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SPEECHES

BY THE

EARL OF MINTO,

VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA.



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BY THE

VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA

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SPEECHES

BY THE

EARL OF MINTO.

I.—SPEECH DELIVERED IN ENGLAND.

1905.

FAREWELL BANQUET IN LONDON.

[It may be safely assumed that, apart from his audiences of the 30th Oct. 1905. King, no feature of the events connected with the Earl of Minto's departure to assume the Governor-Generalship of India will abide in his heart and memory more vividly than the banquet to which he was entertained by numerous hosts, all personal friends of his own and some of them life-long friends, at Prince's Restaurant on Monday, the 30th October 1905. The fact that the dinner was, in reality, a private gathering of friends accounts for the absence from the list of diners of many names which would have prominently figured had the occasion been semi-official in character, and for the almost entire absence of members of the India Council or permanent India Office officials and of representatives of the professional and mercantile communities of the Anglo-Indian world. For the same reason, the speeches made have not been reported in the Home Press, with the exception of a somewhat important remark of the guest of the evening as to the need for giving India a rest from its years of strenuousness, and of a compliment paid the Viceroy-designate by Lord Lansdowne. All the arrangements were admirably organised by Mr. Moreton Frewen. The diners were assembled at a number of round tables, the central table being occupied by the most prominent members of the party. The Duke of Portland was in the chair, and to his right were Lord Minto, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and Lord Roberts, while to his immediate left were the Lord Chief Justice (Lord Alverstone), the American

*Farewell Banquet in London.*

Ambassador, and Sir Algernon West. Others at the chief table were Mr. Brodrick, Lord Middleton, General Sir Alexander Elliot, Lord Clarendon, General Lord Falmouth, General Sir Frederick Stephenson, Lord Strathcona, Lord Cheylesmore, His Excellency Sir Henry Blake, Governor of Ceylon, Dr. Warre, late headmaster of Eton, and Mr. J. M. Richardson. A special interest attached to the presence of the last-named veteran of the saddle, who won the Grand National Steeplechase two or three times in the old days when Lord Minto as "Mr. Rolly" was always one of his rivals, and the two sportsmen trained and rode Captain Machell's steeplechase horses at Limber Magna. At the "Winchester" table were the Marquis of Winchester, General Lord Downe, General Arthur Paget, C.B., General L. Oliphant, C.B., Mr. W. H. Grenfell, M.P., Sir John Dickson Poynder, M.P., Sir Frank Swettenham, Major the Hon'ble R. White, the Hon'ble Evan Charteris, Colonel John Leslie, and Mr. Leo Rothschild. At the "Lytton" table were Lord Lytton, Mr. Edward Hope, C.B., Sir Alfred Fripp, C.B., Colonel F. Romilly, C.B., Captain Fred. Adam, Mr. Arthur Grenfell, Mr. Henry Graham, Mr. Leslie Ward, and Mr. Arthur Guise. At the "Granby" table were Lord Granby, Lord Harewood, Lord St. Oswald, Lord Annaly, Lord Bath, General Sir R. Pole-Carew, Sir F. Younghusband, Sir Henry Blake, the Hon'ble Spencer Lyttelton, C.B., Mr. Walter, and Mr. Leo Maxse. Major the Hon'ble Edward Bourke presided at the "Mayo" table, and with him were Sir Edward Hamilton, Sir Charles Turner, Mr. Gerald Loder, Colonel Sir Curzon Wyllie, Colonel Weston Jarvis, Colonel Seymour Corkran, Mr. H. A. Gwynne, Mr. M. Elliot, and Mr. H. W. Hoare. Lord Sandhurst presided at the table to which his name was given, and with him were Lord Bolton, Lord Farquhar, Lord Alwyne Compton, M.P., General Sir E. Hutton, the Hon'ble George Peel, Colonel Ivor Maxse, Colonel Laurence Drummond, Colonel Chester, Colonel Inigo Jones, C.B., and Mr. G. Cornwallis West. General Sir Hugh H. C. Gough had charge of the "Gough" table, and with him were Sir R. Waldie Griffith, General Henry Stracey, General Sir R. Lane, General Chapman, C.B., General Sir J. Gordon, General Alderson, C.B., Colonel Spencer Childers, Major Stirling, C.B., and Captain Bell. At another table were Lord Windsor, Sir Thomas Elliott, General McMahon, Captain Chandos Pole, Sir Henry Meysey Thompson, M.P., Mr. Russell Stephenson, and Mr. H. Elliot. At the "Clive" table were Lord Powis, Lord Kilmorey, Lord Essex, Lord Berkeley Paget, General Sir Seymour Blane, General Sir B. Campbell, General Brabazon, C.B., Colonel Ralph Vivian, Captain the Hon'ble Charles Fitzwilliam, Mr. F. Lingham, and Mr. Moreton Frewen, the Honorary Secretary of the dinner. The Hon'ble Arthur

*Farewell Banquet in London.*

Elliot, M.P., brother of the Viceroy-designate, presided at the "Minto" table, and with him were the Hon'ble W. F. Lascelles, Sir Henry Graham, Sir Edward Buck, Mr. P. M. Thornton, M.P., Colonel Dunlop Smith, C.I.E., Sir Vernon Chater, Colonel MacMahon, Captain F. Hughes, Mr. G. R. Parkin, and Mr. J. Garvin.

The toast list was so artistically produced that it forms a souvenir of an interesting occasion well worthy of preservation. The front page of the cover was occupied with an excellent portrait of the guest of the evening, the only description being "Governor-General, 1905," while the back of the cover was embellished with the firm, kind face of his great-grandfather, "Governor-General, 1807." Within is a portrait of Lady Minto in the Court dress with long train which has been shown in many of the sketches of Her Ladyship given by the illustrated papers. Facing this portrait was the brief toast-list of four items followed by lines in which "H. G." gave versified expression to the sentiments in the minds of all the hosts assembled to bid convivial farewell to their guest, whose great personal popularity was abundantly evidenced during the evening. The lines were as follows:—

To greet their Guest, so doubly blest
 With proud Proconsular position,
To Prince's Hall come great and small,
 Peer, poet, politician;
United in a deep desire
To honour one whom all admire.
The Duke is there to take the Chair,
 Fond friends about the board are sitting;
The wine is good, and choice the food,
 The toast-list brief but fitting.
Yet o'er the banquet, truth to tell,
There broods a shadow of Farewell.
Their tears excuse, who grieve to lose
 The friend they cherish *con amore*;
Though truly glad that he has had
 This chance of further glory;
Upholding, as he richly merits,
The great traditions he inherits,
He seeks again, and not in vain,
 The British Empire's good opinion;
But just returned with *kudos* earned
 Within the Great Dominion;
Where slow to judge and swift to act,
He ruled with dignity and tact.

*Speeches by H. E. the Earl of Minto.**Farewell Banquet in London.*

And she who shares the joys, the cares,
The triumphs of his lofty mission ;
Whose pride is his, whose glory 'tis
To further his ambition ;
Though far from home she may depart,
Stays shrined in many an English heart.
Whoever sings the " Sport of Kings,"
Whoever rode (or backed) a winner,
Foregathered here from far and near
To " Mr. Rolly's " dinner ;
With joyful shout your tumblers drain,
And make the welkin ring again !

* * * * *

Yes, cheer with *vim* ! Let beakers brim !
Acquaintance, comrade, friend, relation !
Let wine galore in bumpers pour
A generous libation !

* * * * *

" Your Excellencies ! " (we address you !)
" Farewell ! *Bon voyage* ! and God bless you ! "

The Duke of Portland, whose clear, resonant utterance added to the pleasure with which he was heard, first gave the loyal toasts, which were warmly honoured. In speaking to the second of them he said he should only be voicing the feelings of all of them when he expressed a hope that the Royal tour in India would not only be brought to a satisfactory conclusion and give great enjoyment to Their Royal Highnesses, but would also be of great benefit to the Empire. (*Hear, hear.*)

LORD MINTO'S CAREER.

Proceeding to give the chief toast of the evening, the Duke of Portland said :—

" I rise to propose the toast of the evening with mixed feelings, for the pleasure which I feel at the totally undeserved honour conferred upon me in making me the spokesman of the hosts on this occasion is very much counterbalanced by the knowledge that I entirely lack the necessary powers of oratory to do anything like justice to such an important toast on such an important occasion. But I am sure that, in however poor a manner I may perform my duty in submitting the toast, your response will be none the less warm, nor will your good wishes be any the less heartfelt to him whose health I have the honour and the pleasure to ask you to pledge. (*Cheers.*) I have to ask you to drink to the health of our guest, Lord Minto (*loud cheers*), the

*Farewell Banquet in London.*

Viceroy-designate of India. It seems, my Lords and Gentlemen, only yesterday since his old and warm friends gladly welcomed him home from Canada; and now, with feelings of pride, not unmingled with regret at the thought that he is so soon to leave us again, we are assembled here to wish him God-speed and every circumstance of happy fortune in the new and most honourable office which it has pleased His Majesty to confer upon him (*cheers*), an office in which he follows in the footsteps of his illustrious ancestor, who filled the same high office from 1807 to 1813. That our guest this evening will fill that responsible position with the greatest benefit to his country and credit to himself we all, I am sure, thoroughly believe (*hear, hear*); for does not his past history fully and unhesitatingly entitle us to do so? (*Hear, hear.*) The record of his most brilliant and tactful service in Canada is too recent and too well known for me to allude to at any length to-night. I will merely say, without fear of contradiction, that he conducted the affairs of the Great Dominion with marked firmness, tact, and ability. (*Hear, hear.*) During the stress and strain arising out of the war in South Africa he encouraged, by every means in his power, that spontaneous patriotic feeling of loyalty which placed at our disposal that splendid Canadian contingent which rendered glorious service on many a battlefield in the area of conflict. (*Cheers.*) Carrying back our minds a little further, we see that Lord Minto has gained a knowledge of the world in many and various ways of service for the Empire. It may be said that he has profited as few others have done by following the fortunes of war either as a spectator or as a combatant in Spain, in Paris during the Commune, in Turkey during the Russo-Turkish war, in Afghanistan—where he served on the staff of our old friend Lord Roberts (*cheers*), in Egypt and the Soudan, where he led a company of mounted infantry, and during the Riel rebellion in Canada, his first introduction to the Dominion being as Military Secretary to Lord Lansdowne (*hear, hear*), whose presence here we all most gladly welcome, and whose splendid successes at the Foreign Office, besides gaining us an invaluable friendship on the Continent, have secured us an alliance in the Far East likely to be of infinite advantage to India and to our whole Empire, and not only this, but one that will make for the peace of the whole world. (*Loud cheers.*) In earlier life, my Lords and Gentlemen, Lord Minto showed the iron nerve and resolute courage he possessed by his prowess in the saddle and by his many gallant attempts to win the Grand National. (*Laughter and cheers.*) I am quite sure that this remark will fully commend itself to Mr. J. M. Richardson (*cheers*), "Cat" Richardson, Lord Minto's old racing confederate, and on many occasions his most doughty opponent. Summing up Lord Minto's career, it may be said

*Farewell Banquet in London.*

that wherever useful experience has had to be gained or service has had to be rendered to his country, there Lord Minto has been, and I submit to you that in all these different walks of life he has shown those qualities of tact, skill, resource, and courage of which we, as his friends and countrymen, may be justly proud. (*Hear, hear.*)

"It does not seem so very long ago that we said good-bye to him with regretful though gladdened hearts on his departure for Canada. We are now again assembled to say good-bye with the same regret but if anything with increased confidence on Lord Minto's departure to take up his onerous duties as Viceroy of India (*hear, hear*), as the successor to one who has filled that office with more than usual vigour and ability. (*Loud cheers.*) It is not for me to dilate on the many and splendid services which Lord Curzon has rendered to the Empire during his tenure of office as Viceroy. They are well known and deeply appreciated by his countrymen both here and in the East (*cheers*), and I am quite sure that when the history of our day is written it will do full justice to his distinguished career. In asking you to drink with all honour and enthusiasm to the health of Lord Minto (*cheers*), I take upon myself, as your spokesman, to assure him that he goes forth to the responsible duties of his glorious office accompanied by the best wishes of his friends and supported by their complete confidence in his ability to fulfil those duties to the greatest advantage of his country and with entire credit to himself. (*Hear, hear.*) You will permit me, I am sure, to include in the toast the name of the lady who so greatly assisted him in his duties, both social and philanthropic, in Canada. The manner in which she did so caused her to be beloved throughout the whole Dominion. (*Cheers.*) May I assure her, through our guest to-night, that she will leave her many true friends in this country deeply regretting her departure; that their God-speeds to her husband apply equally to herself; and that we wish her and her family with all our hearts happiness and good fortune in all the days to come." (*Loud cheers.*)

The request of the Chairman was most enthusiastically responded to, amid loud cries of "Rolly! Rolly!" with three cheers for His Lordship, and one for Lady Minto.

THE REPLY.

When the ovation had ceased Lord Minto promptly rose to express his thanks, only to be received with another outburst of cheering. He said :—]

My Lord Duke, Your Excellency, my Lords, and Gentlemen,—I really am at a loss to know how to thank you

*Farewell Banquet in London.*

adequately for giving me the opportunity of meeting this great gathering of friends; nor do I know how to return thanks for the too kind words in which your Chairman has proposed my health, or for the warmth with which you have received the toast. I am glad to feel that there is nothing official in the proceedings of to-night (*cheers*), that we need none of us be afraid of our postprandial utterances, spending sleepless hours in thinking about what we have said or what we have not said. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*) This evening is to me full of meaning, full of affectionate memories of the past and hopes for the future. I look around me, and see companions of my whole career, such as it has been—soldiers and old comrades, and keen sportsmen with whom I have ridden between the flags and shared many a good gallop with hounds. I see an old school-fellow, a brilliant oarsman (Colonel Corkran), and visions rise up before me of many a hard-rowed race and many a long pull on the Thames; and I see a Chief Justice (Lord Alverstone), the “Dick” Webster of old days—that will-o’-the-wisp of the running path that none of us could catch. (*Laughter and cheers.*) And of those I have known in wider fields, there are here to-night that much beloved General (General Sir F. Stephenson), who was my first Commanding Officer, Lord Roberts and Sir Hugh Gough, the leaders I am so proud to have served under, and the distinguished Foreign Secretary of to-day (the Marquess of Lansdowne)—another old school-fellow—on whose staff I served in Canada and to whose tutelage in the ways of official life I owe so much. I cannot tell you how great a help it is to me to feel that whatever responsibilities and difficulties I may have to face in my far-distant administration I can at any rate always rely upon the good wishes and loyal support of the friends I am leaving at home. And I am all the more sensible of your kindness in giving me the encouragement of this farewell, because, though I am deeply sensible of the greatness and magnificence of the position to which the King has

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done me the honour to appoint me, I cannot but realise that the task before me is not an easy one. The difficulties and responsibilities of Indian administration loom large before me. I am succeeding a brilliant ruler who, in perfecting the machinery of State, has given evidence of abilities and talents which no successor can hope to emulate. And yet my racing days have taught me that many a race has been won by giving the horse a rest in his gallops. (*Laughter and cheers.*) I go forth from these shores hoping to reap the benefit of work already done—hoping to be able to the best of my ability to maintain the results of that work, to recognise the noble self-sacrifice of our fellow-countrymen's services in distant lands, and to further as best I can the happiness and confidence in each other of men of different nationalities, races, and creeds. (*Cheers.*) It is somewhat of an advantage to me that to a certain extent the history of India is not quite an unknown book to me. (*Hear, hear.*) I have been brought up in a home full of Indian traditions, in a house full of old Indian literature, decorated with beautiful works of Indian art. (*Hear, hear.*) My great-grandfather was Governor-General of India nearly a century ago; an ancestor whom I have been taught to venerate, and who has always seemed to me to have united a charming personality and modesty of character with the broad-minded outlook and capacity of a great statesman. (*Hear, hear.*) His brother Hugh was Governor of Madras. My mother's father was Commander-in-Chief in that Presidency, General Sir Thomas Hislop, and fought those battles in Central India and the Deccan which brought the Maharatta war to a close and did so much to consolidate British rule in India. So I feel I have good footsteps to follow. I hope I may follow them worthily—I will at least try. (*Cheers.*)

I cannot thank you enough for all you have said respecting Lady Minto, for kind as the words of your Chairman were, no one can be so fully conscious as I am of the assistance her companionship and the surroundings of a happy home

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have been to me. (*Cheers.*) Lady Minto worked hard in Canada, and I hope has earned her reward in the affection of the people of the Dominion.

It only remains for me to add how deeply I appreciate this gathering of old friends, assembled to wish me good-bye and God-speed—old friends, the representatives of manly Public School and University training, of the chivalrous traditions of our soldiers, and the good hard common sense of the country gentleman of England—representatives of an element in the life of our country which has never spared itself in shaping the history of the Empire of which we are so proud.

The evening has been to me a very happy one, and I shall always look back with affectionate pride to the reception you have given me.

[Lord Minto resumed his seat amid cries of "Bravo" and cheering, which continued for several minutes.]

THE FOREIGN SECRETARY.

The Marquis of Lansdowne said he had the pleasure to propose the one toast remaining on their commendably brief list. There was not a man present who did not wish to express to their noble Chairman their collective appreciation of the manner in which he had fulfilled his task. Those who had had anything to do with the organisation of complimentary banquets like that knew how extremely difficult it was to secure a competent Chairman. A really good Chairman was, without any exception, the wildest of wild fowl they could possibly pursue. Those who promoted the gathering were to be congratulated upon their choice and upon their success in inducing the Duke of Portland to take the Chair. (*Applause.*) He noticed that in the opening passage of his admirable speech (for he must say that he had rarely heard one which seemed to him more admirable) he dwelt with a certain diffidence on his own measure of capability. When he heard him say that, there occurred to him the old story that used to be told of the late Mr. W. H. Smith at the time he led the House of Commons. Soon after his appointment to that post, a friend of his (the speaker's) asked a member of the House what he and his side thought of Mr. Smith as a leader. He answered, "We like him very much; he isn't one of your d—d orators." (*Laughter*

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and cheers.) He felt as he heard the speech of His Grace that he could not claim to be altogether exempt from this description—leaving out the expletive of course. (*Laughter.*) He remembered rather sorrowfully that his noble friend, although he attended the sittings of the House of Lords with fair regularity (*laughter*), to the best of his recollection had never assisted His Majesty's Government by any brilliant periods, such as he had given them that evening. (*Laughter and cheers.*) He had made a note on the matter in readiness for the future, in order to give His Grace an opportunity of the kind. (*Laughter.*) Meanwhile, the noble Duke had admirably interpreted their feelings that night. (*Cheers.*) Those feelings, as has been truly said, were feelings of a very mixed kind, because, on the one hand, they must all feel great regret that their dear friend and guest should be again snatched away from them for a period of five years; while, on the other hand, those of them who had watched his career, as so many of them had, with interest and with confidence, were delighted to know that he was to have a wider field than any of those which had yet been offered him for the display of the many sound and excellent qualities by which they knew him to be distinguished. As Lord Minto had indicated, there never was, perhaps, a gathering which for its size represented more varied interests in the ranks of life to which they belonged than the present one. But though the gathering was mixed, they had in the Duke of Portland a spokesman who understood what they wished to have said, and he had said it from his heart and in the right way. He was only tempted to add that in one other respect the Duke of Portland seemed to him a well-chosen Chairman. He occupied the high post of Master of the Horse, and ever since he (Lord Lansdowne) had known their guest he had been a master of the horse. (*Laughter.*) Amongst his distinguished antecedents reference had been made to his performances in the saddle. He believed thoroughly that the good qualities learned in the hunting field and between the flags had given to Lord Minto that firm seat and light hand by which as a high official he had been characterised. (*Loud cheers.*) Five years might, perhaps, seem very long to the Viceroy-designate, but he would find it pass very rapidly indeed, and he ventured to express a hope that when that period had expired and Lord Minto came back with added distinctions, they would be there to give him a welcome banquet and might induce their noble friend the Duke of Portland to take the Chair. (*Applause.*)

In expressing his indebtedness for the toast, the Duke of Portland said that, notwithstanding the too flattering words of the Marquis of Lansdowne, he could only repeat the wish that a more worthy person

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than himself had been found to take the Chair. Lord Lansdowne had likened him to some very shy kind of wild fowl. He must admit that when Mr. Moreton Frewen, who had taken so much trouble to organise the dinner, asked him to preside (*cheers*), he felt very much inclined to fly, to get on the wing. But the temptation to preside at the farewell dinner to his old friend Lord Minto was too great, so he waited for Mr. Frewen, and with unerring aim he brought him down. (*Laughter and cheers.*) He joined in the hope the noble Marquis had expressed, and trusted they would all be spared to welcome Lord and Lady Minto home again five years hence. Before sitting down he might read a letter he received just as he was leaving his house for the dinner. It was from Lord Minto's old friend and neighbour in Scotland, the Duke of Buccleuch. He said: "I write a line to you as Chairman of the dinner to Minto to say how sorry I am not to be able to be present to wish Minto God-speed and all success in India, especially as I have known him for so many years, and his father before him. He has been a really good sportsman and neighbour, and will be a very great loss to us in Scotland. I hope he may have equal success in India as he had in Canada and will add another name to the roll of successful Viceroys who have been Scotsmen." (*Cheers.*)

The toast-list being at an end, the party left the tables, but it was not till some time later that the company broke up.]



SPEECHES

BY THE

EARL OF MINTO.

II.—SPEECHES DELIVERED IN INDIA.

1905-1910.

ADDRESS FROM THE BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY.

[The Right Hon'ble The Earl of Minto, accompanied by the Countess of Minto, the Ladies Elliot, Colonel J. R. Dunlop Smith, C.I.E., Private Secretary, and Major F. L. Adam, Military Secretary, and Staff, arrived in Bombay by the P. & O. Company's steamer *Peninsular* on Friday evening, the 17th November. 18th Nov. 1905.]

The next morning His Lordship drove to the Apollo Bunder to bid farewell to Lord Curzon, the retiring Viceroy. After Lord Curzon's departure Lord Minto received an address of welcome from the Municipal Corporation of Bombay. The address was read by Sir P. M. Mehta, K.C.I.E., President, and contained a reference to the distinguished services of the first Earl of Minto in India.

His Lordship replied to the address in the following terms :—]

Mr. President and Gentlemen,—I value all the more sincerely the cordiality of your welcome to me as your in-coming Viceroy in that you associate your words of greeting with so grateful an appreciation of the public services of my ancestor, Lord Minto, whom after a lapse of nearly a hundred years our King and Emperor has appointed me to succeed in the administration of His Majesty's mighty Indian Empire.



Address from the Bombay Municipality.

Arriving as I did yesterday in the midst of the fascinating scenery and colouring of the East to be received by the Corporation of this great City of Bombay, it is impossible not to look back with wonder and admiration on the history which so many great names have helped to make since the Governor-General of Bengal and his staff landed from the little frigate *Modeste* in the surf boats of Madras.

It has been a history built up by great soldiers and statesmen from whom we have taken over a magnificent inheritance, the consolidated result of their labours and devotion, an inheritance the perpetuity of which British statesmen and Indian Princes, British and Indian troops will together proudly guarantee.

And now that the stormy struggles of early days are past it is to a united strength and a united patriotism that I, an administrator about to take up the reins of office, look for assistance in furthering that sense of security and rest throughout the length and breadth of India so indispensable for the development of her internal resources and her over-sea trade, for the careful consideration of her vital necessities, and the general happiness of her people. (*Applause.*)

I thank you sincerely, Mr. President, for your kind expressions towards Lady Minto and my family. The women of India will, I know, find a sympathetic friend in Lady Minto. I assure you we are both very grateful for the welcome you have extended to us, and look forward to the home and the interests we hope to share with you in the coming years. (*Loud applause.*)



ADDRESS FROM THE BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

[On Saturday afternoon His Excellency the Viceroy received an 18th Nov. 1905. address of welcome from the Chamber at Government House, Bombay. The address, which dealt mainly with matters of commercial interest and which called attention to the question of agricultural development to which His Excellency's attention was specially invited, was read by the Hon'ble Mr. C. M. Armstrong, President of the Chamber.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I sincerely thank you for the congratulations you have so cordially extended to me on my appointment as Viceroy of India, and I trust that possibly the experience I have gained during my period of office in Canada may, as you suggest, assist me in my future Indian administration.

The disastrous effects of the plague to which you so earnestly call my attention necessitate every effort to combat its ravages, and I can assure you you may rely on my sincerest sympathy and hearty assistance.

I can scarcely as yet venture to make any pronouncement on the commercial policy of India, but I have had ample evidence in my Canadian experience that trade follows the railway, and I am well aware that it is to the expert opinions of associations such as yours that I am entitled to look for that expression of commercial thought which must take the lead in the development upon which the prosperity of every country so largely depends.

The great interest Lord Curzon has taken in all commercial questions and his creation of a Department of Industry and Commerce have already been followed by substantial results, whilst I am convinced that in the encouragement of the great agricultural capabilities of this country lies much of the future prosperity and contentment of its people.

The importance of the interests so ably represented by yourselves and similar associations in other great centres of trade can hardly be overrated, and I thank you,



Address from the Calcutta Municipality.

Gentlemen, not only for the kindness of your welcome, but for the opportunity you have afforded me of meeting you to-day.

ADDRESS FROM THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.

22nd Nov. 1905. [His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by Her Excellency the Countess of Minto, the Ladies Elliot, and Staff, arrived in Calcutta on the morning of the 22nd November. On the same day His Excellency received a deputation from the Municipal Corporation, who presented an address of welcome. The ceremony was held in the Throne Room at Government House, and the Hon'ble Mr. C. G. H. Allen read the address, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Mr. Chairman and Commissioners of the Corporation of Calcutta,—I thank you for the very kind words of your address, and I would ask you to convey to the citizens my sincere appreciation of the cordiality of the welcome they have extended to Her Excellency Lady Minto and myself on our arrival at the capital of the Indian Empire.

I thank you too, Mr. Chairman, for your reference to my past services, and I can assure you that nothing is more gratifying to me on my assumption of office than to hear from you that I have the good wishes of the people of India.

The century which has elapsed since my ancestor administered the government of this country has witnessed, as you say, not only great territorial additions to the Empire, but a vast increase in material wealth and in intellectual resource, whilst you may well be proud of the development of the beautiful city of Calcutta, a development in which you will always have my cordial sympathy.

I thank you again, Mr. Chairman, for your kind expressions towards me, and I share with the Corporation of Calcutta their earnest hope for the welfare of the people of India.



ST. ANDREW'S DINNER.

[On the night of the 30th November His Excellency the Viceroy 30th Nov. 1905 was present at the annual dinner. This was His Excellency's first public appearance since he had assumed office, and there was a very large attendance.

Mr. D. M. Hamilton, Chairman, in a long and interesting speech proposed "the toast of 'The Viceroy and the Land we live in.'" His Excellency in rising to respond to the toast was warmly received, and spoke as follows :—]

Mr. Chairman, Your Honour, Sir Francis Maclean, and Gentlemen,—I must in the first place thank you for the reception you have given to-night to the toast of my health, and for the welcome you have so heartily extended to Her Excellency Lady Minto and my family.

To-night is the first opportunity I have had of meeting a Calcutta assemblage, and at the outset of my career in India I feel that it is impossible to overrate the value to me of the cordiality with which you have received me on my taking up my residence amongst you.

I have come, as your Chairman has said, from the Far West to this Distant East—from the dominion of Canada—with all its growing strength and future promise, to the great responsibilities and mysteries of India, to an administration full of problems interwoven with the traditions of the past and the aspirations of the future.

I have been but a very few days amongst you, and I am grateful to your Chairman for the insight he has given me in such eloquent terms into the public questions and the public opinion of the day of which I have so much to learn, and which I am already well aware that his broad-minded and philanthropic energy has so largely influenced and directed.

But, Gentlemen, our patron Saint, whose festival we are met to celebrate, would hardly, I think, advise me as yet to attempt to follow your Chairman across the political peat-hags over which he moves with such practised skill. My acquaintance with St. Andrew has, I may say, been somewhat intimate. I have rarely failed to accept his

*St. Andrew's Dinner.*

offers of hospitality, and the social circles to which, on the 30th of November, he has annually introduced me, I have found to be of a somewhat convivial nature with a taste for haggis monopolizing the attention of the guests and excluding the consumption of those political dishes supposed at other times to be so palatable to the canny Scot. And on the 30th of November I personally feel totally unable to dissociate myself from the teachings of good St. Andrew. I feel only that I have come amongst you this evening as a brither Scot, and looking around me, I cannot but think that your Chairman, or His Honour, or Sir F. Maclean, or possibly this whole powerful Scottish triumvirate, have sent round the fiery Cross—for surely this is a gathering of the clans, devoid, I am afraid, of the prospective plunder of old days, but simply a gathering of Scotsmen in a distant land who feel that they are justly proud of the race from which they spring, who have met together to shake each other by the hand and talk of the old north country and the homes far away amongst the banks and braes of Bonnie Scotland.

Mr. Chairman, you have done me the honour to couple, with the toast of my health, that of the land we live in—a land we have at present made our home—a land to which our ancestors devoted their best abilities and which we must endeavour to serve to the best of ours—a land peopled with a diversity of races, of different creeds, whose wants it is our duty to study, and whose future welfare must be our dearest aim.

Gentlemen, your Chairman is not a greater believer than I am in the necessity of rest and security for the development and happiness of the people of India. That development and that happiness I hope with him will be the base of India's future history, but we must never forget, no country can afford to forget, that the security of such a base can be guaranteed only by the strong arm that defends it.



Address from the Mysore Family.

Mr. Chairman, as the years go by, and as we severally wander back to Scotland, we may well repeat to ourselves Scott's beautiful lines :—

Breathes there the man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said,—
This is my own, my native land,
Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned,
As home his footsteps he has turned,
From wandering on a foreign strand?

and I hope that we may look back on India, not as a land of regrets, but as a land where we have worked earnestly and loyally and with some success for the good of her people. (*Loud applause.*)

ADDRESS FROM THE MYSORE FAMILY.

[The members of the Mysore Family and the descendants 1st Dec. 1905 of Hyder Ali and Tippoo Sultan presented an address of welcome to His Excellency the Viceroy at Government House on the 1st December, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

It is a great pleasure to me to receive you here to-day and to hear the kindly welcome you offer to myself and to my family on our arrival in India. It is also very pleasant to me to meet the descendants of great soldiers and statesmen such as your ancestors were. I need not tell you how often I have read of your feats of arms in the old days, and I am glad also to know that you still bear in mind the services of my ancestor Lord Minto, who administered the Government of India early in the last century. I shall always look forward to doing all that I can to show my interest in the Mysore family. I can only again tell you how pleased I am to receive the members of this family here to-day, and how glad I am to thank you for the very cordial words of your address.



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

15th Dec. 1905 [In opening the proceedings of the first meeting of the Governor-General's Legislative Council at which the Earl of Minto presided after his assumption of office, His Excellency addressed the members as follows :—]

Your Honour and Gentlemen,—As this is the first occasion on which I have the honour of taking my seat at this Council Board, I cannot let the opportunity pass without expressing to you the satisfaction it is to me to meet here to-day the Members of the Supreme Legislative Council. I hope that during my period of office we may together be successful in furthering much legislation that may tend to the welfare and happiness of the people of this country. I feel sure that I shall be able at all times to rely fully upon the benefit of your valuable assistance and advice.

ADDRESS FROM THE CALCUTTA TRADES
ASSOCIATION.

18th Dec. 1905 [His Excellency the Viceroy received an address of welcome from the members of the Trades Association on the 18th December, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—It is a great pleasure to me to receive an address from so influential a body as the Calcutta Trades Association. I am glad to hear from you that the services of the first Earl of Minto have not been forgotten by the citizens of this great city. It is only lately that my notice has been drawn to an address presented to him by the merchants of Calcutta congratulating him on the capture of Mauritius—the possession of that island by France having long constituted a dangerous menace to our British Indian trade—and it is curious that nearly 100 years later I should be receiving a deputation from an Association so deeply interested in the trade of to-day, and whose members can justly look back with pride on the magnificent development that has been brought about by British energy since my

*Address from the Anglo-Indian Association.*

ancestor received the thanks of the merchants of Calcutta. I am well aware to what a great extent the strength and prosperity of any country depends upon commercial influences, and I hope that the rapidly growing over-sea trade of India may be accompanied with a like development of its local industries and its many splendid resources. I share with you also in your apprehension of the evils of over-insurance, and yet I am afraid that, as long as human passions and ambitions play a part in the policy of the nations of the world, the premiums to be paid will depend upon the value of the stock to be insured.

I shall watch with interest the scheme under consideration for the improvement of Calcutta, as to which I shall always be ready to give my heartiest support.

I thank you sincerely on behalf of Lady Minto and myself for the cordial words of your address, and we look forward with pleasure to the time we hope to spend in India where our reception has been marked with so many expressions of welcome.

ADDRESS FROM THE ANGLO-INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

[An address of welcome was presented by the Association on the 18th Dec. 1905 at Government House, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I beg to thank you for the address which you have presented to me on behalf of the Anglo-Indian Association, and for the congratulations you have extended to me on my assumption of the high office to which His Majesty the King-Emperor has done me the honour to appoint me. In this country, where I know that the great majority of the British community come to devote the best years of their life to the service of His Majesty and for the general welfare of the people of India, but who with few exceptions look forward to returning to spend their remaining days in the motherland from which they sprang, it is of



Address from the British Indian Association.

all the more interest to me to meet those who like you have made India your permanent home. I hope that the fact of your having done so may be of much use in giving an insight into the many wants of the people of this country ; and I shall always be ready at any time to listen with interest to statements which you may think right to put before me on behalf of the community you represent.

I offer you, Gentlemen, the best thanks of Lady Minto and myself for the welcome you have extended to us, the cordiality of which is, I assure you, very acceptable to us at the commencement of our residence in the Indian Empire.

ADDRESS FROM THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

18th Dec. 1905 [The Association presented an address of welcome to the Viceroy at Government House on the 18th December. His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Maharajah and Gentlemen,—I beg to thank you for the kindly words of the address you have presented to me on behalf of the members of your very influential British Indian Association on my assumption of the office of Viceroy and Governor-General of India. The reference you so kindly make to my services in the great dominion of Canada are very encouraging to me at the commencement of my period of office in India, and I should indeed be grateful if the experience I have gained in the Distant West should enable me to further the welfare and the happiness of the subjects of the King-Emperor in the Far East. India, as you have so gracefully said in the words of your address, has been made known to me by much family history, and I now consider myself fortunate indeed in being present at Calcutta to witness a repetition of these expressions of loyalty to the Prince and Princess of Wales with which this country has already resounded throughout her length and breadth. I

*Address from the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce.*

hope that, as years go by, it may be possible for me to gain an insight into the feelings and sentiments of the people of India, and I shall look for no greater reward than to feel that during my sojourn amongst you her resources have continued to develop and that she is secure in the promise of ever-increasing prosperity. I can assure you, Gentlemen, Lady Minto and I are both sincerely grateful to you for your kind expressions towards us, and for the cordiality of the welcome you have extended to us.

ADDRESS FROM THE BENGAL NATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

[His Excellency the Viceroy received an address of welcome 22nd Dec. 1905 from a deputation of the Chamber who presented the address at Government House on the 22nd December.

The address among other things referred briefly to the benefits of British rule and the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. It also cherished a hope that His Excellency would recognise in the altered circumstances of the country the need of a comprehensive system of Local Self-Government for its administration.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you for your address and for the cordiality of the welcome extended to me by the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce. Representing, as you do, the great interests of the Indian mercantile community, it is very pleasing to me to recognise your gratitude to the British Throne, the strength of whose sheltering arm has always been present to protect the vast commerce of the British Possessions. I know well, also, that the Indian merchants of Bengal will enthusiastically share in the demonstrations of loyalty and affection so soon to be offered to the Prince and Princess of Wales by this great city. Though the objects of your Society are, I am aware, unconnected with political life, the commercial interests which you represent must always make their influence felt in the

*Address from the Mohammedan Literary Society.*

history of your country. It lies with you to do much to assist the amelioration of many national wants, whilst it rests with you, to a great extent, to further that spread of technical education which is every day becoming more necessary in competition with commercial rivals; whilst the control and direction of the *swadeshi* movement on sound lines may well afford your Society ample opportunity for consideration. A devotion to the development of the marvellous resources of this great country, which are so open to a Society such as yours, will, I feel sure, afford you many opportunities of furthering that commercial welfare upon which the prosperity of all countries so largely depends.

I thank you, Gentlemen, sincerely on behalf of Lady Minto and myself for the kind words of your address which is very gratifying to us on our taking up our residence at Calcutta.

ADDRESS FROM THE MOHAMMEDAN LITERARY
SOCIETY.

22nd Dec. 1905 [The Society presented an address of welcome at Government House on the 22nd December.

The address bore testimony to the advantages of British rule in India and drew attention to the high opinion entertained of the Society by preceding Viceroys and high officials. It also referred to the good work done, particularly as regards education, by the Society and of the usefulness of the conversaziones that it held. It was also hoped that His Excellency would continue to extend to the Society the patronage that it had enjoyed from his predecessors.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Gentlemen,—It is a very great pleasure to me to receive you here this morning, representing, as you do, not only the Mohammedans of Calcutta but of India generally. An address emanating from a Society such as yours is, I can assure you, very welcome to an administrator who has so lately taken up the reins of office.

*Address from the Mohammedan Literary Society.*

I am well aware of the excellent work which has been done by your Society since it was founded nearly 50 years ago by its distinguished Secretary, Nawab Bahadur Abdul Latif, to whom not only the Mohammedan population but the whole thinking community of India owe a debt of gratitude; for I believe, Gentlemen, that efforts such as his—efforts your Society has so ably supported—though devoted primarily to Mohammedan interests cannot but shed a beneficial light on all educational questions, and will prove a guiding star to many, no matter of what race or creed, who are striving their best to raise the educational standard of the people of India.

Disassociated as your Society is from the struggles of political warfare, you can claim nevertheless to have done much already to direct the higher life of the people on broad lines which, whilst affectionately guarding the wealth of your own Oriental literature, have at the same time recognised the value of Western education in the solution of the many problems surrounding the development of modern culture and civilisation.

Much has, I know, been done directly through Mohammedan effort. The College at Aligarh, the noble work of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, will always bear evidence of broad-minded Musalman thought, and the recent movement for the encouragement of the study of Arabic gives further proof of a care for Eastern culture. But from the point of view of an administrator, from which perhaps I naturally address you, the highest value of your efforts would appear to be deeply based on the example you are so ably demonstrating of a liberal appreciation of the combined educational advantages of the East and West. Aims such as yours have well deserved the confidence and the appreciation they have always received from Government, and I feel that I may rest assured of receiving from you the able assistance and advice which your Society is so competent to give.



Address from the Marwari Association.

I thank you, Gentlemen, for your kind allusions to my service in Canada. I hope that, though conditions here are in many ways very different to what they are in the great Dominion, still I may be able, to a certain extent, to do here what I attempted to do there—to make myself acquainted with the sympathies and wants of all classes of the people. It will be a great pleasure to me to continue to the Literary Society of Calcutta the confidence which my predecessors have always so gladly bestowed upon them.

I thank you, Gentlemen, on behalf of Lady Minto and myself very sincerely for the cordial welcome you have extended to us on our arrival in India.

ADDRESS FROM THE MARWARI ASSOCIATION.

12th Jan. 1906 [The Association presented an address of welcome to His Excellency at Government House on the 12th January.

His Excellency replied in the following terms :—]

Gentlemen,—It is a great pleasure to me to have this opportunity of receiving the Address of the Marwari Association representing the interests of the Marwari community, and I sincerely appreciate the cordiality of your expressions towards me at the commencement of my period of office in India. It is very encouraging to me to feel that my ancestor's name is known and respected by you, and I hope that perhaps I may have gained some slight insight into the hopes and aspirations of the people of this country by a study of his administration of 100 years ago.

I thank you, Gentlemen, for all you have so kindly said as to my own past services, and I look forward with hope to doing all in my power to assist the future of this country. I am well aware of the great share your community has taken in the development of many useful objects, and how much Marwari beneficence and business ability have done to contribute to the prosperity of India, and it has been a

*Address from the Indian Association.*

great pleasure to me to see the well-earned recognition of a Marwari gentleman in the New Year's Honours List.

I feel that I shall always be able to look to your community for loyal assistance and able advice in the amelioration of conditions affecting the welfare of the people of India, and I trust that each succeeding year may hopefully indicate the ultimate conquest of famine and pestilence, whose ravages are so unfortunately constantly before us.

I beg again to thank you, Gentlemen, for your address and for all your kind expressions towards Lady Minto and myself.

ADDRESS FROM THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

[An address of welcome was received by His Excellency at 12th Jan. 1906 Government House on the 12th January 1906.]

The address referred to the services of the first Earl of Minto and dealt particularly with the Partition of Bengal which had recently been carried out, and prayed that instead of this partition, Bengal should be raised to the status of a Presidency Government. It also referred to the agitation that had occurred in Eastern Bengal consequent on the enrolment of special constables at Rangpur, and concluded with a hope that the Viceroy would foster and promote the growth of native industries.

His Excellency replied in the following terms :—]

Gentlemen,—I beg to thank you for the cordiality of the welcome you have extended to me on my assumption of the high office of Viceroy of India, and for your kind expressions towards Lady Minto and myself at the commencement of our career in this country.

I value all the more the appreciative words of your address in that I know that they emanate from a body whose first rule lays down that the object of the Indian Association is to "represent the people, to help in the formation of a healthy public opinion on all questions of importance, and to promote by every legitimate means

*Address from the Indian Association.*

the political, intellectual, and material advancement of the people." I fully sympathise with the objects of the Association. Your first rule would appear to me to embody a recognition of principles which, if carefully fostered, must surely tend to the development of patriotic thought and to a general intellectual advancement in respect to the public questions of the day. I fully recognise your wish to express opinions on such questions, and I am equally ready to appreciate their value as emanating from an Association closely connected with the every-day life of an important section of the Bengal community.

On the present occasion you have placed before me your views as to the Partition of Bengal, which you believe to be shared by the whole population of the Province. You foreshadow what you apprehend will be the results of Partition, and I understand you to express a hope that some alternative scheme of administration may yet be found; whilst you go on to allude to events which are said to have taken place at various places affected by Partition where public order would appear to have been threatened. Your Secretary in his note submitting your Address has pointed out that your Association does not desire to obtain any expression of opinion from me, and I recognise the courtesy of your intention. But having consented to listen to your views I am afraid I cannot agree to receive them without comment. I must ask you to remember that I am here as an administrator whose duty it is to carry out a policy already approved by the Secretary of State, and I should be misleading you if I in any way appeared to encourage a hope of its reversal. And, Gentlemen, I am bound to tell you that the endeavours I have made since my arrival in India to acquaint myself with the history of that policy have been far from assisting me to the conclusion that the views you express are universally shared by the people of Bengal. I believe that the advantages and disadvantages of Partition have been fully and

*Address from the Landholders of Bengal.*

carefully considered, and, whilst admitting that it may in a sense press somewhat hardly on local interest, it will to the best of my belief add ere long very largely to general prosperity and industrial development; whilst I shall be surprised if as years go on the benefits derived from it are not more and more recognised. The references in your address, Gentlemen, to unfortunate incidents said to have happened in Eastern Bengal, I can, I am afraid, with all respect, only accept as allegations, which you as British subjects are always at liberty to make good before the Law Courts: though I am bound to tell you that the ample information at my disposal would appear to prove without a doubt that the action deemed necessary by the executive authority of the province was fully justified.

You have done me the honour to allude to my past services in the Dominion of Canada, a country where I was fortunate in witnessing the magnificent development of her great internal resources; and now that I have come to live amongst you I shall be proud indeed if it becomes my lot to assist in the growth of the great internal industries of India. I am no opponent of *swadeshi*—it is only the abuse of the word to which I object.

I beg again to thank you for your address, and though we may not agree on some public questions, I can assure you I shall always be ready to receive the views of representative Associations such as yours.

ADDRESS FROM THE LANDHOLDERS OF BENGAL.

[The Bengal landholders presented an address of welcome to the Viceroy at Government House on the 16th January. The address referred to the first Earl of Minto's appointment as Viceroy at a time of stress and trouble, and, in welcoming His Excellency, referred to the agitation caused by the Partition of Bengal and prayed that the matter would receive His Excellency's due consideration. It also recognised the help given by Government to the cause of education, 16th Jan. 1906.]

*Address from the Landholders of Bengal.*

It also referred to the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and assured His Excellency of their loyalty to the Throne.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I beg to thank you for the cordial words of the address you have presented to me on my assumption of the office of Viceroy of India and for your kind expressions towards Lady Minto and myself.

Being a landholder myself in my native land, it is a pleasure to me to meet my fellow-landholders of Bengal, and I may perhaps be capable of sympathising with them in the many difficulties which seem throughout the world to weigh upon the possessors of the soil.

I thank you, *Gentlemen*, for your allusion to the services of my ancestor, whose broad-minded views I have been taught from my boyhood to study and to admire.

It is only a few days since I expressed opinions on the political questions you allude to, and I cannot feel called upon to repeat them now.

You, as influential landowners, have many opportunities, outside the realms of political strife, of assisting the welfare of the people of Bengal. The Permanent Settlement to which you refer has no doubt done much for this Province, but with the benefits it conferred it brought also great responsibilities—responsibilities not only for the Government of the day but for the holders of the land. The present occasion is scarcely one on which I can attempt to deal with the momentous question of agriculture with which the future prosperity of India is so largely associated, and upon which the technical institutions you mention must in coming years exert so great an influence. I can only tell you that in these questions, affecting as they do the development of the resources of the soil, and the consequent happiness of the people, you may always rely upon my assistance and sympathy.

I feel sure that the landholders of Bengal are proud of the magnificent demonstration of loyalty and welcome

*Address from the Central National Mohammedan Association.*

extended by the city of Calcutta to the Prince and Princess of Wales, and must rejoice to feel sure that Their Royal Highnesses have taken away with them a deep impression of the affectionate manifestations of devotion they have universally met with from the people of India.

I am very glad to have had this opportunity of meeting the landholders of Bengal, and I sincerely appreciate the kind words of their address.

ADDRESS FROM THE CENTRAL NATIONAL
MOHAMMEDAN ASSOCIATION.

[The Association presented an address of welcome which was received by His Excellency at Government House on the 16th January. The address made a reference to the origin and constitution of the Association and stated that a memorial was about to be submitted to the Government of India on the subject of the present administration of the law relating to *wakf* properties. It also referred to the advance of education among the Mohammedan community.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

I am very glad to be able to-day to receive the members of the Central National Mohammedan Association. All the more so because it is the oldest Mohammedan Association in Calcutta, and I thank you, Gentlemen, for the cordial welcome you have extended to Lady Minto and myself on behalf of the community you represent.

The objects of your Association are, I understand, to promote by all constitutional means the welfare of the Musalmans of India. Basing your efforts on loyalty to the British Crown, you hope, whilst cherishing the tradition of the past, to encourage Western culture and progressive development. You hope too that a moral revival may assist political regeneration. I am sure that such noble aims will always find sympathy and recognition from amongst all who are interested in the administration of the Indian Empire. But a moral revival that is to affect

*Address from the Talukdars of Oudh.*

political life must, to a great extent, I would almost say entirely, find its origin in your own homes. It is on the early training of your children that you must depend for the formation of the character which must so largely shape their future course in the battle of life, a battle that is becoming more strenuous every day, amidst the rivalry of the nations of the world, and where the existence of that individuality of men and women, which should lead them to success, will always largely emanate from the precepts of their early home life. And it is the woman, the mother, who does so much to form the character of the home. I cannot but think that on the recognition of her educational requirements by the leaders of thought in India the intellectual and national future of this country largely depends.

I recognize the great objects you have in view, and I do not hesitate to suggest what appears to me to be the first means by which you may obtain them.

You have my sincere good wishes in the work you have undertaken, and I thank you again, Gentlemen, for the appreciative words of your address.

ADDRESS FROM THE TALUKDARS OF OUDH.

23rd Jan. 1906 [His Excellency received an address of welcome from the Talukdars at Government House on the 23rd January.

The address acknowledged the benefits of British rule and assured their loyalty to the Throne. It also hoped that the Viceroy would be able to visit Lucknow.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you very heartily for your address and for your reference to my administration in Canada, which I sincerely appreciate. It is very pleasing, too, for me to hear that the memory of my ancestor is still respected amongst you. I am all the more glad to receive you to-day, Gentlemen, because I recognise in you the representatives of those landed estates from which the strength

*Address from the Talukdars of Oudh.*

of every country so largely emanates. Great estates, as I am sure you know, bring with them not only large revenues but responsibilities—responsibilities which perhaps those unacquainted with the many calls upon landed proprietors cannot always fully comprehend—whilst upon the proper administration of those estates depends the health and happiness of the tillers of the soil, who form so great a portion of the population of the people of India. I know that the Talukdars of Oudh have fully realised the duties their possessions have entailed upon them. They have appreciated British administration and have loyally shared in the development of their country. It will be, I believe, exactly fifty years on the 12th of February that Oudh came under British rule, and the Talukdars may surely look back with satisfaction on the years that have passed. They may justly feel proud that the part they themselves have played has gained for them the trust and respect of their fellow-countrymen and has established them as an influential factor in the every-day life of the population. I hope, Gentlemen, that the younger generation that is springing up amongst you will follow in your footsteps, and that in the midst of the prosperity and luxury of the modern world so rapidly springing up around them they will always remember that success in that world will depend as much as ever upon the steadfastness of purpose and sterling qualities which have distinguished their forefathers.

I much look forward, Gentlemen, to visiting the capital of your province and to the opportunity of meeting you on your own estates.

I beg to thank you again very sincerely for the kind welcome you have extended to Lady Minto and myself.



LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW
SURGICAL BLOCK OF THE MEDICAL COLLEGE
HOSPITAL, CALCUTTA.

3rd Feb. 1906. [The ceremony of laying the foundation stone took place on Saturday, the 3rd February. It was a brilliant and at the same time most impressive ceremony. The building is to be styled the Prince of Wales Hospital, as a memento of His Royal Highness's visit to Calcutta. The actual laying of the stone was performed by Mr. G. L. Anderson, Deputy District Grand Master of Freemasonry in Bengal, with full Masonic honours. Colonel C. P. Lukis, Principal of the College, made a short speech pointing out the reasons and necessity for the building, to which His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Mr. Principal,—I have listened with the deepest interest to the explanation you have so clearly given as to the organization and objects of the Surgical Hospital, which is to add another block to the Medical College Hospital over which you so ably preside.

The foundation stone of that building was laid with Masonic honours by Lord Dalhousie nearly 60 years ago, and I have great pleasure in asking the Very Worshipful District Grand Master of to-day to perform the same ceremony, earnestly trusting that the prosperity and usefulness of the work which Lord Dalhousie inaugurated may always continue to characterise the future of the new Surgical Hospital.

[After the laying of the stone with full Masonic honours the Deputy District Grand Master presented to the Viceroy the trowel with which he had laid the stone as a memento of the occasion.

His Excellency then addressed the assembly as follows :—]

Mr. Principal, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—It was on the 30th September 1848 that Lord Dalhousie laid the foundation stone of the Calcutta Medical College. It was Lord Dalhousie's first public appearance before the people of Calcutta, and the ceremony was performed with Masonic honours—Mr. Grant was at the time Provincial Grand Master of Bengal—and with all the curious old world customs of the Craft which have shed such an interest over the proceedings of to-day. It is not quite my first appearance before a Calcutta public, but still one cannot but feel how curiously



*Laying of the Foundation Stone of the New Surgical Block of the
Medical College Hospital, Calcutta*

history is repeating itself, and that after a lapse of some 58 years the Calcutta public, the Masons, and the Viceroy are all again met together to celebrate the laying of another stone—the foundation of a building destined still further to develop the great work Lord Dalhousie commenced.

The original Hospital was founded for the sick poor of all classes and creeds in the city of Calcutta, and particularly for those afflicted with epidemic diseases, the money for the building being raised partly by public subscription, and partly, I believe, by lottery tickets—a machinery for securing funds of which I confess I know nothing—but which may possibly have afforded the financial possibilities of our modern bazars with which we are all no doubt so well acquainted. But there were munificent donors, too, to whom Calcutta owes much. Raja Pratap Chandra Singh gave Rs. 50,000, and Babu Matilal Sil gave the ground on which the Hospital stands, which was valued in those days at Rs. 12,000. Since then other blocks have sprung up around the parent building—the Eden Hospital, the Eye Hospital, and the Ezra Hospital, giving a total of 449 beds; and the building of which the foundation stone has to-day been laid, is to consist of 8 main wards of 10 beds each, and 8 private wards each for a single bed, or a total of 88 patients. It is, as the Principal has told us, to be the Surgical Block of the Medical College Hospital and will be built on the best modern lines, largely according to the able advice of Colonel Havelock Charles. It should have a great future before it—a future that we all hope may be full of benefits for Europeans and Indians alike—a future which we trust will not only directly do much for suffering humanity, but which will afford those opportunities for clinical instruction so invaluable to Assistant Surgeons practising throughout the Province.

The new Hospital has every claim on public support. Much has already been done for it by individual energy—



Laying of the Foundation Stone of the New Surgical Block of the Medical College Hospital, Calcutta.

perhaps it is not generally known that Mrs. King, who I am told takes so warm an interest in increasing the comforts of the patients of the Medical College Hospital, has already collected Rs. 9,000 for the new block, whilst the splendid munificence of the Maharaja of Darbhanga has enabled the Prince of Wales to contribute Rs. 90,000 to its funds. (*Applause.*)

Besides this, Ladies and Gentlemen, we have been told of an addition to the Hospital—a paying ward for Indian patients on the Cottage Hospital plan—which will owe its inauguration to the sympathetic liberality of a Marwari gentleman from Rajputana—Seth Sheo Pershad Jhoonjnoo Walla—who has presented Rs. 30,000 to the Lieutenant-Governor and has promised Rs. 10,000 more if necessary. I believe it would be difficult to overrate the value of such a Cottage Hospital, affording as it will do to Indian gentlemen opportunities for private attendance without the necessity for family separation which is so apt to stand in the way of those who would largely benefit by the best hospital treatment.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I would venture to suggest that, if the Local Government, the Hospital authorities, and the public agree with me, as I feel sure they will, the new Surgical Hospital should be known as the "Prince of Wales Hospital," both in memory of His Royal Highness's visit and His Royal Highness's presentation on behalf of the Maharaja of Darbhanga, and that the Cottage Hospital should be called the "Rai Suraj Mal Bahadur" ward in memory of the father of its generous donor.

I hope the Very Worshipful District Grand Master will accept my best thanks for the duties he has to-day performed, and I can assure the Principal and the Hospital authorities of the interest Lady Minto and I will always be ready to take in the success of the great public work they have before them.



ADDRESSES FROM BEHAR LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION AND BEHAR PLANTERS.

[During the Viceroy's visit to Behar in February, His Excellency 7th Feb. 1906. was presented with addresses of welcome by the Behar Landholders' Association and the Behar Planters. A Darbar was held on the morning of the 7th February at which the addresses were read. His Excellency made the following replies :—]

BEHAR LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION.

Gentlemen,—I thank you very heartily for the kind welcome you have extended to Lady Minto and myself on this our first visit to Behar, and I am very glad to have this opportunity of receiving an address from the Behar Landholders' Association representing, as you say, a landed aristocracy possessing a great stake in the country. The hospitality of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor has placed a charming Government House at our disposal and has enabled us to see something of your district, so full of the history of the past. I see that in your address you allude to some former words of mine expressing sympathy with your brother landholders of Bengal, and I can assure you, *Gentlemen*, it will always be a pleasure to me to meet with the owners of the soil and talk over the many questions which must be common to landed proprietors all the world over.

Your Association has now been in existence for a good many years, and I know it aims not only at forwarding the interests of the landholder in Behar but at developing all measures for the general improvement of the province. The Maharaja of Darbhanga is your President, and your Vice-President is the Maharaja of Gidhaur, and under their able guidance and with their great knowledge of local requirements you may feel very sure of success. Your Association has already attained much distinction. It has twice been accorded the privilege of nominating a Member of the Bengal Legislative Council, and it has encouraged contributions to important public objects, such as the relief