the progress of these provinces in every sphere of life, in every department of administration, and in every branch of human activity, during the past half century.

It is with no common feelings of satisfaction that I have listened to your descriptions of your provinces, and of the economic and administrative changes which have made up their history for the past fifty years. They are at once an eloquent tribute to the blessings of the British administration, and a proof of how much may be hoped for from the co-operation with it of the people of this country.

And, if I may venture to say so, one of the most striking features of this part of India is the warm feeling of mutual understanding and good-will which exists between those who are responsible for its government and the people, and not least that portion of the people who take an interest in social and administrative problems, and assist the officers of Government with their counsel and support.

I shall not attempt to follow you through your review of the advance that has been made in railway development, or irrigation and public works, nor shall I endeavour to amplify the sketches you have given of your early annals and of the agricultural development of these provinces.

The early history of these provinces tells of a rapid, almost a sudden, change from fear and insecurity to peace and wealth. Settled order and security you owe to the strength of British rule. But under its shelter you have yourselves done much to further its efforts in the direction of the economic development of the country, and the political education of its inhabitants. The lesson of self-help and confidence in Government, which you

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

have learned from the heavy losses which famine and plague have laid on you in the past, is plainly demonstrating its influence, even amid the prosperity of to-day. It is only when Government and people have together faced and surmounted difficulties and trials that one can find the atmosphere of contentment and confidence in the good-will of Government, allied with a justifiable pride in the progress jointly achieved, and with a confident anticipation of still better things to come, that inspires your addresses of to-day.

It is impossible for a new-comer to the Central Provinces to dissociate his mind from the romantic stories of sport and wild life, which always seem to cling about the hills of the Satpuras. But here I find myself in the midst of a manufacturing city, a bustling, progressive, prosperous city, whose smoky chimneys tell but little of the glamour of ancient history or modern sport, but much of the romance of commercial prosperity, of far-sighted enterprise and of fortunes rapidly built up by the pioneers of the cotton trade, such as Messrs. Tata and Sons, of whose mills the people of Nagpur are so justly proud.

You, Gentlemen of the Central Provinces, tell me that the exploitation of your manganese deposits began in the year 1900, and the rapid development of that enterprise is demonstrated by the fact that last year the manganese exported amounted to 519,000 tons. The Central Provinces are to be congratulated on their good fortune in possessing the finest ore in the world, and some of the largest deposits of that metal; but I look forward to the day when this magnificent raw material shall not be merely exported for the benefit of manufacturers in distant continents, but shall be used for the indigenous manufacture of steel, and shall take its proper place in the industrial development of India.

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

You have been, as you say, fortunate in the officers of Government, who have occupied the position of Chief Commissioners; and I can readily believe you, for your present Chief Commissioner for more than a year held high office under my immediate eye, and inspired me with the most absolute confidence in his fitness for his present post, while your late Chief Commissioner, Sir Reginald Craddock, established here a reputation which he continues to justify as my trusted colleague, councillor and friend. But you will, I hope, allow me to say that your rulers, many of whom laid in the Central Provinces the foundations of great and well-deserved reputations, have been very fortunate in the people amongst whom their lot was cast. I rejoice to find how important and useful a part in the development of these provinces has been played by the leading landowners and capitalists, men whom wealth and landed influence have brought into prominence in the public life of the day; and to see that those who have most at stake in the future of these provinces are also most to the fore in such movements as co-operative credit, agricultural improvement, urban betterment and social progress.

You have touched but lightly upon the subject of education, and I do not wish to tire you with long strings of figures, but it may be of interest to some of you to know that in 1862 it has been estimated that, in the Central Provinces, you had not more than 400 schools with perhaps 5,000 scholars, while now your scholars number 312,000, that is, an increase of 6,000 per cent., and yet I hope it is but the starting-point for a far broader expansion of the benefits of knowledge and culture throughout the whole population in both the Central Provinces and Berar.

I do not feel certain that I appreciate the force of the request made in the address from Berar that, in future

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

educational allotments, the grant for Berar may be specified; and I am doubtful whether it would be wise to fetter the discretion of the Local Government in the manner suggested, but I will have the point carefully considered at the conclusion of my tour.

Meantime I must not lose this opportunity of congratulating the people of Berar upon their progressive spirit. The Female High School that is about to be started at Amraoti is the first of its kind in this part of the country, and is being opened in response to a demand for the high education of women. In so enlightened an atmosphere it is bound to thrive, and I wish it every success, for a country which is content to leave its women in ignorance can never, in my opinion, be more than half-educated.

To the proposed Arts College I can only at present give my blessing; I am glad to hear that private liberality has enabled the project to be brought forward, but I cannot say more about it until a practicable scheme is submitted to Government. When that happens, it shall receive our sympathetic consideration.

The progress of education doubtless brings with it more complicated questions of administration, as those who in the past have been content to work and to exist begin to realise that human life is meant for fuller enjoyment and nobler aspiration, and, as divergent interests come into clash, a trained intelligence has the habit of asking the reason why, and authority has to look to it that its exercise be not arbitrary. Government has to realise that the gift of education will of itself increase the criticism to which, however honest its intention, its every step is exposed.

But it is no bad thing that authority should be exercised with the utmost care. Criticism and discussion have many advantages when they are fair, and when

they are unfair they may do harm for the moment, but they are certain in the long run to lose their force.

Speaking roughly the history of these fifty years may be divided into two marked periods—the earlier a time of steadily increasing population and material prosperity when the cultivator added acre after acre to the cultivated area without improving his methods or providing security against famine, and the later when through a calamitous cycle of famine and pestilence the people emerged, if I may quote the words of an official memorandum, into an epoch, not only bright with prosperity, but illuminated with glimmerings of the light of self-consciousness and self-realisation.

These glimmerings have now become a steady glow, and have imposed upon Government a serious responsibility in guiding and fostering the new spirit of progress; and it is with a sense of that responsibility that Government have granted you a Legislative Council.

Much consideration has been given to the means by which representatives from Berar may find a place on that body, and by which the application of the legislative enactments hereafter to be passed by it may be extended to Berar. The fundamental fact to be borne in mind is that, as the law stands, the Legislative Council of the Governor-General cannot, under the existing Statutes, make laws to operate in Berar *suo motu*, except in reference to one or two very exceptional matters, and whatever Council is established in the Chief Commissionership of the Central Provinces will have no greater powers in this respect. If, therefore, it is desired to introduce the same law into both parts of the combined administration of the Central Provinces and Berar, this can only be done by the extension of any Acts which the local Council may pass, primarily for the Central Provinces only, by an order under the Foreign Jurisdiction Order in Coun-

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

cil, with or without modification, to Berar, and it is this procedure which it is intended to adopt. In other words, although the Provincial Council can only legislate for the Central Provinces, yet in framing its measures it will have to bear in mind the possibility of their subsequent extension, in an identical or modified form, to Berar, although the Act itself cannot provide for this extension, which must be effected by a subsequent separate order of the Governor-General in Council, in exercise of the powers delegated to him by the Crown.

No arrangement is possible by which the people of Berar can directly elect members of the Central Provinces Council. It will, however, be possible to establish a system of election in Berar itself, and the persons so elected can subsequently be nominated as members of the Provincial Council, provided that the regulations which will govern that Council are so drafted as to render eligible for nomination a resident of Berar.

By the method thus outlined we shall be able to secure the selection of candidates from Berar by election, even although they will actually sit upon the Provincial Council by nomination, and while the Council will not be able to pass laws which of themselves will be current in Berar, their applicability to the conditions of Berar can be considered while they are under discussion, and if it is expedient these measures can be subsequently extended to Berar. It will thus be seen that, although the position is complicated by the special status of Berar, which has necessitated this somewhat circuitous system, members chosen by the electorates which will be created in Berar will in effect sit in the local Council. The exact details of the constitution of the electorates, both in the Central Provinces and Berar, are at present under discussion with the Chief Commissioner, and as they will ultimately require the approval of the Secretary of

Laying Foundation Stone of the Legislative Council Hall, Nagpur.

State, no pronouncement can at present be made with regard to them, but it is hoped that, consistently with the principles which have governed the introduction of this great reform of the enlarged Legislative Councils throughout British India, they will be found to satisfy the legitimate aspirations of the people of this Chief Commissionership, and secure that cordial co-operation with Government which it was the aim of this momentous change to achieve.

As regards the representation of Berar on the Legislative Council of the Governor-General, it is the intention of Government, following the analogy of other provinces, to propose the substitution of a seat to be filled by election by the non-official members of the Provincial Council for the member who is now chosen by the District Councils and Municipalities in the Central Provinces. And it is under consideration whether the regulations governing the Imperial Council can be so amended as to permit of a member from Berar filling this new seat should he be successful in his candidature. Beyond this, looking to the size of the Governor-General's Council and the claims of other parts of the country, it is impossible to go, but in comparison with other provinces, the claims of the Central Provinces and Berar would thus have been met to an adequate extent.

You have learned the necessity of self-help; and you have learned co-operation among yourselves and with the Government. I trust that you will carry these lessons into the sphere of that wider political enfranchisement with which your province is shortly to be entrusted; and I shall lay this foundation stone in the confident hope that the atmosphere of the Central Provinces and Berar Legislative Council will be one of sound political sense, of vivifying and helpful criticism, of practical work for the public benefit; and with the

prayer that God's blessing may rest upon the deliberations that shall take place within the building destined to rise upon this stone.

JUBBULPORE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

[Their Excellencies motored to Jubbulpore from Nagpur, halting for the night at Seoni. The Jubbulpore Municipality welcomed His Excellency in the following words :— 19th Dec. 1912.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Municipal Committee of Jubbulpore, beg to offer to Your Lordship a most sincere and respectful welcome to our city.

In the past we have had all too few opportunities of offering welcome to our Viceroys; the last occasion being when the Right Honourable Lord Curzon of Kedleston came here in November 1899 just 13 years ago.

Your Lordship's visit therefore affords us a long-desired opportunity of expressing, on our own behalf and on behalf of the people whom we represent, those sentiments of loyalty and devotion which have always animated us, and which find glad expression on occasions such as this.

We pray that Your Lordship will be pleased to convey to His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor our sense of fervent attachment to his Throne and person, and our heartfelt thanks for the boons conferred on this our beloved country, by His Gracious Majesty in person, at the great Coronation Durbar at Delhi.

That occasion marks an epoch in the history of India, and with it will always be associated the name of Your Lordship, who, next to His Majesty was responsible for the granting of those favours which have more than ever endeared the British Sovereign to his humble but loyal Indian subjects.

With a fervent hope that the great Ruler of the Universe will richly and always endow Your Lordship with health and strength and all those qualities of mind and heart which are essential for the successful government of this great Indian Empire.

To which His Excellency replied as under :—]

Gentlemen,—It is quite impossible to mistake the tone of hearty good-will which inspires every sentence of

Jubbulpore Municipal Address.

the address with which you have welcomed me to Jubbulpore, and the pleasure of my brief visit is greatly enhanced by your kindly greeting. The Central Provinces have seen less of Viceroys than most parts of India, and in the old time there was perhaps good reason for this when your communications were bad and you were difficult of access. But in these later days that explanation will not pass, for I doubt whether there is any railway junction in India of which the name is better known to the travelling public than Jubbulpore. I know its name and fame so well that I was quite determined to come and see it before I left your province, and if I did not come by train myself, I think I chose the wiser part, for I shall never forget the beauty and charm of the road by which I travelled here from Nagpur.

Forsyth wrote in a book that most of you know well: "Nothing can in my opinion exceed the exhilarating effect of a march at such a season with pleasant companions through a country teeming with interest in its scenery, its people and its natural productions such as in this region of the Nerbudda Valley," and though I must have marched a great deal more rapidly than Forsyth ever did I saw enough to feel convinced that those words were fully justified.

The great ceremony I have just performed at Nagpur has equal significance for you and constitutes for the Central Provinces the seal of recognition of the new spirit of progress now spreading throughout this vast peninsula. To that spirit His Imperial Majesty gave a gracious message of hope and I shall not fail to convey to him the warm words of affectionate loyalty in which you have referred to him and to his recent visit to this distant portion of his Empire.

Let me thank you once more for your cordial welcome, and tell you that your prayers and good wishes

Banquet at Bharatpur.

give strength to my hands and courage to my heart in carrying on the labours and responsibilities of the great office which it is my privilege to fill.

BANQUET AT BHARATPUR.

[Their Excellencies and party arrived at Bharatpur on the morning of the 21st December and the same evening were entertained at a banquet by His Highness the Maharaja. At its conclusion the Maharaja joined the guests in the Banquetting Hall, and in proposing the health of the Viceroy said :— 21st Dec. 1912.

Your Excellencies, Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I feel deeply the honour which Your Excellencies' visit has done to the Bharatpur State and myself.

Your Excellencies are just finishing a long and tiring journey through many States and Provinces and are on the eve of the State Arrival at Delhi.

Yet, at our earnest request, you have graciously consented to spend the last two days of the tour in Bharatpur and have thus conferred an especial favour upon us. We have tried to show our gratitude by the warmth of our welcome, and we trust that we may have succeeded sufficiently well to induce Your Excellencies to come again very soon.

It is nearly ten years since Bharatpur was honoured by a visit from a Viceroy, but Lord Curzon, who came in 1902, repeated his visit in 1903, and Lord Dufferin came in 1886 and 1887.

Now that Delhi has been restored as the Capital of India, I hope that Your Excellencies will often find it possible to visit my State, and a loyal and hearty welcome will always be awaiting you.

Your Excellency has honoured us to-day by joining in the duck shoot for which Bharatpur is somewhat famous. We hope, on some future occasion, to claim Your Excellency's attention for our pig-sticking also, since we have heard of Your Excellency's deeds in other States.

To Your Excellency Lady Hardinge, Her Highness my mother has asked me particularly to express her warm admiration of all that Your Excellency is doing for the women of India.

Before I conclude, may I on behalf of Her Highness the Maji Sahiba and on behalf of my Sardars and people and myself assure Your Excellency of our earnest loyalty and devotion to Their Imperial Majesties.

Banquet at Bharatpur.

While in England, I had the privilege of personal intercourse with His late Imperial Majesty King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra, and during the Coronation Durbar at Delhi I was in attendance upon His Imperial Majesty King George as a Page of Honour.

The great kindness and affection which Their Majesties have shown towards me will always remain in my heart.

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to drink the health of our distinguished guests, Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Hardinge.

To which His Excellency replied :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—On behalf of Lady Hardinge and myself I should like to express my warmest thanks for the terms in which you have proposed our health and for the cordiality with which it has been received.

It is quite true that my tour now drawing to a close has been long and strenuous, but to me it has been full of interest and pleasure, for it has given me opportunities of making myself acquainted—at any rate in some small measure—with the wants and aspirations, the life and occupation of the people in the Punjab and Central Provinces in a way that is not possible by merely sitting at head-quarters and reading about them, and it has enabled me to have the privilege, which I value very highly, of strengthening the ties of friendship I have formed with the Rulers of some of the principal States in India.

Your Highness, in common with many other Princes in India, can look back through history upon the great and daring deeds of your ancestors. The ramparts of your city may serve to remind you of the courage, genius and statesmanship of Maharaja Suraj Mal who captured the place from his rival, designed and constructed its elaborate and remarkable defences, and made the city the capital of his wide possessions. His successors have held the walls through many a stubborn fight and, whatever

Banquet at Bharatpur.

the merits of the cause for which they strove, have displayed the unflinching courage and the tenacity of purpose demanded by the traditions of their house.

I am told that this Palace in which we are received to-night as Your Highness's guest was built by Maharaja Balwant Singh for the reception of his European friends in 1826 after his installation by Lord Combermere.

The friendship between the British Government and Your Highness's State has subsisted firm and unbroken ever since its foundation, and the ties of attachment have been knit more and more closely. During the long rule of your distinguished grandfather, Maharaja Sir Jaswant Singh, the administration of the State was improved in many directions, differences were adjusted, and the relations with the British Government were cemented by agreements. No act of Sir Jaswant Singh was, however, more important, or more calculated to consolidate the friendship between his State and the British Government, than the raising by His Highness of two regiments of Imperial Service Troops in 1890. The State has offered the troops for active service on various occasions, and the Transport Corps was actually employed in the Tibet Expedition in 1904, and did yeoman service at Delhi last year. I congratulate Your Highness on the high state of efficiency which I am told prevails in both corps, and I look forward to inspecting them to-morrow.

For the present, the Government of India stand in a position of peculiar responsibility towards Your Highness and the Bharatpur State. Ever since 1900 we have been charged with the education and training of Your Highness, while for 17 years past the administration of the State has been conducted under the supervision of our officers.

Delhi Municipal Address.

Your Highness is still a boy, and you have not entered upon those grave responsibilities which await the matured years of your life, but the boy is father of the man, and no one who has the pleasure of knowing Your Highness can help auguring well for your future. The loving care and wise forethought of Her Highness the Maji Sahiba, which I cannot commend too highly, have shielded you from boyhood's ills, and will, I know, carry you far upon the road we would have you go. At the Mayo College you have the advantage of admirable teachers and a carefully devised system of education, while, besides your foster-father, Dhau Bakshi Raghubir Singh, Her Highness has appointed special tutors to guide your studies. Seeing that the guardianship and education of Your Highness are in such capable hands, and knowing as I do Your Highness's character and abilities, I have the happiest anticipations for Your Highness's career. I shall follow your growth and development with warm interest, and it is my earnest hope that, as a youth and man, you will fulfil the bright promise of your boyhood.

I am sure that all here present will wish to join me in thanking His Highness most heartily for the warm welcome he has given us, the excellent arrangements he has made for our comfort and the magnificent sport he has provided, our only regret being that His Highness was unable to share it with us, and I ask you to rise with me and drink to the health of His Highness the Maharaja of Bharatpur.

DELHI MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

23rd Dec. 1912. [Their Excellencies arrived at Delhi, after the completion of the autumn tour, in the morning of the 23rd December. The following

Delhi Municipal Address.

address of welcome from the Delhi Municipality was read by Major Beadon, Deputy Commissioner :—

May it please Your Excellencies,—We, the President and Municipal Commissioners, who represent the citizens of Delhi, are profoundly grateful at being afforded the opportunity of welcoming Your Excellencies on the historic occasion of Your Excellencies' first official entry to the new Capital of Their Imperial Majesties' Indian Empire.

For centuries Delhi has been a city of eminence in India and has been the seat of many Oriental ruling dynasties. We recognise that it would have been impossible for the Government of India to locate its Capital in this historic city, situated as it is so far from the sea coast, until settled rule and civilised communications had become established facts. The progress which has been attained under British rule has now rendered this possible, and we venture to felicitate Your Excellency's Government on having been in a position to recommend for the sanction of His Imperial Majesty the great change whereby Delhi has been restored to the place of honour which is its dynastic heritage.

The entry of Your Excellencies within our gates to-day announces to the world the effective fulfilment of His Imperial Majesty's command and sets the seal to the Charter of Delhi as the Capital of the British Indian Empire.

In 1858 the Delhi territories were annexed by the British nation, and since then have been administered under the direct orders of the Government of the Punjab. Under an illustrious succession of prudent and sympathetic Lieutenant-Governors this city has expanded in prosperity and commercial importance and the countryside has realized to the full that security which is emblematic of British rule. We should fail in our duty if we omitted on this occasion to express to the Government of the Punjab our gratitude for the benefits which we have enjoyed under its rule, and to assure that Government that our pride in our promotion to Imperial prominence is tempered with genuine regret at the severance of a long and honourable connection.

To you, Madam, we extend a special welcome in the knowledge that Your Excellency takes the same kindly interest as Your Excellency's predecessors have done in the amelioration of the lot of the women of this country and of the sick and needy. We pray that under Your Excellency's patronage and sympathy our existing charities may be fostered and that the foundations of new institutions may be well and truly laid.

Delhi Municipal Address.

Your Excellencies, we recognise that a great future is before us; we also know that the advancement in the status of this city will cause the Delhi of a few years hence to be a very different place to the Delhi of to-day. We trust that the modern institutions and installations which this city already contains will be found to form a worthy nucleus for prospective improvements.

Finally, we ask Your Excellencies to accept an assurance that, in all schemes for the embellishment of this city and for its more efficient administration, the Government of India may rely upon our loyal and devoted assistance: and we confidently believe that the presence of the Supreme Government in our midst will usher in a new era of prosperity and contentment among our citizens.

His Excellency replied in the following words :—]

Gentlemen,—I have listened with much pleasure to the expression of the gratification felt by you and the citizens of Delhi whom you represent at our arrival here to-day, and I thank you very warmly for the kind words of the welcome which you have given to Lady Hardinge and myself.

As you have rightly stated in your address, the formal entry of the Viceroy and his Council into your city definitely marks its position as the Capital of the Indian Empire; it is a dignity which you view with legitimate pride, and which I am confident that you will make every effort to justify.

In the course of ages your ancient city has seen many changes. It is here that a devout tradition has placed the site of the city of the Pandavas whose glories are celebrated in the great religious epic of the Hindus. At the dawn of Indian history it was the seat of a powerful Hindu dynasty. In the ebb and flow of Mahomedan conquest its possession became the symbol and the proof of sovereignty in Northern India; and when the Mugals consolidated their rule, it was Delhi which they chose as the Capital of the greatest Empire which the Eastern World had hitherto known. Since the fall of that Empire your city has undergone many vicissitudes;

Delhi Municipal Address.

there is hardly a generation in which its fortunes have not formed the turning-point of Indian history. It is now once again the Capital of a great Empire. There is an Indian saying that a city is made either by a river, or by a rainfall, or by a king. Your city has many natural advantages, and these advantages have, no doubt, determined its history in the past. But it is not to them that Delhi owes the position which it is now called upon to occupy. It owes it to the express desire of the King-Emperor that the Capital City of his Indian Empire should be associated with the great traditions of Indian history; and that the administration of the present should have its centre in a spot hallowed to Indian sentiment by the memories of India's glory in the past.

You recognise in your address that the dignity which now falls on Delhi has its responsibilities, and I am glad to note that you have determined to accept those responsibilities to the full. I must warn you that they will not be light. You must become a Capital City, not only in name, but in fact; you must make your town a model of municipal administration; your institutions, your public buildings, your sanitation, must be an example to the rest of India. To attain these results will demand on your part much sustained effort, and the cultivation of a high sense of public duty. I can promise you that the Government of India will be prepared to sustain you in those efforts by every means in its power. We shall not forget, when building a New Delhi outside your walls, that there exists an Old Delhi beside us which claims our interest and our assistance. For my own part, I shall rejoice in every evidence of the increased prosperity which I confidently believe that our advent will bring to you, and I can assure you of my fullest sympathy in every effort which tends to advance the welfare of your city and its inhabitants.

ADDRESS FROM THE IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AT DELHI.

23rd Dec. 1912.

[The State Entry into Delhi was marked by a dastardly attempt on the life of the Viceroy, a bomb being thrown and exploding in the *howdah* in which Their Excellencies were sitting, severely wounding Lord Hardinge and killing outright one of the attendants sitting at the rear of the *howdah*. His Excellency, although seriously hurt, ordered the procession to continue, but before it had proceeded a hundred yards the Viceroy fainted and had to be taken to Viceregal Lodge in a motor. His Excellency before leaving directed that the ceremonials should proceed in due course and that Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson should read the speeches the Viceroy would have formally delivered. The procession was accordingly reformed and took its way to the Fort. At the Naubat Khana the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Muhammad of Madras read the following address :—

We, the non-official members of Your Excellency's Legislative Council, representing the various classes and communities of His Imperial Majesty's subjects in British India, desire to take this opportunity of respectfully offering our hearty good wishes to Your Excellency and the Government of India on this historic occasion of Your Lordship's State Entry into the new Capital.

We have entered on a new epoch of progress and advancement deriving its inspiration from His Imperial Majesty's gracious message of hope, to the realisation of which it will be the privilege of Your Lordship's Government to give the outward impetus. We have met full of faith in the future of this great country and we pray that success may attend the efforts of Your Lordship's Government for the promotion of her best interests under Divine Providence.

Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson read the following speech on behalf of the Viceroy :—]

It is to me a source of very great pleasure to receive the address on this memorable occasion from the non-official members of my Legislative Council, who have assembled here to-day from every part of India to give me a hearty welcome to the new Capital. I thank you warmly for the cordial expression of your good wishes to me and to the Government of India, and I can only assure you of my firm belief that the new epoch of progress and advancement upon which we have entered and to which you have referred will be an era of happiness

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

and prosperity to India and her people. You have alluded to the King-Emperor's message of hope. May I add one of faith. I have faith in India, I have faith in her future and have faith in her people. It is the solemn duty of Government to promote the best interests of India and her people, and under Divine guidance we shall not falter in this course again. I thank you for your good wishes and your presence here to-day.

DURBAR IN THE DIWAN-I-AM.

23rd Dec. 1912.

[Meanwhile the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab with the Punjab Chiefs and Sardars had moved in procession to the Diwan-i-Am which was filled with those attending the Durbar. Sir Louis and Lady Dane took their seats on the dais a little in the left rear of the two golden thrones intended for the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge. Later came a second procession headed by the Imperial Cadets. This included the Commander-in-Chief and staff, members of the Viceroy's Executive Council and the Legislative Council, the Chief Commissioner of Delhi, Sir James Willcocks, Commanding the Northern Army, and the Foreign Secretary. The absence of the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge was only too marked as the thrones remained empty until Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson occupied one as representing His Excellency. A fanfare of trumpets was blown, but an air of depression hung over the whole assembly and the ceremonial seemed ineffective. But the Viceroy's desire that a durbar should take place was paramount, and Sir Henry McMahon went through the customary procedure of obtaining permission to open it.

This Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson gave and then Sir Louis Dane advanced and, facing the dais, prepared to deliver his speech as the Lieutenant-Governor handing over Delhi to the Government of India. He was plainly very much affected and he prefaced his address with the following words :—

"I feel that before proceeding with the business of to-day I must refer to the dastardly attempt that has been made upon His Imperial Majesty's representative in this his Imperial Capital. By the grace of God His Excellency's life has been preserved and I am glad to say his injuries are slight, but poor men doing their honourable duty of service to the Crown have been killed and maimed by the assassin. I am sure that the voice of the loyal Punjab, loyal

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

Delhi, and loyal India, Indians and Europeans, will condemn this atrocious crime on a day such as this. God grant that this may be the last of these outrages. It ought to appeal to all loyalists as amounting to a sacrilege on such an occasion and I hope that everyone of them here will make it clear to his countrymen that such an attempt checks all progress. It puts the clock back it may be for fifty years, and remember what happened here fifty years ago. Thanks to Almighty God the attempt has failed."

Sir Louis Dane then read the following speech which had of course been intended for delivery before the Viceroy in person :—

Your Excellency,—It is now my honourable but somewhat sad duty on behalf of the Princes and Peoples of the Punjab to surrender to you again the charge of this Imperial City of Delhi which was first entrusted to the Government of the Punjab in February 1858.

The mention of that year in these surroundings cannot but evoke memories of the storm and stress under which the Punjab received Delhi, and I make no apology for quoting the following passage from the General Order issued by Lord Canning, Governor-General, and afterwards first Viceroy of India, in October 1857, as soon as the news of the recapture of Delhi reached him. In acknowledging the services rendered to the Empire by the Chief Commissioner of the Punjab, Lord Canning said :—

" To Sir John Lawrence it is owing that the army before Delhi, long ago cut off from all direct support from the Lower Provinces, has been constantly recruited and strengthened so effectually as to enable its commander not only to hold his position unshaken, but to achieve complete success. To Sir John Lawrence's unceasing vigilance, and to his energetic and judicious employment of the trustworthy forces at his own disposal, it is due that Major-General Wilson's Army has not been harassed and threatened on the side of the Punjab, and that the authority of the Government in the Punjab itself has been sustained and generally respected. The Governor-General in Council seizes with pleasure the earliest opportunity of testifying his high appreciation of these great and timely services."

And a month later, when acknowledging the services of the Delhi Field Force, Lord Canning stated :—

" There remains to the Governor-General in Council the pleasing duty of noticing the part taken in the contest before Delhi by some of the neighbouring Chiefs.

" The loyal and constant co-operation of the Maharaja of Patiala and the troops, and the steady support of the Raja of Jind, whose

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

forces shared in the assault, will call for the marked thanks of the Governor-General in Council.

"These true-hearted Chiefs, faithful to their engagements, have shown trust in the power, honour and friendship of the British Government, and they will not repent it.

"The Governor-General in Council will also have the gratification of thanking Maharaja Ranbir Singh of Kashmir for the timely support given by the Jammu Contingent. The conduct of the Ruler of Kashmir has been that of a sincere ally."

There is no exaggeration in these terms, and time has but made clearer what the British Empire and India specially owed to the Punjab, its Government and its Princes and Peoples. In that strange cataclysm of murderous midsummer madness that overwhelmed Northern India the Punjab almost alone preserved its good faith and sanity. From Sir John Lawrence, who stayed and rolled back the tide of revolt, Sir Robert Montgomery, who saved Lahore and probably the province from ruin, to Nicholson and Edwardes and many others who organised victory in the field or maintained a calm administration amidst the shock of jarring rumours or even sterner trials, the British officers of the Punjab and their Indian coadjutors,—all played the part of men; and the officers of the Punjab Commission, Imperial or Provincial, do well to honour the memory of its founders, and to endeavour, so far as in them lies, to continue their policy and practice. Much though we owe to these great men of the past, however, there are others who claim an even larger share of the gratitude of the Empire. These were the great Princes and Chiefs and Peoples of the Punjab. Other Princes, including Maharaja Ranbir Singh of Jammu and Kashmir, whom I may claim as a Punjabi, rendered more than yeoman's service. But the position of the British force on the Ridge throughout the summer of 1857 would have been impossible but for the support of the Phulkian Chiefs. Not for the first time did they then spring forward in support of the cause of the Empire. In the first years of the nineteenth century they co-operated with Lord Lake in clearing the Cis-Sutlej Punjab of intruders and establishing British control there. Their assistance to Sir D. Ochterlony in 1814 was most valuable, and was duly and substantially recognised. Since then they have ever been ready to help, as during the Afghan War, in the Frontier troubles of 1897-98, and on practically every occasion when our forces in India have taken the field. But it is for what they did in the cause of the Empire in 1857-58 that we all must chiefly honour these great feudatories. It was Maharaja

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

Narendra Singh of Patiala who kept open the Grand Trunk Road between Umballa and Delhi, sent his troops to serve at Delhi, and placed the resources of his State in men, stores, and money at the disposal of Government. Raja Bharpur Singh of Nabha also rendered important services to Government during the Mutiny by holding charge of Ludhiana and the Sutlej ferries and sending a contingent to Delhi. Raja Sarup Singh of Jind was the only Chief who marched in person to Delhi. His troops acted as the vanguard of the Army, and he personally took part in the fighting round this city, and remained with his troops until it was retaken. The Phulkian States did not stand alone in their support of the Empire, though the brunt fell on them, and their connection with this Imperial City was more marked as they are the natural guardians of its approaches. Raja Randir Singh of Kapurthala with his younger brother Kanwar Bikrama Singh marched into Jullundur and helped to hold the Doab until the fall of Delhi; subsequently in 1858 the Raja served personally with his troops in Oudh and elsewhere. The services of Raja Wazir Singh of Faridkot were signal. His troops kept open the road from Ferozepore and guarded the Sutlej ferries. The troops of the Raja of Sirmur and of the Sardar of Kalsia held the ferries on the Upper Jumna, and those of the Nawab of Maler Kotla rendered similar services on the Sutlej and shared with Nabha the duty of guarding Ludhiana. Great and eminent were the services of the Punjab Chiefs and great and eminent were their rewards in the form of accessions of dignity and even more substantial grants of territory. The memory of the British Government for services rendered is long, and it is a source of special gratification to the Punjab, and to me personally, to think that, thanks to Your Excellency's representations, His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor was pleased at his Coronation Durbar again to mark those services by conferring special honours and dignities upon the Phulkian States and the Maharaja of Kapurthala. The descendants of the Princes who rendered such princely service on varied emergencies, and specially here at Delhi itself, are now seated amongst us, and beyond all shadow of doubt, should any such emergency ever arise in the future, they are prepared, one and all, to venture their wealth, resources and men, and even their own lives, in defence of the Empire, of which they are only too proud to form some of the strongest pillars.

But it was not the Princes of the Punjab alone that moved to our help. The masses of its peoples were also ready. Of the loan of 46 lakhs raised to defray urgent expenditure connected with the

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

Army and general administration, Kashmir and the Cis-Sutlej Chiefs contributed 14½ lakhs and the people of the Punjab the balance, and practically all was paid in during the dark days of doubt of 1857. But the Punjab was not content with giving money alone. Jat Sikhs who had fought against us nine short years before, Punjabi Mahomedans, and Pathans from the Punjab Frontier, all vied in support of a Government which they had already learnt to recognise as their own. Who is there whose blood does not tingle and whose nerves do not thrill at the story of the march of the Guides to Delhi when they covered 580 miles in 21 marches in the heat of a Punjab May and June, and three hours after their arrival at Delhi were engaged in an action in which every officer was wounded; or of the move *en masse* of the Malikdin Khel Afridis, who had just been settling one of their little frontier differences with us in the frontier way, and who then came into Peshawar saying they had come to fight for us and be forgiven; or of the march of the 4th Punjab Infantry from Bannu to Delhi? The Punjab Frontier Force furnished no less than 1,300 men out of the gallant 2,750 men who formed the three main columns told off for the assault which led to the recapture of Delhi. Such, Your Excellency, were the services of the Punjab and its Princes and peoples in the past. I am retelling an oft-told tale no doubt, but at such a moment such services deserve to be again recorded. And it was for those services that the charge of Delhi and the surrounding territory was made over to the Punjab. The Government of India now reclaim at our hands the Empire City and its vicinage.

How have we acquitted ourselves of the charge of that City? I claim that our maintenance of Delhi does us as much honour as the manner of our acquisition. We have from the time of John Nicholson onwards, and even up to the present moment, given her our best officers. The history of the Durbars of 1877, 1903 and 1911, not to mention other gatherings at this Imperial centre, shows that the Punjab officers were able worthily to maintain the traditions of their predecessors on great occasions.

In ordinary times Delhi has not been neglected. I ventured, four years ago, here to describe her as the brightest and most-prized gem in the coronet of capitals of the Punjab, and as such has she always been treated. We have provided her, in spite of great natural difficulties, with a splendid and abundant water-supply, and we have paved her streets and given good intra and extra-mural surface drainage systems at a cost of 12½ lakhs of rupees, and after a hard struggle with utilitarian interests we have recovered and

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

reclaimed with a view to the formation of a people's park the river swamps below this Fort and City, which were, we believe, largely responsible for much of the sickness that existed. The population of Delhi has risen from 154,417 in 1868 to 229,144 in 1911, and her revenue from Rs. 1,93,272 in 1870-71 to Rs. 13,56,250 in 1911-12. Her trade has been fostered by a specially liberal system of municipal taxation. The splendid monuments of her past have not been neglected nor the impetus given by Lord Curzon to the loving care for what is historical and good allowed to slacken. With the ready help of the Archæological Department we have done what we could to make good the ravages of time and display the pearls of ancient architecture in a setting worthy of their beauty and history; and, lastly, we have placed the memorials of the past of Delhi in a worthy local museum. The buildings in which we are gathered and the gardens in which they stand are a sample of what we have been able to do with scanty resources and in the face of great obstacles. No doubt in the future greater and more glorious works will be achieved, but I claim with confidence that our record is good. One last service I am glad to think the Punjab Government has been able to render to Delhi and to India, and that is the suggestion of the high and healthy sites for the new official Capital and cantonment, which Your Excellency on the advice of experts from Europe has been pleased to approve.

In all these matters we have ever been helped by the people of Delhi themselves, who have always shown good common sense and a robust civic spirit, and by their judgment of our dealings we are well content to rest. In their address presented to Their Imperial Majesties during the Coronation Durbar celebrations the Municipal Committee referred with pride to the fact that the acceptance of the address had enabled them to represent the loyal Province of the Punjab in welcoming Their Majesties.

Recently at a public meeting held to thank the Government of India for the wider future opened before them they spontaneously recorded the following resolution :—

"The citizens of Delhi assembled in public meeting express their gratitude to the Punjab Government for their sympathetic and successful rule of more than half a century, and further beg permission specially to thank Your Honour for the kind interest which Your Honour has always taken in this city."

On behalf of the Punjab I thank Delhi for that remembrance of our services in the hour of parting, and assure her that her friendly message will remain a treasured memory of the province.

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

While regretting the necessity for the divorce of Delhi, the beautiful, from the Punjab, which had so gallantly won her, I with all Punjabis can but rejoice at the policy which will again restore to the Imperial Capital of all India her former splendour and pride of place, and will give to the peoples of Upper India a fuller share of imperial life. Standing in this Palace in February 1910 I predicted for her this future, and now I heartily congratulate Delhi on the vista of speedy splendour which opens before her, and on behalf of the province I thank Your Excellency for maintaining even in this severance the lines of the administration and the officers of that administration under which Delhi has prospered so well. But in their circumstances, and however great was the necessity for the successive severances, all will excuse the feeling of sadness which Punjabis feel at seeing another of their glories, and the greatest glory of all, shorn from them. Kashmir went in 1877, the Punjab Frontier Force was severed in 1886, the North-West Frontier followed in 1901, and now Delhi is separated though not perhaps entirely. My regret is not from a more provincial sense of prestige. It is, I think, based on deeper causes. Such reputation as Punjabis have won in all departments for energy, enthusiasm and adaptability was, I am convinced, due to the varied and strenuous conditions under which they had to work and the manly and noble material with which they had to deal. I can only hope that in the altered and restricted sphere of their work and the softer and more prosperous conditions of the province, Punjabis will not lose the qualities which won for them the charge of Delhi for over half a century.

And now, Your Excellency, I have done, I crave pardon for dwelling perhaps unduly on our services in the past; but in restoring Imperial Delhi to the care of the Imperial Government, I can only assure Your Excellency that in the future, as in the past, the Princes and Peoples and the Government of the Punjab are ever ready to help in any way in furthering the welfare of a city to which they are deeply attached, and for which they fervently and confidently wish a bright and brilliant future of ever-growing prosperity and importance as the New Capital of India, which was the old.

At the conclusion of the Lieutenant-Governor's speech Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson read the Viceroy's speech, which was as follows :—]

Your Honour, Your Highnesses, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Twelve months ago, His Majesty the King-

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

Emperor announced his decision "to transfer the seat of the Government of India from Calcutta to the ancient Capital of India." The entry of the Government of India into Delhi to-day is in accordance with, and gives effect to, His Majesty's decision. The new Delhi, which is to form a permanent memorial of His Majesty's visit, still remains to be constructed; but from to-day Delhi is definitely, and in fact, the seat of the Government of India and the Capital of the Indian Empire. It was right that this occasion, an occasion which I am convinced will have its own significance in the evolution of Indian history, should be marked by a ceremony of a formal character. Nor could a more fitting place be found for that ceremony than this Hall, where we are brought at once into direct connection with the memorials and traditions of India's great past and are able to offer to the Indian people the clearest proof of our desire to maintain in our present administration the spirit of what is best in Indian history. It was for this reason that I considered it appropriate that our first official act should take place, amid these memorials of an historic past, in the Hall where the builder of our present Delhi held his Court, and where the Emperor Aurangzeb must have heard the daring voice of the Sikh prophet proclaim the advent of an Empire greater than the Great Moguls.

But the ceremony to-day has a second purpose. Fifty-four years ago the Government of India handed over Delhi to the care of the Punjab; to-day we resume that charge, and Delhi will pass from the province with which it has been so long and so honourably connected into the direct charge of the Government of India. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor has told us in glowing language how the Punjab and some of the Ruling Chiefs came to the rescue at Delhi—and perhaps you will all

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

forgive me a little tinge of personal pride in the reflection that Maharaja Ranbir Singh, who is among those who have received honourable mention from Sir Louis Dane's lips, was the son of that Gulab Singh whom my grandfather placed upon the throne of Kashmir, while besides the present Maharaja of Kashmir I number many personal friends among the descendants of those other Chiefs who did such loyal service, not a few of whom it is a great pleasure to me to welcome and to see around me here to-day.

Lord Lawrence, who did so much for England, in England's darkest day, in his farewell speech when leaving the Punjab said: "In the quality of the civil and military officers under my control, in the excellence of the Punjab force which has been raised, trained and disciplined under the Civil Government, in the general loyalty of the Chiefs and peoples, as much as in the valour of our British troops, did I find the means of securing public tranquillity and of rendering assistance in Hindustan. The Punjab was found to be a tower of strength to the Empire;" and again in after years when leaving India for good almost his last exhortation to British officials was to be just and kind to the people of this country. Such language shows what manner of man he was, and doubtless my grandfather had a shrewd idea of his transcendent qualities when he selected him as the first Commissioner of the Jullundur Doab upon its annexation after the First Sikh War.

Sir Louis Dane went on to recount how the Punjab has acquitted itself of its stewardship, and it may well be proud of the message of gratitude which Delhi has sent it at the moment of parting company. His Honour at the same time gave expression to a very natural regret at the severance of Delhi from his own administration, but I confess that I look at the transaction from an

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

entirely different point of view. The question at issue is not, who should have the honour of administering Delhi and its surroundings; it is rather a question of the restoration to India of one of her ancient traditions, as a symbol of the community of interests and sentiment between Great Britain and India, and that the ancient Capital of the Emperors of India is once more the seat of a Government that serves a dynasty which has Indian interests at heart as closely as those of any other part of the British Empire. We may comprehend the note of pathos which now and again made itself heard in His Honour's speech; we may sympathise with the note of pardonable pride in the achievements of his Government, and we may hold the note of satisfaction to be justified; but to my ear these notes are drowned in the triumphant chorus of a great city come to its own once more, but now the Capital of an Indian Empire far more extensive, progressive and prosperous than the India ruled by any of its former conquerors.

We may indeed sympathise with the Government of the Punjab on their loss of Delhi, but it would have been inconsistent with the destiny proclaimed for Delhi by the King-Emperor himself that it should at once and the same time become the seat of the Imperial Government of India, and yet in its own province lack the status and dignity even of a provincial capital.

The Province of the Punjab still remains a goodly province, which any man may well be proud of the task of administering. Thanks to the peace that has prevailed for many years, and to the magnificent canal system that has been introduced, the Punjab has a future of prosperity before it that can hardly be rivalled by any province of India. The services to Delhi and the Empire of the great succession of Punjab administrators will continue to be numbered among the Punjab's proudest traditions;

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

and so long as the sturdy and manly races of that great province constitute, as they have constituted in the past, the backbone of the defence of the Indian Empire, whether against internal disorder or against foreign aggression, there can be no fear that the character of the Punjab administration should lose in the future any of those high qualities of manly sympathy with a manly people, nerve, endurance, and vigour to which in the past its long and honourable record has given it a just and abiding claim.

On the other hand, I am sure that Delhi will not suffer from the change—she will now be under the fostering care of the Imperial Government in a way that no other city of India has ever been—and while I can foresee her progress in education, in sanitation, in prosperity and in beauty, I hope that, by the careful selection that I have made of officers of the Punjab to carry on the work of administration, continuity of knowledge and of sympathy with the people entrusted to their care, which are so vital to a peaceful, happy, and progressive administration, will be firmly secured.

There are some who deny that there is any real justification for the selection of Delhi as the seat of the Government of India, and maintain that such ancient names as Kanauj, Lohkot, Taxila, Patna, not to speak of Agra or Calcutta, possess far stronger title to such Imperial honour. Far be it from me to attempt the task of arbiter amid these varying claims; but as we turn over the dusty pages of the much mutilated volume of history—some of them well preserved and clearly written and some obliterated and almost illegible—as we turn these pages over, we note among the places that find recurring mention, now under one name and now under another, few that fill more chapters in mediæval and modern times than Delhi, and fewer still that can

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

trace their annals further back into dim antiquity than this same Delhi and the country round her.

At Indraprastha was founded the capital of the Pandu Kingdom by Yudhisthira, that great monarch of olden story, and it was here that, firmly seated on his throne, he determined to signalise his paramount sovereignty by the solemn ceremony of the Aswamedha; and it was not far from here that a few years later was fought on the field of Kurukshetra that mighty warfare that fills the pages of the grand old epic, the Mahabharata. The two stone pillars of Asoka brought hither by Firoz Shah stand as a record of one of the greatest and wisest rulers India ever produced, but the annals of Delhi are lost in oblivion for many a long century until we find it once more repeopled and rebuilt by Anangapal, whom tradition asserts to have been a direct descendant of his great forerunner Yudhisthira, and the name of Delhi first appears under the auspices of this dynasty whose representatives still hold high place among the aristocracy of Rajputana.

As we turn further pages over, we come to clearer writing and find another great Rajput clan—the Chauhans—succeeding to the Tuars, and the name of Prithwiraj throwing a parting ray of splendour over the disappearance of the last Hindu Rulers of Delhi. Under the name of Rai Pithora his fame still lives among the people, the theme of many a popular ballad, the hero of countless feats of arms and gallantry. To this day may be seen the Lal Kot or citadel of the fortress he built as a protection against those Mahomedan invaders who finally brought about his fall; and there is an iron pillar set up there which bears inscriptions by both Chauhan and Tuar Kings, though it really belongs to a much older period, and is one of the most interesting memorials of Hindu supremacy in India,

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

Next we find near by writ large in the famous Kutub Minar and other stately buildings the record of the dynasty founded by Kutb-ud-din Aibak; and not long afterwards another dynasty produced that fine old fighting frontiersman Ghias-ud-din Tughlak, who gave Delhi new birth in the mighty fortress of Tughlukabad; and Sultan Firoz Shah Tughlak, who not only left behind him another Delhi in Firozabad; but to quote from his own diary of 500 years ago—"by the guidance of God was led to rebuild and repair the edifices and structures of former kings which had fallen into decay."

The next great land-mark of the story is Purana Killa, begun by Sher Shah—a mighty man of valour as well as a wise and benevolent Ruler—and finished by Humayun, the father of the famous Akbar.

And later still, built by Akbar's grandson, comes modern Delhi or Shahjahanabad, whose beauties lie around me as I speak.

I have lightly dipped into page after page of the story and made no attempt to follow it out in detail, but I think I have said enough to show that, through the ages as far back as tradition goes, the glamour of a great and Imperial city has illuminated the neighbourhood of Imperial Delhi. But I need hardly remind you that to us the greatest and most memorable event of all is the historic pronouncement made by His Imperial Majesty in Durbar last year, when he proclaimed Delhi to be for ever the permanent Capital of the Indian Empire under the benign rule of our great and good King-Emperor and his successors. Of this landmark in the history of India the monument has yet to be built.

I have dwelt thus upon the noble monuments of a few of the great Rulers who have held their Court in the different Delhis, but there are many other pages which

Durbar in the Diwan-i-Am.

tell a different story. I need not remind you that the field of Panipat hard by, in three of the most decisive battles of Asia, twice crowned the Mogul arms with victory and a third time shattered the Mahratta power; nor need I tell of the victory of Lord Lake on the other side of the river, which gave to England her Indian Empire. That Empire was strengthened and consolidated after the great siege, to which you, Sir, have referred at length, but the city has stood many another siege and watched many another scene of battle, as well as of civil strife. Many times has she been spoiled, and more than once the whim of an Emperor has transferred her inhabitants in their thousands to new and distant capitals.

As we look around us on the mighty relics of the olden time, we may think with pride of the past glories of half-forgotten dynasties, but let us not forget that this glory was often dearly purchased with the tears of the people.

You, Sir, have recounted with satisfaction the administrative achievements of the Government of the Punjab, in the discharge of its duties towards the city and people of Delhi, and your story is not a narrative of sanguinary victories won, of massive fortresses or noble palaces built, but a plain, unvarnished tale of material improvements and increasing trade and prosperity. In this there is little romance, but the contrast is one of which England may well be proud; and though I greatly hope that the new city soon destined to arise may prove not altogether unworthy of the great and ancient monuments with which it will be surrounded, yet it is not to such things as these that England will point in the days to come as the beauty of one of the brightest jewels which adorn her Crown, but rather to the peace, happiness and contentment of the millions over whom her King-

First Meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council at Delhi.

Emperor exercises sway; to the trust and confidence which she has been able to repose on their loyalty, and perhaps most proudly of all to the generous share which she has been able to give, and to give with gladness, to the sons of India in sharing her councils and in shaping the destiny of this great and wonderful country, of which this city of Delhi, re-created as it is under different and happier auspices, may, we trust with God's grace, continue to be for long future ages the noble Capital—the Capital of a great Empire of ever-increasing happiness and prosperity. May the blessing of the Almighty for ever guide and direct those who, in future from this Imperial City, shall govern this great Empire for the good of the people and their steady advancement on the path of progress and civilisation under the protecting ægis of the British Crown.

FIRST MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AT DELHI.

[The first meeting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council had been looked forward to with much interest as marking His Excellency's first appearance in public since the outrage of the 23rd December, when he suffered such a grievous injury. His Excellency's general health had so distinctly improved that this approach towards convalescence justified the gratification of his desire to meet his Council on the occasion of their assembling for the first Legislative Session at Delhi. 27th Jan. 1913.

The Council met at 11 o'clock in the Chamber at the temporary Secretariat buildings, fifty-two Additional Members attending, while all the Executive Councillors were present. The galleries were filled with ladies and gentlemen, all available accommodation being occupied. Official society was fully represented and there were many visitors also. Among the Viceregal guests present were the Hon'ble E. S. Montagu, Lord Sandwich and Lady Jenkins. Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson presided at the opening of the proceedings which consisted of the formal taking of the oath of allegiance to the King-Emperor by the Additional Members. At half-past eleven when all but the official members had taken the oath or made the

First Meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council at Delhi.

affirmation, Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson vacated the chair after announcing that the Viceroy had arrived and would assume the office of President. Her Excellency Lady Hardinge and the Hon'ble Diamond Hardinge had by this time taken their seats in the side gallery to the right. The Viceroy attended by Colonel Maxwell, Military Secretary, and Captain Tod, A.D.C., entered the Chamber, and his appearance was the signal for a remarkable demonstration. All rose to their feet and a storm of cheers broke out. The enthusiasm of the ovation was unbounded and the cheers were repeated again and again as the Viceroy bowed his acknowledgements. His right arm was in a light silk sling, a sign that his wounds had not yet completely healed. When the cheers had at last died down, there was a hush of expectancy, and His Excellency then spoke as follows :—]

Although I have not yet recovered from my wounds, and have been compelled under doctor's orders to abstain from all public business of every kind, I have felt not only a desire, but that it is my duty, to come here to-day to open the first session of my Legislative Council in Delhi, and to give a cordial welcome to the newly elected and newly appointed Members of my Council. I am sure that at the same time none of you will begrudge me an expression of regret for those who have not returned; since after two years' loyal and active co-operation with my Government in the legislative work of the Government of India, I regard them not only as former colleagues in Council, but also as friends. I am delighted to see some of the former Members of my Council again in their places, and I am confident that they will again bring to our Council the same spirit of harmony, goodwill and legislative ability as during the past two years that I have had the honour of presiding over their deliberations. As regards the new Members of my Council, I bid them a cordial welcome and I am sure that I can count on them to maintain the same high standard of dignity in debate as has so markedly distinguished our deliberations in the past.

First Meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council at Delhi.

I feel deeply grateful to you all for the warmth of your reception here to-day. I always knew that I could count on your sympathy in the suffering that has been my lot during the past few weeks; and if there has been one thing that has tended to alleviate those sufferings, it has been the knowledge of the sympathy shown towards me by all classes, creeds and communities throughout the length and breadth of India. I should like to take this opportunity when addressing my Council, who represent the whole of British India, to express my profound gratitude for the genuine outburst of sympathy, the devout prayers and good wishes that have been heard on every side; and if I may be allowed to say so, I feel convinced that those prayers have not been unanswered. When five weeks ago I had recovered consciousness and was able to think over what had passed, my feelings were, in the first instance, those of profound gratitude to Almighty God for His merciful protection of Lady Hardinge and myself, of real grief for the poor man who had lost his life in the performance of his duty, of very deep disappointment that it were possible that such misguided men as those who plotted and committed such a useless crime could now be found in India, and of sorrow at the thought of the injury to the sentiments of the whole of the people of India who would, I knew, regard with horror and detestation the perpetration of a crime which is contrary to their own precepts and instincts of humanity and of loyalty, as well as to their religious principles. The gratitude that I felt at the miraculous preservation by the Almighty of Lady Hardinge and myself from the hand of the assassin was, I know, also deeply felt throughout India, but words fail me when I think of the cruel murder of those humble people who were ruthlessly killed, and I deeply deplore the loss which their families have sustained. In my

First Meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council at Delhi.

desire for kindly intercourse with the people and accessibility to them, I have always discouraged excessive precautions, and I trusted myself and Lady Hardinge more to the care of the people than to that of the police. If it was an error, it is an error that I am proud of, and I believe it may yet prove not to have been an entirely mistaken confidence, for out of evil good may come. Is it too much to hope that the storm of public indignation evoked at the outrage may give Indian terrorists cause for sensible and humane reflection and repentance? It is difficult to believe that these individuals are a class apart, and that they do not belong to communities and mix with their fellow-beings. Are they really susceptible to no influence and no advice? Have they no contact with moderate and wiser men? Still, whatever I may feel on the subject of the crime itself, I only wish to assure you and the whole of India that this incident will in no sense influence my attitude. I will pursue without faltering the same policy in the future as during the past two years, and I will not waver a hair's breadth from that course.

What I have said so far has been somewhat of a personal character, but I have one word more to say to the people of India which I say with a profound sense of the gravity of the import of my words. I need hardly recall to the memory of anybody that the recent incident is not an isolated episode in the history of India, but that during the past few years both Indians and Europeans, loyal servants of Government and of India, have been less fortunate than I have been, and undeserving of the cruel fate meted out to them, have been stricken down by the hand of the assassin. These deplorable events cast a slur on the fair name of India and the Indian people, to whom I know they are thoroughly repellent; and I say to the people of India—not merely as a

First Meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council at Delhi.

Viceroy intensely jealous of the honour of the country that he has been called upon to govern, but as one of the many millions in India of the fellow-subjects of our King-Emperor, and one who loves India and the Indian people amongst whom he is living—I say that this slur must be removed, and the fair fame of India must be restored to a high and unassailable plane. Knowing, by the kindly and genuine manifestations of sympathy received from every side, how profoundly repulsive such crimes are to the people of India, it may be asked what remedy can be applied to prevent their recurrence. To this I would reply that such crimes cannot be dismissed as the isolated acts of irresponsible fanatics, and that they are in most cases the outcome of organised conspiracies in which the actual agent of the crime is not always the most responsible. The atmosphere which breeds the political murderer is more easily created than dispelled. It can only be entirely and for ever dispelled by the display and enforcement of public opinion in a determination not to tolerate the perpetration of such crimes and to treat as enemies of society, not only those who commit crimes, but also those who offer any incentives to crime. Amongst such incentives to crime should be included every intemperance of political language and methods which are likely to influence ill-balanced minds and lead them by insidious stages to hideous crimes. The universal condemnation throughout the whole of India of the crime of the 23rd December, and the anxiety shown for the detection of the criminals, have, however, filled me with hope for the future, and have inspired me with confidence in the determination of the people of India to stamp out from their midst the fungus growth of terrorism and to restore to their beautiful motherland an untarnished record of fame. Imbued as I am with this hope and confidence, my faith in India, its future,

and its people remains unshaken; and if, as I confidently anticipate, the realisation of my faith is confirmed, then I may add that the two innocent lives so sadly lost on the 23rd December will not have been sacrificed in vain.

[After Sir Gangadhar Chitnavis and Sir Charles Armstrong had spoken His Excellency rose again to thank his Council for the sympathetic and friendly sentiments which had been voiced by these two members, and added :—]

I fear I shall not be able at present to preside further over your proceedings. I should have liked to shake you each personally by the hand, but you see my arm is still in a sling, so I am sure you will all take the will for the deed, and will also forgive me for leaving you so soon on this occasion of my first public appearance.

CHIEFS' CONFERENCE, DELHI.

3rd Mar. 1913. [On the morning of the 3rd March a Conference to consider the question of establishing a higher college in connection with existing Chiefs' Colleges opened in the Legislative Council Chamber in the Imperial Secretariat building.

The following Chiefs were present :—Central India : Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior, the Begum of Bhopal, the Rajas of Dhar, Dewas (senior branch), Sitamau, Sailana and the Rajkumar of Rajgarh (Lieutenant-Colonel Godfrey, Political Agent, Baghelkhand, represented the Maharaja of Rewa). Rajputana : the Maharaja of Bikaner, the Maharao Raja of Bundi, Maharao of Kotah, Sir Partab Singh (Regent of Jodhpur) and the Maharaja of Alwar. United Provinces : The Maharaja of Benares. Punjab : the Nawab of Malerkotla and Dujana, the Raja of Chamba, Khan Zulfikar Ali Khan (representing the Maharaja of Patiala), and the Rana of Jodhpur. Bombay : Thakur Sahib of Gondal, Rao of Cutch, the Chief of Miraj (senior), and the Jam Sahib of Nawanagar, Thakur Sahib of Limbdi and the heir-apparent of the Raja of Lunavada.

The Viceroy greeted the various members attending and then addressed the Conference as below :—]

Your Highnesses and Gentlemen,—It is a source of deep satisfaction to me that I have been able to fulfil

Chiefs' Conference, Delhi.

my promise to be present here to-day to open this Conference, if only for the opportunity which it affords me for thanking Your Highnesses personally for the kind sympathy so abundantly extended to me in my recent trouble and for your cordial messages of congratulation on my recovery. With so signal a manifestation of the good-will of the Ruling Chiefs of India fresh in my memory, I should have been bitterly disappointed had the state of my health not permitted me to associate myself personally with a project which, if realised, may influence so greatly their future welfare and prosperity. The presence of so many Chiefs at Delhi is sufficient evidence of the deep interest which Your Highnesses take in the objects for the furtherance of which I have convened this Conference. I warmly appreciate the high sense of duty which has impelled you, in spite of the strain which the administration of your States imposes and, in many cases, at great personal inconvenience, to arrange to be present here to-day. For my part I can only regret that I have not been able to accord you so hospitable a welcome as I could have wished, but Your Highnesses will, I feel assured, recognise that the present arrangements at Delhi are necessarily of a somewhat temporary make-shift character, and that I have not at my disposal the machinery and the resources which a permanent Capital supplies.

It is just eleven years ago since a Conference was held in Calcutta under the presidency of Lord Curzon to investigate the conditions of the Chiefs' Colleges and to consider proposals for their reform. It is unnecessary for me to enter into the details of the measures which that Conference initiated. Many of you are familiar with them and have watched their practical working with critical eyes. On the whole I think we may justly claim for them a fair measure of success. They marked the

Chiefs' Conference, Delhi.

first serious attempt clearly to lay down the ideal at which these institutions should aim and the practical objects which they should endeavour to attain. It was, however, soon recognised that the diploma course introduced in 1904 did not go far enough, that boys were left to return to their homes at an impressionable age without having received an education sufficiently advanced to fit them fully for their future careers. To meet this defect a Post-Diploma Course was introduced as a temporary expedient. I will not deny that this course has justified its creation, but it cannot, I think, be claimed that it has fulfilled in their entirety all the hopes of its creators. Moreover, it is sufficiently clear that in some cases results have been obtained at the expense of the efficiency of the instruction of the ordinary school classes, while so heavy a strain has been imposed by it on the teaching staffs of the Chiefs' Colleges that at Rajkot it was found necessary to abandon the course altogether. The question therefore which we have now to solve is how to meet the growing need of the Ruling Chiefs and aristocracy of this country for a higher education which will fit their sons for the position which they may one day be called upon to occupy. I am sure you will all agree with me that we owe a debt of gratitude to my esteemed friend, Her Highness the Begum of Bhopal, for being the first to invite attention to the serious importance of this problem and for promulgating a scheme which, to a large extent, anticipates the proposals recently put forward by the Council of the Mayo College. These schemes will form a useful basis for your deliberations.

While there may be differences of opinion as to the precise scope and character of the institution to be established, I think that we shall all agree with Her Highness and the Council of the Mayo College that the facilities for such education at present afforded are very

Chiefs' Conference, Delhi.

inadequate. I am assured that, under present conditions, it is no uncommon thing for young Thakurs and Jagirdars to return from College to their homes quickly to forget all that they have been taught and often, I fear, to content themselves with a life of indolence. Gentlemen, I cannot view this waste of such fine material without feelings of deep regret, and I feel very strongly that, had adequate facilities for their higher education been provided, these young men might have been able to find in their own States the employment for which, both by birth and tradition, they are so admirably fitted. We have reached a stage in the education of the young where we must either go forward or fall back. In the busy and enterprising world of the twentieth century where the human intellect is making such prodigious strides, and where discoveries in every quarter are pressing upon us in rapid and bewildering succession, there can be no room for a policy of *laissez faire.* The signs of the times are plain for those who are willing to read. With the spread of education throughout the country the problems of administration become every day of increasing magnitude and complexity, and demand a correspondingly higher standard of knowledge and skill in those to whose hands the onerous duty of government is entrusted. Your Highnesses, if the difficulties which now confront you in the administration of your States are considerable, rest assured that a far more delicate and troublesome task lies before your successors. On the measures which are taken now to train them for their future careers will their success or failure in that task depend.

I have no wish to fetter in any way the action which you may consider it desirable to take in the education of your sons, but I cannot refrain from expressing the opinion that no scheme for higher education which is not

Chiefs' Conference, Delhi.

framed with a strict consideration for the after-career of the students and the openings presenting themselves to them can ultimately prove successful. This is no narrow ideal. Whether the student be the son of a Ruling Chief or of a Noble, the career open to him may be one rich in possibilities of good and the qualifications required of him, if of a somewhat special nature, are exceptionally wide. These qualifications can only be acquired by an education conducted on distinctive lines comprising, firstly, a general development of the faculties; secondly, physical culture upon the best lines; thirdly, a study of the principles and practice of administration; and lastly, and in my judgment the most important feature, a religious upbringing calculated to produce a character inspired by high ideals and by an unswerving purpose towards the achievement of what is right. It is for you, Gentlemen, assembled in Conference, to consider the lines in greater detail. I desire only to impress upon you the importance of keeping in your discussions a watchful eye upon the end to be attained and of permitting no doctrinaire opinion to prevail over the practical aspects of the matter or to obscure the well-defined idea which will shape your conclusions. It is clear that any scheme that may be eventually adopted will entail considerable expenditure, but in that case I am confident that the support which has been so generously accorded in the past to existing institutions by the Chiefs, in whose interests the Rajkumar Colleges are maintained, will be extended on this occasion with a no less liberal hand. I desire to add that the object which you have in view has the warmest sympathy of my Government; and if the proposals which you may make meet with their approval, they are prepared to recommend to His Majesty's Secretary of State an annual subvention to the institution of half a lakh of rupees.

Chiefs' Conference, Delhi.

[His Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior rose and said :—

Your Excellency,—At the request of all the Ruling Princes present here at this Conference, I beg to tender to Your Excellency our united and heartfelt thanks for the trouble you have taken in coming here in person to open this Conference on the higher education of Ruling Princes and their relations and Nobles.

The presence of Your Excellency betokens, not only your own deep personal interest in the welfare of our States and ourselves, but we take it as publicly demonstrating the official sympathy and solicitude of the Viceroy and the Government of India in this very important question in particular, as also in all other matters in general, concerning our future happiness and prosperity.

Whilst offering our grateful thanks and also assuring Your Excellency of our high sense of appreciation, might we be permitted to add that no one realises more than the Ruling Princes—who may ever be depended upon, through thick and thin, to steadfastly maintain their traditions of unflinching loyalty to His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor and his Throne—how closely united and identical are the interests of His Imperial Majesty's Government out here and those of ourselves and our States. And this same identity of interest—which Your Excellency by your gracious presence here to-day has further testified to—will, we hope, not only lead to something beneficial resulting to ourselves and our people as the outcome of this Conference, and at the same time we believe be of advantage to the Imperial Government, but we trust will lead also to similar Conferences and results in other fields so far as the Government and we and our States are concerned, which would contribute to further consolidating and cementing the ties between the Government and ourselves—and, may we also state without immodesty, at the same time further strengthen and unify the Empire.

Before resuming my seat I also beg to offer, on behalf of every one of my brother Princes present here to-day, our sincerest congratulations, and to express our unfeigned joy on Your Excellency's happy and complete recovery from the truly abominable outrage perpetrated in December last, about which all India has expressed its genuine abhorrence and unmistakable horror in no hesitating terms. It is our earnest prayer that a Viceroy so sympathetic with India and all legitimate Indian aspirations, and such a good and true friend of ourselves and our States like Your Excellency, will under God's Providence be spared in full health and vigour for very many more years.

Farewell Dinner to the Hon'ble Sir L. Dane, G.C.I.E., Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab.

His Excellency then addressed the Conference in the following words :—]

Your Highnesses,—I wish to thank you very cordially for the loyal, kind and friendly sentiments to which His Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior has given expression on Your Highnesses' behalf and which I warmly appreciate. I will not take up your time further. It is my sincere wish that your proceedings may have a successful issue, and I look forward with confidence to the result of your deliberations, to which I will now leave you.

[The Conference then began its sittings under the chairmanship of Sir Henry McMahon.]

FAREWELL DINNER TO THE HON'BLE SIR L. DANE, G.C.I.E., LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF THE PUNJAB.

th May 1913.

[At a farewell dinner given by the Viceroy to Sir L. Dane, the retiring Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, His Excellency made the followings remarks :—]

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I feel sure that I am rightly interpreting the wishes of all here in rising to propose the health of His Honour Sir Louis Dane, the retiring Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab.

Sir Louis' impending departure, and that of Lady Dane which has already taken place, is, and has been, a source of genuine regret to their many friends and admirers in Simla and in this province with which Sir Louis and Lady Dane have been so closely connected for so many years, and in which Sir Louis has played so active a part.

It is unnecessary for me on this occasion to enumerate the many beneficial acts that have distinguished Sir Louis Dane's administration, or to pass in review the remark-

able advance that has taken place in the Punjab during the past five years, or to dwell upon the wave of prosperity that has swept over this province, but it suffices me to say that it must be a source of intense satisfaction to Sir Louis to know that never before has the Punjab been in such a rich and prosperous condition as at the moment of the severance of his official connection with a province in which, with but short intervals of absence, he has served for over 35 years.

Sir Louis and Lady Dane will carry away with them the warm sympathy and sincere good wishes for their continued good health and happiness of countless Europeans and Indians, with heart-felt prayers that they may long be spared to enjoy them. I now propose the health of His Honour Sir Louis and Lady Dane.

ADDRESS OF THE CITIZENS OF DELHI.

[The citizens of Delhi were to have presented an address of welcome to His Excellency the Viceroy on the occasion of the Viceroy's first public entry into Delhi as the Capital of India. The attempted assassination of Lord Hardinge however prevented this. His Excellency however consented to receive an address later on and two of the prominent citizens of Delhi came to Simla on 20th June and presented the following address :— **20th June 1913.**

May it please Your Excellency,—With Your Excellency's permission, we the representatives of the citizens of Delhi, on the occasion of your first birthday after the outrageous attempt on your life, beg leave to give expression to our gratitude and the deep sense of respect and love which we cherish towards Your Excellency's person.

We would thank Your Excellency for so graciously giving us this opportunity in lieu of the one for which we had looked on the 23rd December last, and of which we were deprived by the deplorable event which marred Your Excellency's State Entry into the capital of India.

We beg to approach Your Excellency, on behalf of all the citizens of Delhi, to assure you that the Royal boon, by which the old capital

Address of the Citizens of Delhi.

of Delhi has been made the new seat of Government of His Most Gracious Majesty's vast Indian Empire, has filled their hearts with everlasting gratitude. It was with feelings of eager anticipation and profound gratitude that all classes of the citizens of Delhi looked forward to the first public entry of Your Excellencies into your new capital. The happiness of that auspicious day was however marred by the dastardly attempt on the life and person of Your Excellency and of the illustrious Lady Hardinge. We earnestly assure Your Excellency that there was not a soul in Delhi who did not heartily thank the Almighty when they learnt that Providence had intervened and saved Your Excellencies' most valuable lives.

The marked fortitude, endurance and unflinching devotion to duty evinced by Your Excellencies on that occasion fully proved your possession of those qualities which are the characteristic of the whole English nation. In view of the generous and noble sentiments expressed by Your Excellency ever since your arrival in India, especially on the occasion of the meeting of the Legislative Council of January 27th last, we also rejoice to feel, not only that our beloved city will be an object of personal interest to Your Excellency, but also that the destinies of the Indian Empire will, for some time to come, be under such wise and sympathetic guidance.

Finally with humble prayers offered on behalf of the citizens of Delhi for Your Excellency's well-being and prosperity, we sincerely congratulate Your Excellency on your Providential escape and perfect recovery, and pray to Almighty God that India may ever be preserved from a repetition of such deplorable occurrences.

With profound respect we are, on behalf of the citizens of Delhi.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

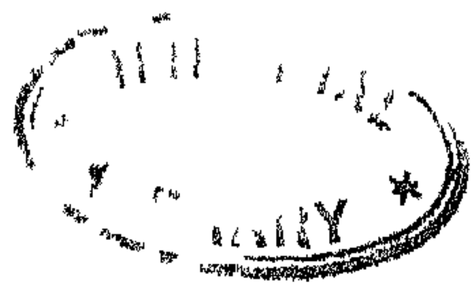
Gentlemen,—In wishing you a cordial welcome. I desire to thank the citizens of Delhi very warmly for your presence here on my birthday, and for the kind and affectionate words of welcome that you have brought me from them. I assure you, Gentlemen, that I am deeply affected by them. At the same time I would like to say how profoundly touched I was during the long weeks of my illness by the anxious solicitude and fervent prayers of the citizens of Delhi of all creeds and classes for my complete recovery which, by Divine intervention, has been attained. I sympathise deeply with your city in its

Address of the Citizens of Delhi.

feelings of horror at the unhappy circumstances that attended the ceremony of the 23rd December when, by the command of the King-Emperor, Delhi was proclaimed the capital of the Indian Empire, but I rest confident in the hope and knowledge that the loyal citizens of Delhi will themselves take care that no such deplorable outrage shall ever be repeated in their city.

I regret very much that, owing to circumstances beyond my control, I saw so little of the citizens of Delhi during last cold weather, but I hope to see much of Delhi and its citizens next winter. I should like however to take this opportunity to tell you of the deep interest that I and the Government of India take in the progress and development of the city and province of Delhi that are now under our care, and to assure you that it is our hope and intention, with the co-operation and assistance of the citizens of Delhi, to make both the old and new cities into one Imperial Delhi that shall be worthy of the capital of this great Empire.

I thank you, Gentlemen, and the citizens of Delhi again very warmly for your kind words and for the kindly thought in sending a deputation to see me to-day.



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