



172 C 73

PUBLISHER'S NOTE.

The following pages embody the political consciousness of Behar almost in its entirety. Behar has spoken with openness on the political situation and we are happy to find that for once we had a late Lieutenant-Governor who accepted our reading of it. The situation is not much changed since the Address and the Manifesto and our wants and wishes today are much the same as they were about a year ago. These pages are offered to the public not as a fresh contribution to political thought but in the hope that in reading these pages our convictions may be deepened and fresh stimulus be given to new thought.

We have made bold to give the likeness of Babu Mahesh Narayan on the frontis-piece as he more than any body else has contributed to the up-building of political life and thought among us.

CONTENTS.



	PAGE.
1. ADDRESS TO SIR ANDREW H. L. FRASER	I
2. APPENDIX	19
3. L. G.'S. REPLY TO THE ADDRESS	45
4. THE BEHAR MANIFESTO	69
5. REPLY TO THE MANIFESTO	75
6. PRESS OPINIONS	80
(i) THE BEHAREE	pp. 80-87
(ii) THE ADVOCATE	pp. 87-91
(iii) 'MAX' IN THE CAPITAL	pp. 91-97
(iv) THE BENGALIEE	pp. 97-99
(v) THE A. B. PATRIKA	pp. 100-106
(vi) THE HINDU PATRIOT	pp. 106-111
(vii) THE ENGLISHMAN	p. 111
(viii) THE INDIAN MIRROR	p. 112
(ix) THE MADRAS TIMES	p. 113
(x) THE BANDE MATARAM	p. 113
(xi) THE INDIAN PEOPLE	pp. 114-116
(xii) THE TRIBUNE	pp. 116-117





The Late Wabu Mahesh Narayan,
"THE MAKER OF MODERN BEHAR."



ADDRESS

To

The Honourable

Sir Andrew Henderson Leith Fraser,

M. A., LL.D., K.C.S.I.,

Lieutenant-Governor of Behar and Western Bengal.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOR,

We, the members of the deputation representing all classes of the people in the Province of Behar, beg leave to approach Your Honor with this valedictory address of ours, on the occasion of, what we believe to be, Your Honor's last official visit to our Province. The deputation to which Your Honor has been graciously pleased to accord the privilege of waiting upon you to-day

has been organised by the three leading public associations in Behar, acting in concert and co-operation with one another, *viz.*, the Behar Landholders' Association, the Behar Provincial Association and the Behar Provincial Muslim League, and, as such, we may humbly claim to speak in the name of the whole of the Beharee community. During Your Honor's tenure of office as the Lieutenant-Governor of the Lower Provinces, Your Honor has no doubt been the recipient of a large number of addresses from the many classes and communities inhabiting the Lower Provinces, but we may be allowed to submit that our address is unique and distinctive in the sense, that it does not emanate from any particular section, caste, class or community, but is a humble and loyal representation of the views and the sentiments of the entire Beharee Community. Your Honor will no doubt be gratified to learn that of all the Provinces in Northern India, Behar is the only one where there is no such crucial problem as is known elsewhere by the name of the Hindu

Muhammadan Question. All of us in Behar believe in mutual toleration and reasonable compromise as the true basis of political progress and our leaders—both Hindu and Muhammadan—have, therefore, always acted in harmony with one another in the furtherance of the cause of good administration and civic progress. Under these circumstances we hope that the expression of our opinion will naturally carry with it much greater weight than if it were of any one section, class or community. In the first place, we desire to assure Your Honor that we have noticed with deep regret that the period of Your Honor's tenure of office will shortly be coming to an end. Considering that Your Honor's administration has conferred several important and appreciable benefits on the people of Behar, and knowing as we do that our interests have always occupied a foremost place in Your Honor's consideration, we assure you that nothing would have given the people of Behar greater pleasure than to learn that it was possible for Your Honor to stay amongst us

for even a short time longer than your usual term of office. It would not be out of place to mention here that the people of Behar were desirous to approach the Government for an extension of Your Honor's term of office ; but having been given to understand that Your Honor was unwilling to accept any extension, they did not think it right to proceed with the matter any further. We are not unaware, however, of the unrelenting labour that Your Honor has been pleased to bring to bear on the work of administration, even at sacrifice of health and comfort, and we, therefore, feel that it would be too selfish of us to grudge Your Honor any longer that much needed rest and repose, which you have rightly earned for yourself after nearly 40 years of strenuous work in the service of India.

On an occasion like this it seems to us desirable to place before Your Honor our views and sentiments on some of the questions of the day, both Imperial and Provincial. So far as our views on the present situation affecting the country as a whole

are concerned, it is sufficient to state that the Manifesto recently issued by the people of Behar has placed before the Government, and the public what educated and thoughtful Beharees feel on the subject, and it will, therefore, serve no useful purpose to repeat them here. We shall, therefore, confine ourselves, on the present occasion, solely to such questions as affect the well-being of the Province of Behar; and we, therefore, crave permission to submit to Your Honor the following summary of our grievances, needs and aspirations, in the hope that they will receive at Your Honor's hands a careful and favourable consideration. As it is almost impossible to appreciate the force and justice of our suggestions, without reference to facts and figures justifying them and the arguments which support the same, we beg leave to append herewith a detailed exposition of each of the subjects contained in this address and we earnestly hope that Your Honor would be graciously pleased to bestow upon it that consideration which in our humble opinion it is entitled to receive.

**I.—Behar's Representation in the Provincial
Legislative Council.**

- (a) That considering the hitherto inadequate representation of Behar in the Provincial Council, it is prayed that the system be so re-modelled, especially in view of the "Reform" scheme for the expansion of the Legislative Councils, as to admit of the permanent representation of each of the four Divisions of Patna, Tirhoot, Bhagalpur and Chhota Nagpur which constitute the Province of Behar, in case it be found impracticable to give a permanent representation to each district in the expanded Provincial Council.
- (b) That considering the importance of the European Planting Community in the Tirhoot Commissionership, a seat in the Provincial Council should be permanently placed at the disposal of the Behar Planter's Association.
- (c) That in view of the fact that the District Boards in the Tirhoot Division have

at present an overwhelming preponderance of the members of the European Planting Community which materially affects the chances of the Beharees in Tirhoot Division of acquiring training and experience in methods of Local Self-Government, and also in view of the fact that the European Planting Community fully deserves a permanent seat in the Provincial Council, it is prayed that the Government be pleased to direct that the number of the members of the Planting Community should not in future exceed one-fourth the total number of seats on the District Board.

II.—Seat of Government.

- (a) That Patna be treated as the second capital of the Lower Provinces on the analogy of Lucknow in the United Provinces, and that the sittings of the Provincial Council be held by turns in Calcutta and Patna, on the analogy of the United Provinces where the Council

meetings are held both in Allahabad and at Lucknow.

- (b) That His Honor the Lieutenant Governor be pleased to make in Behar a prolonged stay of from three to four months in the year.

III.—Public Service.

- (a) That to encourage Beharees to take to the study of Engineering and Medicine, the Government be pleased to give preference to Beharee Graduates in Engineering and Medicine for appointments in Behar.
- (b) That as the system of recruitment in force for the Provincial Civil Service is not calculated to better the prospects of the Beharees in the service, it is prayed that it may be replaced by one which may improve their chances to an extent that, in the near future, all the posts open to the children of the soil should come to be held in Behar by the Beharees alone.
- (c) That the Government be pleased to recommend to the High Court so to

alter the rules for the appointment of Munsiffs and so to adapt them to the requirements of Behar, that all the judicial posts open to Indians shall, in the near future, come to be held in Behar by the Beharees alone.

- (d) That considering that there is only one Beharee Subordinate Judge the Government be pleased to exercise the authority vested in it, under the Resolution of the Government of India on the Report of the Public Service Commission, by appointing competent Beharee practising lawyers as Subordinate Judges—a power which was exercised some years back by the Government of the United Provinces.
- (e) That considering the very poor representation of Beharees in the minor services, such as Education, Police, Opium, Post Office, Court of Wards and other departments, it is respectfully prayed that the Government be pleased to issue special instructions to the heads of these departments to give

preference to competent Beharces, especially for appointments in Behar.

(f) That Your Honor be pleased to recommend to the Government of India that out of the Judgeships open to Indians in the Calcutta High Court the Government of India be pleased to make it a rule that one of these appointments be invariably conferred upon a Beharee.

(g) That Your Honor be pleased to direct that the Civil List of the Lower Provinces be so compiled in future as to show the district of which an Indian officer is the native.

IV.—Education.

(a) That considering the backwardness of Behar and its neglected condition in the past the Government be pleased to allot a larger sum in future for advancement of education in the Commissionerships of Patna, Tirhoot, Bhagalpur and Chhota Nagpur, which constitute the Province of Behar.

- (b) That the Patna College be maintained as a first class residential College, so that it may serve the purpose of a model College in the Province of Behar.
- (c) That in case the proposed Ranchi College may not be within the range of accomplishment, a College on similar lines be established at Koelwar on the Sone or at Buxar (in the Shahabad District) and that the contributions promised by the Beharees for the Ranchi College may be utilised for the purpose.
- (d) That the Government may be pleased to render suitable pecuniary aid to the three private Colleges, namely, the Behar National College at Bankipore, the Bhumihar Brahman College at Muzafferpore, and the Tej Narayan Jubilee College at Bhagalpore, so that there may be at least one private College in efficient condition at the head-quarters of the Patna, Tirhoot and Bhagalpore divisions.

- (e) That the curriculum recently promulgated by the Calcutta University for the Matriculation Examination from the year 1910, is wholly unsuited to the conditions and requirements of our Province; and that unless it be completely altered, it will be disastrous to the progress of Higher Education in Behar. It is, therefore, prayed that Your Honor be graciously pleased to exert your influence as Rector of the University to induce it to modify the curriculum in such a way that it may suit the needs and requirements of the Beharees.
- (f) That if the transfer of the Engineering College from Shibpore to Ranchi be not feasible, the Behar School of Engineering be raised to the status of a College. Likewise, the Patna Temple Medical School be raised to the status of a Medical College. In the meantime a sufficiently large number of scholarships, of at least Rs. 40 a month, should be offered to

Beharee students so as to enable them to study Engineering and Medicine in Calcutta.

- (g) That the representation of the Beharees in the Senate of the Calcutta University—four out of one hundred, two of whom are officials—is very meagre and wholly inadequate and it is respectfully prayed that Your Honor be pleased to exercise your authority as Rector of the University, in the matter of the appointment of Beharees as Fellows and that their number should not be less than fifteen out of the total number.
- (h) That with a view to encourage Female Education, the Government be pleased to take over in its direct charge the Girls' School at Bankipur and that its management be entrusted to a mixed committee of Europeans and Indians and that sufficient funds be placed at the disposal of the committee to keep up the school in an efficient condition.
- (i) That a Law School on lines similar to

those laid down in the Vice-Chancellor's Minute on the subject be established at Patna ; but that the existing Law Classes in the Colleges in Behar should not be abolished until the Law School is established in full working order.

- (j) That the proposed Training College for teachers should be located at Patna or some other suitable place in Behar and not in Calcutta.
- (k) That scholarships for education in foreign countries, in Science and Industries, should be offered alternately to Behar and West Bengal.

U.—Administration of Justice.

That considering that the system of trial by Jury has been in force in the Patna District for a long series of years and that it has worked satisfactorily, it is respectfully prayed that the Government be pleased to extend the system to other advanced districts of Behar. It is also prayed that Government be pleased to introduce the experimental scheme of the separation of the Judicial

and Executive functions in the advanced districts of Behar.

VI.—Territorial Redistribution.

- (a) That simultaneously with the partition of the Patna Division and the establishment of a Commissionership at Mozafferpur, the Palamau District should be transferred from the Chhota Nagpur to the Patna Division.
- (b) That if direct Railway communication between Mozafferpur and Sitamarhi be not within the range of accomplishment in the near future, then the Sitamarhi Sub-division should be transferred from the Mozafferpur to the Darbhanga District and the Samastipur Sub-division of the latter should be transferred to the Mozafferpur District.
- (c) That the Deoghar and the Rajmahal Sub-divisions of the Santhal Perganas District (the latter *minus* the tract known as Daman-i-Koh) should be transferred to the Monghyr and Bhagalpur districts, respectively, and that

they should be duly "regulationised." Further, that Monghyr District with the addition of Deoghar should be raised to the status of an A class District with a District and Sessions Judge and a complete judicial staff of its own, the District and Sessions Judge of Bhagalpur being relieved of the charge of the Monghyr District, as the Bhagalpur District itself will become a sufficiently heavy charge by reason of the addition to it of the Rajmahal Sub-division (*minus* Daman-i-Koh).

VII.—Administration of Civil Justice in the Santhal Parganas.

- (a) That in the reconstituted Santhal Parganas District a peripatetic Subordinate Judge be appointed to hold Court in rotation at the head-quarters of the different Sub-divisions and try all suits above the value of Rs. 1,000.
- (b) That in each Sub-division of the reconstituted Santhal Parganas District a Munsiff be appointed to try all suits

of the value of less than Rs. 1,000, and that these Munsiffs be appointed, by reducing by one, in each Sub-division, the number of Deputy Magistrates, who at present try civil and rent suits along with criminal cases, so that by carrying out the suggestions, no additional cost will have to be incurred, except the pay of the Sub ordinate Judge.

- (c) That all laws, bye-laws and rules having the force of law, which are in force in the Santhal Pargannas District, should be codified or digested and published in a handy manual for the guidance of all concerned.

We fear, we have trespassed too much on Your Honor's patience and valuable time and hope to be excused for the same. Our sole justification for the length of this address is our sincere and earnest desire to see our great Province, with its glorious traditions, of which we all are justly proud, rise once more in the scale of progress and to see it advance along lines of prosperity. And as

we may, without any disparagement of the work of any of the past Rulers of the Province, say that Your Honor has done most for the Province of Behar, we have, felt justified in approaching Your Honor to-day and laying open our hearts before you.

In conclusion, we beg to convey to Your Honor our sincere thanks for the privilege accorded to us to-day of representing so fully and frankly the wants and aspirations of our people. We hope Your Honor will permit us to wish Lady Fraser, to whom we are specially beholden for her deep interest in the education of *pardanashine* women of Behar, and yourself a long and happy life of usefulness and prosperity in your native land and we further cherish the hope that Lady Fraser and Your Honor will be pleased to continue to take the same kindly interest in the people of Behar which you both have hitherto taken.

We have the honor to be,

Honorable Sir,

Your Honor's most obedient servants,

Members of the Behar Deputation.

APPENDIX

SOME BEHAR GRIEVANCES.

BEING

A Series of notes on some Behar Topics for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Behar and West Bengal; being intended to be treated as an Appendix to the address presented to His Honor by a Deputation of Beharees organised by the Behar Landholders' Association, the Behar Provincial Association and the Behar Provincial Muslim League at the Government House, Bankipore, in August, 1908.

Behar's Representation in the Provincial Council.

By the partition of Bengal three additional seats, for the three Divisions of Chittagong, Dacca and Rajshaye transferred to the new province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, were made available to Your Honor's Government; but we may be pardoned for saying that so far Behar has not been able to enjoy any advantage. In fact it was for some time after the partition a matter of serious complaint in Behar that there was not a single Beharee representative in

Your Honor's Council, and the amending act to the Bengal Tenancy Act, admittedly one of the most important measures affecting a very large section of the people, was passed in the absence of any Beharee representative in Your Honor's Council: Last year the Behar Landholders' Association prominently drew Your Honor's attention to this matter in their address and suggested that pending the promulgation of the new Reform Scheme the Patna Division should be permanently represented in Your Honor's Council "alternately through the Municipal and the District Board Electorate." This suggestion, however, did not meet with Your Honor's approval, on the ground that it would be an "impossible position" and that Your Honor "could not agree to measure one division against another by size, population or importance with a view to give it proportionate representation." At the same time Your Honor was pleased to remark "that His Excellency the Viceroy is in communication with the Secretary of State regarding the Expansion of Councils and I hope that one result of this discussion will be that every Division will be permanently represented in the Local Council." This assurance of Your Honor's is no doubt encouraging to us and we venture to hope that now with the establishment of a Commissionership at Muzafferpore the time will never come when a Beharee representative will be absent from the Provincial Council. At the same time we shall be wanting in our duty if we did not inform Your Honor that we strongly feel that in the reformed Council Behar's interest should be adequately represented, regard being had to its position as the predominant partner in the

Lower Provinces. As Your Honor's Government has not deemed it proper to publish Your Honor's views in regard to the expansion of the Provincial Council, as has been the case with some other Provincial Governments, we are not in a position to offer any suggestions on the subject. We would, however, respectfully invite Your Honor's attention to the resolution on the subject of the last Behar Provincial Conference to the effect that no reform of the Provincial Council would be satisfactory which did not provide for the permanent representation of each district in the Province, and considering that there are no more than 27 districts in the Lower Provinces, we do not think it a large order on the Government that the Council should be enlarged to an extent which will provide for the permanent representation of each district.

One word more we should like to say on the question of the representation of the non-official European community in Behar. This community is a strong and compact body in the Tirhoot Commissionership and it has its own efficient organisation, the Behar Planters' Association, with its headquarters at Muzafferpore. It is but right and proper that this important community should be directly and permanently represented in the Provincial Council. Hitherto it has been impossible for them to be represented in Council by reason of the fact that though they practically swamp the District Boards of the Tirhoot Division, they could not obtain the votes of the Southern districts of the Patna Division. If matters, therefore, in the Tirhoot Division are allowed to remain as at present, the chances are that the Beharee community there may find themselves

ousted from representation in Council by the District Boards, which may lead to heart-burning and result in bitterness of feeling. We, therefore, respectfully suggest that the best course would be to give a direct representation in the Council to the Planting community through the medium of the Behar Planters' Association, while at the same time directing the district officers to materially reduce their number in the District Boards, to not more than one-fourth of the total number of the Board, so as to improve the chances of the return of a Beharee representative of the District Boards. This will have, to our mind, another great advantage. It will enable a much larger number of Beharees to receive civic training, which was the primary object of the scheme of Local Self-Government enunciated by the Government of Lord Ripon, and it was distinctly stated to be so in the Resolution of the Government of India. Nor can it be urged that the reduction of the number on the District Boards of the Planting Community will result in any inefficiency, for the District Boards of the Southern districts of the Patna Division are no less efficient than those of the Northern districts of the Patna Division, although they are manned wholly by the members of the Beharee community.

We need say nothing here in regard to the claims of the Landholders of Behar to be permanently represented in the Council, for Your Honor was pleased to remark last year that you were "very strongly of opinion that the Landholders of the province ought to be very effectively represented in the Local Council." We trust, however, that instead of establishing new constituencies for giving the zemindars an

adequate representation, Your Honor will be pleased to so ordain that so far as the Behar zemindars are concerned they may seek their representation through the medium of the Behar Landholders' Association which is one of oldest institutions of its kind in the Lower Provinces.

The seat of Government.

Behar shall always remain grateful to Your Honor for having acquired Chajjubagh for the occasional residence of the Lieutenant-Governor in the Province of Behar. This was in the pre-partition days and since that event a significant change in situation has taken place, and equally significant was the christening of that house by His Excellency Lord Minto in the course of his speech at the Durbar, held at Bankipore in February 1906, as the "Charming House." A Government House it has naturally become and with the change in the relative position of the Bengalees and the Beharees, we now expect that the Lieutenant-Governor should come to us, not for two or three days, not even for two or three weeks, but for at least three months in the year. Last year in the course of the reply to the address of the Behar Landholders' Association, Your Honor was pleased to declare that "it is also the order of the Government of India that the Lieutenant-Governor will now reside for a certain portion of the year in Patna," and Your Honor was pleased to add that "the advantage of this innovation has been fully established by experience." It strikes us that the affairs of 25 millions of Beharees require as much time and attention—if not more—as the

affairs of 16 millions of Bengalees, and what more proper than that the Lieutenant-Governor should be on the spot for a sufficient length of time to be able to give personal attention to the affairs of Behar? One of the reasons given for the Partition of Bengal was that the Lieutenant-Governor was not able to give that degree of personal attention to all parts of the territories under his sway which was demanded of him for the purposes of a good and efficient Government. Now that, comparatively speaking, a small part of Bengal remains in charge of Your Honor, we are helping the policy of the Government and translating into a concrete fact, as it were, the principal reason given out for the Partition of Bengal, when we ask that the Lieutenant-Governor should give more of his personal attention to us, and in order to be able to do so, should reside among us for three or four months in the year. We are sure it will be admitted that it is not an extravagant claim which we put forward; it would have been a somewhat extravagant claim if we had asked for the wholesale transfer of the seat of Government from Calcutta to Patna, though such a consummation is to be devoutly wished for and may perhaps come about in the fullness of time. At present, what we wish is that the Lieutenant-Governor may divide his time between Bankipore and Calcutta, in the same way that the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh divides his time between Allahabad and Lucknow, and hold some meetings of his Council in Bankipore, as the Lieutenant-Governor of Agra and Oudh holds meetings of his Council in Lucknow. Last year in reply to

the suggestion made in the address of the Behar Landholders' Association, that Patna should be regarded as the second capital of the Lower Provinces on the analogy of Lucknow in the United Provinces, Your Honor was pleased to observe that "I can not agree that the circumstances of the Province are at all similar to those of the United Provinces." With the highest deference to Your Honor's opinion we may take the liberty of pointing out that if it is considered expedient that the capital of Oudh be treated as the second capital of the United Provinces, it is all the more necessary and desirable to regard the capital of Behar as the second capital of the Lower Provinces. It is well known that the people inhabiting the Provinces of Agra and Oudh are ethnologically and sociologically essentially one people and that the greater portion of the territories constituting the Province of Agra did form, until about a century ago, part of the Kingdom of Oudh and it was in fact from the Kings of Oudh that the greater portion of the territories now appertaining to the province of Agra were acquired by the British under various treaties. In fact, the United Provinces are the only provincial jurisdiction in British India in which the whole mass of the people can be said to be homogeneous, and if it is considered necessary to have a second capital even in such a homogeneous Province, we submit that it is even more necessary to have a second capital for the Lower Provinces, which beyond all doubt contain more heterogeneous elements than any other Indian Province. The differences between the Bengalees and the Beharees and the respective

provinces they inhabit are well known. "Our race and language and associations are wholly distinct," said the Maharaja Bahadur of Darbhanga in the course of his presidential address at an annual meeting of the Behar Landholders' Association in September 1905, "from those of our Bengalee friends." The same thing is well put by Mr. C. J. O'Donnell who has intimate knowledge of both Bengal and Behar, in his latest book on "Indian Discontent" as follows: "The Beharees and the Bengalees are more widely different than the Celts and the Teutons in race, origin and language; in marriage customs and even food." That being so, it will conduce to the well-being of Behar, if even in certain matters Patna is treated as a second capital of the Lower Provinces. The one matter on which Beharee opinion is unanimous is that the system should be inaugurated of holding meetings of the Provincial Council from time to time at Bankipore and it will satisfy Beharee public opinion if a move be made in that direction by arranging for the holding of that particular session of the Council at which the annual budget is discussed. The Beharees feel strongly about this matter and have therefore frankly put it before Your Honor in the hope that their very reasonable prayer will be accepted.

Education.

The educational grievances of Behar are serious and, considering that all progress depends upon the advancement of education, it is a lamentable fact in spite of the backwardness of Behar the Government have been until recently expending roughly

speaking three times as much over higher education in Bengal as in Behar. It will serve no useful purpose now to contemplate what might have been the progress of higher education in Behar to-day, had the Beharees been offered the same educational facilities which the Bengalees have hitherto received. But with the Partition of Bengal and the consequent constitution of Behar as the predominant partner both in point of area and population in the Government of the Lower Provinces, this state of affairs can no longer be justifiable and the Beharees respectfully submit that the Government should be pleased to direct that the expenditure on higher education in Behar—including under this head not only purely literary education but also scientific and technical, as for instance, in medicine and engineering—should be commensurate with the new position which the province of Behar has come to occupy in the Lower Provinces, as also with Behar's contribution to the revenues raised in the Lower Provinces. The backwardness of Behar has been in the past mainly due to the absence of facilities of education, which private enterprise and the munificence of the State have provided for Bengal, and in future, without substantial aid from Government the few private colleges which now exist will be seriously crippled for want of funds. Though the annual allotment as grant-in-aid to colleges is a liberal sum, Behar was not till lately, favoured with a single rupee out of it, and even now the very small grant which has been given to the Behar National College is hopelessly inadequate for the purpose for which it is intended. The three colleges in the Patna Division supply each a

purely local need, and therefore together represent the irreducible minimum of such institutions. In the matter of educational policy, as in other matters of public importance, Behar requires a separate treatment and from its history, tradition and the peculiar circumstances that surround it, it may well claim to be dealt with as a distinct unit. The number of colleges which Behar now possesses is anything but adequate for the large area and population which they serve, and is hardly sufficient to answer the demand that exists for higher education in Behar. For every college in the Calcutta University there are 11 high schools while in Behar the proportion is 1 to 13 and in the Patna Division 1 to 14.

The raising of the standard of the University examinations under the new regulations has filled the minds of the people with grave apprehension, as it may prove disastrous to the cause of higher education in Behar by limiting its scope and prescribing a test which it is believed may prove too drastic for Beharce youths. To give practical shape and effect to the above views we have formulated a series of proposals in the address to which we invite Your Honor's attention.

Public Services.

The very small number of Beharce officers in the Executive and Judicial Branches of the Provincial Civil Services has been a standing grievance to the educated Beharces. The number of Beharce Officers is so small that one can hardly realise it. The figures appended to this note leave no doubt, however, that in the Provincial Civil Service Behar is very poorly

and inadequately represented. These figures have been compiled with great care and caution and their verification has entailed an immense amount of labour, due to the fact that the Civil List of these Provinces does not indicate the nationality of Indian Officers. It will be a useful reform if in future Civil Lists the nationality of each Indian Officer is shown and it will then be possible to form an accurate idea of the relative strength of each community residing in the Lower Provinces in the Public Services. The suggestion may be carried out by showing against the name of each Indian Officer the name of the district of which he is a native. For all practical purposes, however, the figures compiled by the memorialists may be taken to be fairly accurate. The state of affairs disclosed is truly lamentable and unless it is remedied in the near future and the system of recruitment is so altered as to render the continuance of the present state of things impossible, it is to be feared that the dissatisfaction at present existing in Behar will deepen before long into "discontent. Last year when the matter was brought to Your Honor's notice by the Behar Landholders' Association, Your Honor was pleased to remark "that it would be well to see how this system works before we proceed to change it." We respectfully submit that so far as we have been able to give the matter our very best consideration the present system seems to us to be little calculated to bring about the ideal entertained by educated Beharees, namely, that all the posts in the public services of the Patna, Tirhut, Bhagalpur and the Chhota Nagpur Divisions, open to the natives of India, (except the district of Manbhum

in the last mentioned Division, which is purely a Bengalee district), should be manned by Beharees and by Beharees alone. This is the goal of our ambition and we do not think that there is anything wrong about an ideal, that all posts which are open to Indians in Behar should be occupied by the children of the soil, and not by natives of our Sub-provinces, which constitute with the Behar Division of Patna, Tirhut, Bhagalpur and Chhota Nagpur (*minus* Manbhum) the territorial jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Lower Provinces.

As regards the Provincial Executive Service and the Subordinate Civil Service the discrepancy in the number of Beharees and non-Bharees appointed to these services and the number of non-Bharees and Beharees that ought to be appointed in proportion to their respective populations, would continue to increase, if the appointments are made as at present. Under the rules in force each Commissioner of a Division has to nominate one candidate and the Calcutta University four for the Provincial Service, so that the two Commissioners in West Bengal will nominate two Bengalees and the Calcutta University four Bengalees. The Commissioner of Chhota Nagpur will oftener than not nominate a Bengalee for the Beharees though numerically much stronger than the Bengalees are by reason of their backwardness less influential in that Division to make their existence felt, and the Commissioner of Orissa either a Bengalee or an Oriya; so that normally speaking eight appointments will probably go to the Bengalees as against three to the Beharees by the Commissioners

of Patna, Tirhut and Bhagalpur. Even these are not certain, for only the other day, the Commissioner of Bhagalpur nominated a so-called domiciled Bengalee, one who did not even own a house in the Division, and even this year two of the District officers in the Patna division had nominated Bengalees, none of whom could lay preference to being domiciled. It may be urged that besides these appointments, the Lieutenant-Governor has the right reserved to him of making appointments of his own selection. It is precisely here that our complaint is most acute. Our complaint is that the Lieutenant-Governor being placed all the year round amidst Bengalee surroundings, with Bengalee influence supreme around him, cannot possibly divest himself of the influence brought to bear upon him by the Bengalees. The large number of appointments recently made on the occasion of an increase in the cadre of these Services is a most illustrative example of this. Forty appointments were made directly to the Provincial Executive Service but only 8 were given to the Beharees, as against 16 that went to the Bengalees, that is to say, the Beharees got just half of what the Bengalees got, while they outnumber the Bengalee in population by one-half. If these appointments had been distributed according to population, the Beharees would have got 18 and the Bengalees 6. The fate of the Beharees was still more deplorable in the matter of appointment to the Subordinate Civil Service. Out of a total of 57 appointments directly made, only 13 were given to the Beharees, while 36 went to the Bengalees, that is to say, the Bengalees got almost three times as many appointments as the

Beharees, and it is useless to point out what the respective number of appointments would have been if the respective ratio in population had been kept in view. We are sure that the Government do not think that this is a fair proportion in which these appointments ought to be divided between the Bengalees and the Beharees. We, therefore, beg to suggest that the proportion should be fixed once for all, in which these appointments are to be given to the Bengalees and the Beharees, respectively, regard being had to the ideal of the Beharees referred to above as to public services in the Behar Divisions being entirely manned by the Beharees alone, and to work up to this ideal it may be good starting point for the time being, if the Beharees were to share these appointments equally with the Bengalees. We do not even ask that the qualification should be lowered in their case; if they are not able to produce the number of graduates required to fill up this proportion of appointments, they may be given to the Bengalees, but as a matter of fact there is no dearth of qualified graduates in Behar now, for in reply to a question in the Council put by the Hon'ble Mr. Sharfuddin it transpired that there were 72 Beharee candidates, all graduates, and all qualified for appointment as Deputy Magistrates, on the occasion of the increase in the cadre, and out of whom only 8 were appointed as stated above.

It is all the more necessary to fix the proportion, as the fate of the Beharees in the Judicial Branch of the Provincial Service is even worse than in the Executive as will be apparent from a glance at the figures. There is only one Beharee Subordinate

Judge in the Service and not more than a score of Munsiffs and it is more difficult for us to exert our influence on the High Court which has the disposal of these appointments than on the Government itself. If a proportion be fixed the High Court will be bound to give us a certain number of appointments, otherwise there is no hope for Beharees ever coming into line with the Bengalees in the Judicial Service. We would also suggest that the number of Beharee Subordinate Judges may be increased by the direct appointment of practising lawyers to the post of Sub-Judges. Such appointments are perfectly valid under the resolution of the Government of India on the Public Service Commission and effect was given to this Resolution some years back by the Government of the United Provinces in the appointment of Rai Bahadur Kuar Parma Nand as a Subordinate Judge.

As regards ministerial appointments under the Court of Wards, in the Police, the Postal, the Telegraph, the Railway service and other minor Departments of Government it ought to be laid down by a circular addressed to all heads of offices that preference ought to be given to the Beharees, other qualifications being equal. A circular to that effect was issued by Sir Ashley Eden, but it is now more honoured in the breach than in the observance. And what is necessary is that the principle enunciated by the Government of Sir Ashley Eden should be strictly enforced. This principle is being enforced by the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam in favour of the predominating Mohammedan population of that Province and there seems to be no reason why a similar principle should not be followed by the

Government of Behar and West Bengal in favour of the predominating Beharee population, all the more so, as the latter are a separate compact people inhabiting altogether a distinct province.

In regard to the appointment to the High Court Bench itself there is a strong feeling that Behar should be adequately represented. The Beharees have noticed with great satisfaction the appointment of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sharfuddin, but there is reason to think that he was appointed as a representative of the Musalman community of both the Provinces under the jurisdiction of the Calcutta High Court rather than of the Province of Behar alone. It is, therefore, to be hoped that to give adequate representation to Behar Your Honor would recommend to the Government of India to be pleased to make a rule that out of the Judgeships open to the natives of India in the Calcutta High Court, one should always be conferred upon a native of Behar, who will represent the Province directly and not as a representative of any particular religious community.

Beharees in the Public Services of the Lower Provinces on the 1st of January, 1908.

I. Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service.

DEPUTY COLLECTORS AND MAGISTRATES.

Grade.	Pay. Rs.	Total No. of appts.	No. of Beharees.
1st	... 800	6	0
2nd	... 700	8	1

3rd	...	600	18	1
4th	...	500	57	3
5th	...	400	84	11
6th	...	300	87	7
7th	...	250	50	8
8th	...	200	65	8
Total		...	375	39

Subordinate Civil Service.

SUB-DEPUTY COLLECTORS & MAGISTRATES.

Grade.	Pay. Rs.	Total No. of appts.	No. of Beharees.
1st	... 250	9	2
2nd	... 200	28	4
3rd	... 175	54	5
4th	... 150	54	5
5th	... 100	88	2
Total		...	233
			18

II. Judicial Branch of the Provincial Service.

SUBORDINATE JUDGES.

Grade.	Pay. Rs.	Total No. of appts.	No. of Beharees.
1st	... 1,000	8	0
2nd	... 800	17	0
3rd	... 600	36	1
Total		...	61
			1

MUNICIPALS.

Grade.	Pay. Rs.	Total No. of appts.	No. of Beharees.
1st	... 400	93	3
2nd	... 300	89	8
3rd	... 250	94	8
4th	... 200	42	5
Total		... 318	23

Provincial Educational Service.

Grade.	Pay. Rs.	Total No. of appts.	No. of Beharees.
1st	... 700	4	0
2nd	... 600	7	0
3rd	... 500	8	0
4th	... 400	11	0
5th	... 350	13	1
6th	... 300	18	1
7th	... 250	26	3
8th	... 200	40	0
Total		... 127	5

*Provincial Police Services.***DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.**

Grade.	Pay. Rs.	Total No. of appts.	No. of Beharees.
1st	... 500	4	0
2nd	... 400	3	0
3rd	... 300	4	0
4th	... 250	9	3
Total		... 20	3

INSPECTORS OF POLICE.

Grade	Pay. Rs.	Total No. of appts.	No. of Beharees.
1st	250	13	4
2nd	200	52	8
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...		65	12

Territorial Redistribution.

It had been felt for a long time both by the Government and by the public that the Commissionership of Patna, which in point of population was even a heavier charge than the Bombay Presidency proper and which required for its control two Commissioners, would be better administered if it were divided into two Commissionerships. We are glad to find that the Secretary of State has recently sanctioned the scheme submitted by Your Honor's Government to the Government of India for the creation of a new Commissionership—Tirhut with its head-quarters at Muzafferpore, comprising the four districts of the Patna Division to the north of the Ganges. It is no doubt a matter of sincere gratification that in carrying out this important administrative change, the Government have had the support of public opinion in Behar, as represented by the *Beharee* newspaper, which is the accredited exponent of public opinion in Behar, and the public associations, but we think it our bounden duty in this connection to bring it to Your Honor's notice that there is a lurking apprehension in certain important quarters in the districts that will constitute the Tirhut Division, that it is possible that in the

new Commissionership the Planting Community will be able to acquire undue influence in most public matters and that the Beharees may be at some disadvantage in several matters, principally in those of representation to the District Boards and the Provincial Council. Many of the members of this deputation, who belong to the districts of the new Division, apprehend that in the matter of the election to the Provincial Council and the like, as is actually the case in the composition of the District Boards in the districts of the Tirhut Division, the Beharees run the risk of being swamped by the Planting Community, who by reason of their better organisation wield considerable influence in that part of the Province. Their apprehensions find support in certain incidents which occurred last year in the matter of the election of a representative from the District Boards of the Patna Division, incidents which may not be unknown to Your Honor. We have, therefore, thought it incumbent upon us to state the apprehension of our North Behar friends frankly to Your Honor, in the hope that things will be so satisfactorily arranged that in matters in which a conflict of interest is likely to arise, the Beharees of the Tirhut Division may have no cause hereafter to regret their having supported the Government in establishing the new Division. And in this connection we have made some suggestions in the address along with others, relating to our claims in regard to representation in the Council.

As pertaining to the Tirhut Commissionership we would like to draw Your Honor's attention to the question of the exchange between the Sitamarhi Sub-

division of the Mozafferpore district and the Samastipore Sub-division of the Durbhanga district. Railway communication at present between Sitamarhi and Mozafferpore is by a long tedious route which has to pass through Durbhanga whereas Samastipore is pretty nearly equidistant from both Mozafferpore and Laheriaseraï, the head-quarters of the Durbhanga district. It entails at present great hardship on the bulk of the people in the Sitamarhi Sub-division to come to Mozafferpore for the transaction of business. Unless therefore direct Railway communication between Mozafferpore and Sitamarhi be within the range of early accomplishment, it seems to us desirable in public interest to transfer the Sitamarhi Sub-division to the Durbhanga district and to give to the Mozafferpore district the Samastipore Sub-division in exchange.

We shall now draw Your Honor's attention to the desirability of transferring the Palamau district of the Chota Nagpore Division to the newly constituted Patna Division. This matter was dealt with at some length in the representation of the Behar Landholders' Association which was recently submitted to Your Honor's Government on the question of the partition of the Patna Division, and as the matter is one of great importance to the people of the Palamau district, we make no apology for reproducing here the passages from the letter of the Behar Landholders' Association and bringing them once again before Your Honor's attention.

"The Committee are of opinion that the Government may as well take advantage of the proposed partition to make some territorial redistribution

between the Patna and the Chota Nagpore Divisions and the suggestion that the Committee beg leave to offer is that the Government should attach the Palamau district of the Chota Nagpore Division to the Patna Division. The Committee have reasons to believe that the people of Palamau will welcome the proposed transfer as they have more than once approached the authorities with the request that the Civil and Criminal administration of their district be placed in subordination to that of the authorities administering the Gaya district. The reason why the people of Palamau favour this change is that whereas Daltonganj, the head-quarters of the Palamau district, is connected by Railway with Gaya and Patna, Ranchi the head-quarters of the Chota Nagpore Division is far-off and though now connected by rail it still entails a long and a tedious journey from Daltonganj. Moreover, the transfer of Palamau to the Patna Commissionership will increase the number of districts in the Patna Commissionership to four, which will then consist of the same number of districts as the Commissionerships of Tirhoot, Chota Nagpore and Bhagalpore, leaving out of account the Darjeeling district of the last mentioned Commissionership as it is geographically not a part of Behar. Our proposal will also relieve to a fair extent the authorities of the Chota Nagpore Division, the area of which is 27,101 square miles and which in point of area is the largest Commissionership under the Government of the Lower Provinces. Further a reference to the *District Gazetteer of Palamau* published by the Government will show that it is in every respect a Behar district. It is stated in the *Gazetteer* that the great majority of the people of Palamau (no less than 95 per cent.) speak the dialects of Bèharee Hindèe, known as Bhojpuri and Maghee, both of which are the current languages of Behar Districts of Shahabad and Gaya, which surround Palamau. For the reasons stated above it seems desirable to the Committee that the Government

should take advantage of the proposed partition of the Patna Division to make this territorial redistribution, which seems calculated to induce in every way to efficiency in administration and to public interest in general."

Lastly, we have to bring to Your Honor's notice, the great hardship that the Beharees residing in the Deoghur and Rajmehal Sub-divisions of the Santhal Perganahs District have been suffering for many years past, by reason of these tracts being administered as non-regulation areas on account of their being included in the Santhal Perganahs District and the extreme desirability of these two Sub-divisions being transferred to the Monghyr and Bhagalpore districts, respectively. The suggestion that we make to Your Honor does not refer to the Government estate of Daman-i-Koh, which is included in the Rajmahal Sub-division.

We respectfully submit that there can be no valid excuse for not transferring these portions of the Santhal Perganahs to the Regulation districts. In Deoghur, out of a total population of nearly 300,000, the Santhal population is but 16,000; in Rajmehal Sub-division (*minus* the Government Estate of Daman-i-Koh) out of a total population of 115,000, the Santhal population is only about 23,000. It can not be said that these tracts now fulfil the condition which was originally laid down in the Preamble of the Act which constituted the Santhal Perganahs District, *viz.*, that it was expedient to remove from the operation of the general Laws "the District called Daman-i-Koh and other districts inhabited principally," by the Santhals. It is

no longer true that these tracts are inhabited principally by the Santhals, when the ratio of the Santhal population to the general population in the case of Deoghur is as one to twenty, and in the case of Rajmehal (*minus* the Daman-i-Koh,) as one to five. As a matter of fact, there is considerably larger Santhal population in several Regulation Districts than in Deoghur and Rajmehal Sub-divisions (*minus* the Daman-i-Koh); Bankura has a Santhal population of about 110,000, Midnapore has a Santhal population of about 130,000, Birbhum has a Santhal population of about 34,000, Maldah has a Santhal population of about 20,000, as against 16 and 23 thousands of Deoghur and Rajmehal (*minus* the Daman-i-Koh estate) respectively; and in the face of these figures, we submit that the Government has but two alternatives, either to de-regulationise Bankura, Midnapur, Birbhum and Maldah or to regulationise Deoghur and Rajmehal. We therefore propose that (i) the Rajmehal Sub-division (*minus* the Government estate of Daman-i-Koh) and including the town of Sahebganj which contains not a single Santhal, be transferred from the Santhal Perganahs District to the Bhagalpur district and constituted a Sub-division of the latter district, and the Government Estate of Daman-i-Koh in Rajmehal be transferred to the Godda Sub-division of the Santhal Perganahs District. This, it is presumed, will lead to the rapid growth of the manufacturing and commercial town of Sahebganj, and to a decided improvement in the old historical town of Rajmehal; (ii) the Sub-division of Deoghur be transferred from the Santhal Perganahs District to the District of Monghyr,

thus removing the causes which retard the commercial development of the Sub-division and also the development of Deoghur, as a sanitarium. It will be seen that no interference is proposed to be made with the Government Estate of Daman-i-Koh, which is *par excellence* the Santhal Country, which was a trust property, and was in fact assumed by the Government for the purpose of safeguarding the interests of Santhals and of which the boundaries were rectified in the seventies with a view to include all outlying Santhal population in the tract.

It has been said for several years past whenever the question of improvement in the administration of the Santhal Perganahs District has been brought forward that the matter is under the consideration of Government, but so far there has been no visible result of this prolonged consideration. We take it that when any tract of country is de-regulationised the aim ought to be to bring it into line with regulation districts as soon as possible. The deregulationisation cannot and ought not to be a permanent incidence of the administration for all time to come, and after fifty years of de-regulationisation it must be presumed that parts of Santhal Perganahs, if not the whole district, ought to be well on its way to assume the normal condition of a regulation district. As a corollary to our suggestion for the transfer of the Rajmehal Sub-division with Sahebganj to the Bhagalpore district and the Deoghur Sub-division to the Monghyr district we would suggest that the District and Sessions Judge of Bhagalpore be relieved of the judicial charge of the Monghyr district and the latter with the Deoghur Sub-division transferred

to it should be constituted an A class district under a District and Sessions Judge of its own.

Administration of Justice in the Santhal Perganahs.

The administration of civil justice in the Santhal Perganahs, we respectfully submit, is in a very unsatisfactory condition. Civil justice in this district is administered by Sub-divisional officers who are generally members of the executive branch of the Provincial Civil Service. These are mostly unfamiliar with intricate questions of Hindu and Muhammedan Law which frequently rise in civil cases. They are also unfamiliar with the law of Civil Procedure, as they have absolutely no training in Civil Law. Nor have these officers any impetus or inducement to acquire a knowledge of civil law, as any such knowledge or training, which they may acquire in the Santhal Perganahs, is of no use to them when they are transferred from the district. Moreover the work in their hands is onerous and multifarious and they can devote at present very little time to their work as civil officers, which in itself is a cause of great harassment to parties in civil cases. To remedy this state of affairs we would respectfully urge that in the reconstituted Santhal Perganahs the proposals made by us in the memorial be adopted.



REPLY TO THE ADDRESS.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in reply said:

MAHARAJA BAHADUR AND GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for the address to which we have just listened and to which I propose to reply as briefly as possible. At the same time I must take up the subjects discussed in regular succession; and with some of them I must deal fully.

You first of all direct my attention to the fact that this address is presented by a deputation representing all classes of the people in the province of Behar, and that it is not limited to one class or one special interest but includes all. The three leading public Associations of Behar, acting in concert and co-operation with one another, have got up this address; and you congratulate yourselves heartily on the spirit of unity which prevails. This is indeed a matter for sincere congratulation; and I earnestly trust that

the value which you seem to attach to such concert and co-operation will tend to preserve among you the spirit of unity and concord. It is a miserable thing when the community is broken up into sects and cliques, when different classes seek each its own interests, and when the common welfare of the people is forgotten. In all communities there are apt to arise elements of discord. I know enough of you to know that there are elements of discord among you now. I am glad that hitherto they have not been able to make themselves very much felt; and I trust that you will regard as an enemy of the community the man who sets class against class and endeavours to disturb its peace and harmony.

I thank you for the remarks you have made regarding the termination of my office in this province; and in this connection I think it right to say one word of explanation. When it suddenly came to my knowledge that a memorial was in circulation for the extension of my tenure of office, and that it had been signed by hundreds of signatories

in this part of the province, I felt compelled to interfere. I sent for one or two of your leaders and explained to them that I regarded it as very undesirable to have such a memorial signed and submitted. My reasons were mainly two. The first was a personal one : that my service in India has been long enough and must come to a close. I am far indeed from being glad to leave India. It is a subject of deep regret ; but what I recognise with regret is the undoubted fact that the time has come when it is necessary for me to leave, and when it is really impossible for me to continue to serve any longer. The second objection that I had to the memorial was of a public character. I quite believe that there are very many whose feelings to me are of the most friendly character, and who would desire that the tenure of my office should be prolonged ; but I know also that there are others who hold exactly the opposite view. I do not think it would be fair to have a memorial widely circulated and signed in favour of an extension of service, unless those holding the

opposite view had ~~an~~ opportunity of expressing their opinion ; and I think it would be most undesirable to call upon them to do so. Under these circumstances it seemed to me that no such memorial ought to be got up in regard to a Lieutenant-Governor's term of office. My friends whom I invited to discuss the question with me agreed, though not without reluctance, in accordance with my views, to withdraw the memorial from circulation. At the same time I do not forget the kindliness of the intention.

You refer next to the Manifesto which was presented to me on Tuesday last, and which expresses the sentiments of the people of Behar in regard to the present political situation. You have already said in that Manifesto all that is required in regard to the situation ; and I have expressed to you my views. We are therefore set free from the discussion of that subject on the present occasion ; and you confine yourselves to certain questions affecting the well-being of the province of Behar. You certainly have given me a very full statement of your views

in regard to them. You set them forth in considerable fullness in your address; and you have appended to it a series of notes containing a detailed discussion of each of the subjects referred to. I think that your Address and the Appendix to it will be of great value to me and to my successor, as expressing fully and clearly so much that is in your mind in regard to what you call your "grievances, needs and aspirations" and I am sure that your views will receive at the hands of Government careful and favourable consideration. I shall briefly refer to these points in succession.

First of all you draw attention to the representation of Behar in the Provincial Legislative Council. You regard that as quite inadequate; and you express the hope that, in the scheme for the expansion of the Legislative Council, there may be permanently provided a more adequate representation of this part of the province. You will easily understand that it is not possible for me to give you any definite assurance at the present time as to what precise form

the expansion of the Legislative Council of Bengal will take. The matter is still under the consideration of the Government of India ; and I cannot say any thing definite about it. I am quite safe, however, in saying that there will undoubtedly be local representation secured by representatives being sent from each division of the province, and that the representation of particular classes will also receive careful attention. What you have put forward as being your view of what ought to be seems therefore, generally speaking, very likely to be realised.

In this connection you refer to the representation of the European planting community on the District Boards in the Tirhoot Division. I am glad to note the kindly spirit and the reasonable language in which this matter is brought to my notice. I have obtained the figures ; and I certainly agree with you that the matter requires consideration. I have very little doubt that in the past it has been a very great advantage to you to have on your District Boards so many men with thorough business capacity,

with a knowledge of the country, and with a devotion to its interests. I daresay that you have found that association with them has been in many ways conducive to your education in Local Self-Government. But it is certainly desirable that the interests with which the work of the District Boards is concerned should be represented on the Boards with some degree of reasonable proportion.

You next suggest that Patna should be treated as the second capital of this province, on the analogy of Lucknow in the United Provinces ; that the Provincial Legislative Council might be held by turns in Calcutta and in Patna ; and that the Lieutenant-Governor should stay in Behar for three or four months in the year. In this last request you ask too much. No Lieutenant Governor could give so long a time to Patna. But as you know, I have a very strong conviction that it is essential for the Lieutenant-Governor to stay for some period in Patna every year. It was impossible for the Lieutenant-Governor to become acquainted with Behar under the old system when he could

only stay here as the Commissioner's guest. Many generations of Commissioners of Divisions in Behar have been well known for their hospitality ; but it was clearly unbecoming that, when the Lieutenant-Governor felt that he ought to settle down for a time in Behar and make himself acquainted with the people and the circumstances of the place, he should be only able to do so by settling himself down in the Commissioner's house. Realising this I acquired the Chhajubagh House, a house of historical interest and suitable for a residence for the Lieutenant-Governor. The Government of India approved of my proposal to acquire the house ; and they approved of it on the ground that, in their view as in mine, it was distinctly desirable that the Lieutenant-Governor should make a practice of residing in Patna for some little time at least once a year. This decision will influence my successor as it has influenced me ; and you will always have the advantage of the Lieutenant-Governor visiting Patna every year, and settling down for a time to make himself

acquainted with its circumstances. This, I believe, will be a great advantage to you, for it will bring you and the whole of Behar into touch with the Head of the Government. It will also be of great value to him as giving him opportunities of making himself acquainted with this part of his province.

On the other hand I do not see that there would really be any great advantage to you from the meeting of the Legislative Council at Patna; and there is no doubt that a meeting here would cause on the whole more inconvenience to the members generally, both official and non-official, than a meeting in Calcutta, and more expense in travelling allowance. At the same time, it is within the power of the Lieutenant-Governor to appoint the place for holding a meeting of the Bengal Council; and if at any time, owing to his being in residence here or from any other cause, it seems to be of advantage to hold a meeting at Patna, there is no objection to doing so.

The next subject which you take up is the employment of Beharees in the public

service. This is a subject of the very greatest importance ; and as you know it has engaged my attention for a long time. There has been of late some considerable improvement in regard to the amount of attention which the claims of Beharees have received in connection with the public service. But as you have clearly pointed out things are very far from being in a satisfactory condition in respect of this matter at the present moment. It is essential that the matter should continue to receive the most earnest attention from the Government and that the improvement effected in some departments should be extended to others. In the provincial service, the system of recruiting by divisions secures the recognition of local claims. This must result in time in Behar having nearly all that it can. Certain points may require attention, but on the whole the system will automatically work out in time a wonderful change. It is necessary that some such system should be introduced in the other great departments. I have had the opportunity during this visit of discussing

the matter again at a two day's conference with all the Collectors of the Patna Division and several officers of the Judicial, Public Works and Education Departments, besides the Heads of several Departments, whom I had invited to meet me for the purpose. I hope that the result of this discussion, and of the representation which you have made, will be the issue of orders that will in time fully remedy the state of affairs at present existing. We must not expect to change all this in a few days. The condition into which the matter has been allowed to drift in Behar cannot be set right by a stroke of the pen. At the same time instructions should issue, and will issue, the consistent observance of which ought to remedy the wrongful neglect of Beharce interests which has undoubtedly characterised the past.

I most certainly think that in engineering and medicine preference should, as you request, be given to Beharce graduates for appointments in Behar. I am also clearly of opinion that the Provincial Civil Service

and the Judicial Service ought in Behar to be manned almost, if not quite exclusively, by Beharees, and that we ought to keep that ideal before us in the rules we make in regard to appointments to these Services. I shall carefully consider what further modifications of the rules for appointment to the Provincial Service are required with a view to give full effect to these views. The matter of appointments to the Judicial Service rests with the High Court; but I am glad to be able to inform you that the Hon'ble Judges, as might have been expected, are sympathetic with you in your desire to secure the recognition of your reasonable claims and are anxious to do justice to the people of Behar. Action will also be taken in regard to the Education, Police, Opium, Post Office, Court of Wards and other departments to which you refer. I do not think that it is either necessary or advisable for me to state to-day precisely the lines on which I propose to issue instructions in regard to the Departments under my own control. These instructions