

*Address from Behar Landholders' Association.*

of the widows and orphans of soldiers killed in the Afghan War during 1878-79, the Famine Relief Fund, and the Victoria Memorial, but it is in your knowledge of the requirements not only of the owners but of the tillers of the soil that we ought, I think, to hope for the greatest result. You in Behar have experience as to the management of great estates; you have before you the position of the ryot and the great zemindar, and your Association has it in its power to do much for the happiness and welfare of the former, whilst at the same time studying the interests and responsibilities of the latter. I have always myself believed the interests of landlord and tenant to be identical, the prosperity of one ought to mean the prosperity of the other. The landlord who disregards the rights of his tenants or the zemindar who ignores the rights of his ryots may possibly prosper for a time, but in doing so he is killing the goose that laid the golden egg and depriving himself of that solid foundation which has helped so many landlords to weather the bad times which always threaten those deriving a revenue from agriculture. I hope that here in Bengal the cadastral survey and preparation of a record of rights has already done much good, but I believe that the success of agricultural development depends most largely on the maintenance of friendly relations between the tillers and owners of the land and on the endeavours of proprietors to benefit from the valuable results which should accrue from such establishments as the Research Institute at Pusa and the knowledge which should in the future be available from graduates from the Pusa Agricultural College. I do not know that the generous donation towards this object of Mr. Phipps, a public-spirited subject of the United States, has ever been sufficiently acknowledged. It was Lord Curzon's foresight which influenced the direction of Mr. Phipps' donation, and I venture to say that the benefit of it will be appreciated more and more as years go on. To the best of my belief agriculture is likely always to be the

*Address from the Behar Planters' Association.*

great industry of India, upon the prosperity of which the welfare of its people will so much depend, and who now have it in their power to benefit so largely from the results of agricultural research which Associations such as yours are so well able to encourage.

It is very pleasant to me, Gentlemen, to recognise that the administration of my ancestor in India is not forgotten, and I thank you, too, for all you have so kindly said of my own services in another hemisphere. I hope we may all look forward to a period of peace and progress in India. I shall at any rate always watch with interest the efforts of the Landholders of Behar, and I hope that opportunities may be opened to me of becoming more and more acquainted with the landed interests of India.

I thank you again, Gentlemen, for the kind words of your address.

ADDRESS FROM THE BEHAR PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Gentlemen,—I sincerely appreciate the kind words of your address and the cordiality of the reception you have given me on my first visit to Behar. Perhaps you will allow me to say that I have heard of the Behar Planters before this. I have heard of them as country gentlemen of the right sort and good men of business, and I think they will not object to my saying as hard riders and good sportsmen also. I know, too, that they have experienced hard times when the cultivation of indigo was not popular amongst the ryots of Behar, whilst in later years they have had to deal with a competition due to the manufacture of an artificial product which did much to cripple that monopoly of indigo they at one time seemed to possess. But I hope that their own good sense and energy has enabled them to overcome the difficulties which have opposed them, and that they may again look forward to years of increasing prosperity.

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I was very glad to have an opportunity of seeing the escort of Behar Light Horse which met me on my arrival. You may well be proud of the contingent you sent to South Africa and which did so well there. Material such as that of which you are composed, drawn from men accustomed to the everyday experiences of an out-of-door life, will, in my opinion, always be invaluable to the leaders of mounted troops.

I am very glad, Gentlemen, of having this opportunity of meeting you. I hope that it will not be the last, and I thank you sincerely on behalf of Lady Minto and myself for the welcome you have given us.

DEBATE ON THE BUDGET, 1906-7.

23th Mar. 1906. [In the Legislative Council held at Government House on the 21st March, the Hon'ble Mr. E. N. Baker introduced and explained the Financial Statement. The discussion thereon took place on the 28th March, when most of the Members took part. The meeting was held in the Throne Room at Government House in order to admit of accommodating the large number of spectators that assembled. The interest of the Debate was heightened by the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale's attack on the Government in connection with Army expenditure. The discussion was closed by the President with the following speech :—]

I must in the first place congratulate my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Baker for the very lucid statement he has placed before us—a statement which I think we may all agree in accepting as distinctly satisfactory—all the more so that we are fairly entitled to recognise that the expenditure proposed for 1906-07 represents no spasmodic effort on the part of the Government of India, but that it is the continuation of a well-considered policy which the growing revenues of the country has enabled the Hon'ble Member to carry out. We appear to have no reason to imagine that we are under the influence of that intoxication known as a "boom" in the New World, followed too often by the

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depressing effects of financial dissipation. The speeches which we have heard from Hon'ble Members to-day all hold out hopes of a solid and assured financial future, the chief problem of which will, I hope, be not as to how and when we are to secure our revenue, but as to how and when we can best spend it.

I am very far from saying that we are free from trouble. We have famine and sickness with us still; a partial failure of the monsoon and a further delay in the winter rainfall have told the inevitable tale in parts of Northern and Central India; but still there has been no such misery as that of 1899 and 1900, and we may fairly hope that the money spent on irrigation in recent years and on the development of famine relief organisation may surely and steadily reduce our famine areas; whilst, as the Hon'ble Sir Denzil Ibbetson has told us, the Government of India owe a debt of gratitude to the noble liberality with which the Chiefs have realised their obligations in their own afflicted territories. The plague, however, stares us gruesomely in the face and is ever reminding us of the efforts we are urgently called upon to make for the sanitary welfare of the people.

Yet on every side there is indication of progress and of development of which there is no better evidence than the increase in railway earnings, and the number of railways under construction, and with certain exceptions there is a general increase of revenue.

The net result is a surplus of 253 lakhs of rupees, 122 lakhs of which we propose to devote to the remission of taxation, the relief of local bodies and the assistance of administrative improvement. In a country of great undeveloped resources it must often be a question whether a revenue surplus should be in the main devoted to the further development of the country or to the reduction of taxation of its population. For my own part I believe that the future prosperity of India depends so largely upon the welfare of

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its agricultural population that relief in the direction we propose will have a widespreading effect and will as a consequence further that development in other directions which we are so anxious to encourage. Sir Denzil Ibbetson has given us an insight into the valuable work of the Department he so ably administers, and if, after so short a residence in India, I may venture to give an opinion. I cannot say how fully I agree with him as to what I take to be his views in respect to agricultural indebtedness and agricultural expansion. We all know the cruel burden the former entails on the agricultural population; but I doubt the possibility of the Government of India ever being able to pay off this debt, and, like the Hon'ble Member, I doubt the policy of their doing so if they could. I believe that co-operative societies, agricultural banks and carefully arranged systems of Government loans, coupled with the encouragement given to individual energy, will do much more to spoil the money-lenders' market and do it in a much more healthy way than any entire acceptance by Government of the debts of the agricultural community could ever do. Expert instruction in agriculture will, too, as years go on, undoubtedly conduce to the same success as has attended the scientific care which has done so much to realise for India the wealth of revenue contained in her magnificent forests.

But though I am inclined to recognise agriculture as the staple industry of the country, I am far from losing sight of the great commercial development and the rapid expansion of trade, of which the Hon'ble Mr. Hewett has spoken. The records of the Department of Commerce and Industry tell us not only of over-sea trade, the improvement of our harbours, and the establishment of commercial relations with other countries, but also of the interior industrial development of India, much of which is only as yet beginning and the possibilities of which are so enormous; and nothing in the speech of the Hon'ble Member is

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to my mind more important than that sentence in which he conveyed the assurance that the Government of India earnestly desire to encourage local enterprise, and that they mean to insist that in the case of articles required by Government which can be produced in this country at the same price and of the same quality as imported articles, the preference shall be given to local productions.

I am in thorough sympathy with all the Hon'ble Rai Sri Ram Bahadur has said in this direction. His contribution to the Debate on education generally has been most valuable, but in an industrial sense the attention he has drawn to technical education deserves our most careful consideration. Technical instruction in other countries is growing apace, though it is not so very long since the necessity for it was so generally admitted as it is now. Competition has forced it upon us. We must not lag behind. The wealth, the welfare, the strength of a country that would hold its own in the world must depend largely upon the employment of its manhood in the development of its own resources. But now-a-days, in these days of rapid and easy sea transport, and in the face of our system of open markets, the home producer and home manufacturer must be prepared to face foreign competition or to fail. I am afraid he cannot expect his fellow-countrymen for the sake of patriotism to buy his goods if they are inferior and more expensive than goods from other lands, and I say to the supporters of *Swadeshi*,—that much abused word,—that if "*Swadeshi*" means an earnest endeavour to develop home industries in an open market for the employment and for the supply of the people of India, no one will be more heartily with them than myself. But if by *Swadeshi* is meant an inability to recognise the signs of the times, a mistaken desire to maintain industrial systems long out of date, to create false markets by prohibiting the people of India from the purchase of better and cheaper goods, it will have no sympathy from me.

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The ancient hand-loom cannot compete with modern machinery. There are indigenous arts in India which I hope may be for ever preserved—the ingenuity, the characteristic skill of a people should always be dear to them; but the success of modern industries and the preservation of indigenous industries is becoming every day more and more dependent upon scientific and technical knowledge, and if the resources of India are to be developed by the people of India, such development must depend largely upon local enterprise, upon the investment of Indian money and upon a recognition of the absolute necessity of expert training. There is no lack of opportunity for such native enterprise which will well merit the assistance and encouragement the Hon'ble Rai Sri Ram Bahadur has so justly claimed for it.

I have ventured to deal only very superficially with the chief points raised in this Debate and with which the Heads of Departments have so ably dealt—points which chiefly concern the resources of India, its revenue, and the welfare of its population. But there is, on the other hand, the heavy expenditure we have to face in many branches of the administration, and chiefly in respect to the Army, to which the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale has taken such strong exception. I have listened to all he has said with the respect due to one who very eloquently represents the advanced views of a section of the Indian people—views which, though we may perhaps often disagree with, are the result of a study of the Indian political life of to-day and of a patriotic desire to share in the administration of public affairs—views which I shall always be ready to listen to and discuss. Recent events may at first sight appear to justify much of what the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale has said. Russia's reverses in the Far East and our alliance with Japan undoubtedly at the present moment minimise the dangers of our Indian frontier, but I am afraid I cannot follow the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale in his conclusion that these dangers



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have disappeared for ever. He has told us that the tide of European aggression in China has been rolled back for good, that the power of Russia has been broken and that her prestige in Asia has gone. I am afraid these are mere assumptions which I can hardly accept. I am afraid I feel much more impelled to consider what effect Russian reverses may have on the pride of a high-spirited military race, and I wonder in how long or in how short a time she may feel confident of recovering her lost prestige.

Mr. Gokhale advises us to hang up our military reorganisation till a more disquieting situation arises; that is to say, wait till the moment of danger arises before we put our house in order—and to trust to a military scramble towards efficiency. I hope that the danger of such military scrambles has at last impressed their risks upon us.

He has also referred to the position of the people of India in respect to the military services. The position is a difficult one, and in some points it is not satisfactory; but I do assert this, and I know my Colleagues will agree with me, that the position is in no way due to a want of appreciation of the loyal services of the magnificent officers and soldiers of the Indian Army.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has so clearly placed before us the view he takes of military requirements and military reorganisation that I need say very little. He has devoted a brilliant ability to the task of placing the Army of India on a footing of sound efficiency—an efficiency which can guarantee security, whilst he has reminded us that in the midst of a rising prosperity and increasing cost of living we cannot ignore the daily comfort of the Indian troops who serve us.

Military expenditure is necessarily heavy in respect to the upkeep of all great armies. The criticism of such expenditure is often short-sighted. The price paid for an army is the premium paid for the insurance of the country. The huge armies of modern nations are not due either to



Address from the Lucknow Municipality.

any tendency to over-insure or to the promptings of mere military ambition. They exist in the first place for the maintenance of peace, because nations know that on their armed strength depends their immunity from attack. No nation can hope to be great and prosperous without being strong amongst its fellows. Its wealth, the welfare of its people, its commerce, its investments, its interior development, depend upon its security from hostile pressure—a security guaranteed only by the efficiency of its military forces—by the power of the strong arm. As long as the whole world continues armed to the teeth, we must be prepared to pay for the safety of our existence. I hope we shall never be deceived into a false security.

It is pleasant to remember that Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, though they deeply realised the wants of the loyal population who so enthusiastically received them, visited India when its future seemed full of promise. I trust that promise may be fulfilled, and that ever-increasing revenues will help to solve the administrative problems which surround us, and will ensure the progress and happiness of the people.

ADDRESS FROM THE LUCKNOW MUNICIPALITY.

31st Mar. 1906. [His Excellency the Viceroy arrived at Lucknow on the 30th March 1906, having left Calcutta on the 29th for his Spring tour.

The next morning, in the grounds of Government House, His Excellency received an address of welcome from the Lucknow Municipality.

The address, which was enclosed in a pretty silver casket and read by the Hon'ble Rai Sri Ram Bahadur, referred briefly to the recent visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales and to the establishment of a Medical College as a memento of that visit.

*Address from the Lucknow Municipality.*

It also referred to the anxiety felt in regard to the distress existing in the Province.

His Excellency in reply spoke as follows :—]

I beg to offer my sincere thanks to the Municipal Board and citizens of Lucknow for the cordial welcome they have extended to me on my first visit to their city. I have long looked forward to visiting Lucknow, and am glad that I have been able to do so so early in my term of office.

I must congratulate you heartily on the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. Their Royal Highnesses were deeply interested in all they saw here, and I trust that the Medical College, which is to be the outcome of their stay amongst you, may prove an inestimable benefit to the population and a lasting memorial of its loyalty.

The people of the United Provinces have indeed every right to be proud of the energy and liberality which has so rapidly ensured the success of the movement they themselves inaugurated.

I assure you of my sincere sympathy in the distress which I know too well is afflicting a portion of the populations. I realise the difficulties an increase in prices must entail, and I know, too, that should occasion unfortunately arise you will do all in your power to mitigate the sufferings of your poorer classes.

Yet I hope that as years go on you may find that there is still much promise in the future and that the former prosperity of your city may be returned to it in double measure.

It has been a great pleasure to Lady Minto and myself to come amongst you to-day, and I again thank you for the kindness of the reception you have extended to us.



OUDH TALUKDARS' ADDRESS.

31st Mar. 1906.

[After dinner on the night of the 31st March Their Excellencies drove to the Kaiser Bagh at Lucknow, where His Excellency was presented with an address from the Talukdars. The address was presented in a richly got up *Kharita* and made a reference to the first Earl of Minto's services to the Talukdars and referred to His Excellency's sympathies with landowners.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Gentlemen,—In the address of welcome you presented to me at Calcutta you very courteously expressed a hope that I might soon be able to visit the capital of Oudh, and it is a great pleasure to me to be able to realise that hope and to have this opportunity of being received by you in this Hall so full of the history of bygone days. I am glad to think, too, that Their Royal Highnesses were able to hear from yourselves the expression of that loyalty to the Sovereign which the Talukdars of Oudh have so carefully cherished.

It is deeply interesting to me to hear from you of the ancient connection of my family with the Province. I have been told that when my ancestor, Lord Minto, was in India, Nawab Saadat Ali Khan was the ruler of Oudh and that he was the best and wisest administrator the Province ever had, and it is not impossible that the two broadminded statesmen had many views in common.

I told you, I think, at Calcutta that as a landowner myself I could fully sympathise with you in the many responsibilities thrown upon you. People unconnected with the management of landed estates appear often to be incapable of understanding the difficulty of fulfilling the responsibilities the ownership of land always carries with it, but whatever these difficulties may be, I am sure that in every country the secret of success lies in the friendly relations which ought to exist between landlord and tenant, between ryot and talukdar, in the recognition that what is good for one is good for the other, and in that mutual assistance which can alone ensure general prosperity.

*Agra Municipal Address.*

I hope that the surroundings of this rapidly changing modern world will not impair the characteristic individuality of the Talukdars, and that the administration of their great properties will tend to draw their own interests closer and closer to those of the agricultural population.

I am glad indeed to hear from you, Gentlemen, that the noble words of Lord Canning have been justified, whilst you yourselves may well be proud of the influence your own sterling qualities have had in ensuring the success of his predictions.

I again beg to thank the Talukdars sincerely for the cordiality of the welcome they have extended to Lady Minto and myself on the occasion of our first visit to this beautiful city.

AGRA MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

[During the course of his Spring tour the Viceroy arrived at Agra 2nd Apr. 1906. on the morning of the 2nd April. The Municipality presented an address of welcome to His Excellency in the grounds of the Circuit House. The address referred briefly to the recent visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales and to the beautiful monuments of the city, and drew attention to the fact that the first Earl of Minto was the first Governor-General to take steps for the repair of ancient buildings. His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Gentlemen,—The cordial welcome of the Municipal Board and the residents of Agra is very gratifying to Lady Minto and myself, and it is a great pleasure to us to be able to spend a few days in your city so soon after our arrival in India. I heard much from the Prince and Princess of Wales of their visit to Agra, and I venture to congratulate you on the success of the reception your townspeople so loyally and enthusiastically extended to Their Royal Highnesses.

This is not my first visit to Agra. I was here many years ago, and returned to England deeply impressed by your historical monuments and the unrivalled beauty of the Taj, and it is pleasant now to look forward to reviving old

*Address from the Delhi Municipality.*

recollections and to seeing all this again with the many improvements which I am told on all sides have done so much for the artistic development of your surroundings. It is curious that I should be following in the footsteps of my ancestor, after a lapse of what must be nearly 100 years, for Lord Minto only came to India in 1807 and must have been here during the magnificence of the Moghal Empire; and though as you tell me, Gentlemen, its ancient splendour may have departed from Agra, the generation of to-day has succeeded not only to a legacy of unsurpassed Oriental art, but to a city whose growing trade and commerce are rapidly placing it in the first rank of industrial centres in India.

I congratulate the Municipal Board on the endeavours they are making to further increasing requirements. No labour will ever be better spent than that devoted to the supply of pure water and to sanitary organisation, and not only to sanitary organisation but to a general encouragement throughout the population of the meaning of sanitation—a disregard for which has, I am afraid, been answerable for so much misery in India.

Lady Minto and I are much looking forward to our stay in Agra and hope that other occasions may not be wanting to us in the future to visit its citizens.

ADDRESS FROM THE DELHI MUNICIPALITY.

6th Apr. 1906. [On his arrival at Delhi on the morning of the 6th April, the Viceroy was presented with an address of welcome from the Delhi Municipality on the platform of the railway station.

The address referred to the extensive repair of archaeological buildings and hoped His Excellency would continue this work. It also showed that the city was in a prosperous condition. His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I beg to thank you for the welcome you have extended to me on behalf of the population of Delhi

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on the occasion of my first visit to this ancient city as the representative of our King-Emperor.

Many years ago I visited Delhi, and it is a great pleasure to me to return here again to renew acquaintance with the many archæological treasures of the Imperial capital of India. Much has, I know, been done to preserve your splendid buildings and their surroundings, and I can assure you it will always be my earnest endeavour to assist you in the care you are devoting to your unrivalled relics of Indian history.

I congratulate you on your commercial prosperity. As a railway centre, Delhi is possessed of advantages which its Municipality has fully appreciated, whilst every praise is due to the foresight which has rendered possible the relaxation of taxation in the direction you mention, and which I have no doubt has done much to increase the volume of the city's trade.

The further improvements which you have in contemplation for Delhi and its surroundings and the possible extension of the city itself all point to a well-assured future prosperity.

I am very glad to hear from you that, though partial failure of the rains caused some anxiety, your people have suffered from no severe want, whilst the fact that they are free from plague bears a high testimony to the efficiency of the sanitation in which you as a Municipality are so deeply interested.

I hope I may have many opportunities of visiting you during my term of office, and I beg to thank you again sincerely for your kindly words of greeting to Lady Minto and myself.



UNVEILING OF THE NICHOLSON STATUE AT DELHI.

9th Apr. 1906. [His Excellency the Viceroy had been asked to perform the ceremony of unveiling the Nicholson Statue at Delhi. This His Excellency consented to do, and performed the ceremony in the afternoon of the 6th April. His Excellency left the Circuit House escorted by the 18th P. W. O. Tiwana Lancers and was met *en route* by the Commander-in-Chief. On arriving at the northern gate of the Nicholson Garden the Viceroy was met by the Lieutenant-General Commanding, Eastern Command, the Major-General Commanding, Meerut Division, and the Honorary Secretaries of the Nicholson Statue Fund. The path from the north gate to the statue was lined by the Royal Garrison Artillery; guards of honour of the 1st Royal Irish Rifles and of the 35th Sikhs being posted on each side of the statue. The bands of these regiments were massed to the east of the statue. The 1st Royal Irish Rifles and the 35th Sikhs were formed up in a circle surrounding the statue, the guards of honour, the bands and the dais. Two representative detachments were drawn up along the edges of the path from the dais to the statue.

On His Excellency taking his seat, General Sir Beauchamp Duff, on behalf of the Committee, read the following address:—

"*May it please Your Excellency*,—Some three years ago it was represented to Your Excellency's predecessor, Lord Curzon, that no statue had ever been erected to the memory of General John Nicholson, and a suggestion was made that funds should be collected with a view to the erection of such a Memorial in this Garden.

"Lord Curzon was graciously pleased to approve of the scheme, and with the co-operation of Lord Roberts and of the late Sir Henry Norman, measures were set in motion for the collection of subscriptions.

"The appeal met with so generous a response, that eventually a sum of Rs. 47,000 was obtained and the commission for the work given to Mr. Thomas Brock.

"There exists no authentic portrait of General Nicholson, as he was in 1857, and the only reliable likeness of him at that period is to be found in a marble bust, executed, not long after his death, by the late Mr. Foley. It is noteworthy that Mr. Brock was Mr. Foley's Assistant while this bust was in progress, and it has now been adopted by the sculptor as his model for the head.

"We were able to procure the coat which General Nicholson wore and the sword which he carried on the day, the 14th September, on which he was mortally wounded.

"While the statue was under construction Lord Roberts, Sir Henry Norman and Sir Seymour Blane were good enough to visit the studio and to assist Mr. Brock with their valuable advice.

*Unveiling of the Nicholson Statue at Delhi.*

"We have reason therefore to believe that, despite the long period which has elapsed since the death of General Nicholson, this statue bears an accurate resemblance to him.

"With regard to the site selected, Lord Roberts wrote as follows :—

"I need not say that I would welcome anything done to honour the memory of the grandest man under whom I have ever served.

"I like the site proposed in the Nicholson Garden, provided it will not be too much shut in with trees. It was there I last saw Nicholson before he received his mortal wound. I was standing on the wall close by the battery in which I served in the Ludlow Castle Grounds, watching Nicholson waiting at the head of his little column for the sound of the bugle to announce that the Kashmir Gate had been blown in."

"It is this moment which the sculptor has chosen in his representation of the distinguished soldier civilian, who is shown turning towards the Gate about to lead the final assault.

"It will be remembered that later on in the day Lord Roberts found him lying mortally wounded outside the Kashmir Gate. He died on the 23rd September 1857, and was laid to rest in the cemetery close by.

"We feel that there could be no more suitable spot for this tribute to the memory of John Nicholson.

"In the name of the subscribers we now ask Your Excellency to be pleased to unveil the statue."

His Excellency in responding to the invitation spoke as follows :—]

General Sir Beauchamp Duff,—I would venture in the first place to express to the Committee you represent my appreciation, in which I feel sure the public in India and at home will share, of the success which has attended the Committee's efforts to erect a statue of General Nicholson at Delhi.

My predecessor, Lord Curzon, took great interest in the scheme, the inception of which is due to Major Douglas, who whilst he was Deputy Commissioner of Delhi selected this site for the statue, and who spared no endeavour to obtain a likeness of General Nicholson, in which he received the sympathetic assistance of Nicholson's old friends and comrades, Lord Roberts, Sir Henry Norman and Sir Seymour Blane. Major Douglas has been fortunate, too, in obtaining the distinguished services of Mr. Brock.

*Unveiling of the Nicholson Statue at Delhi.*

But it is to the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the British and Indian Armies who are assembled here to-day that this ceremony must so deeply appeal. We are gathered here to do honour to the memory of a great soldier and administrator whose name is such a household word that there is no need for me to attempt to sketch his career. We all know the story of Nicholson's hard-fighting early days, of his subsequent frontier administration, of the march of his moveable column from Peshawar to Delhi and of the glorious close of that memorable siege. This afternoon much honoured veterans who shared with him the dangers and glories of many fights, the present representatives of the Corps who served under him in his last campaign, and regiments of the British and Indian Armies of to-day are all standing shoulder to shoulder close to the spot where he stood on the morning of the 14th of September, nearly 49 years ago, looking down upon the Kashmir bastion and the Kashmir Gate, waiting for the bugle to sound the advance, which he was so magnificently to lead. British and Indian troops stand here together as they have stood side by side on many a hard-fought field to do honour to the memory not only of a British Officer of the Indian Army, the John Nicholson of his British comrades, but to the memory of the beloved and worshipped Nikalsain Sahib, the revered leader of Pathan and Punjabi warriors. It is the statue of a great and chivalrous soldier, of a high-minded and straightforward man, that I have been asked to unveil—a man whose memory may be reverently cherished by soldiers and civilians of whatever race and of whatever creed.

[A battery fired a Brigadier-General's salute and the bugles sounded the "last post."]



ADDRESS AT DARGAI.

[During the course of the Viceroy's visit to the Frontier on his 10th Apr. 1906. Spring tour His Excellency was presented at Dargai with an address from the Sam Ranizai *Jirga*. The address was written in Pushtu verse, the translation of which is as follows:—

"In presence of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, Grand Master of the Indian Empire, oh! people, the time for happiness has come. How far shall I extol heavenly favours? The whole of the Sam Ranizai country has become milk and ambergis when the Nawab Sahib Bahadur (His Excellency) has come. The world is coloured with the blessings of your justice, even the scene of tyranny is not left in the country. You are friend to the poor, cherished of the poor, and kind to the poor. You are a spreader of justice bright and exalted; you are of good family, good titles, and good habits, kind appreciator, and of high class; in generosity you are the spreader of pearls; in justice you are just like Naushervan. Your people (subjects) are in comfort on account of your many favours, your subjects are in peace everywhere. The fame of your equity has far travelled in the country, in Habul Badakshan, China and Kholan. Our territory has become green and full of light when Your Lordship has placed on it your blessed foot. The star of our fortune has come into motion by your coming, our direction has become auspicious. With our folded hands and with great respect we make a humble representation, if Your Excellency exalts us, that it is about twelve years ago since we are under the shadow of Government. All the Officers who are in the Malakand we submit to do them service with sincerity, with our heads and eyes we accept their order. We all are pleased with them in every way, in good manner with freedom we do our habitual affairs. Government has done no interference; our old customs are as they were, every man is happy and pleased with the Government. We make our first representation that this should continue for ever, and our country be exempted from law, oh! you of exalted dignity! Our second representation is this that the proposals for the Swat Canal, which are in hand, Your Excellency may do us kindness in bringing it out. All the people will be uttering blessing for it. We the poor people have this third request to make that the train stays for the night at Mardan. If the stay for the night is sanctioned at Dargai much good is thought of, in this there will be much gain to the Government, also the poor travellers will be relieved of trouble. Our fourth request is that the broad-gauge line be put so that the profit to trade should be two-fold. We hope that these requests will be granted. We have placed our hands of respect on our breast."

His Excellency made no reply.]



ADDRESS FROM THE PESHAWAR MUNICIPALITY.

14th Apr. 1906. [His Excellency the Viceroy was presented with a joint address from the representatives of the North-West Frontier Province and the Municipal Committee of Peshawar on the morning of the 14th April in the new Victoria Memorial Hall where a large gathering had assembled.

The address was read by Khan Bahadur Abdul Gaffur Khan and presented in a beautiful silver casket. The address referred to the recent visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and it also contained a reference to the Hall in which it was presented as having been built to commemorate the reign of the late Queen and concluded by asking the Viceroy to declare the Hall open.

In reply His Excellency spoke as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you heartily for the reception you have extended to me, on my first visit as the representative of the King-Emperor to your capital, whilst the words of your address carry all the greater weight as emanating both from the representatives of the North-West Frontier Province and the Municipal Commissioners of Peshawar City.

The North-West Frontier, full as it is of stirring history, has always had a deep interest for me, and I rejoice that on the occasion of my first official visit to you, I have seen outstretched before me the promise of an unrivalled harvest.

Lady Minto and I will, I assure you, always remember the cordiality of the welcome you have given us; we share with you in your hope for the prosperity of this Borderland, and trust that it may enjoy the blessings of peace and plenty for many a year to come.

And it is not only in respect to local production that we have reason to feel satisfied, for the able and enlightened policy of His Highness the Amir of Afghanistan has also done much to increase the trade of British India with our neighbours to the north:—a trade of great value to India not only commercially but in respect to that friendly intercourse which it so naturally encourages. We cannot

*Address from the Peshawar Municipality.*

but feel, too, that His Highness's recent visit to his border territories, and his personal acquaintance with our mutual frontier will assist His Highness in the very friendly inclination he has shown to co-operate with us in securing the welfare and tranquillity of the frontier tribes.

I must congratulate you, Gentlemen, on the success of the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales, who I know carried away with them vivid impressions of the reception they met with here, and of the beautiful surroundings of Peshawar.

To-day you have done me the honour of presenting me with your address in the Hall which is to commemorate the reign of our greatest Queen-Empress—Queen Victoria. Private subscriptions and Municipal funds have already been supplemented by a promised grant from Government, and it will be a great pleasure to me if further assistance should be forthcoming from the same source to promote the object you have in view. I hope that the building in which we are assembled to-day may as a provincial museum become a centre for the collection of that historical wealth of which the North-West Frontier is so largely possessed, and that it may afford a fitting home for many interesting treasures, whilst I am well aware that in Sir Harold Deane Peshawar has a friend than whom no man is better acquainted with frontier lore, and to whom it will be a real pleasure to develop the intentions of this Hall in the interests of the Province he so ably administers.

Gentlemen, I wish the Victoria Memorial Hall of Peshawar every success, and I now beg to declare the Hall open.



ADDRESS FROM THE SIMLA MUNICIPALITY.

23rd Apr. 1906. [His Excellency the Viceroy accompanied by Her Excellency the Countess of Minto, the Ladies Elliot and Staff, arrived at Simla on Thursday afternoon, the 19th April, at the conclusion of His Excellency's Spring tour. There was a large gathering at Viceregal Lodge to welcome Their Excellencies on their first arrival in Simla.

On Monday, the 23rd, the Municipal Committee presented His Excellency with an address of welcome. His Excellency received the address in the Council Chamber at Viceregal Lodge and, in reply, spoke as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—It is a great pleasure to Lady Minto and myself, on our arrival at Simla, to receive the very cordial welcome of your President and Municipality and of the residents of the station, and we much look forward to our annual residence in your beautiful surroundings.

To me our arrival here is all the more interesting, in that I knew Simla well;—I should be sorry to say how many years ago—before the days of the Viceregal Lodge, when Peterhoff was still in its glory, and when the attractions of Annandale were yet in their infancy.

I have come back to recognize many old landmarks and to marvel at the growth of the summer capital of India—and perhaps a comparison with old times brings home to me all the more the difficulties which must necessarily surround your Municipality in providing for the wants of an ever-increasing residential population. It is no easy problem to administer for nearly 40,000 people in a mountain district, largely dependent on its supplies from below, to guarantee its water-supply, and to deal with the sanitary danger of increasing congestion in the Bazaar to which you allude, but which, I hope, the Extension Scheme will do much to remedy.

Yet, notwithstanding the many difficulties of administration, I hope we all sufficiently appreciate the invigorating tonic of Simla mountain air, and do not forget our brethren who are loyally toiling through the long summer months in the plains of India.

*All India Mohammedan Deputation and Address.*

I assure you, Gentlemen, I shall look forward to any opportunity of furthering the work of your Municipal Committee, and I know that you may rely upon the warm sympathy of Lady Minto in the welfare of your local institutions.

I beg to thank you again, Gentlemen, for the welcome you have to-day so heartily extended to Lady Minto and myself.

ALL INDIA MOHAMMEDAN DEPUTATION AND
ADDRESS.

[In connection with the Secretary of State's (Mr. Morley) speech 1st Oct. 1906. in the House of Commons on the Indian Budget, Maulvi Syed Mahdi Ali Khan (Mohsin-ul-Mulk), Honorary Secretary of the M. A. O. College, Aligarh, addressed a request through the Principal of the College asking His Excellency the Viceroy to receive a Deputation and address on behalf of the Indian Mohammedans, to draw the attention of Government to their rights.

His Excellency having consented, the Deputation were received at Viceregal Lodge in the Ball Room on the 1st October 1906. The Deputation numbered 35 and were seated in a horse-shoe facing the Viceroy's chair. His Excellency went round and was personally introduced to each member of the Deputation. The Khalifa from Patiala having asked for permission to present it, His Highness Aga Sir Sultan Muhammad Shah, Aga Khan, G.C.I.E., of Bombay, who headed the Deputation, read the address, which is as follows :—

"*May it please Your Excellency*,—Availing ourselves of the permission accorded to us, we, the undersigned nobles, jagirdars, talukdars, lawyers, zemindars, merchants, and others, representing a large body of the Mohammedan subjects of His Majesty the King-Emperor in different parts of India, beg most respectfully to approach Your Excellency with the following address for your favourable consideration.

"2. We fully realise and appreciate the incalculable benefits conferred by British rule on the teeming millions belonging to divers races and professing divers religions, who form the population of the vast continent of India; and have every reason to be grateful for the peace, security, personal freedom, and liberty of worship that we now enjoy. Further, from the wise and enlightened character of the Government

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we have every reasonable ground for anticipating that these benefits will be progressive, and that India will, in the future, occupy an increasingly important position in the comity of nations.

"3. One of the most important characteristics of British policy in India is the increasing deference that has, so far as possible, been paid from the first to the views and wishes of the people of the country in matters affecting their interests, with due regard always to the diversity of race and religion, which forms such an important feature of all Indian problems.

"4. Beginning with the confidential and unobtrusive method of consulting influential members of important communities in different parts of the country, this principle was gradually extended by the recognition of the right of recognised political or commercial organisations to communicate to the authorities their criticisms and views on measures of public importance; and, finally, by the nomination and election of direct representatives of the people in Municipalities, District Boards, and—above all—in the Legislative Chambers of the country. This last element is, we understand, about to be dealt with by the Committee appointed by Your Excellency, with the view of giving it further extension; and it is with reference mainly to our claim to a fair share in such extended representation and some other matters of importance affecting the interests of our community that we have ventured to approach Your Excellency on the present occasion.

"5. The Mohammedans of India number, according to the census taken in the year 1901, over sixty-two millions, or between one-fifth and one-fourth of the total population of His Majesty's Indian dominions; and if a reduction be made for the uncivilised portions of the community enumerated under the heads of animists and other minor religions, as well as for those classes who are ordinarily classified as Hindus, but, properly speaking, are not Hindus at all, the proportion of Mohammedans to the Hindu majority becomes much larger. We therefore desire to submit that, under any system of representation, extended or limited, a community in itself more numerous than the entire population of any first class European power, except Russia, may justly lay claim to adequate recognition as an important factor in the State. We venture, indeed, with Your Excellency's permission, to go a step further, and urge that the position accorded to the Mohammedan community in any kind of representation, direct or indirect, and in all other ways, affecting their status and influence, should be commensurate not merely with their numerical strength, but also with their political importance, and the value of the contribution which they make to the defence of the Empire; and we also hope that Your Excellency will, in this connection, be pleased to give due

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consideration to the position which they occupied in India a little more than a hundred years ago, and of which the traditions have naturally not faded from their minds.

"6. The Mohammedans of India have always placed implicit reliance on the sense of justice and love of fair dealing that have characterised their rulers, and have, in consequence, abstained from pressing their claims by methods that might prove at all embarrassing; but earnestly as we desire that the Mohammedans of India should not in the future depart from that excellent and time-honoured tradition, recent events have stirred up feelings, especially among the younger generation of Mohammedans, which might, in certain circumstances and under certain contingencies, easily pass beyond the control of temperate counsel and sober guidance.

"7. We, therefore, pray that the representations we herewith venture to submit, after a careful consideration of the views and wishes of a large number of our co-religionists in all parts of India, may be favoured with Your Excellency's earnest attention.

"8. We hope Your Excellency will pardon our stating at the outset that representative institutions of the European type are new to the Indian people. Many of the most thoughtful members of our community, in fact, consider that the greatest care, forethought, and caution will be necessary if they are to be successfully adapted to the social, religious, and political conditions obtaining in India; and that, in the absence of such care and caution, their adoption is likely, among other evils, to place our national interests at the mercy of an unsympathetic majority. Since, however, our rulers have, in pursuance of the immemorial instincts and traditions, found it expedient to give these institutions an increasingly important place in the government of the country, we Mohammedans cannot any longer, in justice to our own national interests, hold aloof from participating in the conditions to which their policy has given rise. While, therefore, we are bound to acknowledge with gratitude that such representation as the Mohammedans of India have hitherto enjoyed has been due to a sense of justice and fairness on the part of Your Excellency and your illustrious predecessors in office, and the Heads of Local Governments by whom the Mohammedan members of Legislative Chambers have, almost without exception, been nominated, we cannot help observing that the representation thus accorded to us has necessarily been inadequate to our requirements, and has not always carried with it the approval of those whom the nominees were selected to represent. This state of things was probably, under existing circumstances, unavoidable; for while, on the one hand, the number of nominations reserved to the Viceroy and Local Governments has necessarily been

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strictly limited, the selection, on the other hand, of really representative men has, in the absence of any reliable method of ascertaining the direction of popular choice, been far from easy. As for the results of election, it is most unlikely that the name of any Mohammedan candidate will ever be submitted for the approval of Government by the electoral bodies as now constituted, unless he is in sympathy with the majority in all matters of importance. Nor can we, in fairness, find fault with the desire of our non-Moslim fellow-subjects to take full advantage of their strength and vote only for members of their own community, or for persons who, if not Hindus, are expected to vote with the Hindu majority, on whose good-will they would have to depend for their future re-election. It is true that we have many and important interests in common with our Hindu fellow-countrymen, and it will always be a matter of the utmost satisfaction to us to see these interests safeguarded by the presence, in our Legislative Chambers, of able supporters of these interests, irrespective of their nationality. Still it cannot be denied that we Mohammedans are a distinct community with additional interests of our own, which are not shared by other communities, and these have hitherto suffered from the fact that they have not been adequately represented. Even in the provinces in which the Mohammedans constitute a distinct majority of the population, they have too often been treated as though they were inappreciably small political factors that might, without unfairness, be neglected. This has been the case, to some extent, in the Punjab; but in a more marked degree in Sind and in Eastern Bengal.

"9. Before formulating our views with regard to the election of representatives, we beg to observe that the political importance of a community to a considerable extent gains strength or suffers detriment, according to the position that the members of that community occupy in the service of the State. If, as is unfortunately the case with the Mohammedans, they are not adequately represented in this manner, they lose in the prestige and influence which are justly their due. We, therefore, pray that Government will be graciously pleased to provide that, both in the gazetted and the subordinate and ministerial services of all Indian provinces, a due proportion of Mohammedans shall always find place. Orders of like import have, at times, been issued by Local Governments in some provinces, but have not unfortunately, in all cases, been strictly observed, on the ground that qualified Mohammedans were not forthcoming. This allegation, however well-founded it may have been at one time, is, we submit, no longer tenable now; and wherever the will to employ them is not wanting, the supply of qualified Mohammedans, we are happy to be able to assure Your Excellency, is equal to the demand. Since, however, the number of



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qualified Mohammedans has increased, a tendency is unfortunately perceptible to reject them on the ground of relatively superior qualifications having to be given precedence. This introduces something like the competitive element in its worst form, and we may be permitted to draw Your Excellency's attention to the political significance of the monopoly of all official influence by one class. We may also point out in this connection that the efforts of Mohammedan educationists have, from the very outset of the educational movement among them, been strenuously directed towards the development of character, and this, we venture to think, is of greater importance than mere mental alertness in the making of a good public servant.

"10. We venture to submit that the generality of Mohammedans in all parts of India feel aggrieved that Mohammedan Judges are not more frequently appointed to the High Courts and Chief Courts of Judicature. Since the creation of these Courts, only three Mohammedan lawyers have held these honourable appointments, all of whom have fully justified their elevation to the Bench. At the present moment there is not a single Mohammedan Judge sitting on the Bench of any of these Courts, while there are three Hindu Judges in the Calcutta High Court, where the proportion of Mohammedans in the population is very large; and two in the Chief Court of the Punjab, where the Mohammedans form the majority of the population. It is not therefore an extravagant request on our part that a Mohammedan should be given a seat on the Bench of each of the High Courts and Chief Courts. Qualified Mohammedan lawyers eligible for these appointments can always be found, if not in one province then in another. We beg permission further to submit that the presence on the Bench of these Courts of a Judge, learned in the Mohammedan Law, will be a source of considerable strength to the administration of justice.

"11. As Municipal and District Boards have to deal with important local interests, affecting to a great extent the health, comfort, educational needs, and even the religious concerns of the inhabitants, we shall, we hope, be pardoned if we solicit, for a moment, Your Excellency's attention to the position of Mohammedans thereon before passing to higher concerns. These institutions form, as it were, the initial rungs in the ladder of self-government, and it is here that the principle of representation is brought home intimately to the intelligence of the people. Yet the position of Mohammedans on these Boards is not at present regulated by any guiding principle capable of general application, and practice varies in different localities. The Aligarh Municipality, for example, is divided into six wards, and each ward returns one Hindu and one Mohammedan Commissioner; and the same principle, we understand, is adopted in a number of Municipalities

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in the Punjab and elsewhere, but in a good many places the Mohammedan tax-payers are not adequately represented. We would, therefore, respectfully suggest that local authority should, in every case, be required to declare the number of Hindus and Mohammedans entitled to seats on Municipal and District Boards, such proportion to be determined in accordance with the numerical strength, social status, local influence, and special requirements of either community. Once their relative proportion is authoritatively determined, we would suggest that either community should be allowed severally to return their own representatives, as is the practice in many towns in the Punjab.

"12. We would also suggest that the Senates and Syndicates of Indian Universities might be similarly dealt with: that is to say, there should, so far as possible, be an authoritative declaration of the proportion in which Mohammedans are entitled to be represented in either body.

"13. We now proceed to the consideration of the question of our representation in the Legislative Chambers of the country. Beginning with the Provincial Councils, we would most respectfully suggest that as in the case of Municipalities and District Boards, the proportion of Mohammedan representatives entitled to a seat should be determined and declared with due regard to the important considerations which we have ventured to point out in paragraph 5 of this address; and that the important Mohammedan landowners, lawyers, merchants, and representatives of other important interests, the Mohammedan members of District Boards and Municipalities, and the Mohammedan graduates of Universities, of a certain standing, say 5 years, should be formed into electoral colleges, and be authorised, in accordance with such rules of procedure as Your Excellency's Government may be pleased to prescribe in that behalf, to return the number of members that may be declared to be eligible.

"14. With regard to the Imperial Legislative Council, whereon the due representation of Mohammedan interests is a matter of vital importance, we crave leave to suggest:—

"(1) That, in the cadre of the Council, the proportion of Mohammedan representatives should not be determined on the basis of the numerical strength of the community, and that, in any case, the Mohammedan representatives should never be an ineffective minority.

"(2) That, as far as possible, appointment by election should be given preference over nomination.

"(3) That, for purposes of choosing Mohammedan members, Mohammedan landowners, lawyers, merchants, and

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representatives of other important interests of a status to be subsequently determined by Your Excellency's Government, Mohammedan members of the Provincial Councils and Mohammedan Fellows of Universities should be invested with electoral powers to be exercised in accordance with such procedure as may be prescribed by Your Excellency's Government in that behalf.

"15. An impression has lately been gaining ground that one or more Indian Members may be appointed on the Executive Council of the Viceroy. In the event of such appointments being made, we beg that the claims of Mohammedans in that connection may not be overlooked. More than one Mohammedan, we venture to say, will be found in the country fit to serve with distinction in that august chamber.

"16. We beg to approach Your Excellency on a subject which most closely affects our national welfare. We are convinced that our aspirations as a community and our future progress are largely dependent on the foundation of a Mohammedan University, which will be the centre of our religious and intellectual life. We therefore most respectfully pray that Your Excellency will take steps to help us in an undertaking in which our community is so deeply interested.

"17. In conclusion, we beg to assure Your Excellency that, in assisting the Mohammedan subjects of His Majesty, at this stage in the development of Indian affairs, in the directions indicated in the present address, Your Excellency will be strengthening the basis of their unswerving loyalty to the Throne and laying the foundation of their political advancement and national prosperity, and Your Excellency's name will be remembered with gratitude by their posterity for generations to come; and we feel confident that Your Excellency will be gracious enough to give due consideration to our prayers."

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

Your Highness and Gentlemen,—Allow me, before I attempt to reply to the many considerations your address embodies, to welcome you heartily to Simla.

Your presence here to-day is very full of meaning. To the document with which you have presented me are attached the signatures of nobles, of ministers of various States, of great landowners, of lawyers, of merchants, and of many other of His Majesty's Mohammedan subjects. I welcome the representative character of your Deputation as expressing the views and aspirations of the enlightened Moslim community of India. I feel that all you have said

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emanates from a representative body, basing its opinions on a matured consideration of the existing political conditions of India, totally apart from the small personal or political sympathies and antipathies of scattered localities; and I am grateful to you for the opportunity you are affording me of expressing my appreciation of the just aims of the followers of Islam and their determination to share in the political history of our Empire.

As your Viceroy, I am proud of the recognition you express of the benefits conferred by British rule on the diverse races of many creeds who go to form the population of this huge continent. You yourselves, the descendants of a conquering and ruling race, have told me to-day of your gratitude for the personal freedom, the liberty of worship, the general peace, and the hopeful future which British administration has secured for India.

It is interesting to look back on early British efforts to assist the Mohammedan population to qualify themselves for public service. In 1782 Warren Hastings founded the Calcutta Madrassah with the intention of enabling its students "to compete on more equal terms with the Hindus for employment under Government." In 1811 my ancestor, Lord Minto, advocated improvements in the Madrassah and the establishment of Mohammedan colleges at other places throughout India. In later years the efforts of the Mohammedan Association led to the Government Resolution of 1885, dealing with the educational position of the Mohammedan community and their employment in the public service, whilst Mohammedan educational effort has culminated in the College of Aligarh, that great institution which the noble and broadminded devotion of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan has dedicated to his co-religionists. It was in July 1877 that Lord Lytton laid the foundation stone of Aligarh, when Sir Syed Ahmed Khan addressed these memorable words to the Viceroy:—

"The personal honour which you have done me assures

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me of a great fact, and fills me with feelings of a much higher nature than mere personal gratitude. I am assured that you, who upon this occasion represent the British rule, have sympathies with our labours, and to me this assurance is very valuable, and a source of great happiness. At my time of life it is a comfort to me to feel that the undertaking which has been for many years, and is now, the sole object of my life, has roused, on the one hand, the energies of my own countrymen, and, on the other, has won the sympathy of our British fellow-subjects and the support of our rulers; so that when the few years I may still be spared are over, and when I shall be no longer amongst you, the college will still prosper, and succeed in educating my countrymen to have the same affection for their country, the same feelings of loyalty for the British rule, the same appreciation of its blessings, the same sincerity of friendship with our British fellow-subjects as have been the ruling feelings of my life."

Aligarh has won its laurels. Its students have gone forth to fight the battle of life strong in the tenets of their own religion, strong in the precepts of loyalty and patriotism, and now, when there is much that is critical in the political future of India, the inspiration of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and the teachings of Aligarh shine forth brilliantly in the pride of Mohammedan history, in the loyalty, commonsense, and sound reasoning so eloquently expressed in your address.

But, Gentlemen, you go on to tell me that sincere as your belief is in the justice and fair dealing of your rulers and unwilling as you are to embarrass them at the present moment, you cannot but be aware that "recent events" have stirred up feelings amongst the younger generation of Mohammedans which might "pass beyond the control of temperate counsel and sober guidance." Now, I have no intention of entering into any discussion upon the affairs of Eastern Bengal and Assam, yet I hope that, without offence to any one, I may thank the Mohammedan community of the

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new Province for the moderation and self-restraint they have shown under conditions which were new to them, and as to which there has been inevitably much misunderstanding, and that I may at the same time sympathize with all that is sincere in Bengali sentiment. But above all, what I would ask you to believe is that the course the Viceroy and the Government of India have pursued in connection with the affairs of the new Province, the future of which is now I hope assured, has been dictated solely by a regard for what has appeared best for its present and future populations as a whole, irrespective of race or creed; and that the Mohammedan community of Eastern Bengal and Assam can rely as firmly as ever on British justice and fair-play for the appreciation of its loyalty and the safeguarding of its interests.

You have addressed me, Gentlemen, at a time when the political atmosphere is full of change. We all feel it. It would be foolish to attempt to deny its existence. Hopes and ambitions new to India are making themselves felt. We cannot ignore them. We should be wrong to wish to do so. But to what is all this unrest due? Not to the discontent of misgoverned millions, I defy any one honestly to assert that; not to any uprising of a disaffected people; it is due to that educational growth in which only a very small portion of the population has as yet shared, of which British rule first sowed the seed, and the fruits of which British rule is now doing its best to foster and to direct. There may be many tares in the harvest we are now reaping; the Western grain which we have sown may not be entirely suitable to the requirements of the people of India, but the educational harvest will increase as years go on, and the healthiness of the nourishment it gives will depend on the careful administration and distribution of its products.

You need not ask my pardon, Gentlemen, for telling me that "representative institutions of the European type are

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entirely new to the people of India," or that their introduction here requires the most earnest thought and care. I should be very far from welcoming all the political machinery of the Western world amongst the hereditary instincts and traditions of Eastern races. Western breadth of thought, the teachings of Western civilisation, the freedom of British individuality can do much for the people of India. But I recognise with you that they must not carry with them an impracticable insistence on the acceptance of political methods.

And now, Gentlemen, I come to your own position in respect to the political future—the position of the Mohammedan community for whom you speak.

You will, I feel sure, recognise that it is impossible for me to follow you through any detailed consideration of the conditions and the share that community has a right to claim in the administration of public affairs. I can at present only deal with generalities. The points which you have raised are before the Committee which, as you know, I have lately appointed to consider the question of representation, and I will take care that your address is submitted to them. But at the same time I hope I may be able to reply to the general tenor of your remarks without in any way forestalling the Committee's report.

The pith of your address, as I understand it, is a claim that, in any system of representation, whether it affects a Municipality, a District Board, or a Legislative Council, in which it is proposed to introduce or increase an electoral organisation, the Mohammedan community should be represented as a community. You point out that in many cases electoral bodies as now constituted cannot be expected to return a Mohammedan candidate, and that, if by chance they did so, it could only be at the sacrifice of such a candidate's views to those of a majority opposed to his own community, whom he would in no way represent, and you justly claim that your position should be estimated not

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merely on your numerical strength, but in respect to the political importance of your community and the service it has rendered to the Empire. I am entirely in accord with you. Please do not misunderstand me; I make no attempt to indicate by what means the representation of communities can be obtained, but I am as firmly convinced, as I believe you to be, that any electoral representation in India would be doomed to mischievous failure which aimed at granting a personal enfranchisement regardless of the beliefs and traditions of the communities composing the population of this continent. The great mass of the people of India have no knowledge of representative institutions. I agree with you, Gentlemen, that the initial rungs in the ladder of self-government are to be found in the Municipal and District Boards, and that it is in that direction that we must look for the gradual political education of the people. In the meantime I can only say to you that the Mohammedan community may rest assured that their political rights and interests as a community will be safeguarded in any administrative reorganisation with which I am concerned, and that you and the people of India may rely upon the British *Raj* to respect, as it has been its pride to do, the religious beliefs and the national traditions of the myriads composing the population of His Majesty's Indian Empire.

Your Highness and Gentlemen, I sincerely thank you for the unique opportunity your Deputation has given me of meeting so many distinguished and representative Mohammedans. I deeply appreciate the energy and interest in public affairs which have brought you here from great distances, and I only regret that your visit to Simla is necessarily so short.

[The Deputation then withdrew.]



DURBAR AT QUETTA.

[His Excellency the Viceroy left Simla on the 6th October 1906 10th Oct. 1906. on his autumn tour. His Excellency went straight through to Quetta which was reached on the 8th idem. On the evening of the 10th October His Excellency held a great Durbar, at which were presented to him the leading Sardars and Maliks of Baluchistan, chief among whom were the Khan of Kalat and the Jam of Las Bela. The Durbar was held in the Sandeman Memorial Hall. The Sardars and Maliks were seated in order of tribal and personal precedence. After His Excellency had taken his seat, and the Durbar declared open, all *Durbaris* were presented to the Viceroy. At the conclusion of the presentation His Excellency rose and addressed the Durbar as follows :—]

Your Highness, Sardars, and Maliks of Baluchistan,—
It gives me great pleasure to meet you all here in Durbar to-day and to make my first acquaintance with the representative and leading men of this province, with whose history I am acquainted from the reports received from the Agent to the Governor-General and in whose welfare I take so deep an interest. I have been glad to observe that in the period during which I have held the Viceroyalty of India the history of Baluchistan has been undisturbed by any incidents of grave importance, and that the province under the sympathetic administration of its Chief and his subordinate officers has, on the whole, enjoyed a continuance of that era of peace and prosperity which was inaugurated by that distinguished statesman, Sir Robert Sandeman, 30 years ago.

The few remarks which I have to make on this occasion will, therefore, be mainly of the nature of congratulation, both to yourselves and to the officers who exercise political and administrative control within these territories. I have, in the first place, to offer my congratulations to His Highness the Khan on the improvements in the administration of the Kalat State. *Niasats* have recently been made under the advice of the Political Agent and the superintendence of His Highness's able and experienced political adviser, Kazi Jalaluddin. As Your Highness is aware, the

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Government of India take the greatest interest in the success and efficiency of your administration, and I trust that this may be an encouragement to you to persevere in the good work which you have begun for the benefit of your subjects and for the advantage of the Empire.

I may add, while dealing with this topic, that I have been much gratified with the development of the silk industry at Mastung, which was initiated by Major Showers, lately Political Agent in Kalat, a little more than a year ago, and in which I am glad to learn His Highness and the *Sardars* have taken a considerable interest. I wish every prosperity to this young industry, which will, I hope, prove of great benefit not only to the revenues of the State but also to the tribesmen engaged in it.

I have also been pleased to learn from my Agent, Mr. Tucker, that the administration of Mekran under the *Nazim*, Mir Mehrulla Khan, has been making steady and satisfactory progress during the past year. The good government of this tract, being as it is on the border of the Persian and British Empires, is, as you are aware, a matter of considerable moment to the Government of India, and I offer my congratulations to all concerned in the work on the successful results achieved.

I am glad to learn that, notwithstanding the prevalence of plague in Seistan, the trade on the Nushki route continues to develop in a satisfactory manner, and that the advantages of civilisation are thereby being extended even to the wilder tracts of this province.

I desire also to congratulate the Bugti and Marri chiefs on the manner in which they have conducted the affairs of their respective tribes. The ancient disputes between these warlike tribes are now, I am glad to learn, matter of past history, and such differences as still occur are settled in a peaceful and orderly manner under the orders of the political officer. This is a subject for sincere congratulation, which I am sure that the two chiefs will

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be the first to recognise, and I have every confidence that they will continue to abide by the advice of those who have their best interests at heart.

About the work of the Zhob Levy Corps I need say nothing further than that I have the fullest confidence in their courage and efficiency which has been testified to by their conduct at the attack on the Gadwana post and on other similar occasions. It has given me great satisfaction to be able to bestow personally on certain members of the corps the rewards which their gallantry has gained.

Finally, I wish to express my sympathy with the families of Nawab Bangal Khan of Zhob and Sardar Mehrab Khan Domki, who have died during the past year. Both of these chiefs have done good service to Government, and I, equally with the officers of Baluchistan, deplore their loss.

I wish, in conclusion, to refer to one matter which is a source of much gratification to myself and affects in some degree the future prosperity of Baluchistan, and that is the approaching visit to India of His Highness the Amir of Afghanistan. You are all aware that in the past the northern frontier of Baluchistan has not unfrequently been disturbed by border raids, and that owing to a want of co-operation between our officers and the Afghan officials the settlement of such cases has been a matter of some difficulty. I should like to say here that on the eminently satisfactory position of our relations with His Highness the Amir, of which His Highness's acceptance of our invitation to visit India is a signal proof, there is good ground for hope that the present state of affairs on this border may be materially altered for the better, and I entertain the belief that the visit of His Highness to India will result not only in a satisfactory decrease in the number of such border cases and the more certain punishment of the offenders, but also in the improvement of existing facilities for trade between India and Afghanistan.

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to the mutual advantage of both countries, a matter in which this province of Baluchistan is specially interested.

[The speech having been delivered in English, a translation was read out to the *Durbaris* by the Mir Munshi.]

BANQUET AT SRINAGAR.

9th Nov. 1906. [In honour of His Excellency the Viceroy's visit to Kashmir His Highness the Maharaja entertained His Excellency to a banquet on the night of the 9th November 1906.

The Banquet was held in the Banqueting Hall at the Palace, and over a hundred guests were present.

His Excellency made the following speech :—]

Your Highness, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I sincerely appreciate the more than cordial terms in which you have proposed the health of Lady Minto and myself, and all you have so kindly said of Her Excellency and my daughters.

I cannot but feel how fortunate we have been to be able to visit Kashmir so soon after our arrival in India, and to have been able to marvel at its unrivalled scenery under the guidance of Your Highness.

I can assure Your Highness we shall never forget the magnificence of your hospitality, or the luxurious comfort of the beautiful camps you had prepared for us in your lovely valleys, glowing with all the brilliant tints of autumn. We shall never forget the courtesy of Your Highness's ministers and the universal attention we have met with throughout our tour. We shall return to India full of happy memories of Kashmir and its people.

But, Your Highness, I have visited Kashmir not only as a guest upon whom you have showered your hospitality, but as the representative of the King-Emperor, and I can not only convey to His Majesty your expressions of loyalty and devotion to the throne of Great Britain, but can testify to the able interest and care Your Highness is bestowing upon the government of your State and the welfare of its people.



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By Your Highness's kindness I have been able to see something of your excellently managed State hospital, whilst Lady Minto has been much impressed by the admirable management of other hospitals she has had the opportunity of visiting. Your museum, the examples of native industry, and your great silk factory have been full of interest for me. I have seen something of your State schools at Srinagar and in the many villages through which we have passed, and you have enabled me to make myself acquainted with that village government which is practically the foundation of your administration. I have had the great pleasure too of inspecting the troops which Your Highness has so patriotically contributed towards the defence of the Empire. I venture very heartily to congratulate Sir Amar Singh on the efficiency of those troops in whom he takes so great an interest. The duties thrown upon them for guards and escorts have I know been heavy during our visit, and I hope Sir Amar will tell them from me of my appreciation of the smartness with which they have turned out on all occasions.

Your Highness may be proud of the fact that your troops share directly in the defence of the frontier, a fact which brings me into full accord with the wish expressed to me by Sir Amar Singh that Your Highness's mountain batteries should possess the newest pattern of gun, the ten-inch screw guns supplied to His Majesty's Indian army. They may not be immediately available, but I can assure Your Highness that I will not disregard the eventual supply of them to Kashmir.

I also feel how fortunate I have been in meeting Your Highness's feudatory chiefs from the Gilgit frontier. I believe I am the first Viceroy who has been able to do so, and I value highly the opportunity Your Highness has given me of making myself personally acquainted with them, and seeing for myself the evidence of their loyalty and friendship.

Your Highness, Kashmir has the promise of a brilliant future before her, and I congratulate you on the possession of a

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Resident in Sir Francis Younghusband, whose distinguished ability will, I know, be so heartily devoted to the assistance of your State. The capabilities of Kashmir are becoming every day more evident. You have already before you a great electric scheme, a railway scheme, irrigation proposals, and agricultural development generally, which I am sure the model experimental farm, which I had the opportunity of opening, will do much to further. I wish Kashmir all prosperity and success, and I hope that perhaps it may be possible for Lady Minto and myself to return here again some day to witness the realization of great undertakings now in their infancy, and to renew the friendships I hope we have made in this beautiful country.

I will now ask you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to drink to a toast, in which I know you will all most cordially join, the health of our hospitable host, His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir.

[His Highness the Maharaja then proposed the Viceroy's health in the following terms :—

*"Your Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—*Before I perform the pleasing duty of asking you to drink to the health of His Excellency the Viceroy, I cannot but give expression to the feelings of happiness and pride which have been engendered in me by the kind visit which His Excellency has been pleased to pay to the summer capital of my State. I feel happy because His Excellency's visit affords me the opportunity, so devoutly wished for, of approaching His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor through his representative and assuring His Majesty of the ties of the most unflinching devotion and steadfast loyalty which bind me to the throne of Great Britain. I am at the same time proud because I feel that to Kashmir has been awarded the distinction of being selected as the State which should be the first to receive a visit from His Excellency after his assuming charge of his high office. It is no wonder, then, that I should feel supremely happy on an occasion such as this, but my happiness is doubly augmented by the additional honour which has been conferred on me by Her Excellency Lady Minto and the Ladies Elliot gracing Kashmir with their presence. Her Excellency's grace of condescension, added to her charm of manner and amiable-ness of disposition, have poured sweetness over every place or

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institution which has felt the influence of her presence, and I cannot sufficiently thank Their Excellencies for the gratification they have been the means of imparting to me. Ladies and Gentlemen, I would be wanting in frankness if I omitted to tell you how deeply impressed I have been by this visit of His Excellency, as it has afforded to me the opportunity of realising how deep-seated is the sympathy which His Excellency feels for me and my subjects of all creeds and classes and how absorbing is the interest which His Excellency feels in everything that is calculated to advance the prosperity and promote the happiness of the country which Providence has committed to my care. I take it as a marked indication of this kindly consideration towards me that I have been favoured with a Resident of eminent abilities and world-wide reputation in the person of my honoured friend and well-wisher, Colonel Sir Francis Younghusband, whose valuable advice and sympathy have already proved and will, I hope, for a long time yet to come be of immense benefit to me in the work of administration. Ladies and Gentlemen, I need scarcely assure you how great is the advantage I hope will accrue to the State by His Excellency's visiting Kashmir and making himself personally acquainted with its peculiar circumstances at a time when schemes of vast magnitude bearing on the economic condition of the country are under consideration. I will not detain you, Ladies and Gentlemen, any longer. I will conclude by giving expression to my hope that in the midst of the arduous duties of his high office reminiscences of their sojourn in the valley may linger. And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would ask you to drink to the health and happiness of His Excellency the Viceroy coupled with that of Her Excellency. His Excellency has had some cause for being satisfied with his visit to the State and that despite the meagre sport that Their Excellencies have had. I have no doubt that you will all respond to the toast with cordiality and enthusiasm."]



DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT THE WALTER NOBLES' SCHOOL, BIKANIR.

22nd Nov. 1906. [During the course of his autumn tour His Excellency the Viceroy and party arrived at Bikanir on the 19th November, and stayed there for a week. On the morning of 22nd November Their Excellencies visited the Walter Nobles' School, on which occasion Her Excellency Lady Minto distributed the prizes.

The school was opened in 1893, and His Highness the Maharaja takes a keen interest in the institution. In welcoming Their Excellencies to the school, His Highness spoke as follows :—

"Your Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I am very grateful to Your Excellencies for so kindly consenting to visit the school and to distribute the prizes to the successful students, and I know I am echoing the wishes of the boys and all of us present here to-day when I say how much we appreciate this honour. Your Excellencies, these boys are the future soldiers of the King, as they have rightly styled themselves in the motto of the triumphal arch they have erected at the entrance of the compound, and I am sure this day will be treasured up in their memories when the Viceroy of India evidenced such an interest in their welfare and future career. This school was founded in 1893, and was named after Colonel C. C. M. Walter, C.S.I., for some time a popular Agent to the Governor-General. In Rajputana he was very good to me when I had typhoid fever at Mount Abu in 1889 and to whom I practically owe my life. Every effort is being made to turn out boys to be gentlemen and sportsmen in the strictest sense of the word, and who, when they grow up, will be able to help in the administration of their country, and who could look after and manage their own estates also in a satisfactory manner. In my time eight old boys of this school have joined the State service, and four obtained direct commissions as Native officers in the Indian Army. This and the large increase in the number on the rolls can, I think, be described as satisfactory symptoms of the usefulness of, and progress made by, the school. Further remarks from me will be unnecessary on this occasion, and so I would beg Your Excellency to kindly distribute the prizes."

After Her Excellency had distributed the prizes, His Excellency the Viceroy made the following speech :—]

Your Highness,—Before leaving I must congratulate you on the success of your school and on all we have seen to-day. It must be a sincere pleasure to you to have this striking

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incidence of the interest you have taken and the efforts you have made on behalf of the rising generation of the nobles of Bikanir. I am particularly glad to hear that you are encouraging manly exercises as well as teaching the boys ordinary bookwork. I am a great believer in the old Latin proverb—*mens sana in corpore sano*—and I am quite sure that to bring up boys to be gentlemen and sportsmen and to make high ideals part of their every-day life will give them the best possible equipment for fighting the battles of the world. Any boy who in his manhood fulfils the lessons of character taught to him in this school will surely be a credit to humanity. I hope that many of these boys intend hereafter to be soldiers of the King, and nothing is more fitted to make them good soldiers than the manly spirit which it is Your Highness's endeavour to implant in them here. Lady Minto and I are both very glad to have been able to attend at the prize-giving and to see for ourselves what is being done in the cause of higher education in Bikanir.

BANQUET AT BIKANIR.

[On Saturday evening the Maharaja entertained the Viceroy 24th Nov. 1906. at a State Banquet in the Lallgarh Palace. In proposing His Excellency's health His Highness referred to the eight years during which he had ruled his State as a time of great scarcity and trouble owing to low rainfall, but hoped that a big irrigation canal would in a short time run through the State.

His Excellency replied to the toast in the following terms :—]

Your Highness, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—The cordiality of the words in which His Highness has proposed the toast of my health, the magnificent hospitality with which he has received me, and the hearty welcome he has extended to Lady Minto and my daughters, make it very difficult for me to thank him as I should wish. I have been deeply impressed by the reception Your Highness and your

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people have offered to me as the representative of the King-Emperor. I can assure Your Highness, too, that it has been a great pleasure to me to be able to visit Bikanir so soon after my arrival in India, for I have heard much of the State of Bikanir, and of the able administration of its Ruler. Yet, Your Highness, I cannot but feel that our visit to you has followed, I am afraid, too quickly upon a time of deep grief and irreparable bereavement, and can only ask you to believe in our true sympathy, which I hope we may be permitted to share with your people, and your host of friends.

I have listened with the deepest interest to all Your Highness has so eloquently told us of your hopes and anxieties for the future welfare of your people. I can well appreciate those anxieties. In every word you have said there has been evidence of your detailed knowledge of the requirements of your State and your earnest desire for the development of its resources, and I cannot but think that Your Highness looks with some pleasure on the difficulties before you, in the firm confidence that you will overcome them. Your Highness will not, I think, find fault with me for saying that you have at any rate one great advantage to your credit, youth on your side. You have still, I hope, many years before you in which to watch over the welfare of your people. You have already seen much of the world. You have served the Empire with distinction in foreign lands; you have visited the centre of that Empire and have earned the personal esteem of its leading men; and yet, whilst recognising what is good in Western ways of thought, you have in no way allowed yourself to become dissociated from the religion, the traditions, and the individuality of your own countrymen. (*Applause.*)

I cannot say how largely it seems to me the future of India depends upon the administration of its ruling chiefs. The rapidity of communication with the Western world is daily increasing. Western influences, some good and some bad, are gradually beginning to permeate Eastern life, and



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the social temptations of the West are becoming more and more within the reach of those who do not wish to resist them. Your Highness, I am very far from saying that at the present day either a ruling chief or any Indian gentleman should deprive himself of the advantages of the broader outlook of a world outside his own. We must move with the times and it is right to use the means modern science has afforded of seeing the world's wonders. But great possessions and great power carry with them great responsibilities, from which no ruler can long separate himself without jeopardising the welfare of the great charge which Providence has committed to his keeping.

Your Highness, I have sincerely to thank you for enabling me to see for myself what you are doing for your State. It is pleasant to hear from you of an increased revenue, increased railway mileage, mineral development, the encouragement of industries and far-reaching electrical schemes; to admire the many beautiful buildings your city possesses; to acquaint oneself with your system of education and to realise the administrative ability with which you have reorganised the departments of your Government; while I need hardly tell you of the pleasure it afforded me to see on parade those magnificent troops of which you are so justly proud, and who have already shared in the hardships and successes of more than one Imperial campaign. But, Your Highness, I know full well that behind so much that is encouraging there lurks that awful ghost of possible famine, ever ready to haunt the broad lands over which you rule. If the features of those lands were only a little different, if Nature had only been a little kinder, if water could only run more freely, how full of promise the future would be. And yet, Your Highness, I hope I am justified in believing that the future adaptation of those possibilities of irrigation which have already worked such miracles for India will triumph here also in Bikanir, aided by the energy of its ruler and the hardihood of its people.

*Durbar at Maler Kotla.*

And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I will ask you to join with me in drinking the health of our host—a host who has shown us princely hospitality and, I think I may say, too, unrivalled sport,—in the earnest hope that he may have many years before him to secure the prosperity and develop the resources of the State over which he rules with such distinguished ability.

DURBAR AT MALER KOTLA.

26th Nov. 1906. [His Excellency the Viceroy and party visited Maler Kotla during His Excellency's autumn tour. The Regent entertained the party at luncheon, after which a Durbar was held, the Regent addressing His Excellency in the following terms:—

*"Your Excellency, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—*On behalf of my venerable father, His Highness the Nawab Mohamed Ibrahim Ali Khan, Bahadur, the loyal subjects of this State and myself, I tender you a most hearty welcome to Maler Kotla. Your Excellency, when I pause here for a moment to reflect how onerous, responsible and multifarious are the duties which a Viceroy has to discharge, and how many and pressing are the calls from the various quarters of this vast continent on his valuable time, the including of Maler Kotla in the Viceregal tour at the commencement of Your Excellency's rule in India fills our hearts with joy and awakens in us, in a most powerful degree, sentiments of pride and gratitude for the honour which Your Excellency's visit has conferred on this principality. The event of to-day will be looked upon as marking an epoch in the history of this State as was the year 1809, when, in the reign of Your Excellency's illustrious ancestor Lord Minto, this State first came under the British suzerainty, and the law of primogeniture was re-established. Our joy is doubly enhanced by the fact that Your Excellency is accompanied by your gracious consort, whose presence, together with her noble family, on this occasion has lent it an inexpressible charm, and whose very sympathetic and humane efforts in the cause of providing greater medical relief to the helpless members of her sex in this country are already creating a place in the hearts of the Indian people, a place which I can safely say will be second to none of that of her Ladyship's illustrious predecessors.

"I may be permitted to remark that this is the first occasion on which the representative of our august sovereign has honoured the

*Durbay at Maler Kotla.*

State by a visit, and as such it cannot but be a matter of pride and gratitude for us. Although Maler Kotla is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, State in the Punjab, the fact that its Chief owing to the unsatisfactory state of his health and condition has not been able for a long time past to give his personal attention to its affairs, and which necessitated the interests of its administration to the care and control of Superintendents, has, I am inclined to think, in some respects been accountable for the deference of this auspicious day in its history. But it is a matter of gratification for me to be able to say that their administration has been characterized by the introduction of two important measures which have conduced to increasing the usefulness of this State to the Empire and opening a new source of income to its own revenue. I refer to the creation of an efficient body of men, first raised as infantry in 1801, and then converted into Imperial Service Sappers and Miners in 1895,—a body which has already won for itself a name by rendering distinguished service during the last Tirah and China campaigns; and to the construction of the railway line through the State territory by the kind advice of Colonel Massy, who was then Political Agent,—an undertaking which, it is hoped, will prove a paying concern. Whatever the results of the administration of the State under the Superintendents have been, still, owing to the unfortunate absence of its Chief from its affairs, the status and the precedence of the occupier of the *gaddi* has, I fear, undergone a slow but sure change, and its prestige has somewhat suffered, but which I am sanguine will, under Your Excellency's fostering and benevolent Government, be restored. During the short period since the Supreme Government were pleased to entrust the reins of its administration to my less tried hands as Regent in the exercise of the full powers of my father, His Highness the Nawab, a policy of progress has been followed with unabated zeal in such useful directions as the reorganisation of the law courts, reforming the Police and Medical Departments, and the prompt disposal of work in the different public offices. New roads have been made through the territory and the establishment of a large ginning factory and cotton press, a flour mill and an ice factory, and the reduction of town duties have given an impetus to commerce and local industry. Public buildings have started, and the new bazars and the grain mart have contributed not a little to the beautifying and expansion of the city. Education in its primary and secondary grades has met with the support and encouragement which it so justly deserves, as I consider it to have a very strong claim on the administration of a State. In the end, I may be allowed to say that in steadfast devotion and unswerving loyalty to the British Crown, Maler Kotla has been second

*Durbar at Maler Kotla.*

to none among its compeers in the past, and I can assure Your Excellency that in time of emergency the British Government can count upon the sword of its ruler. Your Excellency, allow me now to express my most sincere thanks for the trouble that you and Your Excellency's noble consort have taken by coming to this place and the honour that Your Excellencies' presence in our midst has conferred upon us."

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Nawab Zadah,—I beg to thank you for the cordial reception you have extended to me on behalf of your father and the people of his State on my first visit to Maler Kotla, and I greatly appreciate the kind expressions of welcome you have addressed to Lady Minto and my daughters. As you are aware, the time at my disposal is very limited, and I regret that my stay in your State must necessarily be a short one; but it is a great pleasure to me to have even this fleeting opportunity of visiting your people who, as you remind me, first came under British rule during the administration of my ancestor, Lord Minto. The State of Maler Kotla in days gone by rendered much service to the Crown, whilst in recent years you have contributed those Imperial Service Troops which did such excellent work in Tirah and in China. I congratulate you heartily on their efficiency and on their distinguished services. I sympathize with you in the disadvantages under which Maler Kotla labours owing to the unfortunate circumstances which have separated your Chief from the direction of its affairs; but I feel sure that under your able regency no opportunity will be lost in assisting the progress of the State, and I shall look forward to hearing of the development of all those resources in which I know you and your colleagues take so deep an interest.