

to the cultivators. There is no doubt however, that the introduction of the Survey Settlement in the Mahratwara, and the construction of additional irrigation works in the Telingana districts, will be followed by a further appreciable enhancement of the land revenue. In the former case, a ten per cent. increase all round over the present land revenue will meet the most sanguine expectations of its elasticity. In the latter case the circumstances are quite different, as there is yet great room for improvement, and I would not be surprised if a large outlay upon the almost inexhaustible natural resources for irrigation possessed by the Telingana districts increased the land revenue by fifty per cent., or even more.'

The spirit evinced in this passage is that which characterizes the Nizam's Minister and his chief officers. They do not consider they have reached a point of perfectness. They do not feel that they have already attained, and may 'rest and be thankful.' Rather, they recognise greater success is to be obtained and they energetically press forward to secure it.

A comparison has been made above, between the increase of land revenue in a defined period in British India and in the Nizam's Dominions. Now, however, the parallel may be carried a little farther, and the late Minister's last year of office be compared with his first.

1853.	Rs	1881-2	Rs.
Total Revenue	68,01,130	Total Revenue ..	3,11,40,538

Or an increase of 357.84 per cent. This was the result of unremitting care and consideration, combined with the exercise of the often dis-united qualities of prudence and stonewall firmness. In this unique combination of

qualities the late Sir Salar Jung stands head and shoulders above his contemporaries,—Anglo-Indian and Indian. Later on, this fact will be found to be more fully developed, in a sense not too flattering to British good opinion of itself.

It is not possible to ascertain the exact amount of increase in the extent of cultivation. No records are in existence giving a correct idea of the amount of cultivated land previous to Sir Salar Jung's administration. There are, however, in certain Talukas of the Marhatwadi Districts which came under the operations of the Revenue Survey introduced by the late Minister eight years ago, certain records from which the necessary data may be obtained. From these it appears that in fourteen Talukas from 1874 to 1882, the cultivated area in 1854 amounted to 10,03,094 acres; this in 1881 had increased to 22,12,289 acres. The net increase, therefore, as compared with the first year of Sir Salar Jung's office, was 12,09,195 acres or 120.55 per cent. From this it may be gathered that, at least in some of the Talukas in His Highness's Dominions, a great increase had been effected in the area under cultivation during Sir Salar Jung's administration. These Talukas belong to the Mahratta portion of the country and may be fairly said to represent the state of things there. The case of Telingana, which comprises more than a third of the Hyderabad ^{and} territory, is, however, entirely different. Here the onerous Batai (or payment in kind) system prevailed, by which the cultivator though theoretically

entitled to one-half was not practically allowed to reap more than one-fourth of the produce of his field. The position of the cultivator was, therefore, more precarious than that of his brother in Mahrattwadi. Shortly after his accession to office Sir Salar Jung, who had had personal experience as a Talukdar of the evils arising from the Batai system, abolished it, and replaced it by cash payment. This, coupled with the various reforms he introduced from time to time in Revenue administration considerably ameliorated the condition of the ryots, and, as a natural consequence, the growth and development of the area under cultivation was greater here than in the adjoining Mahratta Province. The following statement will show the proportion of the cultivated to the cultivable area in the Nizam's Dominions during the last two years of Sir Salar Jung's tenure of office :—

Year.	Area occupied by cultivators	Unoccupied area	Total culti- vable area	Per centage of occupied area to culti- vable.
1881	1,50,85,893	53,74,032	2,04,59,925	73.74
1882*	1,51,40,695	55,93,554	2,07,34,249	73.02

The condition of agriculture everywhere depends on the number of inhabitants a country possesses. Be the extent of a territory ever so large, if its population is sparse cultivation will be confined to a limited area. In the Nizam's Dominions Telingana is, owing to the insalubrity of its climate, not so thickly peopled as Mahrattwadi. Thus while in the latter the number of

* In the middle of this year Sir Salar Jung died. Decadence immediately followed from causes only too easily to be accounted for. Mr. Gorst, M.P., as will appear in the next chapter, largely helps us to an explanation of this state of things.

inhabitants to the square mile is 134.29, the former can boast of no more than 95.19 souls to a mile. The result of this numerical disparity is that, in 1882, 83.63 per cent. of the arable land was cultivated in Marhatwadi, whilst only 51.22 per cent. was brought under tillage in Telingana. Regard being had to the density of the population the proportion of cultivated to arable land is not smaller than the general standard existing in the contiguous British districts. Assuming the population per square mile to be 100 in the various provinces named below, the following result is arrived at :—

Province	Year	Per centage of occupied area	
H. H. the Nizam's Dominions	1878	66.70	
Ditto	Ditto	1879	64.26
Ditto	Ditto	1880	64.54
Ditto	Ditto	1881	64.20
Ditto	Ditto	1882	63.57
Bombay	..	1874-75	64.41
Ditto	..	1875-76	63.87
Central Provinces	..	1878-79	66.32

These figures conclusively prove that the proportion of cultivated land in the State of Hyderabad is in no degree lower than that obtaining in the adjoining British Provinces and that the material condition of the agricultural population is in no respect inferior to the condition of those classes to the British Districts,—very much, indeed, to the contrary.

As with cultivated area so with regard to population and the number of tenants, no regular census of the country was taken until 1881. There is, therefore, no

data to go upon so far as the whole country is concerned. But evidence is forthcoming respecting the number of people in certain districts. From this evidence may be gathered an idea of the progress made. - Thus, according to Dr. Bradley's report, written in 1848, 'the total population of the Paitan Sarkar, including that of the city, amounted to 32,015 or 77 inhabitants to the square mile, the total area of the Sarkar being 412 square miles.' But, according to the census taken by the Survey Department in 1876, the population amounted to 42,636, which, spread over an area of 390 square miles (excluding certain Jaghir villages from the total area of 434 square miles) gives 109 inhabitants per square mile. This shows an increase of 32 souls to the square mile, or 33.18 per cent. on the whole population in the course of 28 years. Calculating from these facts we find that the average increase per cent. of population for ten years is 11.85. , Taking all things into consideration the average increase of population for that period in the whole of the Nizam's Dominions may be safely put down at 10 per cent. The increase in the population of the whole of British India for the ten years ending 1881 was a little over 8 per cent. In the adjoining Presidencies, however, that is in Madras and Bombay, and in the (British-ruled) State of Mysore, the last recorded ten years' statistics show a decrease, and, what is more, through the circumstances already described, a decrease brought about under awful

conditions. The facts compiled from India Office records are as follows :—

BRITISH PROVINCES.

Province or State	Population, 1872	Population, 1881	Population as it should be if rate in Bengal and the Ni- zam's Domin- ions prevailed	Decrease.
Madras	31,281,177	30,868,504	34,096,483	3,227,979
Bombay	16,308,343	16,489,274	17,776,094	1,286,820
N-W. Provinces & Oudh	42,002,897	44,107,869	45,783,158	1,675,289
Mysore	5,005,412	4,186,188	5,455,899	1,269,711
Total Decrease				<u>7,459,799</u>

THE NIZAM'S DOMINIONS.

	(Estimated)		Increase.
Hyderabad State ..	8,861,035	9,845,594	984,594

Here, again, are facts which may give pause to Mr. Cross, and lead him to consider what there is of superiority in the administration of the above British Provinces that they should show so serious a decrease in population, while the much-decried Hyderabad State, like-climatically situated with parts of Madras and Bombay and the whole of Mysore, show a gratifying increase. The effect upon the mind of the present writer is to make the task of restraining a denunciation of British rule very difficult indeed. Such facts as these ought to have effect. Is it, in regard to Indian affairs alone in the world, that the Scottish proverb quoted at the head of this section, is to be proved inaccurate? The late Sir Salar Jung is indeed happy in his death in that he can leave such results behind him to confound his critics, and over-

whelm with confusion those who endeavour to belittle his great achievements.

Among reforms in England, in recent years, there are none respecting which more credit is taken than in regard to the removal of those imposts which interfere with the freedom of trade; their abolition, whether in the shape of Navigation Laws repealed or in Customs' duties of a vexatious character removed, rank among the highest achievements of our greatest Finance Minister, Mr. Gladstone. How did Salar Jung act in this respect? Was he short-sighted and able only to count the rupees he might collect in a particular year, arguing that 'sufficient for the day is the evil thereof'? Or, did he, with wisdom and foresight, look ahead, and argue that the freer trade became, the fewer the restrictions imposed upon producer and consumer alike, the greater the general prosperity of the people, and the richer the revenue receipts against which no reasonable taxpayer could protest? He adopted the latter course. No European Minister could have carried out such a policy with greater resolution and wisdom. Here are a dozen petty and harassing imposts which he remitted:—

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. A tax upon herdsmen. | 8. An impost for protection against enemies. |
| 2. „ „ „ „ weddings. | 9. A tax for supplying straw. |
| 3. „ „ on hides. | 10. A tax upon the sale of vegetables |
| 4. „ „ on bazaars and markets. | 11. A tax upon the sale of bamboos. |
| 5. „ „ upon weavers. | 12. Import duties on grain. |
| 6. „ „ „ trades and professions. | |
| 7. Transit duties. | |

The revenue foregone by some of these abolitions may be set out thus:—

TAXES REMITTED.

						Yearly Receipts.
						Rs.
1.	Petty cesses	..	..	..	..	1,32,509
2.	Tax on fruit trees..	..	..	..	..	55,547
3.	„ pasturage per head of cattle	..	..	..	..	2,66,233
4.	Municipal rates	..	..	..	..	43,494
5.	Transit duties	..	..	..	..	3,19,776
6.	Import duty on grain	..	..	..	..	2,00,000
7.	Tax on trades and professions	..	..	..	..	2,95,071
8.	Reduction in taxes on cotton, safflower, indigo, &c.					6,50,000
Total						Rs. 19,82,610

Contrast with this the incidents recorded on page 86 of the manner in which the license tax in British Provinces harasses the seller of snuff and the gatherer of firewood. There need be little wonder that the *Times of India's* 'own correspondent' at Hyderabad should write to that journal, while Sir Richard Temple was Finance Minister at Calcutta, and exclaim, 'What a contrast there is between the policy of Sir Richard Temple and Sir Salar Jung!' or, that he should add, 'One is for raising taxes; the other is for abolishing them. While the three Presidencies are groaning under the levy of the income-tax, the territory of His Highness the Nizam enjoys perfect immunity from these vexatious imposts. Although a municipality has been established here, neither house-tax, nor wheel-tax, nor any other local cesses come to vex us. On the contrary, a long-existing tax has been recently repealed. His Excellency has

abolished, for a term of three years, all taxes that had been hitherto levied on certain professions, and which annually yielded Rs. 2,50,000.' If Sir Salar Jung, or any other of half-a-dozen Indian Statesmen who could be named, had been Finance Minister of India for a few years, instead of Sir Richard Temple and financiers of his calibre, the state of Imperial Indian Finances would be in very different position to that in which they are at present, while the prosperity of the Empire and the condition of the people would, through the past twenty years, have been vastly better.

How were the satisfactory results above mentioned, so far as Hyderabad is concerned, brought about? The answer is, By the judicious fostering of large sources of income and the equally judicious remission of small imposts. The increases were in Land Revenue, Abkari, and Law and Justice. New sources of revenue were found in Forest Administration, in Frontier Customs, in Stamps, in Road Taxes, and in the Postal Department. Considerations of space and the fear of wearying readers alone prevent the detailing of incident after incident calculated to show the forethought and prompt decision characterising the changes in tax-collecting and general administration which Sir Salar Jung carried out. Respecting one department, however, something must be said. We make it a boast that, under British administration, trade flourishes and commerce increases. It is true the total trade of British India is one in which the foreigner gets one pound sterling profit against one

shilling or may be one penny gain by the Indian, but let that pass. Being the great manufacturers of the world there is scarcely anything touches us as a nation so closely, in the way of administration, as the fostering of trade. How does the Indian Minister, the man of the race which (says Sir Lepel Griffin) has 'failed to realise the first principles of Government,' stand in this respect? Does trade languish under his rule? Is it in a decaying condition? As will have been seen the hindrances, in the Nizam's Dominions, in the shape of taxation imposed, not only on the foreign trade, but also on internal exchange of commodities, were extremely great. With a view of improving trade the Minister adopted the most rigorous arrangements, and compensated 'vested interests.' For example: The Sair-Khas jurisdiction and the Jaghuda's together were calculated to have sustained a loss of about Rs. 3,62,571 by the abandonment of their right to levy transit duties. Territory, yielding a net revenue (after cost of collection was reckoned) of Rs. 2,61,702, was granted in compensation in addition to an annual payment of Rs. 1,02,288 in cash. The consequence is that the import of 'European goods' into Hyderabad territory has increased from two and a half lakhs of rupees (£25,000) per annum to nearly six crores of rupees (nearly £6,000,000.) If the import trade in British India had increased in like proportion (that is, two thousand six hundred per cent.) during this century the business done by British merchants with India would be vastly greater than it even

now is. It is, therefore, clear from the point of view of legitimate 'British interests,' to use an expression often indicative of what is least creditable to the English name, that the greater the scope given to Native-Indian rule the larger will be the trade which the people of India will carry on with Great Britain. Merchants in Great Britain, and those whom they employ, ought not to oppose the principle advocated in these pages of Home Rule for Indian States. On the contrary, the desire to extend trade, one of the most legitimate of national desires, should lead them to be as active in support of this phase of Indian reform as the merchants of Lancashire were in securing the repeal of Indian import duties on Cotton goods.

(3) EFFICIENCY AND ECONOMY IN ADMINISTRATION.

Take, again, economy in administration, and the Nizam's officials bear the palm from British officials. Here is an instructive comparison.—

COST OF COLLECTION OF CUSTOMS' REVENUE.

<i>H. H.'s Dominions.</i>					<i>The Berars,†</i>				
Rs. a. p.					Rs. a. p.				
Average per cent.	..	6	7	3	Average per cent.	..	45	14	5

Or seven times higher! Being British administration it must of necessity be higher. The Secretary to the

† The condition in H. H.'s districts and in the Berars are exactly the same, or should be, seeing the territories join each other. The expensive administration of the Berars, and the consequent withholding of profit revenues from the Nizam has long been known to all acquainted with Indian affairs.

Government of India, writing in July, 1860, of the Berars, said, 'It must be admitted that the civil payments are much higher than they would have been under Native rule.' The figures quoted are for the years 1284 (Fasli) in the Hyderabad districts and 1873-74 in the Berars, almost identically the same periods. The averages in the Berars for the four years immediately preceding and including that mentioned were :—

					Rs.	a.	p.
1869-70	..	..	..	..	40	3	3
1870-71	..	..	..	..	30	4	6
1872 73	..	..	..	..	23	1	1
1873-74	..	.	..	..	45	14	5

The variation in two succeeding years in His Highness's Dominions was within a rupee, but on special occasions, when much vigilance was necessary to prevent smuggling, has been as high as Rs. 13-6-4 and Rs. 14-12-6. Such high averages as are noted in connection with the Berars are not peculiar to those Provinces, though they are specially discreditable, considering the circumstances under which the Berars are held: they are essential to the costly and not additionally efficient British rule. This will be seen from the following particulars respecting the percentage of expenditure on income from customs in the Punjab for three consecutive years :—

					Rs.	a.	p.	
1865-66	..	..	..	31	3	11		per cent.
1866-67	..	..	..	35	6	11		"
1867-68	..	..	..	33	14	9		"

The comparison, it should be distinctly understood, is between the percentages on trade carried on by land. On sea-customs, which is entirely in the hands of the British authorities, the percentage is comparatively small, being under 10 per cent.

In care for prisoners confined in the jails the Indian Minister was always well abreast with his British neighbours. During one particular year, taken at random, for which the figures are before the writer, the expenditure on this head was Re. 1-13-1 per cent. as compared with 14*a*. 9*p*. in Madras, 10*a*. 8*p*. in Bombay. Re. 1-3-11 in the Berars, Re. 1-5-7 in Bengal, and Re. 1-10-2 in the North-Western Provinces. Upon Police, in the same year, Sir Salar Jung expended upon village and general Police, Rs. 7-15-6 per cent., against, in British Provinces, exclusive of village chaukidari, Rs. 4-9-6 in Madras, Rs. 3-15-2 in Bombay, Rs. 7-0-3 in The Berars, Rs. 7-4-2 in Oudh, Rs. 3-11-4 in Bengal, Rs. 6-5-3 in the North-West Provinces, and Rs. 8-1-3 in the Panjab. So, in like manner, as regards Education, the Medical Department, and in other respects, one is compelled to answer the question, 'Is the British Government zealous?' by the answer, 'So also was the late Indian Minister of Hyderabad and so is his successor.'

Go yet farther, and in affairs which have a relation to the individual, particulars abound which redound to the credit of purely Indian administration. Sir Salar Jung did not content himself with reforms, retrenchments, and reductions which might affect others and leave his

own emoluments untouched. Upon entering office he reduced his annual honorarium to exactly half that received by his predecessor in the Dewanship, and even at a later period made a farther reduction of more than 25 per cent.; he also effected a saving of Rs. 80,000 per annum in the Peishkar's honorarium. The enquirer has yet to hear of anything approaching this act on the part of any British administrator in India.

The more carefully and closely the details of administration in the Nizam's Dominions are examined the more thoroughly is the conviction forced upon the unbiassed mind that the most perfect aptitude for business and the most statesmanlike grasp of a people's wants have, during the past thirty years, characterised all that has been attempted and accomplished.

No statement is more frequently put forward by the apologists for our rule in India, as proof that it is above all things efficient, than that which shows how greatly the revenue of the Empire has increased under our careful administration and judicious nursing. On that statement as affecting the revenue as a whole, with its eternal enhancements and its infrequent remissions, and with the frequently recurring deficits and the continually increasing debt, comments have already been made. Now, the question must be dealt with in a comparative sense, and it be shown that there is nothing which the British Government has accomplished which a

capable native Indian administrator cannot equally perform. Here is the comparison:—

<i>The Nizam's Dominions</i>		<i>The British Indian Empire.</i>	
	Rs		£
Revenue in 1853 .	68 01,130	Revenue in 1853 .	28,610,000
„ in 1881 ..	3 11,40 53b	„ in 1881 ..	68,370,000
Increase .	<u>Rs 2,43,38 908</u>	Increase ..	<u>£39,760,000</u>
Percentage of increase nearly		Percentage of Increase 230	
357 84 per cent		per cent	

In 1853 Sir Salar Jung had to face a deficit of thirty-one lakhs, besides many other debts. These he paid and, at the beginning of the year mentioned, had a balance of Rs. 65,36,239.

On the above showing the advantage would appear to lie with the Nizam's Minister and it does so to a greater extent than is indicated, For, during this period, while Sir Salar Jung had incurred no debt save for a railway forced upon the State by the British authorities, the English administration had encountered—

	£
Deficits . ..	60,230,000
Surpluses	<u>19,120,000</u>
Deficits over Surpluses ..	<u>£41,110,000</u>

In forty-three years, in British India, these salient and highly important circumstances have happened, the Imperial Debt has increased 500 per cent., while

revenue and expenditure have each increased about 350 per cent. ♦

The Nizam's State is not absolutely free from debt, nor does it owe the enormous sum of money which Mr. Gorst, M.P., in his article in the *Fortnightly Review* (April, 1884)—an article to be noticed hereafter—declares. Mr. Gorst asserted that debts amounting to four hundred and forty-nine lakhs (in round numbers, £4,500,000) were outstanding. These are the facts as contained in a Memorandum forwarded to the Viceroy in the very month that Mr. Gorst's strictures appeared in an English periodical. At the end of the year 1881 the amount of actual debt stood at Rs. 56,74,413, of which Rs. 34,83,496 were due to the bankers and Rs. 21,90,917 to the Sarf-i-Khas Treasury, that is, the Nizam's private treasury. By the end of August, 1883, the amount had been reduced to Rs. 26,92,537 as due to the bankers and Rs. 12,57,104 to the Sarf-i-Khas, amounting in all to Rs. 39,49,641. 'The first mentioned amount also includes Rs. 7,37,056 borrowed from the Hyderabad Branch of the Bank of Bengal on the security of the British Government Promissory Notes lodged in the Bank, and which are yet in their hands. This amount, therefore, has to be deducted from Rs. 26,92,537, which leaves Rs. 19,55,481 as the balance due to the sowkars. This figure, with Rs. 12,57,104 due to the Sarf-i-Khas, or Rs. 32,12,585 in all, represents the total amount of the State debt on the above mentioned date.'

The figures given below show what was done in the

way of reducing the liabilities of the State during the last six years of Sir Salar Jung's administration :—

AMOUNT OF DEBTS

Year	Due to Sarfi Khas treasury	Due to Sow- kai's	Total
1877	26,45,924	56,60,352	86,06,276
1878	24,34,032	50,72,634	75,06,666
1879	23,40,744	38,79,999	62,20,743
1880	20,05,500	21,93,455	41,98,955
1881	21,90,918	21,27,092	43,18,010
1882	18,40,846	22,62,092	41,02,938

These figures speak for themselves and tend exclusively to prove that the finances of the State were carefully looked after. While the amount of debt was reduced from year to year, the cash balances increased greatly as will be apparent.

Year					Amount Rs
1877	..	..	..	..	35,76,472
1878	..	.	..	.	40,09,025
1879	..	..	..	..	48,80,249
1880	..	..	..	..	68,14,251
1881	..	..	..	..	64,79,107
1882	..	..	..	..	65,36,239

If we eliminate the debt and take from the British accounts that which is revenue strictly, the comparison shows that the Nizam's revenue increased by three hundred and fifty-seven per cent. while the British Indian revenue grew by less than one hundred per cent.

It may not be retorted against the Indian Administrator that the Imperial Power has had to contend against difficulties, in the way of wars on the frontier and a terrible mutiny within its Dominions, because, in

the first place the relative military charges of the State and the Empire are much greater in respect to the former,—through no desire, however, of the Nizam,—while, in the second place, the Mutiny was due to misgovernment in the Empire: its absence, or its suppression when incipiently exhibited, is a testimony to good government and to promptitude and vigour in dealing with disaffection.

COMPARISON BETWEEN ANNUAL MILITARY
EXPENDITURE

<i>The Nizam's Dominions.</i>		<i>The British-Indian Empire.</i>	
	Rs.		£
Expenditure on Nizam's		Army Expenditure,	
Army	62,53,200	1881-83	16,128,000
„ on Contingent			<hr/>
(per Adminis-		Percentage of annual income,	
tration of the		slightly over 25 per cent.	
Berars) ..	40,00,000		
Total . Rs	102 53,200		
	<hr/>		
Percentage of annual income, over			
33 per cent.			

This, however, does not state the matter quite so fairly for the Nizam as it ought to be stated. In taking over and administering the Berars as security for the payment of the Contingent, the British Government obtained the not inconsiderable advantage of finding in it a pleasant preserve of patronage. British officers secured highly-remunerative appointments, and the cost of administration was and is so high that the percentage upon the

total revenue collected is not stated. If Sir Salar Jung had had the administration of those Provinces and had had only forty lakhs a year to pay to the supreme Government for the Contingent, the revenues of his State would have shown even better results than those noted above. As an essential element in this particular matter, let it be observed that if the Nizam had been relieved of the cost of the Contingent, and that body had been disbanded, the Nizam's own army would not have been increased and its cost to the State, Rs. 62,53,200, would have represented the sum total on soldiering account. The consequent relief to the Minister would have been great, while, either taxation would have been reduced or beneficial expenditure⁺ incurred. Further, the present crushing expenditure of 33 per cent. was, in the days when Sir Salar Jung was struggling with reform, more than one hundred per cent.; the expenditure remained a constant quantity, was, all the way through, an old man of the sea on the shoulders of the Minister. Sir Salar Jung's success becomes increasingly a marvel as one proceeds more and more closely to investigate the real circumstances of the case. Will not Englishmen see to it justice is no longer denied to the State he ruled so wisely and so well?

The aim of this little work being what it is, to exalt, against interested decriers, the complete fitness of the inhabitants of India for the administration of their own country, attention must be called to the fact that the success recorded is not due to Englishmen, but

to Indians. Mr. Gorst, in the article already referred to, makes the following assertion :—‘ Nearly, all the present revenue officers are Mussulmans brought in by Sir Salar Jung from other parts of India, chiefly from the North-Western Provinces. They have no permanent interest in the country, no sympathy with its people. Their object is to make as much money as they can and go away to spend it elsewhere.’ Considering that Mr. Gorst was himself a foreigner, obtaining as the result of a six weeks’ stay in Hyderabad an almost fabulous fee from the Peshkar, that he was ‘ making as much money as he could and going away to spend it in England,’ the charge comes with bad grace from him. As a matter of fact, however, he was, on the whole, as usual, wrong. In the early days of reform Indians living out of Hyderabad State were needed; they possessed the requisite knowledge; Hyderabad^{dees} were unacquainted with Survey, Settlement, and Revenue Administration. The present Minister has instituted an enquiry into the nationality of the State’s Revenue servants, from which it appears that the number of officers in the Revenue Department, from the Secretary to Government down to Tehsildars, is 267. Of these 144 are Hyderabad^{dees}, 59 Hindustanees, 20 Madr^{asees}, 33 belong to Bombay, and 2 are natives of other parts of India. The percentage of Hyderabad^{dees} and Hindustanees (including inhabitants of Madras, Bombay, and other places) on the total number, amounts to 54 and 22 respectively. Including all officers and clerks the total number is 2,589, of which 1,940 or 75 per cent. are Hyderabad^{dees}.

and 128 or 5 per cent. are Hindustanees. The following table exhibits the facts in a more detailed form :—

Nationality of Incumbents.

	No	Percentage.
Hyderabadese	1940	74.95
Hindustanees	128	4.94
Madrases	78	3.01
Bombayites	232	8.96
From other parts of India	202	7.80
Vacancy	1	.03
Europeans	8	.31
Total	2,589	100

Religion of the Incumbents

Mahomedan	670	25.88
Hindu	1859	71.84
Parsee	49	1.89
Christian	10	.36
Vacancy	1	.03
Total	2,589	100

This is the ideal to which England ought to work in India,—eight Europeans out of two thousand six hundred officials. In his Report, dealing with these figures, the Minister remarks :—“ I must however confess, that for my own part, I do not at all like the idea of employing even the existing number of “ foreigners,” and that it is my earnest desire to raise the percentage of Hyderabadese in the public service up to 90. I have issued an order strictly prohibiting the appointment of foreigners to any post without the special sanction of Government, and this order has been published in the Government

Gazette. I have reserved to myself the right of filling up the highest appointments only, which do not number more than 20 or 25 in all. For the rest, I have left the various officers of Government quite unfettered in their selection, to fill up the vacancies as they occur.'

Like his lamented father the present Minister is fully alive to the advantages which English education and training yield. In proof of this he has given instructions for ten young natives of Hyderabad to be selected from the public schools in the State and sent to England in 1885, to be educated in various professions at the expense of His Highness's Government. These young men will be provided with suitable allowances, and will be encouraged to follow any profession towards which they are naturally inclined. 'It is proposed to make the cost of the education of a similar number yearly a permanent annual charge on the State treasury, at least for some time to come, provided the first experiment proves successful.'

The few comparisons made may suffice. The writer holds his hand from no lack of materials. The enquiry might be much farther pursued and the Indian State in no degree suffer by investigation. This much, at least, must, in fairness to our Indian fellow-subjects, be admitted, namely, that with the British administrative results before them as an example in some respects and a warning in others, they can improve upon the lesson those results teach and secure greater good to their subjects than is possible, when the Collector and his chief subordinates are British. If this is so, we are bound

by every consideration whereby we justify our hold of India in the eyes of the world,—that is, that we are in India not for our own benefit but for the salvation and nurture of the Indian people,—to adopt such measures as shall serve, while not lessening our power as the over-lord, to maintain peace throughout the continent, and at once to so readjust our relations with (1) the Native-Indian States, and (2) the British Provinces, as to give more and more self-control year by year to the sons of the soil, thereby bettering the condition of the millions for whose happiness and well-being in all respects, in the sight of God and man, we are responsible. Hitherto, those to whom the affairs of India have been entrusted, have seemed, in spite of having taken ‘Heaven’s Light’ as their guide, to care little for the eventual judgment of God, and still less for the criticisms of those who find occasion to call their acts of omission and commission into question.

It not being desirable to burden the text with too much detail a number of most important and interesting facts will be found in an Appendix to this Part. The attention of the reader is specially requested to Appendix III. entitled ‘Anglo Indian Official Testimony to Sir Salar Jung’s Reforms.’]

(4) A NATIVE INDIAN STATESMAN.

During the thirty years, (which are still under our review,) of his Dewanship, Sir Salar Jung encountered difficulties in no degree less serious than those with which successive Viceroys have had to grapple. In great crises as well as in minor difficulties he was found equal to every situation. As time goes on and the unimportant events in history sink into their due insignificance leaving only a few incidents as landmarks

of the period, Sir Salar Jung will stand out among the individuals who have made and are making the history of India in this nineteenth century, as incomparably the greatest figure of them all. Neither statesman nor soldier (though he never 'set a squadron in the field') will be found, in enduring merit, to reach the height on which he stands. The verdict of the historian will place him higher than them all. To him was given the power of self-restraint, the power to accurately weigh events and, in spite of forces of almost cyclonic strength pressing upon him from all points of the compass, to withstand ill-advised suggestions, and to pursue the even tenor of his way. When the events of 1857 have receded somewhat and we are freer to judge and to consider than we now are, it will be found that, even more than John Lawrence in the Punjab or than Sir Henry Havelock in the North-Western Provinces or even than Lord Canning at Calcutta, Salar Jung was, in that time of terrible trial to all Britons and to all who wish well to India, the Saviour of British Rule in that country. Anglo-Indians by the score have said with their lips and have left on record with their pens, 'But for the stand which Salar Jung made at Hyderabad all India would have been lost to us and we should have had to re-conquer the country from the sea-board.' Others—Sir R. Temple among them—have declared his conduct to be 'simply priceless.' Yet, no historian has, to this present, put this prescient statesman in the position he has well earned, nor, when abundant opportunity offered, did any British Minister

exhibit toward him adequate gratitude. On the contrary, to our shame be it said, there have been men in high office in India who took a delight in subjecting him to insult and contumely, who degraded themselves in trying to humiliate him.

If ever there was an incident which justified the cynic in declaring that there is no over-ruling Providence directing the course of events and ensuring that what men sow that also shall they reap, even to the last handful of grain the sower casts, it was the loyalty of Salar Jung and his Master to the British in 1857. Four years before the Mutiny Lord Dalhousie had taken a step which should, if consequence follows cause, if Nemesis does indeed wait to follow up an act of injustice and swiftly punish the unjust, have made it impossible, on an outbreak occurring, for the Deccan and Southern India to stand fast in adherence to the British. Lord Dalhousie, whose practice the new Viceroy of India is somewhat foolishly implored to follow, had, by acts which even his lordship's instrument declined to describe, wrested from the Nizam the fairest and most prosperous districts of his Dominions, to support a Contingent, the existence of which, a few years before, even Lord Dalhousie himself had declared he could not defend.* The act was high-

* On one occasion, when the Nizam asked why the Contingent was kept longer than the proceedings of the Hindoo Princes threatened war, the reason given for creating it. Lord Dalhousie wrote:—'I, for my part, can never consent, as an honest man, to instruct the President, to reply that the Contingent has been maintained by the Nizam from the end of the war in 1817 until now because the 12th Article of the Treaty of 1800 obliged His Highness so to maintain it.'

handed and was unjustifiable. It ought, in the ordinary course of things, to have left behind it a rankling sore, a deep sense of injustice, and a determination that no opportunity should be lost of showing resentment. How comes it, if the Princes and statesmen of Indian blood are the crafty, designing, revengeful, treacherous creatures that many Anglo-Indian writers declare them to be, Salar Jung should, in that supreme hour of British peril, have stood in the breach and saved us from overthrow? He was still smarting under the degradation and shame of controlling the affairs of a greatly-reduced State. His personal safety appeared to lie in giving way to the forces of the hour. His ambition must have been fired by the probabilities of honour and dignity and even sovereign power which he might gain it, indeed, the prophets ~~were~~ were right, if the days of British authority were numbered and the last sands of the English glass were running. Indian history has many incidents of a like kind; what man has done man may still do. Salar Jung remained proof against temptation. He nobly rose above all petty considerations affecting himself, and, what is rarer and more noble still, he passed over the recent and still palpitating insult to his State and courageously threw in his lot with the Power which had used his Master despitely, and was (after the lapse of many years) to use himself even more despitely. During that time of mutiny he went in daily fear of assassination, he was 'the object of threats, execrations, and hatred upon the part of the whole population.'

Still, he maintained his ground, and, without stopping to nicely consider all he was venturing in so doing, at once sent the Contingent and a portion of the Subsidiary Force to the help of the British troops. Colonel Fraser, in his work, 'Our Faithful Ally,' tells the story of the succour which this Contingent brought to the sorely-bested British forces. The Nizam's troops, it is stated, were first launched against the fortress of Dhar, which by forced marches they reached just after the escape of the rebel garrison, but in time to follow in pursuit. This rapid movement and essential service was followed up by the speedy and signal success of overtaking the fugitives, *en route* to Neemuch, and capturing a battery of eight guns (that of Mahidpore) which would otherwise have served the mutineers. 'This timely arrest certainly prevented a second Cawnpore tragedy at Neemuch, and probably—in crippling the rebel forces at a critical juncture—materially affected the ultimate issue of the war. For the successful result of this, their initiative (known as the action at Rawul), the Nizam's cavalry were ordered an extra (or *batta*) of five rupees a month to each man during the remainder of field service; and it is nothing short of humiliating to have to add that, with a symmetrical coolness peculiar to this sultry clime, the discharge of this impulsive obligation was left to the pliable Nizam. In their junction with Sir Hugh Rose at Saugor and in assisting to force the pass of Muddenpore, at the capture of Talbeit and fall of Jhansi, at the decisive action of Koonch, gained under

the fiercest strength of a tropical sun, and in a final demonstration against Tantia Topee; in each and all were the efficiency and resistless dash of the Contingent conspicuously displayed.'*

As Salar Jung acted during the Mutiny, so did he act throughout his able and fruitful career. He saw that the future of India was, for good and for all, bound up with England, and that the wise course for a patriotic Indian to take was to recognise this fact and to adapt the affairs he controlled to that which was beneficial in English modes of action. This was a man to cherish. How he would have been cherished were we but true to our professions! He was not a perfect man. Being human, he made mistakes; not being omniscient he could not sometimes avoid failing. All the agents he employed were not immaculate, and the wrong-doings of some of them reacted upon their employer. He had that fine touch of character, never absent from the man of first-class mind, which, though plans are fully carried out and ambitions realised, will not allow him to feel his work is perfect, but makes him strongly desirous, upborne by what he has achieved, to do still better. Sir Salar Jung had this noble characteristic in full measure. His latest English detractor, Mr. Gorst, has actually shown himself incapable of recognising so lofty and noble a quality of mind. In the course of his carping criticism of the dead lion, Mr. Gorst says:—'In domestic affairs his [Sir Salar Jung's] attempts to establish a sound system of

Times of India, art. 'Claims of the Nizam, Past and Present,' July 12, 1867.

administration failed completely ; no one knew this better than Sir Salar Jung himself, and it is said that he frequently lamented the fact to his intimate associates.' Poor Mr. Gorst ! In his unreasoning hatred of the statesman, he has failed to understand that sad disappointment which takes possession of superior minds when they review their work ; they see a hundred faults where the onlooker notes but one ; they observe neglected opportunities of which the observer is oblivious. Mr. Gorst has written himself down as unable to understand the intense yearning of a high-minded man to do better work in days to come than he has yet attempted. However, when all is said that can, by envy or malice, he said this much is certain,—Sir Salar Jung proved that an Indian statesman could do for an Indian State all that a British administrator could do, and more besides. The country will largely gain by fostering and encouraging such men as he. 'We are in India only for the good of India,' trumpet forth a thousand tongues. Ten thousand acts prove the words a mockery, and declare we are where we are because it is more to our profit than to our loss. If we were honest we should stand aside and give place to such men as the one just described, whose peers were and are to be found in every part of India.

CHAPTER II.

MR. GORST, M.P., ON 'THE KINGDOM OF
THE NIZAM.'

'All things look yellow to the jaundiced eye.'

IN judging of matters Indian the average Englishman or Englishwoman employs a different standard to that he or she uses in judging of anything affecting England or any other country, save India, on the face of the earth. Mr. Gorst, Q.C., M.P., is the typical Englishman in this respect; a lady travelling home from India during the autumn of a few years ago is the typical Englishwoman. The lady first. She was the wife of an officer on duty in the Nizam's Dominions. The husband was no subaltern, but a *burra Sahib* in deed and of a truth. On half-a-dozen occasions, while voyaging between Bombay and Suez, the lady expressed her opinions for the benefit of all and sundry regarding the administration of affairs in the State of Hyderabad. Her remarks, however, centred upon the Nizam's Minister, who was, to her, a veritable *bête noir*. Nobody, who heard her frequent protestations, could exactly tell why she should cherish the animosity against Sir Salar which she never tired of expressing.

Certainly her stock illustration convinced no one that she had occasion.

‘Ah!’ she would say, ‘If you want to judge what sort of a Minister Salar Jung is, think of this: Why, this year, as on many other occasions, he has had to borrow money to pay *us*’—(who the ‘*us*’ might be was not clear)—‘from the Sowkars! Fancy, a Prime Minister not being able to get along without going to the Sowkars!’

‘But,’ on the last occasion of the airing of her complaints, remonstrated one of her hearers, ‘there is nothing very serious in a Minister negotiating a short loan until the collections of revenue come in. I suppose that is what Sir Salar has done. There may be a special reason for his doing so.’

A shake of the head was the first response, followed by ‘Yes, but see: he had to go to the Sowkars!’

‘Well, madam,’ was the retort, ‘is that very evil? Did not Lord Beaconsfield a few years ago, or more, go to the Sowkar Rothschild for a loan to buy Suez Canal Shares? And, has he not floated Exchequer Bills for the trifling sum of six millions sterling?’

This was the climax and the close of the particular conversation reported, with the exception that the lady, in an audible and highly-indignant whisper remarked upon the temerity exhibited in making a comparison between Lord Beaconsfield and Sir Salar Jung. Her opponent quite agreed with her, and in spirit immediately apologized to the Indian statesman.

Mr. J. E. Gorst, Q.C., M.P., furnishes an even more

complete illustration of the truth of the assertion which has been made in the opening paragraph of this chapter. He has earned an honourable reputation in England for the sympathy he exhibits on behalf of the races owning British supremacy. In him the Maories of New Zealand have found one of their best English friends. The Aborigines' Protection Society know him as an ally. By parity of reasoning he might have been expected to take a front place among British Indian Reformers. The contrary has proved to be the case. Three months of the Parliamentary recess of 1883-84 were occupied by him on a voyage to and a stay in India. He was in that great Empire a few weeks. On the strength of that visit he wrote an article for the *Fortnightly Review*: it was published in April, 1884. It was a slashing and wholly inaccurate production, worthy of the lieutenant of Lord Randolph Churchill. In this article Mr. Gorst was unsparing in his denunciations of the young Nizam and his minister Salar Jung. A marked tribute was paid to the memory of Sir Salar Jung by describing his administration as a total failure and his reforms as a huge fraud committed with certain political motives to hoodwink the British Government. The State of Hyderabad was verging on the brink of bankruptcy, a state of things brought about by the thoughtless and wasteful extravagance of the late Minister while the credit of the Government was nil. The peasantry were ground down by oppression and by a rack-rent system of taxation. Corruption and peculation were the order of the day.

Such, in a few words, is the purport of the article in question. * Mr. Gorst has not a good word to say about any one except perhaps the Peshkar. Who, the English reader may ask, is the Peshkar? And, why, should Mr. Gorst think so highly of anybody in a State, for which he doubtless thinks Hamlet's description of the state of Denmark is fitting? The answer to these questions is to be found in a pamphlet written by one of the ablest publicists in India, Mr. Grattan Geary, Editor and Proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette*. Mr. Geary's pamphlet is entitled 'Hyderabad Politics: an Answer to Mr. Gorst, M.P.' In an appendix to this chapter will be found an interesting citation from Mr. Geary's pamphlet: it answers with tolerable completeness the second of the two questions asked above. Mr. Gorst himself tells us who the Peshkar is. 'The Peshkar,' he says, 'was a Hindu, mild and conciliatory in manner, and eccentric in his mode of conducting business. He carried his documents of State about with him in his pockets, and gave audiences at midnight in a cellar.' Mr. Gorst went to India to endeavour to obtain from the Viceroy his approval to the selection of the Peshkar as Prime Minister in succession to Sir Salar Jung. Armed with this approval he hoped pressure could be brought to bear upon the Nizam to make the appointment. The Peshkar represents Reactionary Hyderabad, the portion of Hyderabad which did all it could to thwart Sir Salar Jung's reforms. It will be seen that Mr. Gorst did not think very highly of his client. Perhaps the reader will think still less, when

he reads the following narrative of the aged opium-eating Hindu's idea of administration. A quarrel was proceeding between two parties, each of whom appealed to the Peshkar. The old gentleman attended to the appeals. He sent eight consecutive orders, four in favour of the petitioner and the other four in favour of the party petitioned against. The Secretary to the Irregular Troops, who was presented with these conflicting orders by the contending parties, was greatly perplexed and did not know which of the two sets of orders to act upon. In some distress he applied to the Peshkar for instructions. Mr. Gorst's mild and conciliatory client wrote back to the effect that he was ashamed of having to issue such conflicting orders, that people who brought recommendations to him and urged him to act upon them ought to be ashamed of themselves. He hoped the Secretary would do just what was right and proper, and not mind the orders he had received! This was the Minister Mr. Gorst wished to force upon the Nizam. Fortunately, his Highness, if he has the misfortune to incur Mr. Gorst's contempt because he is young, had enough discernment to see that the Peshkar was conducting affairs to rack and ruin. In place of the 'mild and conciliatory' Hindu he selected Mu Liak Ali, the eldest son of the late Minister, who had been joined as Co-Regent with the Peshkar—a living man chained to a corpse. Most thoroughly has his Highness's action been justified. Liak Ali, who, in his turn, is known to the world by the honoured designation Salar Jung, is proving himself in every respect worthy of the position he occupies and

of the name he bears. He is diligent in the despatch of business, he is resourceful in emergencies, he is courageous and prompt to act in time of need. Events have already occurred to try his mettle: he has come out of each ordeal more than conqueror. In him the race of Indian Statesmen finds a representative and a champion of whom the whole Empire may be proud.

It would have been occasion of much gratification to the present writer, in giving his testimony to the many administrative virtues and excellencies of purely Indian officers, if he could have done this without importing the personal element into the narrative. He would have preferred to leave the statement for Sir Salar Jung, as it appears in the preceding chapter, divested of all extraneous matters. Mr. Gorst, however, has appealed to Cæsar: in his appeal he has made assertions affecting the character of individuals which are wholly untrue. Too little, unfortunately, is known in England of Indian statesmen and of Indian States. The reader will, therefore, suffer a few remarks intended to show, in matters of detail as well as in the broad region of administration, there is no truth in the charges alleged.

1. The article which Mr. Gorst contributed to the *Fortnightly Review* opens with a melodramatic scene. Outside a village Court-house three persons are described as 'standing in the scorching sun with heavy stones upon their heads.' They 'were being pressed in this fashion by one of the superior Revenue officials to raise the deficiency' of their revenue due to Government.

After enduring the torture for twenty-four hours

they yielded, sold their bullocks, paid their rent, and what is since become of them and their families, God only knows.' Mr. Gorst carefully suppresses the source whence he derived this information. The story is evidently taken from an official report submitted by Major General Glasfurd, on the 4th of February, 1884, and is greatly exaggerated. General Glasfurd was, two years previously, appointed Survey and Settlement Commissioner. The late Minister particularly requested him while on tour to make a thorough and searching examination of the records of the different district offices. This anxiety of Sir Salai Jung to have the defects of his administration officially brought to his notice by a British officer of standing, together with many other instances of the kind which might be enumerated, the details of which are available, is a complete refutation of the statement made in the course of the article under notice, that the Minister hushed up scandals and did not allow British officers to know anything about his administration, except what he chose. To return to the incident: General Glasfurd made an extensive tour of the Nizam's Dominions, and after nearly eighteen months drew up a report describing the depressed condition of the ryots in the Bidar district. In his report General Glasfurd mentions the case of three ryots who were tortured by a petty Revenue official (not by a high official as Mr. Gorst would make people believe) 'who made them stand in the rain with heavy stones on their heads.' Mr. Gorst has 'touched' up the official statement by substituting the words 'scorching

'sun' for the word 'rain.' Dramatic effect was obtained at the expense of truth. The General, in his remarks, says nothing about the length of time the ryots were kept standing. It is to be noted that throughout the tour the General recorded only this single instance (together with a few minor ones) of oppression coming under his notice. The cases occurred in one village in a district the ryots of which had been in a comparatively depressed condition owing to the suppression of poppy cultivation two years before at the instance of the British Government.

The Nizam's Government has always shown itself anxious to put down oppression on the part of its servants with a strong hand and to mete out severe punishment to the parties found guilty of such charges. Not long ago the young Nizam, accompanied by his Minister, proceeded on a short hunting expedition to a village in the Ibrahimpatan Taluk. The ryots of the Taluk complained of the irregular and high-handed proceedings of the local Tehsildar. His Highness personally recorded the statements of the complainants, and finding that a *prima facie* case had been made out, forthwith ordered the suspension of the delinquent functionary pending his trial by the regular Courts of law.

In the Khaman district 'several charges of bribery and maladministration were preferred against Mr. Govind Rao, the Talukdar.' The Minister at once appointed a commission composed of a Judge of the High Court and a member of the Inam Commission;

and directed them 'to proceed to the spot and inquire into the complaints. A case having apparently been made out against the first Talukdar, he was suspended from his duties, pending the final report of the Commission.' These two cases, taken from official reports lately published, tend conclusively to prove that the Nizam's Government is not slow in punishing offenders whenever their delinquencies are brought to notice.

Sir Salar Jung himself did not countenance unlawful conduct in the servants of his Government, whether high or low. The case of Hunmunt Rao, Chief Treasurer and Accountant General, is an instance in point. This man had been accused of peculation and corruption. Sir Salar Jung having satisfied himself of the reasonableness of the charges brought against him appointed a special Commission to try him. The Commissioners found him guilty and the man was mulcted in a heavy sum and sentenced to five years' imprisonment. Another instance may be quoted of a High Court Judge who, having been convicted of receiving bribes, was sentenced to imprisonment and fine. Instances might be multiplied of officials found guilty and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment for the commission of offences of different kinds. These strong measures had a salutary effect and no case of any importance occurred for nearly ten years after the termination of the last case among the higher officials until the conduct of Govind Rao, to which allusion has been made, was recently brought to the notice of the Government.

2. The writer has been at some pains to find out the facts of the solitary case mentioned by Mr. Gorst in support of his assertion that Sir Salar Jung hushed up scandals. The allusion here is to the case of a high official now a member of the Board of Revenue at Hyderabad. This gentleman was formerly a member of the Oudh Commission in the British service and bore a very high character. At Sir Salar Jung's request his services were transferred to the Nizam's Government by the Government of India; he was, as a special case, allowed to contribute towards the civil pension fund to enable him to draw a pension after a certain period. On arriving at Hyderabad he was appointed a Sadar Talukdar or Divisional Commissioner. Anonymous petitions were sent to the British Resident, Sir Richard Meade, and among these was one narrating the story told by Mr. Gorst. The Resident, contrary to the general practice in such cases to consign papers of this kind to the waste-paper basket, demanded that a thorough and searching inquiry should be made into the matter. A Commission was appointed consisting of one European and one Native officer who, without giving the Sadar Talukdar notice of the visit, repaired to the scene of the alleged outrage. When the Commission reached the village where the offence was said to have

* 'Scandals were hushed up. On one occasion a high revenue official was charged with having seized while on tour the wife and daughter of a village officer for whom he had conceived a criminal passion and kept them for some time in his zenana. A commission of inquiry was appointed by Sir Salar Jung, but on arrival at the village they found that the officer with his wife and daughter had been spirited away and could not be found. The official thus accused still holds his position in the Nizam's administration.

—Mr. Gorst's Article, *Fortnightly Review*, p. 523

been committed, they not only found that the charges were unfounded but that there were no such persons in existence as those on whose behalf the petition purported to be addressed. The story was, therefore, a myth, and nothing more. In a Persian letter dated 10th October, 1879, Sir Richard Meade wrote to the Nizam's Minister as follows on the subject:—‘The grave charges brought against the Sadar Talukdar have been proved to be groundless and the finding has given me satisfaction.’ On his retirement from the Residency, Sir Richard left on record among the archives of his office references to this case and to the Sadar Talukdar in the following terms:—‘There have been some anonymous complaints against Mr. ——. But His Highness's Government, after inquiry, has pronounced them to be unfounded, and I understand that he enjoys its full confidence. I believe him to be one of the most able and intelligent officials in His Highness's service.’ The solitary instance on which Mr. Gorst has based his assertion having proved to be a fable, the superstructure which he built upon it necessarily falls to the ground. Far from hushing up scandals, Sir Salar Jung was ever ready to enquire into any charge brought to his notice, and never failed to sufficiently punish those who were proved to be guilty of misconduct. The Nizam's Government placed perfect confidence in this officer because they found him to be worthy of it. All the four successive British officers who have succeeded Sir Richard Meade as Resident since the date of the

enquiry have testified to the high qualities of this gentlemen.

Like testimony of a flattering character to the Nawab has been borne by Sir Steuart Clive Bayley and Major Trevor.

3. The reference in Mr. Gorst's article to Inspectors from Hyderabad and the only honest Talukdar is to Mr. Sheikh Daood's suspension by Government. In 1874 the late Mr. Sheikh Daood, then Talukdar (Collector) of Aurungabad, introduced revised rates of assessment in the whole district, based on unsound principles. He caused a rough survey to be made by the Pativadis, of the different fields and then had the soils classed simply by asking the villagers, who were collected in one place, to specify the colour of the soil of each field. If one soil was said to be black, it was put down as first class; if brown or red as second class; and if gravelly as third class. The statements of the

* Sir Oliver St. John, when on a visit to Gulbarga in June, 1884, wrote as follows to him —

Gulbarga July 1st 1884 My dear Nawab yar Jung As you are the founder of the excellent institution I have seen in Gulbarga and the author of its high reputation and increasing prosperity I cannot leave the place without expressing to you how pleased I have been with all I have seen. The excellent administration of Gulbarga shows what can be done in the dominions of His Highness the Nizam and it should be a subject of just pride to you to feel that you have been the pioneer of good government in the country, and that to your hard work other district officers are looking as the standard which they should try to attain.

It gives me the more pleasure to congratulate you on the happy result of your labours, because like myself your earliest service was passed in Oudh, a province of which I have the pleasantest recollections.

'With the best wishes for your future success and happiness, Believe me, yours very truly,

Signed) 'O. ST. JOHN'

'Nawab yar Jung, Ekranu ella Khan'

villagers were not checked by any tests, but were simply accepted as facts. When the statements were contradictory, as very often they were, then the statement which set down the soil at the highest class was accepted. As may be imagined, the so-called classification of the soils was thoroughly wrong; low classes of lands were often put down as first class and *vice versa*. But the mischief did not stop here, Mr. Daood introduced arbitrary rates of assessment. He calculated the cultivated area of the village in beegas, and the amount of the total assessment paid thereon. From these he produced an average rate, and this rate he proportionately divided into three classes, fixing them on each of the three different classes of soils. The consequences of this course of action was, as may readily be imagined, most disastrous, causing great fluctuations in the assessment of each field. For instance, a man who had hitherto paid only ten rupees for his field found he had to pay a hundred, and a man who paid the latter sum had his assessment reduced to ten, and so on. In realising this revised assessment he committed much oppression and even personally beat some of the ryots. This irregular and arbitrary way of fixing assessments naturally created considerable dissatisfaction among the ryots, and many petitions were sent by them to the Minister, who thereupon deputed Mr. Mahdi Ali to proceed to Aurungabad and inquire into the ryots' complaints. Mr. Mahdi Ali travelled over the districts, made personal inquiries from the ryots, had some of the measurements and classifications tested by professional

surveyors, with the result that he found them both, especially the latter, very incorrect. He sent in a detailed report of his inquiry, whereupon the Government suspended Mr. Sheikh Daoood, as that officer had carried out the survey and made the revolutionary changes in the assessment without the knowledge or sanction of Government. That year the revenue suffered a loss of upwards of one lakh of Rupees. Mr. Sheikh Daoood was afterwards re-instated as first Talukdar, but was transferred to another district. He was, however, suspended for six months.

4. Mr. Gorst says that 'in the rural districts there is no administration of justice. The Talukdars and their subordinate officers, who collect the revenue, are themselves the Ministers of Justice, with civil and military jurisdiction, and have the charge of the police.' This is a condemnation not of the system prevailing in the Nizam's Dominions but of that in vogue in the British Districts. The District Collectors not only possess criminal powers but, throughout British India, they also have the police under their control. In some of the large provinces of British India, notably the Panjab, the Berars, Oudh and Assam, the District officers possess civil jurisdiction also. The late Sir Salar Jung was anxious to take civil cases from the control of the District officers and place them in charge of a special agency, but he died before he could put this reform into practice. That the administration of justice in some parts of the Nizam's Dominions is not as good as it is in certain favoured

British Districts cannot be denied, but in this connection account must be taken of the difficulties which Sir Salar Jung had to encounter. The late Nizam, Afzal Ud Dowlah, was completely in the hands of old-fashioned Moulvies and he would not allow any reforms that might interfere with their right to administer justice. On one occasion an intelligent lawyer from Bombay was engaged to codify the laws and put the administration of justice on a proper footing. The Nizam, however, would not listen to anything in favour of the introduction of reforms in that branch of administration and the legal gentleman had to return, his work not even begun. It was on account of these matters that Sir Salar Jung once placed his resignation in the hands of his master, and it was because of obstructions of this kind that Sir George Yule had, on several occasions, to address him in strong terms. On the death of the Nizam in 1869, Sir Salar Jung began the work of reform in the Judicial Department, and from that time until 1876 he continued to introduce new measures as opportunity occurred. Then came the second Co-Regent, forced upon Sir Salar Jung by Lord Lytton. The Co-Regent was strongly opposed to all reforms in the direction of cheaper and more effectual justice and the Minister was obliged to put a stop to his wise designs. On the death of the Co-Regent he again drew up a scheme of reform with the approval of Sir Steuart Bayley, but before he could put it into force he died. At the same time, while the administration of justice in British

Provinces is in the condition described by Mr. L. P. Delves Broughton, Administrator-General, in a series of letters to the *Statesman* (Calcutta) in January, 1885, it is not for Mr. Gorst, nor for any one else of his nationality, to speak slightly of the attempts made in the State of Hyderabad to initiate and carry out judicial reform.

5. It is not true to say, as Mr. Gorst says in his article, that revenue 'has been on the decline for some years past.' In a memorandum on the administration, prepared by the present Minister and circulated among Indian newspapers and in other directions, a statement is given of the revenue for twelve years. There are no great fluctuations observable. Wherever there are differences those differences are due to the seasons. The year 1878-79, which ended three years before Sir Salar Jung's death, brought more revenue than any other year had done for the past twenty years.

6. Again, Mr. Gorst is altogether wrong in stating that the whole revenue is expended in the city of Hyderabad. The following are the items that are spent on special administration and on productive works. They are for 1881-82—

	Rs.
Law and Justice	7 25 730
Police	23,18,434
Education	1,85 577
Medical	1,93,562
Municipalities (which are paid from General Fund and for which no special tax is levied)	6,25 522
Public Works	17,49,390
Total	<u>57 98 215</u>

Out of the grant for Public Works Rs. 3,50,000 were devoted to the repair and maintenance of irrigation works in the country.

The foregoing refutations of Mr. Gorst's incorrect statements must suffice. From them, and from the particulars given in the preceding chapter, it will be clear that the charges brought against the administration of the Nizam's Kingdom by the late Minister are wholly without foundation. No doubt Mr. Gorst did not set forth the unveracious statements in his article with conscious and deliberate untruth. He gives an explanation of his own action when he says, 'In our system of governing India we shut our eyes to disagreeable truths.' This is exactly what he has done. He, a lawyer, accepted *ex parte* statements from interested parties as proved facts and published them as such. The consequence has been the commission of gross injustice. So far from the Nizam's Dominions being ill-governed they are well-governed, and the general conduct of the nation's affairs is such as to make the great Mahomedan State of India a pattern not merely to other Indian States but to the much vaunted British Provinces as well.

APPENDIX.

I.

MR. GORST AND HIS CLIENT.

(From Hyderabad Politics, by Grattan Geary.)

Now let us see what are the facts relative to this admirable Minister of Mr. Gorst's choice. The Peshcar, Raja Narendra, was appointed senior administrator after the death of Sir Salar Jung, having for his colleague Mir Liak Ali, now better known by the title of Salar Jung, the eldest son of the deceased Minister. The Government of India made this arrangement at the suggestion of Sir Steuart Bayley—one of the most experienced and successful Residents ever sent to Hyderabad—in order to bridge over the interval of a year which had yet to elapse before the Nizam attained his majority, fixed by the law and custom of Native States at 18 years. It was expressly laid down that the Peshcar, who was an old and feeble man, but had enjoyed considerable experience in administration under Sir Salar Jung, should give the major portion of the actual work to his young colleague, and himself supply the guidance which official experience qualified him, it was supposed, to give. There was a Council of Regency, but the two administrators were alone to carry on the executive work. Within a few weeks of assuming office, the Peshcar completely ignored his colleague, and, in spite of the remonstrances of Mir Liak Ali, he kept the whole of the affairs of Government in his own hands. We have seen Mr. Gorst's description of his peculiar methods of conducting business. Let us add that he was addicted to opium-eating, a practice which was necessary to keep his failing vitality from sinking under the pressure of State affairs. He refused to work with the official hierarchy, composed mainly of educated natives trained in the British system, and lent by the Government of India to the State of Hyderabad to reform the administration. There was a certain kitmutgar, or butler, who became an important personage of State. He and another man wholly illiterate, and who had not so

long before filled some humble employment at ten shillings a month. They were intermediaries between the general public and His Excellency the Peshcar. The ordinary work of administration came almost to a stand-

The reforms laboriously instituted by Sir Salar Jung with the approval of the Government of India, fared badly under the new régime. A certain Hunmunt Rao, who had formerly filled the office of Treasurer, committing therein large peculations, for which he was heavily fined in treble the amount, and banished the city for five years, was actually appointed Inspector General of all the Departments and special Supervisor of Accounts to the Treasury. Hunmunt Rao naturally hated the Salar Jung family, seeing that the late Minister had detected his defalcations and caused him to be severely punished. When he found himself again in the Treasury the accounts of which are so intricate that very few outsiders are competent to understand them, he was able, without much trouble to make out a sort of counter charge against the memory of the late Minister calculated to tarnish the name of Sir Salar and discredit his sons with the Government of India. It was said in Hyderabad that Hunmunt Rao offered to accomplish this measure of vengeance and of policy on the condition of being restored to the office of Treasurer. Young Salar Jung appealed to the Resident against so monstrous an appointment and the Resident, Mr. Cordery, protested, but without any practical result.

The honest Treasurer had not been long in office when he passed an order, at the instance of the Peshcar, for the payment of a sum of Rs. 82,000 to Mr. Thomas Palmer, a Eurasian Barrister, who had become the Peshcar's unofficial adviser and bosom friend. Salar Jung and Bushir ud-Dowla, one of the Members of the Council of Regency, inquired for what purpose so large a sum was taken from the Treasury. The Peshcar stated that it was required to make large purchases for the Nizam in Bombay. Salar Jung asked His Highness whether this were the fact. His Highness replied that the statement was absolutely false, he did not want to make any purchases whatever. It was ascertained that the money, instead of being sent to Bombay, was taken by Mr. T. Palmer to Calcutta. The Peshcar was pressed for a further explanation, and he gave one wide as the Pole from that already given. The money was needed, he stated, to pay for advice in connection with His

Highness's approaching accession. It has been asserted in a paper of general circulation in India, the *Pioneer*, that the money was really given as a fee for Mr. Gorst, whose advice was sought by the Peshcar, and that statement has never been contradicted. Either Mr. Gorst, or some one else, drew up a document which filled two pages and a half of printed sheet of foolscap, that was subsequently handed by the Peshcar to the Viceroy as a statement of his proposals for the future government of Hyderabad. There was certainly nothing in the document in question which would seem to an unenthusiastic reader to be worth Rs. 82,000. It proposed that there should be no consultative Council, that a Dewan should have sole and undivided authority, and that to counteract the impulsive temper of youth, His Highness' Dewan should be a person of mature age. It was not natural that at his age he should cherish the ambitious projects which are natural to the young, but such as he was, his whole life was devoted to the State, and his services are at the disposal of His Highness, if they were required. Whether Mr. Gorst wrote this, I cannot say, lacking the confidence of those who declare that hardly any doubt can exist upon the point, but it is unquestionable that whoever wrote the two pages and a half of foolscap, of which we have just seen the purport, was according to His Excellency the Peshcar himself, paid eighty-two thousand rupees out of the Treasury of Hyderabad for the job. His Excellency is evidently quite satisfied that His Highness the Nizam got good value for the money. Mr. Palmer was applied to for information upon the point, but he cautiously referred the Governments of Hyderabad and of India to the Peshcar for any further information that might be required.

II.

MR. GORST'S CHARGES.

*From Preface to Memoir and Correspondence of General J. S. Fraser
by Colonel Hastings Fraser)*

With the views I have always entertained and expressed as to Hyderabad affairs during the long administration of the late Nawab Sir

Salar Jung, a period marked, as explained in the body of this work, by the establishment of reforms already planned and partially introduced by his uncle, Soraj-ool-Moolk, under General Fraser's advice and influence, it may be conceived that I read with mingled regret and irritation an article in the *Fortnightly Review* for April 1884, by Mr. J. E. Gorst, M.P., the chief object of which seemed to be to decry the work of Sir Salar Jung's life by a combination of faint praise and undisguised abuse. Mr. Gorst says that Sir Salar Jung's "attempts to establish a sound system of administration failed completely," accuses the Nawab of "hoodwinking the British Government," and says that in this alone his "reformed administration was completely successful" (*Fortnightly*, p. 523). If this were true, it would say very little for the perspicacity or the honesty of the successive Residents at Hyderabad since 1854, who have all borne testimony to the progressive and beneficial character of Sir Salar Jung's administration,—testimony accepted and confirmed by the Marquis of Ripon at the State Banquet given in his honour at Hyderabad. (See Additional Appendix page lxi) Perhaps, after twenty-seven years of personal observation and experience, my opinion may be considered as valuable as that of Mr. Gorst, whose stay at Hyderabad was limited, I believe, to about three weeks, and whose views as to the condition and prospects of the Nizam's dominions are not in accord with my own observations. Mr. Gorst ventures to say that "the condition of the kingdom is wretched" and that "the people" are "unhappy" (p. 529). I have no hesitation in meeting those assertions with a direct and positive contradiction. The condition of the kingdom and its inhabitants is far better now than it was twenty years ago, and in general prosperity and contentedness the people will compare favourably with those of our own provinces.

The late Ameer-i Kabeer, whom Mr. Gorst may recognise under his previous title of Wikai-ool Oomra, father of the present Ameer-i Kabeer, Khoorshed Jah, frankly acknowledged, in personal conversation with me, that the whole country had progressed in good order and in material prosperity under Salar Jung's rule, adding that the districts under his own charge came quite up to the general standard, for which result he gave much credit to his several Commissioners.

Mr. Gorst introduces the whole subject by saying that at some vague

date, "a few months ago, ' in some un-named "village in the Deccan," a case of torture for the extortion of revenue occurred, similar to those related in the Reports of the Madras Torture Commission many years ago (page 522) In the absence of some specification and authentication, Mr Gorst, as a lawyer conversant with the law of evidence, and as a student of history, will pardon me if I decline to attach much importance to this story. I believe that all such malpractices have been as completely put down in the Deccan as in the Madras Presidency

But Mr. Gorst has formed a very bad opinion of the inhabitants of the Deccan. According to him, the 350,000 citizens of Hyderabad, among whom I thought I knew a few hard working and meritorious persons in every rank of life, are all occupied in 'squandering in riotous living' the wealth produced by "more than 9 000,000 tillers of the soil,"—the sole "pleasure" of those same tillers of the soil being that of "getting drunk on toddy" (p 522) After twenty seven years' familiarity with the cities and villages of the Deccan, I do not recognize the picture.

III.

SIR SALAR JUNG'S REFORMS

(From Memoir and Correspondence of General G S Fraser, by Colonel Hastings Fraser)

Passing over the testimony of the Residents in the earlier stage of Sir Salar Jung's administration, our first appeal shall be made to Sir Richard Temple, who, when Resident at Hyderabad in 1867, wrote as follows, in a dispatch dated 16th August, 1867 —

'In the Deccan, of late years the constitution, system, and principles of the Nizam's civil government are really excellent this much is certain. That the result must be more or less beneficial to the country is hardly to be doubted Whether full effect is given to the intentions of His Highness's Government throughout the Deccan, I cannot yet say, but independent testimony is constantly reaching me to the effect of great improvement being perceptible

In the annual *Return of Moral and Material Progress* for 1867-8 compiled at the India Office, it is said

'The vigorous efforts made towards reform have now placed the financial credit of the Nizam's Government on a satisfactory footing, it

enjoys the confidence of the moneyed class, and it can now raise money at very moderate rates of interest, instead of the usurious charges of former days.'

With regard to the assessment of land revenue, it is said that 'pains have been taken more and more to render the annual settlements equitable and moderate': and that 'all classes, high and low, connected with land or with trade, continue to flourish.' The judicial institutions have undergone the process of being entirely remodelled; and in the annual *Return of Moral and Material Progress* for 1869, the following reference is made to the new class of Magistrates and Judges, who are gradually replacing throughout the country the hereditary and separate jurisdictions, which are still maintained in some great nobles' estates:—

'All these officers are well educated, though all have not done well; several had originally received a training in one or other of the British Provinces. Many discharged their duties with more or less of efficiency; and some have by their firmness and uprightness brought credit to their department.'

In his report as Resident for 1869-70, Mr. C. B. Saunders thus warmly testified to the great improvement that had taken place in the administration of the Nizam's dominions in the previous twenty years:—

'It is hardly too much to say that the Hyderabad with which I first became acquainted in 1860, was to the Hyderabad which was described, for example, in the despatches of my predecessor of 1820, Sir Charles (afterwards Lord) Metcalfe, as the England of the present day is to the England of the Stuarts,—a result essentially due, as Government is aware, to the beneficent administration and sound policy of the present Minister, Sir Salar Jung, and to the support afforded to him by my predecessors in office. Not only was the public treasury full, but the annual income of the State exceeded the annual expenditure by about eight lakhs of rupees, while the credit of Government stood proportionately high. Owing chiefly to the abolition of the baneful system of former times, by which the collection of the revenue was farmed out to contractors, disturbances in the interior of the country had become rare. The Hyderabad Contingent had not fired a shot, except on its own parade-grounds, since the suppression of the mutinies.

'In no respect does the recent administration of His Highness's country contrast more favourably with the state of things prevailing twenty years ago than in regard to revenue matters.

'The police has been put on a satisfactory footing; and life and property are only slightly more insecure in His Highness's territory than in many parts of the country subject to our administration.'

At present there is no reason to suppose that life and property are in the least more insecure in the Nizam's Dominions than in any other part of the Indian Empire. In every respect, and in every quarter,

improvement has been visibly progressive. In January, 1880, after an inspection of the public offices at Aurungabad, the Resident, Sir Richard Meade, wrote a letter to the Nawab Sir Salar Jung, in which, as will be seen from the following extracts, he highly commended the district administration:—

‘Now that I understand,’ he said, ‘we have finished all that your Excellency wished me to see in connection with the affairs here. I think I may assure you in this way of the very great gratification that has been afforded me by this opportunity of observing their condition and working.

‘The work and records of the Survey Department appeared to me to be admirable, and to leave nothing to be desired; and the care that has been bestowed on everything connected with this Department was very striking.

‘The Settlement operations are, of course, quite distinct from the Survey work, but I gathered that they are being conducted with equal care.’

In the beginning of 1882, the Resident, Sir Steuart Bayley, went carefully and closely into an elaborate plan for certain reforms in the organization of almost every department of State, communicated by the Minister for his information, and for the benefit of his advice, and the Resident gave to all the details of this plan his cordial approbation.

Authentic statistics, among which may be mentioned those collected by the Imperial Famine Commission, which visited the Nizam's capital in 1878, show a remarkable improvement in the condition of the agricultural population in the Hyderabad State since the accession to power of the late Sir Salar Jung. At the present day the condition of the cultivators of the soil in the Nizam's territories will compare very favourably with any provinces under British rule. They are not heavily taxed, the assessments being very generally much in the ryot's favour. They have never been compelled to contribute to an income-tax, a licence-tax, or any other of those new imposts and cesses with which inventive ingenuity has harassed the people and stimulated disaffection. No land is ever sold for arrears of revenue, or in satisfaction of a court decree; and thus no land in the Nizam's Dominions has passed into the hands of money-lenders and soucars, as has occurred to such a disastrous and alarming extent in other parts of British India, and with a view to check which unpopular and impolitic disturbance of social relations, Mr. Hope's Deccan Ryots' Bill* was brought forward.

If the Berar Districts have prospered, as they undoubtedly have, under British management, the other Provinces of the Hyderabad State which have remained under the direct rule of the Nizam, have prospered in at least an equal degree. If tested by the spontaneous growth of land revenue, due simply to increased cultivation, by orderly conduct and absence of crime among the inhabitants, and by the general evidence of their well-being and contentment, the Provinces ruled by the Hyderabad Ministry have made quite as marked an advance as those under the Berar Commission. This advance is, to say the least, quite as remarkable in the Raichore and Dharaseo districts, restored to the Nizam's direct rule by the Treaty of 1860, as in any of the districts retained under the control of the British Resident.

IV.

THE DEBTS OF THE NIZAM'S KINGDOM.

(From the Finance Statement of Sir Salar Jung for 1877). —

XXIV. DEBTS.—The details of Government debts up to the 31st Sharivar 1287 Fasli, excluding the Railway debts, are as follows:—

	Rs.		
Temporary Loans	32,392,35	12	3
Bank of Bengal Loans on security of			
Promissory Notes	18,55,000	0	0
Loans from the Sarf-i Khas revenue, from			
which no interest is to be paid ..	26,45,924	15	0
Total	77,40,160	11	3

These debts would not have stood so high, but for the circumstances that famine supervened in the years 1286 and 1287 Fasli, which resulted in a loss of revenue to Government, and extra expenditure on relief works and administration. Then there is another fact that must be taken into consideration. Within the past twenty-four years a considerable sum of money has been paid towards debts contracted in the years

preceding 1263 Fasli. The amounts which were found due to Talukdars on the adjustment of accounts had to be paid, and the state jewellery that had been pawned was redeemed. These items, as stated in paragraph 184 of the Financial Statement, amount to Rs. 2,11,18,570. Nearly two crores of rupees have been spent in constructing the State Railway, the interest on which alone would amount to an aggregate of about 75 lakhs, besides a loss of six or seven lakhs of rupees annually on the working of the line. Moreover, a sum of about 80 lakhs of rupees has been spent on public works, many of them more or less productive and essential to the welfare of the country. Mortgages on Jagirs, which have been latterly resumed, have been paid off. A sum of 42 lakhs of rupees has been invested in Government promissory notes. The outlay on these heads alone exceeds the amount of Rs. 5,20,00,000. Reforms and improvements of a very essential nature had to be carried out in every department at an enormous cost, the establishment of a Regular Police Force alone requiring not less than 20 lakhs of rupees per annum. The number of officers and office establishments have been increased in the Revenue and Judicial Departments and at Head-quarters. In years of scarcity moreover, in times past, Government has had to make famine allowances to its Civil and Military officers, amounting altogether to about 98 lakhs of rupees, part of which, namely, the allowance to the Military, is still in force. Sanitary reforms have cost 16 lakhs of rupees, and the famine has swallowed up another 13 lakhs. Out of the revenues of Sharupur six lakhs annually are transferred to the Sarf-i-Khas Treasury, in excess of former assignments, the total payments on which account amount to some 90 lakhs, up to date. Taking all these circumstances into consideration, it is not difficult to account for the indebtedness of the State. Nor does it appear that the existing debts are anything formidable, for, notwithstanding all these expenses, the amount of Rs. 32,39,235-12-3 due to the bankers may be regarded as the only sum that stands as an actual debt against the Government. To meet the Bank of Bengal Loans, we have Government promissory notes to a larger amount to show, while we have no interest to pay on the Sarf-i-Khas Loans, which are by no means large in amount, if we deduct therefrom the sums spent in Sarf-i-Khas public works. The proportion of the revenue of His Highness the Nizam's Dominions for 1288 Fasli, to the whole debt, is thus found to be nearly fifteen to four—in other words, the total debt is a little less than one-third of the

entire revenue. Should we, however, deduct from the total debt the Bank of Bengal Loans, to meet which we have got the Government promissory notes and the Sarf-i-Khas Loans, on which we have to pay no interest, the ratio of the whole debt to the annual revenue diminishes to one-ninth only; and it is hoped that if the seasons prove favourable for a couple of years, a considerable diminution will be effected in the amount of these debts. Indeed it may be confidently predicted that, should no untoward circumstances entailing extraordinary expenditure on the State take place, they will be completely wiped out.

V.

REFORMS IN THE HYDERABAD STATE.

(*Bombay Gazette, January 8th.*)

HYDERABAD, *January 7th, 1885.*

Yesterday a *Government Gazette Extraordinary* announcing the changes to be made in the general administrative work of the State was issued. It will be remembered that shortly before the death of Sir Salar Jung, that distinguished statesman had formulated a complete scheme of reform for the Government. He had already introduced one or two important changes, notably the formation of a Revenue Board, when his death occurred. His proposals had been submitted to Sir Steuart Bayley and the Government of India, and had met with the cordial approval of Lord Ripon's Government. When the late Minister visited Simla in 1882, Lord Ripon expressed a hope that these reforms would, when introduced, be productive of the good the Minister confidently anticipated. As already stated, Sir Salar Jung died before these reforms were introduced. During the interregnum which followed his death no attempts were made to follow up his plans, although from time to time the Government of India requested, through the Resident, that the Peshkar would not lose sight of the scheme of the late Minister, which was ready to hand. After the installation of His Highness last year, and the appointment of Sir Salar Jung's son as Minister, it was decided to take up the question of the reform of the Administration at the point where it had been left by the late Minister. A few minor

reforms were first introduced, and gradual preparations were made for the final and complete reorganization announced in yesterday's *Gazette Extraordinary*. It should be mentioned that the Minister's brother, Nawab Munir-ul-Mulk, accompanied by a staff of experienced officials of the State, was sent in August, last year, to Bangalore, Madras, Poona, Nagpore, Umraoti, and other places to acquire information which would be useful in the introduction of the contemplated reforms. The Nawab was thus enabled to gain a good deal of knowledge and experience which will prove most useful and valuable to his brother and the Government. After his brother's return the Minister himself went to Simla by invitation from Lord Ripon. He took with him a progress report drawn up by himself, showing what he had accomplished since his appointment as Minister and what he proposed to do. Lord Ripon was greatly pleased with the Minister's account of his work and told him so, both in conversation and in a letter which he addressed to him. The Viceroy approved generally of the proposed reforms, and gave him much good advice regarding the administration of the State generally. Briefly, the reforms are as follows:—The Minister takes personal charge of the Revenue, Judicial, and Public Works Departments, the three most important branches of the Administration. Moulvi Mahdi Ali becomes Political and Financial Secretary, and his duties will be the preparation of annual and quarterly administration reports, budgets, and financial statements, and other important work of a like description. Sirdar Diler Jung becomes Home Secretary, and has charge of the Railway, Police, Stamp Office, Post Office, Mint, Municipality, and Forests. The four Suddar Talukdars, or Commissioners of Divisions, become Subahs with enlarged powers. The Revenue Board is abolished, and most of its work transferred to the Revenue Secretary's office. The Miscellaneous Department is abolished as no longer necessary, and its work distributed amongst other offices. The Irregular Troops Secretariat is amalgamated with the office of the Military and Private Secretary, Major Gough, who will thus be at the head of the whole of the troops of both branches. The appointment of a European of Major Gough's experience and probity to such a high position has given the greatest satisfaction, and is looked upon as a sign that the Government of His Highness is desirous of having its military forces under experienced control in future, with a European at their head. The Munsub or Pension Office, is transferred to the Accountant General.

The Educational Department is given to Syed Hussain Belgrami, whose great ability and experience are a sufficient guarantee that it will be well looked after. He takes this work in addition to his present post of Secretary to His Highness the Nizam. Great changes are also made in the Public Works Department, Mr. Wilkinson, the present Secretary, becomes Consulting Engineer, and is succeeded by Mr. George Palmer. Rai Munnoolall becomes Superintending Engineer, and it is expected that the opportunity will be taken to reduce the expenditure of the Department, which is by far the most costly of its kind in India. The Minister has already announced his intention of supervising it personally in future. A number of minor changes will be introduced in the districts by and bye, but the foregoing are the most important, and are to take immediate effect. The scheme, which has received the cordial approval of the Resident, gives very general satisfaction to all classes of the Government servants, both European and natives. His Excellency the Minister is very keen about its success, and has worked hard to ensure that end.

PART III.

AN ENQUIRY AS TO THE POSSIBLE
REMEDY.

PART III.

AN ENQUIRY AS TO THE POSSIBLE REMEDY.

CHAPTER I.

IN what direction are we to look for the realization of the hope expressed in the title of this brochure, 'India for the Indians,—and for England'? How are the supreme interests of the people of India to be secured, their poverty rendered less depressing and grinding, and their hopes and desires raised until they become generally what many are already, worthy or more than worthy, to stand face to face with the noblest Englishman who ever found his way to India? And, on the other hand, how are the interests of the British people to be preserved? These interests have grown to enormous proportions. With comparatively insignificant exceptions the Imperial debt of £150,000,000 is held by British investors. There are, also, (1) the Railway stock, totalling many millions; (2) the indigo, tea, coffee, and cinchona estates, representing a capital expenditure and investments at least as great as the