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which I shall hope to see taken up vigorously and effectively as soon as normal conditions have supervened.

Since I last addressed you on the subject of the war in Europe, the position of the allies in Flanders has been maintained and improved, while in eastern Prussia and Poland the tide of war has ebbed and flowed. The recent success at Neuve Chapelle in which the Indian Army Corps took so prominent a part has been a source of satisfaction to us all. In the meantime the British fleet has maintained its absolute supremacy and having swept German commerce from off the seas recently administered a severe punishment to a German squadron that wished to make a further bombardment of unprotected towns on the British coast. The economic pressure created by our supremacy at sea is gradually having its effect in Germany and the piratical policy now being pursued by German submarines is proof of the extent to which that pressure is being felt. Happily the efforts of the German submarines have met with very little success, and their number is diminishing under the losses that they have experienced. In any case such a policy can have no possible effect on the eventual result of the war, and there can be no doubt that the day of triumph of the allies who are making huge sacrifices for the right of all free nations to live their own lives and follow their own destinies is slowly but surely dawning, when the monstrous theory that one military nation can impose by brute force her will and barbarous code of civilisation upon all others will be finally shattered and hurled into utter oblivion and darkness.

In the Near East Turkey is beginning to experience the folly of the policy into which she has been forced by the reckless disregard by a small military clique under German tutelage of her best and highest interests.

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On every side where the Turkish forces have been engaged in fighting against the allies they have met with reverses, and the moment is rapidly approaching when, if the Turkish Government are sufficiently wise, they will throw themselves on the mercy of the allies and thus free themselves from the German yoke.

As an indication of how little the so-called Turkish Government is in touch with the real sentiments of the Turkish people I may mention that a few weeks ago I saw a letter written by a resident in Constantinople in which after describing the oppression and exaction of the military authorities the confident opinion of the middle and lower classes of the Turks was expressed in the saying that "it will be all right when the British fleet comes up."

As you are aware I paid a short visit to the Persian Gulf and to Basrah a few weeks ago. It was a great pleasure and advantage to me to have an opportunity of enquiring into the whole economic, commercial and political situation of the province of Basrah, and also to visit our troops in their advanced posts within six or seven miles of the Turkish Camp, which was plainly visible and to congratulate them on their prowess and splendid bearing. One could not but feel very proud of them all. I had also time to visit the hospitals in Basrah and was glad to be able to verify the fact that all the sick and wounded British and Indian troops are being well and carefully tended.

As regards the province of Basrah it struck me as one of immense potentialities. Under Turkish misrule it has greatly suffered and the population of the surrounding country is consequently very sparse. At small expense the city of Basrah might become a splendid port, and the port of exit of all the trade of Mesopotamia and Northern Persia. Merely the fringes

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of the Shatt-el-Arab have so far been cultivated, but the soil is extremely fertile and only the most elementary schemes of irrigation are required to extend indefinitely the area under cultivation. The climate is splendid and resembles that of the Northern Punjab. I cannot conceive of a country more suitable for Indian immigration in the future when a more stable form of Government has been established. That country may then really become a garden of Eden and blossom like a rose.

You are aware of the declaration made by the British, French and Russian Governments of the inviolability of the holy places and of the freedom of Jedda from attack so long as there was no interference with the Indian pilgrims. Solicitude for the welfare of pilgrims generally prompted His Majesty's Government on hearing that there was a shortage of foodstuffs at Jedda and Mecca, to arrange for supplies to be sent there for distribution by the Italian Consul at Jedda. I regret to state that the Turkish authorities, in spite of the protests of the Italian Consul, have seized for military purposes a cargo of 30,000 sacks of barley destined for the pilgrims. Until therefore we are able to receive some definite assurance that any further supplies that may be sent will reach their proper destination it will be impossible for His Majesty's Government to make any further similar arrangements.

On the north-western frontier the situation remains normal; and although there have been attacks on our advanced posts by trans-frontier tribesmen, they have been gallantly and successfully repelled by our troops, militia, and tribal levies.

It has been with a sense of profound regret that I have learnt that an address to His Majesty the King-Emperor against the draft proclamation creating an

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Executive Council for the United Provinces has been carried by the House of Lords. It appears that out of a total of nearly 650 Peers of the Realm and in a House of only 73 Peers, the motion against the draft proclamation was carried by 47 votes to 26. No information has been received of any similar motion in the House of Commons, and we may therefore conclude that the proclamation has not been rejected by Parliament as a whole. As you are aware the proclamation was approved by the Governor-General in Council, by the Secretary of State in Council, and by His Majesty's Government, and in accordance with the law was laid upon the table in both Houses of Parliament. It may seem to you, as it does to me, a matter of serious concern that it should be within the power of a small body of Peers, who perhaps hardly realise the rate of progress made in this country during the past few years to throw out a proposition put by the Government of India and His Majesty's Government before Parliament with the full approbation of Indian public opinion. It seems clear to me, under the circumstances, that a modification of the law by which such procedure is possible is absolutely essential, and I trust that this will be recognised by His Majesty's Government.

Nobody can reasonably contend that, with the advance of civilisation entailing the discussion and solution of new questions of ever-increasing complexity arising every day, one man Government is better than Council Government. The principle of Executive Councils for Local Governments by which the local administration is less dependent upon the personal equation and which ensures a greater continuity of policy has already taken root in India and cannot now be eradicated. Moreover the inclusion of an Indian gentleman in the Council of a province is to my mind a source of great strength to

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the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor. I speak from my own experience, and have no hesitation in saying, without any idea of flattery, that the presence of my friend Sir Ali Imam on my Council and his knowledge and experience are and have been of the greatest possible advantage to me and my Government. I can well understand that all educated people of this country will be disappointed at the result of the action of a small party in the House of Lords; but I would ask them not to be depressed, for I regard the proceedings of the 16th March in the House of Lords as only a temporary set-back, and I feel as confident that the United Provinces will have its Executive Council within a very short period as that the dawn will follow the night.

The activities of the Council during the current session have necessarily been circumscribed by the decision to avoid as far as possible all controversial business. Nevertheless some measures of importance have come under your consideration. I need only refer to the measure recently passed in this Council to secure the defence of India and the public safety, in order to express the thanks of Government for your loyal co-operation in enacting that measure. Another Bill of importance has also been passed in this Council, *viz.*, the Assam Labour and Emigration Act which I hope will mark a stage in our efforts to remove abuses attendant on the present system of emigration and in securing that the welfare of labourers recruited to Assam is adequately safeguarded. The only other measure of importance to which I need allude is the Benares Hindu University Bill which was introduced into this Council on the 22nd. It will be a source of gratification to me if this measure becomes law during my tenure of office as Governor-General. It is too early to speak of the possible effects of this Bill, but I have every hope that

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it will do much to promote the cause of education and to encourage learning and research amongst all classes.

In the discussion of resolutions, though the range of subjects has also been limited by the exclusion of controversial matters, much valuable experience has been gained. I may refer to the discussion on the export of wheat as particularly instructive. It enabled the Government to ascertain the views of the Council on the subject and to make an important and effective pronouncement of its policy. The discussion on the management of State Railways was of equal importance and interest. In these circumstances, although our session this year has not been a full one, I think we may congratulate ourselves that we have done a considerable amount of useful work in spite of the difficulties which have confronted us.

I wish also to say one word of a personal nature. I thank you for the kind words that so many of you have been so good as to speak of myself and my administration. I am very grateful and shall always treasure those words, but I have only done my duty; and although I love India and wish always to do my duty towards her, the question of the duration of my stay in India is not one that is in my hands.

With these few words I will now conclude, and in adjourning this Council *sine die* I wish you all a very happy return to your homes.

BANQUET AT GWALIOR.

[His Excellency the Viceroy paid a visit to Gwalior at the end of the Delhi season of 1914-15. 30th March 1915.]

At a banquet given by His Highness the Maharaja on the night of the 30th March His Highness proposed the Viceroy's health in the following terms :—

Your Excellency,—Permit me, Sir, on behalf of myself, my family, and the people of my State of all grades and classes to

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express to you our hearty welcome. I am sure we are greatly indebted for this honour which has been conferred upon us in spite of the formidable distractions of the moment, and the constant mental strain it must involve. On the other hand, undoubtedly this honour would have come to us long before this except for events the memory of which it is exceedingly painful for me to recall. If in alluding to them I am guilty of doing the inopportune, my excuse must be that the shameful of the one and the sadness of the other are only equalled by the depth of admiration and sympathy evoked throughout the country by your calm courage, exemplary fortitude, and unfaltering devotion to the good of this country. While we are deeply thankful to Providence for carrying you safely through the trials and tribulations of the most harrowing character, we cannot help feeling grateful for your inflexible determination to go on labouring in the cause of India, which unquestionably you have made your own. We pray that the Almighty may keep you from all further trials, and enable you to grapple successfully with problems which may still remain to be solved. I sincerely hope and pray to God that you will see them all through, thus placing the administration of this country on a still sounder basis, which would result in greater happiness and satisfaction all round, and make India more literally than ever the jewel of the British Crown.

Speaking for myself, I may say that not only do I regard it as my highest privilege to be afforded the opportunity at any time to serve His Majesty with all the resources at my command, but I am, nay I am sure we are all, fully conscious—(and never more so than at this moment)—that the stability or rather the very existence of our possessions, and therefore of the opportunities we have of doing good in the world, are entirely dependent upon the continuity of British rule in India.

Though we all must, and do deplore this terrible war, yet there is no cloud without a silver lining, and we may take some consolation from the thought that it has not only helped to reveal the depth of the devotion of the people, high and low, of this country to the person and throne of their Sovereign, but also to unite two nations, the subjects of a common sovereign, in a bond of kinship and mutual co-operation as no other event could have done. Your Excellency, I state it as my deep conviction that in no manner could the Government's confidence in the whole of India have been more convincingly demonstrated, and no more practical measures of elevating for all time the position of His Majesty's Indian subjects could have been found than the giving to Indians of the

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opportunity of maintaining the dignity and integrity of the Empire side by side with their brethren of England and the Colonies. And in affording this opportunity, in an ample measure, Your Excellency has not only done a graceful thing, but a thing which could be conceived only by an intellect of the highest order of statesmanship, and prompted by a heart alive to the deepest cravings of human nature and instinct with the subtlest and tenderest of human sympathies.

Ten years ago when I had the honour of welcoming here our gracious Sovereign when he visited this country as the Prince of Wales, I took occasion to express the following sentiments:— "Whatever useful work has been, or is being attempted in the various departments of my State has but one ultimate goal, viz., to help towards the stability of the British Empire, and with that end in view to ameliorate the condition of the people over whom I am called upon to rule." I hope I may say that the professions I solemnly made in the presence of our future Sovereign have not proved to be exaggerations. A portion of the army maintained by me is at the present moment, I am proud to say, trying to do its humble best in three different theatres of war—in France, Egypt, and East Africa. And the savings of money effected by a sedulous study of varied economies have, I trust, been applied in a fair measure towards helping the Empire in the hour of its need. Your Excellency, while the shadow of this monstrous war hovers over the Empire and forms an all absorbing topic, there can be little inclination on the part of anyone to travel along any other lines, even though the outlook is as cheerful as it could be, and the final issue of the war practically a foregone conclusion. Considering, however, Your Excellency's interest in the concerns of us, the faithful allies of the British nation, and your well-known desire to foster and help progress along their own paths in the States of India, great and small, it may not be out of place for me to refer to what has been attempted and accomplished in this State during the last few years. It is obviously awkward for me to speak either at length or with any emphasis of what we have been attempting to do or think we have done. I shall, therefore, be as brief as possible. Before I actually come to details, I must say that my experience of the affairs of State is necessarily limited, being confined to our own organisation. However, on the basis of that small experience my policy in regard to various matters has been evolved and is steadily developing. First of all, then the importance of educating the people under the control of a civilised administration has been

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recognised at all times, and the placing of education in India on a sound basis is undeniably one of the burning questions of the day in this country. This State, like several of her sisters, maintains an Arts College. In addition, she maintains several special institutions and organisations such as industrial schools, the Civil Service Institute, the Normal and Model Schools, etc., for the general benefit of the people, and the special benefit of the State's services. But where an attempt has been made to broaden the base of the education imparted in the State upon the ancient conceptions of morality, public responsibility and loyalty, and upon the special modern requirements of the masses of the people, is in the providing of suitable text-books along with trained agency for instruction in primary and secondary education. Incidentally I may say that the education of the agriculturists has received special attention. Some of the text-books prepared bear directly on agriculture. Instruction for the zamindar up to a certain standard has been arranged by an indirectly obligatory measure, and without being guilty of self-praise I may be permitted to add that I have designed and written a book called *Zamindar Hitnari*, which aims at broadening the outlook of the landholder, and making him fit for the discharge of his duties and responsibilities, instead of remaining, as he has been for generations, a mere puppet in the hands of the village officials. Female education is also, I am glad to say, becoming popular day by day.

While on the subject of education, I may be permitted to indulge in a general observation. Here again I may of course speak only in terms of my limited experience. I am convinced that if education is to produce the happiest results in this country, it must not be confined to the teaching of the text-books and the delivery of lectures on prescribed subjects in the class room. What is really wanted is a closer supervision combined with fatherly treatment on the part of the teaching staff. They should be made to realise that it is a part of their business, and by far the most important part, to endow their pupils with the correct perspective. Then again the fatherly relation between the teacher and his pupils should not be confined to the class room. He must understand that it is his business to check and correct boys and girls in his care whenever and wherever they require guidance, and this process of correction must extend alike to matters of personal behaviour and to matters which are likely to affect the future outlook upon life of these young people. This is the more necessary in India as the children in this country have not the advantage of home influence

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and a uniform wholesome atmosphere which their compeers in the West have.

Turning now to agrarian matters, I am happy to be able to state that a more liberal settlement of land revenue is now in progress. It is permissible to hope that this will lead eventually not only to general prosperity by bringing under the plough the existing culturable waste, but also to restore to their former level the land revenues of this State, which have fallen on account of causes too well-known to need to mention. We have also established a Legislative Council under the name of *Maylis Qanun* to meet the requirements of the State's growing civic and commercial life. It has given not only legislative impetus but by co-ordinating and consolidating laws has brought about consistency and harmony of policy. The village *panchayat* system has been introduced under the Panchayat Boards Act, and the reports I have recently received as regards its working are very encouraging. Indeed, the people are stated to find the system both helpful and beneficial. The State has also endowed a fund for the restoration and maintenance of places of religious worship, irrespective of caste and creed. An Act has been passed to provide for the proper administration of the fund for the general supervision of places of worship under certain conditions. Necessary reforms have been carried out in the Customs and Excise Departments, to suit altered conditions. For all the help and guidance rendered by Government in the completion of these reforms I may once again take the opportunity of returning my hearty thanks. The Customs of the State are now regulated by the levy of imposts on the frontiers only, and the Excise Department is now modelled on the most approved up-to-date lines. The wisdom of these measures has been amply vindicated by the results obtained, both in the smoothness of working and the increase of revenue.

The Durbar's relations with their feudatories are gradually becoming what they should be. To maintain and perpetuate their rights, regulations have been framed, and an exhaustive record of these rights has been provided in the compilation known as the "History Jagirdaran." The Durbar's claims and expectations in regard to such of them as are guaranteed, have been freely ventilated and the hope is confidently entertained that Government will in its own good time make the relations as between the Durbar and certain fiefs approach more to what they should be between a Suzerain and his sub-holders. The inculcation of trust on the one part, and liberality of treatment on the other, will no doubt solve what questions still remain pending. The Durbar would appear

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to have earned the trust and confidence of this class of their subjects by measures such as the "New Policy," which represents a system of restoring under certain conditions to holders lands resumed and sequestered, strictly according to the rules which obtained until the other day, rules which though just and legally sound were perhaps not too generous in conception. I might speak in a similar strain of other matters such as the promotion of commerce and industry in the State, and other like efforts but the hour is late and I have already made a large draft upon Your Excellency's indulgence. I would therefore conclude with the hope that in speaking at some length I have not failed to interest Your Excellency. I must not omit to add that had it not been for the services loyally rendered by all my officers, to whom from the highest to the lowest I feel much indebted, I should not be in the position to speak to-night as I have been able to do. Before I resume my seat I ask you, Gentlemen, to join with me in drinking to the health of His Excellency Baron Hardinge of Penshurst, Viceroy and Governor General of India.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Your Highness, and Gentlemen,—I thank Your Highness most heartily for the very friendly terms in which you have proposed my health, and you, Gentlemen, for the cordiality with which you have received the toast.

I have for some time past been anxious to pay an official visit to Gwalior, not because there was any need to satisfy myself by personal inspection of the beauty of its capital, the excellence of its administration or the character of its ruler—for these were already known to me—but because I felt that I should be failing in my duty if I did not accord formal recognition, as the representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor, to the unique services rendered by the Gwalior State, under the rule of the present Maharaja to the welfare of India and the advancement and stability of the British Empire. Unhappy events, to which Your Highness has so tactfully and sympathetically alluded, have hitherto prevented me from fulfilling my desire, and I need only

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say now that the pleasure with which I had looked forward to this visit has, after many days, been amply and fully realised.

Since Your Highness received your powers some 21 years ago, the history of Gwalior has been one of continuous progress. Every department of the State has received the impress of Your Highness's vigorous personality, and the brief tale which you have told us of the measures of your administration gives but a shadowy picture of the unceasing and devoted labours which you have expended upon the development of the Gwalior State and the well-being of your people. I am glad to note the progress which has been made in the spread of education in all its branches on wise and well-considered lines, and what Your Highness has said as to the need for close supervision and fatherly treatment of the students, both in and out of school, commands my complete and whole-hearted concurrence. Nowhere more than in India has the truth of the maxim that "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing" been more strikingly exemplified, and it is upon the degree to which education, both of the mind and character, can be made more real and thorough, that the future of this great Empire in no small measure depends. In British India we have done something towards this end, and I rejoice that Your Highness's views and endeavours are directed towards the same goal. The interest which the Chiefs of Central India, and Your Highness in particular, have taken in the Daly College at Indore and the munificent support that you have given to that institution, show that you realise too that it is not only the common people, but also the Rulers and the Estate-holders, who require to have their faculties developed and their character strengthened and purified by an enlightened and liberal system of training, and I wish you all success in

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your efforts to raise the standard both in the Chiefs' Colleges and in the local schools.

Your Highness's policy in regard to agriculture and irrigation is also marked by a progressive and enlightened spirit. The construction of irrigation works spread over a wide area should prove not only a source of greatly increased revenue, but an effective protection against famine, while the scheme for agricultural advisers, which Gwalior has adopted jointly with other States in Central India, holds immense possibilities for improving both the quantity and the quality of the produce of the land. The efforts which the Durbar have made to reform and develop the Customs and Excise administration are also a subject for warm congratulation, and I am very glad to learn that Your Highness appreciates the help rendered by the Excise Commissioner for Central India, the extension of whose services will, I am confident, be in the best interests of the States as well as of the Governments of the neighbouring provinces.

The co-operation of the Gwalior Durbar both with the Government and with the neighbouring States in these and other matters, betokens a statesmanlike breadth of view and a regard for the public weal which I have always been accustomed to associate with Your Highness's name. More particularly I have been struck by the loyal support given by Gwalior and the other States of Central India to the policy of my Government in regard to the stoppage of opium cultivation. I trust that our recent decision to purchase part of our requirements from the Malwa States will provide an outlet for existing stocks and so help to alleviate the depression caused by the cessation of export to the China market.

Gentlemen, the achievements of our princely host in every branch of the administration of his State and his great services to the Empire have long marked him out

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as one of the greatest of Indian rulers. But if our gratitude for his services and our appreciation of his character were great before, how much greater must they be now after the boundless generosity which he has shown in connection with the war in which we are now engaged. I have before me a list of His Highness's gifts, which is too long to give in detail, it is sufficient to remind you that besides maintaining two regiments and a Transport Corps at the front, and making princely donations to the various Relief Funds amounting to over £50,000, His Highness has undertaken to pay the whole of the balance of the cost of the Hospital ship *Loyalty*, after the subscriptions from other sources have been deducted; he is maintaining a Convalescent Home for wounded Indian soldiers in East Africa, and has presented a Motor Ambulance fleet at an estimated cost of £25,000, besides motor transport and motor cars for the British expeditionary force at a cost of £23,000. He has offered six aeroplanes mounted with guns and armoured, and, in fact, one can hardly open the newspaper without reading of some fresh instance of His Highness's generosity. These gifts, which include only a part of His Highness's contributions to the war, are in themselves a monument to which His Highness and his successors after him will always be able to point with legitimate pride, and they may be sure that the British Government will not forget its great obligations to the Gwalior Durbar. But it is not so much the magnitude of His Highness's donations, vast though it is, that appeals to the imagination and touches the hearts of his friends and admirers. It is the spirit of loyalty and sympathy that underlies them. Ever since the war began, every want that His Highness has been able to discover by enquiry in this country or through his Agents in London has immediately been supplied.

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I find it difficult to put into words the feelings of gratitude and regard which I entertain towards Your Highness. I can only tender to you, on behalf of His Majesty the King-Emperor and of the Government of India, our heartiest and most sincere thanks for all that you have done. If I may add one more word on this subject I would like to assure Your Highness that, while I greatly deplore the serious breakdown in health which necessarily prevented you from fulfilling your desire to go on active service, at the same time I recognise that by remaining in India, to administer your State and to initiate and organise the various schemes of relief which I have indicated, you have done service no less valuable for the Empire than if you had been able to proceed to the scene of battle. This must be a real consolation to Your Highness for what was, as we all know, a very deep and bitter disappointment. The Ruling Princes of India with that fervour of loyalty which has always characterised them, have responded nobly to the call of Empire. Many of them are serving His Majesty, either in their own persons or through their Imperial Service Troops, in the field of battle, and all without exception have placed their wealth and resources at the disposal of the Crown. This spontaneous outburst of loyal devotion, though it was not unexpected by those who knew the feelings and traditions of the States, came as a revelation to the outside world, who have at last learned to appreciate what India and its Princes and peoples mean to the British Empire. Foremost among the Princes who have combined to produce this revelation, stands the Maharaja of Scindia, whose guests we are to-night. Gentlemen, I give you the toast of that great statesman and ruler, Major-General His Highness Sir Madho Rao Scindia Bahadur, Maharaja of Gwalior.

ADDRESS FROM SIPRI MUNICIPALITY.

[The members of the Sipri Municipality presented an address to 14th April the Viceroy on the 14th April. This was read by His Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior and was as follows :— 1915.]

Your Excellency,—The members of the local Municipality have asked me to address Your Excellency on their behalf and it has afforded me much gratification to accede to their request.

It may perhaps interest Your Excellency to know that this is a very ancient town and a very sacred spot. Its current name Sipri is a distortion of its proper name which is " Shiva-Puri " and this name suggests that the god Shiva the Lord of the Himalayas favoured this region in the remote ages. It is therefore still perhaps for that reason a place of pilgrimage and at certain times of the year people of faith come here from long distances to bathe in the pool called " Bangunga " and to worship. But this is not Sipri's only claim to being recognised as a place of some local importance.

In more recent times, its equable climate, rather than its strategic value attracted the Government Military authorities and until the end of the '80's some troops under the command of a few British officers were cantoned here.

Lastly it finds itself the summer resort of the Gwalior Administration and we are proud to call it our little " Hill Station."

In still more recent years it has been honoured by visits from our August Sovereign, His Majesty the King-Emperor, Your Excellency's predecessors in office Lords Curzon and Minto and last year and this year by Your Excellency. It is thus a place of proud memories and memorable associations. As in addition to enjoying this distinction it has a salubrious climate, a fair share of game and withal is easily accessible both by roads and railway, the members of the Municipality look forward to its becoming a place which people even outside Gwalior may care frequently to visit.

In anticipation of that state of things a Polo Ground has been made, and a circular road seven miles long has been provided. Lastly as an additional attraction this combined Theatre and Town Hall has been built and this Hall I have the honour to request Your Excellency to inaugurate and to permit it to be called the " Hardinge Hall " after Your Excellency's honoured name.

His Excellency replied as follows .—]

Your Highness and Gentlemen,—I have listened with much interest to the account of Sipri, its history and attractions, which Your Highness has just given us. I

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visited Sipri last year for the first time and Your Highness will admit that I have lost no time in showing my appreciation of its climate and its sport by visiting it again. Since my last visit many improvements have been effected and I understand that a spring of water of exceptional medicinal and other qualities has been discovered in the neighbourhood, and it is possible that Sipri may yet become the fashionable watering-place of Central India. This may be a dream of the distant future, but should it fail to materialize, I feel sure that the failure will be due to no want of enterprise or hospitality on the part of Your Highness or the Members of the Municipal Corporation. The latest example of this enterprise is the theatre in which we now stand and I have great pleasure in accepting your kind invitation to inaugurate this hall and in meeting your wishes by permitting it to be called the "Hardinge Hall." I thank you also for the handsome casket in which the address is enclosed. I shall always keep it as a memento of pleasant days, good sport and princely hospitality.

OPENING OF SALVATION ARMY INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION
AT SIMLA.

1st June 1915. [His Excellency the Viceroy opened the Exhibition in the afternoon of the 1st June, amid a large gathering.

The Commissioner Mr. Booth Tucker in welcoming His Excellency said:—

Your Excellency,—We are the more grateful for your presence on this occasion because we realise that the great War now raging on so vast a scale must have added immensely to your burdens. We should like to embrace this opportunity of saying that our prayers are with you at this time of stress and storm.

Thousands of Salvationists have responded to the call of their King and country, and are serving at the front, while our London headquarters has equipped and manned with staff and nurses two units, each of six motor ambulances, for the care of the wounded.

In the accompanying address Your Excellency will find a few brief particulars regarding the progress of our work in India.

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Truly God has been good to us, and we give him the glory for what he has enabled us to accomplish—"not by might nor by power, but by his spirit."

Again we thank Your Excellency most heartily for having honoured this Exhibition with your presence, and assure you that this will prove a great stimulus and encouragement to our workers throughout the length and breadth of India in their efforts for the welfare of her submerged.

THE ADDRESS.

The Industrial Social, Reformatory and Missionary work in which we are engaged in India embraces many branches.

In some 3,000 towns and villages our operations are being carried on among the depressed classes and others who have been wounded in the strife of life, or who whether through their own fault or their misfortune have sunk in the quagmire of drink and vice and crime.

Engaged in this work we have more than 300 European Missionaries and 2,500 Indian workers entirely set apart and supported by our organisation, while some 70,000 men and women cheerfully give their unpaid labour and contributions to the cause.

As a Missionary body to-day we rank fourth in India in the number of our European workers.

Along agricultural lines we are engaged in colonizing some 40,000 acres, including a 23,000 acres tract in the Sunderbans near Calcutta. To these we hope shortly to add a colony of 2,500 acres in the Punjab.

Our efforts at popularizing the Silk Industry as a future source of wealth for India have met with considerable success, though we hardly think they have as yet attracted as much official interest and support as we might fairly have expected. The silkworm suffers from the fact that he can be classed as neither cow nor crop, and therefore cannot come under the generous ægis of the Agricultural Department. Neither, until his death and burial in his silky coffin, can he be said to come under the purview of the Department of Commerce and Industry and not being current coin of the realm either in the form of gold, silver or bank notes, the Finance Department will naturally not acknowledge the infant castaway. We have hoped that some ingenious inventor might impress him into the service of the British Empire in the war, in providing wings for our airships and flying machines, and comforts for our wounded, but so far neither the military nor the medical service have as yet

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recognised the value of his services, or sought to add him to their list of recruits.

And yet in other parts of the world the silkworm has been the "*dat putra*" of Kings and Presidents, while Parliaments have voted him princely subsidies, and the poor have blest him as the payer of their taxes and the slayer of the wolf that haunts their door!

I am not without hope that Your Excellency will render to this deserted orphan child of India's soil the powerful patronage and protection which shall enable him to bring to India's neediest classes the succour that is already enjoyed by the peasant millions of China, Japan, the Levant, Persia, Hungary, Italy and France.

There is another branch of our work here represented which has attracted much more universal sympathy and help. I refer to our work among the criminal tribes. This has made rapid and encouraging progress during the last two years. At our last Exhibition in 1913, we had 11 Settlements and 3 Industrial Homes for children, with a total population of 2,360 men, women and children. We have now 27 settlements and 6 children's homes for these tribes with a total population of over 6,000. Additional settlements are in course of preparation for several thousand additional members.

Two years ago our settlements were confined to the Punjab and the United Provinces. They have now been extended to Madras, Bengal and Bihar and Orissa, and will shortly include Bombay, Assam and Rajputana.

To find employment for such large numbers, and to make such employment at the same time of a congenial and remunerative character has been no easy task. Many of them, when they come to us, boast of never having done a hard day's work in their life. Crime to them is profitable. They have never attended our colleges, but according to their rough and ready calculations it is so much easier to steal Rs. 100 in a single night than to earn the same amount by working at 4 annas a day for 400 days? Hence it is difficult to wean them from crime. It is their hereditary profession. They are trained to it from childhood. They enjoy the excitement and do not find much hardship in the enforced rest of an occasional term of imprisonment in His Majesty's comfortable jail.

But Your Excellency will see in this Exhibition some evidences that our efforts for their reformation have not been in vain, and you will be interested in hearing that criminal tribes women are now engaged in stitching garments and uniforms for our soldiers at the Front.

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In one village their honest earnings now amount to more than Rs. 2,000 per month, derived from field crops, cattle breeding, wages for labour and mat making. Crime has ceased. There is not a policeman on the settlement. None are needed. Their own headmen and watchmen are the champions of law and order. Drink has been suppressed. The women are tidy and well dressed, the Manager having refused to give Bazar passes until their matted hair had made its first acquaintance with the comb, and filthy rags had been exchanged for clean garments. When we recently visited the settlement prizes were offered for the ten tidiest and most neatly dressed women, but it was difficult to select them from the 200 competitors in cleanliness, who presented themselves for examination.

In another settlement, hundreds of ex-criminals find employment in preparing metal for the roads and railways from a stone quarry. When we visited them a few weeks ago they were singing at their work. How different was our first experience, when their very donkeys refused to carry stone and the settlers exclaimed that they were not coolies and would never stoop to such degrading work.

The employers of labour are now coming to our assistance. From the tea gardens of Assam has come a warm invitation to send them in thousands, while mine-owners have offered to pay and care for those whom we may supply. In each case a stipulation is added that the Salvation Army should provide an officer to drill and organise our ragged regiment of industrial recruits.

Our other activities include nearly 500 village schools attended by about 13,000 children; Industrial homes for stranded Europeans in Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay; hostels for released prisoners in Lahore, Madras and Colombo; 9 hospitals and dispensaries caring annually for more than 50,000 patients and Industrial Homes for women in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Rangoon and Colombo.

One of our most interesting recent departures has been the establishment of a Beggars' Home in Colombo, which has resulted in clearing the streets of the 1,200 starving Lazaruses who lay at her gates eking out a scanty and miserable subsistence, with a death rate of 50 per cent. which was a standing menace to the health of the city. Colombo is we believe the first city of the East which has had the courage to tackle this dreadful problem and to remove this blot from her escutcheon. We are waiting to see who will be the next! The problem is difficult, but not impossible.

The establishment of an annual Arbour Day, the planting of thousands of Eucalyptus trees as the great Malaria fighter of the

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Orient and the popularisation of Iodine as the most effective remedy for plague have been among our minor activities.

But it is with feelings of profound emotion, as well as gratitude, that we greet Your Excellency on this occasion.

Our memories cannot but carry us back to the last two ceremonies when here in Simla and at our Tata Silk Farm in Bangalore Her Excellency Lady Hardinge graced the ceremony with her presence, and gave an impetus to this branch of our work. In her India mourns the loss of a guardian angel—of one whom she will recognise in days to come as a modern Mahatma, who has with Your Excellency led the van of India's Industrial and Social Progress.

In Ceylon there is a famous banyan tree, which is regarded with universal veneration, which was brought to the island by an Indian Princess, and which is said to have sprung from a branch of the tree under which Buddha himself once sat. May we not apply the simile to Her Excellency, whose sympathetic hand has helped to plant on India's shores the many-rooted banyan—the *Ficus Britto-Indica*—of Industrial and Social advance, under the shadow of which multitudes of her poor may in future ages find shelter and relief? In the soft and fertile soil of her depressed and needy classes the tree has already thriven and thrust many of its roots, while still hanging in the air we believe Your Excellency will recognise in this Exhibition some infant rootlets, not yet imbedded in the soil, but seeking their future resting place.

It is customary in some parts of India to place beneath such aerial roots hollow bamboos, which shall meet them halfway and guide them to the ground, till they are long and strong and vigorous enough to dispense with the temporary aid they have received. To provide such assistance is the object of this Exhibition, and we trust that Your Excellency, and the ladies and gentlemen present on this occasion, will look with a not too critical eye on these humble efforts of the Salvation Army on India's behalf.

The Viceroy made the following reply :—]

Mr. Commissioner Booth Tucker, Mrs. Booth Tucker, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I very highly appreciate the opportunity, which has been afforded me to-day, of testifying to the lively interest which I have always felt in your work and that of your comrades of the Salvation Army in India. I have already had the pleasure of read-

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ing in the address, which you have now presented to me, of the many and varied activities in which the Salvation Army is engaged, and I have been greatly impressed both by the broad spirit of philanthropy in which these projects have been conceived and no less by the practical commonsense which you are bringing to bear upon their successful completion.

The many useful and beautiful objects collected here to-day, all of which have been made under the auspices of the Salvation Army, form a pleasing reminder of the splendid results which your efforts have already secured.

In now declaring the Exhibition open, I will only wish you, in this and in your other enterprises, all that success which you have so unselfishly worked for and so richly deserved.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

[The annual general meeting of the St. John Ambulance Association in India was held at Viceregal Lodge on the evening of the 24th June in the Council Chamber, His Excellency the Viceroy presiding. Among those present were the Lieutenant-Governor and Lady O'Dwyer, Sir Beauchamp Duff, the Bishop of Lahore, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Hill, Sir Edward Maclagan, the Kaur Sahib of Patiala, Sir Harnam Singh, Sir Parley and Lady Lukis, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Grant, Mr. J. B. Wood, Mr. Sharp, Sir Arthur Ker, Mr. and Mrs. Brunyate, General and Mrs. G. Williams, the Hon'ble Mrs. Spence, Sir James Roberts, and many others. 24th June 1915.]

The report for the past year was presented by the Commander-in-Chief, who said:—Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,—As Chairman of the Indian Council of the St. John Ambulance Association, it falls to me at this meeting held in accordance with the ancient custom of the Order of which our Association is the Ambulance Department on St. John Day to present the annual report. No one can read this report without feeling that it is a document of which any society might well feel proud. A glance at the tables at the end of the volume show that ambulance work is going on in every corner of India, and that before the war gave such prominence to

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its endeavour, the Association was carrying out with great efficiency its three-fold mission to aid the injured, to nurse the sick, and to prevent disease. It will be seen that the Indian Council is fortunate in possessing a large number of trophies for annual competition, which are of very great value in stimulating public interest in the work. In some of these, such as the challenge shields for Regular Troops, Imperial Service Troops, and Volunteers, I, as Commander-in-Chief, am especially interested. The Association, however, spreads its net wide, and railwaymen, policemen, and boy scouts are all provided for.

For the ladies there is a special trophy which is a permanent memorial of the interest taken in ambulance work by the late lady president, whose loss we all so deeply deplore. It was unfortunately found necessary on account of the war to abandon the All-India Ambulance competitions this year, but we hope to hold them in January next.

I purposely omit any reference to the Red Cross work which is now such a feature of the Association's efforts. That subject will be dealt with very fully by Sir Pardey Lukis, Chairman of the Executive Committee. But as Commander-in-Chief I feel I must bear witness here to the appreciation of the work of the Association in this direction which is felt by the Army of India and by myself. It is not too much to say that the Indian Ambulance Department of the Association has ably maintained the traditions of the Ancient Order of St. John, the oldest military medical organisation in the world, and that the Army in India was fortunate in having this great society ready to come to the assistance of its wounded on the outbreak of this terrible war.

Your Excellency, with these remarks I beg, with your permission, to present the annual report.

REVIEW OF WAR WORK.

General Sir Pardey Lukis, addressing the meeting, said :—Your Excellency,—I rise to present the report of the Red Cross work of the St. John Ambulance Association in India from the commencement of the war up to the 8th instant. This report speaks for itself, and needs no remarks on my part, but with Your Excellency's permission I should like to say a few words with reference to certain developments that have taken place since this report was printed. First of all I will ask you to look at item 17, on page 6 of the report, where you will see it stated that His Highness the Maharaja Scindia has presented to the Indian Council five hundred 10-bed

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hospital units for Indian troops. In the April number of our *Ambulance Gazette* you will find on page 156 a picture of the whole consignment loaded up on 20 transport carts, ready for despatch to the front. I now have much pleasure in announcing that His Highness has intimated his intention of presenting us with a similar gift of five hundred units for the use of British troops, thereby bringing the total amount of this generous donation up to one thousand 10-bed units of an estimated value of over two lakhs of rupees.

Next I may mention that the three motor boats, the photographs of which are displayed for inspection, have now been sent to the Persian Gulf, and are, I believe, already working at Basra. In addition to these three we hope to be able to supply ten more of light draught and suitable for river work, should the military authorities require them, and we have already received from Her Highness the Begum Sahiba of Bhopal a sum of Rs. 14,000 for the purchase of two such boats.

I may also mention that, thanks to Lady Earle, we have now received an offer of two more motor ambulances from the ladies of Assam, thus bringing the total for that Province up to four, three of which have been given by the ladies of Assam and one by the Rani of Bijnor.

Lastly I wish to report that the military authorities have accepted our offer to equip and staff for a period of at least one year a special war hospital to be worked in connection with the X-ray Institute at Dehra Dun. It is proposed that this hospital should be under the charge of Major Walter, the Superintendent of the Institute, and it will be reserved for patients requiring special electrical and X-ray treatment, or the localisation of deep-seated foreign bodies. The most up-to-date apparatus will be available for these purposes, among which I may mention: full-length electric baths and Schnee's four-celled bath for the administration of galvanic, faradic, sinusoidal, and rhythmically interrupted currents; apparatus for the treatment of sinuses, stiff joints, etc., by the ionisation method, vibratory massage and treatment by radiant heat and light, as well as by high frequency currents and diathermy. This last method is specially suitable in cases of "trench foot." The estimated total cost of upkeep of this hospital for one year is half a lakh of rupees, and the cost per bed is Rs. 2,000. I think it will be agreed that the establishment of such a hospital is worthy of the best traditions of the Order of St. John, and that it is a most fitting undertaking for the Ancient Order of Hospitaliers.

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Before concluding I wish to lay stress on the fact that the efficiency of our Red Cross work is the result of the steady consolidation and organisation of the civil side of the Association, which has been the object of the labours of the executive committee of Indian Council during the three years preceding the outbreak of hostilities, and I desire particularly to place on record the indebtedness both of the Association and of the public to our General Secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel Blackham, to whose untiring energy and enterprise, as well as to his fertility of resource and his intimate knowledge of the country, is due much of the success that has attended our efforts.

In conclusion allow me on behalf of the executive committee to acknowledge the cordial co-operation of the various ladies' associations which have been formed in different parts of India, and the valuable services rendered by the willing band of helpers of all classes and creeds, who have assisted either by donations or in connection with the various working parties. To one and all of these we tender our grateful thanks.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION.

Sir Arthur Ker who spoke next, said:—Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is my pleasant duty, as Treasurer of this Association, to present satisfactory statements of the accounts of the general funds of the Indian headquarters, and of the St. John Ambulance Red Cross War Fund for India. It will be seen that the Indian Council has kept its general and war funds quite separate, and that it aims at an endowment reserve fund which will ensure its permanency. This reserve fund is now Rs. 45,000, which is not of course a large sum for such an association, but it shows steady progress, especially when we recall that some five years ago the total assets of the Indian branch were only three hundred rupees. The annual Government grant is Rs. 5,000, and though helpful, it is only a fraction of our annual expenditure, which is roughly over a quarter of a lakh. Most of our contributions have been received in small sums, and we look for further and more generous donations. A much larger endowment reserve fund is required if the future of our Association is to be definitely assured.

With these remarks I beg to submit the accounts.

THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel Blackham, General Secretary, said:—Your Excellencies, Your Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have been

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asked by the Chairman of the Executive Committee to say a few words with reference to the report regarding the reorganisation of the three provincial centres referred to in item 6 of the agenda. The principle adopted by the Indian Council when the work was organised on its present lines in 1908 was to induce local authorities and heads of the communities to become *ex-officio*, the local leaders of the Association, instead of leaving this duty to the individual efforts of private persons, whose transfers might cause the local organisation to cease to exist. In order to make units of manageable size and to encourage the development of local interest in the work, it was sought to form branches, or as they are designated centres, of the Association in the various geographical sub-divisions of India. In each area the official head of the province or administration was asked to become the president of a provincial centre. These provincial centres are designate to be administrative rather than executive bodies, and it is their duty to sub-divide territory into district centres which under local administration carry on the executive work, educational and Red Cross of the Association. More than 200 centres on these lines have been formed in every corner of India, and also in Burma, but the actual activities of these bodies have varied very greatly. The Punjab and North-West Provinces centres have been particularly backward, but it will be seen that owing to the great interest displayed by His Honour Sir Michael O'Dwyer and Sir George Roos-Keppel these centres now bid fair to be models for the rest of India. Last July the assets of the Punjab centre were Rs. 16, but it will be seen that it has now a cash balance of over Rs. 3,800, and has issued almost as many certificates, etc., during the first five months of the present financial year as it did during the whole of the years 1913 and 1914.

It will be seen that the Punjab centre has taken an active part in the Red Cross work of the Association as it has endowed a bed in the St. John War Hospital in France. The North-West Frontier Province centre was only reorganised in April last, but it is showing immense activity under the guidance of Sir George Roos-Keppel, who has had practical experience of the work of the St. John Ambulance Association in France. This centre has presented a motor ambulance to the Indian Council.

In Southern India the Presidency centre did not enjoy much official favour until the arrival of the present Governor. Lord Pentland since his arrival in Madras has taken the keenest interest in the work of the centre and took over the presidency of the centre in 1915. Under His Excellency's patronage and due almost entirely to his initiative, the first ambulance competition ever held in

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Southern India took place in February last. These competitions were on a very extensive scale, and were made specially interesting by being associated with military operations carried out by the local volunteers. In all these reorganised centres the enrolment of the members has been given a prominent position in the scheme of the work. Until recently this had been largely neglected by the officers of our centres. They have failed to grasp the fact that in addition to being an educational body the Association is a Red Cross Society. Our Secretaries have rested content with holding a certain number of classes and have not seriously endeavoured to obtain members. This matter is now, however, receiving attention, and with the stimulating example of Japan before them, where three per cent. of the population belongs to the Red Cross Society, our centres in the far north of the Empire at Peshawar, and the southernmost point of the Peninsula at Trivandrum are daily enrolling members under the banner of St. John, the emblem which for eight centuries has been symbolic of kindly charity to the suffering in peace and help to the wounded in war.

Certain gentlemen having been elected councillors, the Viceroy decorated Colonel H. Hendley, I.M.S., with the badge of Honorary Associate, and His Excellency then addressed the meeting. His speech was loudly applauded, and the proceedings then terminated.

His Excellency spoke as follows.—]

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have now had the honour of presiding at three Annual Meetings of the St. John Ambulance Association, and this is probably the last occasion on which I shall have the pleasure of being present at a meeting of the Indian Branch.

We have become so accustomed to a state of war that it is difficult to realise the unruffled calm in which we last met 11 months before the war broke out. And my task was then to dwell upon the utility of the Association in the piping times of peace.

I pointed out the value of its trained men and women on occasions when great crowds assembled and expressed the conviction that the Association might be a useful factor in disseminating an elementary knowledge of hygiene in this country, a matter which has received

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no small measure of attention from my Government, and must indeed appeal to all thinking men.

To-night, however, I have to sound an entirely different note, for the clash of arms appealed at once to the instincts of the Association and reproduced its original characteristics as a society for the care of those hurt in battle.

Few people in India realised—I doubt if I did so myself—that, on the outbreak of this lamentable war, this Association, whose growth in India has just been dealt with by Sir Pardey Lukis, would promptly take up the rôle of a Red Cross Society and discharge its functions with such resources and ability.

Let me briefly recapitulate the achievements of the Association.

We have just learnt that it has collected the splendid sum of over three and a half lakhs, and that it has despatched Red Cross Gifts and material to the value of no less than ten lakhs to the various theatres of war.

In addition to organising a scheme for supplying Red Cross Gifts, the Indian Association has raised 14 motor ambulances which are serving either at the front or with the War Hospitals in India. It has sent a small fleet of motor ambulance boats up the Persian Gulf. It has provided *personnel* for ambulance duties. It has assisted to equip Military War Hospitals in India with all sorts of comforts and with special apparatus for the treatment of the wounded. It has helped the Sister Red Cross Societies of all the Allies by gifts of money and material. It has endowed nearly a ward and a half in the War Hospital now, I believe, at the front, which the Order of St. John of Jerusalem has recently founded in accordance with its ancient tradition of establishing hospitals for Armies in the field. It has sent religious books for Sikhs and Mahomedans to the Military Hospitals in Europe and comforts for the Indian Soldiers' Fund.

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And last, but by no means least, the Association is providing a War Hospital here in India for the reception of severely wounded officers and men requiring electrical treatment.

I think these achievements are indeed remarkable, especially if we bear in mind the fact pointed out by the Treasurer that about five years ago the total assets of the Association in India amounted to only a few hundred rupees.

I have so far spoken of the Association in an impersonal way, but I do not forget that it is composed of persons—some of whom I see around me here this evening—and that all its success is due to personal effort bent and concentrated towards a common end.

The Ruling Chiefs of India have been most liberal in their contributions and have in many cases organised centres in their States. It would be quite impossible for me to tell the tale in the brief time at my disposal of all the help they have rendered. But you have heard from the lips of Sir Pardey Lukis the latest example of the unparalleled generosity of my friend, His Highness the Maharaja Scindia, and I take this opportunity of announcing to you that another friend of mine, His Highness the Maharaja of Jaipur, in sending a message asking to be excused from attending this meeting, has most generously forwarded a donation of Rs. 5,000 to the funds of the Association to be allocated in any way I may think fit. In accepting with gratitude this noble contribution, I have decided to hand it over to the Executive Committee with an instruction that it should be devoted to the maintenance of beds at the Dehra Dun War Hospital, to which I have already alluded. I should like to mention the enormous outturn of work by the ladies both European and Indian of a Western Presidency under

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distinguished and energetic auspices, but I am reluctant to do so, lest I fail to do justice to the magnificent efforts that have been put forth in other Presidencies under other high auspices and indeed in every part of the Indian Empire; but here in Simla I speak of my own knowledge when I say that I have been filled with admiration at the way in which various Committees and numerous working parties have laboured and slaved in the common cause. But all this self-sacrificing labour would have been thrown away if it had not been wisely organised and directed; and I therefore desire to endorse the words that have fallen from Sir Pardey Lukis regarding the General Secretary, and I think you will all join with me in thinking that our thanks are due not only to the General Secretary who has worked so hard, but also to the Chairman of the Executive Committee under whose guidance he has worked, and that is to Sir Pardey Lukis himself.

I can remember smiling at the enthusiasm of the General Secretary when, at the first meeting over which I presided, he expressed the conviction that, in a few years, "there will hardly be a hamlet from Tonk to Trichinopoly and from Bombay to Bhamo where the Association is unknown."

I think that this day is not so far distant as it seemed to us then and the Indian Council may reasonably claim that the Association has taken firm and healthy root in every corner of the Indian Empire.

Even when I cease to rule its fortunes, I shall always watch with interest its progress and recall with some personal gratification its great achievements during my term of office as President in India.

MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.
SIMLA.

THE HON'BLE MR. MIAN MUHAMMAD SHAFI'S RESOLUTION REGARDING
REPRESENTATION OF INDIA IN THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

22nd Sept. [The above resolution was proposed at the second meeting on
1915. the 22nd September :—

The Hon'ble Mr. Shafi, in proposing his resolution on India's participation in the Imperial Conferences, said the gradual evolution in a world-wide Empire of a constitutional system of Government was undoubtedly the surest guarantee of permanence and stability. To this country it was a source of deep disappointment and profound astonishment that India should hitherto have been excluded from the scheme of Imperial Federation. The request embodied in the resolution he was about to propose was only the logical result of the utterances of Lord Curzon as to India's position in the Empire. Lord Curzon was now a member of the National Cabinet to which he (the speaker) was appealing, and India of to-day and the future historian would judge of Lord Curzon's sincerity as an imperial statesman by the measure of support he gave to the earnest appeal that India was making to be allowed to take her proper place in the Imperial Federation of Greater Britain. Under the world conditions brought into existence by modern culture and civilisation the East was bound, henceforward to play an increasingly important part in international affairs, and it must be obvious that not only had India become the pivot of the East, but that she was destined to play a still more important part in the political and commercial spheres. Further the strategical position of India, both in relation to the Empire, and in relation to the States with which the vital interests of the British Empire were likely to come into conflict in the future, was becoming more and more important. The speaker went on to dwell upon the importance of the Imperial problems in which India was directly concerned, and on the domestic problems, such as immigration and tariffs, which could only be satisfactorily solved by periodical Imperial Conferences. The presence at such Imperial Conferences of one or more representatives of India would not only satisfy Indian sentiment, but would prove of immense benefit to the Empire at large. Mr. Shafi went on to speak of the part that India was playing in the war, and said that seeing what India had willingly and spontaneously done in this gigantic struggle what would she not be prepared to do if allowed her proper place in the councils of the Empire? In concluding he said the dawn of a new

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era of hope and trust had risen above the horizon, and it behoved well-wishers of the country to approach this question in a spirit of hopefulness, and to deal with it in the light of those principles of constructive statesmanship which alone could lead to success. India was not content with the occasional presence of the Secretary of State at the Imperial Conferences, what she wanted was her own direct representation, like that of the British Colonies. On behalf of 313 millions of his countrymen, representing over 75 per cent. of the entire population of the Empire, he appealed to His Majesty's Government, and to the enlightened conscience of their British fellow-subjects, for India's submission to the Imperial Federation. With confidence in the justice of their claim, and a heart full of hope, he moved: "This Council recommends to the Governor General in Council that a representation be sent, through the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, to His Majesty's Government, urging that India should, in future, be officially represented at the Imperial Conference."

His Excellency the Viceroy then spoke as follows:—]

It has been a source of profound satisfaction to me that it has been within my power to accept for discussion the very moderate and statesmanlike resolution, happily devoid of all controversial character, that has been proposed by the Hon'ble Mr. Muhammad Shafi, and it is a matter of still greater satisfaction and pleasure to me to be able to announce that the Government of India gladly accept this important resolution, which has their warmest sympathy, and, if it is accepted by Council as a whole, the Government will readily comply with the recommendation contained therein.

We have all listened with deep interest to Mr. Muhammad Shafi's eloquent speech, and it is a real pleasure to the Government of India to be able to associate themselves with his resolution.

Before proceeding further it would be as well that I should recapitulate what has taken place at Imperial Conferences in the past, and define the actual constitution of the Conference as created by the Government who have hitherto been represented in it.

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It was due to the presence in London in 1887 of the Premiers of the various self-governing Dominions, representing their countries at the celebrations of the Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria, that the idea of a Colonial Conference first took practical shape, and similar meetings took place in 1897, 1902, 1907 and 1911. At the earlier meetings, the Secretary of State for the Colonies presided.

In 1887 the Secretary of State for India attended the formal opening meetings of the Colonial Conference, but at subsequent proceedings neither he nor any representative of Indian interests was present.

At the meetings of the Colonial Conferences held in 1897 and 1902, the Secretary of State for India neither attended nor was represented.

In 1907, by arrangement between Lord Morley, then Secretary of State for India, and the Prime Minister, Sir James Mackay, now Lord Inchcape, was permitted to attend the meetings in the absence of Lord Morley, not as a member of the Conference nor as the representative of India, but on behalf of the India Office, and "with a view to the representation of Indian interests" and in a debate upon Colonial preference, Sir James addressed the Conference at some length, explaining the Free Trade principles on which the economic situation in India is based.

In that year a new constitution was approved by the Conference for its future gatherings.

Henceforth it was to be known as the Imperial Conference, and was to be, in the words of a resolution passed by the Conference, "a periodical meeting for the discussion of matters of common interest between His Majesty's Government and His Governments of the self-governing Dominions beyond the seas." With the change of title, additional importance was given to the

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Assembly by the assumption of the Presidency by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

The members of the Conference, as then and now constituted, are the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the Prime Ministers of the self-governing Dominions, but again in the words of the resolution, "such other Ministers as the respective Governments may appoint will also be members of the Conference, it being understood that, except by special permission of the Conference, each discussion will be conducted by not more than two representatives from each Government, and each Government will have only one vote."

At the Imperial Conference of 1911, the Secretary of State for India was present at a meeting, but India herself had no recognised place in this Conference.

Representation is, therefore, at present confined to the United Kingdom and the self-governing Dominions, and no one can now attend the Conference as a representative except a Minister. Further, alterations in the constitution of the Conference are made only by, and at, the Conference itself; and, if precedent be followed, take effect only at the next succeeding Conference. From this statement of the actual constitution of the Imperial Conference you will see that the ultimate decision upon the representation of India at the next meeting of the Conference rests with the Conference itself. It is of course premature to consider the manner in which the representation of India, if admitted, should be effected, but *primâ facie* it would appear reasonable that India should be represented by the Secretary of State and one or two representatives nominated by the Secretary of State in consultation with the Viceroy, such nominees being ordinarily selected from officials resident or serving in India. The present practice of the Imperial Con-

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ference excludes non-official representatives. It would of course be incumbent on these nominees to act in the Conference in conformity with the policy and wishes of the Secretary of State. Just as in the case of the self-governing Dominions, the Ministers accompanying the Prime Minister have to take their policy from him, and the constitutional position of the Secretary of State is infinitely superior.

I have thought it desirable to put before you all the difficulties and obstacles, that present themselves, to the attainment of the object that we all desire and have in view. At the same time, I am authorised by His Majesty's Government, while preserving their full liberty of judgment and without committing them either as to principles or details, to give an undertaking that an expression of opinion from this Imperial Legislative Council, in the sense of the resolution that is now before us, will receive most careful consideration on their part, as expressing the legitimate interest of the Legislative Council in an Imperial question, although the ultimate decision of His Majesty's Government must necessarily depend largely on the attitude of other members of the Conference.

This is, I venture to think, all that we can reasonably expect at the present time, and that such a pledge is eminently satisfactory as showing due consideration for the claims of India. We can only hope, with trust and confidence, that, when the right moment arrives, these claims may merit the approval and support of His Majesty's Government and receive sympathetic consideration from the Governments of the self-governing Dominions.

We have no knowledge of the date when the next Imperial Conference will be held, nor what form it will take. But much has already happened, since the last

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Conference was held in 1911, which will leave a lasting mark upon the British Empire, and it is to me inconceivable that statesmen of such distinguished ability and far-seeing patriotism as the Premiers and Ministers of the self-governing Dominions will not have realised, from recent events, the great and important position that India occupies amongst the various dominions and dependencies composing the British Empire. It is true that India is not a self-governing Dominion, but that seems hardly a reason why she should not be suitably represented at future Conferences. India's size, population, wealthy, military resources, and, lastly, her patriotism demand it. No Conference can afford to debate great Imperial issues in which India is vitally concerned, and at the same time to disregard her. To discuss questions affecting the defence of the Empire, without taking India into account, would be to ignore the value and interests of the greatest military asset of the Empire outside the United Kingdom. So also in trade, to discuss questions affecting commerce within the Empire, without regard to India, would be to disregard England's best customer. To concede the direct representation of India at future Imperial Conferences does not strike me as a very revolutionary or far-reaching concession to make to Indian public opinion and to India's just claims, and I feel confident that if, and when, this question is placed in its true light before the Governments of the self-governing Dominions, they will regard it from that wider angle of vision from which we hope other Indian questions may be viewed in the near future, so that the people of India may be made to feel that they really are, in the words of Mr. Asquith, "conscious members of a living partnership all over the world under the same flag."

In conclusion I would ask Hon'ble Members who may wish to speak on this resolution to adhere strictly

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to the scope of its terms and to avoid any discordant note that may be misinterpreted elsewhere, or wound the feelings of our fellow-subjects in the self-governing Dominions.

The Hon'ble Sir G. Chitnavis said he had always held that India and the self-governing Dominions were integral units of the British Empire, and it would be the highest statesmanship to weld them into one organic whole. With the growth of the Imperial idea they were nearer to that happy consummation than they had ever been before. The war demonstrated forcibly that there was one life pulsating through the whole Empire: they were all one and ready to defend to the last their common rights and interests. They had the greatest interest in the subjects discussed at the Imperial Conference, and it was only fair and just that they should participate in its deliberations. Unless they had direct representation from India they could not be satisfied. Their officials, by reason of their close touch with the people, were best fitted to be their representatives, and when the question of representation by non officials came within the range of practical politics there would not be a dearth of statesmen who would be fully equal to the task. He argued that mutual knowledge would remove misunderstandings, and that India had a right to share in the decision as to the political and commercial policy of the Empire after the war. He supported the resolution.

The Hon'ble Sir Fazalbhoy Currimbhoy thanked His Excellency for admitting this resolution, and said he had always felt that the exclusion of India from the Imperial Conference lacked justification. It was being mooted that the share the colonies had taken in the war entitled them to a larger share in the administration of the Empire. The same argument could be applied in the case of India with irresistible force. The technical objection might be raised that India was a Dependency. That was true, but that was more in view of her present state of political development than from any false idea of her subjection to England. By their gracious sovereigns they had always been treated in the same way as other subjects, and equal status had been assured to them in more than one document of unimpeachable authority. Even in the matter of internal government the tendency was definitely in the direction of self-government, and on the field of battle they were the comrades of the colonials. Their claim was founded on justice, and on the highest principles of Imperial statesmanship. He was loth to

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believe that after giving the most conclusive proof of their fidelity to the Empire they would look in vain for the fruition of their hopes even in this matter of direct representation at the Imperial Conference. He supported the resolution.

The Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee supported the resolution, dwelling upon the splendid services of India connected with the war and claiming that India, like every other part of the Empire, must have an adequate voice in Imperial affairs. In his opinion, however, the resolution did not go far enough, for the representation of India ought to be that of representatives of the people of India, and not only that of the official element. He urged that India's official representative should be elected by the Imperial Legislative Council, subject to the approval of the Government of India.

The Hon'ble Mr. Dadabhai also supported the resolution. Legally speaking India enjoyed the same status as the Colonies, and this status was unaffected by the difference in degrees of political development. It was the settlement of the policy of the Empire as a whole that was the governing purpose of the Imperial Conference, and the deliberations of the Conference were consequently of vital importance to India. They wanted the same share in the Conference as the Colonies. It was one thing to appear at the bar of the Conference as an advocate, or to criticise a particular policy; it was quite a different thing to co-operate with the various units of the Empire in the evolution of a policy for the common good. They must have direct representation at the Conference, for one thing because the Secretary of State, being a member of the Cabinet, could not wholly dissociate himself from Imperial interests which might not wholly coincide with those of India. Direct representation would be free from the defects of the present arrangement, and would satisfy the Indian demand, provided the right of co-operation was assured to the Indian representatives. It would gratify the growing self-consciousness of this country to be admitted to the Imperial confederacy on equal terms with the Colonies. Would the Imperial Government be reluctant to remove once for all the badge of inferiority and to raise India in the scale of the nations?

The Hon'ble Mr. Setalvad, while sympathising with the resolution, thought it would have been desirable if its discussion had been postponed for the present. The future of India was bound up with the honour and glory of the Empire, and with the changes that were taking place, he hoped that after the war India would become

Farewell Address and Entertainment from Indian Citizens of Simla.

one of the self-governing units of the Empire. He urged that nothing should now be done in a hurry. The Government of India should first be remodelled, and then India should take its place in the Councils of the Empire. The present resolution was, he thought, an inversion of the procedure that was desirable.

The Hon'ble Mir Asad Ali and Rai Sitanath Roy supported the resolution. The Hon'ble Pundit Malaviya also supported the resolution. He thought Mr. Setalvad had somewhat confounded the issues, and he said, amidst applause, that there would be rejoicing throughout India at the announcement the Viceroy had made.

The Hon'ble Sir Ibrahim Rahmitollah deprecated claims based upon the services which India had rendered, but he supported the resolution on the grounds that India was a partner in the Imperial scheme. He urged amidst applause that Lord Hardinge should himself be the first person chosen to represent India upon the Imperial Conference.

The Hon'ble Mr. Chariar, who also supported the resolution, looked forward to a time when Indians would take their seats upon the Imperial Conference. The Hon'ble Raja Khushalpal Singh and the Hon'ble Maharaja of Nashipur supported the resolution.

MR. SHAFI'S REPLY.

Mr. Shafi then replied. He said the single discordant note which had been struck seemed to him to have been based upon misunderstanding, and even it was in favour of the proposal, and the remarkable unanimity with which the resolution had been supported showed how much it appealed to the country. Lord Hardinge's announcement added to the heavy debt the country already owed to His Excellency.

Lord Hardinge then put the resolution, which was accepted unanimously.

The Council then adjourned to October 1st.

FAREWELL ADDRESS AND ENTERTAINMENT FROM
INDIAN CITIZENS OF SIMLA.

29th Sept.
1915.

[An address was presented to the Viceroy by Sir Harnam Singh on behalf of the Indian community of Simla at Annandale in the afternoon of the 29th September, when a series of Indian entertainments were also given. There was a very large gathering of Indians and Europeans, those present including the Lieutenant-

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Governor of the Punjab and Lady O'Dwyer, Sir Ali Imam, Sir William Clark, Sir William Meyer, Sir Reginald Craddock and almost all the non-official members of the Viceroy's Council.

Sir Harnam Singh was President of the Executive Committee, Nawab Zulfiqar Ali Khan, Chairman, and Sardar Charanjit Singh and the Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Mian Muhammad Shafi, Vice-Presidents.

The text of the address was as follows :—

" We, the Indian residents of Simla, have gathered together here for the last time, it may be, to meet Your Excellency in the summer capital of India and to bid you farewell.

" During your stay each year in our midst your true sympathy with our country has endeared you to us and won our admiration and affection. We would assure Your Excellency that we represent the sentiments of all classes and creeds of our fellow-countrymen, not only in India itself but also in every land to which Indians have gone, when we say that your name will bear a highly honoured place in our national history.

" This is not the occasion to enumerate in detail the outstanding features of your administration, but we believe that their whole trend had been that which you expressed as your purpose and desire before leaving England : which was to watch over with the utmost vigilance and to do your utmost to consolidate the beneficent and far-reaching reforms of Lords Morley and Minto and to conciliate all races, classes and creeds. We hope and believe, Your Excellency that when you leave India, this work of reconciliation and reform, which you have strenuously helped forward on its course, will still continue.

" Our devotion, however, to Your Excellency has been universal and abiding because you have at all times shown yourself ready to share our common aspirations and our common sorrows. We have known and understood most clearly your love for India at those times when events were happening by which we were deeply stirred. Your trust in the peoples of India, even in the midst of great physical suffering and mental anguish, will ever be recorded in the annals of our nation. We cannot refrain also, painful though it is for us all, from recalling the memory of her, whom we had learnt to revere as the partner of your life, sharing your responsibilities and sharing also to the full your sympathy and affection for us. Her personal acts of devoted and unselfish kindness to us and to our children, which we in Simla have special reason to appreciate, can never be forgotten. The memory of Your Excellency's lavish

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hospitality and helpful interest in all local charities and institutions will also always be gratefully cherished by the residents of Simla.

"When the dark cloud of bereavement came over your life not once only but twice and blow followed upon blow, we found ourselves unable to tell you outwardly in words of all the sympathy we inwardly felt, but our hearts silently shared each of your sorrows. We felt, too, and saw clearly with our own eyes at what a cost you went on with the great work you had undertaken and remained steadfastly at your post, doing your daily duty.

"And on our Indian side, in return, whenever we have suffered as a people from what we felt to be wrong or an injustice to our country, we have always found your instinctive sympathy immediately going out to us with such generous fulness that we could realise the sincerity of your affection.

"The cruel wrongs suffered by our fellow-countrymen in South Africa and so heroically borne by them evoked Your Excellency's whole-hearted condemnation and drew from you an expression of your 'indignation burning and deep' at what they had been called upon to bear. We knew you then not only as our Viceroy but also as our friend, and in this connection, we earnestly hope that before Your Excellency leaves India we shall see the abolition of that badge of Indian servitude, the indentured labour system. Your Excellency's fearless and resolute action on our behalf has been vindicated on more than one occasion. We witnessed such at the great Delhi Durbar itself, when, with your assistance, the Partition of Bengal was repealed, the new province of Bihar and Orissa created with an Executive Council and the policy of eventual Provincial autonomy declared.

"The Mussalman community will ever hold in grateful memory the preservation of their mosque at Cawnpore. Your own recent utterance in favour of an Executive Council for the United Provinces, in the face of opposition from the House of Lords, has shown to us all that the policy which you enunciated for the provinces during our beloved King-Emperor's visit could not be thrust aside with impunity. The Punjab, also in the same connection, will not forget how strenuously you have pressed forward, by every means at your command, to obtain for it the fuller provincial rights which are bound up with the creation of a High Court.

The student community of India have been greatly touched by Your Excellency's earnest solicitude on their behalf. They have seen how your heart has gone out to them and how you have worked to ameliorate the conditions under which they live and work.

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Whenever you have been among them and spoken to them they felt, as we ourselves have felt, that you were their friend.

"And, perhaps, the boldest and most far-reaching of all these personal actions of yours on our behalf has been your own immediate recognition, at the very beginning of the war, of our keen desire that Indian troops should fight side by side with British soldiers in Europe. You were not content till that desire was fulfilled.

"In all this, Your Excellency has set an example in India that will not be forgotten when you leave us. You have given to Indian aspirations, when fully and clearly expressed, a weight and a dignity which they never had before. We believe that history will show how in every action which you have taken in respect of our united hopes, the course you adopted was not merely bold and wise but also right and just. In future more and more weight will have to be given to Indian public opinion, and that this time is now nearer at hand, as we believe it to be, is in no small measure due to your sympathy and consideration for us.

"Finally, we would wish Your Excellency's name to be associated in our national history with the attainment of our rights as citizens abroad and with the full constitutional development of our citizenship in India itself. You have learnt during your stay among us how passionately these ideals are held by us, as a part of our life and hope. We know that they will never be absent from your mind and heart, even when you are away from us in person. And when the time comes at last for you to leave India's shores, Your Excellency will carry away with you, not only a knowledge of our needs and aspirations but also an assurance of our gratitude and regard."

His Excellency's reply was as follows :—]

My friends,—I do not think that any man could listen to such words as you have addressed to me without being profoundly moved, and I shall not attempt to conceal from you the fact that my heart is stirred to its very depths. You have organised this friendly gathering to bid me good-bye and the nature of your feelings is further demonstrated by the warmth of the address just presented to me. In your rapid review of my career in India you have not taken the outstanding features item by item, apportioning to the various incidents criticism

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or praise with nice discrimination, but you have preferred to select those incidents that have more especially illustrated that true sympathy with Indian sentiment and Indian aspirations that has in very truth been at the root of all my policy. Even in dealing with these incidents you have drawn a picture that I fear can hardly be true to nature, for nature insists on light and shade, but your art has evolved a creation where there is no shade of failure at all. I take it to mean that whatever reserve of criticism may be buried in your bosoms, you want to assure me at this moment of parting that you believe and are convinced that throughout the past strenuous five years, whatever my failures and whatever my failings, my heart has steadily been in the right place, and that assurance gives me and will always give me heartfelt satisfaction.

When I came to India nearly five years ago I had no programme or policy beyond, as I had said in a speech at a banquet in London, my earnest desire, inspired by the profound sympathy and regard that I felt for my Indian fellow-subjects, to contribute at least something to their material welfare and development. Since I have been in this country I have always tried to win the confidence of the people and by thoughtful consideration of their needs and aspirations, kind treatment and good administration to draw them closer to Government. At the same time my efforts have been directed to governing the country, as far as possible, in accordance with the wishes of the people, and although nobody realises better than I do my shortcomings, which you with your kindly nature have glossed over, I can honestly say that the fulfilment of my duty to this country and the people has been my one and all-absorbing aim. Now as my day of farewell to India begins to draw near, the King-Emperor's parting message of hope still rings in my ears and I am full of confidence in the future.

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You must remember, however, Gentlemen, that the real moment of my parting from India is not yet. Half a year is no mean fraction of a Viceroy's tenure and I see stretching out before me six months of continuous toil and heavy responsibility before I finally lay down my office. Your friendly words will cheer me on my way and I trust that nothing may occur during that time to alter the goodwill you have expressed. For the present I am bidding good-bye to Simla and Simla associations and Simla friends. It has been my home for many months and perhaps there is no harm in my telling you a little secret. It is that after I was wounded in Delhi and slowly and rather painfully recovering, the Prime Minister, who was anxious about my health, suggested that it might expedite my convalescence if I went Home for a few months, but knowing Simla as I already did, loving as I do the peace and beauty of its surroundings, appreciating the atmosphere of friendliness for which you, my friends, are so largely responsible, I felt that I could recover in the splendid air of Simla as quickly as anywhere else, that there was no necessity to go Home, for Simla was indeed my home, and so I declined the offer of His Majesty's Government with very grateful thanks, and events proved that I was right. I do not think that this is a time to talk business, so I will not detain you longer but will only thank you once more from the bottom of my heart for the reception you have given me this afternoon and for the warm friendliness of the words you have spoken. They have touched me deeply. Never, never shall I forget Simla nor the kindness of my many Simla friends.

CLOSE OF THE SIMLA SESSION OF THE IMPERIAL
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, 1915.

HINDU UNIVERSITY BILL.

1st Oct. [The last meeting of the Simla session of the Imperial Legislative
1915. Council was held on the 1st October, His Excellency the Viceroy presiding. Much interest attached to the meeting, as two of the Executive Council members, Sir Harcourt Butler and Sir Ali Imam, were attending for the last time, and a Bill creating for the first time a non-official University was to be passed. It was also expected that the Viceroy would make a statement reviewing the progress of the war. The visitors' gallery was full, and the Legislative Department was unable to provide accommodation for many wishing to attend. There was a large attendance of members, the principal absentees among the non-official members being Mr. Bannerjee, Mr. Setalvad, Sir Fazulbhoy Currimbhoy, and the Raja of Mahinudabad.

His Excellency the Viceroy in closing the session spoke as follows :—]

I am indeed very pleased that the Hindu University Bill that has been under discussion during the past four years has to-day become the law of the land. I warmly congratulate the promoters and believe that, in spite of small differences of opinion upon the constitution of the proposed University, time will show that its results are beneficial to the Hindu community.

It is now more than a year that we have been at war; and although we may have been disappointed in our earlier calculations that the war would not last twelve months, and in our hopes that Germany and Austria would by this time have been crushed by the weight of the forces opposed to them, it is nevertheless an indisputable fact that the outcome of the war has so far proved a far more bitter disappointment to the enemy. Evidence from every side tends to show that Germany had been secretly preparing for the last 20 years to strike such a blow as would secure for her the mastery of Europe and undisputed dominion of the world. Her

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expectation had been to crush France in a few weeks and then to be free to apply all her strength and that of Austria to defeat and dictate such terms to Russia that the latter Power would ever remain subservient to her aims. The German programme was to have been completed in a few months, but although, owing to her treacherous violation of the neutrality of Belgium which she was bound by Treaty to respect, Germany still retains possession of the greater part of Belgium, a considerable part of Northern France, and a large slice of Russia, her plans have miscarried, and she is now further than ever from the attainment of her aims. We can feel nothing but admiration for the magnificent courage and tenacity with which, in spite of their shortage of arms and munitions, our Russian allies have met the sledge hammer strokes of Germany, and thanks to the remarkable strategy of the Russian commanders, have maintained their armies intact while dealing smashing counter-strokes to the German offensive. It is clear that such tactics must inevitably hasten the end by the exhaustion of the enemy. The deciding factor in this war will, however, be proved in the end to have been England's sea-power which has already cost Germany the loss of her Colonies, the destruction of her trade, the ruin of her finances and severe economic pressure. In the meantime Germany is hemmed in by land and sea; she has succeeded so far in keeping the German soil free from the invader, but time is against her. While the forces of the allies have increased by millions, and their shortage of arms and munitions is being made good by the factories and workshops of the whole world, whose supplies under the protection of the British Navy pass almost unmolested over the waterways of the wide seas, the enemy is fighting in diminishing numbers, with decreasing material, and with ever-growing financial and economic difficulties. During all this time Belgium

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hangs like a millstone round the neck of Germany, for she knows that not one of the Powers who have taken up arms and are making huge sacrifices in blood and treasure for the triumph of right over might and of truth over treachery, will ever sheathe the sword so long as a single German soldier remains on the outraged soil of Belgium. The breach of all accepted international obligations and conventions in war, and the cruel and barbarous treatment of helpless people by German soldiery have hardened the hearts of all, and have steeled the determination of the allies to crush for ever the arrogant pride of a nation whose avowed aim is the downfall of civilisation and the negation of liberty. The struggle may still be long and arduous, but in a few months' time the end should be in sight.

In India tranquillity has prevailed, and measures taken under the Defence Act have succeeded in restoring order in the Punjab which had been disturbed during the course of last cold weather by the return of emigrants from Canada and the United States imbued with revolutionary ideas. The powers granted under the Defence of India Act have been used with great care and discrimination by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and there is every reason to believe that the loyal people of the Punjab have been thoroughly satisfied with the working of the Special Tribunals under the Act. I wish at the same time to express my appreciation of the loyal attitude of the people of the Punjab in the assistance they have readily given to the police in hunting down these dangerous desperadoes, and my admiration of the fearless and courageous devotion to duty of all ranks of the Punjab police.

On the frontier I regret to say that our posts have been repeatedly attacked by large bodies of ignorant and fanatical tribesmen from tribal territory, but in each

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case they have been successfully driven back with considerable losses, and at the cost of a few lives amongst our own soldiers. I always regret such useless waste of the precious lives of our soldiers at the hands of these hordes of barbarous tribesmen. Nothing could have been more staunch and loyal than the attitude of our own tribesmen living within our border.

The Amir of Afghanistan has, from the beginning of the war, observed an attitude of strict neutrality, and I have every reason to believe that it will be rigidly maintained.

In Persia the situation leaves much to be desired. Roving bands of Germans and Austrians armed with rifles and machine-guns have been wandering throughout the country trying to stir up trouble, and, as in the case with Turkey, to provoke Persia to take hostile action against the allies. Only recently, thanks to the encouragement of German agents, two British officers and an Indian soldier were ambushed and killed by tribesmen near Bushire, and the British Consul at Ispahan was fired at and slightly grazed by a bullet, while his Indian orderly was killed. Owing to the insecurity in Bushire and the danger to life and property in that port, our troops are in occupation of the city, and, with the consent of the Persian Government, will remain there until steps have been taken by the latter to restore internal peace and order. We trust that such steps may not be long deferred.

I wish now to refer to a personal matter. I am aware of the appeal that you made to the Secretary of State for an extension of the term of my office, and I am equally well aware that your appeal received support from influential meetings held all over India. As I told you in Council on the 25th March, the decision in such a matter did not rest with me, but you knew, as His

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Majesty's Government knew, that I was ready and willing, as I ever am, to do whatever the King-Emperor and His Majesty's Government might wish me to do for the good of the Empire and of India. In such a case no personal considerations could have any weight, and I would gladly obey any behest of the King and His Government so long as I enjoyed health and strength to carry it out. When I was asked by the Prime Minister, with the King's approval, if I would consent to remain in India till the end of next March I readily agreed, and I was fortified in this decision by the knowledge that in doing so I was meeting the wishes of the people of India, and thus making some slight but inadequate return to them for the overwhelming sympathy and affection that I and mine have always received from them.

Moreover, in these critical times it is a source of happiness to me to be able to do anything however small to help the Empire, and especially if, in so doing, I can also help India, in whose people I have implicit confidence and trust. There has, I believe, been some disappointment that the term of extension was not longer, but I ask you to believe, as I do myself, that in this the British Government know best, and that their decision has been actuated by what they believe to be the best interests of India. We can only hope and trust that by next spring this horrible war may be over, or at least in its closing phase.

Now, after this personal explanation, I wish to address a few words to you, my friends, and colleagues of the past three years. Nobody can look back upon the past fourteen months of war and the part that India has played in it with greater pride than I do, and nobody can be more appreciative than I am of the deep-seated patriotism and whole-hearted loyalty of the people of India, which will ever shine forth as a beacon to the

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future and illumine the history of this land. But as the war progresses, its pressure will naturally be felt more and more, and, although the final result is beyond question, there may be phases of anxiety and depression in store for us in the future. When these times come, if they do come, we must show the world that India is united, that the blood of Englishmen and Indians has not been shed and intermingled on the battlefield in vain, that all attempts to create trouble and sedition in this land are vain and fruitless, and in this task I confidently count on your assistance and the co-operation of the people in preserving the fair fame of India, that I prize so highly, untarnished to the end.

It is a source of real pleasure to me to feel that to-day is not a day of farewell between us, and that, like me, you also have received an extension of your term of office. I shall consequently look forward with pleasurable anticipation to meeting you all again in Delhi in February.

I should like to take this opportunity of making a statement on the business of the Delhi session, and the approximate date on which the Legislative Council will meet in the cold weather. If the war continues, it is the intention of Government during the coming Delhi session to follow the principle accepted this year and to postpone, as far as possible, all controversial legislation, save such as is of such an emergent nature as to make such a course impracticable. I received great assistance from Hon'ble Members this year in avoiding controversial business, and I have no doubt that my Government will receive the same consideration at your hands in the coming winter session.

As to the date on which the Council will meet, you will remember that this year the session began on the 12th January and the Council was then adjourned until the 23rd of February. Considerable personal inconvenience and expense was caused to Additional Members

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by this procedure; many Members returned home immediately after the first meeting, and did not return to Delhi until the end of February. Others, who had come from great distances, were unable to return to their own provinces in the interval and were detained for six weeks at Delhi to no purpose. Incidentally also, this adjournment involved considerable unnecessary expense to Government, and in the case of official Members some dislocation of provincial arrangements. These disadvantages are unavoidable in an ordinary year when a full session is held, and are more than compensated for by the full discussion of important Bills and resolutions. The circumstances, during the next session, will, however, be exceptional, as no controversial business will be transacted, and I do not think that any useful purpose will be served by my summoning the Council to meet in January and then postponing future meetings until late in February as was done this year. I propose therefore unless some unforeseen occasion arises not to have any meeting of the Legislative Council in the coming cold weather until the middle of February. The exact date will be notified to you later, and will necessarily depend on the amount of legislation that is undertaken. For it must be remembered that the careful examination of details of non-controversial legislation takes a considerable time. I trust that you will understand that, in taking this course, I am actuated solely by the desire to avoid personal inconvenience to Members and unnecessary dislocation of business. Further, to allay any idea that this procedure may, in future years, be regarded as a precedent for postponing the opening meeting of the cold weather session, I may add that there are no grounds for such a misapprehension; my Government is fully aware of the great advantages which are secured by the full discussion of public questions in this Council and has no intention or wish to curtail the cold weather session in

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normal times. The procedure, which I propose to adopt for the coming session, is an exceptional procedure adopted in exceptional circumstances.

When we reassemble for the cold weather session in Delhi, my Council will, to my regret, have lost its two senior Members in Sir Harcourt Butler and Sir Ali Imam, and this Council will have lost its Vice-President. It is hardly necessary for me to expatiate at length on the great services rendered by Sir Harcourt Butler to education and sanitation during his tenure of office as Member for Education. The immense development of education and sanitation that has taken place during the past five years and the skill with which he has piloted through all its stages, the Hindu University Bill that has just been passed and other educational measures speak for themselves. He is now about to undertake the government of an important province of the Indian Empire, and I am sure that he will achieve the success that we all wish him.

As for Sir Ali Imam, I can only speak of him as a colleague imbued with the highest sense of duty, patriotism and loyalty. Not only by his actual service as head of the Legislative Department, but also by his constant helpfulness and loyal but straightforward advice he has been of the utmost advantage and assistance to me and my Government. Now that he will be retiring into private life, we wish him all success and happiness.

One word more before I close. This is, also to my regret, the last occasion when we shall have the pleasure of seeing our friend Sir William Vincent sitting at that table in front of us. I feel sure that I am only giving very inadequate expression to the feelings of myself and this Council when I say how warmly we all appreciate the tact, ability and unfailing courtesy with which he has always performed his duties as Secretary of the Legislative Council. We shall miss his genial and friendly

Farewell dinner to the Hon'ble Sir Harcourt Butler, K.C.S.I.

presence next February, but our loss is the gain of the Province of Bihar and Orissa, where I am quite sure that he will fulfil his new duties with the same satisfaction to all as he has performed his old. We all wish him every success.

I now declare this session closed.

FAREWELL DINNER TO THE HON'BLE SIR HARCOURT BUTLER, K.C.S.I.

5th Oct. [At a farewell dinner to Sir Harcourt Butler, Education Member
1915. of the Viceroy's Council and Lieutenant-Governor-elect of Burma, His Excellency the Viceroy made the following remarks :—]

Gentlemen,—I have asked you to come here to-night to meet our good friend and my colleague Sir H. Butler before he takes wing to the new sphere of activity that is now awaiting him. He is the fifth of my fellow workers that has left me since I first came to India, and in the natural sequence of events more are to follow during the next few months, till my turn also arrives to disappear below the horizon.

This is a friendly and informal gathering and I do not propose to review Sir H. Butler's official career, but I cannot let this opportunity pass without thanking him warmly for the very great help and assistance he has been to me not only as the creator and head of the Department of Education and Sanitation, but also as a colleague and adviser in the many momentous questions that have had to be decided during the past 5 years.

When we have agreed his support has been of the utmost value and when we have differed, which was seldom, we have done so in all friendship and amity.

The loss of Sir H. Butler is not mine alone, for the whole of Simla and Delhi will miss his genial presence and generous hospitality. Those of us who have had the

Farewell dinner to the Hon'ble Sir Harcourt Butler, K.C.S.I.

privilege of hearing Sir Harcourt's voice upraised in Harrow School songs, and in his inimitable rendering of Tosti's "Good-bye" will realise I am sure that the silence in Simla of those melodious strains will betoken a loss to Simla in cheery good fellowship that it will be very difficult to replace.

And I may say the same of Delhi, for when we first went to the new Capital three years ago and found ourselves rather lost in our new surroundings it was Sir Harcourt who pulled us all together by creating the Club that is now a flourishing institution and by arranging races, polo tournaments, horse-shows and even a pack of hounds. My brain whirls at the thought of what Sir Harcourt might not have provided us with at Delhi had this unfortunate war not broken out, and I should not have been surprised if his thoughts had even turned to a casino as an Educational measure with leaving certificates to the most proficient proceeding to Europe or Monte Carlo. But all this is now in the limbo of the past.

It is a matter of great regret to all of us that Lady Butler is not here to-night, and still more so that the cause of her absence is due to the fact of her being far from well. We all know how hard she worked in the months before she went home at providing comforts for our soldiers, and I fear that her strenuous efforts in this direction were largely responsible for her temporary breakdown in health. We all hope that she may soon recover completely and return to her husband's side to adorn the high position to which he has been appointed.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you all to drink to the health of Sir Harcourt and Lady Butler wishing them both health, happiness and success in Burma.

DINNER AT UNITED SERVICE CLUB, SIMLA.

8th Oct. [The United Service Club had the honour of entertaining the
1915. Viceroy at dinner on the night of the 8th October, when there was a large gathering of members, including all the principal civil and military officers in Simla, some 115 covers being laid.

Proposing the toast of the guest of the evening, Major-General Bunbury said :—

"Gentlemen,—It falls to me as President of our Club to have the honour of proposing to you the health of our illustrious guest, Lord Hardinge. Although His Excellency's term of office will not expire until next March, he has done us the honour of dining here to-night as it is unlikely that we shall have the pleasure of seeing him at Simla next season. It is, perhaps, premature to bid him a final farewell, but good wishes for welfare are never out of season, and these I feel confident that I may express on your behalf, with the assurance that when the time does come for His Excellency's departure from India he will carry with him our best wishes for the successful continuation of his distinguished career.

"Many decades have past since last a Viceroy was called on to pilot the good ship India through such troubled waters as those which have beset her course during the last five years, more especially of late, when that course has lain between the Scylla of external and the Charybdis of internal trouble, and when in steering clear of the rocks of anarchy and evading the submarine attacks of sedition, it has at the same time been difficult to avoid drifting on to the attractive but dangerous leeshore of misplaced leniency. The end of the voyage is not yet. There may be breakers ahead and storms to be weathered, but whatever comes the confidence of passengers and crew in the skill and courage of the master will remain unshaken.

"It is not for me to recapitulate the benefits which Lord Hardinge's administration has conferred on India. Tongues more skilled than that of a mere soldier have already begun to sound their parting panegyrics. We may leave the summing up and verdict to the pen of the historian, in the full assurance that our distinguished guest need not fear the finding.

"I feel, Gentlemen, that before I give you the toast of the evening you would wish me to voice our gratitude for the gracious hospitality so often extended to us by Lord Hardinge, and also to express our respectful sympathy with one who has so bravely borne 'the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,' ever living up to the motto of his house '*Mene aqua rebus in arduis*.'

Dinner at United Service Club, Simla.

"And now, Gentlemen, as I am only an *hors d'œuvre*, a dish not meant to satisfy but merely to stimulate the appetite for good things to follow, I will not exercise your patience any longer. I beg leave to propose the health of His Excellency Lord Hardinge."

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

General Bunbury and Gentlemen of the United Service Club,—I cannot thank you sufficiently for the great compliment that you have paid me in inviting me to dine with you here to-night, and for the friendly cordiality with which you have received the toast of my health. Nor can I adequately express my appreciation of the very kind words in which you, General, have referred to me and my poor efforts in these troublous times.

In responding to this toast I realise that, were I to follow in the footsteps of some of my illustrious predecessors I would seize the occasion to review the more salient events of the past five years, and in fact it has been hinted in some papers that such a deliverance was expected of me. But, if such are the expectations of any here, I am afraid I am going to disappoint them, for as your President has justly remarked this is not my final farewell to many of you whom I see around me this evening, and glad I am that this is so. Consequently, what I may say to night can hardly be regarded as my swan song, since six months will still remain before my final extinction.

These are exceptional times in which we are living, and on such an occasion as the present when we should present to the world an united front, any controversial topic would be unseemly and out of place. You will therefore excuse me from making any allusions to questions of a purely political character. This naturally reduces the field of discussion and makes it more difficult to find suitable material for my speech, since even the Simla Town Hall, upon which an illustrious predecessor

Dinner at United Service Club, Simla.

of mine waxed eloquent in a farewell speech, has disappeared, without the assistance of the earthquake that he longed for, from the horizon upon which he described it as a gaunt and graceless protuberance, and no other has taken its place to serve as an object for eloquence to-night.

I should like, however, to take this opportunity to pay a warm and grateful tribute to all the civil and military officers who have been my help and mainstay in governing this country during the past five years. No words of mine can adequately express my appreciation of, and gratitude for, the services that they have rendered to me and my Government from the very highest to the lowest ranks.

In my Council I have been fortunate in having coadjutors who have loyally assisted me in the many difficult problems that have arisen and that are still before us. It is they who are responsible for the administration of the great departments of Government and share with me the burden of the Indian Empire, for which I am responsible to our Sovereign and his Government. It would be almost ludicrous to suggest that we have never had differences of opinion; there are among us diversities of gifts, diversities of training, diversities of temperament. I have sometimes thought one or other of them wrong, and one or other of them has probably at one time or another thought me very wrong indeed, and I am sure they constantly think one another wrong, but I have always regarded such differences of opinion, based as they are on a sincere and earnest desire to serve the best interests of our King and this great country, as a valuable indication of independence of thought and character, which helps to mould opinion without in any way interfering with the friendly relations that have always existed between us. Some changes have taken place and others are imminent in my Council, but I am confident

Dinner at United Services Club, Simla.

that the happy traditions of the past five years will be fully maintained.

Nor should I omit to mention, on an occasion such as this, the valuable assistance and co-operation that I have invariably received from the very distinguished body of men who are Governors, Lieutenant-Governors and Chief Commissioners of Provinces. They, each in their own degree, have their local problems to deal with, and their task has been one of difficulty during the past year of war. Although I trust that it may not be thought invidious on my part to refer to any in particular amongst such a capable body of men who have rendered loyal assistance to me and my Government during these past years, I feel that I must bestow my meed of unstinted praise on our friend, Sir Michael O'Dwyer, the distinguished Lieutenant-Governor of this Province, whom I am glad to meet here to-night. It is to his quick sympathy, balanced judgment, courage and vigilance with which he dealt with a critical situation last spring that the Punjab has the peace and tranquillity that she now enjoys. Nor should I fail to refer to the very valuable services rendered on the frontier by that remarkable and very capable man, Sir George Roos-Keppel, who, with the assistance of the military authorities, and even with diminished resources, has succeeded in holding our frontier inviolate against repeated attacks by barbarous and fanatical hordes of tribesmen, and has kept the flag flying on every frontier post, while maintaining peace and order within our border. I feel that I am fortunate in having at hand, during a crisis like the present, two such men as Sir Michael O'Dwyer and Sir George Roos-Keppel.

I think all will admit that the difficulties of administration in India are increasing year by year, and the utmost possible credit is due to that great body of civil

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servants who, many of them unknown to fame, and many under the most trying conditions of climate and surroundings, carry on their onerous duties, bearing unselfishly and without complaint the burden and heat of the day, and just do their duty. These are men for whom I have great respect and sympathy. And I speak not only of the Indian Civil Service, but of the members of the Departments of Public Works, Education, Police, Forest and all the other great services that help to make the wheels of this Empire run smoothly. It has been my good fortune to meet, and my privilege to make friends with, a select few who have risen to eminence in their service, and in the Secretaries to Government and other high officials, many of whom I see here to-night, I feel that I have been surrounded with an extremely able body of men who have never spared themselves to assist the Government of India, and that with such young men gaining years and experience, we need have no qualms as to the higher offices of Government being filled by officers of ability and distinction in the years to come. If I have ever been wanting in the outward expression of the gratitude that I feel, let me make amends at this table, and assure them that, without their loyal assistance, I could not have faced the labours of the past five years. And having told you who represent them here how greatly I appreciate the ability and devotion to duty of the Civil Services, may I also say what is in my heart regarding the future? England has instilled into this country the culture and civilisation of the West with all its ideals of liberty and self-respect. It is not enough for her now to consider only the material outlook of India; it is necessary for her to cherish the aspirations of which she has herself sown the seed, and English officials are gradually awakening to the fact that, high as were the aims and remarkable the achieve-

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ments of their predecessors, a still nobler task lies before them in the present and the future, in guiding the uncertain and faltering steps of Indian development along sure and safe paths. The new rôle of guide, philosopher and friend is opening before you, and it is worthy of your greatest efforts. It requires in you gifts of imagination and sympathy and imposes upon you self-sacrifice, for it means that, slowly but surely, you must divest yourselves of some of the power you have hitherto wielded. Let it be realised that, great as has been England's mission in the past, she has a far more glorious task to fulfil in the future, in encouraging and guiding the political self-development of the people. The goal to which India may attain is still distant, and there may be many vicissitudes in her path, but I look forward with confidence to a time when, strengthened by character and self-respect, and bound by ties of affection and gratitude, India may be regarded as a true friend of the Empire, and not merely as a trusty dependent. The day for the complete fulfilment of this ideal is not yet, but it is to this distant vista that the British official should turn his eyes, and he must grasp the fact that it is by his future success in this direction that British prestige and efficiency will be judged.

I will now say a few words about that very distinguished branch of the Public Service, the Army.

When I first read the warrant of my appointment as Governor-General of India it was with some surprise that I found that my office carried with it the position of Head of the Military Forces in the East Indies. I confess that this gave me pleasure, as I belong to a family of soldiers and sailors almost without exception, and had I not been plucked at the age of 12, as an ill-grown weed, and medically unfit for the Navy, I should probably

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have been by now a dyspeptic Admiral or retired Captain. However, a benevolent Providence willed otherwise, and since my arrival in India I have always taken the greatest possible interest in all that could concern the efficiency and welfare of the Army in India. I need not refer here to the discussions that preceded the appointment of the Army in India Committee in 1912. The report of this Committee was completed in 1913, and shortly afterwards, much to my regret, the health of the late Commander-in-Chief broke down. When I foresaw the impending retirement of Sir O'Moore Creagh, and realised how difficult it would be to carry out the recommendations of Lord Nicholson's Committee, I impressed upon the authorities at home the urgent necessity for the appointment of the very best military administrator that could be found in the British or Indian Armies in the person of my friend General Sir Beauchamp Duff. The news of his appointment came to me as really good news, but, since the outbreak of this war, how still more thankful I have been that I have at my righthand, in command of all the forces in India, such an able, loyal and devoted public servant as the Commander-in-Chief in India. Nobody knows so well as I the immense services that he has rendered to the Empire in the equipment and organisation on an unparalleled scale of the Indian forces that he has despatched to three of the four continents of the world, the immense quantities of rifles, guns, ammunition and war material of every kind that he has supplied, and all this without a hitch of any kind, while the uninterrupted success of our arms in Mesopotamia, the only campaign in progress under the direct control of the Commander-in-Chief, speaks volumes for His Excellency and for the officers acting under his orders. It is clear to me that, when this terrible war is over, the whole of the military organisation of the Indian Army

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will have to be reconsidered in the light of practical experience gained during this war in order to still further increase its efficiency, and, when that moment arrives, I shall congratulate the Government of India on having so experienced and capable a Commander-in-Chief to carry out that most difficult task.

* In all his work Sir Beauchamp has had the devoted help and co-operation of the capable and distinguished officers of the Head-Quarter Staff and of the Army Department whose work is extremely heavy and unceasing.

No body of men could have had more arduous and responsible work to do during the critical times through which we are passing. Sir Beauchamp Duff knew and I knew that their loyal and whole-hearted assistance could be absolutely relied on, and I think Sir Beauchamp will be the first to declare how much we owe to the ability and hard work of the distinguished soldiers he has about him.

Troubles there have been and these are likely to continue. I need hardly remind those assembled here of the succession of serious actions on our frontier since the outbreak of war. Let me take this opportunity of congratulating all concerned upon the skill and gallantry with which they have been conducted. Those who have taken part in them have been fighting the Empire's battles every whit as much as those who have laid down their lives on the bloody fields of Flanders or the Dardanelles.

To those of you whom duty has retained here, let me say this. It may be that you personally have not taken part in any military operations, but the brains and organisation that have enabled them to be brought to a successful conclusion are to be found at head-quarters,

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and if you will consider the enormous mass of work that has been accomplished in sending troops to the various fronts, and keeping them supplied, and then, after India had been depleted of troops, in reorganising what was left for that defence that has been so wonderfully thought out and carried into execution, I do not think you have any real cause to be down-hearted. Your post may not have been one of danger, and may have lacked the glamour of military glory, but you can hold up your heads with the best of your more fortunate brothers. Whether you be regimental or staff officers, you have as a body the right to take pride in the thought that you have been parts of the splendid machine that has enabled us to give help to the Empire in Flanders at a time when every trained soldier was a treasure beyond price, and not only in Flanders, but also in Egypt, the Dardanelles, Africa, China, Aden, and not least in Mesopotamia, where our gallant troops have faced and defeated a courageous foe, and have shown courage and endurance to bear the hardships and discomforts of a torrid climate such as it is almost impossible to imagine or describe.

Before leaving military subjects I should like to read you a quotation from a letter that I received about a month ago from General Willcocks, dealing with another aspect of our Indian troops that may not be so well known. He writes—"I am glad you think they have done their share, and after 37 years' service, mostly in India, I feel your decision to send a corps here has resulted in firmly establishing the fact that India is not only a possession of, but a tower of, strength to England.

"The discipline of this corps has been above reproach; they have behaved like gentlemen, and the French and British both know it well. If they had done nothing else, they would still leave Europe with a clean sheet as citizens of the Empire."

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These are words that are good to hear.

Now let me say a word or two upon another theme which has made a deep impression upon me during the few years that I have spent in India. Long before this war broke out I was profoundly impressed by the hard life that is so often the lot of the wife of the British officer or official in India. How often is the young bride, fresh from her country home in England, compelled for various reasons to spend, year after year, and without the companions and comforts to which she has been accustomed, the hot weather in the plains, when the house is hermetically closed for more than half the day to keep out the heat, and where there is neither ice nor electric fans to cool the overheated atmosphere. Then when her children are but a few years old she has to make the cruel choice of leaving her husband or her children, and to spend a life which, in any case, must be a life of yearning and tears for the absent, and often in straitened circumstances. It is a true saying that the British Empire in India has been built up on tears, for tears are the inevitable lot of wives, mothers and children of those serving in India. To me the bravery of the English wives and mothers in India is an unceasing wonder, that has only been increased since the outbreak of this war, by their complete absence of panic amidst surroundings of panic-mongers, by their uncomplaining surrender of their best and dearest to their country's claims, and by their silent separation and departure elsewhere. When I read, as I have sometimes read in the English press, that English women in India are frivolous and think only of amusement, I grow fairly indignant, for although it may have been the fashion in the past for certain journals to write of Simla as an abode of frivolity and the home of scandal, I can honestly say that, during the five summers that I have spent here, I

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have never seen or heard of any but the most harmless and healthy amusements, nor has the breath of scandal ever reached my ears. And what is Simla now? You have only to go to the work rooms to see the true spirit of the women of England in India, devoting their whole time and energy to making, receiving, and despatching necessaries and comforts for our brave troops at the various fronts. And I have good reason to believe that the same is to be found in almost every big and small town in India, and it should not be forgotten that, without the unselfish efforts of these ladies, our troops would not be provided with many comforts which they now enjoy, and which it is not the business of the military authorities to provide.

At the same time I should like to draw attention to the splendid work and co-operation of the Indian ladies in the despatch of comforts to our troops. I have myself been a witness of their unselfish and tireless work in Bombay, and I believe, and in fact know, that the same energy and devotion to the welfare and comfort of our soldiers is being shown by the Indian ladies of Madras, Calcutta and elsewhere. As the Head of the Government and of the Army I am deeply grateful to them.

You have referred, General Bunbury, in sympathetic terms to the difficult times that have been my lot and to the personal sorrows that have been my fate. Well, it has been hard, very hard, but the thought of duty and the hope that I might still be able to do something for India have helped me through, and given me fortitude to bear the strain. Although the Ship of State has so far made good weather, and land is already in sight, I, the pilot, know that there may still be hidden shoals to be navigated and further storms to be encountered before the good Ship of State arrives safely in port to be re-commissioned by my successor. I am confident that,

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with the help and goodwill of British and Indians alike, the good ship will safely and surely make the port.

* And now I feel that I have already detained you all too long, and in thanking you again for your kind hospitality to me this evening, I will only say that, when I return to my old home at Penshurst, and look again upon the Simla deodars and rhododendrons that were brought home and planted by my grandfather, my many happy memories of Simla will remain as fresh and green as they, and amongst these one of the happiest will be our gathering here this evening.

FAREWELL ADDRESS FROM THE SIMLA MUNICIPALITY.

[The Simla Municipality presented a farewell address to His Excellency the Viceroy in the ball room at Viceroyal Lodge on the 14th October 1915. All the members of the Committee were present. The address, which was beautifully illuminated and enclosed in a silver casket, was read by the President of the Committee—Colonel Burton—and was as follows :—

14th Oct.
1915.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the President and Members of the Municipal Committee of Simla, desire to address Your Excellency upon the approaching termination of the high office which you have filled with such great distinction and to express our sincere regret at your impending departure from our midst.

Four and a half years have passed since we had the privilege of welcoming Your Excellency to Simla and we can now look back with gratitude to the liberal assistance which the Municipality has received at your hands. The improvements which have been carried through would not have been possible, had we not met with your sympathy and support in our schemes, and the unceasing interest taken by Your Excellency in this Hill Capital of India has been responsible for a further programme of improvements which has been submitted to the Secretary of State.

It has been during the period of your Viceroyalty that Simla has been transformed from a town of oil lamps to a town illuminated by electricity; and when, in the future, still further improvements have been effected in the water-supply and sanitation, it will be with grateful hearts that her citizens will remember how much they owe to Your Excellency.

Farewell Address from the Simla Municipality.

This vast Empire of India has prospered in many ways during Your Excellency's tenure of office. Abundant harvests have increased her material prosperity; great sanitary and educational measures for her health of body and mind have been inaugurated, and Simla has benefited in no small measure by the change of Capitals.

A little more than a year ago the British Empire joined with her Allies in Europe and in the East in a life and death struggle against aggressive enemies. Never before has India been called upon for such efforts and for such sacrifice. That call she has willingly obeyed, sending of her best to aid the Empire in its hour of need. And she has cause to be grateful in that, at so critical a period of her history, Your Excellency's term of office has been prolonged, though even for a space, that she may still feel the guiding hand which has led her through the time of peace and prosperity and through a year of this world-wide war.

Examples of fortitude can never fail to draw the hearts of men and we would take this opportunity of humbly expressing our admiration of the great courage shown by Your Excellency in the face of grave and personal danger.

We desire on behalf of all classes of the community to acknowledge Your Excellency's kindly sympathy and generous hospitality extended to the citizens of Simla and to their children, and it is a source of gratification to them that the revered memory of the late Lady Hardinge will always be associated in their hearts with Lady Hardinge's Cottage Homes and with the Children's Annual Fête which she so graciously inaugurated.

In conclusion we would assure Your Excellency of our humble interest in your welfare, and in the sincere hope that Your Excellency may live long in health and prosperity, we bid you a most regretful but hearty farewell.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—One of the first public functions, at which I had the pleasure of being present, after my arrival in Simla in April 1911, was the occasion upon which the members of the Simla Municipal Committee were good enough to present me with a very cordial address of welcome. I am glad to recognise among you to-day the faces of some who were also present on that occasion, and I feel sure that, so long as Simla has citi-

Farewell Address from the Simla Municipality.

zens who are ready to place their time and their experience at her disposal in so unselfish a manner, her Municipal administration will continue to show the steady progress which has marked the last four years. I remember the relief which I felt then at the fact that you did not use the occasion to lay before me weighty questions which I could not solve, or sad complaints which I could not remedy. It is with genuine pleasure that I have heard from you again to-day an address which speaks of achievement and progress rather than of disappointed hopes.

You have generously acknowledged in your address the assistance which you have received from Government in the development of Municipal resources and amenities. For many years both the Government of India and the Government of the Punjab have recognised that the administration of a town, which is the official residence of the Supreme Government in India for a great part of the year, with the natural consequence of a fluctuating and transitory population, presents special difficulties of its own. While the resources of local taxation are strictly limited, at the same time much is expected of Simla if it is to maintain worthily its position among the towns of India and be, as it should be, a model to others in the amenities required by modern conditions. The keen interest felt by Government in the solution of these difficulties has been evinced on more than one occasion by the appointment of Special Committees to investigate the difficult and important questions arising from the expansion and overcrowding of Simla, and to consider the provision of an adequate water-supply and proper sanitation for your rapidly-growing town. The most important and beneficial result of the labours of previous Committees is the Hydro-electric project which, as you state in your address, has now been completed, and as you rightly observe Simla has been transformed from a

Farquell Address from the Simla Municipality.

dark and gloomy town of oil lamps to a well-illuminated town with every electrical appliance. The change indeed is very remarkable and indicates the progressive policy of the Municipality.

The total contributions of Government, towards the improvement of Simla, have in the past been large; but even with these subventions the projects recommended by the two Committees appointed in 1898 and 1907, respectively, have proved insufficient for your requirements. Accordingly, last year, a third Improvement Committee met by order of the Government of India under the presidency of Mr. Ludovic Porter to consider the further measures which should be undertaken to bring the drainage and sanitation of Simla up to date and to reduce the overcrowding of the bazars. The most important recommendations made by this Committee are the acquisition and reconstruction of unsightly and insanitary areas in the bazars, the building of a new suburb to reduce overcrowding in the main part of the town and large extension of the water-supply and sewage systems. In considering this comprehensive but costly programme, the Government of India have fully realised that it is impossible for your Committee to carry out more than a small portion of these improvements from your own resources. They, therefore, propose to submit to the Secretary of State a scheme according to which nearly three-quarters of the sum required will be found by Government. Much of this fresh expenditure cannot, I am afraid, be undertaken until the end of the war and the restoration of normal conditions; but you will, I think, readily admit that, in deciding to contribute so largely to the expansion and development of Simla, Government are justified in retaining in their own hands a considerable measure of control over the expenditure and the execution of the schemes of improvement. It is the intention of Government, therefore, to nominate a

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small official Committee to supervise the conduct of the operations by the special staff which will be appointed to undertake this task in conjunction with your Committee. When all these improvement schemes have been successfully completed, I am confident that Simla, already one of the most beautiful hill stations in India, will be at the same time the most sanitary and up-to-date, and that she will as ever fill worthily the proud position to which she has been called.

It now only remains, Gentlemen, for me to thank you warmly for the very kind terms in which you have referred to my career in India. With the preparations for the Durbar, the visit of the King-Emperor and Queen-Empress, the planning and preparation of the new Capital in Delhi, and the war, the past five years have been very full ones, but, although I fully realise how little I have succeeded in achieving for the welfare of India during those years in comparison with what I have wished, your friendly appreciation of that little gives me a feeling of profound satisfaction and more than compensates me for any disappointment I might have felt at my own shortcomings. It is difficult for me to say all I feel on leaving Simla, where everybody has always been so kind to me and mine, and has shared with me my joys and happiness, and alas! also my sorrows. I have looked forward each year to my return to Simla with a feeling that this was more my home than any other place in India, and I can assure you, Gentlemen, that it has been to me a home, from which I shall part to-morrow with very real regret. I thank you very warmly for your good wishes for my welfare, and I can only assure you that the most happy remembrances of Simla and of her people and children will ever remain with me, and I shall always take a most friendly interest in the development and prosperity of your town. In bidding a regretful farewell to you all, I pray that God may bless Simla and her people.

FAREWELL DINNER TO THE HON'BLE SIR ALI IMAM,
K.C.S.I., AND MONS. NABOKOFF, THE RUSSIAN
CONSUL-GENERAL.

15th Nov. [His Excellency the Viceroy gave a farewell dinner to Sir Ali
1913. Imam, the retiring Legal Member of Council, on the night of the
15th November.

In proposing the health of Sir Ali Imam, His Excellency said :—]

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I think all of us here to-night are personal friends of Sir Ali Imam, and you will not only forgive but approve if I say a few words of farewell to him, as I am afraid this is almost the last occasion when I shall have the pleasure of receiving him as my guest, and many of you, I daresay, will have few opportunities of meeting him in the future. There are now only two left of the members of Council who were in office on or about the time when I assumed the Viceroyalty and of them I think Sir Ali Imam beat Sir William Clark by a short head. One by one they have left me and though others full of vigour, resource and wisdom have taken their places, I confess that it makes me feel rather old to find myself alone with Sir William Clark as the relics of my original Council, though I do not wish to impute to Sir William Clark the same charge of senility, and doubt whether he will share with me that sense of hoary antiquity. But to return to Sir Ali Imam, I want to remind you that in his case the acceptance of the responsibility of office, however honourable his appointment, has involved no small sacrifice. I have never been a successful barrister myself, and however much I tried I do not think I could become one, but I do think it requires some courage to surrender the emoluments of so lucrative a position in order to undertake the onerous duties of a high official, and these considerations attain far greater weight when one has, as has Sir Ali Imam, the career of four or five fine young fellows, his sons, to think of and the provision of the very best possible

*Farewell dinner to the Hon'ble Sir Ali Imam, K.C.S.I., and
Mons. Nabokoff, the Russian Consul-General.*

education for them. Sir Ali Imam is, to my personal knowledge, a devoted father, and from all I can hear of them from my old school Harrow, his sons are worthy of him. But he made the sacrifice I have indicated, and I for one am most grateful to him. To me personally he has constantly given the most helpful advice, and I think our colleagues will bear witness to the great assistance he has rendered to the Council over many difficult and knotty problems. And remember that we have been passing through no ordinary times. The stress of war has brought anxieties in its train to which our predecessors were strangers, and through them all it has been to us of the utmost benefit to know from a distinguished Indian at first hand how the varying aspects of our different problems would strike the mind of various sections of educated India. As a member of my Council, I repeat, the presence of Sir Ali Imam has been an asset of the utmost value, and it was a source of unmitigated satisfaction to me the other day to pay him the greatest possible compliment at my disposal by appointing him Vice-President of my Council in succession to Sir Harcourt Butler.

His tenure of office has coincided too with a great deal of difficult and important work in his own particular department, and our war legislation has attained to a volume of quite respectable dimensions. Many questions of great technicality and difficulty have had to be solved, and it is not only the actual legislation that has been placed upon the statute book but a tremendous variety of problems in which the other departments of the Government of India have found themselves involved that have required the help and guidance of the Legislative Department under the auspices of Sir Ali Imam for their solution.

*Farewell dinner to the Hon'ble Sir Ali Imam, K.C.S.I., and
Mons. Nabokoff, the Russian Consul-General.*

There is one aspect of his career upon which I can imagine that Sir Ali Imam will always congratulate himself. He is not only an imperial patriot and an Indian patriot, but he is also a Bihari patriot, and I believe that it will always be a source of immense pleasure to him to think that he was a member of that Government which had a hand in the raising of his province to the dignity of a separate entity. I understand that he is now going home to see his boys and then coming back to his old profession in Bihar. I am sure that you will all join me in wishing him a very pleasant voyage, a very happy reunion with his sons, and hereafter a happy and successful career in that profession of which he is so distinguished an ornament. Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to join me in the toast of the health of my friend and colleague, Sir Ali Imam.

[Sir Ali Imam, responding, said :—

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I do not think I can ever sufficiently express my gratitude to the Viceroy for the great honour he has done me in inviting me to this farewell dinner and the exceedingly kind and gracious words in which he has proposed my health. I am also very thankful to my friends here who have so warmly responded to the toast. The five years during which I have had the privilege of being associated with His Excellency's Government are replete with the many kindnesses I have received at his hands. The lavish and generous hospitality of Viceregal Lodge has been always extended to me with a cordiality that is impossible to forget, be it in the crush of a great function or the quiet of a private dinner. The pleasing sense of a hearty welcome has been inseparable from an evening spent here. I tender my grateful thanks to His Excellency for all these social amenities so full of friendly feelings. But where can I find words adequately to convey to him all that I feel for the uniform kindness and consideration he has shown to me in helping to make my task as little burdensome as it was possible in the exacting circumstances under which the duties of a member of the Government of India are performed? When I was summoned to the office which I am about to vacate I did not

*Farewell dinner to the Hon'ble Sir Ali Imam, K.C.S.I., and
Mons. Nabokoff, the Russian Consul-General.*

show any signs of senility, nor was the stamp of hoary antiquity traceable in my features. I do not know how far the juvenility of my colleague, Sir William Clark, has been affected by the experiment, but I may say with truth, that although I have not seen my 47th birthday, yet I have become literally grey at the end of my term of office. Perhaps the atmosphere of the Government of India Secretariat is not largely conducive to the retention of one's youth.

His Excellency has made some kind reference to the work of my department during the period I had charge of it. We have endeavoured to do our best, but I should like to mention that the greatest credit for any success that has been achieved is due to Sir William Vincent and my friend, Mr. Muddiman, who I am glad to see is here this evening. The loyalty and devotion with which they have served the department has demonstrated the justice of the claim that when Englishmen and Indians, both of the right sort, that is of the class of good fellows, work together, the sense of subordination of one to the other completely merges into a lofty spirit of comradeship, in which pride in turning out the best possible article is the predominating factor. The circumspect, level-headed, and skilful methods of Sir William, and the great ability and indefatigable industry of Mr. Muddiman have been of incalculable value to me always, and even more so when it has so happened that I have been in disagreement with them, for then the higher quality of supporting the Member with unflinching loyalty has been manifested in a remarkable degree of self-effacement. It is a great pleasure to me to express on the present occasion my sense of grateful appreciation of the very valuable services they have rendered to His Excellency's Government.

In alluding to my patriotic sentiments His Excellency has been good enough to pay me the compliment of calling me an Imperial patriot, an Indian patriot, and a patriot of my native province of Bihar and Orissa. I consider it a great honour to be so described by the Viceroy, for ever since I entered into the public life of India I have set up one political ideal before my people. That ideal is embodied in loyalty to the Sovereign, pride in the Empire and love of country. It is an ideal that fascinates me; an ideal to which I have devoted more than two decades of my life, and to which will be consecrated whatever is left of the proverbial span.

When His Excellency's predecessor, the late Lord Minto, invited me to take the membership of Law in his Government, there were no less than five objections to my doing so. These five objections

*Farewell dinner to the Hon'ble Sir Ali Imam, K.C.S.I., and
Mons. Nabokoff, the Russian Consul-General.*

were my five sons, of whom His Excellency has made such kindly mention. Every father who has sons at expensive public schools and colleges in England knows the strength of such objections. Harrow and Trinity College, Cambridge, have their associations for His Excellency, whose honoured name is on the rolls of these institutions. I am glad, therefore, to say that three of my sons and a nephew are Harrow boys, of whom two have already joined Trinity. The objections, however valid, were not allowed to prevail, and I had to respond to the call of duty by surrendering the brief bag for the portfolio. May I say that I have never for a moment regretted the decision. My coming here did not only give me an opportunity to render what little service I could to my country, but it gave me what I prize most, and that is to have had the pleasure and the privilege of serving under Lord Hardinge of Penshurst.

The five years of his Viceroyalty are crowned with great and epoch-making events, unprecedented in the history of British rule in India. This is not the occasion to pass them in review. But of one thing I am certain, and that is as to what the verdict of the historian will be on his rule. His Excellency has won the love and affection of the people of India in a measure the like of which was never known in this country before. A just recognition on his part of their legitimate aspirations, coupled with active sympathy in giving practical effect to them, has opened a new chapter in the administration of this country. People have come to realise that the nobler aspects of the British connection with India are living principles, and that His Excellency has given the lead in governing Indians in keeping with their wishes and sentiments. His Viceroyalty stands out as a landmark in the political self-development of India, and has heralded the dawn of a new life in the country. She stands at present identified in sentiment with England, and that is due to the indomitable courage and far-sighted statesmanship of the greatest Viceroy that has come to rule her. If proof were needed of his hold on the affections of the people it would be sufficient to say that in the terrible crisis through which the Empire is passing his confidence in the love of the Indian for him was so great that he successfully pressed upon His Majesty's Government the acceptance of the contribution of the largest expeditionary force that has gone to the front from any part of the British Empire excepting the Mother Country. This material reduction of the military strength in India, at a time like this, is the highest compliment that His Excellency could pay to my country and her people.

*Farewell dinner to the Hon'ble Sir Ali Imam, K.C.S.I., and
Mons. Nabokoff, the Russian Consul-General.*

Events have proved that the compliment was well deserved. It is my conviction that the love of the people of India for His Excellency is worth more than many an army corps. No Viceroy before had a more difficult and trying time, and none certainly rose to such great height as he has. His Excellency has referred in far too flattering terms to such assistance as I have been able to give, but, grateful as I am for all that he said, I cannot conceal from myself the fact that my usefulness, if any, could not have been of much appreciable value if the inspiration, encouragement, and guidance had not come from himself. The unprecedented honour of an Indian being appointed Vice-President of the Governor General's Council is unique, but high as the rank is, and proud as I am of holding it, my sense of extreme thankfulness to the Viceroy cannot but be further enhanced by the consideration that is a mark of confidence which was in the personal gift of His Excellency to bestow.

My Lord, I shall soon be reverting to non-official life. The Bar is the old love that draws me, and I am glad to say that my second career in the profession will reopen in my own province, to which I am passionately attached. The new Bihar is of Your Lordship's creation, and I feel some pride in that I assisted at its birth. It pulsates now with the life you have given it, and it will be my earnest and devoted care in however humble a sphere to help the growth and the development of the child in a manner befitting its paternity and high lineage.

My Lord, I thank you once again for the numerous kindnesses you have showered upon me. In bidding you good-bye, there is a wrong that I feel far more than I can express, but I go away perfectly happy in the thought that I had the privilege for a full five years to be a colleague of the greatest of Viceroys. May I also add that the satisfaction is all the more intense for my having enjoyed during this period the confidence and friendship, not only of India's greatest Viceroy, but a great English Gentleman. My Lord, I take away with me imperishable memories and recollections that will ever remain green in a grateful heart.]

THE RUSSIAN CONSUL.

[His Excellency subsequently proposed the health of Mr. Nabokoff in the followings words:—]

Ladies and Gentlemen,—Before we break up there is one other toast that I wish to propose in honour of a guest

Unveiling Statue of late Maharaja Sri Lall Singhji of Bikaner.

who will also be leaving us shortly. I refer to M. Nabokoff, Consul-General for Russia in India. I have known the time when the Russian Consul-General in India was looked upon with suspicion by the Government of India, and by the Foreign Office at home. Happily those days are now over, and we welcome in our midst the representative of that great nation with whom Great Britain is happily in alliance at the present time. I am sure that I only echo the feelings of all here when I say with what intense admiration we have watched the heroic struggle and splendid bravery of the gallant Russian troops on the Eastern Front, and how we rejoice at the recent Russian successes, which mark the turn of the tide. I have known M. Nabokoff for many years, and I only state the truth when I say that by his friendliness and invariable amiability he has achieved for himself an unique position in India, which may well be the envy of his colleagues. He is shortly going to the Embassy in London, where many of us may hope to meet him again. He will be greatly missed in India, but he will carry away with him the good wishes of us all. Ladies and Gentlemen, I propose the health of M. Nabokoff.

UNVEILING STATUE OF LATE MAHARAJA SRI LALL
SINGHJI OF BIKANER.

24th Nov. [His Excellency the Viceroy unveiled the statue of the late
1915. Maharaja at Bikaner on the 20th November. In asking the Viceroy to do so, His Highness the Maharaja said :—

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I beg to tender my heartfelt thanks to Your Excellency for the honour you are doing to the memory of my beloved and lamented father, Maharaja Sri Lall Singhji Bahadur, by unveiling his statue this morning. No one with a sense of filial duty can help feeling proud, as I do at the present moment, of the fact that the ceremony is about to be performed by the illustrious representative in India of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor, and the pleasure is still further enhanced

Unveiling Statue of late Maharaja Sri Lal Singhji of Bikaner.

when the representative is one who will leave his name stamped on the history of India as one of the noblest, greatest, and most courageous of her Viceroys, and as a staunch and sympathetic friend of the Ruling Princes and their States, a Viceroy who is regarded by every class and community throughout the country with feelings of the deepest gratitude and affection.

This sense of honour and pleasure is shared with me not only by the members of my family, but by my Sirdars and people as well, whilst to me personally, who has had the privilege of enjoying Your Excellency's friendship, and who has received much kindness and hospitality at your hands ever since your arrival in India, the fact of your presiding at to-day's function is a cause of very special gratification. Not only as the son of my father, but as one conversant with all shades of public opinion in the State, I can say without fear of contradiction that as stated in the inscription of the canopy, the late Maharaja Sri Lal Singhji Bahadur is ever remembered for his piety and wisdom, nobility of mind, and generosity of heart, and that his honesty of purpose and kindness of disposition endeared him to all with whom he came in contact.

Although I was only seven years of age at the time when it pleased Providence to call him away, my recollections of those early years are still abundantly enriched by his fatherly love and solicitude, whilst to his elder son, his late Highness Maharaja Sri Dungar Singhji Bahadur, he was a very real guide, philosopher and friend, in spite of the fact that in his later years failing health prevented him from actively continuing his great work in the State as President of the Council. Ever maintaining the best traditions of the Rajput race by his unfailing courtesy, fond of a quiet and simple life, yet always dignified and chivalrous, and of a strong personality and commanding as he did the confidence and respect of all alike, he was rightly and popularly acclaimed as the Shield of the State. Both his sons, his late Highness and myself, having been adopted out of his immediate family, I consented during the lifetime of my late mother to the adoption of my second son Maharaj Bijoy Singh, as the son and successor of the late Maharaja Sahib, in order with the blessings of the Almighty to perpetuate his line, and the Lalgarh Palace was named after him 14 years ago. But no son in his great gratitude and reverence can do too much in this world to perpetuate the memory of a father such as mine, and when in response to popular feeling it was settled to erect a statue and fine canopy in honour of his late Highness, I also

Unveiling Statue of late Maharaja Sri Lall Singhji of Bikaner.

decided that this statue and canopy would be the most fitting complement to the Lallgarh Palace.

I would now beg Your Excellency to be kind enough to unveil the statue of the late Maharaj Sri Lall Singhji Bahadur.

His Excellency spoke as follows :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have now had the honour of knowing His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner personally for almost exactly five years, for he and the Maharaja Scindia were guests of Lord Minto when I first arrived at Calcutta, and continued to stay on as my own guests. In that period I have known him in various capacities, as my guest, as host, as a devoted father, as a wise ruler, as a keen soldier, as a fine sportsman, as a sagacious adviser and pillar of the Empire, and in these and many other capacities always as my friend. I have known him in sorrow as well as in happiness, and yet to-day it is my privilege, as it is yours, to see him in a new character, as an affectionate son faithful to the revered memory of a father of whom any son might well be proud.

I had not myself the pleasure of knowing that father, but those who did tell us of his great simplicity, combined with dignity of character, of his piety and rectitude, of his soundness of judgment and honesty of purpose; of his kindness of heart and his old-world Rajput courtesy, and His Highness has in a few vivid words painted a picture of one whom all loved and respected. He was the father of two Maharajas of Bikaner and uncle of a Maharana of Udaipur, and while never himself Maharaja of Bikaner he had much to do with the administration, and as President of the Council was in a position to help and advise his elder son in the discharge of his responsibilities.

I need not enumerate all the measures that were undertaken during that period. Sufficient to say that

State Banquet, Bikaner.

the income of the State was doubled, that shape was then first given to schemes for railway development, an impetus was afforded to educational and medical institutions, while in 1879 the same spirit which is at the present moment so conspicuous in Bikaner as well as in other stations manifested itself in the supply of camels to the Government of India in connection with the expedition to Kabul. Could Maharaja Sri Lall Singhji have lived to see this day, to appreciate the character of his gallant son, to watch his career and note the position he has now won for himself in the Empire and then to realise the filial affection that that son has retained for his memory, his heart would indeed have been full to overflowing with joy and pride, and it is with that thought uppermost in my mind that I now proceed to the task that I have been invited to perform.

I feel that this monument marks a bright chapter in the glorious history of Bikaner, and I am proud to have the privilege of unveiling the statue of Maharaja Sri Lall Singhji.

STATE BANQUET, BIKANER.

[During His Excellency the Viceroy's visit to Bikaner in 27th Nov. November 1915, His Highness the Maharaja entertained the Viceroy 1915. at a Banquet on the night of the 24th instant. In proposing the Maharaja's health His Excellency the Viceroy said :—]

Your Highnesses, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I certainly thought when I came to Bikaner two years ago that that would be my last opportunity of enjoying the hospitality for which His Highness the Maharaja is so justly famed, but fate has added a brief spell to my Indian career in India, and when the Maharaja asked me to come back for a few days to his country where I had already spent so many happy hours, I did not hesitate to accept gladly his kind invitation. Viceroy

State Banquet, Bikaner.

are no more immune than other people from the ills that flesh is heir to, and at times there comes a hatred for work and files, and an almost irresistible desire for a little rest and relaxation from the incessant stream of knotty problems and the inexorable weight of unceasing responsibility that are his lot. It is in such times that the thought of a little holiday, and of the herds of buck on the plains and the flocks of grouse in Bikaner, makes appeal to me with a force that I have no inclination to oppose, and I have never known the tonic to fail in its effect. This is my third visit to Bikaner, and yet the Maharaja has succeeded in making me believe that I am still welcome. He has once more entertained me right royally, and I can only thank Your Highness most heartily not only for the great care and trouble you have taken to provide for my comfort and happiness, but more especially for that enjoyable sensation which you have succeeded in inspiring in me that I am completely at home in Bikaner. There are not many months left now before I finally leave India, but the time has not yet arrived for a farewell speech. Nevertheless, I should like to say this, that among all the memories that I shall carry away from India, some of them sad and some of them happy, there is none that will so constantly remain with me an unalloyed pleasure as the friendships I have had the privilege of forming with some of the rulers of Indian states with whom my high office has brought me into such close and intimate contact. And among the best of those friends I shall always number our generous and gallant host, as also his guest the Maharaja Scindia; and while the Maharaja of Bikaner has fully and freely admitted me to the privilege of his personal friendship he has in our more official relations never given me a moment's anxiety or worry. On the contrary, I have often had from him most useful counsel and there has always been a feeling of unshakable confidence that in

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the utmost crisis or the utmost danger, in fair weather or foul, whatever betide, Bikaner will always remain true to its old traditions, staunch and faithful. Your Highnesses, Ladies and Gentlemen, I give you the health of Colonel His Highness Sir Ganga Sing Bahadur, Maharaja of Bikaner.

[His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner in proposing the health of the Viceroy said :—

Your Excellency, Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—When I last entertained Lord Hardinge in this hall a couple of years ago, little did I think that we would once more have the honour of welcoming His Excellency to Bikaner. Our gratification on this occasion has, moreover, a special significance in that this visit has been rendered possible only by the extended term of His Excellency's Viceroyalty which has given such unqualified pleasure to the ruling princes and chiefs, no less than to the people of India, although unhappily the time is approaching when we shall have to bid Your Excellency farewell. We hope that your five years' sojourn in our midst has sufficiently demonstrated to Your Excellency what grateful and loyal hearts there are beating in India, and how genuinely responsive the people of this country are to any little touch of sympathy or act of kindness. Though thousands of miles will separate us, Your Excellency will be followed wherever you may go by the respectful good wishes, unbounded gratitude and devoted affection of the people of His Imperial Majesty's great Indian Empire, who have all truly rejoiced that Your Excellency was out here to preside over the destinies of India during such critical and momentous times, and who are all earnestly hoping and praying that His Imperial Majesty and his Government may find it possible to spare Your Excellency for India for a still longer period.

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen, I will now ask you to join me in drinking to the very best health of His Excellency the Viceroy.]

OPENING OF THE UPPER JHELUM CANAL.

[The completion of the Triple Project Canals was celebrated at Mangla on Thursday morning, the 9th December, when His Excellency the Viceroy performed the ceremony of opening the Upper Jhelum Canal. His Excellency arrived at Mangla by special 1915.

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train at about half-past eight and alighted at a temporary platform, thence proceeding by motor car to the Durbar tent. His Excellency was greeted by a salute of guns from Mangla Fort, and was received by a guard-of-honour of the Kashmir Rifles. The National Anthem was played by the Kashmir State Band. Sir Valentine Chirol came with His Excellency and the Resident and Assistant Resident of Kashmir were present. His Honour Sir Michael O'Dwyer was also accorded the usual honours on arrival. His Excellency was received at the Durbar tent by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab and personal staff; the Right Rev. the Bishop of Lahore and his Chaplain; Major-General Kitson, Commanding 2nd (Rawalpindi) Division, and his Aide-de-Camp; Colonel Popham Young, Commissioner of Rawalpindi, the Hon. Mr. T. R. J. Ward, Chief Engineer, Irrigation Works, Punjab, Northern Section; Mr. J. N. Taylor, Superintending Engineer, Upper Jhelum Canal Circle; and Mr. A. N. McL. Robertson, Executive Engineer, Head Works, Upper Jhelum Canal. On arrival at the dais His Excellency was met by His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir.

The Hon'ble Mr. C. Barron, Chief Secretary, Punjab, declared the Durbar open.

HISTORY OF THE CANAL.

Mr. T. R. J. Ward, Chief Engineer, gave a brief history of the canal. He said:—

We have assembled to-day to mark by the opening of this canal, now practically complete, the termination of our labours in the building of the great Triple Canal Scheme by which all the available water of four out of the five rivers, that give this province its name, will be diverted to increase the prosperity of three out of the four Doabs, or upland tracts lying between these rivers. At annexation the favourable situation of the Jullundur Doab near to the hills made it the only one whose prosperity was secure; the others were arid or semi-arid tracts more suited to the grazing of camels and beasts of pasture than for agriculture. To enable the people the more readily to devote their splendid energies to the arts of peace, the British Government forthwith undertook the construction of the Bari Doab Canal under Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Robert Napier (afterwards Lord Napier of Magdala), the first Chief Engineer of the Punjab. It was hoped that this canal would irrigate the whole of the Bari Doab from Madhopur to Multan,

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but the waters of the Ravi proved unequal to this great task, and to-day those of the Jhelum are to be diverted to complete the work begun with so much courage and energy 70 years ago.

Since annexation, continuous and successful progress has been made in canal construction in these three Doabs; but the work of augmenting their water-supply is by no means finished. Two promising projects have just been prepared, the one for a Barrage on the Woollar Lake, and the other for a canal from a weir below the junction of this river with the Chenab, to feed the Sidhnai and the Sutlej series of inundation canals. The former project has been worked out by Mr. R. E. Purves, so long connected with the design and construction of this canal, and the latter by his brother, Mr. F. M. Purves, under Mr. Gwyther's instructions. Projects to take the water of the Beas River to the fertile lands to the east of the Sutlej are well advanced.

In short, there are now seven great perennial canals in addition to the Sutlej series of inundation canals distributing the flow of four out of the five rivers for the protection of 17,000 square miles of country. As yet only four of these perennial canals are fully developed; the Upper Bari Doab and Sidhnai in the Bari Doab, both from the Ravi; the Lower Chenab in the Rechna Doab; and the Lower Jhelum in the Jech Doab; whilst to-day irrigation to both crops will be inaugurated to the Lower Bari Doab, Upper Chenab, and to this canal as soon as it is quite complete. The annual irrigation of these seven canals already exceeds four and a half million acres; one and a half million of which is wheat and three-quarters of a million cotton. The Triple Canals, when fully developed, will add another one and three-quarter million acres to the above area at a cost of 1,037 lakhs of rupees, and will yield a net revenue of 7½ per cent. I may remark that the whole cultivated area of the Punjab, inclusive of Native States, is 33½ million acres. Of this, 13½ million acres are irrigated from all sources, whilst 8½ million acres, or one-fourth of the whole cultivated area, are irrigated by canals constructed or improved by the British.

To revert to the great Triple Project; its inception and many interesting details about the construction of its Upper Chenab and Lower Bari Doab Canal links were described at Merala in April, 1912, when Your Excellency opened the former; and at Balloki a year later, when Sir Louis Dane, then the Lieutenant-Governor of this province, opened the last-named canal to *kharif* irrigation. The history of canal construction in these Doabs shows that the great success of the Upper Bari Doab Canal, opened towards the

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end of the Mutiny; the Lower Chenab Canal, in the early nineties, the Lower Jhelum Canal some ten years later, fired the imaginations and stirred the energies of the Provincial and Imperial Governments to develop still further the agricultural resources of these Doabs in the interests of the population of the congested districts under the hills; until, as we were reminded by Your Excellency at Meralá, the idea which first gave birth to the Triple Project was thrown into shape by the Irrigation Commission, itself the progeny of Lord Curzon's genius. Since then the people are indebted to successive Viceroys and Lieutenant-Governors whose solicitude for their welfare has made the way smooth for the energies and activities of engineers and the host of workers in their train that have so rapidly and successfully built what the Indian Irrigation Commission had shaped.

To turn now to the Upper Jhelum Canal itself; its cost is estimated at 447 lakhs of rupees (or nearly £3,000,000 sterling); it has been the most difficult engineering work of its kind undertaken in India, and has, during construction, presented many novel and intricate hydraulic problems. The location of the head works was under investigation and discussion for four years. It was finally decided to adopt the present site beneath the hill surmounted by the Mangla Fort. Here the Jhelum River takes a sharp turn to the right, creating a deep pool opposite the Regulator and forming a natural boulder bar, or weir, about a mile lower down. The levels have permitted the canal taking off from the pool without the necessity of interfering with the course, or the general regimen, of the stream, which ensures the permanency of the present conditions. The cliff in which the Regulator has been constructed consists of alternate inclined layers of soft sandstone and indurated clay, and the river floods rise to a great height. In consequence of these conditions the Regulator, through which the supply will be admitted into the canal, is an impressive structure, of which the architectural details have been elaborated in consultation with the Consulting Architect to the Government of India, Mr. Begg. The parapet is 70 feet above canal bed to clear the highest river floods, and the foundations go down 2½ feet below canal bed to secure stability. The regulation will be done by three tiers of gates, designed and supplied by Messrs. Ransome and Rapier of Ipswich, who have also supplied the larger part of the steel work requirements of this canal, owing to the Canal Workshop at Amritsar being fully employed on the steel work of this and the other canals of the Triple Canal Project,